

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #320
MENLO PARK, CA. 94025

To:

RETURN REQUESTED:
PAARA P.O. BOX 911
MENLO PARK, CAL.
94025



AFFILIATED CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO
STATION W60TX

VOL. XVIII

1974

PAARA GRAPHS

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

MENLO PARK CIVIL DEFENSE RADIO CLUB, K6YQT

Jan. 74

VOL. VIII.

JANUARY, 1974

No. 1

PIARA is the official organ of the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association and the Menlo Park Civil Defense Radio Club. Published monthly (thank goodness not weekly!)

Editor-in-chief: Richard Ferranti WA6NCA

Chief Assistant: Gary Perazzo K6LVJ

Cover design: B. Raap

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER GUNK

- 1) Membership dues in PIARA (only) include a subscription to PIARA at \$5. What more can you want??
- 2) Annual dues are \$4.00 and are probably due this month.
- 3) Members will be dropped from our mailing list when their dues expire -- dues or on a calendar year basis.
- 4). Subscriptions to this great literary mast piece is only 1.00 a year, which is terribly dirt cheap and nowadays won't even buy six (6) less intelligible newspapers!

Non-subscribers will be dropped from our mailing list as new names are added.

SEND ALL MAILIES, CASH, CHECKS, LOOT ETC. TO:

PIARA P.O. BOX 911, Menlo Park, Calif.

Articles to: Rick Ferranti, 1234 Santa Cruz Ave., MP 94025
415-324-1539 WRITE WRITE WRITE WRITE

PAARA PICKIN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SUCH

HAPPY NEW YEAR! HOPE EVERYONE HAD A NICE CHRISTMAS!
(even if you didn't get that S line...)

OUR NEXT MEETING: DON't miss this one -- Date: January the 4th, 1974. place: Menlo Park Recreation Center, at 7:30 PM local time.

PROGRAM: A demonstration of SRI's new Ultrasonic Camera by Dr. Phil Green. This fantasitic new device will eventually replace X-rays -- no radiation hazard or nasty stuff like that. Can also see living flesh (!), videotapes will be shown.

THE BORN-ON-DIRECTORS WILL MEET: At 7:30 PM local time in the antique trailer (if it's still standing) on January 9, 1974. SRI parking lot. Come.

After two (2) months of cramming his head full of scholastic matters, ye olde editor returns to pull PAARAGRAPHS out of the muck and mire. For at least one month. So onward and upward!

CLUB DUES are now payable after the first of the year. Pay up at the next meeting or send to P.O. Box 911, in Menlo Park. Any dues received at the editor's home address are definately not insured against theft, deception, subtreuge, or Watergate!

DID YOU KNOW THAT: In spite of galloping inflation, the energy crunch, stocks, etc. etc. the dues and even subscription rates are exactly the same in PAARA. How 'bout dat? Hence before we yield to blessed temptation and up the price -- renew!!!

ALSO: Members who are in good standing (i.e. are actually Paid Up) are entitled to get free (cost: \$0.00) ads on any of their ham junk either wanted, or to sell. Where else but in PAARAGRAPHS???

MORE_PAARA_PICKIN'S (AND_LOTS_OF_GOOD_INFORMATION)

Dave Sailor, WA6DFM, has a code practice session for beginners or otherwise way up there in Belmont. If you are interested, contact him at 591-2357. He is looking for gear for some of the kids he coaches -- do you have a clean HW-16 or something similar you could sell? You'd help a novice -- contact Dave! While on the same subject, EMARC has code practice for the other end of the mid-peninsula -- contact Fred Canham, K6YT, or Fred Barry, K6RTU, 948-8086 for information.

Ed Fairbanks, W6AIN, a very trustworthy soul, informs us that it's only a rumor -- the club is not planning to use hand generators for SET or field day -- so plan to join the gang. We're not energy crunched THAT bad.

WB6WSL, the EMARC club, has its first anniversary on the 8, 9, and 10th of February. Work their station and you get a free commemoration QSL. More info later.

The Powder Puff Derby for 1974 is called off -- fuel cuts!

Cold and Lonely on a Monday Night?? Check into the PAARA Net on 145.24mHz AM at 8:15 PM local time. Lots of fun, ragchewing, hot scoops. Almost as good as the 807.

