

**W6OTX**

**W6ARA**

**PAARA NEWSLETTER**  
VOLUME 58, NUMBER 9, September 2008

**K6OTA**

**K6YQT**



Celebrating 71 years as an *active* ham radio club—*Since 1937*  
The Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.



## CALENDAR



- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| Sep | 5, PAARA Meeting, 7:00<br>Menlo Park Recreation Center<br>700 Alma Street, Menlo Park |
| Sep | 10, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:00<br>Red Cross Bld., 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto          |
| Oct | 3, PAARA Meeting, 7:00  |
| Oct | 8, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:00  |

## NEXT MEETING



September 5, 2008  
**SPEAKER**  
AND  
**PROGRAM**

**Bob Vallio - W6RGG -  
Pacific Division Director**

It has been a few years since the last time Bob has stopped in to visit us with the latest news and views from around the Pacific Division and the league. Please join us for another evening of what will certainly be a very informative and lively discussion session. This is a great opportunity to hear about what other clubs and groups are working on and what sorts of things look forward to like Pacificon and the latest from Newington.

~Joel Wilhite KD6W

PACIFICON 2008 Is Coming Soon! October 17-19, 2008, San Ramon Marriott Hotel, San Ramon, California. For Events, Latest Updates and Ticket Sales go to:  
[www.PACIFICON.org](http://www.PACIFICON.org). Call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at: 1-800-228-9290. Before October 1, 2008, to ask for the special Pacificon rate of \$90/night. Go to the event web site to sign up. All the usual PACIFICON events and more are planned.

## President's corner

~Kristen McIntyre, K6WX



President's Corner ...  
September 2008  
The September issue already and it's back to school time, with the year three quarters over. What also comes with that is the vernal equinox and some, hopefully, better propagation. We sure could use it as it seems like the bands have forsaken Amateur Radio operators at the very least.

Perhaps now we are at the bottom of the solar cycle. There have been several weeks with strings of zero sunspots. Generally that has been a reasonable predictor of the cycle's bottom. Earlier in the year and at the end of last year we had shorter strings of zeroes and that led many, myself included, to conclude that the worst was over. It would appear now that we were wrong and that the actual nadir is potentially happening now. How will we know if this is correct? We will only know when activity returns to the sun. A few precursors should be visible, however, like bipolar emissions in the corona and a reversed magnetic field in the newer sunspots when compared to the last cycle. The real indicator, however, will be an increase in the average activity of the sun. Some believe that the apparent 'double bottom' coincides with a double peak that we saw in the last cycle. Time will tell, I suppose.

PAARA had a very successful sponsorship of the ASVARO Electronics Flea Market on August 9th at De Anza College in Cupertino. If you missed it then you missed out. I was told that we had the most vendor spots sold for this entire season. We saw brisk concession sales coupled with sales of donated gear. We have yet to compile the actual numbers, but it appears to me with my limited knowledge that we made a decent return on the venture for our club's coffers. As always, something of this magnitude could not have been accomplished without the help of volunteers. There were many PAARA members who helped get the booth set up, brought the gear to be sold, sold the vendor tickets, prepared the coffee, bought the food, policed the cleanup, and manned the booth. Last year I managed to leave out a couple of people from the President's Corner whom I was trying to thank. I'm going to try again this

(Continued on page 97) Pres Corner

**PAARAGraphs—September 2008**  
**Celebrating 71 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937**

**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  
 Contact: <http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/>

**LIVERMORE SWAP MEET.** Now in Robertson Park, Livermore, every first Sunday of the month. 7 am to 11:30 am. Free admission for buyers. For further info, see: [www.larkswap.com/](http://www.larkswap.com/) or contact Ian Parker, W6TCP at [swapmeet@livermoreark.org](mailto:swapmeet@livermoreark.org)

**PAARA** Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association  
 meets 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7:30pm each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,  
 contact: <http://PAARA.org/> or Terry Finn, AA6T, 650-366-9111

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

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

**NorCalQRP** Northern California QRP Club  
 meets 1<sup>st</sup> 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://speccsnet.org/> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

**SCARES** South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service  
 meets 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: President Gary D. Aden, K6GDA 650-743-1265(D), 650- 595-5590 (N)

Web: <http://k6mpn.org> E-mail: pres@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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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  
 W6PIY six-meter repeater on 52.58MHz. Normally, six-meters is linked with 147 and 223, while 441 and 1286 repeaters are linked.  
 VHF:      52.58 (-500) 151.4 ctess      UHF:  
         147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctess      441.35 (+5.0 88.5) ctess  
         223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctess      1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctess  
 meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed every month.  
 contact: <http://wvara.org/>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or N6FFC@ARRL.NET

**American Red Cross, SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER**  
 contact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924  
[fishensley@Novell.com](mailto:fishensley@Novell.com)

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

\*\*\*\*\*  
**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**  
 Awarded by Action of the PAARA Board

