

W6OTX

W6ARA

PAARA NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 75, NUMBER 7, July 2024

K6OTA

K6YQT

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/>

TX5S - DX Expedition to Clipperton Island Andreas Junge, N6NU

Earlier this year Clipperton was on the air! Come and check out this exciting adventure at a remote, uninhabited coral atoll.

Andreas, N6NU, is a native of Luneburg, Northern Germany who has lived in the SF Bay Area, CA for the last 30 years, working as software and hardware executive.

He was first licensed in 1997 as KF6NEB, KQ6WL, AD6FQ and now N6NU. He is active on 160M through 24GHz, 1296 EME, 9 Band DXCC including 160M, DXCC Honor Roll with 337 confirmed.

Served as President of PAARA, Director NCDXC, ARRL DXCC Card Checker and is a contributor to the NCDXF. Member of PL259 (Pizza Lovers 259 Contest Club), NCDXC, NCCC and the 50Mhz & Up Group. He is also a co-contributor to the K6LRG Hilltop Contest station and has participated in 6 Pacific Division winning efforts in ARRL Sweepstakes from K6LRG and N6RO.

In January of 2024 Andreas was a team member of the TX5S expedition to Clipperton Island (FO/C) as the Satellite, VHF and EME Team Captain.

This meeting will be a
Hybrid Meeting
Zoom and In Person

Time: July 12, 2024 07:00 PM Pacific Time
Please check <https://www.paara.org/> for
Zoom Details

Upcoming Events

July 12***	PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM *** Zoom and In Person Meeting
July 17 Aug 21 Sept 18	Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome! Zoom Meeting, eMail President for details!

President's Corner

July 2024

Field Day 2024 is now a memory. I hope everyone who attended had a wonderful time. Several Hams I talked with were confused about which weekend in June FD was being held. It's not the last full weekend of June, of which there are 5 this year, but the 4th weekend in June!



The weather at Bedwell Bayfront Park couldn't have been better with enough, but not too much, heat on Saturday and Sunday combined with a mild cool wind. Doug, KG6LWE, is to be commended for once again leading the troops toward the goal of another very successful Field Day! Also to be congratulated are the station captains; Ric N6AJS (A-station), Harry K4YR (B-station), and Ben

(Pres — Continued on page 2)

Question of the Month

What is “working split” and when is it used?
How do you know when someone is working split?

PAARA Discord Server

Sorin KN6YUH

I joined PAARA in December 2023, and it was very hard to believe that such an active club did not have any email list or a bulletin board. A few months later, realizing I wasn't the only one, I helped start a Discord server for PAARA members and friends.

What is the PAARA Discord Server? It's a very friendly text chat area in the Discord App where members can have conversations in any of the ham radio related topic channels. New topic channels can be created, so please ask for one to be added if you think it's missing. It's a great place for chatting with your ham friends, getting questions answered, planning Pota and Sota events, or even informal spots and skeds.

How do I join? Download the App or use the Web version, then join our server by scanning the QR code, or visiting <https://discord.gg/qPyn5h8p6H>.



Many thanks to Connie W6EFI for her help reviewing and editing this article.

(Pres — Continued from page 1)



PAARA members and guests socialized and learned about the site, the event, and amateur radio as they enjoyed some of Rob's, KC6TYD, cuisine.

KN6UBF (GOTA). All three had their respective stations in operation for most of the 24-hour event! Also to be congratulated is Rob, KC6TYD, for all of the food and drinks to keep the troops and guests fed and hydrated. Not to be forgotten were his assistants Machelle, Rob's wife, and Karen, KK6NGA, for their behind the scenes chopping, dicing, and general assistance. Oh, let's not forget Karen's endless supply of yummy brownies! Margaret, K6WEK, gets the FD commitment award! She booked flights to visit family and friends on the East Coast before realizing which weekend FD was on. She flew home to participate in the event and then flew back to continue her visit! She even brought her 2 sons, both of which climbed the tower at one point or another.

