

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Celebrating 76 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937

<http://www.paara.org/>



Tom Schiller, N6BT

Tom will talk about the design and development of antennas focusing on his Next Generation Antenna, the Bravo Series Vertical Antenna

Biography

Tom currently holds three World Records in radio operating competitions; has set more than 15 World Records and over 40 others. He is licensed and has operated from 15 countries.

Co-founder of the National Contest Journal

Co-founder of Team Vertical in 1997, which rewrote the book on vertical antennas; setting 26 world records while operating 9 years from Jamaica, 5 years from Eleuthera (Bahamas), plus Venezuela and Fiji.

Received publisher's award for a radio propagation article, "Everything Works" in July, 200 QST

Author and publisher of Array of Light 3rd Edition

Mr. Schiller is a valued speaker at conventions, mainly on antenna design, installation, propagation; also on contesting and DXpeditions..

He has been a guest speaker at national conventions in Finland and Japan, Naval Post-Graduate School (Monterey, CA), Stanford University, University of Utah, Potomac Valley Radio Club, Cal Poly and others.

Aug 2, 2013

7:00 pm

Cubberley Community Center

Room H-6

4000 Middlefield Road

Palo Alto, CA 94303

President's Corner

August 2013

As we move toward the end of summer, PAARA still has a few things in store for you. The fall contest season should be ramping up soon, but what's going on with the sun? Did you listen to Night of Nights? And PayPal Renewals are almost ready to go live.



We've just had our latest PAARAtrip to the California Historical Radio Society and station KRE, as I write this. Unfortunately I was not able to attend because of work commitments, however, I heard from various PAARA members that the trip was very fun and interesting. I have been there before and have spoken there as well. The building is just filled with radio gear of all types. There was an auction of some vintage radios which, according to Harry, AI4ZI, on the PAARA net, went for very reasonable prices. All in all, it sounded like a great time was had by all.

Another upcoming event is the mini PAARASHOOT which will be held just after our next PAARA meeting, on Sunday, August 4th. It's a chance to combine exercising our 2nd Amendment right with Amateur Radio. This is a replacement event for what used to be our traditional PAARASHOOT at the Metcalf 200 yd

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range. Unfortunately we no longer have access there, however, we have secured a new venue through the generosity of Carla Satra, the new holder of the WA6UBE callsign, with additional help from Chuck, N6VFH. The event will be held at the San Jose Municipal Firing Range, often referred to as the 10th Street Range, and more information is available at <http://www.scvrc.com>. For the most part, pistols and rimfire rifles are allowed. Only gallery loads are allowed for center fire rifles. Shotguns with common soft lead shot such as bird or buck shot are allowed. Targets will be available for our use, but you can also bring your own. Even some reactive targets can be hung for extra fun. Use of humanoid targets is not allowed, however. Eye and ear protection is required on the range. There will be some available on site, however, it is suggested that you bring your own if possible. If you need any other details, please feel free to contact me directly. If I don't have the answer, I'll get it for you. We'll also be able to barbecue. It's bring your own food, and you can cook it there. And, of course, we will be practicing safe shooting at all times on the range. Safety first, but let's have a fun time. Feel free to bring a radio to set up a station also.

If you've been watching the solar activity lately, it's been rather strange. We've had a few days here and there of high sunspots, mostly followed by flare or CME activity. I've been looking at the long term graphs, though, and cycle 24 is most definitely looking like part of a larger trend toward smaller solar peaks over the last 3 cycles. Time will tell, though, what will happen. Solar dynamics is a complex system, and its ultimate behavior is very difficult to predict. You can see this by how many solar physicists gave erroneous predictions for the strength of cycle 24. One thing is very likely, though, and that is that we are nearing the peak of this cycle, such as it is. We might as well enjoy the great propagation as we move towards the equinox.

At coast station KPH / KSM on the night of our last PAARA meeting, July 12th, the annual Night of Nights commemoration of the last commercial Morse Code transmission took place. Did you hear them on any frequency? Send them a reception report and get a QSL card back. See the information at radiomarine.org for more information. You can also read about the restoration of the 1959 RCA H Set transmitter that was on the air for the event.

I want to let you know that we are closer than ever to having our Paypal PAARA renewals up and running. John, K6MM, our webmaster has a test page up and running, and we are almost ready to go. Just a few final details and we can go live. I can't wait! Until then ... CU AT PAARASHOOT DE K6WX

17 JULY 2013 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross building, commencing at 7:30 PM on the 17th of July 2013. Attending were Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne W6NEV (VP), Rick Melrose K6RDM (Sec, Database), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir), Darryl Presley KI6LDM (Dir), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), and Gerry Tucker N6NV (Property Manager) A quorum was present.

