

JANUARY 2013

SCOPE

THE PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



Save the Date

Club Meeting 2 January 2013

The program will be about Homebrew. Presented by Pat WA6MHZ

Board Meeting 9 January 2013

Palomar Amateur Radio Club board meeting at 7:30pm at K2RP QTH.

YLDX Meeting 13 January 2013

Annual YLDX meeting in San Juan Capistrano. Are you a YL interested in adventure? Join us!



A partial list of nametags at the December meeting.

KG6WLR, KR6BL, DF6QCM, W6RLC, WA8ZHG, KK6EME, KE6SDF, KJ6ZLU, KG6NNG, KI6GSG, KG6SJP, K6PFP, N1BL, W0KJV, KI6BKR, K6RJF, KI6BTP, AF6SH, WD6DUX, AA6TR, KJ6UWJ, KG6RLA, KE6UYI, KI6JOZ, KF6YUW, KI6YK, KG6YDC, WA6PPG, NA6MB

If you need a nametag, you can order one at most meetings at the membership table.

<p>HAM RADIO OUTLET</p> <p>Jose XE2SJB Jerry N5MCJ Joe N6SIX</p> <p>H R O</p>	<p>KENWOOD <i>rf</i> CONCEPTS DIAMOND US TOWERS KANTRONICS YAESU, MFJ, ICOM BENCHER, Inc. HUSTLER COMET AMERITRON</p>	<p><i>Astron,</i> AEA, OUTBACKER <i>Larsen Antennas</i> TEN-TEC <i>Hy-gain, Tri-EX,</i> <i>Cushcraft And Others</i> <i>too</i> <i>Numerous to</i> <i>Mention!</i></p>	<p>Drop in to see our display of working equipment. Find out about Pkt location determining equipment (APRS). Check our complete line of magazines, ARRL books, license manuals, and Bulletin Board with all sorts of Goodies listed.</p>
<p>Open: 10a.m. – 5:30p.m. Monday thru Saturday 858 560-4900 or toll free 1-800-854-6046</p> <p><i>Ask about our great prices</i></p>	<p>Directions: On 163, take Clairemont Mesa Blvd. off ramp to East. Stay in right-hand lane. Turn right at stoplight. As you are turning right you can see our beams in this shopping center. Travel 100 yds. On Kearny Villa Rd. and U-turn back to shopping area and HRO sign. Be sure to see our equipment in action on real antennas!</p>		

The Night Before Christmas -- for Hams

The antennas reached up from the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals That bounced from the sky.
The children (Tech-licensed) took HT's to their bed,
And dreamed of the day they'd be Extras instead.
Mom put on her headphones, I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters for that rare ZK3.
When the meter was pegged by a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode, and, I swear, shook the tower.
Mom yanked off her phones, And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal on the DX Packet Cluster,
While I ran to the window And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate RF so very high.
It was way in the distance, but the moon made it gleam --
A flying sleigh, with an eight element beam.
And a little old driver who looked slightly mean.
(So I thought for a moment, that it might be Wayne Green.)
But no, it was Santa -- the Santa of Hams.
On a mission this Christmas to clean up the bands.
He circled the tower, then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax right into the shack.
While Mom and I hid behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming knew just what to do.
He cleared off the shack desk of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs for a good start.
He ran copper braid, took a steel rod and pounded
Right into the earth, 'til the station was grounded.
He tightened loose fittings, resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation, installed lightning protection.
He neutralized tubes in my linear amp...
(Never worked right before -- now it works like a champ).
A new low-pass filter cleaned up the TV,
He corrected the settings in my TNC.
He repaired the computer that would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive and got it to boot.
Then, he reached really deep in the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box, "A new rig?" I thought!
"A new Kenwood? An Icom? A Yaesu? For me?!"
(If he thought I'd been bad it might be QRP!)
Yes! The Ultimate Station! How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours that I worked Public Service?
He hooked it all up and then very quickly
Worked 100 countries (all down on 160).
I should have been happy: it was my call he sent,
But the cards and the postage will cost two month's rent!
He made final adjustments, and left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus. Seventy-Three."
Then he grabbed his HT, looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad, and was gone -- no good bye.
I ran back to the station, and the pile-up was big,
But a card from St. Nick would be worth my new rig.
Oh, too late, for his final came over the air.
It was copied all over. It was heard everywhere.
The Ham's Santa exclaimed what a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all, good DX."

