

W6OTX

PAARA NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 54, NUMBER 3, February 2005

K6YQT



PAARAGraphs

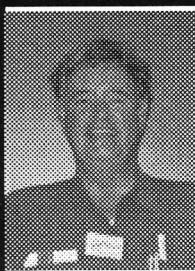
Celebrating 68 years as an *active* ham radio club—*Since 1937*
The Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

CALENDAR

- Feb 4 PAARA Meeting
7:30-9:30
Menlo Park Rec Center
700 Alma Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025
- Feb 9 PAARA Board Meeting
7:30pm
Red Cross Bld., 400 Mitchell Lane Palo Alto
(due to Parking Lot problems location may change, check net before Bd. meeting)
- Mar 4 PAARA Meeting, 7:30pm
Mar 9 PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30pm



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Can you believe that it is almost February 2005 ? Have you noticed that as we grow wiser and older, the time seems to go much faster than it did just a few years ago? Don't forget to remember that special person in your life on Feb 14.

PAARA is still the largest, friendliest and most progressive radio club in our geographical area. This is due primarily to the efforts of our membership, who all do their little part in creating an environment of fun while we gather to discuss the technical and operational aspects of our chosen hobby known officially as the amateur radio service.

It is that time of year to renew our PAARA membership and encourage others, even those who are not yet licensed, to join our association. We have a number of ideas under development that will encourage more participation in specific interest groups this year. We also look forward to more Elmer's coming forth and providing their expertise in helping the newer ham's become technically proficient and operationally qualified. We are planning to streamline the Field Day operation so that we may earn more contest points during that event in June.

Please take a look at the on going changes made to the PAARAsite at www.paara.org and provide your input to the Board of Directors. This is our organization and we are on a roll. Every member has an opportunity to take part in the many activities planned and offered.

~73: Terry Finn, AF6TF

NEXT MEETING

Friday, February 4,
2005, 7:30pm

SPEAKER:
Bonnie Crystal, KQ6XA

PROGRAM:

"Expedition Radio: Above and Below Ground"

World-famous DXer **Bonnie Crystal** will describe her most interesting operating adventures to remote locations all around and deep inside the Earth. Bonnie will talk about her use of the LowFER 160-190 kHz band, with its mile-long (1750m) wavelength, for establishing radio communications from the surface into deep underground caves, and her adventures spelunking and exploring lost jungle cities in Peru.

Bonnie is perhaps best known for founding the HF Pack group, which promotes the use HF radio communications while pedestrian or bicycle mobile, but has also co-founded three high-tech companies (International Medcom, Telegen, and Telisar), and in a previous century, co-authored *The World of CB Radio*

~K6WEB Peter



Join us for pre-meeting eyeball QSO

at Su Hong Restaurant, 1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
Food will be served at 6:00 sharp, so that guests will be on time for the PAARA meeting. Those arriving late will be responsible for their own order and bill.

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening at 8:30 P.M. local time
on the 145.230 -600 MHz repeater, PL tone off

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Miscellaneous Info

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 10:30AM, 145.23—PL=100Hz
 Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room
 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA
 contact: <http://amateur-radio.org/> or Al, WB6IMX@att.net

ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET
 Sponsorship by A.S.V.A.R.O.
 (Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations)
 Second Saturday of month, March–October, 6am–2pm
 Howard M. Krawetz, N6HM 650-856-9761
 Host: *Closed until Spring.*
 Contact: <http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/>

LARK Swap meet
 LosPositas College, Livermore, 1st Sunday each month.
 Contact: Cliff Kibbe (209) 835 6715 or Eliot Ross (925) 606 7710
<http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html>

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association
 meets 1st Friday 7:30pm each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,
 contact: <http://PAARA.org/> or Terry Finn, AF6TF, 650-366-9111

FARS Foothills Amateur Radio Society
 meets 4th Friday 7:30pm each month
 contact: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/>

NCDXC Northern California DX Club
 meets 2nd Friday 7:30pm each month,
 repeater for member info 147.360, Thur 8:00PM
 contact: <http://ncdx.org/> or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club
 meets 1st Sunday each month
 contact: <http://www.norcalqrp.org/>

