

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the
Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
The Friendliest Club Around
Celebrating 87 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*
<http://www.paara.org/>



6M DX'ing from Northern California

**Chuck Leader, NA6XX,
and
Russ Bentson, K6KYL**

Chuck was first licensed in 1967. Advanced Class licensee. HF DXCC all but P5. 6M DXCC 95 confirmed. ARRL member. NCDXC member.

Russ was first licensed in 1958. Extra Class. 6 meter DXCC 143. HF DXCC 350 and have all. Members #1 club. Past President of NCDXC. Retired From Verizon.

**This meeting will be a
Hybrid Meeting
Zoom and In Person**

Time: Jan 5, 2024 07:00 PM Pacific Time
Please check <https://www.paara.org/> for
Zoom Details

Upcoming Events

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Jan 5*** Feb 2 Mar 1 | PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM *** Zoom and In Person Meeting |
| Jan 17 Feb 21 Mar 20 | Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome! Zoom Meeting, eMail President for details! |



President's Corner

January 2024

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I don't know about you, but the month of December flew by. I hope at least a few of you received a ham related Xmas gift. Hopefully, it was on your Xmas list but it could have been a surprise gift from someone



(Pres — Continued on page 2)



The 2024 PAARA board. From L-R, Jim, K6SV President, Darryl, KI6LDM Director, Bob, KN6YGN Director, Doug, KG6LWE Director, Rob KC6TYD Vice President, Ric, N6AJS Secretary, Margaret, K6WEK Treasurer. Not present, Walt, K6WGY Director.

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special.

I want to thank all the board members who ran again for another term. I also want to thank Bob, KN6YGN, for joining us on the board. He's taking the 2-year seat once held by Joel, KD6W. Speaking of Joel, we owe him a huge THANK YOU for his support of PAARA over many years. During his time with PAARA, he held a board seat for several years, was president for 1-year, could be found in his trailer during FD making contacts on VHF and Satellite, spearheaded the PAARA repeater and got it operational, sold electronic items at the EFM, and came up with the video equipment to include members via Zoom during club meetings. The next time you see him, please join me in thanking him for everything he did for PAARA.

If you missed the last meeting, you missed this year's recipient of the Life Membership Award. This year's recipient was Ron Chester, W6AZ. Ron was an active member of PAARA until moving to Illinois. You can read the award along with a short perspective on his contributions drafted by Joel elsewhere in this issue. I had a conversation with Ron after the December meeting. He was pleasantly surprised to receive the award and said HI to everyone.

I also mentioned at the December meeting that I'm getting closer to having Raffles again. I got past the DOJ hurdle and now can file the Raffle papers. Once filed and accepted, we can again start the Raffle up. Once the raffle has restarted, we'll let everyone know when the postponed Dream to Reality Raffle will be held so everyone has a chance to mark their calendars and participate in winning the KX3, which we already have.

Speaking of the December meeting, I was pleased to see the number of people in attendance both in person as well on Zoom. I hope the increase in attendance we witnessed in the last couple of months of 2023 continues in 2024.

During the December meeting, I mentioned that PAARA will be hosting the Electronics Flea Market (EFM) on April 14th, 2024. We need volunteers to assist in several activities that "regulars" usually cover. Several regulars, including myself, will not be around that weekend. Most important-

(Pres — Continued on page 4)

Ron Chester — W6AZ



"Still cranking out returns, even though I'm the oldest I've ever been in my entire life."

My good friend Ron Chester was awarded the life membership award at PAARA and I wanted to take a moment to reflect on all the things I can recall but then this would be 16 pages long.

The fact is Ron and I came to the club at about the same time back in 1992, where he was recruited by Vic, AB6SO, when they were both attending a QRP kit club meeting back when they had the Livermore swap meets. I on the other hand just walked on cold off the street after researching clubs in my area from the ARRL website. Lilly was the president of PAARA at the time and we were meeting at the Menlo Park Rec Center (now called the Ariggala Family Center).

Ron and I made it into the masthead picture present on our website today. The picture was taken about a year or two after we had both joined the club. Ron is wearing a burnt orange color shirt, sitting behind Scott in the second row and I'm standing up in the back wearing my blue jacket. That picture is a typical Ron pose, sitting upright with a straight face. He reminds me of my father as he was much like my father.



Joel, KD6W

Question of the Month

These questions will be discussed at the January meeting.

What are the main differences between a di-pole and a J-pole antenna? When would you use one over the other?



OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

In recognition of his support of PAARA activities for over thirty years, during which time he served twenty years as Treasurer making sure that not only the books were up to date but all the regulatory filings were promptly completed. As a pivotal part of the Field Day team for many years, he prepared a manuscript submission of our results to the ARRL. Before moving to Illinois, he was an active participant in PAARA helping to make PAARA amateur radio club, what it is today, “the friendliest club around” . . .

