

SCOPE

THE PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

Membership Meeting

The December Meeting is Palomar Club's annual social. Come rejoin fellow hams with adventures of the contact that did not get away. How you pulled them from the noise? Let us know of the latest project. Are you going to get those new toys? Bring some goodies to share. No one's going to report to your doctor. Let's recap the year and make plans for projects and fun for next year. We will bring the coffee pot!

Dennis KD6TUJ

PARC 2013 Field Day Results.

Well, the results of the 2013 Field Day are in. For full details, see the article starting on Page 72 of December's QST magazine.

The article seems to borrow a page from the explanation that ham Radio is a mash up, as it introduces the concept of Field day Saturday morning with explanation that Field Day is all about "...making adjustments. Plans go awry, equipment malfunctions,....gear is repaired, ... generators fire up again....keep on making QSOs".

That indeed is the essence of ensuring our skills keep us serving as the "communication system that never fails".

So how did PARC do? We entered as 5A category. There were 62 entrants nationwide, and PARC scored 10,370 points to finish fifth in the nation.

Start making plans for Field Day June 27-29, 2014.

Hope to see you at Field Day. (Oh. Did I say Field Day is not a contest? Remember that).

73 de NN3V
Charlie



Come support PARC on December 7th at...
<http://sandiegominimakerfaire.org>



Save the Date

Club Meeting

4 December 2013

Club Meeting - Potluck
Social

Board Meeting

11 December 2013

Palomar Amateur Radio
Club board meeting at
7:30pm at W6GNI QTH.

Event

7 December 2013

PARC Operating Day at
Maker Faire San Diego,
Del Mar Fairgrounds,
Bing Crosby Hall

Fold & Staple Crew, November SCOPE included Al W6GNI & Kathy, Sonny WA5ACE, Jo KB6NMK, Art KB6YHZ, Janet Meyer

The club is still looking for someone or a group of folks to take over the Fold & Staple task each month, assembling and mailing the SCOPE. As noted, the January Issue is my last one!

Contact any member of the board! (It doesn't have to be done during the day – with the exception of delivering the issues to the Post Office. And that only takes 35 minutes if the paper work is in order.)

Advertisements are free for members

Have items that need to find a new home? Advertise here! Send your ads to scope@palomararc.org

For Sale:

Moving before end of year. Unloading various unneeded equipment.

HW-16 with xtals. RX works (needs alignment), have not tried TX. With manual. \$75.00 OBO.

IC-706 RX works, does not TX. Some front panel damage at corner. \$85.00 OBO

Yaesu HT VX-5. 6-2 mtr, 440 MHz. Works very well, altho numbers/letters on some buttons worn off. \$70.00 OBO.

One of two MFJ Noise Cancelling Antenna Systems, MFJ 1025/1026. With manual. Work very well. Take your pick. \$120.00 OBO

Two Vibroplex CW paddles, \$50 ea OBO.

Benchner straight key. Like new. \$85 OBO.

Two old CW straight Keys. Various headphones. Make offer.

Pse e-mail Joe, W6UDO, at joezeke43@gmail.com Pse put your call sign in subject line (if it's not in your e-mail address) in case your e-mail goes to spam. Tnx...

For Sale, Winter Clean Out

1. HP141T Spectrum Analyzer, 8554B (1.2 GHz) RF and HP8552A I.F. plug ins. Display OK but no test RF signal. \$75.

2. Radio Shack, Micronta, VOMs. 3 and 4" meter movements, Analog VOMs \$10 - \$15 each.

3. Tektronix 650, NTSC rack mount color monitor, A/B inputs, professional analog TV monitor. \$45.

4. 11.5 - 14.5 VDC, regulated P.S. 20 Amps. Acme Electric, approx. 7" X 7" X 16" long. \$35.

5. Bosch 11-202 demolition hammer. Needs work. Heavy duty, w/case Parts unit - \$35.

6. Paslode, Framing Nailer, 5325/80 compressed air operated. Needs work. Parts unit \$20

Call WB6IQS, John, 760-7Two7-Three876. Evenings / weekends. WB6IQS@Att.net(nospam).