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System
 meets each Monday 8:00pm on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz
 contact: <http://specsnet.org/> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service
 meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 146.445 [PL 114.8] & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact: <http://k6mpn.org/>

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
 Operates W6UU & W6UU/R, repeater 146.985-pl
 Nets: 2m, 7.30pm Mon; 70cm, 442.425+ (pl 107.2) Thur.
 meets 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.
 contact: <http://www.qsl.net/sccarra> or Clark Murphy KE6KXO 408-262-9334
 ARRL/VEC license testing contact 408-507-4698

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

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association
 operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2
 WVARA now has a 6m repeater, linked to 440 and 1.2GHz
 meets 3rd Wed every month.
 contact: <http://wvara.org/>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or
 N6FFC@ARRL.NET

DISASTER SERVICES

American Red Cross, PALO ALTO AREA CHAPTER
 400 Mitchell Lane
 Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM
 HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR Gateway, NASA satellite.
 contact: <http://paarc.org/> or Mac Millian 650-688-0423. MAC@paarc.org
 American Red Cross, SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER
 contact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924
 fshensley@Novell.com

(please send changes to PAARAGraphs editor: k6uro@arrl.net)

- **PAARAGraphs E-mail address:** k6uro@arrl.net
- **Submit material for PAARAGraphs by the 15th**
- Text: WORD, MS Publisher, RTF, or ASCII
- Photos: JPEG, PNG, or TIFF raster images
- Diagrams and ads: AI, EMF, or EPS vector files
- **PAARA Web/WAP site:** www.paara.org

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Officers

President	Terry Finn, AF6TF	650-366-9111
	terry@incognitoservices.com	
Vice President	Peter Sheerin, K6WEB	415-298-7383
	k6web@arrl.net	
Secretary	Adrianus Schrauwen, W6AJS	650-494-6256
	hagenees@att.net	
Treasurer	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	
Past President	Andreas Junge, N6NU	650-233-0843
	n6nu@arrl.net	
Director ('05)	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	650-326 4908
	gerry_tucker@juno.com	
Director ('05)	Rolf Klibo, N6NFI	650-856-2748
	klibo@earthlink.net	
Director ('05)	Bob Korte, K6KYT	650-595 1842
	rgk4u@aol.com	
Director ('06)	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX	
	kristen@alum.mit.edu	

See the calendar for Board meeting times. **Visitors are welcome.**

Appointed Positions

Membership	Vic Black, AB8SO	650-366 0636
	ab8so@smrn.com	
Membership	Lisa Rice, KG6KQS	650-851-2274
	lisa.rice@sbcglobal.net	
Chaplin	Rev. Rick Line, KG6TMD	650 323 8544
	kg6tmd@arrl.net	
Station Trustee	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
Property Manager	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
Badge Coordinator	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wewi.com	
Sign Maker	Steve Brune, KG6OUB	650-740-4367
	stevebrune@sbcglobal.net	
Raffle Coordinator	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Ticket Master	Kyle Rice, KG6MSK	
Ticket Master Assistant	Ian Brune, K6IAN	
Advertising	Terry Finn, AF6TF	650-366-9111
Field Day Coordinator	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
FD Logistics Coordinator	Steve Brune, KG6OUB	650-740-4367
ASVARO Rep	Howard Takaoka, KG6GRO	650-856-9761
	htakaoka@excite.com	
Webmaster	Peter Sheerin, K6WEB	415-298-7383

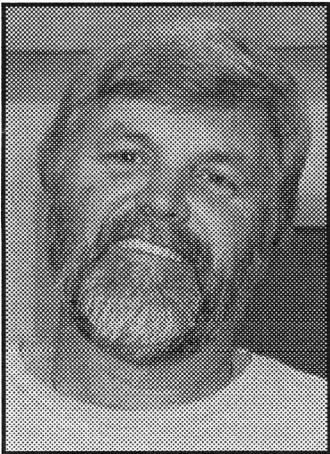
PAARAGraphs Staff

Editor	Wally Porter, K6URO	650-494 7038
	k6uro@arrl.net	
Database	Lisa Rice, KG6KQS	650-851-2274
	lisa.rice@sbcglobal.net	
Photography	Steve Brune, KG6OUB	650-740-4367
	stevebrune@sbcglobal.net	
Additional pictures	Dick Kors, KM6EP	
	John Larribeau, KR6MR	
	Wally Porter, K6URO	

Columnists

News	Anyone?	
Member Profiles	Terry Finn, AF6TF	650-366-9111
	terry@incognitoservices.com	
Technical Tips	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Good Old Stuff	Andy Korsak, KR6DD	
	kr6dd@arrl.net	
The Satellite Beacon	Emily Clarke, W0EBC	
	w0eec@arrl.net	

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DAVE ROGERS. K5DKR. MEMORIAL.

