

# 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/>

## December Speaker

### 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.

## Upcoming Events

- Dec 2 PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Jan 6 Cubberly Community Center, Room
- Feb 3 H-6, 400 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
- Dec 21 Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Jan 18 Everyone welcome!
- Feb 15 Location: Marty, W6NEV, QTH



everyone on the air. Thanks Rich for taking the time and energy to make the SE Station work!

It's been another amazing year at PAARA. The Leadership Team and I try to give our membership a reason to be a part of our organization by providing you with experiences that are unique in the Amateur Radio community. We bring you PAARAtrips to various interesting local venues, operating events like Field Day, our great home-grown content driven PAARAglyphs newsletter, the PAARA raffle at each monthly meeting, a great roster of speakers, and even things like tee shirts and hats. We try to make being a member of PAARA a thing that you value. Our core team of volunteers works hard to bring these things to you each year. If you have a moment at a meeting, please let us know if you're enjoying what we do as much as we do. If not, please let us know about that too.

The possibly last PAARASHOOT / PAARAPLINK was a great success at the 10th Street Range, a.k.a. the San Jose Municipal Firing Range, on October 30th. Attendance was better than usual, despite the rain in the morning, and a good and safe time was had by all. There were many fun chances to enjoy the firearms that people brought to share. I had fun with an old gallery .22 rifle belonging to Carla, WA6UBE. Hitting the reactive targets (tennis balls) at the back of the range was extra

*(President's — Continued on page 8)*

## President's Corner

December 2016

Unbelievably it's the last President's Corner of the year already. And what a great year it's been. We just finished the PAARASHOOT, and the Dream To Reality Raffle is up next at our meeting. We also have the PAARA Leadership Team election for 2017 and the FARS Winter Banquet coming up. Oh, and 2016 Field Day results are out!



I quickly wanted to mention something that I inadvertently overlooked last month. When acknowledging those who helped out with the W1AW/6 Special Event Station at Pacificon, I overlooked one big contribution to the effort: Rich, W6APZ. Rich was there very early on Friday morning, having carpooled with Jim, K6SV. He helped set up the antennas so that we could get

*This article is about getting the word out about FD to an unconventional audience — neighbors (KM):*

## Hello Neighbors!

I don't know if you've noticed in past years that Bedwell Bayfront Park seems to grow some strange looking trees for one weekend every summer.

Starting tonight, those trees will grow again. They are Amateur Radio antenna towers (with antennas), and the big local radio club will be setting up for this weekend's "Field Day."

Most simply put, Field Day is an annual event where amateur radio operators nationwide simulate as though a large scale disaster had occurred, and all human infrastructure has crumbled. No electricity, no light poles, no buildings. Maybe even zombies!! (jk). We pull out our equipment, put up antennas, fire up generators and try to talk to people around the world. (And as an added bonus, we have a very strong "pack in-pack out, leave it as you found it" mentality. If you go back a week later, you shouldn't even know we were there, except for some trampled grass).

The radio club I belong to, the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association ([www.paara.org](http://www.paara.org)), puts together a very good show for field day. We welcome each and every one of you to come visit, learn about the hobby, take a turn to try a radio out, and maybe enjoy a cookie (if there are any left).

I will spend most of my time running the "Get On The Air" radio, called GOTA, and would be very happy to have you come sit down, turn the dial, key the microphone, and attempt to talk to another radio operator, whether s/he be in California, Connecticut, Columbia or Kazakhstan. I'll coach you through every step of the process and answer any question you may have.

Any one of us radio operators would be glad to answer any questions, discuss how to get started in the hobby, and/or show off the equipment they use. You may be surprised where it pops up!

The radio event begins at 11AM on Saturday and runs straight through for 24 hours. The park gates do get locked at sundown, however, so please plan to visit during daylight hours on either Saturday or Sunday. (Not like there's a shortage of them this time of year!)

Directions: Head to Bedwell Bayfront Park (at the east end of Marsh Rd.), and drive through. This is one of the few times they allow the general public to

drive on the access roads. Ignore the "No vehicles beyond this point" signage, and follow the yellow "PAARA" and "Field Day", signs until you see some parked cars, a few U-Haul trucks, and those funny looking trees. Hop out, look around, sign the log-book, ask questions, and have fun!

If you're out of town for the weekend, but are interested, head to <http://www.arrrl.org/field-day-locator> and find the event nearest to you.

If you've totally missed out, contact me, and I'll arrange to meet you and give a demonstration of the radio station I have in my car (the red Metro with all the crazy antennas you may have seen put-putting around town).

