

W6OTX

• PAARA NEWSLETTER •
VOLUME 45 • NUMBER 9 • September• 1996

W6OTX

PAARAGraphs

Since 1937

Monthly Newsletter for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.



Calendar

September 2, Labor Day

September 6, PAARA Meeting, 7:30
Menlo Park Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park 7:30-9:30 PM

September 11, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30
Red Cross Blvd. 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto

October 4, PAARA Meeting, 7:30
October 9, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30

October 12, PAARA AUCTION (*tentative*)

October 26-27, PAARA intensive class
for no code Amateur Radio License

November 1, PAARA Meeting, 7:30
November 6, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30



Program

Sept 6, 1996 7:30 P.M.

Speaker: Tom Scherf, K6JBR

'96 PAARA Field Day, 45 min video

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm,
on the 145.230-600 repeater MHz, PL tone off. •

DX advantage

by Don Pearson, W8IDM

I remember the late **Orrie Baumgardner, W8BF**, for the story he told me a few years ago about his six-element twenty-meter beam.

It seems one of Orrie's DX competitors wanted to know why DX stations in Asia always seemed to give Orrie a better signal report, despite Orrie's poorer DX location. When he paid Orrie a surprise visit one summer evening, he found freshly spread horse manure in the back yard. And he noticed that the beam, pointed at Asia, also pointed right over that part of the yard.

Face straight, Orrie told him he had been experimenting with ways to improve ground conductivity, and that the manure had improved his signal reports from Asia.

This apparently impressed the visitor. Although his lawn was in excellent condition, he called a landscaper the next day to order horse manure.

From the Feb.-Mar. '96 West Park Radiops
"W8VM Log" AF8C, Editor

ARNS

Join Us At The Next
PAARA Meeting
September 6, 7:30



Silent Key

**PERRY YELTON,
WR6E**

Miscellaneous Dates

Flea Market at Foothill (6AM - 2PM)

Mar 9...Palo Alto Chapter, American Red Cross
 Apr 13...Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA)
 May 11...Perham Foundation
 June 8...Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)
 July 13...South Peninsula Emergency Communication System (SPECS)
 Aug 10...Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club (EMARC)
 Sept 14...West Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA)

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30, contact Jerry Tucker WA6LNV 415-961-3266.

PAARA Auction, 2nd Saturday of October

EMARC Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month, contact Sheldon Edelman 415-858-2176.

NCDXC Northern California DX Club

Meets 2nd Friday each month, repeater for member info 147.360, each Thursday 8:00PM, contact John Troster W6ISQ 415-854-3939.

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

Meets 1st Sunday each month, contact Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd., Sacramento, CA 95821.

Perham Foundation, contact Sy Stein WA6ROM 408-734-4453

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 224.36, 440.80 MHz contact Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, 408-243-6745 or 408-249-6909.

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall. Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings, contact Dick Collins K6ANN 415-593-8952

Disaster Services, Palo Alto Chapter, American Red Cross

Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM, HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR Gateway, NASA satellite, contact Ruth Claypool 415-688-0423.

PACIFICON'96, October 18-20, Concord Hilton Hotel, Concord.

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 11AM

American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, R.C.

The Board Minutes

(Aug 7, Board Meeting)

Present: Bill Rausch, AA6PA*, Pres.

Dave Bailey, WS6W, Treas.

Vic Black, AB6SO, VP

Fred Canham, K6YT*

Steve Stuntz, K6FS*

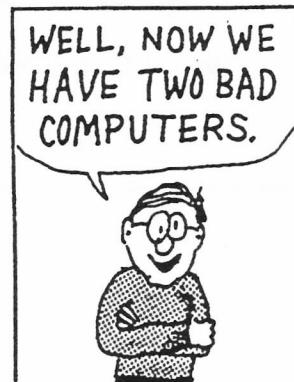
Wally Porter, K6URO

*Board member

Minutes: (of previous meeting) approved

Treasurer Report: see page 71

ELMER



Old Business:

1. License Class location will be at Mitchell Park, PA, Oct. 26 & 27, Announcement will be in Palo Alto Rec. Dept. publication, early September
2. Membership application form discussed
3. Auction discussed -still no location (HELP, WS6W)
4. Review of 1995 expenses & income, Dave, WS6W, Treas.