Continued next page

For Sale

1) New Butternut HF9V 9 band vertical antenna (80, 40 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters) and Butternut CPK Counterpoise Kit. Both antenna and CPK kit are unopened in original boxes. I am selling as a package only - \$475.00

2) New Diamond DPGH62 6 meter monoband base station antenna - 21 ft., 6 dB gain. Unopened in original box - \$100.00

3) Icom IC-208H 2 meter + 70 cm mobile radio. Excellent condition in original box - \$225.00.

4) Icom IC-7000 all mode HF/6 meter + 2 meter + 70 cm mobile radio. "Like new" condition with very little use. MB-62 mobile mounting bracket included. In original box - \$850.00.

5) Astron RM-35-M rack mount 25 amp linear power supply with meters. Excellent condition, low use - \$200.00

Contact Dean W6DBJ at 760-727-5954 or deanjacobsen@earthlink.net

For Sale

MFJ 1275M Sound Card Interface, new in box, never used. Includes AC power supply, computer cable, audio cables. MFJ price \$110, yours for \$75

Ron K2RP K2RP@ARRL.NET or 760 436 8109

For Sale

Tektronix TM504, 4 slot compartment Powered main frame. \$80.00

Collins 302C-3. Forward and Reflected Watt Meter. 2Kw and 200 watts. Complete and working. \$80.00

Hewlett/Packard 403B. 1mv -300v RMS. No line cord. \$40.00

Collins 75-A4 receiver with matching Collins speaker, \$700. Very clean.

PeteK6JQE, pickup in Solana Beach. 1-858-755-4838

For Sale

Cushcraft MA5VA HF multi-band compact vertical. Covers 20-10 meters. \$100

Gary, W3LFR
858-335-0546

For Sale

Four rolls of Mil-C-18/ UG218. The rolls are about 140 feet long with N connectors.

Insertion loss is .9 dBa per 100 feet at 150 mHz. \$250.00 per roll or \$800.00 for all of them.

Glenn
N6JAI
619 654 1402

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CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW

Call: NX6T

Operator(s): N6KI WQ6X N0DY K4RB NN6X
N6EEG

Station: NX6T

Class: M/2 HP

QTH: CA

Operating Time (hrs): 46.5

Summary:

Band QSOs Zones Countries

160:	21	9	8
80:	222	21	47
40:	1097	35	118
20:	514	36	116
15:	580	35	114
10:	582	32	89

Total: 3016 168 492 Total Score = 5,473,380

Club: San Diego Contest Club

Comments: Very good condx from start til Sunday morning when A index shot up to 8 and 10 and 15 mtrs didn't play as well as Saturday afternoon. Had a fun time running Multi-Two so our multi-op group were kept busy for all but 1.5 hours of contest. This was most QSOs we have done from our portable site and hope to keep improving on station setup and antennas in future. 70 ft Tower Trailer (Thanks N6OX !) with 2 El 40 Yagi @78 ft, 3 El SteppIR at 70ft, 80 and 160 mtr Inv V Dipoles. 40 ft Tower Trailer with 2 El 40 Yagi at 48 ft, 3 El SteppIR @40 ft. 2 K3 radios, 2 ACOM 2000A Amps.

73 de Dennis N6KI



Boy Scout Nathan Graff (center), a new ham, is shown receiving his very own HT from Fred Atchley (left), AE6IC, while dad Jared Graff (right), also a new ham, smiles proudly.

Nathan earned his Radio merit badge at the PARC Field Day site last June along with 26 other scouts.

PARC not only hosted the Radio merit badge class, but promised the first three of those scouts to earn their ham ticket within a year would receive an HT. Nathan passed the Technician class exam on 23 November and is the first scout to claim his very own HT. So, by the time you read this Nathan will not only have his call sign but will be on-the-air! Way to go Nathan. Nathan is a member of Troop 714 in Carlsbad.



HAM RADIO OUTLET

H
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Jose XE2SJB
Jerry N5MCJ
Joe N6SIX

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Solving problems is what we do best. See more repeater site work party photos starting on page 12.



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SCOPE Membership for December

Please don't forget the Club when your membership is due!! Some of the folks that may be due to reinstate – I hope! NC7V, KD6DLI, KF6WTN, K6AH, KE6GNH, WA6NPM.

And, those still on my "Hopeful" list, left over from last month: K6VG, KJ6TWJ, KQ6B, N5KKW, KB6CUT, KE6SDF, KF6GOF, KG6ETI, M6MTS, KJ6JMJ, KC6VDX, W9EN. I really hope I'm not wasting my time making it easy to see that your membership is running low! PLEASE!

