

PAARA

GRAPHS



DECEMBER 1991

"DINNER IS SERVED!"



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION
AND
THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PAARA



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Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAGraphs. Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Net 147.45 MHz Mondays 8:30 PM

Meet at 7:30 PM on the first Friday of each month at the Menlo Park Recreation Center.

Send PAARAGraphs correspondence to:

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San Jose, CA 95127

VOLUME 34

DECEMBER 1991

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Happy Holidays to All !

1991 IS AT AN END AND A NEW YEAR WILL BE HEADING TOWARDS US! IN THIS HOLIDAY TIME LET'S RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO HELP EACH OTHER AS HAMS AND FRIENDS AND MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR 1992. SEE YOU AT THE DEC. 11TH HOLIDAY DINNER AND AT THE MEETING ON DEC. 6TH-- TIL NEXT MONTH/ NEXT YEAR, 73 DE YOUR EDITOR.

SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

ANNE CLARKE KC6PFS--

AN OFFICIAL WITH THE RED CROSS, ANNE WILL GIVE THE FULL SCOOP ON THE OAKLAND FIRE & THE HAM PART IN THE DISASTER RESPONSE EFFORT. ANNE WAS EXTENSIVELY INTERVIEWED BY THE NEWS MEDIA & COORDINATED THE RED CROSS OPERATION. SPECIAL NOTE: ANNE WILL BRING THE RED CROSS E.R.V. (EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLE) FOR AN INSPECTION BY PAARA! DON'T MISS THIS MEETING ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH!

DINNER WITH SPEAKER
蘇紅
小館
Su Hong
Restaurant

EL CAMINO OFF RAVENSWOOD, MENLO PARK.
5:45PM MEETING FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH....
TALK IN: 145.23-/r 147.45/s
**DE ANDY VE3FZK, PAARA PROGRAM
CHAIRMAN**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DE GERRY WA6LNV

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL HAMS! WE MUST BE HAVING FUN BECAUSE THE TIME SURE FLIES BY. I HAVE MANAGED TO LOSE MY 2AT, SO I KNOW WHAT SANTA IS GOING TO HAVE ON HIS LIST. BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS THERE MAY YET BE TIME LEFT TO SIGN UP FOR THE HOLIDAY DINNER AT MOFFETT FIELD. LILY ANNE N6PGM HAS ORGANIZED ANOTHER PREMIERE PAARA EVENT. IF YOU ENJOY A GOOD TIME AND AN EYEBALL QSO I HOPE YOU WILL GET IN TOUCH WITH LILY AT 325-5484 (AND REMIT YOUR RESERVATIONS WHILE THERE STILL MAY BE TIME). THE MOFFETT FIELD OFFICERS CLUB IS A GREAT FACILITY WITH EXCELLENT FOOD. UNFORTUNATELY, OVER THE YEARS THE PLACES PAARA HAS CHOSEN FOR A HOLIDAY EVENT HAVE ENDED UP BEING TORN DOWN OR CONDEMNED. WILL OUR BLACK GLOVE FALL ON MOFFETT FIELD? YOU BETTER COME TO DINNER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

PAARA IS STILL IN THE MARKET FOR SATELLITE ANTENNAS FOR FIELD DAY. WE WANT A RUGGED PAIR THAT WILL STAND UP TO THE RIGORS OF BEING BLOWN DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, ETC. NOVEMBER QST LISTS US AS 31ST IN 3A WITH 5,226 POINTS WITH SAN MATEO AS 29TH WITH 5,274 POINTS. NEXT YEAR WE WANT A PART TIME CW TEAM ON ONE OF THE PHONE STATIONS. WE ANT TO BE SURE TO MILK THOSE 2-POINT QSO'S FOR ALL THEY'RE WORTH. MY PERSONAL GOAL IS TO HAVE MY 9-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER READY FOR THE NOVICE STATION NEXT YEAR. SEE YOU AT THE DECEMBER MEETING AND AT DINNER!

DE WA6LNV

Happy Holidays to All !

PAARA V.E. TEAM QST DE J.T. WA6BXT

In spite of the lack of communication last month, the VE team has been busily at work. In October they administered 50 elements to 24 people and 31 people took 50 elements in November.

