

**W6OTX****W6ARA**PAARA NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 62, NUMBER 6, June 2012**K6OTA****K6YQT**

# PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**Celebrating 75 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*

## How Not To Sound Like a LID on Field Day

Dean Straw, N6BV

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 pm

Menlo Park Rec Center

700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

Dean will give a rousing demonstration on "How Not to Sound Like a LID on Field Day." This is in preparation for this year's all out effort at the PAARA Field Day. Be ready to chuckle at some of the common mistakes that newcomers -- and even old timers -- make while trying to communicate efficiently on Field Day.

## President's Corner

June 2012

CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey Six Alpha Romeo Alpha, Whiskey Six Alpha Romeo Alpha Field Day. Are you ready for Field Day? Ready or not, here it comes. Doug, KG6LWE, and the rest of the FD team have been preparing the equipment and the plans for another fun and competitive year at Bedwell Bayfront Park.



We had a wonderful time at coast station KSM / KPH in Bolinas and Inverness. Thanks to the hospitality of all involved in the Maritime Historical Radio Society, but particularly Richard Dillman, W6AWO, we had a fantastic first-hand visit with the history of radio on the high seas. It was a beautiful, warm day without much wind, and not a cloud in the sky. We left the Menlo Park Recreation Center promptly at 8 AM, and despite Doyle Drive being closed for construction, arrived at the transmitter site right on time. On the way up we had a couple of close encounters with bicyclists, but our skilled bus driver was able to navigate around them. As we entered the building, you could hear the music of the CW in the background, and the glow of the mercury rectifier tubes greeted each visitor. The transmitters were in fine shape, even better than the last time I had seen them, and we then toured the outside of the building to look at the antenna field. After that, it was on to the receive site. We entered the building and saw the receiving console, where the operator was hard at work calling CQ KPH to ships at sea. We went outside to see the wonderful MCI log periodic HF 'discone' antenna, which I photographed in detail. Then there was a great barbecue lunch prepared by Doug and Jim, KI6KVV, and others. There were plenty of buns this time, but unfortunately the veggie burgers were erroneously organic regular burgers (sorry Dave, K6WA, we'll get it right next time). Shortly after this, it was time to say our goodbyes and head for home. The Doyle Drive closing meant that traffic might slow us down, however, it wasn't

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

all that bad. We were only a few minutes off schedule. It was a wonderful experience, and a day to remember. Many of us took pictures, some of which are linked on the PAARA website. We'll try to get more of them up there as time goes on. Thanks again to Marty, W6NEV, for putting on such a great trip!

The Maker Fair for 2012 just finished as I write this, and PAARA was well represented at the ARRL information booth. We had a fantastic time showing off what you could do with micro-controllers and ham radio, and just generally getting makers excited about radio. I ran into several people whom I've seen for several years now who have expressed an interest. They promised me that this time for sure they would get their license. One in particular, Tao, KB3GCE, came up to me at the very end and said, "I keep forgetting to renew my license, can you help me?" I gave her my e-mail address, and we corresponded right after the Faire. As of today she is relicensed, and I hope she'll join us on the 9am Talknet via Echolink. I also had a lot of fun with my talk on radioactivity. I asked how many hams there were in the audience, and actually got about a third of the hands raised. I was surprised, even given how many skills I had out there. The final crescendo was the partial solar eclipse which was on the final day of Maker Faire, shortly after closing. We were packing up, but we had to take breaks and look at it. Michael, KF6WRW, scored a filter, and we took turns looking at the occluded sun. What a sight it was! I've never seen anything like that, and the silvery light at the peak was very strange indeed.

Alright, enough of that. Field Day is upon us, and we want to see you there at Bayfront Park. We have a special June FD meeting for you. Station captains are still signing up operators, and we can still use volunteers. I hope we can count on seeing you there when we put all of that aluminum and RF in the air. Come out and join us! CU AT PAARA FD IN 2012 DE K6WX .