(Did you know your records are on the web site for info.)

PARC in the Community

Mission Trails Day Demonstration



PARC Annual Auction

Photos by Don WD6FWE





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Holiday Nostalgia the Making of a Ham

by W6PUG

The Holidays are coming, and in North America, we have these images from the Currier & Ives holiday cards, snow scenes in the northern part of the country, and all kinds of variations for the rest of the country, but regardless from where you call home, the holiday season brings nostalgic moments - snapshots from your life that you hold near and dear. Let me share a couple of mine with you.

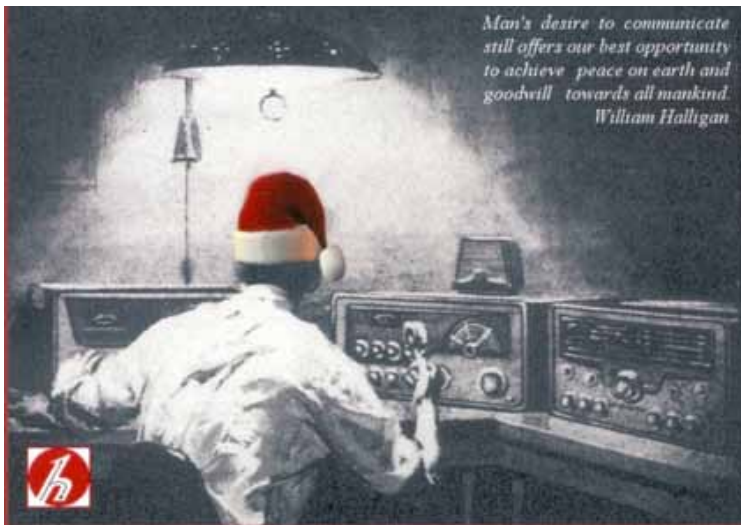
Amateur radio has been part of my life off and on since I was about ten years old, and I used to pour over every amateur radio and electronics magazine I could get my hands on ... read all the articles, and even occasionally understood some of it, and read every single advertisement, dreaming of the fantasy ham shack in which I would one day be

sitting, listening to the world. 50 years later, I hold an Amateur Extra license, have an elmer I consider to be one of my best friends, and I have logged contacts with many new friends worldwide. Amateur radio held a magic romanticism of new horizons and discoveries then and even still today. My favorite ads from those magazines, which have stuck with me to this day, were the holiday greetings from Collins Radio and Hallicrafters, and some of the other iconic pioneers in amateur radio. Two of my favorites showed a young man sitting at his operating station with his new Collins rig, with the fireplace and Christmas tree alongside, and another with the old Collins rig on the desk, where the operator could extend greetings all over the world while serenely looking out the window at the new falling snow (probably an odd mental 'visual' for Down Under operators, but you have to remember our culture here, illustrated in many of our TV movies such as *The Christmas Story* with the BB gun, snow, *White Christmas*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *It's A Good Life*, and good ol' *Hometown USA*).



Best Wishes for the Best Christmas Ever
A COLLINS 555 rig can be yours now with Collins time payment plan.

These images have stuck in my mind for 50 years, and best illustrates what I learned to believe amateur radio is all about ... extending good will and joy to every corner of the world. Hallicrafters also had some wonderful ads portraying the Spirit, and making more of those first impressions on hams young and old ... that is when I fell in love with Hallicrafters radios, and today my proudest possession is my 1967 Hallicrafters Hurricane (which you can see in my bio on QRZ.com).



These are my favorites from Hallicrafters, and no doubt someone has taken a little artistic license to bring a bit more holiday cheer! One of the most profound statements of the purpose of amateur radio was offered by the late, great Bill Halligan, “Man’s desire to communicate still offers our best opportunity to achieve peace on earth and goodwill towards all mankind.”