Did you know that: While ye olde editor attends the U. of Santa Clara he is also known to operate from the club station there -- WA6YMA. We've got all sorts of gear -- even a KWM with linear -- and are located in the physics building. Drop by for an eyeball sometime.

--*-*-*-*-*-*

PAARA -- THE MORE YOU PARTICIPATE, THE MORE FUN IT IS

Vance Wardlow, W6FLE, is ill with some horrendous sickness. He'd be happy to receive a card. Glen Baker, W6UCK, is having problems with his legs -- it would be nice to give some Christmas cheer to him also. Both good PAARA members.

-----*****-----

HERE IT IS (Finally) THE NEW OFFICERS!!!

(at least most of them)

FOR PAARA: Pres. Fred Canham, K6YT
V. Pres. Mike Eccles G3PPE/W6
Sec. Hal Moore W6DEF
Treas. Paul Churchill W6QBY
Trustee W6OTX PAARA club station:
Vance Wardlow W6FLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Chairman: Fred Canham K6YT
Sec'y: Hal Moore W6DEF

Members: Ed Fairbanks W6AIN
Andy Korsak VE3FZK/W6
Paul Thekan ex-WN6DQU
Tom Ohlsson WB6KQZ

Menlo Park C-D Radio Club: Pres. Fred Canham K6YT

The rest of the officers will be listed next issue, since I don't have them all yet (hmmm...) At any rate, it will be in PAARAGRAPHS every issue from now on since I've had all sorts of subtle little hints from Fred et al to do so.

-----*****-----

This being the fourth issue I've put together, and since this is the end of the year when everyone gets sentimental (and sometimes inebriated..!) I would like to thank Vance, Ed, Fred, Jerry Cady and Starkey, Gary, and everyone else whose helped me get this crazy paper into a semi-literate form. What I would want for the new year is for more people to write articles on anything -- your experiences with some circuit, new antennas, nostalgia about "the good old days" and/or etc. Write me ... I read just about anything -- and it will probably get published. Tnx.

PAARAGRAPHS--read every good word. I do. Yes. Especially:

MINUTES OF THE LAST BOARD MEETING
(Which cleverly leads into one of our most important events...the SET) Tnx to Hal W6DEF

Meeting commenced at 8PM local time, with Ed Fairbanks, Mike Eccles, Hal Moore, Fred Canham, Gary Perazzo, Paul Thekan, and Rick Ferranti present.

Committee reports and letters announced, with the Board duly noting the proceedings of same.

New business brought up about the SET. Hal was concerned about our mobiles zooming around eating up precious (and \$\$\$) gasoline. We decided that, after much good discussion, we will keep the mobiles but restrict same to preplanned or scheduled runs. This way messages can be handled with minimum juice. All very much in view of the energy shortage. After a discussion of frequencies, etc., (which is listed later in this issue--be sure to read it and plan NOW to participate) the Board unanimously voted to pay for Hal's SET mailings.

Following that was a discussion on antennas for 2 and 6 meters (remember six?). At which time we also spoke of equipment for those VHF bands. Then we moved on to an interesting topic -- the 1974 Calendar. First on the list is, of course, SET. Then we plan to have Field Day. We are still looking for two more major events -- either operating or social. Any ideas?

On that head-scratching note the meeting was kaput at 9:45PM, plenty late. It was a goodie.

Don't forget to watch for clear skies, get away from the glare of city lights, and have an eyeball QSO with the Kohoutek Comet, remembering all the wonders of the Christmas story, the Christmas spirit, and everything else that lifts human consciousness up and beyond the rat-race world. (A very good ((and long)) sentence from MDARC Carrier 1

ALL ABOUT THE SET _ THE SET _ THE SET

de Hal W6DEF

The annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will occur Saturday and Sunday January 26th and 27th. This is a nation-wide test sponsored by the ARRL. Along with the AREC and the RACES groups, our own Redwood City Civil Defense and Disaster Communications Service and the Menlo Park Civil Defense Club will participate.

The two Radio Officers, Dick Collins, K6ANN and Bob Allen, W6WQD will decide when and for how long W6WWJ of Redwood city and K6YQT of Menlo Park will operate. K6OTR of the Golden Gate Chapter, Sequoia region, will be on the air also. We need participants.

Several additional items of interest have been added to the SET this time. In your message to the SEC or the State Radio Officer be sure to state that you are operating under emergency power if indeed you are.