PAARA members who worked on the team were Dudley, WB6WAU (team leader); Joe, KB6OWG; Bill, WB6UVQ; K6MPN; Ron, W6VG; Joan, WA6BXT; Mohammed, N4CER; and Dave, KB6HLR.

The rush of no code technician applicants seems to have subsided and the team has noticed a more even distribution of elements in recent test sessions. Some of those who became technicians without taking a code test are returning to take the tests to expand their operating privileges, and many have upgraded to general and above.

Tests are given in Redwood City at the Ampex cafeteria at 11 am, on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The December session will be on Dec. 21. If you hold an advanced or extra class ticket and would like to join the VE team, please contact Dudley at (408) 245-4801.

Are you a lid-on phone?

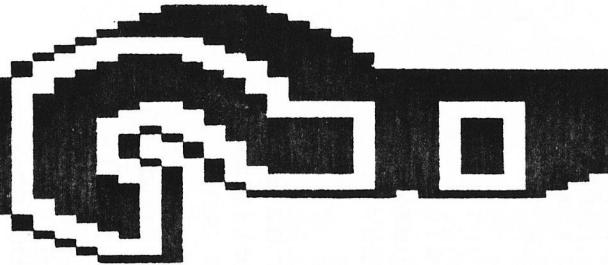
JOHN E. GERCKEN, KA9EPO

The following is the second of a series of articles examining common operating habits. Does your operating procedure fall short of proper Amateur Radio operating etiquette?

The lid population continues to grow as amateurs continue to learn poor operating habits from each other. Usually it's the case that proper Amateur Radio procedures were never learned to begin with. The result is our amateur bands sounding like a CB wasteland. It looks like our clubs have their work cut out for them if they want to maintain the honor and respect they have worked so hard for in the eyes of the public.

It does not take long to find lids operating on just about any band these days. I will admit, however, that some amateurs use some lidisms without realizing it, myself included. But one can always learn to break bad habits. Let's try to take a closer look at some of the most common lid terms and come up with a logical explanation for their use.

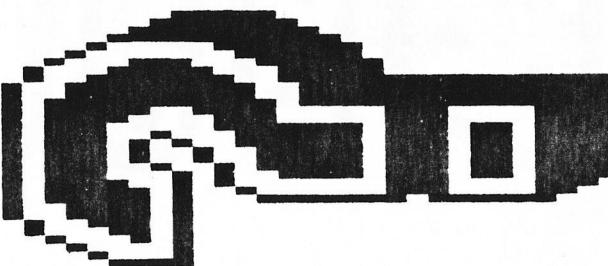
One of my pet peeves is "QRZ, the frequency." The *ARRL Operating Manual* says that QRZ is a Q-signal



things to it like "Yokahama" and "Zanzibar." I find it infinitely easier to say "yankee" (only two syllables) or "zulu." I also cringe when "Honolulu" is used instead of a simple word like "hotel." Someone must have stayed up all night thinking up these colorful phonetics just so they could confuse the rest of us with their extra babbling.

I remember when I took my brother along to his first Field Day while he was studying for his Novice ticket. He complained that the other operators confused him by not using standard phonetics, and he even got after me for repeating them back to them. I could see his point very well, and to this day I try to stick as close to standard phonetics as possible, even when the operator I am talking to does not.

Interestingly, it is easy to tell whether an amateur has been in the military, just by listening to his use of phonetics. Here is a good one: "CQ Dog X-ray." Good grief! Who wants an x-ray of a dog! Why not say CQ DX and be done with it! Military amateurs also use "able" instead of "alpha" and "baker" instead of bravo. Also there's "Willy" instead of "whiskey." A good friend who taught me CW was at our



meaning "Who is calling me?" It sounds like the lid who uses this term is wanting the frequency to call him? Sounds pretty dumb to me! I would much rather hear, "CQ CQ . . ." is anyone out there? This is KA9XYZ calling." Doesn't that make more sense? Q-signals were devised by high-speed CW operators as a form of shorthand in order to cram as much information as possible into their transmissions while keeping their transmissions as short as possible. What use they have on phone is questionable. Then there is "QR-Mary" and "QR-Nancy." Good grief! The operator should say he has static or interference. In many cases, the use of Q-signals on phone causes more confusion than if the operator had gone ahead and said what he meant in "the Queen's English."