It seems today that all of the radio manufacturers use the holiday season to get their new products out on the market and the ads are all “tech-centric”, urging you to purchase the latest and greatest. I am illustrating here only a very few representative holiday greetings which were in the QST and ham radio magazines of the era - not to sell the products, per se, but were actually extending holiday greetings from the amateur radio pioneer companies and their families, to us, the operators who are privileged to have families who support us in our hobby. When you start digging around in the nostalgia files and see some of the holiday greetings from not only Collins and Hallicrafters, but the Swans and Drakes and the whole host of radio icons, you must truly appreciate the camaraderie and goodwill of amateur radio of old. We could learn a lot from them, to follow their example today.

Ardent search on the internet yield few holiday greeting cards from our aged and honored hobby. QST has had one for a few years (who want to send the same card year after year?), and occasionally you see someone put a new one out there, but this niche is pretty barren of new greetings. I had some custom cards done by Anne at <http://www.etgiftstore.com/items/ALL-PRODUCTS/Gifts-for-Ham-Radio-Operators/list.htm> a few years ago, and I was hoping she could sustain a following and keep bringing new cards to the market, but it has been difficult to get the word out to other hams. (This is not just a “plug” for her, but also a plug for amateurs to communicate their holiday cheer with other hams around the world!). Check out her website; give her some new ideas if you have some. I found her service to be excellent, and the cards have been received by my friends who have admired their quality.

So, get out there ... string a G5RV between the antlers of your favorite reindeer ... send a few holiday greetings over your radio ... but most of all, take some moments and remember your ham radio dreams of yesteryear... the kids of today are going to look back at these times and our memories will be their nostalgia.

To all my fellow amateur radio operators worldwide, may we one day bring peace to our earth, and embrace all mankind. What better way to start than down memory lane with amateur radio? Nessie and Richard, I’ll be thinking of you guys!

73, and we wish you the happiest of holidays,
W6PUG Doug, Vivian, and our Pug Grumble (and yes, a “pack of pugs” is called a ‘grumble’!)



The Blessing of the Tinkerer

By Doug W6PUG & Richard, VK3TXD

Richard, VK3TXD, is a tinkerer. I admire tinkerers and inventors. The tinkerer is the root and blessing of all inventors – and ham radio operators, and one must remember that the great scientists of the past generations were businessmen and academics who studied sciences as a hobby, since there were no “professional scientists” in the past centuries, but of course, I am veering far from the track. Thus, Richard is a tinkerer, and one of the most interesting things that I see from his tinkering is the work he does in VHF/UHF antennas. Some of his designs are breathtaking, and I relish his descriptions and successes with his tinkering of antenna designs. Now, imagine my shock when he was writing to me of his latest adventure, but then sent this photo!



Can you IMAGINE it?! Duct tape! I was truly appalled! A small gust of wind could tear it asunder, and destroy what I consider the beautiful art in function and aesthetics in a mere second! Most assuredly this is quite unsatisfactory! So what could we do to make it better (or, as we put it comically in our emails, “betterer”)?

Richard likes to use PVC because it is lightweight, and the sizing allows him to telescope the mast sections to transport in the car (of course! Imagine VHF QRP (as in 100mW!) from some remote hill talking to a repeater 100km away!). What was needed was something that has quick and easy disassembly for portability, yet have enough strength to hold the backbone of the antenna in place and defy the occasional gust of wind.

Although not nearly as resourceful as Richard, I have done some work with PVC fittings here in California, because of having to make all of my QTH antennas “stealthy” (translate that to vigorous Home Owners Associations poking their noses into everybody’s business!). I make a couple of really rough sketches – and I do mean rough – sketches and notes, and emailed them to Richard.

PARC Annual Auction

Photos by Don WD6FWE







Repeater Site Work Party



Ham Radio is an Application Mashup

During presentations on amateur ("Ham") radio contribution to emergency communications, invariably questions arise from non-hams trying to understand how it is that amateur radio is such an effective and reliable communication system, available to the public at no cost, but is also a hobby.

Hams invariably respond emphasizing amateur radio use of modern technology, dedication of individual hams to the public service role, that hams bring their equipment to the service, non-pecuniary nature of ham radio, etc.

Yet the public remains puzzled. Except for the non-pecuniary aspect, those answers also apply to the commercial infrastructure. And the public seldom understands the cost savings anyway.

I offer the following as a better approach for explaining amateur radio value in emergency service communications. In today's internet-savvy culture, the explanation of ham radio's distinguishing characteristic for emergency service communications is that ham radio is an "Application Mash-up". That is the same reason Facebook, eBay, etc. are so successful.