David, KD0BTO, is commended for bringing his station to operate FT4 & 8 from the B-Station! We have dabbled with operating FT8 in the past without much success. This year he pulled it off. Darryl, KI6LDM, receives a commendation for bringing his packet station to the event allowing us to transmit a Field Day message to James Armstrong, NV6W, the SCV Section Manager gaining us 100 bonus points. He also transmitted an additional 10 messages for 100 more bonus points!

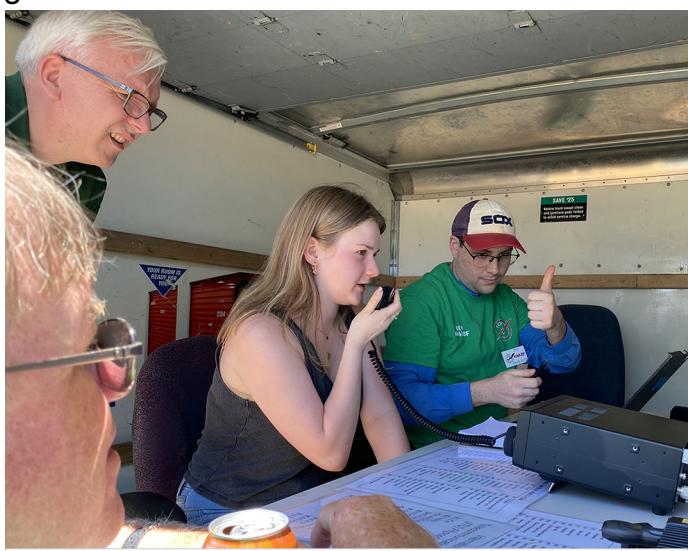
I also want to recognize all the un-named heroes, who volunteered to help make the event possible. This includes all who helped with the

(Pres — Continued on page 3)

(Pres — Continued from page 2)

two antenna parties, set up on Friday and Saturday morning, and the take down and packing of everything. Around 20~30 people, at various times, helped throughout the event and volunteered to cover everything needed to put on a first-class event!

At this point, I haven't had a chance to look at the logs to see how many contacts were made by the three stations. What I can say is the GOTA station was rather successful this year. We had several unlicensed operators make 100 contacts each! It was fun to see the excitement of these operators reaching this lofty goal.



Lydia is making the first of her 100 contacts under the watchful eye of her father Denis, K7QK, Rob, KC6TYD, and her coach Ben, KN6UBF.



CASPA members assisting in the erection of the HexBeam under the watchful eye of PAARA members Clark, LL6ISP, Doug, KG6LWE, and Ben, KN6UBF.

I talked to numerous people, both new hams and visitors, about the event. Many conversations included the antennas on the towers and how we got them in the air. Ten members of the Chinese American Semiconductor Professional Association (CASPA) came late Friday to learn about antennas and how propagation works. They came again on Saturday morning to participate in the erection of Doug's Buddy-Hex antenna which was used for the GOTA station. Another interested party came with his sister, children, and parents who had just flown in from Taiwan.

The next PAARA event will be a trip to the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. If you haven't been there before, it's very educational. For those of us who have been here to witness computer history firsthand, it provides a detailed reflection of how Silicon Valley has come to be recognized as a leader in many computer related things. Watch our website, www.PAARA.org, for details about this trip.

Hopefully, everyone has marked your calendars for the next PAARA in the Park event on Saturday, September 28th in Cupertino's Memorial Park. Thanks go to Darryl, KI6LDM, for making the reservation. It will be another gathering of hams and visitors wanting to learn about the hobby. There will be at least one if not more stations to get on the air. It's a great place to make HF contacts, test out new equipment, ask questions, and have lunch. There is a rumor that Kristen, K6WX, is taking an antenna out of her bag of tricks for the antenna build project. More information regarding the build project will be forthcoming.

