

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

VOLUME 60, NUMBER 2, February 2010

K6OTA**K6YQT**

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.Celebrating 73 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*

CALENDAR

**February 5, PAARA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
Menlo Park Rec Ctr
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park**February 17, Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
Palo Alto Red Cross
400 Mitchell Lane
*(Date and location pending approval — contact a club officer for more info.)***February 17, DEADLINE**
for March PAARAgraphs submissions

President's Corner

A belated Happy New Year to the readers of PAARAgraphs! I am pleased to be back for the start of this new decade and the start of another great year of fun and operating with the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association. I'm looking forward to a year of new and interesting talks, club meetings, events, and operating. I think it's going to be a particularly exciting year as we move into the long awaited upswing that heralds the start of solar cycle 24.



At our last PAARA general meeting we were treated to a great talk about the construction of high power transmitting tubes by Leroy Higgins, KI6MES, who is Supervisor at CPI, formerly known as Eimac. We learned some great things about klystrons and why they aren't the best thing for television transmitters, what IOTs (Inductive Output Tubes) are, why tubes are still the best choice for high

(Continued on page 13) Pres Corner**You won't want to miss
our next meeting!****FEBRUARY 5, 2010***Our speaker will be...**...Denise Stoops ~ KI6BBR*

PROGRAM

**KPH / Restoration
of the
Radio Room
on the
SS Jeremiah O'Brien**

Fond Farewells to Mr. Ed, KG6KKP-SK



More photos of Ed's service are on page 16.

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/>

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 Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pm

contact: <http://www.fars.k6va.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 Club

meets 1st Sunday each month

contact: <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/secara/> 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: 441.35 (+5.0 88.5) ctcss

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 CHAPTER

contact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924

fshensley@Novell.com

(please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor: kd6w@arrl.net)

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President Kristen McIntire, K6WX 510-703-4942
 kristen@alum.mit.edu
 Vice President Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650-367-6200
 dteter@wawi.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, K16INR (cell) 650 799-1607
 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

Appointed Positions

Membership Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636
 ab6so@srm.com
 Database Rick Melrose K6RDM 408-341-9070
 k6rdm@arrl.net
 Chaplain Rev. Rick Line, KG6TMD 650 323 8544
 kg6tmd@arrl.net
 Public Affairs
 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, KG6SVI
 Raffle Coordinator Jim Rice, K6AK 650-851-2274
 Ticket Master Kyle Rice, KG6MSK
 Field Day Coordinator Doug Teter, KG6LWE
 ASVARO Rep Rolf Klibo, N6NFI 650-856-2748
 n6nfi@arrl.net
 Webmaster Mark Cohen K6EF
 markc@binaryfaith.com
 Technical Coordinator Joel Wilhite, KD6W 650-325-8239
 kd6w@arrl.net
 QSL Manager Rob Riley, K16INR (cell) 650 799-1607
 ki6inr@arrl.net
 Speaker Coordinator Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650 325 8239
 dteter@wawi.com

PAARAgaphs Staff

Editorial Board
 PAUL PETACH K16QXV ROBIN YEE K16YTA
 Kristen McIntyre K6WX Vic Black AB6SO
 Ron Chester W6AZ Joel Wilhite, KD6W
 Editors Paul Petach, K16QXV Robin Yee, K16YTA
 paaraeditor@gmail.com K16YTA@arrl.net
 Advertising Ron Chester, W6AZ 408-243-2221
 ron@taxhelp.com
 Member Profiles Terry Finn, AA6T 650-366-9111
 Technical Tips Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636
 ab6so@srm.com
 Photographer Bill Young, K6VWO
 jdsinger@sbcglobal.net

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



PAARAgaphs—February 2010
 Celebrating 73 years as an *active* ham radio club—*Since 1937*

PAARA “The Friendliest Club Around”

February Raffle Prizes



FIRST PRIZE: Icom IC-V80 / 2m / 5.5W / HT

- Rugged / Water Resistant / 750mW of Loud Audio
- NiMH / 1400mAh Battery Pack / 13 Hours Operating Time
- Drop-In Charging Base
- PC Programmable with Optional CS-V80
- WX Channel and Weather Alert Function (USA Version Only)
- Transceiver-to-Transceiver Cloning (Optional)