**Steve Stuntz, K6FS Dec 2007**  
**Ron Panton, W6VG SK (12 07 2007)**  
**Joe Gomes, KB6HDC SK**  
**Leslie Vickery, KB6HDC SK**

**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

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**Directors**

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Director ('08) .....	Rob Riley, KG6HVW	(cell) 650 799-1607
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Director ('09) .....	Byron Beck KG6UOB ,	408-735-8604
	kg6uob@arrl.net	

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

**Appointed Positions**

Membership .....	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
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	kg6tmd@arrl.net	
Station Trustee .....	W6OTX, K6YQT, W6ARA....Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
Station Trustee .....	K6OTA....Ron Chester, W6AZ	
Property Manager .....	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
Fund Raising Coordinator .....	Bob Korte, KD6KYT	408 396 4745
	bob@rgktechsales.com	
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	dteter@wcwi.com	
Historian .....	Christopher McIntyre, KG6SVI	
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Ticket Master .....	Kyle Rice, KG6MSK	
Field Day Coordinator .....	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	650-326 4908
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.

~David Ungar W6DH, PAARA Secretary



### Minutes of 7/23/08 PAARA Board Meeting

Meeting was held at Joel's pastoral place. Present were: Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres.), Joel Wilhite KD6W (VP), Byron Beck KG6UOB (Dir.), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir.), Vic Black AB6SO (Past Pres.), Doug Teter KG6LWE (Dir.), Gerry Tucker N6NV (Dir. & Past Pres.), Peter Sheerin K6WEB (Webmeister & lucky raffle winner), and David Ungar W6DH (Sec.). A quorum was present.

The Board decided that the club would not have an official presence at this year's Boy Scout event.

The minutes from the June Board meeting were accepted by acclamation.

Kristen K6WX noted that it was getting to be about time for another report from our Treasurer. Also, she assumed that our ASVARRO payment got in.

Joel KD6W reported that he has lined up a great speaker for the August meeting.

Peter K6WEB reported that there is nothing new on the web site, and he said he would have the field day score info in to Ron Chester W6AZ by Friday.

Joel KD6W reported that one tour idea was not going to fly and asked for all of us to try to think of another idea. He added that his work will be interfering a bit with the hobby for the next eight or nine months. Various ideas were batted around included: Globe Wireless (Joel KD6W and Peter K6WEB will look at this), the USS Hornet, the Anchor Steam Brewery, the Historical Radio Society Museum in Berkeley (run by Bart Lee KV6LEE), the Scharfenberger tour, and the USS Pompanito. We also commented on the upcoming PAARAFest, which may well feature Spaaten beer and Polka music, as well as more fantastic bargains!!!! (Punctuation added by yours truly.) We thanked Joel KD6W for hosting this event, which he said will be in September this year.

Kristen K6WX noted that the email list is still unfinished.

Passing on to the Flea Market, Kristen reminded us that she needs volunteers, and Byron KG6UOB graciously added his name to the roster.

We all took a gander at the cool hardware Joel KD6W is assembling for the club repeater.

Taking up the matter of the step van that has been offered to the club, Peter K6WEB reported that he has two folks willing to store it, that he has lost his enthusiasm for the project, and that the maintenance issue remains open. It would give us another Field Day operating position, it would look good for outreach activities, too. However, given the time and expenses required to take advantage of the owner's generous offer, the Board decided by acclamation to pass up this opportunity. We are just not in a position to take full advantage of it, much as we appreciate the offer. Peter K6WEB will take this message back to the van's owner.

Passing on to new business: Peter K6WEB asked for our input on membership cards. Doug KG6LWE reported that the beams from Field Day are safely stored in his shop. We discussed next year's Field Day. Peter K6WEB asked about a 2 meter base station vertical antenna that is in the PAARA trailer. He said that the Red Cross wants it, and we decided to give it to them. Gerry N6NV led an extensive discussion about trailer modifications and improvements. He asked Joel KD6W and Peter K6WEB to help. Peter K6WEB suggested that the club purchase Doug KG6LWE's trailer. He will explore storage options and report back.

We returned to the perennial discussion of the value of the Flea Market, given that we no longer make money from hot dogs. Kristen K6WX will invite Rolf N6NFI, our ASVARO representative, to the next Board Meeting so we can discuss this issue further.

Joel KD6W needs to get rid of all of his aluminum and Doug KG6LWE volunteered to store it in his trailer. Some of it is Gerry N6NV's.

Vic AB6SO has four new membership applications which he will bring to the next general meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:42.

Addendum: These minutes approved without corrections at the August Board meeting. PAARA-board mailing list [PAARA-board@mailman.zoomcom.com](mailto:PAARA-board@mailman.zoomcom.com)  
<http://mailman.zoomcom.com/mailman/listinfo/paara-board>



**Guest EDITORIAL.** by Terry Finn, AA6T.  
  
For years I have been submitting articles, biography's, ad copy and news pieces to our wonderful monthly publication known as PAARAGraphs. Many have received accolades and some created very good natured debates. However, by far, the editorial that has brought the most reaction and participation to date is last month's discourse regarding cheating on the FCC exam. We had all sorts of verbal comments and many e-mails as we had clearly struck upon a rather sensitive nerve in some people's minds regarding how they feel about the FCC exam and exams in general. The comments and e-mails were all generally positive and included some remarks such as: "String up the cheater", "Kick the cheater out of the hobby", "Who is it?", "What sort of person would do this?", etc.