73's

Joe Nadeau-KB1DGG

Operating Day at Fry's

by Dennis KD6TUJ

On Sunday November 18, 2012, a bunch of Amateurs went to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the public at Fry's in San Marcos. Groups representing CERT, Palomar Amateur Radio Club, QRP, PAPA/D-Star, Skywarn, Red Cross, Fallbrook Amateur Radio Club, 10m tech, and PSK31.

By the time the PARC trailer arrived most of the others were setting up for the day. Set up went well. Conrad KG6JEI pulled the trailer with Greg KI6RRX following and not collecting any losses on the front of his truck. Dennis KD6TUJ arrived as they did. Tom KG6RCW led the set up of the site at Fry's. He set up a double row for visitors to walk down. We had quite a few visitors inquire about different aspect of ham radio. Several asked about how and where to get licensed.

CERT had a cased portable 2m/70cm and a portable repeater on a wide split. This is an approved band plan item that makes the need for cavities almost zero based on power and other frequencies in use. Palomar had an HF station hosted by Tom KG6RCW. The radio display of public use radios got some attention and help steer visitors to understand why amateur radio is so useful. Harry W6YOO brought out his QRP setup working HF CW at 2 watts and getting through. PAPA/D-STAR showed digital radio voice characteristics and internet connectivity. Skywarn had information on their weather spotter program for the public.

On the other side of the aisle was Red Cross with their trailer to support local emergencies. They have the ability to cross-connect several different types of radio. Fallbrook Amateur Radio Club brought their tower trailer using 2m/70cm. Emmett KJ6CLP brought his trailer that he made with a 60 foot tower. He was on the 10m tech segment. Jim NE6O came with psk 3.1 using a Yaesu FT847 and a loop antenna. Jim can help on loops.

The day was great, lots of sunshine with some breezes. We all closed down starting at 4pm, which was good as it was dark by the time we returned to storage. Everyone had a good time showing off Amateur Radio. How can you have a bad day with radio?

Dennis
KD6TUJ



ANTENNA TRUNK LID



DRIVER VIEW



ANTENNA MOUNT INSIDE VIEW



SIDE VIEW OF
THE BRACKET

Mobile Installation

by John WB6IQS

I bought a new vehicle to replace my 210K+ miles 1993 Crown Victoria. I moved the original Alinco DR-570 dual bander to the newer 48K miles 2002 Mercury Grand Marquis. This is a very similar car to the Crown Victoria but the internal construction is much heavier, with extra sound proofing and thicker padded seats. The main problem with this installation was that the seats needed to go farther forward and that the cup holder was much lower than on the Crown Victoria. Thus preventing a standard and more hidden “under dash” installation.

I ended up making an extra long support bracket out of two mobile mounts that I got at the Chino Hills High School electronic flea market (every 3d Saturday of the month). The radio is supported on a center hump mount that goes into the sheet steel through the heavy rug / sound insulation. This car’s drive train design is based on a standard rear wheel drive using a drive shaft and automatic transmission. Because of the radio’s high tilt angle the display is very easy to see, however it is much harder to hide this radio when I am forced to park the car in unprotected locations.

The antenna installation on the trunk lid used a 3/4” thru-hole NMO mount. However, because of the Mercury’s double thick sheet steel construction I had to drill two holes. One over-sized 1.5” hole for working access and one 3/4” for the NMO weatherproof compression mount. The antenna is a Larson dual bander (2 meters/ 450 MHz).

John Kuivinen, WB6IQS. Vista, CA.





Here's a few photos from recent Lunch Bunch meetings at Phil's BBQ and Fuddrucker's Hamburgers. Topics ranged from octopus raiding parties to DXpedition tactics recently learned in Samoa and how to scatter stinging jellyfish when you are done with your dive.

The lunch bunch welcomes all for a friendly Friday lunch. Locations vary. An email is sent out on Wednesday with details for the Friday lunch.

