

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Celebrating 79 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937

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




My Journey into Robotics

Michael Wimble, KM6WP

Michael's talk is about his journey into the field of robotics, from an individual effort view. He will show the design of two robots he is currently working on, talk about the vast range of effort one can invest in building a robot, why he is working on robots and where I intend to go with them.

Michael retired in 2015 after a long career in computer software and hardware. He wrote operating systems and compilers and has several software patents related to debugging of large scale and complex systems. He owned and operated three business simultaneously: Legal Data Systems—a company that used expert systems to practice law, Iowa Mountain Software—a company that wrote compilers for others, and Wimble Robotics—a company that designed and produced prototype computer systems. He also worked at Ebnek designing super computers, Apple Computer, Alta Vista—one of the first commercial search engines, Sun Microsystems and Microsoft.

Upcoming Events

- Oct 7 PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Nov 4 Cubberly Community Center, Room H-6, 400 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
- Dec 5
- Oct 19 Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Nov 17 Everyone welcome!
- Dec 21 Location: Marty, W6NEV, QTH 
- Oct 30 PAARApink at the 10th St Range

President's Corner

October 2016

It's finally fall and time for Pacificon. But before that we have the California QSO Party. That ushers in the fall contest season, with some hopefully improved propagation. And don't forget the PAARA Leadership Election coming up soon. It's also not too soon to think about the Winter Banquet.



The California QSO Party is this weekend, as I write. It's the big event where you get to be the DX, so to speak. Usually, sixth district calls are not a sought after commodity, but not this time. If you get on the band with your six call and give a shout, particularly if you are in a relatively rare county, the stations will come to you. You can operate on all of the usual contest HF bands (WARC bands are excluded), and see how many points you can get. You get

(President — Continued on page 2)

Getting to know you

PIETER NOORDHUIS (KK6VXV) grew up in the Netherlands. His family ran a large farm in the province of Groningen, near the North Sea. This is a very agricultural part of the country. His farm cultivated sugar beets, wheat and potatoes. He spent his childhood playing outdoors a lot, along with a brother and sister, and learned to operate the farm equipment at a very young age (below the legal limit—clever boy). Also, at a very young age of 8, Pieter became very interested in electronics, through a family friend, who worked at a government facility full of exciting equipment. Through this encounter, Pieter was introduced to the world of communication and it opened up a whole new world of possibilities to Pieter, who soon began to explore more about this exciting horizon.



By his high school days, Pieter was quickly becoming the person to consult for his school's needs, and developed a software program to help them get up to speed with collecting and interpreting data for enrollment purposes. By 16, he had started his own consulting business, building software programs.

From 2003-2011, Pieter attended the University, in Groningen, continuing to master his computer skills. During this time, he met and married the love of his life, Laurien.

By 2010, while still in the Netherlands, Pieter had become an independent contractor for VMware, based in Palo Alto. Upon graduation, Pieter and Laurien headed for the US, where Pieter became employed full time by VMware, as a software engineer, in the domain of server manager. Most recently, Pieter has moved on to Facebook, in a very exciting area of development, artificial intelligence.

So how did ham radio come into Pieter's life? Well, he was very interested in weather satellite capabilities and found a radio that could work in combination with an Arrow yagi. When he got it working, he became very excited about learning more. He found the physics of different modes of communicating very intriguing and made it his goal to get his license. He accomplished this goal, as recently as August of 2015. Congratulations, Pieter!

Since Pieter and Laurien are expats, they go back to Holland at least once a year, or more, to stay in touch with their families. Besides Holland, one of their favorite places to have visited is Hawaii. They really loved it.

I asked Pieter, if he could have dinner with anyone, who would it be? Without hesitation, he declared he would choose Buzz

Aldrin! Pieter's dream is to go to space someday.

Last but not least, a bit of exciting news for the Noordhuis family: they are expecting their first child, a son, in a couple of months. The PAARA family wishes Pieter and Lauren all the best for a healthy child and so begins a new chapter in their lives.

Keep reaching for the stars, Pieter!

Diana Lloyd
 KK6YGM

(President — Continued from page 1)

multipliers for each state and Canadian province if you are operating from within California. If you're outside California, the counties are multipliers for you. In either case, there are 58 mults total. The exchange is your county or state and a serial number. Hopefully, some of you will have gotten a chance to be the station everyone is looking for. Though you will see

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(President — Continued from page 2)

this after PAARAgaphs is published, the rules can be found at cqp.org. That way you can prepare for next year!