PAARA was very well represented at the memorial services held on Tuesday, November 16 at the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church and the visitation held the evening before, at the Redwood Chapel on Woodside Road in Redwood City. Every PAARA member who knew Dave and could come to the memorial events was there to share the shock and grief of losing our friend and fellow ham, so suddenly on November 8th. Good bye Dave. We love you and will miss you.

We would like to thank those PAARA members who worked so well together informing the membership of this tragic loss and providing the assistance they gave to the Roger's family and to many PAARA members who attended the services. One of our PAARA members actually made small black stickers with 'K5DKR' printed on them that could be attached to the PAARA name badges which were displayed by the attendees at the memorial events. Several PAARA members spent a lot of time greeting & socializing with

our grieving members at both events, and they are to be commended for their actions. PAARA purchased a large living plant that was displayed at the events and it was appropriately marked: "73. K5DKR. PAARA."

Dave's employer, the Sequoia Union High School District has established a fund to assist with the future educational expenses of his son Danny. PAARA has volunteered to accept money donations from our membership for this fund and present it to Dave's boss, Carolyn Schuster, at the District Offices as soon as we have received all of the donations. This fund has been established at the Redwood City Sequoia School Employees Credit Union, 755 Brewster Ave, P.O. Box 5413, Redwood City, CA 94063. Any donations or checks should be marked as: **Dave Roger's Memorial**—

Daniel Rogers. For our purposes, please make out your check to PAARA with a notation that it is for the Daniel Rogers Fund, so we can separate it from the other monies that PAARA receives.

Please be aware that we have already received a number of money donations from PAARA members for this memorial fund. Several cash donations have been generous, however, one of the checks from a PAARA member is \$1,000.00.. (one thousand dollars). We would like to present the donation to the fund in March 05, so please give what you can so this can be a worthy PAARA event. Checks made out to PAARA (marked with the Daniel Rogers notation) can be given to the PAARA Treasurer or Secretary. Thank you.

~Terry Finn. AF6TF.



Congratulations: Jan. 7th 2005 Raffle Prize Winners

- 1st Prize:** George Choi AB8PQ/ Icom IC-2100H 2m/50W/Mobile Rig
- 2nd Prize:** Andy Korsak KR6DD / Garmin Fortrex 101/ Wrist Mount/ GPS Receiver
- 3rd Prize:** Jim Touchstone KD6WJM/ Grundig FR200 AM/FM/SW Emer. Radio
- 4th Prize:** Scott Bicknell AC7ZZ/ 1-year subscription to World Radio
- 5th Prize:** Dave Cooper KE6PFF/ CQ Amateur Radio Calendar
- 6th Prize:** Carl Costa W6KGO/ ARRL 04/05 Repeater Directory
- 7th Prize:** Andreas Junge N6NU/ Northern California Repeater Directory
- 8th Prize:** Rick Line KG6TMD/ Suction-Cup BNC Mount Cable

PAARA Members and Visitors:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of the exciting monthly raffles!

Since Feb. 03, 59 Radios, including

YAESU FT-847

ICOM 706 MK IIIG

and

TWO Elecraft KX1's

have gone to Fellow Hams,

THANKS TO YOU!

PAARA is having a remarkable year in 2005! If you aren't a member, please join PAARA now, and experience fun 2005 events with the "friendliest club around."

~K6AK Jim

PAARAGraphs—February 2005

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JANUARY'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The PAARA Board of Directors met for the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 at 7:30 PM local time. They were unable to use the facilities at the Red Cross offices in Palo Alto due to several other meetings in progress at that time and the fact that there was no parking available. Apparently the construction next door at the Cal Train station has virtually eliminated the public parking lot and restricted the vehicle traffic around the Red Cross building. The Board members traveled to the MacDonald's restaurant in Palo Alto and conducted the meeting there instead.

