

W6OTX**W6ARA****PAARA NEWSLETTER**

VOLUME 59, NUMBER 9, October 2009

K6OTA**K6YQT**

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio**October 2009**

CALENDAR

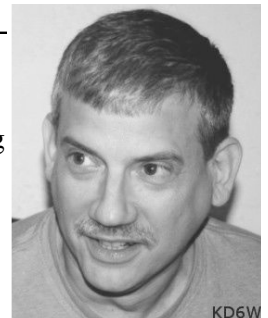
October 2, PAARA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Menlo Park Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

October 20, Articles Due for November PAARAgraphs

October 28, Board Meeting, 7:10 p.m.
Palo Alto Red Cross
400 Mitchell Lane



President's Corner Reflector Joel Wilhite – KD6W



I recently had the pleasure of hosting the PAARAFest 2009 at my home QTH and had a blast. This activity followed right after a fairly successful flea market and so it was great to have all those that stopped by have a chance to get a few trinkets of joy.

The burgers we bought this year were a big hit, they all disappeared! The weather couldn't have been any better and we had a great collection swap and auction items to bid this year. We also had the bonus of some beautiful easy up canopies to shade us from the sun as we took in the sampling of gear from the various hams. I have to say thanks to Gerry N6NV for helping with storage and supporting the auction and going to the store with Rob KI6INR and also to Doug KG6LWE for helping with storage and schlepping furniture and ice. I'm so jealous; Mark AF6IM outbid me on a gorgeous HP bench supply donated by a good friend of mine, Bill N6OLD. Andy KR6DD came by with Rosa and of course their famous apple pie, YUM!

If you didn't know where or when the party was, I apologize as we didn't get the advertising up quick enough and I'm also very reluctant to post my address up on the web. We get tons of robot hits from nefarious and unscrupulous people that like to rip off identities. The trick for finding the party was to go to QRZ and search on my call sign. The FCC rules state each amateur radio license holder must have a valid address which is the home of your station. This information is searchable from the FCC web site and QRZ. And so an astute person would only have to type in my call sign and poof, there is my address. I have used this technique to find people and to find old friends.



PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR
NEXT GENERAL MEETING ON
OCTOBER 2, 2009
OUR SPEAKER WILL BE...

**Mark Meltzer AF6IM / Michael Gregg
KF6WRW / Jon Gefaell K6OJ**

Parachute Mobile / Combining Ham Radio and Skydiving

Please join us and learn about the exciting sport of "Parachute Mobile". Mark AF6IM and Michael KF6WRW will describe what it feels like to jump out of a plane and freefall while communicating with "Ham radios".

Jon K6OJ parachute mobile crew chief, will talk about the equipment and logistics involved to make everything work properly.

(Continued on page 46) Pres Corner

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 MARKETSponsorship by **A.S.V.A.R.O.**

(Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations)

Second Saturday of month, March-October, 6am-2pm

Howard M. Krawetz, N6HM 650-856-9761

Contact: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>**LIVERMORE SWAP MEET**. Now in Robertson Park, Livermore, every first

Sunday of the month. 7 am to 11:30 am. Free admission for buyers. For further info, see:

www.larkswap.com or contact Ian Parker, W6TCP at swapmeet@livermoreark.org**PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association**Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Menlo Park Rec. Center, Net 145.230 each Monday 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 SocietyMeets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pmcontact: <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://nedxc.org/> or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699**QCWA Chapter 11**

Northern California Quarter Century Wireless Association

Meets third Wednesday monthly at Harry's Hofbrau in Redwood City @ 11:30 AM.

Guests are welcome. Saturday morning net on 146.850 MHz, PL 114.8

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Clubmeets 1st Sunday each monthcontact: <http://www.norcalqrp.org/>**SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System**

meets each Monday 8:00pm on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz

contact: <http://specsnet.org/> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441**SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service**meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month, San Carlos City Hall.

Net is on 146.445 [PL 114.8] & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.

contact: President Gary D. Aden, K6GDA 650-743-1265(D), 650- 595-5590 (N)

Web: <http://k6mpn.org> E-mail: pres@k6mpn.org**SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association**

Operates W6UU & 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.qsl.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

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

W6PIY six-meter repeater on 52.58MHz. Normally, six-meters is linked with 147 and 223, while 441 and 1286 repeaters are linked.