We actually had two hams complain and suggest that this type of thing should not be discussed because it creates bad feelings, while another suggested that we allow the cheater to debate the issue and possibly have rebuttal time in this very publication. Although I was not there to see it or hear it, I understand that a person actually got up at the last radio club meeting and claimed that he thought it was him, but he wanted everyone to know that it was not him, and that it was simply a personal attack on him!! Wow, how do these things ever get out of hand like this, especially when the alleged cheater was never identified by the VE's or last month's article in PAARAGraphs.

I am pleased to report that the VEC and the VE's have changed the way certain things are handled during the exam. The incident has been investigated and reported to the proper authorities.

~Terry Finn, AA6T.

## **Operating Portable or Mobile**

at Rest Next to SF Bay, Part 2. by Vic Black, AB6SO

When I first wrote about portable operation next to the western side of the bay there was overwhelming positive feed back. I had visited other sites at various times and considered them somewhat secondary because the views of the water weren't as good or there was physical noise in the area, etc. Here are some of those locations. Some may appeal to you because of their proximity to where you work or live.

### **ALVISO MARINA (SANTA CLARA) COUNTY PARK**

Historically, this was the original Port of San Jose. From the parking lot you'll have a nice view of the original marina and a good portion of the bay area. The marina itself is slowly silting in and becoming more of a fresh water or brackish water meadow. Not only is it silting in, but the underground aquifer has been over pumped for irrigation and the land is subsiding. During its peak the marina was regularly visited by sailing vessels as well as the railroad. In the 1960's I used to walk out along the railroad right of way to the town of Drawbridge. There were still some people living there. There was a rail siding where excursion trains could park for duck hunters to access a hotel and many of the homes were built on pilings with gangplanks to the railroad levee which acted as the only street in the town. Now there's not much left in this ghost town but the tops of a few structures sticking up out of the pickle weed. Near the marina itself are the remains of the century old cannery which was the third largest in the world at one time. Up until the 1960's and 70's there was an active boat works building sailing vessels, mostly from gunnite, or concrete sprayed onto a steel screen much like swimming pool construction. There is no longer a direct view of the bay waters. The view from the paved parking lot is to the north-west toward the bay. There are no power lines visible for several miles.

Getting there is easy. From highway 237 take the Gold Street/Alviso exit through downtown Alviso until Gold Street ends and becomes Elizabeth St. Continue on Elizabeth and turn right on Hope Street to the park. The gates are open from 8 am to sunset. There are hiking trails for pedestrian or bicycle mobile. The parking lot will accommodate more than 60 cars and has handicap access and parking. There are indoor flush toilets and drinking fountains. A site host lives in a Class A motor home on the property. Entry is free.

### **MOUNTAIN VIEW SHORELINE**

From highway 101 exit onto San Antonio North to the end. There is a parking area for about 50 cars including 2 handicap parking spots. You won't have a view of the water because you will be below the rim of the levee. Across the street behind you are industrial sites and offices so the potential for electrical and physical noise is higher than at some other sites. This is best used for pedestrian portable operation. At the trail head there are drinking fountains and indoor flush toilets. Handicap access is possible. However the path is covered with fine gravel and can be bumpy during dry weather and muddy during the rainy season. This area is easy to ac-

cess from the freeway and may be convenient during your lunch break or after work while you wait for the commute traffic to calm down. From the levee you can see the Palo Alto Wildlife Refuge.

### **MENLO PARK SHORELINE PARK**

This is the location for PAARA's Field Day site. PAARA gets special permission from the city of Menlo Park to operate from the top of the hill in the park. The rest of the year cars must stay in the parking lot at the base of the hill. Access to the top of the hill is on foot or bicycle only. The parking lot is open during daylight hours. Entry is free. There are handicap parking spots near the rest rooms. To the west you'll have a good view of salt evaporation ponds, salt water wetlands and a 200 foot wide slough. Ground is excellent as this is land fill and you'll be only about 3 to 5 feet above mean sea level. To get there take the Marsh road exit from highway 101 and go toward the bay. Cross Bay Front Parkway directly into the park.

### **REDWOOD CITY PETE'S HARBOR**

This is a private marina, but the parking lot is available for access to the public restaurant "Waterfront". You can park a few feet from the water and watch activity around the moored sailboats. Watch for interesting details such as flexible solar cells and wind generators used to charge onboard batteries. This is a peaceful and tranquil place for a picnic lunch while you monitor the HF bands.