Bonus: Here's a link to a video from last year of one my little guys talking to WE1SPN, out of Connecticut. That's the ESPN amateur radio club. Don't ever try to tell me that amateur radio isn't a sport, ha-ha!

[k6wx.smugmug.com/Events/Field-Day-2015/i-7TpJVdP/A](http://k6wx.smugmug.com/Events/Field-Day-2015/i-7TpJVdP/A)

(Oh, and I will be sporting those same red/green suspenders, as always, so I'll be easy to recognize)

73!

Justin

## Minutes of the November 16, 2016 Board Meeting,

The meeting was held at the home of Marty Wayne, W6NEV, commencing at 7:20 PM on November 16, 2016. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres) [via FaceTime from JA], Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Ron Chester, W6AZ (Treasurer) [via conference call from Salinas], Larry Rebarchik, N6DB (Dir), Darryl Presley, KI6LDM (Dir), appointed director Walt Gyger, W6WGY, and non-Board Member Joel Wilhite, KD6W (Technical Coordinator) [via conference call from NYC]. A quorum was present.

Kristen's, (K6WX), comments revolved around serendipity. "It's wonderful to bump into hams at Pacificon or other places that you've only talked to over the radio", Kristen said. You never know when one of them will turn into the next speaker

*(Continued on page 4)*

## PAARA “Dream to Reality Raffle XIII” with over \$1,900 in prizes

FIRST PRIZE: Elecraft KX-3 160 - 6m



Factory Assembled “Special Thanks to Elecraft”

Advanced DSP Dual Watch / Noise Reduction

Noise Blanking / Autonotch / Stereo Audio Effects

PSK31 / RTTY with or without a PC  
INCLUDES:

- 2M Module
- Internal 20-W Auto Tuner
- MH3 Hand Microphone
- SMA BNC Adapters

\$1,500 + Value SMA BNC Right Angle Adapters

SECOND PRIZE: Arrow Split Boom 146/437MHz Yagi

THIRD PRIZE: #1 GP5 SSB / Thanks Nick Cassarino N6VOA

FOURTH PRIZE: #2 GP5 SSB / Thanks Nick Cassarino N6VOA

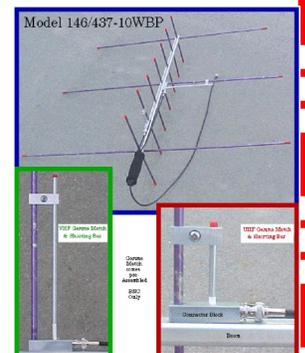
FIFTH PRIZE: ARRL Antenna Book 23rd Edition / Thanks Pat W6ABA

SIXTH PRIZE: MFJ-335BS Hi-Flux Magnet Mount / Thanks Vic Black

SEVENTH PRIZE: ARRL Antenna Book 23rd Edition / Thanks Pat W6ABA

EIGHT PRIZE: ARRL Oscilloscopes for Radio book / Thanks Rich Stiebel

NINTH PRIZE: ARRL Badge Lanyard / Thanks Rich Stiebel



### ELECTION CANDIDATES:

President, Kristen McIntyre K6WX; Vice President, Marty Wayne W6NEV; Secretary, Jim Thielemann K6SV; Treasure, Ron Chester W6AZ; 1yr Board member Larry Rebarchik N6DB; 1yr Board member Darryl Presley, KK6GTU; 2yr Board member, Joel Wilhite KD6W

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or become a member of the club or provide some key piece of information.

Kristen also mentioned what an interesting and well received talk Kurt Kiesow III, KF6QNC gave last month on autonomous wave powered vessels. His presentation was packed with interesting information. There was quite the crowd after the meeting asking additional questions.

Once again Kristen mentioned, her reserve of stories is still thin, thus is on the lookout for more stories. If you have committed to a story but not submitted it (there are several people out there fitting this category) please put pen to paper or fingers on the keyboard and let your creative juices flow! Do you have any projects, Field Day experiences, technical articles, hints n kinks, DX contacts, or experiences setting up your station or antenna, on the air experiences that might be of interest? If you have not previously drafted that story or have a new story, now is the time to get a byline of your own in PAARAgaphs and get that story submitted to Kristen for publication.

“Remember it is ‘home grown’ stories that make PAARAgaphs great”, she said.

Vice President’s Report: Marty, W6NEV, mentioned the December meeting speaker is once again Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ from Elecraft. The topic is “KX3 Features & Developments”. Also of note, the club is once again giving away a KX3 in December, see the details in the raffle flyer. He also reported to having speakers lined up through February. Additionally, Marty commented that his efforts of identifying the next PAARA field trip have mostly come up dry. If you have any suggestions for destinations, please let Marty know.