SECOND PRIZE: Yaesu FT-2800M 2m / 65W / Mobile

- Huge Easy To Read Display
- Special Memory Bank for NOAA Weather Broadcast Channels
- Backlit Microphone Keypad
- Smart Search Loads Active Frequencies



Third Prize: Deltran Battery Tender / Auto Switch from Charge to Float / 12V

Fourth Prize: Rotary Tool w/35-Pc. Accessory Kit/Polish/Cut/Grind/Sand

Fifth Prize: Power Pole Connectors / 10 Pc. / Use w/12-14 Gauge Wire

Sixth Prize: Pocket Reference / Thomas Glover / Third Edition

Seventh Prize: Coby Stereo Ear Buds / Deep Bass Response / Gold Plated Plug

Eighth Prize: Icom Band Plan / Yaesu World DX Map

Since Feb 2003, 167 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, Dan, Mark, and everyone at HRO for their continued support!

K6AK Jim

Ed Gentry, KG6KKP-SK

Ed's memorial service was on January 16th, 2010. Many wonderful stories and memories were shared by those who loved him. He will be dearly missed but never forgotten.



Presenting the Colors.



The potato salad "toast."

Photos courtesy of Bill Young, K6VWO

Dave's New Antenna

by Gary Barnes

I met Dave when I started working for an electronics company in Menlo Park, California. This was Dave's first job after college. I had been in the US Navy, and I had worked for another electronics company before I met Dave.

Dave had passed his Novice Class license, and he was working to get his code speed from 5 WPM to 13 WPM for the General Class license. A Novice Class license was only good for one year, and it could not be renewed.

Dave received a full size tri-band antenna, a three-section self-supporting steel tower and an antenna rotor from a silent key in East Palo Alto. The ham club removed the antenna and tower from East Palo Alto and delivered to Dave in Redwood City.

Dave cleaned and repaired the antenna, and rotor, and then he cleaned and painted the 54-foot, three section steel tower. Dave asked me to install the tower. I told him I would install the tower, but I wouldn't install the antenna. He said the radio club would install the antenna for him.

Next, Dave tried to get a building permit for his tower and antenna. He took the manual for the tower to the Redwood City Planning Commission, but they rejected it. Dave was told to get engineering plans, so Dave got a member of the radio club with degrees in electrical engineering and mechanical engineering. These plans were also rejected by the city.

Dave asked the Redwood City Planning Commission, for a list of approved engineers. Their list had only three names on it and only one engineer on the list would do such a small job. This engineer's plans and calculations were the same as the others with the only exception of specifications for the bolts connecting the tower to the base and the mounting ears. The tower-to-base mounting bolts were to be double shear.

This time the application for the building permit was denied because of the antenna's height above ground. Dave was told the height limit is 33 feet and his tower is 54 feet tall. He was told he might be able to get a variance from the city. At the meeting, he learned the antenna height restriction was only for receiving antennas, and not for transmitting antennas. He finally got his building permit.

PAARAgaphs—February 2010
 Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

I built the metal frame for the antenna's base. I used about 200-feet of #5 rebar; 15 feet of 2.5" X 0.375" steel bar stock using to attach to base to the tower and one steel plate 24" X 24" X 0.5" thick. All of this was welded together to form a structure 2' X 2' X 8.5' high. Then I had the structure sand blasted before I painted it.

We had a backhoe dig a hole in Dave's backyard, and then some base rock was place in the bottom of the hole on Wednesday evening. The metal frame work for the tower's base was placed in the hole and the city inspector was called. He signed off on the building permit on Friday night.

After the city inspector left, we removed the metal frame work and attached the tower to it, and then replaced the assembly back into the hole. We guyed the tower and adjusted until it was vertical. The next morning, Saturday, we filled the hole with about 4 yards of concrete, using seven wheel barrows with volunteers from work. The backyard was about 20 feet higher than the street where the cement mixer was parked.