### **SAN CARLOS PUBLIC SHORE ACCESS**

The Bay Conservancy and Development Corporation maintains a very small public shore access point in San Carlos. Exit 101 on Holly Street east bound. Turn right on Airway and immediately turn right again onto Airport Way. Go parallel to the freeway to the end. There is a parking lot for 10 cars. There is no direct view of the bay because you will be below the rim of the levee. If you operate pedestrian portable you can walk up on the gravel levee to see the bay. There are a couple of benches on the levee. Potential problems include high tension lines directly above the parking lot and traffic noise from 101 about 200 feet away. Also you'll be about 300 feet from the end of the San Carlos Airport with airplanes about 75 overhead as they cross the levee.

### **FOSTER CITY LEO J. RYAN PARK**

From 101 take the Foster City Hillsdale Blvd exit northward to Shell Blvd. Turn right on Shell into the parking lot next to Central Lake. The lagoon is salt water and attached to the bay at two flood control gates. The parking lot is 2 to 3 feet above mean sea level and about 75 feet from the water. There are no overhead power lines in Foster City and all residences have CC&R's to prohibit antennas. Drinking fountains, toilets, handicap access and all the amenities of a popular city park are available. Foster City is on Brewers Island and qualifies for the US Islands Award Program (analogous to IOTA, but for Islands within the continental US. Its ID is CA-071S. See [www.usislands.org](http://www.usislands.org)).

(other suggestions???? Send to Vic AB6SO)

(Continued from page 93 Pres Corner)

year to do it without missing anyone, but if I miss your name, please tell me and I'll make it up to you next month.

Thank you to **Gerry, N6NV**, for selling and making coffee, **Rich, W6APZ**, for ordering and picking up the donuts (and getting 2 free dozen!), **Dale, NX6S**, and **Peter, K6WEB**, for buying all of the supplies at Costco. Thank you to **Ron, KG6RLG**, and **Seth, KF6UZX**, for selling vendor tickets and **Tom, KF6LWZ**, from the Red Cross Palo Alto who helped get the truck ready and drove it down to De Anza at oh-dark-thirty. Thanks to Svend Jenson for bringing the ice. Thank you to **Rolf, N6NFI**, **Rich, W6APZ**, **Svend Jenson**, and **Byron, KG6UOB**, for setup. Thanks to new PAARA member Michael, **KI6QNZ**, **Peter, K6WEB**, **Dale, NX6S**, and **Byron KG6UOB** for loading the truck the night before. Thanks to **Carol, W6GEM**, **Doña, KI6DAR**, **Clark, KG6KXO**, **Byron, KG6UOB**, and **Rolf, N6NFI** for selling concessions. A special thanks to **Les, WY6H**, our own circus barker style super-salesman at the concession stand. Thanks to **Gerry, N6NV**, **Joel, KD6W**, and **Doug, KG6LWE**, for loading and selling all of the gear. Thanks to **Peter, K6WEB**, **Tom KF6LWZ**, and **David, W6DH** for cleaning up and getting the truck back to the Red Cross. And lastly thank you to FARS president **Mikel, KN6QI**, who helped at various times with sales, cleanup, and loading. It sure was great to have all of that help for our club.

Since it would appear that I will be leaving for Japan for 10 days on August 30th, I will miss the next PAARA general meeting. Please give your full support and thanks to our Vice President **Joel, KD6W**, as he takes over for me at the September meeting. I hope to see you all at the October meeting and, hopefully, before that at PAARAFest. Take care and I hope CONDX are GUD for you. 73

### RAC announces a newly revised HF Band Plan.

The HF band plan presently in use in Canada has been adopted in 1996. Since, many changes have happened in the Amateur world and other band plans have been revised and modified. Let us only mention the changes announced by the FCC in 2007 affecting the US band plan and the revised one adopted by the IARU Region 2 countries at the Brasilia conference in September 2007.

Just under two years ago, Radio Amateurs of Canada had asked Bob Nash, VE3KZ, a former First Vice President of RAC, to re-activate the HFBPC (HF Band Planning Committee) with a goal to review and modernize the Canadian HF Band Plan. Bob's committee has since worked very hard in studying and consulting all across Canada to eventually come up with a band plan proposed to the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada. The RAC Board has adopted this plan at its July 2008 meeting and the new band plan is now on the RAC Web page at:

[http://www.rac.ca/service/bandplans/hfband\\_e.php](http://www.rac.ca/service/bandplans/hfband_e.php)

RAC wants to thank the HFBPC members for their hard work and wishes the Canadian Amateur community much pleasure in using the new band plans. 73,

Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA Vice President International Affairs, RAC. [ve2ka@rac.ca](mailto:ve2ka@rac.ca)

### HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATES.

Since the California Department of Motor Vehicles has finally determined that there is no space between certain letters and numbers in amateur radio call signs, they are again offering vehicle license plates with your radio call sign.

However, it is up to you (the applicant) to fill in the appropriate two page DMV application form and submit it with a photo copy of your FCC license and the proper fee. To download the correct two page form, simply go to: [www.dmv.ca.gov/forms/reg17a.pdf](http://www.dmv.ca.gov/forms/reg17a.pdf) and print out the application form.

