

# PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**Celebrating 80 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937<http://www.paara.org/>

## December Speaker

**Wayne Burdick, N6KR****ELECRAFT Today & Tomorrow**

- Do not miss this evening with Elecraft's Wayne Burdick talking about the PAARA Raffle 1st place prize, the KX-3. Wayne will also talk about other Elecraft products and may seek a treasure or two at us.

## Upcoming Events

Dec 1	PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
Jan 5	Cubberly Community Center, Room
Feb 2	H-6, 400 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto

Dec No mtg.	Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Jan 17	Everyone welcome!
Feb 15	Location: Marty, W6NEV, QTH



modulation. There is also an available panadapter so that you can see what's going on across the spectrum. I have a KX3 and I love it! I think you will too. There are additional raffle prizes too, so even if you don't win the first prize, you might not go home empty handed. Come see what fate has in store for you.

Our December meeting also features Wayne Burdick, N6KR, from Elecraft who will be telling us some really fun things about what's going on with their company. If you've been to a December meeting before, you know it's an event not to be missed. If you haven't, I hope you'll stop by and see what makes PAARA "The Friendliest Club Around", and also why we have the best raffles! Lastly, we will have the ever-contentious PAARA leadership elections at this meeting. Remember that you need to have current 2017 year membership to be eligible to vote. Your PAARA Leadership Team is excited to get started on another great year, so come on out and support us as we embark on our 81st year as an active ham radio club.

I had some radio fun this month rather unexpectedly. I got a call from past PAARA president Andreas, N6NU, asking if I wanted to work ARRL Sweepstakes SSB with him and Chris, N6WN. I don't work that many contests because of my sleep issues, but I decided to go for it, especially since the team wasn't planning on operating all night. So, for me at least, it was some pretty leisurely operating. I came

*(President — Continued on page 8)*

## President's Corner

December 2017

It's the end of the year, and what an interesting year it has been. There has been lots of Amateur Radio fun and adventure throughout the year, and there is more to come in 2018. Don't forget that we have the big Dream To Reality Raffle coming up in just a short few days, as well as PAARA Leadership Elections. Don't miss it!



The end of the year always means that our biggest event of the year is here. That is, of course, the Dream To Reality Raffle, once again engineered by PAARA's amazing Raffle Master Jim, K6AK. This year we will have another KX3 that could be yours for as little as \$1. That wonderful little radio comes packed with the MH3 hand microphone, internal ATU, 2 meter module (!), and an SMA adaptor so you can get that VHF signal easily to an antenna. It's an incredible prize for anyone who likes QRP operation. The receiver is amazing, and it also has I and Q outputs so that you can do SDR de-

## PAARA “Dream to Reality Raffle XIV” with over \$1,900 in prizes

**FIRST PRIZE:** Elecraft **KX-3** 160- 6m — \$1,500 + Value



Factory Assembled “Special Thanks to Elecraft”

Advanced DSP Dual Watch / Noise Reduction

Noise Blanking / Autonotch / Stereo Audio Effects

PSK31 / RTTY with or without a PC  
 INCLUDES:

- 2M Module
- Internal 20-W Auto Tuner
- MH3 Hand Microphone
- SMA BNC Adapters
- SMA BNC Right Angle Adapters

**SECOND PRIZE:** B-Tech UV-24x4 VHF/UHF Transceiver

**THIRD PRIZE:** #1 GP5 SSB / Thanks Nick Cassarino N6VOA

**FOURTH PRIZE:** #1 GP5 SSB / Thanks Nick Cassarino N6VOA



You'll have to be present at the meeting  
 to learn what other great raffle prizes will be there for the winning.

### 2018 ELECTION CANDIDATES

President, Kristen McIntyre K6WX; Vice President, Marty Wayne W6NEV; Secretary, Jim Thielemann K6SV; Treasure, Ron Chester W6AZ; 1yr Board member Larry Rebarchik N6DB; 1yr Board member Darryl Presley, KI6LDM; 2yr Board member, Walt Gyger, K6WGY

## Pacificon 2017 — Special Events Station Report



Pacificon 2017 has come and gone. Hopefully the team can now relax for a month or two. I'm sure everyone there had a great time; I heard many comments on how well run the event was, and I'm certain all are looking forward to next year.