Here is another one which you must be ready for at a moment's notice: "Hi." Never laugh if you find something funny—say "Hi" or better yet, "Hi Hi." It does not take the place of laughter, but it tells the other operator that you know how to laugh on CW! I admit that I am guilty of this one myself, and I am trying hard to break this lidism.

The use of phonetics made up by the operator as he goes is another problem. We have a set of standard phonetics. Let's use them as they are and not add

meaning "Who is calling me?" It sounds like the lid who uses this term is wanting the frequency to call him? Sounds pretty dumb to me! I would much rather hear, "CQ CQ . . ." is anyone out there? This is KA9XYZ calling." Doesn't that make more sense? Q-signals were devised by high-speed CW operators as a form of shorthand in order to cram as much information as possible into their transmissions while keeping their transmissions as short as possible. What use they have on phone is questionable. Then there is "QR-Mary" and "QR-Nancy." Good grief! The operator should say he has static or interference. In many cases, the use of Q-signals on phone causes more confusion than if the operator had gone ahead and said what he meant in "the Queen's English."

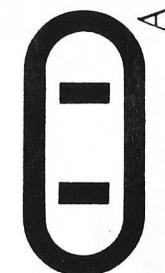
I am sure we all have heard operators saying, "This is KA9XYZ for ID" on the repeaters. Now why do they put the "for ID" in there when everybody knows that is what he is doing in the first place? Any time you utter your call sign you are IDing!

I have also found a new word which is unique and which hams use quite frequently on the repeaters: "destin-ated." This (though no such word exists) is used to inform other operators that you are at or close to your destination. Why not just say "I am at my destination" or "I am close to my destination" and sound like there's something between the ears besides QRM!

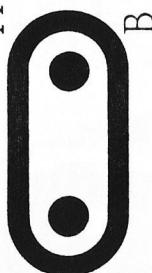
If we take a close look at our operation, we will see just how silly we sometimes sound on the air. Then we can get serious about our Amateur Radio practices and break these bad habits.

Let's restore the craft of Amateur Radio. We, and those who have gone on before us, have worked very hard to get where we are today. Let's not get lazy and become "glorified CBers." □

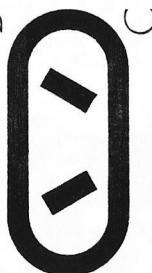
THE INTERNATIONAHL "POWER GUIDE"



A



B



C



D

Foreign Voltage Guide.

Below is a list of popularly travelled countries, their voltages and the appropriate adaptor plug(s) required. Where 110/220 is noted, that country uses both 110 volt and 220 volt electricity within their borders.

Country	Voltage	Plug	Country	Voltage	Plug
Afghanistan	220	.B	Libya110/220.....
Algeria	110/220	.A,B,D	LuxembourgB
Angola	220	.B	Macao110/220.....
Argentina	110/220	D	*MadeiraB
*Argentina	220	B,D	Majorca Island110.....
*Australia	220	C	Malawi220.....
Austria	220	B	Malaysia220.....
Azores	110/220	B	Malta220.....
Bahamas	110/220	A	Martinique110/220.....
Bahrain	220	B,D	Mexico110/220.....
Bangladesh	220	B	Monaco110/220.....
Barbados	110/220	A	Morocco110/220.....
Belgium	110/220	B	MozambiqueB
Bermuda	110/220	A,D	Nepal220.....
Bolivia	110/220	A,B	Netherlands110/220.....
Botswana	220	.B	Neth. Antilles110/220.....
*Brazil	110/220	B	New Zealand220.....
Bulgaria	110/220	B	Nicaragua110.....
Burma	220	B	Niger220.....
Canada	110	A,D	Nigeria220.....
Central African Rep.	220	B	Norway220.....
Chad	220	B	Okinawa110.....
*Chile	220	B	Oman220.....
China, Peo. Rep. of	220	B,C	PakistanB
Columbia	220	B,C	Panama110.....

