

# PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

**Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**Celebrating 79 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937<http://www.paara.org/>

The July 8th speaker is:

**Lodema Epperson, KI6UGV**

Will present "World without the Bee", what the bee looks like and the differences between them. The Queen, the Drone, and the workers.

## Upcoming Events

July 8  
Aug 5  
Sep 2PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM  
Cubberly Community Center, Room  
H-6, 400 Middlefield Rd, Palo AltoJuly 20  
Aug 17  
Sep 21Board Meeting, 7:00 PM  
Everyone welcome!  
Location TBD

## President's Corner

July 2016

Field Day 2016 is in the bag for another year. It was fantastic! We did have to work with zero sunspots, though. Don't forget the PAARA sponsored Flea Market on July 9th. And, have you used the new PAARA repeater yet? Do you have a DMR radio yet? Maybe you should come to the next PAARA meeting. Don't forget that it's on July 8th.



Another incredible ARRL Field Day has come and gone, and once again PAARA has distinguished itself as the premier FD site for the Bay Area and the West. Our effort this year was built on the solid foundation of the last 10 years of experimentation and discovery. This makes our setup and tear down incredibly smooth and efficient. Doug's team knows exactly what to do since everything has been pre-measured and marked. Antenna placement is now well understood. The layout for the operating vehicles, food, GOTA, and public infor-

*(President — Continued on page 2)*

MEET ANDREA DONDERI, aka AI6IZ . .



One of our newest members hails from our neighbors to the north, in the beautiful city of Montreal, in the province of Quebec. Andrea still enjoys a visit to her home every year, and says she still feels very much a Montreal-er.

Within a few minutes of talking with Andrea, it was revealed that she is a woman of many interests and talents. Although her undergraduate studies focused on Linguistics, she then earned her MFA in Creative Writing. She has experienced several types of professions, from editorial positions with a magazine, to working in an independent school as director of the IT department, to technical writer in the internet world. In all her diverse jobs she has felt grateful to have worked with many smart and interesting people, and finds this the most rewarding part of her work.

When asked what influenced her to become a ham, she said that several friends, who were

pursuing this hobby, had encouraged her to also try it out. In addition, Andrea's uncle was a ham, and perhaps this sparked some interest for her. She expressed the desire to learn something new as definitely a motivational factor.

When asked what her "bucket list" looked like, it is more of a commitment to spending less time online and focusing more on the local and physical world around her.

Andrea likes to sing, and enjoys the companionship of her beloved mixed-breed canine companion, *Crosbie*.

Diana Lloyd

*(President — Continued from page 1)*

mation work really well. Thanks to the work of PAARA member Rick, N6DQ, inter-station interference is minimal to non-existent. All of that works like clockwork. What was unique about this year was a real focus on hitting the bonus points, including the new Social Media and Safety Officer bonuses. Of particular note were our media hits that included radio and television ads produced by Bob, KD6KYT's son Pat, and a visit by the local NBC affiliate that resulted in PAARA being part of the evening newscast on Saturday. We had 136 visitors to the site, which is quite an achievement given that we are not that easy to find. All of this against a backdrop of zero sunspots for 3 days running. Despite being compressed into the lower bands, we were only down about 300 Qs from last year. I think the toughest slog was 15 meters, where propagation was weak at best. Perhaps we won't have much on 15 meters at all next year, though we should still try. I spoke with someone from another club who said that they couldn't do 15m at all. There are many pictures to share and even some drone video, so keep your eyes open for that. I really want to thank Doug, KG6LWE, Marty, W6NEV, both of whom coordinated FD this year, and the entire PAARA FD Team for another unbeatable event.

*(President — Continued on page 4)*

## NPOTA Challenge by Ron Chester, W6AZ

The ARRL NPOTA program seems to be quite a hit. Our very own members, Rick & Joanna, N6DQ & K6YL hit the road to activate a bunch of NPOTA sites. And every day, I've been seeing messages posted on the QRP-L mailing list about NPOTA activations by N2CX as he drives around on the East Coast. Joe, N2CX, is a QRP'er, a member of the QRP Hall of Fame, and portable operations is like second nature for some of these folks. So far Joe has activated 58 different locations!