## Who C.A.R.E.S. about Field Day?

Have you ever wondered what roles the radio amateur service plays as part of the overall local, state and National Emergency Management System (NEMS)? Cupertino Amateur Radio Emergency Services (CARES) is a group of volunteer hams that serve to support other groups such as Cupertino Emergency Response Team (CERT), Medical Response Team, Search and Rescue and also works with other RACES and ARES organizations including Santa Clara SVECS. This Field Day, CARES will operate as K6KP — 2F SCV from 11am to 5pm for the public to view. This year, the new CARES communications van will also be on display. If you have a chance, come by and check out CARES in operation. Oh yea, and don't forget to work us too!

When: Saturday June 23, 2012, 11am - 5pm

Where: The Cupertino Civic Center Plaza,  
 10300 Torre Ave. Cupertino 95014 —  
 Look for the antennas between the library and City Hall

## June 1, 2012 Raffle Prizes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Yaesu FT-2900R / 75 Watt Heavy-Duty 2 Meter FM Transceiver / Large 6 Digit Backlit LCD / Loud Audio
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Arrow VHF/UHF Backpack Antenna / Perfect Satellite Antenna
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery Tender Junior / 12V / 0.75A / 4-Step Charging / Auto-Float
- 4<sup>th</sup> Two FRS / GMRS Radios
- 5<sup>th</sup> NARCC Repeater Directory
- 6<sup>th</sup> Two PL-259 Coax Connectors
- 7<sup>th</sup> Two Antenna Insulators



**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..... Marty Wayne, K6NEV 408-246-7531  
 w6nev@arrl.net  
 Secretary ..... Rick Melrose K6RDM 408-341-9070  
 k6rdm@arrl.net  
 Treasurer ..... Ron Chester, W6AZ 408-243 2221  
 ron@taxhelp.com

**Directors**

Director ('13) ..... Byron Beck, KG6UOB 408-369-1913  
 kg6uob@arrl.net  
 Director ('12) ..... Rob Riley, KI6INR 650 799-1607 (cell)  
 ki6inr@arrl.net  
 Director ('12) ..... Larry Rebarchik, N6DB 925-353-7952 (cell)  
 n6db@arrl.net  
 Director ('12) ..... Darryl Presley, KI6IDM 650 255-2454  
 ki6idm@arrl.net

**Appointed Positions**

Membership ..... Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636  
 ab6so@smrn.com  
 Database ..... Rick Melrose K6RDM 408-341-9070  
 k6rdm@arrl.net  
 Chaplain..... *Position Vacant*  
 Public Affairs..... *Position 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  
 HistorianPosition..... *Position Vacant*  
 Raffle Coordinator..... Jim Rice, K6AK 650-851-2274  
 Ticket Master ..... Marty Wayne, K6NEV 408-246-7531  
 Field Day Coordinator..... Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650-367-6200  
 ASVARO Rep ..... Rolf Klibo, N6NFI 650-856-2748  
 n6nfi@arrl.net  
 Webmaster ..... John Miller K6MM  
 webaron@gmail.com  
 Technical Coordinator..... Joel Wilhite. KD6W 650-325-8239  
 kd6w@arrl.net  
 QSL Manager ..... Rob Riley, KI6INR 650 799-1607 (cell)  
 ki6inr@arrl.net  
 Speaker Coordinator..... Marty Wayne, K6NEV 408-246-7531

**PAARAgaphs Staff**

Editorial Board  
 Bob Van Tuyl K6RWY Kristen McIntyre k6wx  
 Ron Chester w6AZ Vic Black AB6SO  
 Joel Wilhite, KD6W  
 Editor ..... Bob Van Tuyl, K6RWY 408 799-6463  
 rrvt@swde.com  
 Advertising ..... Ron Chester, W6AZ 408-243-2221  
 ron@taxhelp.com  
 Member Profiles..... *Position Vacant*  
 Technical Tips..... Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636  
 ab6so@smrn.com  
 Photographer..... Bill Young, K6VVO  
 jdsinger@sbcglobal.net

