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PAARA

vol.

26

MAY, 1983

GRAPHS



**palo alto
AMATEUR
Radio ASSN.**

MENLO PARK C.D. RADIO CLUB, K6YQT

***** PAARAGRAPHS is the official organ of

The Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association & the Menlo Park Civil Defence Radio Club

1983 CLUB OFFICERS

President	:	Gerry Tucker	WA6LNV	326-4908
Vice-President	:	Clif Keely	KA6JWA	364-4968
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Club Historian	:	Jerry Zobel	W6ARA	322-0063
Badges	:	Fred Canham	K6YT	948-9238
Field Day-gen'l	:	Fred Canham	K6YT	948-9238
Field Day-CW	:	Tom Pierce		
Field Day-phone	:	Bob Wheeler		
Club nets	:	147.45 MHZ, Monday 8:30 pm L.T. & 14.287 MHZ, Monday 9:00 pm L.T.		

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PAARA POLICIES

Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year (payable in January), which membership includes a subscription to PAARAGraphs. Freebie distribution to those who indicate an interest in the Club, and as an inducement to their becoming members, and is subject to change with changing interests in the Club. Make payment to: PAARA, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

PAARAGRAPHS STAFF

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		Sue Lindner	L6VLY

Written contributions to the P.O. Box above, or to the Editor, 1140 Sherman Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, tel. no. 854-6445. Deadline is two or three days after the Board of Directors meeting.

Friday, May 6, 1983

7:30pm

REGULAR MEETING

A MYSTERY TOPIC

by

A Mystery Speaker

At press time, our V-P, Clif Keely, KA6JWA, is scouring the countryside for an Ancient Mariner type to address us at the Club meeting. Be sure to attend this meeting to find out who Clif snags!

Meeting to be held at the Menlo Park Recreation Centre, Alma at Mielke, Menlo Park. Future meetings: June 3, July 1?

Circle the Date

May 6, 1983.

NEWS:



HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY,

PAULA-MARIE TUCKER

MAY 10, 1983

FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PALO
ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.

NEWS:

"YOUR MISSION, SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT, is to provide coffee and cookies for a gang of thirsty and hungry PAARA members at each Club meeting."

Well, Frank Chandler did accept this mission, taking over from Ed Fairbanks, W6AIN (who had been providing the refreshments for over twelve years); and at the April 1 Club meeting, Frank provided the coffee and cookies under the supervision of the watchful Ed Fairbanks.

Congratulations to Frank on a fine job on his first evening; and congratulations to Ed on a job well done for many years. Enjoy your retirement, Ed.

de Editor.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

My thanks to Dr. Honey for his enlightening explanations

on laser communication. Hams are always wanting to set new records. I want to know if Hams have established underwater communications by methods other than banging rocks together. I also have an idea for underwater laser communication. Why not form a gigantic underwater lens by heating rings of water to different tempretures and refracting the light by the difference in density? Sort of a Liquid Fresnel lens; Fred Canham, K6YT, thought that ought to pick up a \$75k government research contract.

Time's a-flying! You will get only one more issue of PAARAGraphs between now and Field Day. Speaking of Field Day, at the risk of having a flood of offers, I want to request help on a hot dinner for the Field Day crew. Clif Keely, KA6JWA, is working on this. If you have YL, XYL or OM power in this area, contact Clif at the next meeting.

de Gerry Tucker, WA6LNV.

IS IT A YAGI OR A UDA?

Some of our members may recall with pleasure the presentation, made some years ago, by Hidetsugu Yagi and Shintaro Uda. Their studies, published in the 1926 Proceedings of the Imperial Academy and entitled "Projector of the Sharpest beam of Electric Waves", was destined to revolutionise the ham's method of coupling energy between transmitter and receiver through the unbounded dimensions of space. Many contributions have been made to the understanding of this type of antenna since its introduction. One of the most definitive, however, is probably the very readable text by Uda and (Yasuto) Musiaki: "Yagi-Uda Antenna", Sasaki Publishing Co., Sendai, Japan, 1954. If anyone would like to read this book or put the design formulas on their Apple, they can borrow the book for a reasonable period of

time.

de Gerry Tucker, WA6LNV

WAS SLOW SCAN CONTEST

by

Dave Daniel, KB6WP

The second annual "Worked All States SSTV Contest began at 6 pm EST on the 14th of January and continued thry 6 pm on Sunday the 16th of January. The reason for this late report is to accomodate the results.

The object of the contest was to work as many different U.S. states as possible in the video mode. All contacts were in video form with a minimym of call sign and RSV signal reports sent and received. Ten (10) points per SSTV contact were awarded regardless of location for "new" states. No bonus or multipliers were awarded for Red-Green-Blue, special speed or materials used. Hawaii and Alaska counted a big 500 points, but it didn't help this six-land station since none were seen or heard.

First place won a 3-year subscription to A5 magazine, worth sixty dollars. Also, all entrants will receive a special gold Specialized Communications certificate. Many stations worked in the 1982 DX SSTV contest were also worked in the WAS. One notable exception was KELY who won the DX go-around and promised to be a worthy challenger.

Again the equipment performed without a sign of trouble. The Apple performed dual duty, 95 percent of the time as a scan converter and image processor, and 5 percent of the time as a QSO logger. Only three contacts required the additional horsepower of 600 watts; the rest of the

time, the SB240 was on standby.

Post-contest analysis indicated that the 24 states contacted (with the exception of a backscatter contact with Arizona) resembled a funnel pattern starting in Menlo Park and spreading from Connecticut to Florida on the east coast. No northern states or LA area stations were heard. Most contacts were made on 14.230 and 28.680 along with a couple of local scheduled contacts on 80, 40 and 15.