On Monday, we removed the guy wires before the city inspector came out to sign off on the permit, but he said we needed the engineer that made the drawings to sign off first. Dave called the engineer and he looked at the work. He was happy with what he saw, and then he was told that we had pictures of all of the work, including a picture of the welded metal frame work. While the engineer was looking at the pictures, he noticed the transit I had been using to setup the tower. He then signed off the permit. The next day, the city inspector signed off the building permit. This process only took one year to complete.

The ham club installed the rotor and antenna, and then they raise the both sections of the tower and bolted them together. Later on, a 2-meter vertical antenna was added.

Seven years later, Dave moved to eastern Washington State. The ham club removed the antennas from the tower, and they lowered the tower, and I took down the tower. Then, I built a new metal frame work so the tower could be installed in its new location. Dave didn't need a building permit when he got to his new house in Washington. The tower and rotor are still in use, but the full size tri-band was damaged a few years ago, and it has been replaced.

de KI6HIG
 Gary

Support the Red Cross— They support us!

You may recall that, a week or so before last Field Day, PAARA was the beneficiary of a fabulous Tower Trailer. This was gifted to us by the Red Cross, Bay Area Chapter and largely organized by Peter Sheerin, K6WEB. They felt it was no longer an appropriate piece of equipment to take up space in their storage area on the San Francisco waterfront. As a thank you effort, I had hoped that the PAARA members could be encouraged to make a donation to the Red Cross, with a goal of \$500. So far no response, mainly, I hope, due to my lack of promoting it. Ron Chester has agreed to match the first \$150 donated with his own check of \$100. His hope is that 5 people would donate \$30 each to get to the matching amount. I think if this goes over a second person could be found to do a second matching effort.

Checks should be made out to
**"American Red Cross
 Bay Area Chapter"**.

In the memo line put

For: Response Communications.

Give the check to a club officer at the meeting or mail to

**Aaron Litwin
 American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter
 85 2nd St. 8th Floor
 San Francisco, CA. 94105**

Send a note to Ron regarding your donation and we will see what happens.
 Thanks one and all!! de, Gerry N6NV



James Farrey
Sales Manager

James Electronics Ltd
1355 Shoreway Road, Belmont, CA 94002
Tel: 650•592•6718 x 350 Fax: 650•802•1520
Direct: 650•802•1511 jfarrey@jameco.com

www.jameco.com

YOUR AD HERE
See the next
page for details

Where's your badge?

If you ordered a badge but have not yet picked it up, or if you would like to order a badge, see **Lynn Gentry, KG6JPV**.

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	Doug Teter KG6LWE
2 nd	Paul Petach KI6QXV
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

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

PAARAgaphs—February 2010
 Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

**DON'T
FORGET!**

**Amateur
Radio
Technology
Day**

February 20,
2010

8AM to
9PM

at the SLAC
National
Accelerator
Laboratory

Ilse Beck, E. A. , KI6IBM

Beck Business Services

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@jps.net

W6AZ



Ron Chester
Santa Clara
(408) 243-2221
Ron@taxhelp.com

Tax Preparation & QuickBooks Consulting - Ham discount

Photo For Any Occasion

Jack Of All Trades, Master Of Some.
Freelance Photographer

Bill Young

PO Box 471
Mountain View, CA
94042

408-245-1161

jdsinger@sbcglobal.net

View Photos.

http://www.slide.com/n/PZHjUey0D-CcHE_Gt6m6rdKbPtUyz6m?previous_view=misc&selected_url&view=original

**MADONNA'S
BAIL BONDS**



Ayudamos a la Comunidad Hispana



REDWOOD CITY ——— **650-366-9111**

SAN FRANCISCO ——— **415-495-2245**

SAN JOSE ——— **408-266-2245**

TERRY FINN CA Insurance License # 1A38965, AA6T
234 Marshall Street, UPSTAIRS #3 Redwood City, CA 94063-1550

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")

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

Vladimir Vladimirovich

SHKURKIN

Editing and Translation Services
English-Russian-English

shkurkin@ix.netcom.com

PAARAgaphs E-mail address:

kd6w@arrl.net

Submit material for PAARAgaphs by the 15th

Text: MSWORD, RTF, or TEXT
Photos: JPEG or TIFF raster images

Missing PAARAgaphs, too many copies, wrong name or
call on label? Contact Database Manager:
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