The Special Events Station seemed to be especially well liked. There were many positive comments and praise for the station. The number of contacts wasn't as high as I hoped but operators did seem to have a good time. The station operated for 48 hours with four stations available; 20 Meters was the most active with 40 Meters second. A few contacts were made on both 15 and 80 meters. It seemed that 10 meters never opened for operation. There were 1,053 QSOs in total and 29 entities. This isn't a record, but considering the band conditions it was a good score. Of those contacts, 96 were made with the relatively new FT-8 mode and included 24 entities. Thanks to Masa Maeda, JR1AQN, and Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, for arranging several of the FT-8 contacts with Japan.

There were approximately 113 Boy and Cub Scouts that signed into Pacificon, approximately 70 who toured and operated the Special Events Station. Many of the Boy Scouts were earning their Radio Merit Badges and needed to operate for a mini-



mum of ten minutes. It is always fun and rewarding to help young people develop an interest in ham radio.

There was one special young operator who positively enjoyed operating. His name is Lliam Pitt, KM6KUH, from Livermore CA. This young man operated the radio like a seasoned veteran; I think he will one day make a great operator. Lliam was making contacts at quite a high rate. His Grandmother, Robin Amundsen, WA7CPA, flew down from Woodinville, Washington, just to bring Lliam to Pacificon. I am so glad she did, and I think he was also happy with their trip.



### The Crew

Thanks so much to those who helped get things going and continue running.

### Set Up and Take Down.

- Christopher Hoover, AI6KG
- Ken Knaus, KK6ZHK
- Darryl Presley, KI6LDM
- John Parks, W6JPP
- Joel Wilhite, KD6W
- Marty Wayne, W6NEV

### Overnight Security

- Darryl Presley, KI6LDM

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### Minutes of November 15, 2017 Board Meeting

The meeting was held at Marty's QTH, commencing at 7:22 PM on November 15, 2017. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Ron Chester, W6AZ (Treasurer, via video conference), Darryl Presley, KI6LDM (Dir), Walter Gyger K6WGY (Dir), Larry Rebarchik, N6DB (Dir). A quorum was present.

Kristen, (K6WX), opened with a discussion about attending other clubs' general meetings. She discussed some of the differences in other club meetings. She encouraged other Board members to visit other clubs and see if there's an aspect of what other clubs do at their meetings that would be of benefit to PAARA. PAARA members are also encouraged to let a Board member know if they would like to see an aspect of our club meetings changed, it is "your club" after all.

Kristen mentioned her reserve of stories is effectively nonexistent. Please, if you've committed to a story but not submitted it (there are several people out there fitting this category) 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 byline 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, wished to thank Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE for her Pacificon presentation last month. She stepped up at last month's meeting when the anticipated speaker had to suddenly back out. He also reported the December speaker will be Wayne Burdick, N6KR of Elecraft. Marty also mentioned the 1<sup>st</sup> part of next year is OK but the rest of the years speaker list is a bit light, if you know of a potential speaker, please let Marty or a Board member know. Marty also mentioned, being grateful to Andy Cary, KM8AC, a new member, for stepping up to do the coffee and cookies for meetings.

Secretary's report: Jim, K6SV, reported that there were 5 new members joining in November. Currently the membership stands at 202. Currently the club has ~46% tech/general, ~52% amateur extra/advanced, and ~1% non-licensed members. He also mentioned that it's renewal "season" with all 2017 memberships expiring December 31<sup>st</sup>. You can renew at a meeting or by using PayPal though the [www.PAARA.org/pages/members-main.html](http://www.PAARA.org/pages/members-main.html) link.

Treasurer's Report: Ron, W6AZ, was completely occupied with his successful relocation to his new QTH in Illinois. Now that the move has been successfully

completed, though lots of unboxing remains, he can get back to the treasurer reports. He anticipates having a full report at the next Board meeting.

Under Old Business,

As you recall, on February 6<sup>th</sup>, the PAARA Board sent a letter to the ASVARO Board requesting they call a general meeting of all participating clubs. A meeting with the ASVARO Board and other clubs was held on May 6, 2017. Action items were documented, however, to date there still doesn't seem to be much of any action on any of the items discussed at the meeting except the creation of a Facebook account. The PAARA Board discussed the fact that now the Flea Market season is over, likely nothing will happen until next year, though this is likely the best time for change to be considered.