VHF:	52.58 (-500) 151.4 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://wvara.org/>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or

N6FFC@ARRL.NET

American Red Cross, SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTERcontact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924fshensley@Novell.com(please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor: paaraeditor@gmail.com)

Please contact Rick Melrose to
 settle your 2009 membership dues so
 you can keep receiving your
 PAARAgaphs

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	650 325 8239
	kd6w@arrl.net	
Vice President	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wawi.com	
Secretary	Rick Melrose K6RDM	1-888-725-1895
	k6rdm@arrl.net	
Treasurer	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

Directors

Past President (09)	Kristen McIntire, K6WX	510-703-4942
	kristen@alum.mit.edu	
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	k6web@arrl.net	
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	kg6hvw@arrl.net	
Director ('09)	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	650-326 4908
	n6nv@arrl.net	
Director (09)	Byron Beck KG6UOB	408-735-8604
	kg6uob@arrl.net	

Appointed Positions

Membership	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@srm.com	
Database	Rick Melrose K6RDM	1-888-725-1895
	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	Ed Gentry KG6KKP	650-368-9455
Historian	Christopher McIntyre, KG6SVI	
Raffle Coordinator	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Ticket Master	Kyle Rice, KG6MSK	
Field Day Coordinator	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	
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	n6nfi@arrl.net	
Webmaster	Peter Sheerin K6WEB	415 298 7383
	k6web@arrl.net	
Technical Coordinator	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	650-325-8239
	kd6w@arrl.net	
QSL Manager	Rob Riley, KI6INR	(cell) 650 799-1607
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
Speaker Coordinator	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650 325 8239
	dteter@wawi.com	

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Joel Wilhite KD6W	Vic Black AB6SO
Ron Chester W6AZ	Peter Sheerin K6WEB

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Technical Tips	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@srm.com	
Photographer	Bill Young, K6VWO	
	k6vwo@sbcglobal.net	

PAARA 2009 General Meeting dates—1/9, 2/6, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 6/5, 7/10, 8/7, 9/4, 10/2, 11/6, 12/ 4—

PAARAgaphs—October 2009
Celebrating 72 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

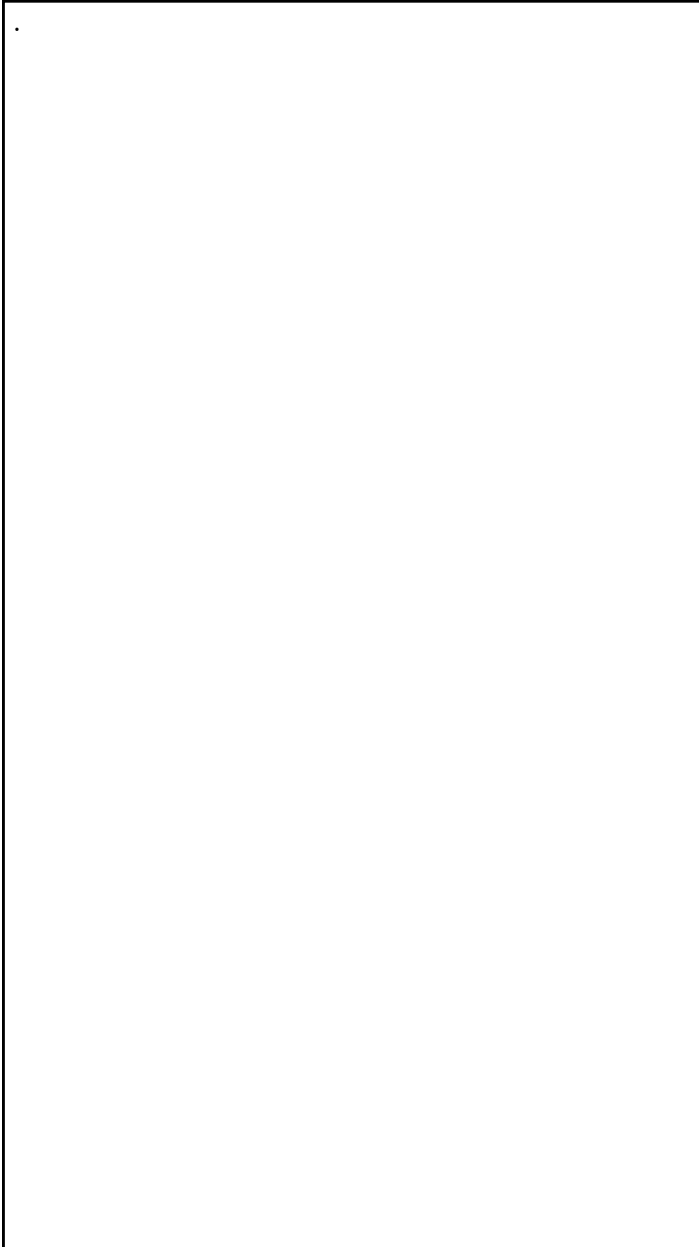
I receive correspondence from folks and they either have their call or their name but sometimes leave one or the other out. I like most people are bad with names, faces and call signs. So having the FCC ULS in my favorites tab on my web browser allows me to quickly look up a call sign or name to help me keep my head straight. In fact, I just used it again today to clarify a call sign which I hadn't heard of before, a 2x4. I can believe it was a simple typo in an e-mail as I'm certain we all have done it before. But while I was in the FCC database, I typed in a few other searches, both amateur and commercial and was caught by surprise some new construction permits going into the system from some stations I had visited earlier this year. It's great having access to all this data.