**The Officers and Directors of the
Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association
do hereby award and bestow upon
Ron Chester, W6AZ
Lifetime Membership**

on 1 December 2023

Signed by:

Jim Thielemann, K6SV, President

Rob Fenn, KC6TYD, Vice President

Ric Hulett, N6AJS, Secretary

Margaret Cooper, K6WEK, Treasurer

Darryl Presley, KI6LDM, Director

Doug Teter, KG6LWE, Director

Joel Wilhite, KD6W, Director

Walt Gyger, K6WGY, Director



(Pres — Continued from page 2)

ly, we need someone on the 13th to pick up the trailer from Rob's house, go to the ASVARO storage locker, and collect the items needed for the event. We also need some secure place to park the trailer overnight and take it to the EFM around 5:30 AM. At the end of the EFM, all the stuff needs to be put back into the storage locker. We also need someone to make two 50-cup pots of coffee and take them to the site by 5:30 AM. Several people can cover these important tasks with a little coordination. I'll start requesting volunteers after the holidays.

I look forward to seeing a room full of smiling faces at the January 5th meeting. It will be both an IRL and Zoom meeting.

73, Jim K6SV

Get on the air to keep the airwaves alive!

PAARA In the Park Sept. 30, 2023

Darryl Presley

The Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA) has recently started a new semi-annual activity called PAARA in the Park. PAARA has now held three of them with the last one being this past September 30, 2023. These events are held at Cupertino's Memorial Park group picnic area.

PAARA in the Park is an open event for all hams (including non-club members) to participate, bring their own equipment, share experiences with other hams, have a free lunch (yes this is a free lunch), and enjoy the day. We normally set up two HF stations for anyone who wishes to make QSOs.

Each PAARA in the Park event has some educational activity for all interested hams to participate. This past PAARA in the Park on September 30 was no exception. At this event, PAARA sponsored a 2-meter tape measure Yagi antenna build. There were 13 antennas built by both kids and adults. In addition, since these were directional antennas, there were two 2m low-power transmitters (foxes) hidden in the park at separate locations. In addition to the actual antenna construction, once built, the participants were taught radio direction finding techniques and learned how to find the fox hidden in the park with the brand-new antenna they just built. 2m handy talkies (HT) were provided to those

who did not have one. Each participant both kids and adults had so much fun throughout the entire event. There were miles of smiles when each person found one or both foxes in the field.

This activity could not have been possible without a team effort consisting of the following individuals to whom I would like to extend my appreciation. They are:

Brian Tanner, AG6GX: Brian brought his fox and his 2m tape measure antenna as a model and helped participants with radio direction finding techniques.

Ric Hulett, N6AJS: Rick also brought his fox, helped participants with radio direction finding techniques, and also helped with PAARA Pay invoices so we could keep track of advance payments.

Doug Teter, KG6LWE: Doug helped me in some of the decision processes, came over along with Margaret to cut measuring tape to the specified length for each element, plastic-dipped the ends (the orange tips), did ALL of the wire stripping and soldering of the coax and hairpin match for all antennas.

Margaret Cooper, K6WEK: As mentioned before, helped with cutting the measuring tape elements, but she also helped me with tracking all of the participants of the antenna build project plus had folks sign the PAARA log. Oh yea, she also built an antenna as well!

Rob Fenn, KC6TYD, Rob, being a parachute mobile guy just jumped right in and cooked burgers, and hotdogs, bought and brought the food for lunch, and did an amazing job!!!! Rob also did the flyer for PAARA in the Park that included the antenna project. That flyer was used to reach out to several kids who attended the event.

Rodna Presley, KJ6GVQ: Ronda helped me collate and assemble the instructions into each kit so that they were not bent or wrinkled and made ready-to-go for each participant.

Jim Thielemann, K6SV: Jim served as a great guide for behind-the-scenes work and helped guide us through some of the processes for this event.

Thank you all. Looking forward to the next PAARA in the Park scheduled for April 20, 2024. See you there!

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| President | Jim Thielemann, K6SV | 408-839-6815 |
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| | kc6tyd@gmail.com | |
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| | n6ajs@arrl.net | |
| Treasurer | Margaret Cooper, K6WEK | |
| | k6wek@arrl.net | |

Directors

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Director ('24-'25) | Bob Ridenour, KN6YGN | 650-575-4528 |
| | bob_ridenour@yahoo.com | |
| Director ('23-'24) | Walt Gyger, K6WGY | 408-921-5901 |
| | walt@tradewindsaviation.com | |
| Director ('24) | Doug Teter, KG6LWE | 650-743-7892 |
| | dteter@wcwi.com | |
| Director ('24) | Darryl Presley, KI6LDM | 650 255-2454 |
| | ki6ldm@arrl.net | |