THE INTERNATIONAL NATIONAL "POWER GAMES"

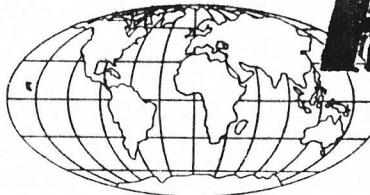
Costa Rica	110/220	A,D	*Paraguay	220	B
Cyprus	220	B,D	Peru	220	A,B
Czechoslovakia	110/220	B	Philippines	110/220	A,B
Denmark	220	B	Poland	220	B
Dominican Rep.	110/220	A	Portugal	110/220	B
Ecuador	110/220	A	Puerto Rico	110	A
Egypt	110/220	B,D	Rhodesia	220	B,D
El Salvador	110	A	Romania	110/220	B
Ethiopia	110/220	B	St. Lucia	220	D
Fiji	220	C	St. Vincent	220	D
Finland	220	B	Saudi Arabia	110/220	A,B
France	110/220	B	Senegal	110	B
*Germany, Fed. Rep.	110/220	B	Singapore	110/220	B
Ghana	220	B	So. Africa, Rep. of	220	B
Gibraltar	220	D	Spain	110/220	A,B
*Greece	110/220	B	Sudan	220	B
Greenland	220	B	Swaziland	220	B
Guatemala	110/220	A	*Sweden	110/220	B
Guinea	220	B	Switzerland	110/220	B
Guyana	110/220	A,B,D	Syria	110/220	B
Haiti	110/220	A	Tahiti	110	A
Honduras	110/220	A	Taiwan	110/220	A
Hong Kong	220	D	Tanzania	220	D
Hungary	220	B	Thailand	220	A
Iceland	220	B,C	Trinidad	110/220	A,B,D
India	220	B	Tunisia	110/220	B
Indonesia	110/220	B	Turkey	110/220	B
Iraq	220	B,C	Uganda	220	B
Ireland	220	B	United Kingdom	220	B,D
Israel	220	B,C	Upper Volta	220	B
Italy	110/220	B	Uruguay	220	B,D
Ivory Coast	220	B	USSR	110/220	A,B
Jamaica	110/220	A,B	Venezuela	110	A
Japan	110	A	Viet Nam	110/220	A,B
Jerusalem	220	B,C	Virgin Is. (American)	110	A
Jordan	220	B	Yemen (Aden)	220	A,B
Kenya	220	B	Yemen Arab Rep.	220	B
Korea, Rep. of	110	B,D	Yugoslavia	220	B
Kuwait	220	B,D	Zaire	220	B
Laos	110/220	A,B	Zambia	220	B,D
Lebanon	110/220	B	Zanzibar	220	B,D
Liberia	110/220	A			

*Countries using DC in certain areas.

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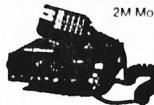
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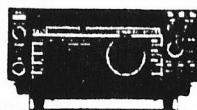
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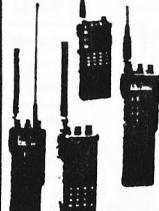
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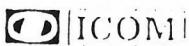
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The radio. A small icon of a radio receiver.

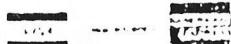


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PAARA NEWS NOTE DE STEVE K6FS

F R C M
P A C K E T

PAARA welcomes Dick Kors, KH6EP, to the team of volunteers the meets the second and fourth wednesday each month with students at the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Medical Center's Western Blind Rehabilitation Center. Object of the meetings is to promote interest in amateur radio as recreation/community service, inform hims about license and exam requirements, assist them in getting study materials - and demonstrate h. f. communication with the Kenwood TS-440S installed in the Center's hobby shop. This program of twice-monthly visits is now in its third year. It was established by PAARA at the request of the Blind Center's recreational therapist. Kenwood donated both h.f. and v.h.f (2-meter) transceivers with power supplies to support the program; PAARA and American Legion Amateur Radio Post 599, Sunnyvale, donated and installed antennas for both rigs. Like the U.S. Marine Corps, we need a few good men and women to help continue the twice-monthly visits. They've generated a lot of enthusiasm, and introduced a lot pf people to amateur radio. Interested? Contact Steve, K6FS, (415) 322-4952, or at PAARA meetings.

Happy Hunting to All