I got to thinking about places to go to do an NPOTA activation. At one of our meetings, Rick, N6DQ, mentioned that Pinnacles is a National Park. I probably live closer to that one than anyone else in the club. Maybe Doug Tetter would be number two. So I (or we) could go there. But I wondered whether there might be somewhere closer, so I studied the ARRL NPOTA rules. One entire evening I studied them! Many years ago, we worked hard to optimize our Field Day results by studying the rules and applying them to our Field Day setup. I was doing the same with the NPOTA rules.

Bottom line, I found a spot closer than Pinnacles. In fact I found three of them! Then I started thinking about PAARA. Recently the Board announced that it wanted to move in the direction of doing more portable operations, besides just Field Day. Doing an NPOTA activation would be pretty cool. So I started looking for a good place for PAARA to do that. I found one. But so far, it's my little secret. The Challenge in the title of this article is that I want to challenge other members to study the ARRL rules and find good sites for NPOTA activations by PAARA. And specifically to see whether anyone could come up with a spot even closer for PAARA than the one I've found.

Jim Thielemann, the PAARA Secretary, will be the judge. I have shared my secret with him and no one else. On Saturday at Field Day, I told him the spot I have located for an NPOTA activation. I want to see what locations other members come up with. After you find one, send me an email (my address is in the list of

officers in this newsletter) with three bits of data: (1) the name of the location you found, (2) the ARRL NPOTA Code for that location, and (3) the driving distance on a Google map from that location to Cubberly Community Center, the location of our monthly meetings. The location you choose must qualify as a proper NPOTA site according to the rules, you must have the correct ARRL Code for it and we're looking for the shortest driving distance to our club meeting location.

Jim knows the spot I have found. At the July meeting, my plan is to announce the locations other members found, as well as the one I found. Jim will be able to vouch for the fact that I had already identified the location I found by 6/25/16 and what it is. *The winner of this challenge is the one with the shortest driving distance*, as specified above. Of course there can be a tie; there can be more than one winner. When PAARA activates the closest location, the winner(s) is (are) guaranteed to be given the chance to run our station during the NPOTA activation. Okay, start. See if you can beat me.



*(President — Continued from page 2)*

It's time to rest up after FD and get right to the PAARA sponsored ASVARO Electronics Flea market. This is a big money-making event for the club, as well as an important part of the Amateur Radio community. This year we are in the toughest spot of the year - July. In addition, we have a double whammy of a shifted meeting date, meaning that we have to do a PAARA meeting on the 8th, followed directly by the Flea Market the next morning. I might be skipping pizza, but we'll see. Those of you who help with the Flea Market will have heard from me by the time you read this. Thank you in advance for a successful Market. At least we know the weather will be dry, though it might be hot. Please tell your friends to come out and sell at the July EFM and join the fun with other PAARA members who are staffing the food concessions and rounding up the vendors. I hope to see you there.

Have you tried out the new PAARA DMR Repeater, W6OTX? It has really great coverage, especially on 2 meters. Most DMR repeaters are on 70 cm, though, so I got a Tytera MD-390 radio for that band. It's been a real adventure learning about DMR after the talk by Joel, KD6W, at the last meeting. I'm up and running and have had a number of QSOs, including some at Field Day. I hope to hear you soon on the machine.

Our next meeting on July 8th will be unique, with PAARA member Lodema, KI6UGV, telling us about beekeeping! I think it's going to be a really fun and interesting opportunity to experience something out of the ordinary. Please join us for another great chance to see all of your Amateur Radio Friends. Oh, and we'll be raffling off a DMR radio!

PAARA FLEA MKT IN JULY BT BE THERE OR  
BE SQUARE DE K6WX

## June 15, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

The board meeting was preempted by the second Field Day computer setup which commenced at 7:00 PM on June 15th, 2016. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Larry Rebarchik, N6DB (Dir), Darryl Presley, KI6LDM (Dir), and non-Board Members Doug Teter, KG6LWE, Chris Hoffman, KG6O. A quorum was present, however no club business was conducted.