**Future PARRA Meeting Dates**

July 6<sup>th</sup>, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sept 7<sup>th</sup>

**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](mailto: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/>

**PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7:00pm each month at Menlo Park Rec. Center; Net 145.230 - PL 100Hz  
 Mondays at 8:30. See our website at <http://www.paara.org> for more information or contact:  
 Joel Wilhite KD6W, [kd6w@arrl.net](mailto:kd6w@arrl.net), 650-325-8239

**FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society**

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month at 7:30pm  
 Contact: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

**NCDXC — Northern California DX Club**

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:30pm each month,  
 Repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM  
 Contact: <http://ncdxc.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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:30pm each month, Belmont City Hall, 2nd floor, 1 Twin Pines Lane,  
 Belmont. 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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss  
 Meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month.  
 Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, [N6FFC@Juno.com](mailto:N6FFC@Juno.com), or  
[N6FFC@ARRL.NET](mailto:N6FFC@ARRL.NET)

**American Red Cross,  
 Santa Clara Valley Chapter**

Contact: <http://santaclearavalley.redcross.org> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924  
[shensley@Novell.com](mailto:shensley@Novell.com)

(Please send changes to [PAARAgaphs editor](mailto:PAARAgaphs editor))

## 16 May 2012 PAARA Board Meeting Minutes

The Board Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross building, commencing at 7:40 PM on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May, 2012. Attending were Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres), Rick Melrose K6RDM (Sec, Database), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), Byron Beck KG6UOB (Dir), Larry Rebarchik N6DB (Dir), Darryl Presley KI6LDM (Dir). A quorum was present.

**President's Report:** Kristen K6WX reported that the presentation at the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on the California Near Space Project about the Transcontinental Transatlantic International Balloon flight of CNSP-11 (APRS call K6RPT-11) from San Jose, CA, to Algeria, by Don Ferguson AI6RE and Ron Meadows K6RPT, did a fine job of telling the story of the balloon flights leading up to the record breaking flight. The June meeting will feature Dean Straw N6BV, with our traditional Field Day warm-up and insight into his QSO handling expertise.

Additionally, Kristen reported that the PAARA-trip to KPH, the restored ex-RCA coast station at the Point Reyes National Seashore on April 28<sup>th</sup>, was of great interest and a lot of fun for all who attended, including a large contingent from Ukiah who met us at the site.

**Secretary's Report:** Rick K6RDM was unable to attend the general meeting due to another commitment. Doug Teter KG6LWE covered the post and reports that there were three renewals and one new member at the June meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron W6AZ presented a report on receipts from the club's raffles, memberships and sales of gear at the ASVARO Electronics Flea Market, indicating that we're doing well overall. The receipts from the KPH PAARAtrip slightly better than covered its costs as well.

**Vice President's Report:** Marty W6NEV was unable to attend the board meeting. His information was presented by Kristen, to the effect that our presentation schedule, with the exception of one opening, is booked through the end of the

year.

Director Larry Rebarchik N6DB Reported on the progress of the Field Day preparation group with the reconditioning of the KT-34XA antenna. Three of its six elements are complete. There will be another gathering of the crew this Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Doug Teter's shop in Redwood City to work on completing that and other projects. There will doubtless be other work party weekends coming up to Field Day (23 & 24 June this year). There are also arrangements in progress regarding operating our stations. Anyone interested in participating should contact either Doug Teter KG6LWE, Field Day Coordinator, or Rebar, to make arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

### There was one new member at the May meeting:

Joe Sturdevant      AG6KV      San Jose



**PAARA members line up for the KPH tour on April 28th**



Calling CQ for ships at sea on the PAARA trip to coast station KPH.