New Business:

1. Letter of resignation from **Lily Anne Hillis**, N6PGM presented. She resigned from Board due to conflict of meeting schedule. Discussion.
2. Dues discussed. After reviewing '95 activities an increase to \$24/yr will be proposed to the club at the next meeting (Sept.)

Meeting adjourned, 8:47pm.

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911

Menlo Park, CA 94026

President.....	Bill Rausch, AA6PA.....	(408) 637-0622
VP/ Program Director...	Vic Black, Jr., AB6SO.....	(415) 366-0636
Secretary.....	To Be Filled	
Corporate Secretary	Kit Kohlmoos, W6ISO.....	(415) 366 7813
Treasurer.....	Dave Bailey, WS6W	(408) 730-5215
Trustee/Property/Badges..	Fred Canham, K6YT	(415) 948-9238
ARES Officer.....	Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM ...	(415) 325-5484
Club Historian.....	Steve Stuntz, K6FS.....	(415) 322-4952

Board of Directors

John Buonocore, KD6ZL (415) 366 1658 '97

Fred Canham, K6YT (415) 948 9238 '97

Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM (415) 325 5484 '96

Kit Kohlmoos, W6ISO (415) 366 7813 '96

Bill Smith, KE6CHQ (415) 366 9173 '96

Rich Stiebel, W6APZ (415) 494 0128 '96

Steve Stuntz, K6FS (415) 322 4952 '97

(see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

PAARAGraphs Staff

Editor..... Wally Porter,K6URO.....(415) 494 7038

Database..... Bill McElhinney,KA6LZI..... (415) 325 9808

e-mail Address: wmporter@aol.com

Submit material for PAARAGraphs by the 15th

Join Us At The Next

PAARA Meeting

September 6, 7:30

By Rich Regent, K9GDF

PROGRAM NOTES:



PAARA Meeting, August 2, 1996

Thanks to Steve Stuntz, K6FS

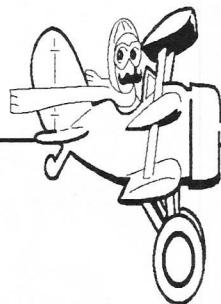
DOUBLE DELIGHT! Friday, August 2nd, inaugurated PAARA's (finally) latest acquisition: 20-inch TV receiver/monitor and VCR. Now we can really see those videos vital to our programs, thanks to some diligent comparison shopping by Fred Canham, K6YT, at the behest of your Board.

Our President, **Bill Rausch, AA6PA**, initiated the new gear as part of his presentation on present and upcoming NASA satellite operations showing two excellent promotional documentaries borrowed from JPL. Central topic was NASA's preparation of a brand new satellite to explore the atmosphere of Mars, via a one-year (two Martian years!) sequence of polar orbits around that planet. The spacecraft is to be launched in November, and will take about nine months to make the trip; after completing its polar-orbital mission, it will ascend to a higher orbit, where it will relay data from specially-launched probes and weather-balloon-like vehicles sampling Mar's atmosphere and surface. Data will be forwarded by the spacecraft to Earth via X-band (8 GHz) transponder.

One anticipated outcome of this latest space exploration will be a better understanding of how Mars' "weather" affects Earth's atmosphere and ionosphere. [Note: San Francisco Chronicle of Wed., 8/7/96, reported discovery of probable one-celled living organism on Mars many, many years ago!]