Darryl, KI6LDM, updated the Board on his data mining for Bay Area hams who have either renewed or received their 1<sup>st</sup> licenses. He reported that there were 75 newly licensed hams in October. The Board is still working on the card to send to new hams.

Marty, W6NEV, updated the Board on the results from the Pacificon W1AW/6 special event station. "I received many positive comments on the station", said Marty. The event coinciding with the Boy Scouts Jamboree was also a big plus as it gave many scouts the opportunity to get on the air and earn their radio merit badge. There were a few issues which came to Marty's attention that the Board discussed, like the station log, that will have to be addressed for next year.

Marty also reported receiving the additional PAARA T-

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- Joe Metas, WB6JOE
- Will Hatzler, KM6EUV
- Henry Strickland, W6REK
- Christopher Hoover, AI6KG
- Greg Mack, W6WWX
- Michelle Wyman, AAS6MW
- George Wyman, KK6AHL
- Larry Bradley, KK6PQE
- Rick Hulett, N6AJS

Without these hard working and dedicated people, the Special Events Station wouldn't have happened. Thank you to all of you who helped make the station such a success.

Marty Wayne, W6NEV  
 Pacificon Special Events Coordinator



## PAARAYear 2017

If you slept through another year, you missed a fun filled PAARAYear. Thanks go out to all that participate in the various activities throughout the year. All these activities are what help make PAARA the wonderful club it is.

Home brew night in January is always a favorite show and tell night. Both seasoned hams and youngsters share their experiences and their creations.



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shirts as discussed at the last Board meeting. He will be bringing the full inventory of shirts to the December meeting.

Jim, K6SV, reported having picked up 5 radios and various accessories from Gerry's, N6NV, QTH. The Board discussed what to do with them and decided to have a silent auction at the December meeting. Whatever doesn't sell would be put on Ebay. Look elsewhere in this issue for particulars or on the PAARA web site.

Kristen, K6WX updated the Board on the election, mentioning all Board members are running uncontested in the December election. All club members are encouraged to vote at the December meeting as the membership still needs to vote in the election.

The Board discussed Lifetime memberships. This is still an open topic but the Board did unanimously vote a member that distinction. Stay tuned for more information.

Marty, W6NEV, provided updated information on the fundraising opportunity Kristen, K6WX, mentioned last month. After a short discussion the Board agreed to move forward with the opportunity. Look forward to more information next year.

There are several other items on the agenda that haven't

been worked on very much or could wait until the next meeting, thus at this point there is no new news on them.

Under New Business:

Jim, K6SV, brought up that PAARA received renewal notification that our W6OTX call sign is up for renewal. He chatted with Gerry, N6NV, who is the current trustee on renewing the license. Gerry feels someone else should take over being trustee. After a short discussion, it was agreed that Walt, K6WGY would be trustee for all PAARA call signs. Walt will create the needed paperwork and send it in.

The Board had a short discussion on the value of conducting a December Board meeting. After a discussion on any topics that may be important to discuss at that meeting, none were identified. Thus, the Board agreed to not hold a December Board meeting.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Jim Thielemann, K6SV  
Secretary/membership

Please welcome new members:

Andy Cary KM8AC, Erik Walters KM6NGW, John Clare II  
KIM6NGV, Jim Siemons AF6PU, Misa Siemons KJ6BUE





We lost an old friend, the local "candy store"

The repeater celebrated it's 1 year birthday by getting trees trimmed and being re-racked into a larger rack which allows for expansion. There were activities galore with operating events, Field Day and Pacificon Special Event station. But most of all, it was all the interaction between the members, guests, and friends that made this a great year. Clearly not everyone of the 202 club members let alone how many friends there might be could be shown in this small recap of the year, but you get the idea.







We can all be thankful that we have met such good friends and joined a wonderful active club. As the shadow suggests, ta ta for now when we start fresh in the New Year with new opportunities to make eyeball QSO's as well as that long distance QSO to the DX destination we've tried so hard to get a QSL card from.