President's Report: Kristen K6WX said that our recent Field Day exercise went very well overall and that the news reporting on the event was exceptional. The San Jose Mercury News paid a visit and subsequently published an article that appeared on two pages with several pictures included. Moreover, many other clubs had their outing covered in the press as well. We had lots of visitors who were curious about our operations and peppered her with questions about our meetings and activities. New PAARA member Bob Iannucci W6EI brought several of his graduate students from Carnegie Mellon University West to visit and local ARRL officials

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Jeremiah O'Brien

By

Gerry Tucker



Entering the radio room of the Liberty Ship SS Jeremiah O'Brien.

An old friend of mine of over 50 years, Jim Kyser, alerted me to the opportunity to take a cruise on the Jeremiah O'Brien, and what a fabulous experience it was. Jim is a diesel expert and one of some 70 volunteer crew members that make these trips possible.

I had been on the Jeremiah about 30 years ago for dinner with the IEEE when it was tied up at Fort Mason. I don't think it was certified for taking visitors out at that time. With another 700 visitors, we basically got the run of the ship.

By far the most memorable part of the trip was the visit to the engine room which can be likened to crawling inside the crankcase of your car and watching the crankshaft and pistons flying around. It runs on an oil fired, triple expansion, steam engine derived from a British design from, (yes!), the 1890's.

In 2007, I was on a small, (~100ft), ship, the 'Virginia V,' of Seattle, which was driven with a baby version of the same design. The trip was 4 wonderful hours and took us outside the Gate and inside under the Bay Bridge as well.

A visit to the Jeremiah Radio Room was hosted by John Chow, a friend of Denise



John Chow, KXCH station operator and model of patience, tells us this is a commercial not a ham station!

Stoops, a very respected commercial operator of considerable renown in this area.

Many of you may remember Denise giving a talk to PAARA. John told me that many years ago he had encouraged Denise to additionally get her FCC license which would allow her the privilege of operating the ships station. He also informed me, sadly, that Denise has recently suffered a stroke and has returned, I



CFL hanging from the transmission line verifies we're transmitting RF.

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believe, to the Midwest where she grew up.

John's commercial license is, of course, framed next to the Radio Room door. He pointed out that, when renewed every five years, the endorsement number is incremented by one. John's endorsement number is 12!



Station controls are a little different from my station at home.

I had intentionally taken a copy of my ham license with me for, of course, you know what. I was to be disappointed, along with another ham, the station is not licensed for amateur use.

The next outing is in October, I can highly recommend it.

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Bob Vallio W6RGG and Brandon Bianchi NI6C also put in appearances.

Secretary's Report: Rick K6RDM reported that there were 2 new members and 4 renewals at the July 12th meeting.

Club VP, Marty Wayne W6NEV, reported the featured speaker at our August 2nd meeting will be by Tom Schiller N6BT, the developer of the new Bravo Series Antennas. He also reminds members that the T-Shirts and hats will continue to be available at the August 2nd meeting and will be featured on the landing page of our PAARA.org website. Marty also offered to make more durable signs for our Field Day site and the board approved the expense.

Treasurer's Report: Ron W6AZ went over receipts from our recent Ham Flea Market and club raffles as well as a preliminary look at our statistics from Field Day operation and reports that are still needed for submission to the ARRL.

Kristen mentioned that we are still looking for interesting submissions of articles for future PAARAgaphs. Gerry N6NV has submitted one and told us that he has another in the works. She also reported that our planned visit to the California Historical Radio Society is coming up on Saturday July 20th. There is a map and instructions for accessing the museum's parking on our PAARA.org website. There will be a \$5 entrance donation and a lunch will be available for \$7. Transportation will be by individually arranged car or carpool.

Our PAARASHOOT event, with no range fees, is also coming up on August 4th commencing at 9:00 AM at the Tenth Street Range. Rim-fire pistols and rifles only may be used and there will be targets and some required ear and eye protection provided for those who do not have their own. There will be a BBQ set up and attendees should bring whatever meat items they want to grill. There will be other accompanying food as well.

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PAARA 7/12/13 Raffle Prize Winners

- 1st Prize Vic Black / AB6SO / Icom IC-V80-25 / 2m / Extender Receive HT
- 2nd Prize Amanda / KK6CWV / Uniden Scanner
- 3rd Prize Amanda / KK6CWV / Wireless Weather Station
- 4th Prize Joel Wilhite / KD6W / Two Uniden FRS/GMRS Radios
- 5th Prize Kristen McIntyre / K6WX / ARRL Repeater Directory
- 6th Prize Rob / KJ6POG / Plastic Coax Seal
- 7th Prize Joel Wilhite / KD6W / Bongo Ties

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

There were 2 new members at the July meeting:

Bob Iannucci	W6EI	Palo Alto
David Ferranti	KJ6RCA	San Carlos

PAARA Badges Ready for Pick-up:

K6FTF	Mark	San Jose
KJ6GBE	Sreendish	Redwood City
KG6GYG	Art	San Jose
N6JCY	Joani	San Jose
KI6JLS	Joanne	Palo Alto
KG6QKN	Francis	Palo Alto
KG6QKO	Kali	Palo Alto
KJ6SGT	Xiande	Campbell
KF6SRD	Chuck	Palo Alto
K6TSR	George	Portola Valley
K6VVK	Vincent	Palo Alto

August Raffle Prizes

1st Prize: Yaesu FT-60R
 2 meter / 440 MHz / 5 Watt / Dual Band /
 Handheld
 Huge LCD Display
 Emergency Automatic ID System
 1,000 Memory Channels
 1400 mAh Nickel-Metal Hydride Battery
 Pack
 NOAA Weather Broadcast Channel

**2nd Prize: Alpha Delta 4 Position RF
 Coax Switch**
 SO239 connectors
 Lightning Surge Protected / Replaceable
 Arc-Plug Cartridge Pills are available.
 Has a Center Ground Switch Position- in
 which all antenna circuits are
 internally disconnected and grounded.
 At 30MHz / .1 dB Loss / >60dB Isolation

**3rd Prize: Two West Mountain Amplified
 COM Speakers**
 Exceptionally high rejection of radio frequency interference from 1 to
 1000MHz.
 Stereo High Fidelity Response

4th Prize: MFJ 24/12 Hour / Local-UTC Dual Clocks
 Quick glance for local and UTC times.

5th Prize: Pocket Reference / Thomas Glover

6th Prize: NARCC Northern California Repeater Directory

7th Prize: Two PL-259 UHF Silver Teflon Connectors



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

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 Public Affairs*Position Vacant*
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 dteter@wcwi.com
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Future PARRA Meeting Dates

Sept 6th, Oct 4th, Nov 1st

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/>

PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Room H-6, Cubberley Community 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, 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 3rd 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 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, Belmont EOC, Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont CA 94002. 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 W6UUU & 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: 441.35 (+5.0) 88.5 ctcss
 147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss
 223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 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://santacalaravalley.redcross.org> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924 shensley@Novell.com

(Please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor)



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 Sales Manager

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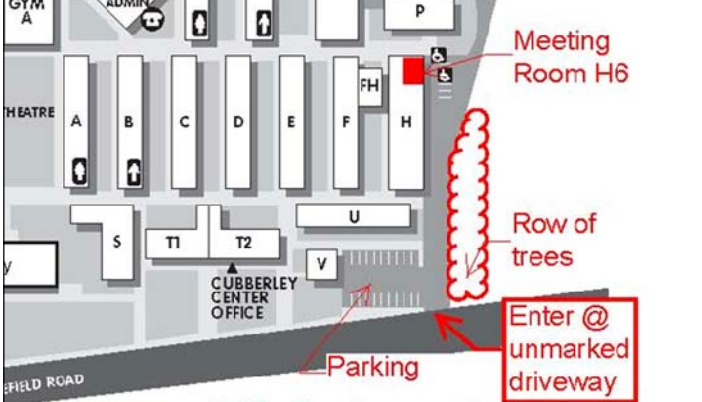
Badges are ready for pickup.

If you would like to order a badge, see **Doug Teter, KG6LWE.**

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 st	Open
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - N1VSL
4 th	Marty - W6NEV
5 th	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.



Cubberley Community Center
 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303
 650/329.2418
 650/856.8756 fax
 www.cityofpaloalto.org

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Meeting Location — Middlefield Road between San Antonio and Charleston in Palo Alto. 4000 Middlefield Road

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

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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 Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center.

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

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<p>Amateur Radio Technology Day</p> <p>WILL RESUME WHEN A NEW VENUE IS DETERMINED.</p> <p>8AM TO 6PM</p>	<p>Ilse Beck, E. A. , KI6IBM</p> <p>Beck Business Services</p> <p>441 N. Central Avenue, #9 Campbell, CA 95008</p> <p>Enrolled Agent Income Tax Bookkeeping/Payroll Elder Care Consultations Billing and A/R</p> <p>Phone/FAX: 408-267-8234 Email: ilsebeck@jps.net</p>
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Subscription Problems? Contact Database
 Manager: Rick Melrose K6RDM,
 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.**

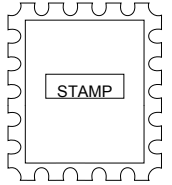
1. Not-for-profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card-size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size per issue).
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover per issue.

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**

PAARAgaphs —Aug 2013

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
PAARAgaphs Newsletter
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