Besides the usual message to the above named persons you are invited to send one or two other messages to friends or relatives. By using the ARRL suggested text list a great number of messages can be handled by the C.D. station.

Mobiles will be responding to scheduled traffic, both deliveries and pickups. Skeds on the air, eyeball, or even landline keep gas consumption to a minimum.

We'll be sending messages from the C.D. authorities of the various localities to the Office of Emergency Services and from the Red Cross to their Headquarters. Also Radio Officers will originate messages to the ARRL HQ in Conn.

All of this will be published in the Redwood City Tribune and the Menlo Park Recorder.

We had 93 hams take part in the 1971 SET. In 1972 we had 75 and last January we had 89 participating. Let's try for a hundred or more this year. Participate!

Wishing you the usual "ARRL Fifty Eight" which means in Plain English: "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

NEXT PAGE: TIMES FREQS ETC.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

(it's easy and even fun)

de Hal Moore W6DEF
E.C. for the Redwood
City and M.P. area
for the ARRL.

ALL SORTS OF INFO (HOT SCOOPS) ON THE SET. de WA6NCX

- 1) It's NO FUN if no one sends any messages! No one likes to sit in front of a hot Gonset if he can't blab a message to anyone. So get on the air and talk to us!
- 2) Don't worry if you've never sent a message before. Last year was my first attempt (on CW yet!) and everyone was only too glad to help. The phone number at the trailer is 326-6200 ext. 2666 if your on-the-air problems become insurmountable. Look in QST if you want some pointers, too.
- 3) We will be on the air, using the call K6YQT, on Saturday, January 26th, from 10:30 AM local time to 4:30PM local time.
- 4) The frequencies will be 145.24 mHz on AM for the VHF gang (even a Two'er will work if you can copy us with the blasted thing) and also 3908 kHz SSB CW or AM for the D.C. band crowd. If you can't make it on 145.24, try 145.49 mHz and W6WWJ might get your message to us.
- 5) On Sunday W6WWJ will take over, so plan to participate on Saturday to be involved with our club.
- 6) This really isn't a contest, but you do get extra points for the club by operating with power independent from good old P,G,&E. So pull out the old QRP rig and buy some fresh batteries to send us your messages.
- 7) Messages can be to anyone, although local traffic is preferred. I sent a message to my sister in Prince George British Columbia and it even Got There! (it took 2 months, but it got there...). Messages to relatives, even your mother-in-law, are most welcome.
- 8) Once again, on that great Saturday, sit down and fire up the Swishing Clobber all-band QRP or otherwise rig and send us a message. It's fun ... and we need you to
 PARTICIPATE!!!!!!
- 9) By the way, we need operators at our trailer -- so drop by that Saturday and offer to operate one of the transmitters. It'll be a great experience.

PARTICIPATION IS WHAT WE NEED ** DO IT IN THE SET!

The following article was taken (more or less) from the EMARC relay, the work of Jerry Starkey, WA6LIJ.

PROFILES IN PRINT: A BIOGRAPHY OF A CLUB MEMBER
This one is about Fred Canham, our president....

Fred was born and raised in Oakland, and first licensed as W6QWF in 1938. About the turn of 1972, the FCC issued the now infamous K6YT to this very active ham.

He studied radio communication at Loney College in Oakland and began his career with Pan Am at the Treasure Island Teletype Communication center. December 7, 1941 found Fred operating the ground station on Midway Island some 1,300 miles northwest of Honolulu. (Not too healthy for Americans in those waters at that time.) On 26 December of '41, he departed Midway to begin 1 year in a Honolulu ground station, and then began flying as a radio operator on Pan American flying boats. The China Clipper, Philippine Clipper, PB2Y and PBM were history making amphibian craft aircraft in those days. Following W.W.II, Fred was a crew-member of the ill-fated Philippine Clipper. Typically, a flight from San Francisco to Honolulu required 18 hours (2,392 miles). But on one occasion, jet head winds were so high in velocity that the flight took 25 hours and 23 minutes and even then they were forced to land at Hilo, Hawaii -- several hundred miles from Honolulu. They saw the sun rise twice between take-off and landing. Another crew flew the Philippine Clipper back to San Francisco with a tail wind in 11½ hours; however, bad weather prevented them landing in the Bay Area and subsequently caused a crash in which all hands were lost.