Looking ahead, please note the July meeting will be on the 12th and NOT July 5th as that's the Fourth of July weekend.

I look forward to seeing all the smiling faces at the July 12th meeting. The meeting will be both an IRL and Zoom meeting.

73, Jim K6SV

Get on the air to keep the airwaves alive!

June Board Meeting Minutes

Attending were President Jim Thielemann K6SV, Vice President Rob Fenn KC6TYD, Secretary Ric Hulett N6AJS, directors Doug Teter KG6LWE, Bob Ridenour KN6YGN, Walt Gyger K6WGY, Darryl Presley KI6LDM. A quorum was present. Also in attendance was Clark Martin KK6ISP. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

- President's Report — Happy Juneteenth, all! Juneteenth celebrates the arrival of Union soldiers in Galveston, TX in 1865, announcing to 250,000 enslaved people that they were free. In 1865, information took weeks to travel across the country. In 1895, Marconi, and others, developed wireless signaling. In 2024, one can fly from DC to Galveston in just over three hours.

Today, news travels at the speed of light, and Ham Radio is a part of that. Field Day is a prime example of Ham Radio communications in action.

- Secretary's Report — We are holding at 170 club members. A few late dues payments have arrived. The Secretary will provide updated roster information to the webmaster, periodically.
- Treasurer's Report — Treasurer was not able to attend. No report was given.
- VP / Program Chair Report — Our speaker for the July meeting is Andreas Junge N6NU. His topic will be: "TX5S: DXpedition to Clipperton Island".

Members should visit our website PAARA.org and view the YouTube video "PAARA in the Park".

Old Business:

- PAARA members: We are looking at a bare cupboard for PAARAGraphs ham articles! Please take a few minutes to record a ham-related experience for the membership: It is member content that makes PAARAGraphs special. We do not currently have a story for the July or August PAARAGraphs: You can help!
- Education Committee:
 - ◆ Radio question for the July meeting: What is "working split" and when is it

used? How do you know when someone is working split?

- ◆ PAARA introductory flyer: Rob KC6TYD has contacted the Sunnyvale VEC, we are waiting for their response.

- Equipment sales: A San Mateo Ham has donated some additional material. PAARA has received a significant cache of ham gear from a Silent Key in Palo Alto. We have sold this gear at PAARA meetings and the Electronics Flea Market, receiving significant income.

The board voted to make a meaningful payment to the ham's widow, in appreciation for their generosity.

- Status of Radio loaner program: One rig is out on loan, and we have extended the loan agreement. Our new ham has been listening a lot but we have some antenna issues to resolve for transmitting.
- PAARAGraphs advertising: Walt, K6WGY reports two checks were received from vendors Anchor Electronics and HRO. A couple of vendors have outstanding balances.
- Web updates: Shri KA6Q and Ben KN6UBF are working on this.
- PAARA Field trip is scheduled for August 24, to the Computer History Museum.
- Dream to Reality raffle. There is no new news. Jim K6SV is still wrangling with the state.
- Badges: Ric N6AJS and Shri KA6Q are working on a meetup time to resolve webpage issues with PayPal.

- Our insurance policy is now with Philadelphia Insurance Companies. The \$730 policy invoice has been paid. This is roughly a doubling of previous bills, but includes coverage for vehicles used for PAARA business.
- ARRL Field day is June 22nd and 23rd: We reviewed planning for PAARA FD at Bayfront Park.

City Permit: DONE. Antenna Parties: DONE. U-Haul Trucks reserved: DONE. Blue Room rental: DONE. Food arrange-

(Minutes — Continued on page 5)

(Minutes — Continued from page 4)

ments: DONE (Thanks Rob!) T-shirts: DONE
Congratulations are due to Doug, KG6LWE
for his management of this project.

Station captains are Harry K4YR (A-station),
Ric N6AJS (B-station) and Ben KN6UBF
(GOTA).