If you take it in to the DMV, expect to stand in line for quite a while before actually meeting with a customer service person. It may be just as easy to mail the application with your check & copy of the FCC license. If you actually observe a DMV clerk typing the call sign into their computer data base, it may frighten you as an automatic space between letters and numbers does come up on the screen. However, if the DMV clerk has entered the information correctly on the amateur radio license request screen then everything should come out just fine. Your new ham radio call sign license plates should be mailed to you within six weeks.

Sporting your new ham radio call sign license plates on your vehicle should immediately identify you to other knowledgeable radio operators. It is not likely that anyone else will know the difference unless they ask about them or you explain it to them. Happy hamming.

~Terry Finn. AA6T.



photo K6WX



## BOOK REVIEW

## **Ham Radio's Technical Culture**

~Kristen Haring

Decades before the Internet, ham radio provided instantaneous, global, person-to-person communication. Hundreds of thousands of amateur radio operators—a predominantly male, middle- and upper-class group known as "hams"—built and operated two-way radios for recreation in mid twentieth century America. In *Ham Radio's Technical Culture*, Kristen Haring examines why so many men adopted the technical hobby of ham radio from the 1930s through 1970s and how the pastime helped them form identity and community.

Ham radio required solitary tinkering with sophisticated electronics equipment, often isolated from domestic activities in a "radio shack," yet the hobby thrived on fraternal interaction. Conversations on the air grew into friendships, and hams gathered in clubs or met informally for "eyeball contacts." Within this community, hobbyists developed distinct values and practices with regard to radio, creating a particular "technical culture." Outsiders viewed amateur radio operators with a mixture of awe and suspicion, impressed by hams' mastery of powerful technology but uneasy about their contact with foreigners, especially during periods of political tension.

Drawing on a wealth of personal accounts found in radio magazines and newsletters and from technical manuals, trade journals, and government documents, Haring describes how ham radio culture rippled through hobbyists' lives. She explains why hi-tech employers recruited hams and why electronics manufacturers catered to these specialty customers. She discusses hams' position within the military and civil defense during World War II and the Cold War as well as the effect of the hobby on family dynamics. By considering ham radio in the context of other technical hobbies--model building, photography, high-fidelity audio, and similar leisure pursuits--Haring highlights the shared experiences of technical hobbyists. She shows that tinkerers influenced attitudes toward technology beyond hobby communities, enriching the general technical culture by posing a vital counterpoint.

Kristen Haring is a visiting scholar in Columbia University's Department of History. She holds degrees in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in history of science from Harvard University. Haring's work has been recognized by the Society for the History of Technology, which awarded her the IEEE Life Members' Prize in Electrical History for portions of *Ham Radio's Technical Culture*. She has served on the board of directors of the Keith Haring Foundation since its creation by her brother in 1989.

This original 1926 license was found in one of the many donations to PAARA that I have taken care of over the years, (possibly by way of John Woehrle, W6KV, SK, who passed away a couple of years ago, in his 90's). Vincent W. DeRoco was not the original owner of this call however, since it is listed, in my June 30, 1921 'Amateur Radio Stations of the United States,' to H.A. Greene, living on Lighthouse Avenue in Monterey. My PAARA friend Art Bolton, NM6K, (SK licensed in 1921 as 6AGY), told me that in the early days the 'bureaucrats' got all the first two letter calls, and perhaps this was the case for a call that was given up so quickly. In any case, note that the license was good for only 2 years and power limits were halved if you lived near a naval or military base. Note item 5, still relevant today. Also note several limitations stamped in the margins.

*~Gerry Tucker, N6NV*

**Form 765**  
**Official call 5 C Q**

**ORIGINAL**

Number 69-a

**LICENSE FOR GENERAL**  
(General or restricted.)

This station is not licensed to transmit between the hours of 8:00 and 10:30 P.M. and no Sunday between 11:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. and is not authorized to broadcast news, music, lectures, sermons or any other form of entertainment.

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**BUREAU OF NAVIGATION**  
**RADIO SERVICE**

Stations authorized to use wave-lengths below 80 meters are unrestricted regarding hours of operation, unless interference is caused with the reception of other stations.

**Pursuant to the act to regulate radio communication, approved August 13, 1912,**  
**Vincent M. DeRosa**, age 27, a citizen of the State of California, county of Fresno, city or town Big Creek, street Box 342, No. \_\_\_\_\_, having applied therefor, is hereby granted by the Secretary of Commerce, for a period of 2 years, on and subject to the restrictions and conditions hereinafter stated and revocable for cause by him, this License to use or operate the apparatus for radio communication identified in the Schedule hereto annexed for the purpose of transmitting private radiograms or signals, notwithstanding the effect thereof extends beyond the jurisdiction of the State or Territory in which the said station is located: *Provided*, That no interference other than may result under the restrictions contained in this License shall be caused with the radio communication of stations of the Government of the United States or licensed stations.

