

MENLO PARK C. D. RADIO CLUB, K6YQT

# PARA Graphs

vol. 26

SEPTEMBER 1984



PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSN., W6OTX



Field Day CW Operator – Goran Fagerstrom SMØDRD

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PAARAGRAPHS is the official newsletter of  
the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association &  
the Menlo Park Civil Defence Radio Club.  
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Club Nets	:	147.45 MHZ, Monday, 14.287 MHZ, 9:00 pm	L.T.	&

\*\*\*\*\*

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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. Freebee distribution is made to those who indicate an interest in the Club as an inducement to their becoming members, and is subject to change. Make payment to: PAARA, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

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

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# VHF CONTESTING

by

WB6GSS

Johns topic will be VHF contesting,  
including the June VHF contest, and  
the recent W840G ("Olympic Games")  
work at Stanford.

Meeting on Friday, Sept 7th at 7:30 P.M.

(Future meetings Oct 5, Nov 2)

## **PRESIDENTS CORNER**

The summer doldrums which have effected the bands have also spread to meeting attendance. The August general meeting attracted only 22 people. Post 599 with John, (KD6ZL) and Rob (KA6NAN) gave an excellent and enlightening talk and slide show on post activities including their repeater site prep and upgrades.

Our August Flea Market is now history and early reports indicate a \$800 plus profit. We sold 122 spaces, all the donuts (12 dozen), many pots of coffee, 190 hotdogs, and 12 plus cases of pop. The day was ideal, weather wise, and many good buys were to be had. Thanks to the members which put in a 6 plus hour day to make this event memorable. Remember we still have our October Auction and Flea Market at the Ampex cafeteria to support. Start compiling goodies to donate to the club table.

The August board meeting was short due to yours truly being at the Olympic soccer game and our VP forgetting about the meeting. Hence, we have to report our September guest speaker will have to remain anonymous at this time. Some of my early leads have fallen thru. Any help will be greatly appreciated by Andy and myself.

Hope you all had a chance to work W840G or W230G during the games. Several of our members were on the other side of the mic. To date the NCCC have received over 10,000 QSL cards and are in the process of responding.

.Rob (KA6NAN), has agreed to edit this and perhaps the next Paaragraphs. If we expect him to continue this effort (and I hope he does) we need to support him, please help.

Items of interest, if you plan a trip thru Nevada, take a C>B> There is zero activity on the Battle MT and Eiko repeaters and 52 is void of even static. Even a 10/4 good Buddy would have been welcome to the ears. There are several good repeaters in the Montana, Wyoming area and several new friends were made. Yellowstone Park can be covered by 25 watt simplex. Se you at the September meeting.

de KB6WP

Editors note -- Sorry Dave, but I simply have too many commitments to accept the offer. If their are any aspiring editors out there, now is your chance !! I must say, editing even a single issue has already been very educational. In the future, I will have much more sympathy when the editor pleads for contributions !!!!

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# **PACKET RADIO**

Packet radio is an experimental technology that permits the reliable exchange of data over radio links. The word "Packet" comes from the fact that your message is sent with certain well defined information added (to whom the packet is addressed, who it is from, etc). Since this protocol has become widely accepted, you can communicate with other local packet users, either directly, or through a 'digital repeater'.

Work is in progress on a number of exciting developments. 1) to design 'Gateway' systems, that could link a region (like the bay area) to other parts of the country! 2) use of satellites as packet repeaters & 3) experimentation with techniques to permit even higher speed transmission of data. If you are interested in learning more about packet radio, you should attend one of the upcoming 'Packet Meetings'

AMPEX Cafeteria  
401 Broadway  
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On Route 84 at 101 or 280, proceed South on Broadway in Redwood City about 2 to 3 blocks. The cafeteria is glass enclosed and is adjacent to a small fountain area. It will be on your right as you travel south.

- September 4th, 1984 - TNC Review (TAPR, VADCG, GLB, etc.)
- October 2nd, 1984 - Protocol Introduction, AX.25
- November 13th, 1984 - Technical Topics
- December 4th, 1984 - Emergency Communications via packet

## VHF CONTEST NEWS

Congratulations to the Amateurs of Northern California. You helped put a California call to the Top Ten in the 1984 ARRL June VHF contest. This is the first time this feat has ever been accomplished, and I thank all of you for making K6GSS number 8 nationwide.

This letter is a solicitation, not to work just me, but rather, to take a few minutes on Sept. 8 or 9, and QSO all the VHF'ers participating in the ARRL Sept. QSO party. In june, we had over 1100 QSO's with almost 600 on 2 meter FM. I believe this number could (should) be double that. Therefore, ask a friend to also spend a few minutes on VHF on Sspt. 8 or 9. I will be operating 2 meters exclusively that weekend, and will be on 147.540 Mhz from my Cupertino QTH. Please call me on any hour devisable by 3, i.e. 12 noon, 3 pm, 6 pm, etc. Starting time is 11 AM local time on Sept. 8 and ending time is 8 PM Sept. 9.

There will be other stations all over Northern Ca. looking for your contacts on 50, 144, 220, & 432 MHZ. The FM frequencies are: 52.525, 146.490, 147.540, 223.500, & 446.000 Mhz. So lets pull together in Sept., and put 2 or 3 (or more) six land calls in the top ten list. Your participations is appreciated.

73's & QRZ contest  
John / K6GSS

## HBO

In the S.F. bay area, Premier Channel is attempting to eliminate the unsubscribed reception of their HBO broadcasts via the MDS service (2152 Mhz). They hired college students to drive all over the bay area looking for "suspicious" antennas, writing down the address, and sending these people ("18,000) a letter saying -

- 1) Take down your antenna.
- 2) Sign a form agreeing never to put it back up
- 3) Send \$300.00 as an "out of court settlement"

or be added to litigation for damages in excess of \$1000.00.

Amateurs who contact the law firm sending the letters (addressed from a P.O. Box, but postmarked from another city) are removed from any litigation.

The rason is that the frounds for the suit are based on section 605 of the Communications Act of 1934 which say it is illegal to receive private communications without authorization. In 1982 president Reagan signed a bill which, among other things, exempted radio amateurs from that (605) section of the act ostensibly to enable amateurs to police their own bands.

Editors note: the above article was copied off of a computer bulletin board. The opinions expressed are those of the author, and not neccessarily those of....., well, you get the idea.

## Tidbits

WB6SUF has called to donate a 10-40 meter Vertical antenna to the Post.

Announced on the 8/27 SPECS net: An experimental HF Packet "Gateway" is up and running on 14.080 Mhz, 300 baud, with 200 hz shift.

This space open for your contributions.

Andy (VE3FZK) made the following contribution.  
Gould inc. has a free flyer on the 'Care of Nicads'. Their toll free number is (800) 328-9146.

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