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vol. 23

OCTOBER 5, 1979

# PAARA

## GRAPHS

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PALO ALTO  
AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSN.

MENLO PARK C.D. RADIO CLUB, K6YQT

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PAARAGraphs is the official organ of

The Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association and the Menlo Park Civil Defense Radio Club

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Membership in PAARA is \$4.00 per calander year (payable in January) which membership includes a subscription to PAARAGraphs. Interested others may subscribe to PAARAGraphs for \$1.00. Make payment to:

PAARA, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Written contributions to P.O. Box above or 1043 Del Norte Ave., Menlo Park, CA

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REGULAR MEETING

Friday

October 5, 1979

7:30 PM

FEATURES A PAARA ~  
MYSTERY  
GUEST FOR YOUR  
ENTERTAINMENT & AMAZEMENT

In addition to this exciting speaker, final preparations for the PAARA Auction and Flea Market which comes about on the following day.

CIRCLE THE DATE

Friday

October 5, 1979

7:30 PM

Menlo Park Recreation Center, Civic Center, Menlo Park

FUTURE MEETING DATES: November 2, December 7

PAST CORNER: Ed Johnson presented us with the story of OSCAR's past, present, and future. Included were some interesting recordings of stations and beacon signals from recent OSCAR passes. PAARA is fortunate to have someone as dedicated to satellite communications as Ed who is willing to not only entertain us, but also to put a nice bonus on our Field Day score each year.

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PICNIC HAPPENINGS: It's about time that PAARA had a picnic for members and their families. Save Sunday, October 21st for this great event. The location will be at Huddart Park on Kings Mountain Road in Woodside. The fun will run from 10 AM to 6 PM. It will cost you \$1 to get a carload into the park.

The club will provide some beer, soft drinks, and a barbecue fire. There will even be a door prize. Please bring your own plates, utensils, meat, and a potluck dish to share with six people. The potluck dish can be a salad, dessert, or ??

Bring the whole family for a fun day in the hills on Sunday, October 21.

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FAMOUS ANNUAL PAARA AUCTION AND FLEA MARKET!! Don't forget this date: October 6th. The doors open at 9 AM on Saturday at the AMPLEX Cafeteria on Bay Road in Redwood City. Rules are the same as last year. Take note of the fact that the commission on any auction item is 10% with a maximum of only \$5, so even if you have to buy back your own item to provide "price supports" you won't go broke. Flea market tables are still available for the inflation fighting price of only \$3.50. Get two and clean out your shack and your garage! This is a good opportunity to make some extra bread, sell unneeded gear, and to have a good time with this group of raconteurs.

We have already received some juicy raffle prizes courtesy of these fine people:

Halted Specialties--Klitzing 2 meter preamp kit

Hobbytronics--Super Slide mobile mount

Alltronics--A \$20 gift certificate

PAARA--A new 5 volt, 3 ampere power supply

...with more sure to come...

# # #

STIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST 1979.5: This is the year that ARRL moves this normally annual event to October. As a result, this is the second test this year. The date for the PAARA version will be Saturday, October 27th. Most groups will be running the test on the first weekend in October, but that conflicts with our auction. More details at the October meeting and in November PAARAGraphs.

WARC 79 convenes on Monday, 24 September, and will be in session for ten weeks. WARC stands for World Administrative Radio Conference; it's run by the International Telecommunications Union, a treaty organization of nearly 300 nations. This is the big one which sets international agreements about use of the RF spectrum until the year 2000, including the amateur bands. This is of special interest to PAARA since we submitted significant responses to FCC notices of inquiry on Docket 20271.

According to an article by Ted Cohen in CQ, about 154 countries will be represented at the conference. WARC will produce a treaty binding signing nations to use of the spectrum. Of the 154 countries, 41 submitted proposals far enough in advance so that Ted could analyze possible WARC impact on amateur radio. Here is a summary of his article, excerpted from CQ, September 1979, pp 31-39. (Remember that this is based on submissions from less than a third of the countries expected to be involved.)