In attendance was President **Terry Finn, AF6TF**; Vice President **Peter Sheerin, K6WEB**; Past President **Andreas Junge, N6NU**; PAARAGraphs editor **Wally Porter, K6URO**; Board members **Bob Korte, KD6KYT** and **Rolf Klibo, N6NFI**; the name badge coordinator **Doug Teter, KG6LWE**; and PAARA members **Stan Towle, WA6ZGI**; **David Cooper, KE6PFF** and **Joel Wilhite, KD6W**.

The Secretary, **Adrianus Schrauwen, W6AJS**; was away on a trip to Holland while Board member **Gerry Tucker, N6NV**; was down with a bit of a cold and Board member **Kristen McIntyre, K6WX** was attending a conference in Monterey. The Treasurer, **Ron Chester, W6AZ** was tied up with clients as it is tax season again and Board member **Jim Rice, K6AK** had a prior commitment.

Doug Teter gave a report on the name badge situation as we are still struggling with locating several missing name badges, receipts and orders. Doug has been doing a great job in resolving this little problem that developed with the sudden loss of PAARA member **Dave Rogers, K5DKR (SK)** last fall.

Rolf Klibo gave an interesting report on the activities of the N6NFI repeater that is used for the PAARA Monday evening net. It is the most used repeater in this geographical area and has a 20% duty cycle of transmitter use on a daily basis.

Wally Porter continues to edit and publish the finest radio club newsletter west of the Mississippi. The PAARA renewal notices will be mailed out in February as part of PAARAGraphs. He has been working with **Peter Sheerin** recently in establishing a newer, cleaner template or format for the actual printing of the monthly bulletin. PAARA as you know, is located in the heart of the silicon valley, therefore we should have the latest and greatest technology available to use for our club members. Wally asked for PAARA members to consider writing a technical article and submitting it to him for publication in PAARAGraphs.

The by laws revision committee is still hard at work and members **Ron Chester, Adrianus Schrauwen** and **Peter Sheerin** will be providing a detailed report to the Board

over the next few months. Peter also reported that he will be working with the membership list coordinator **Lisa Rice** and **Andreas Junge** to create an easier computer membership list with more informational details. This will ultimately allow PAARA to submit an application to the ARRL for re-instatement of the approved radio club designation which fell by the wayside several years ago. **Peter** has also been busy making changes to the PAARAsite in all areas. He and **Andreas** will be conducting several technical tests over the next few weeks to expand the PAARA-site functionality and operational ability. One of the interesting areas under development is the special interest groups and specific Elmer's that will be listed.

Bob Korte will be making some minor repairs to the new PAARA trailer so that it can be delivered to a tower manufacturer by **Andreas**. They will install a new fold over tower and other equipment so that it will be ready for operations later this year.

PAARA members are asked to submit their ideas about our club to any member of the Board of Directors. We are especially looking for operators and support persons for Field Day in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 2115 hours.

~Submitted by: *Terry Finn, AF6TF*.

For the Secretary: Adrianus Schrauwen, W6AJS. who was out of the Country.

REWARD OFFERED !!!

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Hop-a-long Capacity. This un-rectified criminal escaped from a Weston primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Milli Henry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer.

Capacity is also charged with driving a dc motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band pass. If encountered, he may offer series resistance.

The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit.

He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic at the time.

~*Terry Finn, AF6TF*.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Awarded by Action of the PAARA Board

Ron Panton, W6VG

Leslie Vickery, W6AKR SK

Joe Gomes, KB6HDC

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PAARA Membership Form 2005

Please print

Name: _____ Call: _____ (*change from last roster*)

Class: E A G T+ T N (*change from last roster*)

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

License Expiration Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone (____) _____

- New Member (primary) Renewal (primary) I am a ARRL member (*Expiration date* _____)
 New Member (family) Renewal (family) I am a ARRL member (*Expiration date* _____)

e-mail: _____ Packet: _____

I am interested in receiving PAARAGraphs by e-mail.

