

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Celebrating 78 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*



ERIC SWARTZ WA6HHQ

ELECRAFT KX-3 Features & Developments

Do not miss this evening with Elecraft's Eric Swartz talking about the PAARA Raffle 1st prize **Elecraft KX-3**. Eric will talk about Elecraft new products, firmware, sponsored K3 DXpeditions, and many other interesting topics.

December 4th, 7:00 PM

Upcoming Events

- Dec 4 PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Jan 8 Cubberly Community Center, Room
- Feb 5 H-6, 400 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
- Dec 16 Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Jan 20 Everyone welcome! Round
- Dec 16 Table Pizza Parlor in Menlo
- Jan 22 FARS / PAARA Winter Banquet



great experience for everyone! One thing that distinguishes our club is our PAARAtours. This year we were able to have two: The Computer History Museum and Niles Canyon Railway. The Computer History Museum tour got us behind the scenes with some fellow hams as docents. We got to see the IBM 1401 in action and the PDP-1 as well. I thought it was a wonderful look at the history makes Silicon Valley what it is today. The Niles Canyon Railway trip let us ride the rails of history that marked the expansion of commerce in the East Bay in the late 19th Century. We followed that up with a BBQ at Lake Elizabeth on a perfect late summer day. For Field Day, we had our fantastic site in Menlo Park at Bedwell Bayfront Park, and another successful contest run, placing 3rd in 4A overall. The best part of that experience for me is to see so many PAARA members setting up and tearing down what is almost certainly the premier West Coast FD category A station. Of course, it's also a great time to see our crack PAARA ops in action. This year, the sunset was like nothing I'd ever seen before. Just spectacular. The PAARA sponsored ASVARO Electronics Flea market was a great success, even with us doing it right before FD. We made some

(President — Continued on page 5)

President's Corner

December 2015

It's the end of the year already. This is the final issue of PAARAgraphs for 2015, and we are wrapping up another great year for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association. The year isn't quite over either. The December PAARA meeting yet again promises to be a grand finish before we start the new year. We also had a very interesting visit to the Palo Alto KFS transmitting site. Don't forget also that coming up in January is the Winter Banquet.

We've had great events at PAARA this year from a fantastic Field Day, wonderful speakers, tours, to a successful Flea Market. This is only possible because of our membership's enthusiasm. Thank you all for making this year another



PAARAYear 2015

If you slept through the year, you missed a fun filled PAARAYear. Thanks go out to all that participated in the various and many activities throughout the year. All these activities are what help “make” PAARA the wonderful club it is. There were hundreds of pictures to pick from for this small story on the past year making it challenging to select so few.

The year started with the PAARA/Fars; Fars/PAARA Banquet in late January. It gave a chance for the two clubs to gather, reflect on the holidays and look forward to the New Year.



The PAARApLink followed in February. Club members were able to bring their small arms out and squeeze off a few rounds. As tradition stipulates, the event was followed by another great PAARABBQ.



There was a large turnout in March at the Computer History Museum fieldtrip. Many hours were spent going through all the years worth of computers from the very beginning. Many members played a hand in the evolution of the computer and added additional insightful stories.



PAARA had the challenging task of hosting the Electronics Flee Market in early June. This date is difficult as it crimped our preparation for Field Day. But in PAARA fashion, everyone who could pitch a hand did so and the event was successfully pulled off. As usual, Gerry, N6NV, had a truck load of goods there for the pickings.



(PAARAYear — continued from page 2)

Field Day roared onto us in late June. For the most part, things went as planned but it wouldn't be Field Day if something didn't corporate. PAARA scored 11th in the nation. Of note, out of the 10 others scoring higher, we had by far and away more participants at the event which is partly what it's all about.



In late summer, the Board voted to construct a Repeater Shack for the club's repeater. This is still an ongoing process but is nearing completion. There is a bit more work to do on the shack it's self before loading it up with equipment. The tower base is poured and the tower is starting to be assembled. Hopefully in the early part of 2016 we'll have our own repeater to use. Stay tuned.....