1. Not much interest in a ham band at LF (160 to 200 kHz).
2. 160m - Looks good for some kind of band, maybe even a small slice exclusively for hams.
3. 80m - A chance we might lose the top end (3.9 to 4 MHz or a piece of it) to HF broadcasters.
4. 40m - Probably the most hotly disputed ham band; the HF broadcasters are really gunning for an exclusive slice of this one (anybody been on 7230 lately?)
5. Possible new band at 30m (10 to 10.3 MHz), but don't start designing transverters yet.
6. 20m - Fair chance this will stay as is.
7. Outside chance of a new band at 17m (18 to 18.5 MHz), but doesn't look good now.
8. 15m - Probably will remain as is, with an outside chance of downward expansion of 50 kHz (band from 20.95 to 21.45 MHz).
9. Glimmering chance of a new band at 12m (25.1 to 25.6 MHz). but don't count on it.
10. 10m - Looks as if this might survive in one piece.
11. 6m - Probably will remain (ITU Regions 2 and 3 only).
12. 2m - Good chance this one will survive, maybe receiving cuts in some countries (not U.S.)
13. 1.25m - Probably will be OK in ITU Region 2 (that's us), despite FCC's proposal to give primary use to maritime mobile service.
14. 70cm - This will be a hot issue; hams may lose a chunk here. There you have it - best guess available now. No chance of further input from anybody, so start counting your beads, swearing, holding your breath, or anything that might help. de Steve, K6FS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NET CORNER: The Northern California Net (NCN) is part of the National Traffic System (NTS) which is sponsored by the ARRL. Its purpose is to systematically handle formal messages which are noncompetitive with commercial services. Originating, delivering, and relaying messages is good practice in case of a disaster and it creates good public relations for amateur radio.

NCN meets each evening on 3630 kHz at 1900 and 2030 local time. The latter is the Slow Speed Training session. In addition to these CW sessions is the relatively new VHF session which meets at 1930 local time using WR6ADC 144.81 input and 145.41 output on FM.

A net control station is in charge of each session. After a short announcement, he asks for traffic going to RN6. Regional Net Six is the next higher echelon. It is the combination with the Southern California Net meeting at the same times on 3598 kHz. A liaison station takes the traffic going outside of Northern California to RN6. This station and the station with the traffic are asked by the net control to move off frequency, up or down, by 5, 10, or 15 kHz. Almost all stations use VFO's and most stations use complete break-in. That way, when a part of the message is not received, that station can "break" the other and ask for a repeat of the missing portion. This facility isn't necessary, but it helps. Then messages for localities within Northern California are reported and an attempt is made for the acceptance of these messages by those checking into the net. Others with RN6 traffic check in also and are asked to move off frequency to the spot where the liaison station is operating. Traffic handled on VHF is taken when entered (or shortly thereafter) on the repeater frequency.

Usually the NCN session on CW consists of about twelve or fifteen stations checking in. Many of them with nothing to originate or to accept, but just to show their willingness to help and to indicate to the net manager that they are available when needed. The Net Control Stations send reports of check-in stations to the manager of NCN.

The area covered by NCN is from Eureka in the north to Bakersfield in the south.

Traffic nets have "Q" signals that are different than the usual internationally accepted signals. Those most commonly heard are:

QNC All net stations copy.

QNE Entire net please stand by.

QNF Net is free.

QNI Please report into net, or I report into net.

QNP Unable to copy \_\_\_\_.

QNX You are excused from the net, or I request to be excused.

.....continued on next page.....

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NET QSP'ed from previous page...

Other "Q" signals frequently used are:

QRL Are you busy, or, I am busy.

QRT Shall I stop sending, or, stop sending.

QRV Are you ready, or, I am ready.