Appointed Positions

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Membership | Ric Hulett, N6AJS | 408-332-4593 |
| | N6AJS@arrl.net | |
| Database..... | Ric Hulett, N6AJS | 408-332-4593 |
| | N6AJS@arrl.net | |
| Station Trustee W6OTX, W6ARA..... | Gerry Tucker, N6NV | |
| Station Trustee K6YQT | Doug Teter, KG6LWE | 650-743-7892 |
| Station Trustee K6OTA | Ron Chester, W6AZ | |
| Property Manager | Doug Teter, KG6LWE | |
| Badge Coordinator..... | Doug Teter, KG6LWE | 650-743-7892 |
| | dteter@wcwi.com | |
| Historian Position | <i>Position Vacant</i> | |
| Raffle Coordinators | Rob Fenn, KC6TYD, | rtyd@aol.com |
| | Shrikumar, KA6Q | |
| | shri.paara@enablers.org | |
| Field Day Coordinator. | Doug Teter, KG6LWE | 650-743-7892 |
| ASVARO Rep | Clark Martin, KK6ISP | |
| | kk6isp@sonic.net | |
| Webmaster..... | Shrikumar, KA6Q | |
| | webaron@gmail.com | |
| Technical Coordinator. | Christopher, AI6KG | 408-348-0304 |
| | ch@murgatroid.com | |
| QSL Manager..... | Marty Wayne, W6NEV | 408-234-8023 |
| Speaker Coordinator... | Rob Fenn, KC6TYD | 650-888-9060 |

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| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
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| Member Profiles | <i>Position Vacant</i> | |
| Technical Tips..... | Ric Hulett, N6AJS | |
| Photographer | <i>Position Vacant</i> | |

VE Exams

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>

Electronics Flea Market (ESM)

Sponsorship: Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations (ASVARO)
 The Electronics Flea Market is seeking a new location. Until that is resolved, the EFM is on hold. Website: <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 website at <http://www.paara.org>. For more information. contact: Joel Wilhite KD6W, KD6W@ARRL.NET, 650-325-8239

FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:00pm at Covington School, Los Altos. Website: <http://www.fars.k6va.org>

NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:00pm each month, Repeater for member info 147.360. Contact president@ncdxc.org. Website: <http://ncdxc.org>. YouTube content: "The Northern California DX Club Official Channel". Cohost of the International DX Convention.

The 50MHz & Up Group of Northern California

This organization specializes in vhf + wak signal and microwave activities. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. Time is usually 5pm for in person meetings, and 7pm for Zoom only meetings. In person meetings are held Sports Basement, 1177 Kern Ave, Sunnyvale. Always check the website, <http://50MhzandUp.org>, for correct information. Zoom information is also there.

San Mateo Radio Club W6UQ.ORG

Meets, 3rd Friday, January through November.
 Tuesdays & Thursdays, [Directed] Net, 7pm, N6ZX 145.370Hz, -600KHz, PL107.2Hz
 Contact: SanMateoRadioClub@gmail.com, Website: <http://W6UQ.org/calendar>

SPECS

Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System users Group

Meets each Monday 7:30pm and 8:00pm.
 See: <https://specsnet.org/monday-night-net> for more info.
 Contact: <https://www.specsnet.org/contact> or board@specsnet.org

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, 10M (28.385) 8PM Thur.
 Meets 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.
 ARRL/VEC license testing contact 408-507-4698

SVECS — Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates AA6BT repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 Website: <http://www.svecs.net> or contact: Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

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.

Website: <http://wvara.org>. Contact: info@wvara.org

(Please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor)



PAARA Weekly Radio Net

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

Week Control Operator

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 st | Doug - KG6LWE |
| 2 nd | Doug - KG6LWE |
| 3 rd | Ric - N6AJS |
| 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.

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Email: KARLDRESDEN@juno.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 \$25.00 per calendar year,
 which includes one subscription to PAARAgaphs
 \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).

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| PAARA W6OTX Repeaters Located near Alum Rock Park, San Jose | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| VHF DMR | 144.9625 MHz +2.5 MHz CC3 | Slot 1: Dynamic Slot 2: NorCal BM (31068) |
| UHF DMR | 444.475 MHz +5 MHz CC1 | Slot 1: Dynamic Slot 2: NorCal BM (31068) |
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 of the page and fill out the info. All
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The cost for a badge is \$25.00.

PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

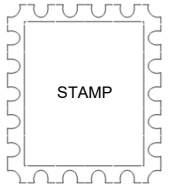
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- Not-for-profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card-size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size per issue).
- For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$14.00-quarter page, \$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 Walt Gyger, K6WGY.**

PAARAgaphs — January 2024

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Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
 PAARAgaphs Newsletter
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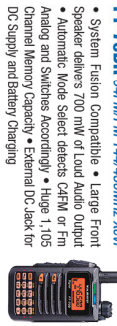
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