Pacificon is coming up very shortly as well. It will be held at the San Ramon Marriott, as it was last year. This is one of the premier ham radio conferences in the world, and it happens right here in our back yard. It starts with the antenna seminar on Friday, followed by two days - Saturday and Sunday - of fun and adventure. There will be talks, vendors, tables for organizations, and special features like Parachute Mobile. Saturday evening there will be a banquet keynoted by the new ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. Saturday night will feature the Wouff Hong ceremony at midnight, which I highly recommend even if you've done it before. PAARA will be sponsoring the Special Event Station W1AW/6, as we have done the last few years. It will be a scaled back version, however, resulting from some unforeseen and unexpected complications. On this subject, I'd like to cast the net wide to see if I can get some help from our membership. We will need personnel to man the station and to help with setup and tear down. If you can help out, please let me know. In particular, we'll need some people to do night shifts to watch the gear. It would be unfortunate to have to tear the station down early because we were short of volunteers. So, you night owls, please consider helping us out. Regardless, though, I'm personally looking forward to seeing PAARA members at Pacificon. Oh, and don't miss the chance to hear some of the talks that will be given by our membership!

Since we're just past the equinox as I write this, don't forget to see how the propagation is these days. Things are improved from the summer, since the D layer is less energized during the day, so there is less attenuation. Even if the sunspot number is relatively low (it's 21 right now), the path might be good. Get out there and see what you can find before we drop into winter. And don't forget to check out the lower bands. If 20 meters isn't working, try 40 meters. It's a great DX band too.

The PAARA Leadership Election is coming up in December. General nominations open with our October meeting, and continue until the close of the November meeting. We will be giving out more details when we meet, but remember that you have to be a member for 2016 to vote in this ever-contentious horse race.

A couple of notes on upcoming events, the FARS Winter Banquet is not that far away (see the notice about some changes to this elsewhere in PAARAgaphs). And we have what is likely the last PAARAshoot on October 30th at the 10th Street Range. Details at the meeting, or contact me. Also, check out my first Q & A column in the October Nuts And Volts.

CU SOON AT PAARA CUBBERLY H6 IN PALO ALTO

-Kristen (K6WX)

Dear PAARA Membership,

On behalf of the PAARA Board I wanted to let you know about a change that we are making. For many years we have partnered with the Foothills Amateur Radio Society, FARS, to present the Winter Banquet in January of each year. After long consideration the PAARA Board has decided that we no longer will be official sponsors of the Banquet. While our official role may be changing, we want to continue to encourage you to attend and enjoy this annual event. We will, as we have done in the past, keep you informed of plans and remind you of the event at the end of the year.

We wish to thank the FARS Board for the many years of cooperation and service to the Amateur Radio community that made the Winter Banquet a success. We all are very appreciative and look forward to the event continuing in some form long into the future.

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX
PAARA President, on behalf of the
PAARA Board

Sept. 21, 16 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the home of Marty Wayne, W6NEV, commencing at 7:26 PM on September 21st, 2016. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Ron Chester, W6AZ (Treasurer) [via videoconference], Larry Re-barchik, N6DB (Dir), and non-Board Member Doug Teter, KG6LWE (Field Day Coordinator). A quorum was present.

Note that for the present time and until notified otherwise, board meetings will be held at Marty's house. The board thanks Gloria and Marty for their hospitality and a much quieter environment than the Pizza Parlor.

Kristen, (K6WX), commented on a DMR QSO she had with a friend who is at MIT. She hadn't talked to him in some time making the QSO even more interesting. During the conversation she learned about the TAC channels and how to use them for 1 to 1 communications thus not tying up a large talk group channel. TAC channels have now been added to the programming in her radio. She found it quite enjoyable to carry on the QSO using DMR over long distances.

Kristen requested we all put on our thinking caps to come up with some new raffle prize ideas for the monthly meetings. What would you like to win in the raffle, no a GT350R doesn't qualify? If you have any ideas, let a member of the board know or Jim Rice, K6AK, raffle coordinator. The board also had a short conversation regarding the upcoming Dream to Reality raffle in December. No decision was made on what the grand prize will be.