2. The use or operation of apparatus for radio communication pursuant to this License shall be subject also to the articles and regulations established by the International Radiotelegraphic Convention, ratified by the Senate of the United States and caused to be made public by the President, and shall be subject also to such regulations as may be established from time to time by authority of subsequent acts and treaties of the United States.

3. The apparatus shall at all times while in use and operation be in charge of a person or persons licensed for that purpose by the Secretary of Commerce, and the operator of the apparatus shall not wilfully or maliciously interfere with any other radio communication.

4. The station shall give absolute priority to signals or radiograms relating to ships in distress; shall cease all sending on hearing a distress signal; and shall refrain from sending until all the signals and radiograms relating thereto are completed.

5. The station shall use the minimum amount of energy necessary to carry out any communication desired, and the transformer input shall not exceed one ~~kilowatt~~ kilowatt, equivalent if vacuum tubes are used.

6. The station shall not use a transmitting wave length exceeding 200 meters.

7. The station shall not use a transmitter during the first 15 minutes of each hour, local standard time, whenever the Secretary of Commerce by notice in writing shall require it to observe a division of the time, pursuant to the Twelfth Regulation of the act of August 13, 1912.

8. The President of the United States in time of war or public peril or disaster is authorized by law to close the station and cause the removal therefrom of all radio apparatus, or may authorize the use or control of the station or apparatus by any department of the Government upon just compensation to the owners.

9. The Secretary of Commerce and Collectors of Customs or other officers of the Government authorized by him may at all reasonable times enter upon the station for the purpose of inspecting and may inspect any apparatus for radio communication of such station and the operation and operators of such apparatus.

10. The apparatus shall not be altered or modified in respect of any of the particulars mentioned in the following Schedule except with the approval of a radio inspector, or other duly authorized officer of the Government.

CW, ICW and Phone authorized

Name of naval or military station, if within 5 nautical miles, \_\_\_\_\_

Type of transmitting apparatus: Vacuum tube

\*Power: Transformer input, 500 W. Antenna: Type (T, L, etc.) Inv. I

Height, 75 ft. (Above ground.) horizontal length, 80 ft.

Wires: Number in vertical part, 1; in horizontal part, 1

The normal sending and receiving wave length shall be 150 - 200 meters and the station is (Not exceeding 200) authorized to use the following additional wave lengths, not exceeding 200 meters: as noted in meters. margin.

This License expires on October 19, 1928, 19\_\_\_\_\_

**Pursuant to the act to regulate radio communication, approved August 13, 1912,**  
**Vincent M. DeRosa**, age 27, a citizen of the State of California, county of Fresno, city or town Big Creek, street Box 342, No. \_\_\_\_\_, having applied therefor, is hereby granted by the Secretary of Commerce, for a period of 2 years, on and subject to the restrictions and conditions hereinafter stated and revocable for cause by him, this License to use or operate the apparatus for radio communication identified in the Schedule hereto annexed for the purpose of transmitting private radiograms or signals, notwithstanding the effect thereof extends beyond the jurisdiction of the State or Territory in which the said station is located: *Provided*, That no interference other than may result under the restrictions contained in this License shall be caused with the radio communication of stations of the Government of the United States or licensed stations.

2. The use or operation of apparatus for radio communication pursuant to this License shall be subject also to the articles and regulations established by the International Radiotelegraphic Convention, ratified by the Senate of the United States and caused to be made public by the President, and shall be subject also to such regulations as may be established from time to time by authority of subsequent acts and treaties of the United States.

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9. The Secretary of Commerce and Collectors of Customs or other officers of the Government authorized by him may at all reasonable times enter upon the station for the purpose of inspecting and may inspect any apparatus for radio communication of such station and the operation and operators of such apparatus.

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Name of naval or military station, if within 5 nautical miles, \_\_\_\_\_

Type of transmitting apparatus: Vacuum tube

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This License expires on October 19, 1928, 19\_\_\_\_\_

HERBERT HOOVER,  
*Secretary of Commerce.*

D. B. CARSON  
*Commissioner of Navigation.*

Delivered by J. F. DILLON (*Reposee of Radio*)

Place SAMARITAN, CALIF. Date October 20, 1928, 10\_\_\_\_\_

1 Strike out "on" if the station be within 5 nautical miles of a naval or military station, otherwise strike out "one-half".  
\* Not to exceed 1,000, if the station is within a nautical mile of a naval or military station, not to exceed 600.  
\*\* If input power to vacuum tubes is not known, power should be considered as twice the output rating indicated by manufacturer.



Can anyone identify this tube? It is in the PAARA tube collection and the label says "Repaired by the Vacuum Tube Repair Co., 511 Perry Building, Oakland, California." Does it have any value? Should we start a PAARA website museum? de, N6NV



*photo K6WX*

## **SEMINAR & EXAM: AMATEUR ("HAM") RADIO**

**WHAT:** Amateur Radio ("Ham") License & Communications Course Study to pass a 35-question, multiple-choice FCC exam (no Morse code) to get a radio license to use certain frequencies as part of your community's emergency response.