- Pacificon is October 18 to 20. PAARA will again coordinate the W1AW/6 station.

New Business:

- Doug purchased a case for the IC7300, and we will purchase a case for our K3.
- Christopher AI6KG has proposed that the club should obtain some dedicated IP addresses, at no cost to the club. The board considered and approved the following items:
 - ◆ We direct the technical coordinator to create and maintain an AMPR/ARDC account for the club, much as the technical coordinator does with NARCC.
 - ◆ We direct the technical coordinator to request a /24 IP allocation from AMPR/ARDC ("44 net") for the club.
 - ◆ We direct the technical coordinator to

manage the club's /24 IP allocation.

- ◆ We direct the W6ARA/W6OTX trustee to coordinate with the technical coordinator to provide necessary documentation to AMPR/ARDC to complete the registration and request as described above.
 - ◆ We direct the Secretary to coordinate with the technical coordinator to provide necessary documentation to AMPR/ARDC to complete the registration and request as described above.
- Financial report: The board reviewed the treasurer's report for 2023 and approved the results.

The board discussed putting some of our cash reserves in an interest-bearing account, and marking club-owned equipment to reflect current value.

As Margaret K6WEK was not available, no board action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ric Hulett N6AJS
PAARA Secretary



Part of the antenna crew admires the BIG 40M monoband antenna after raising the tower 10' to its operating position.



The 40M antenna was used all night under the 1-day old full moon. Lens distortion is tilting the antenna.



Can you spot the 4 antennas we used this year? Hint, one is in the trees.



The antenna crew seen taking down the A & B station antenna.

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Vice President.....	Rob Fenn, KC6TYD	650-888-9060
	kc6tyd@gmail.com	
Secretary.....	Ric Hulett, N6AJS	408-332-4593
	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
	wgyger@ix.netcom.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.....	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, kc6tyd@gmail.com Shrikumar, KA6Q shri.paara@enablery.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 ch@murgatroid.com	408-348-0304
QSL Manager.....	Ric Hulett, N6AJS	408-332-4593
Speaker Coordinator...	Rob Fenn, KC6TYD	650-888-9060

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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 (EFM)

Sponsorship: Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations (ASVARO). The Electronics Flea Market is held at West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Ave, Saratoga. Website: <http://www.electronicsfleamarket.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.k6ya.org>

NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:00pm each month, Repeater for member info 147.360. Contact president@ncdx.org, Website: <http://ncdx.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://specsnets.org/monday-night-net> for more info. Contact: <https://www.specsnets.org/contact> or board@specsnets.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 PAARAGraphs 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.

Electronics Give Away

Over the many years I've been a ham, I've collected a lot of equipment. Most of it is still in good working order. A few items may need repair, such as a new filter capacitor... nothing serious.

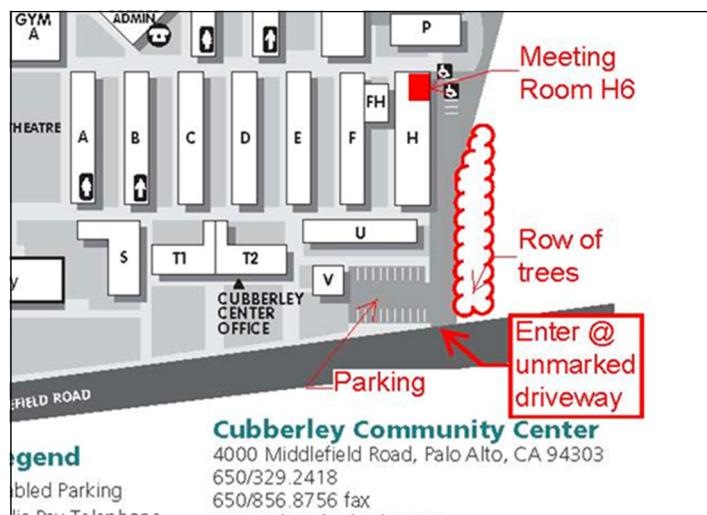
Given my advancing age, I'd like to get this equipment into the hands of younger hams who can use it. The list of gear is too long to list here, but includes signal generators, power supplies, amplifiers, test equipment, etc.