August found a number of PAARA members on the Caboose of the Niles Canyon Train fieldtrip. All participants enjoyed the experience and look forward to the next trip. Tradition stipulated another PAARABBQ at the end of the trip which was enjoyed by all.



(PAARAYear — Continued on page 4)

PAARAgaphs — December 2015
Celebrating 78 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

(PAARAYear — continued from page 3)

Early October found a few dedicated PAARA members in Alpine County for CQP. This year they managed to run two stations on the same band during part of the contest. They were also faced with some of the coldest operating conditions the core team has experienced. Maybe it's a sign of a good winter. Anyway, all report to having a blast, which is what it's all about.



October is Pacificon month. All the equipment used for CQP found its way to the event as the W1AW/6 station. Many hams that attended the event worked the equipment making over 2,000 contacts. A huge thanks go to Marty, W6NEV, Rick, N6DQ, and Joanna, K6YL, for all the "heavy lifting" to make this event a great success.

As 2015 comes to a close, there is only one BIG event left. The December Dream to Reality Raffle at the December meeting. You can find information on the prizes elsewhere in this issue.

Hope to see you all there.

73

Jim K6SV

P.S. The mages were taken by Kristen, K6WX, and Jim K6SV.



Parting shot.....

There's nothing quite like the joy of getting your 1st ticket and seeing the joy in dad's face!

Welcome to the PAARA family KG7YHR.

(President — Continued from page 1)

good money and supported the continuation of the Flea Market here in the Valley. And once again Marty, W6NEV, PAARA VP, lined up a fantastic roster of speakers, including a Nobel Laureate at our October meeting. We think that it's the quality of our speakers that really makes our monthly meetings shine. All of these things are designed to make PAARA the Friendliest Club Around and to keep you coming back for more each month. We hope that we have succeeded. If there is anything that is out of place, please feel free to bring it to our attention. Just find any PAARA leader, or contact me directly.

The PAARA board had the unique chance to go to maritime station KFS's transmitting site in the Palo Alto Baylands. This is the open space on the Bay side of 101, between Embarcadero Road and San Antonio Road. I've wanted to see that site for 20 years. Sadly, what we saw was mostly destroyed. I was amazed to hear that there was still RF emanating from that site until about 2 years ago, when copper thieves destroyed it to the point where the owner was no longer motivated to keep the site operational. There are some very interesting antennas there that look like variations on a discone. There were a number of Harris transmitters that had their transmitting tubes smashed and copper wires ripped out. There was also some amount of other gear that was taken in by the Palo Alto History Museum, and the folks from KPH were there as well to salvage. The future of the site is uncertain at this point. We will stay involved to see what happens and influence what we can. Pictures are at k6wx.smugmug.com/Electronics/KFS-Palo-Alto/.

We hope to see you in December for PAARA Leadership Elections, and of course the Dream To Reality Raffle. We're giving away a well appointed KX3 this year. One dollar could win you the best QRP rig around. Come join us and hear Eric from Elecraft tell us about what they've got ready for 2016. Until then ...

FINISH 2015 WITH PAARA IN DEC DE K6WX

Kristen

November 18, 2015 Board Minutes

The November Board Meeting was held at the Menlo Park Round Table Pizza Parlor, commencing at 7:10 PM on November 18th, 2015. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (President), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Darryl Presley, KI6LDM (Dir), Larry Rebarchik, N6DB (Dir), Rob Riley, KI6INR (Dir), Byron Beck, N6UOB (Dir), and non-Board Members, Clark Martin, KK6ISP, Vick Black, AB6SO (Technical Tips). A quorum was present.

President's Report: Kristen, K6WX, met a new ham at the last meeting that made a point to express his appreciation for her welcoming him to the club. He also pointed out that his visit was driven by a previous conversation with her over the radio. Byron, N6UOB, mentioned that he's been assisting a coworker and a couple of friends who are working at getting their ticket. He'll also be suggesting they attend one of our meetings in the near future. "This outreach by PAARA members is what bring in new people to the club thus keeps the club 'alive' with fresh ideas and enthusiasm", Kristen said.