This station was designed and constructed by the  
Radio Corporation of America  
The 200 KW High Frequency Alexanderson Generating  
Equipment was manufactured and installed  
by the General Electric Company  
The general engineering and construction work  
Was performed by the  
C. White Engineering Corporation  
1920



Doug, KG6LWE, didn't forget the buns this time!



PAARA member, N6UOB Byron, shoots video at 2012 Maker Faire Bay Area



Amateur TV setup is receiving transmission 427 MHz (CATV ch 58) from inside Expo Hall at booth 89



Banners at Maker Faire



PAARA member Lodema, KI6UGV, brought her potter's wheel to the Maker Faire



Any body remember the Apple II?



Robots anyone?



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

*Real Estate Needs Met; call Karl*

**KARL DRESDEN**  
 General License, KJ6GUK  
 Cell Ph. 650-274-8155  
 Email: karldresden@juno.com  
 Full time Realtor since 1976  
 DRE # 00525886

**Terrace Associates, Inc.**  
 Full Service Real Estate  
 926 Woodside Road  
 Redwood City, Ca 94061  
 Terrace Ph. 650-369-7331  
 FAX 650-274-8155

*Badges are ready for  
 pickup.*

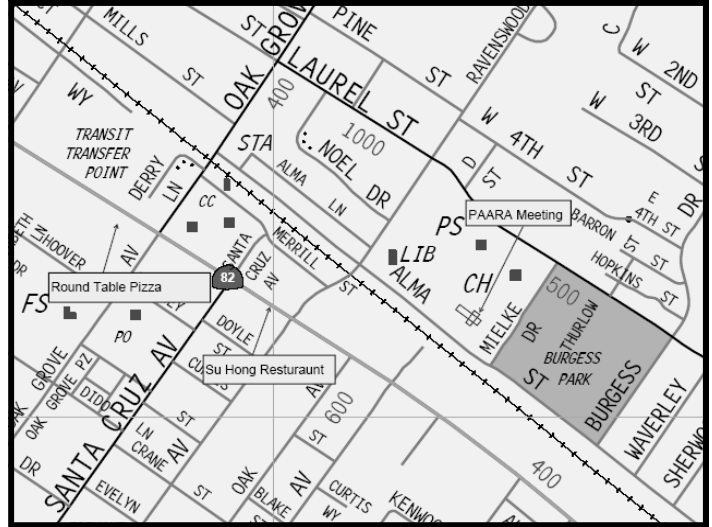
If you would like to  
 order a badge, see  
**Lynn Gentry, KG6JPV.**

## PAARA Weekly Radio Net

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

<u>Week</u>	<u>Control Operator</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Michael - N6MEB
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Doug - KG6LWE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jack - N1VSL
4 <sup>th</sup>	Marty - W6NEV
5 <sup>th</sup>	Up for Grabs!

If you're interested in trying out at Net Control,  
 Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice,  
 and lots o' fun! Give it a try.



**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 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.



**Amateur  
Radio  
Technology  
Day**

WILL RESUME  
WHEN A NEW  
VENUE IS  
DETERMINED.

**8AM TO 6PM**



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

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/r/PZHjUev0D-CcHE\\_G6hm6rdKbPtUyz6m?previous\\_view=next&recommended\\_url&view=original](http://www.slide.com/r/PZHjUev0D-CcHE_G6hm6rdKbPtUyz6m?previous_view=next&recommended_url&view=original)

**MADONNA'S  
BAIL BONDS**

MasterCard Ayudamos a la Comunidad Hispana VISA

REDWOOD CITY — 650-366-9111  
SAN FRANCISCO — 415-495-2245  
SAN JOSE — 408-266-2245

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



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

Submit items to **PAARAgaphs** by the  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed to: [rrvt@swde.com](mailto:rrvt@swde.com)  
Text: .doc, .rtf, or .txt  
Photos: jpg, png or tiff

Subscription Problems? Contact Database  
Manager: Rick Melrose K6RDM,  
888 725-1895, [k6rdm@arrl.net](mailto: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