Please pass this on especially to hams under 21 who might be interested.

They can reach me at: 650-494-0128. If I'm not available to take your call, after the 4th ring, the phone will go to my answering machine and you can leave a message with your name, phone number, and when is a good time to reach you.

Alternately, they can send me an email at: W6APZ@comcast.net with the Subject: "Electronics Give Away" and I'll respond.

Rich, W6APZ



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

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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 PAARAGraphs \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).

Make payment to the
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Scroll to the bottom of the page
and fill out the info. All badges will
be mailed.

The cost for a badge is \$25.00.

PAARAGraphs Ad Rates

PAARAGraphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members. (short personal ads remain free for members in good standing). **All ad rates listed are per issue.**

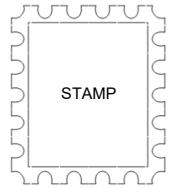
1. Not-for-profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card-size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size per issue).
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$14.00-quarter page, \$25-half page, \$50 full page 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 PAARAGraphs 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.**

PAARGraphs — July 2024

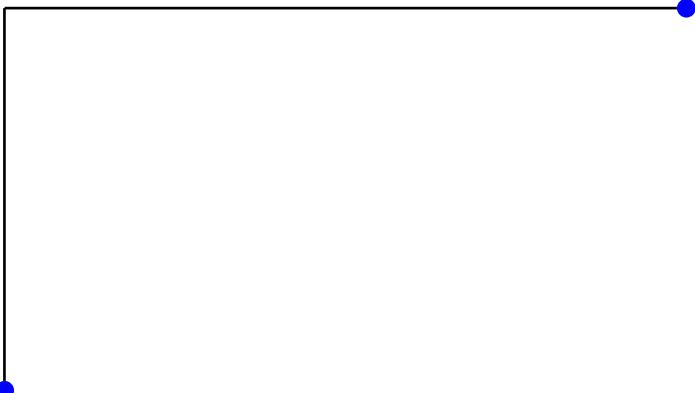
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5
Ways
to Shop!

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- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 8:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
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YAESU
The radio

FTDX101MP | HF/50MHz Transceiver

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FT-991 | HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver

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FT-2980R | Heavy-Duty 80/2M FM Transceiver

50W Output Power • Real Dual Band Operation • Full Color TFT Display • Band Scope • Built-in Bluetooth • WiRES-X Portable Digital Node/Fixed Node with RRI-200

FT-300DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band Transceiver

Stable 100 Watt Output • 32-Bit DSP • Large LCD Display with Quick Spectrum Scope • 8PSK Port Allows Connection to a PC with a Single Cable • CAT Control, PTT/RTTY Control



FT-5DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band Transceiver

50W Output Power • Real Dual Band Operation • Full Color TFT Display • Easy Hands-Free Operation w/Built-In Bluetooth • 1200/9600bps APRS Data Communications • Supports Simultaneous C4FM/Digital Micro SD Card Slot



FT-65R | 144/430 MHz Transceiver

Compact Commercial Grade Design • Large Front Speaker • Delivers 1W of Power • Clear Audio • 5 Watts of Reliable RF Power Minimized in a compact Body • 3.5-Hour Rapid Charger included • Large White LED Flashlight, Alarm and Quick Home Channel Access



FT-500DR | 50W VHF/UHF Mobile Transceiver

All New User Operating Interface ECO-III (Easy to Operate-III) • Robust Speaker Delivers 3W of Clear, Crisp Receive Audio • Detachable Front Panel Can Be Mounted in Multiple Positions • Supports Optional Bluetooth® Wireless Operation via the SSM-BT10 or a Commercially Available Bluetooth® Headset



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