We have had several contests come and go by in the last month; the most notable was CQP. We had the best of intentions at activating Napa County but the task turned out to be too much or more like too little too late. We are reviewing plans and the rest of the calendar to activate other contests in the future and maybe this time we can be a little more prepared. If you're interested in helping pull an "all-nighter" or activating some rare location or mode, don't hesitate to contact any one of the board members so that we can get you hooked up.

Our club elections will be coming up soon along with our annual membership drive. We'll have sign up sheets at the next few meetings for you to be able to renew our join the club. We will also be looking for nominations to serve on the board. This year we have a number of openings to fill and so there are plenty of opportunities. I have asked Kristen K6WX if she would run the nominating committee and agreed so she will be looking for anyone interested and willing to help her with that task. The process is straight forward and after the elections are complete, you're done!

We have a quite a number of great programs lined up for the next several meetings including the December annual "Dream to Reality" raffle of another Elecraft K3! We are also working on the next annual Winter Banquet with the FARS too and so we'll have that along with many other activities to put into your calendar very shortly so stay tuned. Until then,

73 de KD6W Joel



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

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Awarded by Action of the PAARA Board

Wally Porter K6URO Dec 2008

Steve Stuntz, K6FS Dec 2007

AND THAT'S THE WAY IT IS... Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD (SK)

Walter Cronkite, the “most trusted man in America,” died on July 17, 2009 at the age of 92. His amazing journalistic career spanned nearly half a century, covering such events as the Nuremberg Trials, the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights movement, Watergate, and the Iran hostage crisis, as well as extensive coverage of the U. S. space program.

Cronkite was somewhat less well known for his role as an amateur radio operator and ARRL member. In 2003, he narrated the six-minute ARRL video *Amateur Radio Today*, which looks at the role amateur radio plays in emergency communications and disaster relief. In 2005, Cronkite was selected to receive the ARRL President’s Award in recognition of his outstanding support of the ARRL and Amateur Radio by narrating *Amateur Radio Today* and *The ARRL Goes to Washington*. In 2007, the Radio Club of America presented Cronkite with its highest award for outstanding achievement in the field of wireless communications.

And that’s the way it is. Good night, Uncle Walter. We will miss you.

Do you want your name in PRINT??

Would you like to become FAMOUS??

Have you dreamed about winning the: PULITZER PRIZE??

All you have to do is send pictures (photoshoped or not), information, articles, tips, rumors, etc. to:

paaraeditor@gmail.com

This is the usual huge GOOGLE e-mail box that holds about 8 gigs of what ever you want to send — so have at it. Send it in.