73 K6SV





(Continued from page 1)

by on Saturday evening of the contest and got down to work at about 2130J. Since we could only operate 24 of 30 hours, we were to break off at precisely 2330. It was a bit slow, but I slugged it out on 40m and then 80m. Sunday afternoon I went back and Chris was there. He operated for a bit, and then I took over on 40 m. The band was pretty hot for a while with some minor pileups, but then it got quieter. It was certainly full of stations running, but many dups. As the solar activity decreases, the potential for dups increases as everyone ends up on only 20m, 40m, and 80m. Eventually the rate dropped and I went to the much slower search-and-pounce strategy. At least there were contacts to be made, though. I kept going at a slow rate until the contest was over at 1900J. Despite the so-so CONDX it was a blast! Andreas has a nice station and his

40m antenna is the right height to work North America. I also got to play with a Flex Radio, which was a first for me. And Sweeps is a challenging contest because of its long exchange. Accuracy and precision are key. Give it a try next year and sharpen your operating skills.

Don't forget to renew your PAARA membership for 2018 so that we can keep bringing PAARAgaphs to you. You also support us that way. And don't forget that I'm always in need of more stories written by you for PAARAgaphs. As I always say, just 4 sentences or more (hopefully more!) about any radio related topic is great. Send your articles directly to me and we'll make you a published author! Lastly, since this will likely arrive right afterwards, I want to wish you all a belated Happy Thanksgiving.

CU AT DREAM TO REALITY DE K6WX

## Christmas for yourself?

There will be a silent auction at the December meeting. Over the years PAARA has received donations from various Ham's and it's time to clean house. Here's your opportunity to pick up an HF rig, amplifier or one of a few accessories. Up for auction are Kenwood TS-820s transceiver, Kenwood AT-230 antenna tuner, Kenwood TS-450S transceiver, speaker/PS, ICOM IC\_761 receiver, Yaesu FT-990 transceiver, Yaesu FL-2100B amplifier, Ten-Tec 538 Jupiter transceiver/ & PS, Cushcraft R7 vertical antenna 10M-40M. See our web site for a bit more information.



**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**

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**Officers**

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Vice President .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-234-8023
	w6nev@arrl.net	
Secretary .....	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Treasurer .....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

**Directors**

Director ('17-'18).....	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	408-839-5948
	kd6w@arrl.net	
Director ('16-'17).....	Walt Gyger, K6WGY	408-921-5901
	walt@tradewindsaviation.com	
Director ('17) .....	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	650 465-8210
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('17) .....	Darryl Presley, KI6LDM	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 .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-234-8023
Speaker Coordinator .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-234-8023

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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](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-September, 6am-12 noon  
 Contact: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

**PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> 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](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

**50 MHz & Up Group**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](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 2nd Wednesday of every month except July, August and December.  
 Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, [president@wvara.org](mailto: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](mailto:shensley@Novell.com)

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





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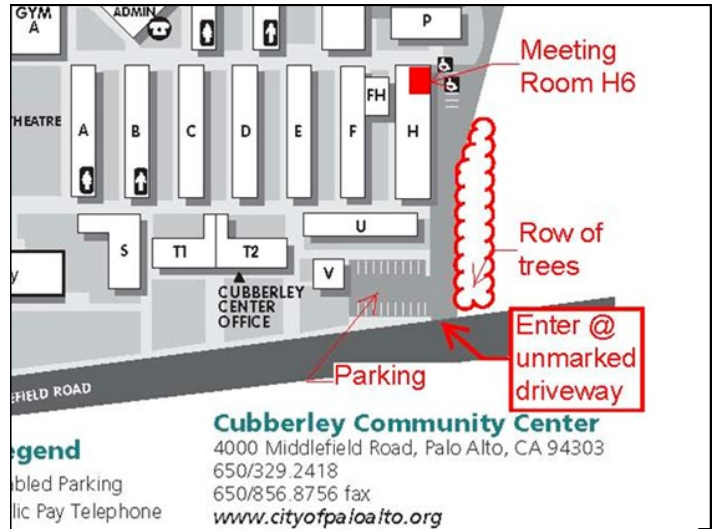
***Badges are ready for pickup.***

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 <sup>st</sup>	Joel KD6W
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Doug - KG6LWE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jack - W1VSL
4 <sup>th</sup>	Rob - KC6TYD
5 <sup>th</sup>	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.



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

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

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 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 \$25.00 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 Ad Rates**

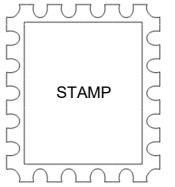
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- Not-for-profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card-size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size per issue).
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# PAARAgaphs — December 2017

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
 PAARAgaphs Newsletter  
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