Bill reported on a NASA-JPL conference he attended in early June, at which the project was discussed in

Join Us At The Next
PAARA Meeting
September 6, 7:30



detail. Of particular interest to hams is NADSA-JPL's appeal for help gathering data on the spacecraft's transponder antenna field-pattern as it rotates following turn-on when the bird reaches a point about 5%(500 km) of its total trip. The transponder will transmit a CW beacon signal for one day, while the spacecraft rotates at a rate once in a hundred minutes. Transmission will be on 437.1 MHz, in the 7-cm ham band. [Don't worry

about QRM - the signals will be down in the millimicrovolt range!]

Interesting side-note: the SRI-Stanford "big dish", rebuilt and reconditioned, will monitor and command the flight of this latest Mars exploration, on the uplink frequencies around 402 MHz. Signals will take ½ hour to reach Earth from the spacecraft once it has achieved Martian orbit; commands from the dish will of course take the same time.

Bill concluded by showing and describing a 2-meter horizontal turnstile antenna with ground-plane (all home-brewed from available materials), designed for uplinking to the Russian RS-10 satellite (downlink = upper end of 10-meter band), CW or SSB.

Bright spot of the nontechnical part of the meeting was appearance of **Terry Conboy, N6RY**, an old PAARA hand, recently relocated to Walnut Creek after years and years in Oregon and Washington. Glad you're back home, Terry, and hope to see you at meetings from now on!

TREASURER REPORT

Dave Bailey, WS6W

Revenues '96	MAY	JUN	JUL	1996 Total
Dues	6	6	30	552
Flea Market	80	0	0	6116.28
AMPEX Auction	0	0	0	0
Advertisements	0	0	0	600
Holiday Dinner	0	0	0	0
Total Revenues	86	6	30	7268.28
Expenditures '96				
Stamps/Envelopes	0	0	0	32
DMV	0	0	0	43
State of CA	0	0	0	10
City of Menlo Park	0	0	0	150
Speaker's Dinner	13	13	10	91
Flea Market	0	800	0	1737.24
AMPEX Auction	0	0	0	0
Meeting Refreshments	14.55	19.59	4.74	81.95
PAARAGraphs	223.19	220.40	160.37	1400.89
Picnic	0	86.63	0	86.63
Field Day	0	32.41	43.98	76.39
Holiday Dinner	0	0	0	0
Misc.	0	0	247.81	313.81
Total Expenditures	250.74	1172.03	466.9	4022.91

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 only.

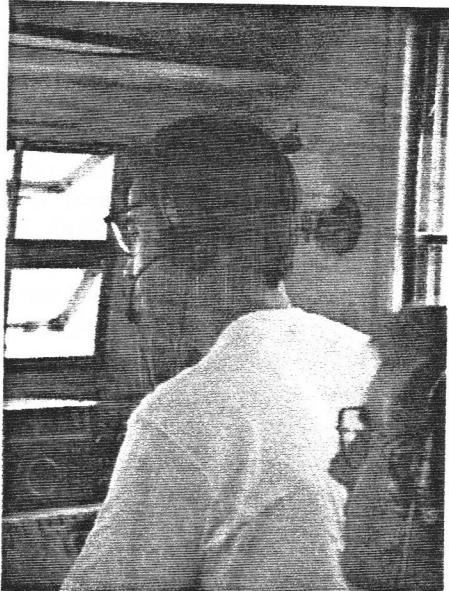
1. Not for profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size).
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

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 are for "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads.