Let's examine three principal characteristics of amateur radio.

Operating time. Individual hams operate frequently. Hams who are wage earners find slivers of time to turn on their equipment and operate their favorite mode or band. Those blessed with ample free time will do similar operating perhaps many hours a day. So thousands of hams practice their skills and ensure their equipment is fully operational every day of the week, not just during some structured and scheduled communication test.

Operating Interests. Hams have diverse interests. Some try to operate independent of the commercial power grid. Others operate at very low transmitter power, gaining practice in techniques to overcome adverse conditions. Some only use home-brewed antennas learning exceptional antenna construction skills. Many operate nets where they control traffic flow, and routinely switch frequencies to overcome adversity. These and innumerable other examples develop thousands of special skills that contribute to instant availability of equipment and techniques independent of any other resource.

Self-sufficiency. The skills hams acquire in all the above allow overcoming the most adverse conditions. Hams have no expectation that the "IT department" will come fix the misbehaving computer, or that an electrician will set up the power sources, or a repair expert will arrive to take care of failed equipment. Hams are self-sufficient.

The web-centric definition of "Application Mash-up" is: "An application that combines data and/or functionality from more than one source".

When an emergency strikes, what do hams do? They break out their radios, go-bags, join well established emergency service nets, and populate emergency centers where they operate as RACES and ARES representatives chartered to serve in emergency communications. In doing so, primary emergency service nets self-populate: CERT, ARES, RACES become active from emergency centers nationwide. At the tail end of each of those networks (in the commercial world it is called the Point Of Service or POS) is a ham who is known in, and is familiar with his or her community.

As the POS multiply by the hundreds of hams who pick up their radios when an emergency strikes – and the commercial infrastructure fails due to overloading, power failure, equipment destruction, etc. – the result is the appearance of thousands of network "nodes" for information dissemination through a reliable and exceptionally well managed "self-created" network. The network extends from EOCs down into local distribution points where emergency responders and other citizens are acting to overcome the destructive vicissitudes of the emergency.

This is a human and equipment resource treasure that can not be duplicated by any amount of money or "scheduled training" from any government or private resource. It is the essence of how amateur radio is the pre-eminent communications service that never fails in an emergency.

So when someone asks: Why is ham radio the emergency communication system that never fails? The answer is very simple: "Because amateur radio is an Application Mash-up".

NN3V
Charlie Ristorcelli

New Email Discussion and Announcement Lists

by Michelle W5NYV

PARC has two new email lists. The two new lists offer additional ways to stay up to date with your fellow amateur radio operators. Signing up is very simple.

Go to

<http://www.palomararc.org/mailman/listinfo>

Click the link corresponding to the list you want to sign up for.

Fill in the form, and you're on the list.

PARC-Announce is a very low-traffic mailing list for announcements approved by the club. Expect only a few messages per month, maximum, including a notice about each club meeting. If you have an announcement you'd like to have published to this mailing list, please send your request to

board@palomararc.org for approval

PARC-Talk is an open list for PARC members to discuss anything related to amateur radio and to the club. Please post in plain text. Don't attach files.

We will not use Scope-notice, Scope-pdf, Meeting-remind or any other mailing list for unsolicited messages or announcements.

Don't forget - PARC is on Facebook too!

Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194674987710/>

Come support PARC on December 7th at...
<http://sandiegominimakerfaire.org>



Ops:

W6H: N6KI, WQ6X, AF6WF, K6KAL, K6GO, NA6MB, NN6X, N6EEG

<http://jidx.org/jidx2012ph-all.html>

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You can join or renew your membership on the club's web site <http://www.palomararc.org>

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Questions? Ideas? Comments? W6NWG@amsat.org

Featured Program:

At 7:00pm on 4 December 2013, Palomar Amateur Radio Club will have our annual social. Come rejoin fellow hams with adventures of the contact that did not get away. How you pulled them from the noise? Let us know of the latest project. Are you going to get those new toys? Bring some goodies to share. No ones going to report to your doctor. Lets recap the year and make plans for projects and fun for next year. We will bring the coffee pot!

We look forward to seeing you at the Carlsbad Safety Center, 2560 Orion Way, Carlsbad, CA.

Sign up for the PARC Email Lists:

<http://www.palomararc.org/mailman/listinfo>