

Oct 78

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Andy Korsak VE3FZK/W6
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PAARA P.O. BOX 911
MENLO PARK, CA. 94025

vol. 22
1978

PAARA

GRAPHS



palo alto
AMATEUR
RADIO ASSN.

MENLO PARK C.D. RADIO CLUB, K6YQT

OCTOBER 1978

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VOLUME 22 NUMBER 10

PAARAGraphs is the official organ of the PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO
ASSOCIATION and the MENLO PARK CIVIL DEFENSE RADIO CLB

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PAST CORNER: The second alternate speaker, Tom, VE2AGF, overcame the shock of having no meeting place to describe NBVM, invented by Professor Harris of UOP. Tape recordings showed the improvement of NBVM over FM on 2-meters. The untechnical talk was heard by about 30. The missing members won't know what they're listening to until they hear it. For those who have almost everything, units will be on the shelf in time for Christmas.

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NEAR CORNER: REGULAR MEETING OCT. 6, 1978

"Will of the Gods - a View of our World from Space"

by H. Paul Shuch, N6TX

The simultaneous emergence of the Microwave and Aerospace technologies has brought Space Communications out of the realm of science fiction, and into our daily lives — all in less than a generation. It's no secret that radio amateurs have played a prominent role in this technological revolution.

Paul has been intimately involved in the development of both amateur and commercial microwave Space Communications systems. In this fifty minute illustrated lecture, he traces the emergence of satellite systems to monitor the earth's weather, resources and environment. Much of the presentation focuses on the design and fabrication of receiver systems to recover signals from space. Throughout the talk, emphasis is placed on identifying those microwave receiving techniques which were first developed by radio amateurs, and relating industrial and government practices to those currently employed by radio amateurs in microwave experimentation.

"Will of the Gods" is illustrated by 80 color transparencies showing details of satellite systems and ground receiving stations including dozens of satellite down-link images of the earth's surface and atmosphere. The presentation concludes with a demonstration of actual microwave satellite reception, with those in attendance encouraged to try their hand at operating the equipment.

MENLO PARK RECREATION CENTER, off ALMA ST. across from the Ball park. 7:30 p.m. "Will of the Gods", refreshments and raffle.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1978, 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

BOARD CORNER: The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Oct. 11 the first Wednesday following the Meeting. The Club trailer still has work to be done on it but at the last observation, it still appears save for ten to twelve participants. Six usually are there, sometimes discussing other than Club matters. Swede, KA6BEU, was absent and he, like others interested, will never know what went on other than: 1. Recognition should be given to Carl and Shirley for the use of their site for Field Day. Gerry, W6NIR, said he'd take care of it. 2. Preparation for the Auction and Flea Market, Saturday, Oct. 7, at AMPEX Cafeteria, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. was continued with the development of committees for the assurance of convenience to buyers and sellers and success for the club. And if you think that took two hours, you're a little mistaken. Visit sometime and see how the time flies.

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HOLIDAY CORNER: The September meeting, held on Admission Day, the lesser of two holidays, proved to be a surprise. The Recreation Center was closed. The early part of the business meeting, held in the Theater-in-the-Round, was transferred to a room in the Gymnasium, found for us by the Menlo Park Police Department. There, with members barefooted and standing, sitting and sprawling on wrestling mats and exercise pads, the Oct. 7 Flea Market and Auction was discussed. Auctioneering will be handled by Bob, K6SEM, and Ken, WA6NYB. Volunteers for manhandling gear on carts, hand trucks, coaster wagons and wheelbarrows were found; refreshments were assured; tagging of equipment was stressed, and advertising continued. Raffle prizes were being gathered by Gerry, WA6LNV.

Name tags were available. One was presented to Jack, N6YV, but Steve, K6FS, will have to wait yet another month for his, and Clay, K50SQ, was absent. Six orders for name tags were taken by Gerry, WA6LNV, and Fred, K6YT, hopes they'll be ready for the meeting October 6, the day before the Auction and Flea Market at AMPEX.

* * *

NOVICE CORNER: Our Novice members are decreasing. Congratulations to Ken, WB6RRP, who got the hard half of the General ticket by passing the written part. A little more work on the code and he'll have it. Last word was that he's a Technician and looking for 2-meter gear with 147.45 simplex crystals to prove it.

TECHNICIAN CORNER: Why wasn't Ken listed here?

GENERAL CORNER: We're waiting to put him here!

ADVANCED CORNER: And then here.

EXTRA CORNER: Al, AG6D, ex WA6ATB, picked up his new call by proving he could copy 20 wpm and knew more than a little theory. Congratulations, Al. AG6D? Don't anybody forget it.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS CORNER: Al, AG6D, (above) joined the club at the September meeting. His QTH: 1710A Marshall Ct., Los Altos, 94022. Phone 969 1083. Before being WA6ATB he was W7NMF. He's active on the Club 2-meter net and works 20 CW

Bill, WB6LML, has moved. His new QTH: 2068 St. Francis, Palo Alto, 94303. No phone at this writing.