WRTC July 13, 1996

see August PAARAGraphs for full results

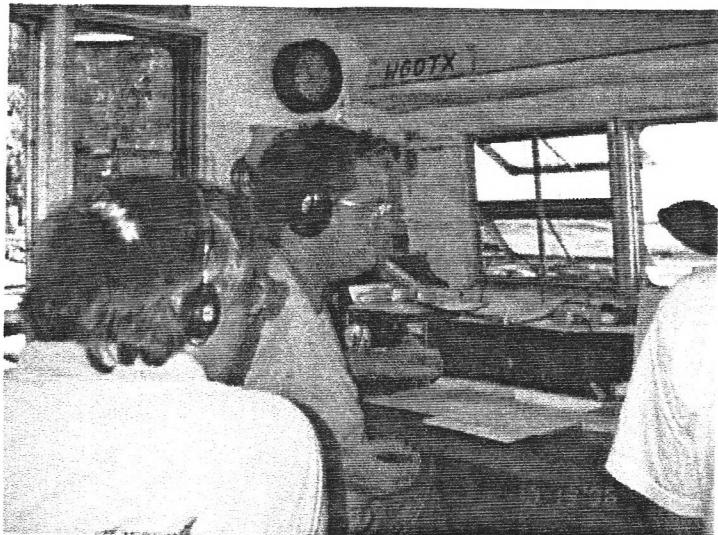


W6D
K6YT Host
PAARA

Tom
K1KI ⇒

←Phil,
K3UH

Adam,
AA7FT ⇒
Judge



Zygi ↑
SP9IJU
Wojtek SP9HWN(not shown)

Kit ↑
W6ISO
Host

Bear ↑
JA7RMJ
Judge

Zygi,
SP9IJU

⇒

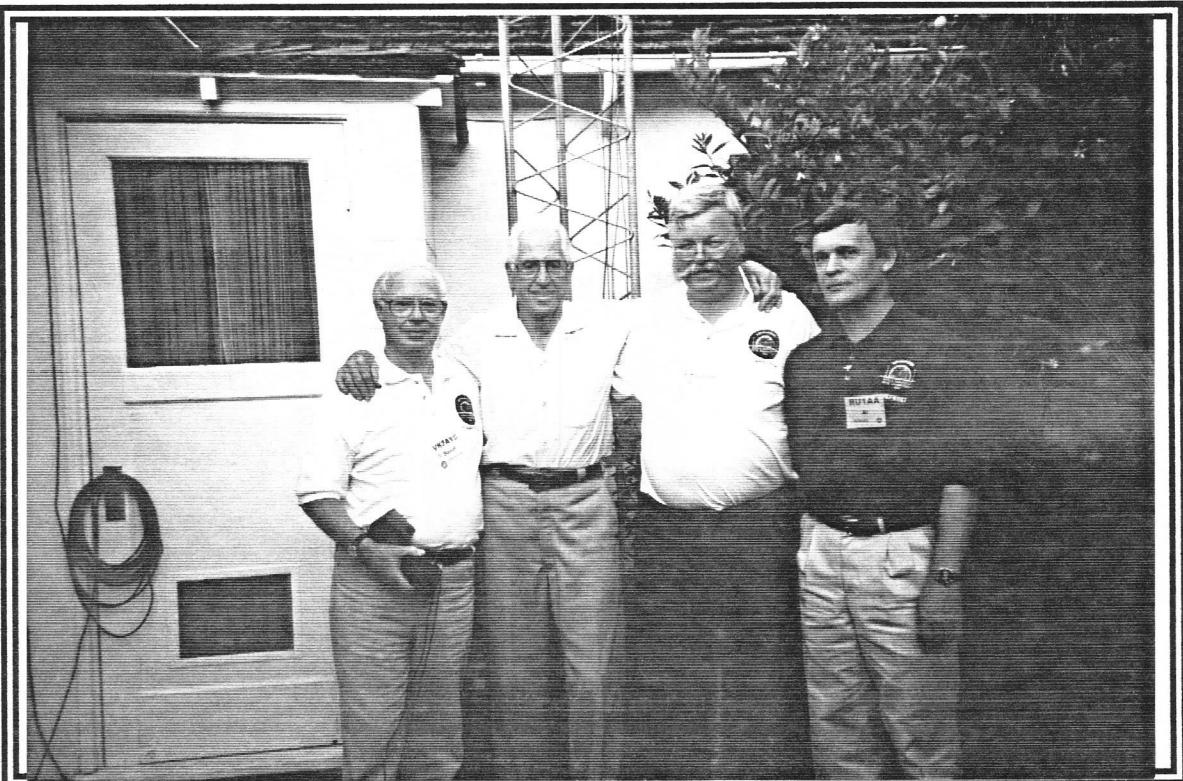


←
Gerry,
FG/F6FGZ

W6K



Gerry ↑ FG/F6FGZ Lee ↑ F5MUX Ron, ↑ W6VG Host Tom, ↑ K5RC Judge



W6Z

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑
David Tilly,
VK2AYD
CW ↓ Fred Streib
W6NA
Host Martin Luther
VK5GN
SSB Alexander Ivliev
RU1AA
Judge



David, VK2AYD operating at Fred, W6NA's location. `Where's the KEY???