Kristen reminded the board that it's election time. She's yet to identify an election chair. The board suggested a couple of candidates who she's going to talk to. The election chair will be announced at the October meeting. Now is the time to indicate your interest in a

board or director position in your club. There are 3 director seats up for election along with all 4 board positions. Election nominations close at the end of the November meeting.

Kristen also mentioned that her reserve of stories is getting thin again thus is on the lookout for more stories. If you have committed to a story but not submitted it (there are several people out there fitting this category) please put pen to paper or fingers on the keyboard and let your creative juices flow! Do you have any projects, Field Day experiences, technical articles, hints n kinks, DX contacts, or experiences setting up your station or antenna, on the air experiences that might be of interest? If you have not previously drafted that story or have a new story, now is the time to get a by-line of your own in PAARAgaphs and get that story submitted to Kristen for publication. "Remember it is 'home grown' stories that make PAARAgaphs great", she said

Vice President's Report: Marty, W6NEV, announced that Mike Wimble, KM6WP will be talking about "His Journey into the field of Robots" at the October meeting. Marty also announced having lined up speakers through the end of the year. As always, if you know of someone who would be of interest to the club, let Marty know. Marty also commented on his current efforts at identifying the next PAARA field trip. Let Marty know if you have any ideas for the next trip.

Secretary's report: Jim, K6SV, reported that there are currently 191 PAARA members, the most since he's been keeping track. Last year at this time there were only 170 members! What a wonderful increase to the membership. He also reported that there were 5 new members joining in September. Additionally, he reported that the club has 3.1% of the membership who aren't licensed, 46.2% of the members hold a technician or general license and 50.7% of the members hold advanced or amateur extra licenses.

(Minutes — Continued from page 4)

Treasurer's Report: Ron, W6AZ, informed the board of the proceeds from the last month was on par for this time of year. Of note was the \$2,000 in sales Joel, KD6W, made over the previous two months from flea market sales and the D-Star sale.

Under Old Business:

The topic of ASVARO and the Flea Market was discussed again. There were a wide range of items discussed but boiled down to this year being the least profitable Flea Market for PAARA ever. The board discussed needing to identify an individual that will spearhead a query on behalf of all the clubs involved with the flea market to identify ways of improving the event. Several names were discussed as possible candidates. Kristen will be reaching out to them.

The inventory of PAARA "stuff" which is located at various members QTH's is continuing topic. As no one really has a handle on exactly what "stuff" there is, where it is or what condition it might be in. This topic is still a work in process.

Under New Business:

Jim, K6SV, mentioned taking a look at the cost of PAARAgaphs. The current printing cost is \$1.35. Adding in the 0.47 postage brings the per issue cost to \$1.82. This means the total per member cost for 1 year's worth of PAARAgaphs is \$21.84. The board discussed the possibility of raising the dues and looked at what other clubs are charging. Most all of the other clubs don't mail out a newsletter any longer and with the exception of 1 club we looked at have higher dues and in 1 case way higher dues than PAARA. At this moment, the dues are going to remain at \$20/member however that could change in the New Year. So you might want to consider renewing your membership for 2017 early.

Kristen confirmed the next PAARApink is

scheduled for October 30th. It's more than likely that it will be the last one due to the gun law changes that go into effect in January. If you ever wanted to be part of this event, plan to attend now or miss out.

Jim, K6SV, reminded the board of a topic that was postponed from the last meeting. The topic revolved around the circumstances surrounding any item that might require a board vote before the next scheduled board meeting. This type of thing doesn't happen often but has happened in the recent past. The board members present agreed that in order to have a vote by email, the reason for the vote had to be one which the majority of board members agreed couldn't wait until the next board meeting. If a vote was required, it would be conducted as a roll call vote to eliminate the possibility of a member having an opinion on the item and for whatever reason not being part of or seeing the email chain regarding the item being voted on. It was further agreed that the regular board mailing list wouldn't be used for voting as there are numerous people on the list that don't have voting privileges. As always, any email vote would be documented in the next secretary's report.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM.