We will give all submitted information the best chance to be immortalized in the nearly world famous PAARA-graphs newsletter.

So email early and email often and we may see you on the front page All the news printed to fit!!

Paul & Robin Editors PAARAgaphs

PAARAFest ‘09



Good times were had by all that attended.

Thank you Joel for hosting this event again.

See you next year!

PAARAgaphs—October 2009

Celebrating 72 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937



PAARA “The Friendliest Club Around”

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. www.paara.org

Date and Time: Friday, October 2nd at 7 p.m.

Menlo Park Rec. Center, 700 Alma St., Menlo Park, CA.

October Raffle Prizes:



FIRST PRIZE: Icom IC-V82 / 2m / 7W / HT

Includes 600mAh Ni-Cd Battery Pack with Desktop Charger

Wow!!

- 200 Memory Channels and Ten Memory Banks
- NOAA Weather Channel Receive
- Automatic Repeater Function
- Durable Construction and Simple Operation
- Optional Digital Unit UT-118 / Provides D-STAR Digital Voice and Data
- PC Cloning Capability



SECOND PRIZE: Solarlink FR500

**Self & Solar Powered Radio /AM / FM / Shortwave
Flashlight, Siren and Cell Phone Charger**

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

**American
Red Cross**

Cool & New!

THIRD PRIZE: Two Cobra 22 Channel Radios with Batteries and Charger

FOURTH PRIZE: Deltran Battery Tender Junior Charger / 12 Volt / 750 mA

FIFTH PRIZE: ARRL Repeater Directory / 2009-2010

SIXTH PRIZE: Sterling Deluxe Wire Stripper

SEVENTH PRIZE: Nine-LED Flashlight Includes Batteries

EIGHT PRIZE: Yaesu Log Book

Since Feb. 03, 153 Radios, including TWO 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, Dan, Mark, and everyone at HRO for their continued SUPPORT!

K6AK Jim

PRESS RELEASE (9/27/09)

145.230 REPEATER CHANGES

EMERGENCY AUTODIAL

Because of problems encountered when trying to access 911 via cell phones, the 523 repeater is re-instituting the Emergency Autodial for all licensed radio amateurs beginning October 1, 2009. To make these emergency numbers easier to remember, we have limited them to only three emergency agencies; San Mateo County, Palo Alto, and Mountain View dispatch.

The San Mateo number includes Sheriff and Fire; the second number is for police and fire for Palo Alto and Stanford; the third number is for Police and Fire for Mt. View including the Midpeninsula Open Space District rangers.

If you are reporting a problem in one of these areas, use the appropriate number. If the problem is outside these areas, use any one of the three numbers. These dispatch operators have a good track record of quickly transferring your call to the appropriate agency if the problem you are reporting is out of their area.

To check your understanding of how the emergency autodial works, there are two non-emergency numbers that may be used to test the autodial.

These emergency autodial numbers will be distributed by email ONLY, and sent ONLY to the email address listed for your call sign in www.qrz.com, as all licensed amateurs are listed there. If you have not listed an email address in qrz.com, you will not be able to obtain these autodial codes.

To get your copy of the emergency autodial numbers and instructions for use:

1. Be sure you have an email address shown for your call sign in qrz.
2. Send an email to: 523Repeater@gmail.com with

the subject: Emergency Autodial. Put your call sign only in the text.

3. To preclude spoofing, an email will be sent to the listed email address asking you to verify that you have requested the autodial information. If no response has been received within one week, the requesting email will be trashed.

4. Upon confirmation of a valid request, the emergency autodial information will be emailed to your inbox.

To preclude unauthorized use of the emergency numbers and to prevent wasting the dispatcher's time with spurious calls, we request that you DO NOT give these emergency autodial numbers to anyone, licensed or not.

100 HERTZ PL TONE REQUIRED

When the 523 repeater instituted the subaudible tone (PL) many years ago, many hams did not have radios that included PL. For that reason the PL has been turned OFF for certain nets. Since most repeaters now require PL and most hams have either added a PL board to their old radios or have upgraded to modern rigs that include PL, beginning October 1, 2009 a 100 Hz PL will be required for any access to the 523 repeater.