For family memberships (at the same address), fill out a separate form for each. Indicate the “primary member for mailing purposes.

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31.

New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the dues.

Annual Membership dues: **\$18 Individual (primary)** **Total Indv + Family = \$_____**
 \$ 6 Family Member (each)

Give check (include your call) to the **Treasurer** at any meeting or mail to:

**PAARA, Membership
P.O. Box 911
Menlo Park, CA 94026**

PAARA Membership Form 2005

Please print

Name: _____ Call: _____ (*change from last roster*)

Class: E A G T+ T N (*change from last roster*)

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

License Expiration Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone (____) _____

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PAARA Feb. 4th Meeting and Raffle

PAARA “The Friendliest Club Around”

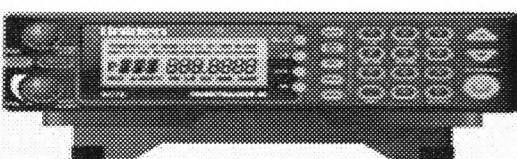
Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. www.paara.org

Date and Time: Friday, February 4th, at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Menlo Park Rec. Center, 700 Alma St., Menlo Park, CA.

Welcome Members and Visitors / Raffle Prizes:

FIRST PRIZE: Uniden BearTracker BCT8 Scanner



AC-DC, Monitor: Highway Patrol / Police / Fire / NOAA Weather
 Frequency Range: 25-54 MHz: CB / 10m Ham / VHF Low / 6m Ham
 108-174 MHz: AM Aircraft / Military Mobile / 2m Ham / VHF High
 400-512 MHz: Govt. Mobile / 70 cm Ham / UHF Std. / UHF “T”
 806-956 MHz: Public Service Band

SECOND PRIZE: Icom IC-V8 / 2m / 5.5W / HT

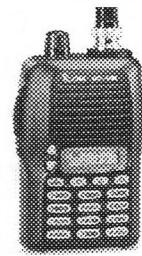
107 Total Memory Channels

Backlit Alphanumeric LCD

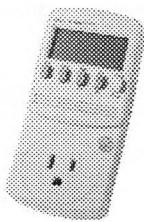
Fast Scanning - 40 Channels Per Second

Drop-in Charger Included

Optional PC Programming



THIRD PRIZE: Kill A Watt



AC Electricity Usage Monitor

Displays: Volts, Current, Watts, Frequency, Power Factor, and VA.

After power is applied accumulates KWH and powered duration time (hours).

Press the money button all of the factors are figured, and the results are displayed.

FOURTH PRIZE: ARRL 2005 HANDBOOK with fully searchable-book on CD

FIFTH PRIZE: Ultimate DX World Map, Laminated, 24"x 36"

**SIXTH thru EIGHT PRIZE: DX World Atlas, CQ 2005/2006 Amateur Radio Calendar,
 1-year subscription to World Radio**

Since February 2003,

**59 Radios, including a YAESU FT-847, an ICOM 706 MK IIIG, and Two
 Elecraft KX1's have gone to Fellow Hams.**

Enjoy our fabulous speakers, free refreshments, chatting with your friends, and the chance to take home an unbelievable prize. See you at Round Table after the meeting!

Contact Kyle:

KG6MSK and Ian, K6IAN, “Two of PAARA’s youngest members” for tickets at the meeting.

Special Thanks to Bob, Howard, Mark, Rick, and everyone at HRO
 for their continued SUPPORT!

~K6AK Jim

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THE SATELLITE BEACON

A monthly article presented by the Project OSCAR Amateur Radio Club
This Month's Topic — Kids and Amateur Satellites
 By Arundathie (Aruni) Kumari Perera VE4WMK – Project OSCAR Team Member

[Ed. Note: At age 11, Aruni is the youngest member of the Project OSCAR team. She lives in Winnipeg, MB and attends the 6th grade. Her Dad, Kumara Perera VE4WKP is also a Project OSCAR member and active on Amateur Satellites.]

Amateur radio is a wonderful hobby with no age limit. It is not only a "fun" hobby but also a hobby with great benefits for our school studies such as science, math and social studies, as well as for our day-to-day life. Amateur satellite communication is the most fascinating and technically challenging part of this hobby in the modern world.