Alas and Alac: No attendance record was made at the September meeting because of the General Confusion the presided. If there were visitors they'll have to come to the October meeting to be recognized. Thinking on that: if we had visitors they are pretty curious people if they do come back!

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NOMINATIONS CORNER: With the end of the year rapidly approaching, a nominating panel for the 1979 Officers will be selected so that nominations can be made at the November 3rd meeting and elections can be held at the December 1st meeting. Being an Officer is more than meets the eye. It's fun. If you have any inclination to hold one of the posts (Bob, W6BFH, says: "especially the President's") let any board member know. A tentataive panel was selected at the Board Meeting but the names are here with-held pending nctification of next-of-kin.

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PARTY CORNER: Time to plan a Christmas party? The forzits and againits will be given equal time for discussion at the October 6 meeting. Gerry, WA6LNV, expects to have a site and menu (or whatever the plural of menu is) available then.

STATE OF THE ART CORNER: Keeping up with the "state of the art" is nice. It may, however, be expensive if you are not sure of what you are doing. The 3-wire fuzes and 16 legged centipedes that come gushing out of Silicon Gulch are frequently tender and difficult to test.

For the new-comer, nothing is more forgiving than a vacuum tube. At a dime apiece at flea markets, they last a long time, can be abused and really can turn out to be a hot little handful with no adverse developments.

Tube equipment provides an excellent training ground for the novice or for the general who has not quite got his feet wet. It can be built in a size that is easy to comprehend and the parts that go into it are as inexpensive as the tubes. A TV of the early vintage can supply most parts needed for a HF transmitter—later models do well except for a power transformer—also available at flea markets, or for free from someone who has progressed to semiconductors.

The sheet metal work that used to be tedious and required a shop, or at least a source of supply, can be simplified by using copper-clad p.c. boards. Shields can be cut from the board and soldered together to make the proper sized boxes. The material cuts easily with almost any fine toothed saw, files nicely and can be drilled cleanly. 1/8" board is ideal for bases, 1/16" for shielding. J&H in San Carlos has a lot of the material and at last pricing ran about a penny a square inch.

A big box, husky tubes and resistors and capacitors you can see makes servicing a dream. If the rig quits, look for smoke, burned parts, dripping wax, and maybe even squirting electrolytic fluid. Make a few voltage and current checks and the problem is found.

A far cry from looking at that 2 ounce 4" x 6" p.c. board jammed with parts soldered to within 1/16" of what's no longer doing the work.

Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder.

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PAARA NET CORNER: 147.45 mHZ, Monday, 8:30 p.m. Our faithful 15 members participated Sept. 19. We have had as many as 20 but a good number of those just checked in and didn't enter into the fun. You become an "old timer" by talking. A few consecutive weeks and everyone will wonder why you miss a session. The 20/15-meter net has been on vacation because Rick, WA6NCX has been close to home. We'll wait for word from Rick or Gerry, W6NIR, who is the west coast favored contact for word of its resumption. A fine place to get comparative signal-strength reports--always gentle, mostly kind.

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AUCTION CORNER: Talk it up, polish up the gear you haven't used in the past couple months and bring it to the AUCTION. For club members

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the PAARA Flea Market Table. Club members may also buy back their auctioned items for 10% up to a \$5.00 charge as an encouragement to place good equipment up for grabs. So bring your Novice oriented gear, that spare scope, the vertical you've replaced with a beam, and the beam you've replaced with a vertical, your spare grid-dip meter, swr bridge and those 4X1500X's with sockets you've stashed away for use "some day". Coffee and doughnuts by the box and pot, raffle prizes and a good time should be had by all. AMPEX Cafeteria, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 pm, Saturday, October 7.

FLEA MARKET CORNER: Sept. 30, 1978, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., SPARKS, at Philco Ford parking lot, Fabian Way, Palo Alto—off 101, just north of San Antonio Rd. This is the one mentioned last month with a wrong date. Sorry about that. The rumor was accepted with faith.

Oct. 7, 1978, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., PAARA at AMPEX Cafeteria, just south of Building 1 on Bay Road, 4 blocks south of Woodside Rd. See enclosed flier.

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UNCLASSIFIED CORNER: Abandoned this month. Bring what might have been entered here to the PAARA Asuction and Flea Market. By golly, it's sure difficult to get in a word about the Flea Market and Auction in this rag.

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ROSTER CORNER: The autumn 1978 Club Roster will be printed in the November issue of PAARAGraphs. Those who are paid members through 1978 will be included.

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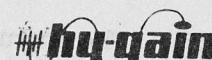
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