Kristen indicated her reserve of stories is **dangerously low** and is in urgent need of more stories. Have you committed to a story but not submitted it (there are several people out there), do you have any projects, Field Day experiences, technical articles, hints n kinks, DX, setting up your station or antenna, on the air experiences that might be of interest? Now is the time to put pen to paper or exorcise the demons out of your word processing program and get a story submitted to Kristen. "Remember that it is 'home grown' stories that make PAARAgaphs great", she said.

Vice President's Report: Marty, W6NEV, showed up briefly to exchange some information but had to leave due to an urgent situation at home. Before leaving he reported selling quite a few T-shirts at the last meeting. Don't forget that they make nice Christmas gifts, especially the red ones (HIHI).

(Minutes — Continued on page 6)

(Minutes — Continued from page 5)

Secretary's report: Jim, K6SV, reported that currently there are 174 PAARA members. The total of PayPal renewals and other sales now totals 165. As it's now November, it's time to avoid the renewal rush, and make it easier on me, by renewing your membership either through PayPal or at the next meeting. There are currently only 39 members with memberships good through 2016 leaving 135 or so to go. He also reported that there were 4 new members joining at the November meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Ron, W6AZ, wasn't at the meeting but, via email, reported the finances are in fine shape.

Under Old Business, Rebar, N6DB, advised the board that the sale of the generator and it's delivery to Willits was now complete. The board congratulated everyone involved with the effort, especially Rod, KI6WED, and Marty W6NEV for driving Doug's, KG6LWE, trailer to Willits and delivering the generator.

Kristen, K6WX, reminded us to let everyone know that the December raffle prize is an Elecraft KX3-F radio, MH-3 hand mic, KXAT3 antenna tuner, KX3-2M-AT-G 2 meter option, SMA-BNC and SMA-RA adapters. So get the word out in whatever means available. The other prizes for December can be found elsewhere in this issue of PAARAgaphs.

Rebar, N6DB, reported that the Club Repeater tower was now standing high, though not permanently guyed. He and Gerry, N6NV, completed assembling the tower on November 14th. Previously the shack had been visited on October 31st by Eric, KJ6LAY and Jim, K6SV, to finish the base for the tower. Unfortunately they ran out of concrete and the hour was too late to get more. Gerry, N6NV, finished up the "pour" the next day.

Kristen indicated that nominations for the election are closed. Daniel Rahamim, KJ6SEE, will conduct the election at the December 4th meeting. The slate hasn't changed from what was published in the November issue of PAARAgaphs. Remember, you must be a paid mem-

ber for 2015 in order to vote.

Kristen, K6WX, mentioned the next PAARApLink date in February has yet to be set.

Kristen, K6WX, is still looking for a speaker for the PAARA/FARS, FARS/PAARA (or winter) banquet on January 22nd. However the signup page is now open so go to, fars.k6ya.org/ to get your tickets.

Under new business, Kristen announced that Clark, KK6ISP, stepped up to represent PAARA at ASVARO board meetings. THANK YOU Clark, followed by a round of applause. The board spent some time enlightening Clark on the issues they see and providing some direction.

Jim, K6SV, advised the board that Eric, KJ6LAY, stepped up to relieve Doug, KG6LWE, from the task of getting PAARAgaphs from the printer into the mail every month. Thank you Eric!

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Jim Thielemann
 Secretary/membership
 K6SV

New Members:

James Feinstein (working on getting licensed)	
Greg Cook	KE7DO
Andrea Donderi	AI6IZ
Paula-Marie Tucker	KG7YHR

Election Candidates

President	Kristen McIntyre K6WX
Vice President	Marty Wayne W6NEV
Secretary	Jim Thielemann K6SV
Treasurer	Ron Chester W6AZ
2yr Board Member	Rob Riley KI6INR
1yr Board Member	Larry Rebarchik N6DB
1yr Board Member	Darryl Presley KI6LDM
Board Member	Walter McVeigh KK6GTU

List finalized

PAARA Dec. 4th Meeting *and* **“Event of the Year”**

PAARA *“Dream to Reality Raffle XII”* with over \$1900 in prizes

Raffle tickets will be sold until 9:15. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN THE GRAND PRIZE, WE KEEP PULLING TICKETS UNTIL WE GET A LIVE ONE. YOU MUST HAVE WINNING TICKET TO CLAIM PRIZE.