**WHEN:** Every Tuesday 9/30-10/21:      Class 1: September 30: 6:30-9:00 pm      Class 2: October 7: 6:30-9:00 pm  
Class 3: October 14: 6:30-9:00 pm      Class 4 (FCC exam): October 21: 6:30-9:00 pm

**Also:** There will be a special Emergency Communications Training Class (ideal for new radio operators or those wishing to learn about ARES/RACES). See below.

**WHERE:** Menlo Park Fire Sta. 77: 1467 Chilco St.

**COST:** \$40.00      [make check payable to "Menlo Park Fire Protection District"]      [please bring your check to first class and give to Carol Parker]

\*\*\*Please write your phone # and e-mail address on the check\*\*\*

**MATERIAL:** The ARRL Ham Radio License book will be provided for this class.

**INSTRUCTORS:** David Fichou (Menlo Fire ARES) & Ken Dueker (Palo Alto P.D.)

**REGISTER:** Ken Dueker: [kdueker@powerflare.com](mailto:kdueker@powerflare.com)      Advise if you also wish to attend the Emergency Comm class.

Sponsored by: Menlo Park Fire Protection District CERT:      [www.menlofire.org/cert](http://www.menlofire.org/cert)

This course is open to the public but is designed for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Red Cross, and other emergency volunteers, including first responders. There is a maximum of 35 students for this class (priority for disaster volunteer members).

## **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CLASS:**

This class is designed for CERT members, ham radio operators, neighborhood teams, and others who want to learn about communications in a disaster. Covers all radio and communications systems, including Ham, FRS, police, fire, etc. You don't need a ham license for this class, but it is preferred.

**WHAT:** Emergency Communications Course for Ham Radio & CERT

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 28, 2008: 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

**WHERE:** TBA (Menlo Park area)

**COST:** FREE !

**BRING:** Your radio(s) & instruction manuals for them

**INSTRUCTORS:** David Fichou (Menlo Fire ARES) & Ken Dueker (Palo Alto P.D.)

**REGISTER:** Ken Dueker: [kdueker@powerflare.com](mailto:kdueker@powerflare.com)

Sponsored by: Menlo Park Fire Protection District CERT:      [www.menlofire.org/cert](http://www.menlofire.org/cert)

Learn More About ARES/RACES Ham Radio in your area:

Santa Mateo County: [www.k6mpn.org](http://www.k6mpn.org)

Santa Clara County: [www.scc-ares-races.org/aresraces.htm](http://www.scc-ares-races.org/aresraces.htm)

If you are in another area, search for your local ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator on [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

*~Info courtesy Ken Dueker, KB6BPM*

**PAARAGraphs—September 2008**  
**Celebrating 71 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937**

SPCL @ ARL \$ARLX008 ARLX008 FCC  
**Vanity Call Sign Fees to Increase September 25**

ZCZC AX08  
 QST de W1AW  
 Special Bulletin 8 ARLX008  
 From ARRL Headquarters  
 Newington CT August 26, 2008  
 To all radio amateurs  
 SB SPCL ARL ARLX008  
 ARLX008 FCC Vanity Call Sign Fees to Increase September 25

On August 11, the Federal Communications Commission announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 60 cents, from \$11.70 to \$12.30. Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 25, 2008.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term.

The notice in the August 26, 2008 Federal Register, entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2008," includes regulatory fees expected to recover a total of \$312,000,000 during FY2008, encompassing all the services the FCC regulates.

More information is available at,  
<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/08/11/10257/?nc=1>.

## WEB's

Recommended by PAARA Members  
*(Do you have one or more?)*

check this out for a great list of free, downloadable old electronics books! [www.pmillett.com/](http://www.pmillett.com/) ~Gerry Tucker N6NV

<http://www.n7yg.com/propnetpsk/index.html>

QST March page 95 and the above URL discusses an internet based beacon system that we'll all enjoy!  
 ~Jay WA6SBO/VE7 [wa6sbo@arrl.net](mailto:wa6sbo@arrl.net)

P.S. If you are using this for propagation data, you should also consider:

<http://hflink.com/>

You can run the software in receive-only mode and get the propagation info or join the group. It uses 160 through 2 meters and you really need an antenna that is resonant on all the bands you use/monitor.

~Orval Chadsey N6OZI San Francisco, CA

### CQ Ham friends de WA6SBO

jMelvin <[jMelvin@infoPATH.com](mailto:jMelvin@infoPATH.com)>

AddWednesday, April 23, 2008 4:06:18 AM

navbits\_finallink\_ltr.gif (1KB)

Haven't had opportunity to use this but it seems inevitable, i.e.,

digital sound card phone.