Bonanza Airlines, Ampex, and Granger then enjoyed Fred's talents. While at Granger he helped to develop ionospheric sounders for NASA, Japan, and Taiwan. More recently, Fred helped to design and install the broadcast and recording studio system in the First Baptist Church of San Jose. At present he is the supervisor of the Protection Equipment Departments of the Bank of America.

Fred and his lovely XYL, Lynn, are parents of a very active 12 year old daughter, Kathy. A big old
(con't next pg.)

Golden Retriever is the master of the house.

On the ham bands you can find Fred on the SPECS net and the 2 meter Palo Alto Net (rah!) ; Thursdays on the net for ex-Pan American Flight Operators and on Saturdays/Sundays on scheduled 40 and 80 meter SSB. But on Sunday and Wednesday nights, he is active on the 160 meter AM Igarote Net. Just in case you haven't heard the term before, "Igarote" means Philippine Head Hunter. One would imagine the expected life of net breakers is somewhat less than what the insurance tables predict! Fred helped to form this net in 1938 while in high school.

Fred is, of course, president of PAARA, past president of the Ampex club, delegate to the CCRC and very active on the Field Day Committee. So you can see why he's been president of the club for the past two years -- he's doggone good!

Speaking of 160 meters -- did you know that the band is actually harboring real live hams? Take a listen down there sometime (hopefully with the receiver BFO turned off) and you'll hear the last of the High-frequency AM'ers down there. And it's fun too. What with selective fading, the lousy "slop-bucket" stations, and (is nothing sacred) contests one has a real ball just trying to hear what the guy is saying. But really, a listen around 1830, 1820, or 1815 kHz will yield a lot of activity. In the early evening there is too much LORAN garbage to hear anything much higher than that. But fire up the old AM rig (if it's AM it probably has 160 on it) and the SX-38A you've never sold for 40 years and try your hand at some of the very interesting characters on the band.

Sordid note: If you put up a long wire with bow and arrow such as I did -- be careful not to skewer birds, squirrels, or neighbors with the winged shaft!!!

Since my First Assistant had half the paper filled with "Why is John Hubbell" last issue, we'll postpone the next chapter until the February effort.
(Did I hear a sigh of relief??)

Are you a novice who's recently upgraded? If so, let me know and I'll put something about it in the paper. From personal experience -- it is a major achievement.

A CRYSTAL CALIBRATOR WITH A VACUUM TUBE

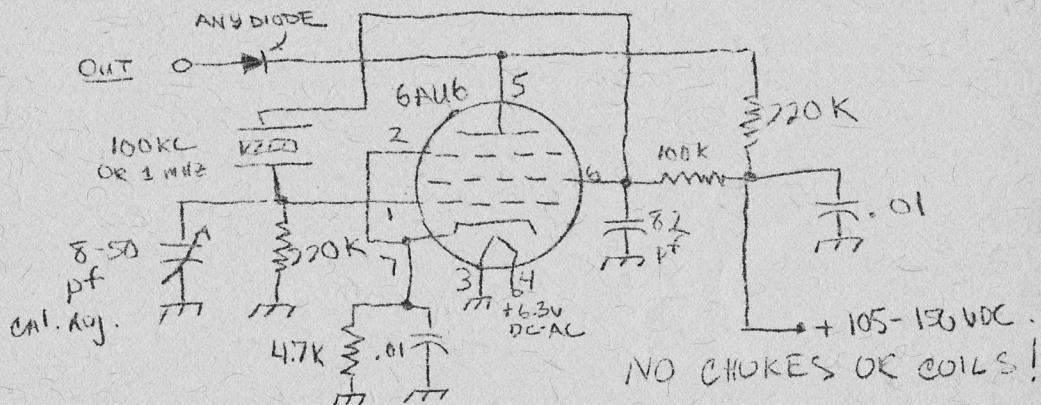
(or The good old 6AU6)