Marty reached out to the printer of the T-shirts. He found they will be under new ownership January 1<sup>st</sup>. As such, he’ll be ordering enough PAARA club shirts to replenish the inventory before the end of the year.

Secretary’s report: Jim, K6SV, reported that there are currently 198 PAARA members, the most since he’s been keeping track. It’s wonderful to see the membership increase by 2-4 members a month since Field Day. He also reported that there were 4 new members joining in November. Is this serendipity at work?

Kristen stood in for Clark Martin, KK6ISP, the election chair. Clark reported via email that; Kristen, Marty, Jim, Ron, Rebar, and Darryl have agreed to run again. He also reported that Joel, KD6W has also thrown his hat into the ring. As the nominations are closed, only the voting is remaining. Remember you must be a member for 2016 in order to vote for the 2017 Board at the December meeting.

Kristen commented at how fun the PAARApLink was. She received several comments on how fun it was and the support a couple of people received who hadn’t handled firearms that were taught the proper method of handling and discharging them. She also thanked Jim, K6SV and Eric KJ6LAY for setting up the covered eating area in the rain and providing hamburgers for everyone.

Under New Business:

With the resignation of Rob Riley, KI6INR, from the board, (due to moving out of the area) left open his Directors position. Kristen appointed Walt Gyger, W6WGY, to serve out the remaining year of Bob’s term. The board welcomes Walt to the board.

Ron, W6AZ, mentioned at the end of the last meeting about Vic’s, AV6SO, efforts in previous years of attracting new members to the club. Ron mentioned his introduction to PAARA was the result of Vic’s efforts. The topic once again came up. Darryl, KI6LDM, volunteered to talk with Vic to learn how he was so successful in finding newly licensed hams to invite to PAARA.

Darryl, KI6LDM, mentioned recently taking a trip to Oregon and running across a local publication that listed all the Ham repeater sites in the area. A discussion ensued regarding locating any local publications or visitor publications in which we might be able to arrange the same thing. The board agreed to work at identifying any potential publications which we might be able to add such a list. Darryl also was going to reach out to the publication he saw to learn anything he could about process.

Rebar, N6DB, mentioned being contacted by another ham requesting some work on a vertical antenna. The question came up regarding others that have requested antenna work and if there

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PAARAYear 2016

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.



Both young and old enjoyed learning what others brought for Home Brew Night



The 1st meeting of the year was followed by the FARS/PAARA banquet.

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was a list somewhere to track the requests. As there is no list, Rebar agreed to create one so we could keep track of the requests.

Jim, K6SV, mentioned that he and Joel, KD6W, had a conversation as they were trying to setup the tower trailer in the rain at Pacificon regarding how the trailer wasn't really “outfitted” for rapid deployment. Jim agreed to generate a list of items that should be on the trailer so if needed, it could be deployed with little warning.

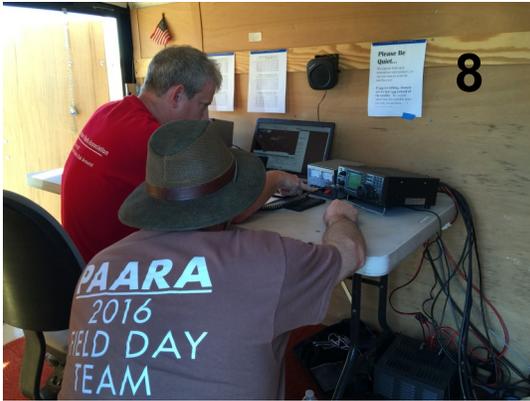
The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Jim Thielemann  
Secretary/membership  
K6SV

Please welcome to PAARA:

New members: Matthew Manjos, W5MMW, Gary Snethen, W6ARY, Elliot Snethen, KM6DZY, Karl Kappler, N/C

*PAARAgaphs — December 2016*  
*Celebrating 79 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937*





2



3



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**Clockwise from upper left:**

1. PAARApink #1
2. Flea Market food sales
3. PAARApink #2 lunchtime
4. PAARA repeater goes LIVE after over a year of work!
5. Repeater equipment rack
6. Pacificon W1AW/6 station
7. Pacificon antenna in the rain
8. Field Day Satellite contact
9. Field Day lunch break



5



4



**November Raffle Winners**  
 From Left to right ~ front to back

2nd Prize	Joel Wilhite - KD6W - Arrow Yagi	6th Prize	Clark Martin - KK6ISP - ARRL DXCC List
1st Prize	Bob Kindlund - KK6YRV - Tytera MD-380 - DMR Digital Portable HT	8th Prize	Rob Fenn - KC6TYD - Two Insulators
4th Prize	Vic Black - AB6SO - MFJ Mag Mount	3rd Prize	Pat Sullivan - W6ABA - Lido Cup Holder
7th Prize	Vic Black - AB6SO - Mini Log		Not in Picture :
		5th Prize	Karl - no call - ARRL Handbook