Let me know of any results. - 73, Jay

from: [QRZ.COM](http://QRZ.COM)

[QRZ Forums](http://QRZ Forums) > [QRZ Newsroom](http://QRZ Newsroom) > [Ham Radio News](http://Ham Radio News)

## Congratulations: August 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 PAARA Raffle Prize Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Ivan Beck / AE6XA / Grecom, PSR-300 Triple Trunking Scanning Receiver

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Doug Teter / KG6LWE / Yaesu FT-2800M / 2m / 65W / Mobile

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Mike Pechner / KI6QNZ/ Deltran Battery Tender

4<sup>th</sup> Prize: not available / PS-4 Power Pole Connector

5<sup>th</sup> Prize: Mark Meltzer / AF6IM / World Radio 1 Year Subscription

6<sup>th</sup> Prize not available / Sterling Deluxe Wire Stripper

7<sup>th</sup> Prize: Gary Barnes / KI6HIG / Northern California Repeater Directory

8<sup>th</sup> Prize: Gerry Tucker / N6NV / ARRL Minilog

**PAARA Members and Visitors: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of the exciting monthly raffles! Since Feb. 03, 128 Radios, including an Elecraft K3, a Yaesu FT-847, an Icom 706 MK IIIG, a Yaesu FT-897D, and TWO Elecraft KX1's have gone to Fellow Hams, THANKS TO YOU!**

PAARA had a remarkable year in 2007! If you aren't a member, please join PAARA now, and experience fun 2008 events with the "friendliest club around."

~ K6AK Jim



## PAARA September 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**PAARA “The Friendliest Club Around”**

**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.** [www.paara.org](http://www.paara.org)

**Date and Time: Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.**

**Menlo Park Rec. Center, 700 Alma St., Menlo Park, CA.**

**Welcome Members and Visitors / Raffle Prizes:**



**FIRST PRIZE: Yaesu VX-3R  
Dual Band VHF /UHF Transceiver**

- Ultra-compact and Light Weight / 1.9" X 3.2" X .9" / 4.6 ounces
- Designated Earphone Jack for FM Stereo Broadcast Listening
- Lithium-ion High-Capacity Battery and Charger
- Huge 1000-channel Memory Capacity
- Special Memory Banks - WX, VHF Marine, Shortwave Broadcast
- CW Learning and Training Feature



**SECOND PRIZE: Super Antennas MP1  
Portable HF 7- 450 MHz Antenna with Tripod**

- 3.5 - 4MHz with Optional Coil
- QRP to 200W Operation
- Adjust Slider to Frequency and Snug Down Band Lock Screw
- Portable / Easy to Set Up Operation

**THIRD PRIZE: FR-250 Emergency Radio / AM/FM/SW / with Flashlight**

**FOURTH PRIZE: Deltran Battery Tender / Auto Switch from Charge to Float / 12V**

**FIFTH PRIZE: World Radio 1 Year Subscription**

**SIXTH PRIZE: Sterling Deluxe Wire Stripper**

**SEVENTH PRIZE: Northern California Repeater Directory**

**EIGHT PRIZE: ARRL Minilog**

Since Feb. 03, 128 Radios, including an Elecraft K3, a Yaesu FT-847, an Icom 706,

MK IIIG, a Yaesu FT-897D, and TWO Elecraft KX1's have gone to Fellow Hams.

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

~K6AK Jim

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 At any meeting or [kg6lwe@arrl.net](mailto:kg6lwe@arrl.net)

**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 <sup>st</sup> Mon.	Pink Foster, KG6ILA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon.	Peter Sheerin, K6WEB
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon.	Doug Teter, KG6LWE
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon.	Terry Ridgeway, N6ZAG
5 <sup>th</sup> Mon.	Doña Kerns, KI6DAR



**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, 7:00pm 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 \$20.00 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

Permission is granted to reprint from this publication with appropriate source credit.

**Join us for pre-meeting eyeball QSO**  
**Sept 5th 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.*

**5:30 pm—at Su Hong Restaurant**  
**1039 El Camino Real**  
**Menlo Park**

*across from Kepler's Book Store*  
*on El Camino Real*  
*Walking distance from Caltrain!*

**PAARA Exemplary Service Award**

Gerry Tucker, N6NV 2005

Rice Family 2006

Jim K6AK, Lisa KG6KQS, Kyle KG6MSK

Wally Porter, K6EURO 2007

Vic Black, AB6SO 2008

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

**W6AZ**



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Submit material for PAARAGraphs by the 15th

Text: WORD, RTF, or ASCII  
Photos: JPEG or TIFF raster images

Missing PAARAGraphs, too many copies, wrong name or  
Call on label? Contact Database Manager:

Rick Melrose K6RDM, 408-732-2247, k6rdm@arrl.net

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).

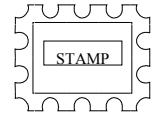
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

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 payable in advance by the year with "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads. Give payment and copy to Terry Finn, AA6T

**PAARAGraphs Ad Rates**

# **PAARAgraphs—September 2008**



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

# FIRST CLASS MAIL



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