Sign up at <http://www.w0ni.com>

Tower Maintenance

Charlie NN3V and Tom KG6RCW came to TOWizard storage to meet Dennis KD6TUJ to discuss tower maintenance. Of concern was the cable used to lift and lower the towers and attaching hardware to the bade plates. It was determined that we have 2 60 foot, 1 50 foot, and 2 40 foot towers and would like to replace the cable on all. Charlie has checked availability and pricing. The board has approved an allotment for supplies and hardware. Joe NU6L has crimpers for the cable stops and will let us (or himself) use them. Check with Charlie for the next tower maintenance day. We will extend all the towers prior to needing them to make sure they will extend and retract with the minimun need of help. We want to have them ready well before Field Day.

Dennis
KD6TUJ









PARC Holiday Party was held 6 December 2012. A great time was had by all. Highlights include the Antenna Farm cake, complete with operational tower, and a Malpelo Island DXpedition video hosted by Harry W6YOO. For more information about this duanting DXpedition, check out <http://hk0na.com>

Photos by Don WD6FWE and Michelle W5NYV.







10 Meter Contest

In recognition of achieving a winning score by working fellow amateurs on 28 MHz during the contest period.

Presented to

N6KI

(+ W6RW, AF6WF, K6KAL, N6ERD, NN6X, N6EEG, K4RB, W2PWS, K6GO, N6OHS)

SCORE: 532,770

FIRST PLACE - MULTIOPERATOR, HIGH POWER

SAN DIEGO SECTION



Kay Craigie
President, ARRL

N3KN 2011

[Signature]
Contest Manager

KX9X



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San Diego Contest Contest Operators had a lot of fun working the ARRL 10 Meter Contest from a portable site near Bonsall California, Dec 9, 2012.

Watch video here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_N9WUNRGz9k



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December 12, 2012

Dear Contest Participant-

It is my pleasure to mail your certificate for the 2011 ARRL 10 Meter Contest; congratulations on your accomplishment!

I must apologize for these certificates being late. With the new design, I had problems with the layout of all the data on the certificate. I hope the new look was worth the delay to you.

The 2011 ARRL 10 Meter Contest will stand as the largest ARRL contest in memory. The combination of exceptional propagation, combined with amateurs worldwide wanting a good 10 meter opening, came together for the 2011 ARRL 10 Meter Contest. Over 5,300 logs were received, the highest amount of participation for any one ARRL contest in the League's history.

Sadly, conditions were not as good this year as 2011. Things picked up on Sunday, with a long path opening to Asia being reported!

2013 should be a great year for contesting; we're still atop a solar maximum (however minimum the maximum may be) and more amateurs are interested in radiosport. Enjoy while you can!

Don't forget that you can find a wealth of information about ARRL contests on our web site, www.arrl.org/contests.

Congratulations again on your certificate!

73,

Sean Kutzko KX9X
ARRL Contest Branch Manager

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Advocacy

Education

Technology

Membership

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AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

International Secretariat of The International Amateur Radio Union

Membership for December SCOPE

New Members the last month or two.

KG6TUL, WA6L, KJ6NT, KJ6LLU, KJ6ZQB, N6JAI, and N5KKW

And some Reinstatements too!

Way to go!!

**AI
W6GNI**

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Fold & Staple that did November Scope

AI Donlevy W6GNI Kathy Donlevy

Jo Ashley KB6NMK Sonny Stires WA5ACE

Dave Ochs KI6LKP Janet Meyer and Roni Elsberry W6UPM

Do you have a mobile installation? Do you want to have a mobile installation, and need some motivation?

We're looking for a few good mobile installations - whether they're completed, on the drawing board, or half-way done and tripping you and your passengers every time you get in and out of the vehicle - to be featured in the Scope. We'd love to show your installation.

Tips, narratives, explanations, techniques, problems encountered and solved (or encountered and evaded) are what we're looking for. Send them in!
scope@palomararc.org

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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 7:30pm on the 2nd of January 2013, Palomar Amateur Radio Club will present Ham Radio Homebrew by Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ. Back in the early days of Ham Radio, most of the equipment Hams used was homebrew. There were very few commercial companies making gear that was affordable, so Hams learned to make their own. Often, you can not buy what you need in an application, so the only way to get it is to BUILD it!

This program will show some of the many many projects WA6MHZ has built over the past few decades in a world where making an Electronic Frankenstein is an ART! Come at 7:00pm to socialize.

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