The good news is that all the new computers were configured to work at their respective locations for Field Day.

NOTE: at this moment the next board meeting location is TBD. If you're interested in attending the next meeting, contact a board member a few days before July 20th to confirm the location.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Side note; 2 new members and 1 returning member joined at Field Day .

Jim Thielemann  
Secretary/membership  
K6SV

### **Please welcome to PAARA New members:**

Ken Knaus, KK6ZHK,  
Elise Scher, KI6PUO,  
Denys Holley, N/C,  
Randy Silverman, K8TR

And a BIG welcome back to:

Pink Foster K7ILA

Join the PAARA twitter feed at:

<https://twitter.com/paaraW6ARA>

## JULY RAFFLE PRIZES

### 1st Tytera MD-380 / DMR Digital Portable HT

Operates in Analog and Digital Modes

5 Watt Output

Uses Time-Division Multiple-Access / Double # of Users

Private Call / Group Call / All Call



### 2nd Grundig Eton Traveler III

AM/FM/MW/LW/SW RDS/Radio Data System



### 3rd Battery Tender Junior

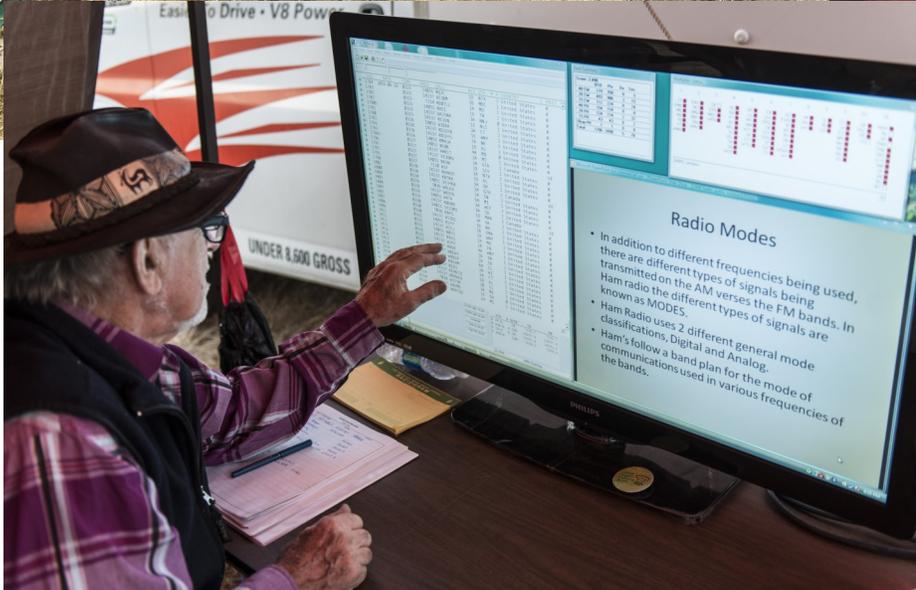


### 4th MFJ Mag Mount

### 5th ARRL DXCC List

### 6th Coax Seal

### 7th Insulators



# Field Day





ay 2016





**PAARA 6/3/16 Raffle Prize Winners (from left to right)**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize / Shakhar Tipnis / KG6UEF / DXCC List**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize / Marty Wayne / W6NEV / Kenwood TM-281A / 2m Mobile Transceiver**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize / Byron Beck / N6UOB / Coax Switch**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize / Hiro / AH6Y / Repeater Directory**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize / Kristen McIntyre / K6WX / Arrow Yagi**

**7<sup>th</sup> Prize / Alan Young / AG6ZE / Insulators**

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize / Andy Korsak / KR6DD / Mini Log (not shown)**

## Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

### Officers

President .....	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX	510-703-4942
	kristen@alum.mit.edu	
Vice President .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531
	mcwayne2@comcast.net	
Secretary .....	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Treasurer .....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