A ploy during the last minutes of the contest to drag any new and reluctant stations out of the wood-work by sending video CQ ANY YL'S netted three contacts in the last 5 minutes. A picture of a nude Playboy centrefold probably helped too.

Well, I've gotten thru this article without using meter, center (see two lines up, Dave - Ed), or color and the like, so our Editor, poor bloke, can't be accused of misspellings. Oh, I almost forgot; your scribe lucked out with 4290 points and managed a first place. By the way, where have all the generals gone now that A5 has been approved in that class's frequency spectrum? RSV 5-9-P5

(Congratulations on your win, Dave, and thanks for a nice article - Ed.)

INSPECTION OF POST 599'S QTH

As forecast in last month's PAARAGRAPHS, Gerry Tucker, WA6LNV, made a surprise inspection of the Post's QTH behind St. Thomas Aquinas R.C. Church in Palo Alto. For some time, rumours were that the Poat's QTH was a public health hazard, with a floor composed of ground-in resistors and capacitors!

However, our President, Gerry Tucker, was pleasantly surprised by the interior of the Post's QTH (although he did confide to your Editor that he would buy a vacuum cleaner at the local thrift store and donate it to the Post.)

Several Post members were working on home-brew micro-processors on the workbenches when Gerry arrived, and this mollified Gerry. So now the Post is safe from a surprise inspection for a while!

FIELD DAY - Call for Novices!

PAARA's perennial Field Day Achille's Heel is the understaffing of the Novice station. Each year, we fail to get several hundred easy points, simply because there are only one or two Novice operators.

If you are a Novice and would like to help, see Fred Canham, K6YT, tel. no. at the front of the magazine.

PAARA usually puts on a strong Field Day effort; we have won the 4A Class for the past four years and we hope to make it five years in a row (Sorry, FARS!)

A repeat of last year's Field Day report follows.

FIELD DAY 1982 by Fred Canham, K6YT.

PAARA's phone contacts up; CW contacts down! The shifting band conditions certainly played a big part in this year's scores. There were 799 more Q's on 40 metre phone this year over last year. Twenty metres provided 197 more phone contacts this year over last.

On the CW side, results were very puzzling. Twenty and fifteen just did not produce as in prior years. Top performance by all operators was monitored by CW

captain Cam Pierce, K6RU, and phone captain, Bob Wheeler, K6SEM. The effort of all our operators is much appreciated.

Field Day planning recognized that the lower frequency bands were becoming more important and a KLM 3 element beam for 40 metre phone (provided by the CW captain) and 80 metre phased verticals were part of the plan.

How did PAARA make out overall? Other scores are not in yet and we will have the local K6YA/K6YT results about the 14th of July (after this writing).

After three years running as the front runner in the 4A class, a look over our shoulder for that dark horse is in order; at the time I write this, it is still a race.

We are very much indebted to Carl and Shirley Schoof for the use of their excellent Bay-front side for Field Day. They have assured us that we are welcome back next year.

Excellent publicity was obtained in several local papers. Jerry Zobel, W6ARA, and his XYL, Louise, polished up our news release and it really paid off. There were four columns in the Peninsula Times Tribune of June 24, and pieces in three or more other local papers.

The operators for phone were: Rich Smith, K6KT; Gary Caldwell, WA6VEF; George Varvitsiotis, WB6DSV; Mori Young, KN6M, and team captain, Bob Wheeler, K6SEM.

The operators for CW were: Allan Brubaker, K6XO; Bob Wilson, N6TV; Gary Caldwell, WA6VEF, and team captain Cam Pierce, K6RU.

The Novice station was provided by Paul Thekan, N6FEG, and operated by Jim Seidman, KA6RNY, and Rob Taylor,

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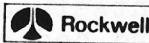


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K6NAN. Explorer Post 599 did not participate.

The Satellite station overcame antenna problems and came thru with Oscar 8, Russian RS6 and RS7 contacts. The team consisted of Captain Ed Johnson, WB6CFW; Clif Keely, KA6JWA; Kevin Lapp, WA6FHC; Joe Lutz, WB6EAS; and Alan Lapp, WA6FNG, jr. op. Congratulations Gang!

Saturday night dinner of chicken stew was prepared and served by Kathy Canham. Lynne Canham prepared the salad. Dessert was prepared by Lois Swenson. Bright and early Sunday morning, Dave Daniel and his daughter Sharon served pancakes to the hungry crew; Man, were they good! Andy Anderson, K6EHS, brought the beer and soda pop, very welcome with the warm weather.

Murphy was there also. During the night, the main generator stopped three times. It was only after the sun came up Sunday morning that the trouble was found. The heat riser valve was stuck and the XXXXX carburetor was freezing up. The spare generator was put in service; however, the CW gang had lost some time in having to reprogramme their automatic keyers each time that the power had been interrupted.

Many stars did not operate at all during the contest. The members who helped erect the antennas and set up the stations, and then pack up after the contest, are to be thanked as well for their hard work and dedication. Those who come to mind are:

Shannon Lile, K6TNY	Ken Dwight, WA6NYB
Bill McElhinney, KA6LZI	Paul Thekan, N6FEG
Wally Porter, K6URO	Gerry Wagstaffe, W6NIR
Andy Anderson, K6EHS	Perry Yelton, KD6ID
Allan Brubaker, K6XO	Cam Pierce, K6RU
Bob Wheeler, K6SEM	Swede Swenson, N6CHL
Gerry Tucker, WA6LNV	Ed Fairbanks, W6AIN
Dave Daniel, KB6WF	

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