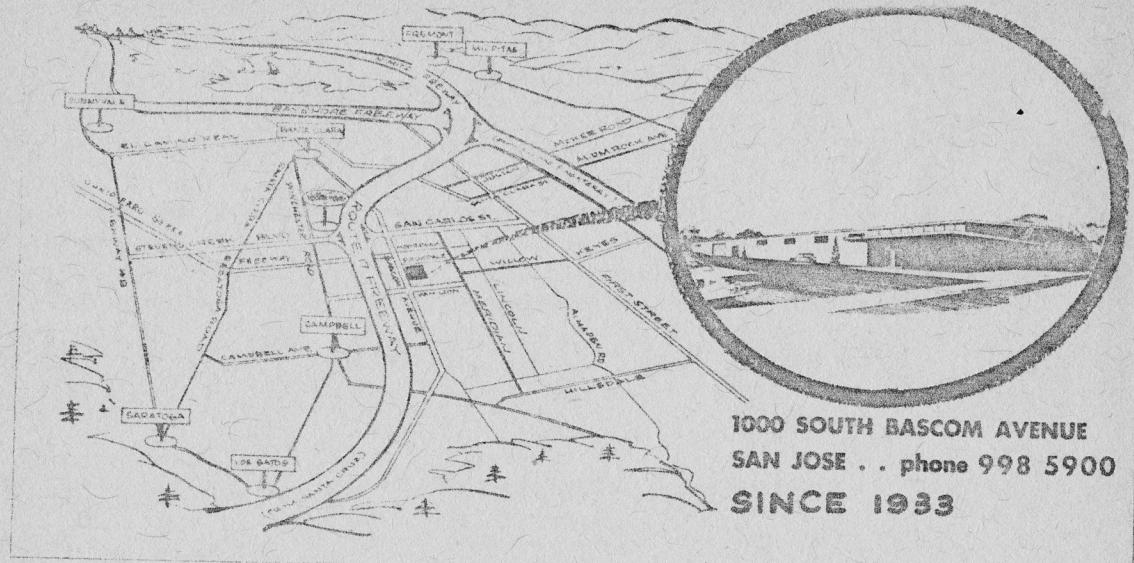
By WA6NCX*

*but "borrowed" from my SX-111

I am increasingly convinced that the integrated circuit is nothing more than a 14 or 16 pin protection device -- commonly called a fuse. If I couldn't get a transistorized oscillator to work, the IC version of this circuit was even more disasterous. Hence the funny bottle with the pretty glow. And hence a calibrator that WORKS!

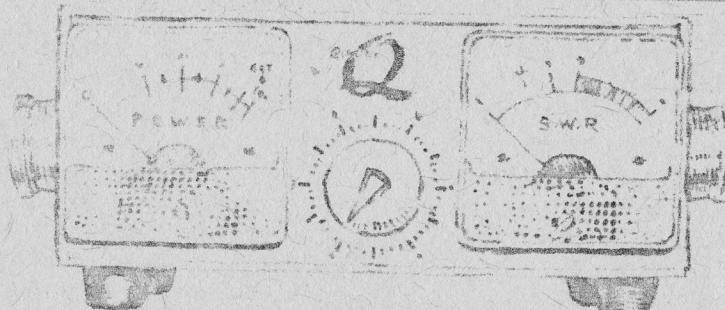
With 150 volts of B+ at only a few mils, the circuit oscillates equally well for 100kHz x-cals or 1 mHz rocks with no changes necessary. FB stuff for my SX-71.





**1000 SOUTH BASCOM AVENUE
SAN JOSE . . phone 998 5900
SINCE 1933**

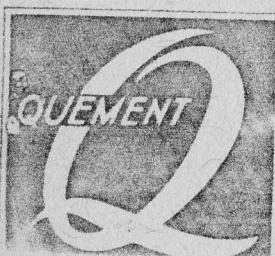
SWB-2



\$19.95

**SWR BRIDGE READS FORWARD & REFLECTED POWER
SIMULTANEOUSLY 'EASY READ' METERS SIZE 5X2X2
DUAL 100-MICROAMP METER MOVEMENTS
LOW INSERTION LOSS MAY BE LEFT IN LINE UP TO 2,000 WATTS'**

All roads lead to Quement Electronics



**40,000 SQ. FT. OF ELECTRONIC PARTS,
COMPONENTS, TUBES AND ACCESSORIES.**

- ANTENNAS • NEW SERVICE DEPT.
- HAM CEAR • ACOUSTIC SOUND DEMONSTRATION ROOM
- CITIZEN'S BAND • COMPLETE STEREO HI-FI DEPT.
- COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS SUPPLY
- BANKAMERICARD • FIRST NATIONAL • MASTERCHARGE

**3 TO 150 MHZ
ADD \$1.25 FOR POSTAGE**

1000 SO. BASCOM AVENUE, SAN JOSE

998-5900