DIGITAL MODES

by Lee Jason, KF1G

Old microphone, your appeal
was that your QSOs were ideal.

And Vibroplex, I've loved the way
you stood beside me, day by day;
you never refused to work for me,
no matter where my contact be.

So I shall not forget you, friends;
I'll dust you off on weekends,
and if the mood should ever break,
we'll modulate for old times' sake.

But me fickle, if you wish;
I have found a newer niche.

Though on the keyboard just a week,
already I'm a digital freak!

*From the February Delaware-Lehigh ARC
"W3OK Corral"—Clarence Snyder, W3PYF, Editor*

ARNS

Help Needed

Dear Sir/Madam:
I am almost age 81 and blind. I have a current valid FCC ham license and want to get back on the air but need some technical assistance with my outdoor 27-foot antenna, for which help I will pay. Please contact me at (unlisted#) (call me for #, Wally, K6URO)
Yours truly,
Barton C. Cooper
2252 Cobblehill Place
San Mateo, CA 94402

**Join Us At The Next
PAARA Meeting**



YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW YOUR TOWER NOW CONFORMS TO THE COMMUNITY'S MAXIMUM HEIGHT LIMITS --- WHAT IS IT YOU HAMS SAY, "HAPPY DX-ING ?"

World Radio

C N L SYSTEMS

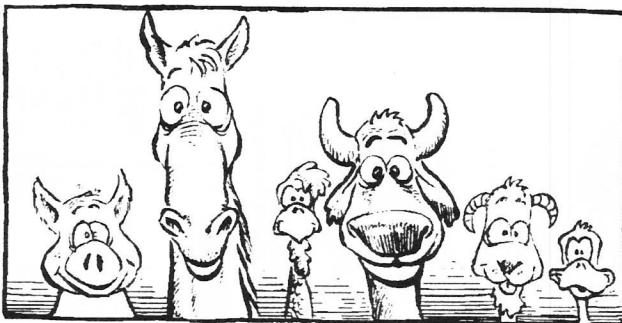
LARRY E. BOLSTER
MARIE J. BOLSTER
Trading Test Instrumentation
Collins Radios & Accessories

3751 MIDDLEFIELD RD. • PALO ALTO, CA 94303
415-494-1238

¹PAARA-Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA. • Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 repeater MHz, PL tone off. • Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAGraphs. • Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association. Permission is hereby granted to reprint from this publication with appropriate source credit.

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball QSO



PAARA PRIDE

wear your
PAARA Badge

to

meetings, picnics, field days, winter parties, ham fests, flea markets, Pacificons... (if you need one, contact Fred, K6YT)

ON THE AIR!



gab & gobble

6 pm— at Su Hong Restaurant
1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

—across from Kepler's Book Store—

Pacificon '96 October 18, 19, and 20

Pacificon Hotline: (510) 932-6125

e-mail: PACIFICON@designlink.com

PACIFICON '96 - REGISTRATION

NAMES _____ CALL _____
_____ CALL _____

ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

QTY	ITEM	AMOUNT
_____	Advanced General Admission @ \$3.00	\$ _____
_____	Antenna Seminar @ \$7.00	\$ _____
_____	Banquet @ \$32.00	\$ _____
Beef _____	Chicken _____	Vegetarian _____
_____	Bus Tour @ \$20.00	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

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Include a SASE to Return Tickets by Mail

Send to: Pacificon '96
P.O. Box 272613
Concord, CA 94527-2613