1st PRIZE: Elecraft **KX-3** 160- 6m

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- SMA BNC Right Angle Adapters

2nd PRIZE

Yaesu VX-3R
3 Watt VHF/2 watt UHF Dual Band FM Transceiver



3rd PRIZE:

GP5 SSB — thanks Vic Black AB6SO



4th PRIZE:

Arrow Yagi

5th PRIZE:

LM 801 EXP HT Cup Holder Mount

6th PRIZE:

Coax Wrap

7th PRIZE:

FCC Part 97 Rules and Regulations Book

8th PRIZE:

Bongo Ties

Since Feb. 2003, 297 Radios, including EIGHT Elecraft K3's, a Yaesu FT-847, an Icom 706, MK IIG, a Yaesu FT-897D, and TWO Elecraft KX1's have gone to Fellow Hams.

Special Thanks to Jon, Howard, Mark, and everyone at HRO for their continued SUPPORT!



PAARA 11/5/15 Raffle Prize Winners (left to right)

2nd Prize Andrea Donderi / AI6IZ / Daiwa CS-201a / Two Position Coax Switch

1st Prize Red / KI6WED / Kenwood TM281A / 2m Mobile Transceiver

3rd Prize Red / KI6WED / World Atlas Map Book

6th Prize Christopher Hoover / AI6KG / ARRL Minilog

7th Prize Doug Teter / KG6LWE / PL259 Weather Proofing Material

4th Prize Nick / N6VOA / ARRL Repeater Directory 2015-2016

Not Shown

5th Prize Vic Black / AB6SO / FCC Part 97 Rules and Regulations

8th Prize Joel Wilhite / KD6W / Bungee Cords

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

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	thielem@pacbell.net	
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	ki6inr@arrl.net	
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	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('15)	Darryl Presley, KI6LDM	650 255-2454
	ki6ldm@arrl.net	

Appointed Positions

Membership	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
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	thielem@pacbell.net	
Chaplain.....	Rick Melrose K6RDM	408-341-9070
	k6rdm@arrl.net	
Public Affairs	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
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	
Badge Coordinator.....	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wawi.com	
Historian Position.....	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
Raffle Coordinator.....	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Ticket Master	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531
Field Day Coordinator.....	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
ASVARO Rep	Rolf Klibo, N6NFI	650-856-2748
	n6nfi@arrl.net	
Webmaster	John Miller K6MM	
	webaron@gmail.com	
Technical Coordinator.....	Joel Wilhite, Kd6w	408-839-5948
	kd6w@arrl.net	
QSL Manager	Rob Riley, KI6INR	650 799-1607
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	ki6inr@arrl.net	
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VE Exams

Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room, 4th Saturday 10:30 am each month and De Anza Park, Sunnyvale, 2nd Saturday 10:30 am each month except November and December. See website for details and exceptions: <http://amateur-radio.org> or Contact 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.electronicfleamarket.com/>

PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center; Net 145.230 - PL 100Hz Mondays at 8:30. See our website at <http://www.paara.org> for more information or contact: Joel Wilhite KD6W, KD6W@ARRL.NET, 650-325-8239

FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pm

Contact: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month,

Repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM

Contact: <http://ncdxc.org> or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699

QCWA Chapter 11

Northern California Quarter Century Wireless Association

Meets third Wednesday monthly at Harry's Hofbrau in Redwood City @ 11:30 AM.

Guests are welcome. Saturday morning net on 146.850 MHz, PL 114.8

50 MHz & Up Group

Meets 1st Thursday each month at 7pm in the Texas Instruments Building E conference room in Santa Clara.