Jim Thielemann
Secretary/membership
K6SV

Please welcome to PAARA:

New members:

Fredrick Fautz IV	KM6ETS,
Steve Sharep	WB6KIO,
Joe Metas	WB6JOE,
Gail Wilson	KK6PDB,
Kim Lathan	N/C



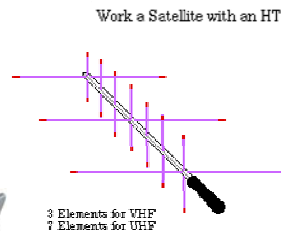
PAARA 9/2/16 Raffle Prize Winners	
Left to Right	
9 th	Kristen McIntyre / K6WX / Bell Skull Shift Knob
4 th	Andy Korsak / KR6DD / Headband Magnifier
Back Row	
2 nd	Mark Miller / AE6TT / Weather Alert Radio
8 th	Mark Miller / AE6TT / Key Chain Light
3 rd	Doug Teter / KG6LWE / Two Midland FRS/GMRS Radios
5 th	Bob Kindlund / KK6YRV / Ball End 9 Piece Allen Wrench Set
7 th	Bob Kindlund / KK6YRV / Repeater Directory 2015-2016
6 th	Joel Wilhite / KD6W / Helping Hand Solder Aid Tool
1 st	Fred Kautz / KM6ETS / Tytera MD-380 / DMR Digital Portable HT

October Raffle Prizes

1st Tytera MD-380 / DMR Digital Portable HT
 Operates in Analog and Digital Modes
 5 Watt Output
 Uses Time-Division Multiple-Access / Double # of Users
 Private Call / Group Call / All Call



2nd Arrow 2m Yagi Antenna
 3 Element VHF / 7 Element UHF / Max Gain



3rd Lido LM801 EXP HT
 Cup Holder



4th ARRL Small Antennas for Small Spaces Book

5th ARRL Repeater Directory 2016-2017

6th Coax Seal

7th 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, W6NEV	408-246-7531
	mcwayne2@comcast.net	
Secretary	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Treasurer.....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

Directors

Director ('15-'16)	Byron Beck N6UOB	408-369-1913
	N6uob@arrl.net	
Director ('16-'17)	Rob Riley, K16INR	650 799-1607 (c)
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
Director ('16).....	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	650 465-8210 (c)
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('16).....	Darryl Presley, K16LDM	650 255-2454
	ki6ldm@arrl.net	

Appointed Positions

Membership.....	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Database	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Chaplain	Rick Melrose K6RDM	408-341-9070
	K6RDM@yahoo.com	
Public Affairs	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
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	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wvci.com	
Historian Position	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
Raffle Coordinator	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Field Day Coordinator ...	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
ASVARO Rep.....	Clark Martin, KK6ISP	
	kk6isp@comcast.net	
Webmaster	John Miller K6MM	
	webaron@gmail.com	
Technical Coordinator ...	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	408-839-5948
	kd6w@arrl.net	
QSL Manager	Rob Riley, K16INR	650 799-1607 (c)
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
Speaker Coordinator	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	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	
Back Up Editor	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Advertising.....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243-2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	
Member Profiles	Diana Lloyd, KK6YGM	650-988-8882
	dianalloyd76@gmail.com	
Technical Tips	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Photographer.....	<i>Position Vacant</i>	

VE Exams

Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room, 4th Saturday 10:30 am each month and De Anza Park, Sunnyvale, 2nd Saturday 10:30 am each month except November and December. See website for details and exceptions: <http://amateur-radio.org> or Contact 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

50 MHz & Up Group

Meets 1st Thursday each month at 7pm in the Texas Instruments Building E conference room in Santa Clara.
 Contact: <http://50MhzandUp.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 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 2nd Wednesday of every month except July, August and December.
 Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, president@wvara.org

American Red Cross, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

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

(Please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor)



James Farrey
 Sales Manager

James Electronics Ltd
 1355 Shoreway Road, Belmont, CA 94002
 Tel: 650•592•6718 x 350 Fax: 650•802•1520
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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	Joel KD6W
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - W1VSL
4 th	Rob - KC6TYD
5 th	Rob - KC6TYD

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

Legend
 Disabled Parking
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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>

Vladimir Vladimirovich
 SHKURKIN
 Editing and Translation Services
 English-Russian-English
shkurkin@ix.netcom.com

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).
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PAARA DMR Repeater Frequencies	
144 – 144.9625 up 2.5 MHz	DMR—NOR CAL Brandmeister Network
440 – 444.475 up 5 MHz	DMR
1.2G – 1284.15 down 12MHz	D-Star Voice
1.2G – 1249.15 half duplex	D-Star Data



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Subscription Problems? Contact Database
 Manager: Jim Thielemann, K6SV,
 408-839-6815, thielem@pacbell.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.**

- 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).
- 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**