What are these Amateur Satellites or "birds" (the pet name for Amateur satellites)? What we can learn from this as school children if we become young Amateur satellite operators?

Understanding the basics of Amateur satellites is very beneficial for us as school children. Amateur satellites are built on the ground by Radio Amateurs and sent into space around the earth by powerful rockets. They carry transmitters and receivers to communicate with Radio Amateurs on the ground helping them to exchange radio contacts from long distances covering large ground areas. Their paths or "orbits" around the earth are about 400 Km to 2000 Km high above the earth. They travel on these "orbits" at a speed of about 28,500 Km per hour. Such speed keeps satellites from falling back to earth due to gravity. This is a very important principle of physics in science we learn in our later grades.

We learn how to send radio signals to these moving satellites by tracking or following their paths accurately while they travel above our ground stations. There are computer "satellite tracking programs" to help predict these paths for us. We can learn some interesting geographical terms such as Horizon, Azimuth, Elevation, Latitude, Longitude, which are related to these computer programs. We also learn about the earth's time zones when we learn how to convert our local time to the Universal time UTC (Universal Time Coordinate).

To know the exact angle the satellite entering from our "Horizon", we must learn how to measure various angles. We learn how the "Compass" works and how to find the "Azimuth" or the geographical angle of the satellite's path using the Compass. Elevation is also an angle we should understand to locate these "birds". These are good homework for our math studies.

We satellite operators, exchange contacts through these satellites using base stations, mobile stations with equipment mounted in cars or even like

A SIMPLE TEST

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do? The point is none of us remembers the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-raters. They are the best in their fields.

But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here are two upcoming public safety events for this month:

RED CROSS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIRE

All are welcome: Be prepared for any disaster: home, work, school ...

WHEN: Sat., Jan. 22 10am-3pm

WHERE: Los Altos Methodist Church (655 Magdalena Ave.)

Details: www.paarc.org

Sponsored by the Palo Alto Red Cross, Los Altos, LAH & Stanford Blood bank.

myself operate with inexpensive portable transceivers and handheld antennas. When we use our radio equipment and portable antennas for satellite communication, we learn the basics of modern communication equipment and radio transmission principles. It's a great opportunity for us to learn how to program the various functions such as transmit and receive frequencies, tones, transmit power levels etc in modern transceivers. We also learn how to care about our basic electronic equipment and how to maintain their rechargeable batteries.

As satellite operators, we follow certain routines in order to share this fun with other operators. Since these satellites travel above our stations only for about 15 minutes, we learn to be patient to make a contact with a station in order not to interfere with on going communications. We also learn to follow the "Golden rule" - not to send transmissions to the satellite until we hear other stations. This is to make sure our receiving setup is working properly before we transmit. These are good manners and disciplines that are even useful to our daily life.

We also learn to keep records of all the satellite contacts we make to exchange official "QSL cards" to confirm our contacts. These records includes all necessary details about these contacts including date, time, station call signs, grid locations, frequencies, equipment, antennas etc. These records can be used to apply for various satellite communication awards. Recently I won my first such award of "Oscar Satellite Communication Achievement Award" for the satellite contacts I made through 20 individual US states including 3 Canadian provinces. This is one of the things we earn from Amateur Satellite operations that we can be proud of when we grow up. Since I started keeping records of my satellite contacts, I also started maintaining a record about the history of my daily activities before I go to bed. This is a good example of a great habit, which I learned from being a Radio Amateur.

I hope many more kids join with this exciting hobby, benefit from the experience, which will help to build their future successfully.

Hear you on the "birds" soon!

~73, Aruni

Thanks to Project OSCAR member Aruni Perera VE4WMK for her report. Aruni is 11 years old and lives in Winnipeg Manitoba. She is the youngest member of Project OSCAR, and we thank her for contributing her thoughts on how amateur satellites benefit education among the worlds young people.

Ed Note - Aruni and her family are originally from Sri Lanka, where her relatives and family friends were impacted by the tragic devastation to both the communities and environment there. We are sure you have made contributions to relief agencies by this time, but we also ask for your best regards for the health and welfare of the survivors. You do not have to include this in your newsletter, but if you do please include regards for people impacted by tragic devastations in Utah, California and Arkansas who have suffered weather related problems in recent days.