Contact: <http://50MhzandUp.org>

SPECS

Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00pm on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz

Contact: <http://specsnet.org> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

SCARES

South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month, Belmont EOC, Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont CA 94002. 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 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.

Contact: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara> 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

TEARS — The Elmer Amateur Radio Society

Dedicated to operational training, knowledge building & FCC exam testing.

KV6R repeater under construction.

Contact: AA6T@ARRL.NET

Most members are Extra Class or VE's. See QRZ dot com/kv6r for class info

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 ctcss UHF:

147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctcss 441.35 (+5.0) 88.5 ctcss

223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss

Meetings are 3rd Wednesday of 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

shensley@Novell.com

(Please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor)



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***Badges are ready for
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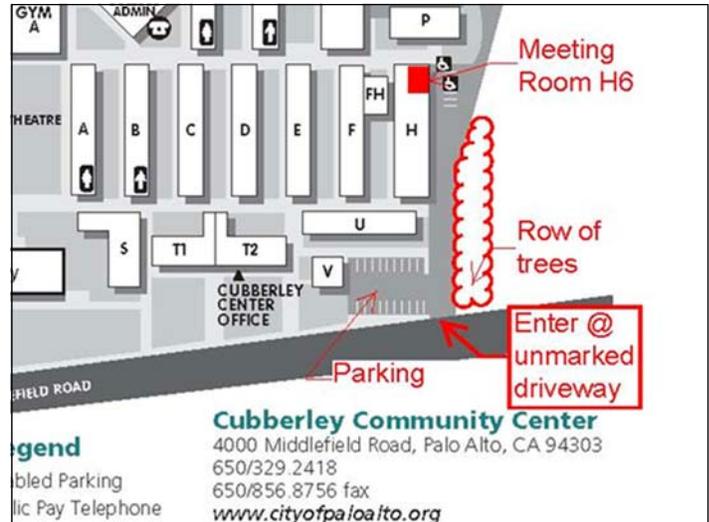
If you would like to
 order a badge, see
Doug Teter, KG6LWE.

PAARA Weekly Radio Net

Info and Swap Session
 every Monday evening at 8:30pm
 on the N6NFI 145.230 MHz repeater

<u>Week</u>	<u>Control Operator</u>
1 st	Joel KD6W
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - N1VSL
4 th	Marty - W6NEV
5 th	Rob KC6TYD

If you're interested in trying out at Net Control,
 Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice,
 and lots o' fun! Give it a try.



**Meeting Location — Middlefield Road
 between San Antonio and Charleston in Palo
 Alto. 4000 Middlefield Road**

<http://www.foto.mail.ru/list/shkurkin>

Vladimir Vladimirovich

SHKURKIN

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**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 Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center.

Radio NET & Swap Session every Monday evening, at
 8:30pm, on the 145.230 –600 MHz repeater, PL 100Hz.

Membership in PAARA is \$20.00 per calendar year,
 which includes one subscription to PAARAgaphs
 \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).

Make payment to the
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<p>RADIO IN THE PARK</p> <p>9:30am - 12:30pm Check Back In the Spring</p> <p>QTH: Agnews Historic Park 4030 Lafayette St. Santa Clara, CA 95050</p> <p>N 37° 23.549 W 121° 57.297</p>	<p>Ilse Beck, E. A. , KI6IBM</p> <p>BeckBusiness Services</p> <p>441 N. Central Avenue, #9 Campbell, CA 95008</p> <p>Enrolled Agent Income Tax Bookkeeping/Payroll Elder Care Consultations Billing and A/R</p> <p>Phone/FAX: 408-267-8234 Email: ilsebeck@jps.net</p>
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W6AZ



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 Photos: jpg, png or tiff

Subscription Problems? Contact Database
 Manager: Jim Thielemann, K6SV,
 408-839-6815, thielem@pacbell.net

PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

PAARAgaphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members. (short personal ads remain free for members in good standing). **All ad rates listed are per issue.**

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

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 PAARAgaphs 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 Ron Chester, W6AZ**