QSP Will you relay to \_\_\_\_\_, or, I will relay to \_\_\_\_\_.

QSV Send a series of V's.

QFA Cancel message number \_\_\_\_.

QIC I have \_\_\_\_ messages for the net.

QTH My location is \_\_\_\_\_.

A question mark following a "Q" signal makes it a question.

W6DEF has been a member of NCN for over twenty years and has acquired the Brass Pounders League Medallion. He did it the "easy" way by originating 100 messages each month for three months. These were "third party" messages--that is, were messages to people other than a ham radio operator. The "Grey Ladies" of the Sequoia Region American Red Cross, helped by asking those recovering from surgery in the Sequoia Hospital to send messages to their friends and relatives concerning their recoveries. The other way of getting a "BPL" is by relaying 500 messages a month for three months.

de Hal, W6DEF

(W6BFH notes that after a week of his checking into NCN (slow speed session) it was found that eight to ten stations were present. He took two messages for delivery, one to Menlo Park and one to Belmont. As a newcomer to traffic handling, and not being too hot a CW op, he found nothing but patience and consideration in the NCS and other ops. As a result of this limited activity, he gained a better knowledge of the characteristics and capabilities of his equipment.)

& & &

LICENSE CLASSES ABOUND in the area this fall.

West Valley ARA starts weekly Novice classes Wednesday, September 19th from 6 to 8 PM. Its weekly General class starts Friday September 21st from 7 to 9 pm. Both last 11 weeks and are held at Los Gatos Red Cross, 18011 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd.

Sequoia High School conducts (Novice?) classes Wednesdays starting September 19th. Hours are 7 to 9 PM and cost is \$20.

San Mateo Radio Club Novice class starts September 25th at the Beresford Rec. Center on Alameda in San Mateo. Classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 6 PM. Fee is \$5 plus material

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This issue prepared by N6RY, plenipotentiary editor, on a Lanier word processor. Regale, ye fuzzy visionaries, in the largeness of the typefont on the QUME printer, for it will not persist!

1952 ANNUAL 1979

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

# AUCTION & FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6 10:00 a.m.

AMPEX Cafeteria, Next to Bldg. 1 Bay Road  
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HAM RADIO GEAR

ELECTRONIC PARTS

TEST EQUIPMENT

RAFFLE PRIZES

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#### HERE ARE THE RULES

1. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. AUCTION AND FLEA MARKET START AT 10:00 a.m.
2. Register at desk, obtain your AUCTION LOT NUMBER or FLEA MARKET TABLE. Then bring your gear into the cafeteria. There will be monitors and hand trucks to help move your equipment into place.
- PLEASE STAY OFF THE GRASS
3. Buyers must register for bidding during the AUCTION.
4. AUCTION lot numbers will be issued in sequence of registration and auctioned in that order.
5. CHARGES: 10% of sale price of auctioned items will be retained by PAARA. \$5 max. If you buy back your own equipment, this fee applies. Flea Market tables are \$3.50 each.
6. LIMITS: Auction material will be limited to 5 lots per person the first time around. If time permits, additional material may be put up for auction.
7. IDENTIFICATION: In addition to his lot number, owner should attach information on material to be sold, such as
  - a. Description of item, frequency range, power required, etc.
  - b. Condition of item: operating, needs repair, not known.
8. DONATIONS: PAARA is a non-profit organization and donated equipment will be welcomed. Funds raised from donated equipment will help defray Club expenses.
9. DURING THE AUCTION: Buyers must show their registration number to record their purchase.
10. PAYING AND RECEIVING: Buyers and sellers will make their payment and collect money due at the TREASURER'S DESK. Buyers are urged to settle promptly after each purchase.

To reach AMPEX from BAYSIDE or EL CAMINO take WOODSIDE ROAD to BAY ROAD (located two blocks west of BAYSIDE), turn south four blocks to the AMPEX parking lot. The cafeteria is just south of Building No. 1.



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