*(President's — Continued from page 1)*

fun. There were a few new shooters too, in particular David, W6DH. After training with Dave, K6WA, for the day, he earned the nickname Deadeye Dave. We had a great burger BBQ put on by Jim, K6SV, and his son Eric, KJ6LAY. Fortunately by lunchtime the rain had abated, though the benches were still wet (ugh!). Still, it was great fun. Time will tell whether we find a way to do this again, but I sure hope we can.

The 2016 Dream To Reality Raffle is here again. This year, as last year, we are giving away a loaded Elecraft KX3. This includes the antenna tuner \*and\* the 2m module. This is a great little QRP radio with features that you don't find on other radios in its class, including coverage of all of the HF bands, PSK-31 operation, an available built-in CW paddle (not included), and more. I think you'll love it. And it can be yours for as little as \$1. Just come to the December meeting, buy one or more Raffle tickets, and this radio could be

yours. And, of course, come and hear Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, one of the founders of Elecraft, bring us up-to-date on what's happening with their radios.

FD results are out and we did very well indeed. We came in 15th nationally, and 3rd in 4A. We were the only 6 district station in the top 10 for 4A, and one of only 3 6-district stations in the top 15 for all categories. It was another great year for PAARA FD, despite rough CONDX, and that only means that we have to do it again next year. See you in June before you know it.

A quick reminder about the PAARA Leadership Elections at the December meeting, and don't forget the FARS Winter Banquet coming up in January. You can register on the FARS website at <http://fars.k6ya.org>.

**DREAM TO REALITY ALMOST HERE DE K6WX**

## Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

### Officers

President .....	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX	510-703-4942
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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) .....	Walt Gyger, W6WGY	408-921-5901
	walt@tradewindsaviation.com	
Director ('16) .....	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	650 465-8210 (c)
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('16) .....	Darryl Presley, K16LDM	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, K6LWE	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, K6LWE	650-367-6200
ASVARO Rep .....	Clark Martin, K6ISP	
	kk6isp@comcast.net	
Webmaster .....	John Miller K6MM	
	webaron@gmail.com	
Technical Coordinator ...	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	408-839-5948
	kd6w@arrl.net	
QSL Manager .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531
Speaker Coordinator .....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531

### PAARAgaphs Staff

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	Ron Chester W6AZ	Vic Black AB6SO
	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	
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	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, K6GDA 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 2nd Wednesday of every month except July, August and December.  
 Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, [president@wvara.org](mailto:president@wvara.org)

## American Red Cross, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Contact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org> or Scott Hensley KB6UO, (408) 967 7924  
[shensley@Novell.com](mailto:shensley@Novell.com)

(Please send changes to [PAARAgaphs editor](#))



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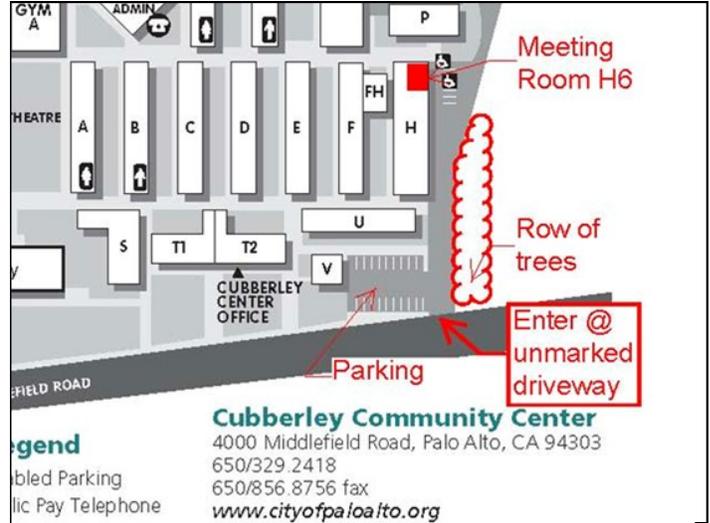
***Badges are ready for pickup.***

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 - W1VSL
4 <sup>th</sup>	Rob - KC6TYD
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 Room H6**

**Row of trees**

**Enter @ unmarked driveway**

**Parking**

**Cubberley Community Center**  
 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303  
 650/329.2418  
 650/856.8756 fax  
[www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org)

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

<http://www.foto.mail.ru/list/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  
 Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association,  
 P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026-0911

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