PAARAGraphs—October 2009
 Celebrating 72 years as an *active* ham radio club—*Since 1937*

October 2009 Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the October PAARA Board Meeting for inclusion in PAARAGraphs:

The Board Meeting for October 2009 was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross, commencing at 7:15 PM on the 23rd of September 2009. Attending were Joel Wilhite KD6W (Pres), Doug Teter KG6LWE Rick Melrose K6RDM (Sec, Database), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), Gerry Tucker N6NV (Dir), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir), Vic Black AB6SO (Membership), Paul Petach KI6QXV (Editor) and Ed Gentry KG6KKP (Badges). A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: Rick K6RDM presented the minutes of the September Board meeting held the 26th of August 2009, which were approved as read.

Vice President's Report: Doug KG6LWE reported that the tower trailer needs a permanent storage site. Current storage is at no expense to the club and is OK for now but, as it is at the discretion of the landlord, that may change with little notice.

Treasurer's Report: Ron W6AZ reported that the receipts from PAARA's sponsorship of the ASVARO Ham Flea Market have been fairly steadily declining since 2004 while other sources of income for the club have held up well overall.

President's Report: Joel KD6W said he was recommending that ASVARO survey the area for a more suitable venue for the Flea Market as other locations in the past have produced better margins for the sponsoring clubs.

He went on to discuss the planning for speakers, raffles and other arrangements for upcoming events, including general meetings, and in particular, the annual Winter Banquet. A motion was passed to authorize the acquisition of the prize to be raffled off at the banquet.

The PAARAFest event is coming up

this next weekend on September 26th at Joel's. Although it has been mentioned in PAARAGraphs and at meetings, it was felt that more promotion was in order and that an announcement should be included on the N6NFI repeater.

In coordination with John Miller and the California QSO Party (CQP) organizing group, we now have an assignment to Napa County. Doug KG6LWE in conversation with Larry Rebarchik N6CCH, is working on plans to set up and operate in the county, possibly from Mt. St. Helena.

Joel further reported that occurrences at the NARCC have caused a temporary state of dysfunction in the committee. However, the by-laws are intact and we are closely monitoring the situation. Given our plans for establishing repeaters on a 2M pair, D-Star, and on 900 MHz, and for a site, possibly on Black Mountain, the problems at NARCC have made the future uncertain at best. We will have to try to make what progress we can while awaiting developments.

The meeting to plan an antenna and repeater work party to refurbish our 15M and 20M monobanders and to recondition our current KT-34 still needs to be scheduled. Joel and Doug will be coordinating on it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM



James Farrey
 Sales Manager

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YOUR AD HERE
See the next
page for details

Badges in hand as of 8/02/09

- KG6QKO, Kali, Palo Alto
- N6JCY, Joani, San Jose
- K4AZY, Mike, Palo Alto
- KI6GY, Art, San Jose
- KG6QKN, Francis, Palo Alto
- K6TSR, George, Portola Valley
- N6MEF, Michael, Los Altos (2)
- KG6ZWO, Henri,
- KF6SRD, Chuck, Daly City
- K6FTF, Mark, SJ
- W6NEV, Marty

73 de Ed, KG6KKP, Badgemeister

PAARA Weekly Radio Net

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

Control operators:

Week	Operator
1 st	Paul Petach KI6QXV
2 nd	Doug Teter KG6LWE
3 rd	Peter Sheerin K6WEB
4 th	Doña Kerns KI6DAR
5 th	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 tone off.

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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PAARAgaphs—October 2009
 Celebrating 72 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

**PAARA
Radio Net**

**Every
Monday
evening
at 8:30
P.M. local
time
on the
145.230
—600 MHz
repeater,
PL tone
not re-
quired**

Ilse Beck, E. A. , KI6IBM

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Vladimir Vladimirovich

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Photos: JPEG or TIFF raster images

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

PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

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

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

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

These fees may be reduced or waived in exchange for a valuable consideration that is given to the Association or its general membership. Such consideration must be in addition to any existing arrangements with the association. The PAARAgaphs editors reserve the right to reject any ad deemed to be not in the best interest of the Association.

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