~73, Emily

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
6. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier? The lesson? The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones who care.

~From Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP

ONE DAY HAM "CRAM" COURSE:

Get your radio license as a resource when the phone lines are down.

WHEN: Sat., Jan. 29, 8am-5pm

WHERE: College of San Mateo

FEE: \$25.00

REGISTER: wb6zbu@arrl.net

QUESTIONS: Ross Peterson: 650-349-5349; wb6zbu@arrl.net

Details: www.k6mpn.org

PAARAGraphs—February 2005
Celebrating 68 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

PAARA is soliciting donations of equipment for our annual Field Day emergency-preparedness exercise. PAARA is a 501 (c) (4) tax-exempt club, and will either use donated equipment directly, or sell it to raise funds if it's not quite something we can use.

- A replacement for our 1952 30-foot travel trailer, which has been attacked by rust and termites.
- 10'×10' or 10'×20' E-ZUP or MASTERTENT shelters.
- Five or six roughly identical, reasonably rugged laptop computers, just fast enough to run Windows XP.
- Folding chairs and tables for operating stations.

Donations are not tax deductible, but larger donations will garner you a company logo emblazoned on one or more of our trailers, tents, or other equipment.

PAARA Web/WAP site

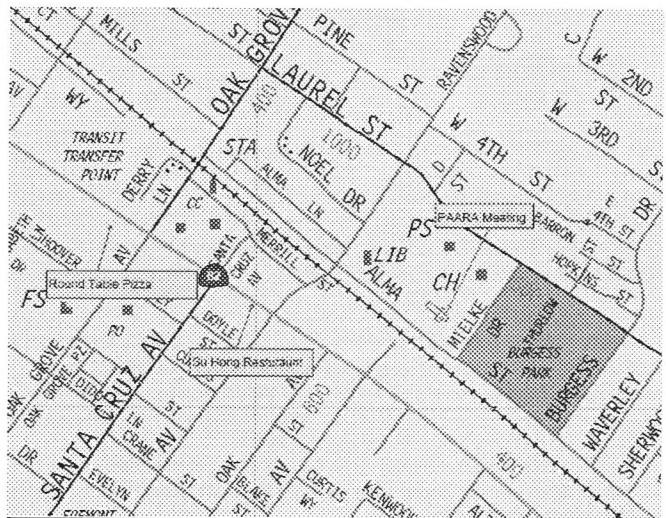
<http://paara.org/>



PAARA BADGES

To order one, contact our Badge Coordinator:

Doug Teter, KG6LWE
 dteter@wewi.com



Directions to PAARA meeting:

<http://paara.org/meetings/>

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 Rec Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA.

Radio NET & Swap Session every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230 –600 MHz repeater, PL tone off.

Membership in PAARA is \$18.00 per calendar year, which includes one subscription to PAARAGraphs \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).

Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026-0911

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PAARA Radio NET

and Swap Session
every Monday evening
8:30pm local time
on the

145.230 –600 MHz repeater
PL tone off

control operators:

Week	Operator
1 st Mon.	Pink Foster, KG6ILA
2 nd Mon.	Peter Sheerin, K6WEB
3 rd Mon.	Peter Sheerin, K6WEB
4 th Mon.	Bill Rausch, AA6PA
5 th Mon.	Volunteer!

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball

QSO
February 4th
gab & gobble

Food will be served at 6:00 sharp, so guests will be on time for the PAARA meeting. Those arriving late will be responsible for their own food order.

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

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 Walking distance from Caltrain!*

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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.

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PAARAgraphs—February 2005



**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
PAARAGraphs Newsletter
P.O. Box 911
Menlo Park, California 94026**

FIRST CLASS MAIL



“Radio Association Elects -

February 15, 1937

(Page 2)

“Radio Association Elects -

Ted Peixotto is the president of the newly organized Palo Alto Radio Association, members announced today. Other officers are Charles Camp, vice-president; and L.M. Van Eaton, secretary-treasurer. The association is composed of local amateur radio operators."

Korsak, Andy KR6DD
504 Lakemead Way
Emerald Hills, CA 94062-3919