### Directors

Director ('15-'16) .....	Byron Beck N6UOB	408-369-1913
	N6uob@arrl.net	
Director ('16-'17) .....	Rob Riley, K1GINR	650 799-1607 (c)
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
Director ('16).....	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	650 465-8210 (c)
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('16).....	Darryl Presley, K1LDM	650 255-2454
	ki6ldm@arrl.net	

### Appointed Positions

Membership.....	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Database .....	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Chaplain .....	Rick Melrose K6RDM	408-341-9070
	K6RDM@yahoo.com	
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
Field Day Coordinator ...	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
ASVARO Rep.....	Clark Martin, KK6ISP	
	kk6isp@comcast.net	
Webmaster .....	John Miller K6MM	
	webaron@gmail.com	
Technical Coordinator ...	Joel Wilhite. KD6W	408-839-5948
	kd6w@arrl.net	
QSL Manager .....	Rob Riley, K1GINR	650 799-1607 (c)
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
Speaker Coordinator .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531

### PAARAgaphs Staff

Editorial Board	Bob Van Tuyl K6RWY	Kristen McIntyre K6WX
	Ron Chester W6AZ	Vic Black AB6SO
	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	
Editor .....	Bob Van Tuyl, K6RWY	408 799-6463
	rrvt@swde.com	
Back Up Editor .....	Jim Thielemann, K6SV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Advertising.....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243-2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	
Member Profiles .....	Diana Lloyd, KK6YGM	650-988-8882
	dianalloyd76@gmail.com	
Technical Tips .....	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Photographer.....	<i>Position Vacant</i>	

## 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:KD6W@ARRL.NET), 650-325-8239

## FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month at 7:30pm  
 Contact: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

## NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, K8GDA 650-743-1265 (D), 650- 595-5590 (N)  
 Web: <http://k6mpn.org> E-mail: [pres@k6mpn.org](mailto: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.gsl.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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month.

Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, [N6FFC@ARRL.NET](mailto: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](mailto:shensley@Novell.com)

(Please send changes to [PAARAgaphs editor](mailto:PAARAgaphs editor))



**James Farrey**  
 Sales Manager

James Electronics Ltd  
 1355 Shoreway Road, Belmont, CA 94002  
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***Badges are ready for  
 pickup.***

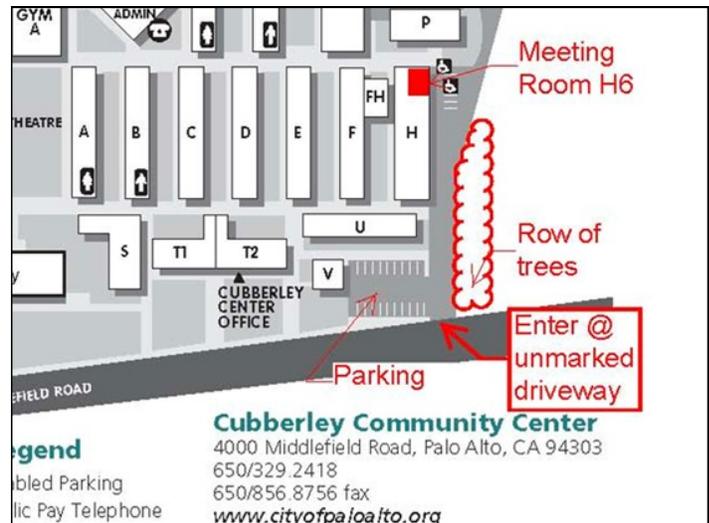
If you would like to  
 order a badge, see  
**Doug Teter, KG6LWE.**

## 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 <sup>st</sup>	Joel KD6W
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Doug - KG6LWE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jack - N1VSL
4 <sup>th</sup>	Marty - W6NEV
5 <sup>th</sup>	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

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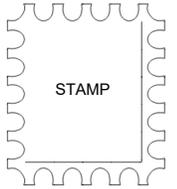
PAARAgaphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members. (short personal ads remain free for members in good standing). **All ad rates listed are per issue.**

- 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**

# PAARAgaphs — July 2016

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



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

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