

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Celebrating 81 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*



The Kepler Mission, in Search of Exoplanets

William J. Borucki

Mr. Borucki earned a graduate and undergraduate studies in Physics at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and an MS, Meteorology, California State University, San Jose. In 1962, he joined the Hypersonic Free Flight Branch at the NASA Ames Research Center.

From 1962 through 1972, Mr. Borucki conducted laboratory and theoretical studies of the radiation and plasma environments of entry vehicles. In 1972, after the successful Moon landings, he transferred to the Theoretical Studies Branch where he developed mathematical models of the Earth's stratosphere to predict the effects of nitric oxides and chlorofluoromethanes on the ozone layer.

In 1984, he began advocating the development of a space mission that could detect Earth-size planets and determine the frequency of Earth-size planets in the habitable zone of Sun-like stars. His proposal to the NASA Discovery Program for the Kepler Mission was selected for funding in 2001 and he was appointed its Principal Investigator.

Mr. Borucki retired in 2015 from the NASA Ames Research Center. He continues his research as an Ames Associate.

Mr. Borucki has received many awards, the most recent few are:

- 2017 Election to American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 2016 Elected Fellow of American Association for the Advancement of Science
- 2016 Bower Award; Achievement in science-exoplanets, Franklin Institute
- 2015 Frank Drake Award, SETI Institute (10/15/2015)
- 2015 Shaw Prize for conceiving and leading the Kepler Mission

His memberships include:

- American Astronomical Society
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- International Astronomical Union

Upcoming Events

Oct. 5	PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
Nov. 2	Cubberly Community Center, Room
Dec 7	H-6, 4000 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
Oct. 17	Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Nov. 21	Everyone welcome!
Dec 19	Location: Marty, W6NEV, QTH



President's Corner

October 2018

Greetings from Santa Fe, New Mexico, where my son Christopher and I have just arrived. And I just came back from ARRL HQ in Newington. Before that we had the PAARA sponsored Flea Market.



The PAARA sponsored ASVARO Electronics Flea Market at Fry's Electronics in Sunnyvale was a great success for the club. We had perfect weather. Arriving well before dawn, it wasn't very cold, and it wasn't long before Jim, K6SV, and Darryl, KI6LDM, had the tent set up and ready to go. Jim had hauled all of the gear in from its temporary parking spot at Darryl's house. The coffee was brewed at home by Darryl so we'd be ready to sell as soon as people were ready to buy. Our gate crew, including Clark, KK6ISP, Paul KK6HWN, Seth, KE6UZX, and Harry, K4YR, got the vendors through the

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WHISKY TWO HOTEL

This July in New York City there was a biannual hacker convention (www.hope.net) where a group of attending hams set up and operated a special event station W2H. PAARA members Thomas W4TCP, Rachel K3SLE and your author Henry W6REK were among them.

Thomas and myself brought the transceiver for the HF station, an IC-7100 100W mobile HF rig with an LDG IC-100 antenna tuner and a laptop for FT8. Another ham brought a nice Motorola UHF repeater and coordinated a frequency pair in the 440's where we could operate it at 20W for the weekend. Since we put our antennas up on the roof of the 20-story hotel, that 20W went a good ways into neighboring states. Other hams brought five 150' lengths of feedline, an off-center-fed (OCF) 80m dipole for the HF station, a discone antenna for VHF operations, a vertical antenna for the UHF repeater, and lots of miscellaneous gear.

I had been told by Eric N6SPP that there had been 6m and 10m openings recently on the east coast, and luckily we found some using the IC-7100 and the 80m OCF. I had SSB phone contacts in Georgia and Alabama on 10m and with an eastern Texas station on 6m. We had no luck with SSB on lower bands, and only made contacts on 20m and 40m with FT8, but we did reach over a dozen countries in Europe that way. On the roof there was an extra shed that we think interfered with the long end of the OCF and kept it from working well on the low bands. On 80m the noise floor in the middle of Manhattan was S9+10,

making that band pretty useless.

The repeater was busy for a lot of the weekend. We used it especially to coordinate between people at the operating station and people setting up or taking down antennas on the roof. It also experienced a good bit of nonsense and borderline abuse by people not at the conference, but so it goes. In other project, one ham tried running an old-school packet BBS on 2m, but his equipment had problems and was not stable.

Our operating station was set up on the top conference floor of the hotel, right where people go in & out of the main speaker track room, so we had plenty of people stopping by and showing interest. There was a class for novices on Friday and license exams on Sunday, where several dozen new hams got licensed and a good number upgraded their license.

Since we had over a dozen good hams helping out, it wasn't that hard on any one person to make this happen. We coordinated most of it in a single email thread and used a shared spreadsheet to volunteer to bring equipment. Getting a 1x1 special event station call sign and coordination for a repeater for

the weekend was not a problem. It did help that we had done this in prior years, and we try not to make the same mistake twice.

So you might want to think about public events that you attend where a ham radio station would be a welcome distraction!

73 de Henry W6REK



Henry & Thomas on the roof during setup.

PACIFICON SPECIAL EVENT STATION W1AW/6

PAARA is again sponsoring the Pacificon Special Event Station, W1AW/6. The station consists of 4 HF stations with amplifiers. It takes several people to set up, man, and take down the station. Therefore, I am looking for volunteers to assist in this effort.

Set up will begin about 4 P.M. Thursday, October 18. This will include, positioning the tower trailer, assembling the KT34M2 antenna, setting up a 40M and 75M wire antennas, and raising these on the tower. Also, the two operating canopies and tables and chairs will be set up. It will take about 4 or 5 people to assist.

Friday, October 19, 8 A.M, the radios, amps, and all the interconnecting cables will be assembled. I'll need 3 or 4 people to assist. The plan is to have at least one station operating by Noon Friday.

Friday, October 19, Noon until Sunday, October 21, Noon, I'll need people to assist in operating the stations, answering questions, logging (if necessary), and monitoring the set up. I especially need people to man the station overnight Friday and Saturday.

Sunday, October 21, Noon, I'll need people to help take everything down. Again, 4 to 5 people will be needed.

If you have time and the itch to help with this fun event, I would greatly appreciate your assistance. I can be reached at w6nev@arrl.net, or 408-234-8023. Let me know how you would like to help with and when you would be available.

Thanks.

Marty, W6NEV
408-234-8023
w6nev@arrl.net
mcwayne2@comcast.net

September 19, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at Marty's QTH, commencing at 7:26 PM on September 19, 2018. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Larry Rebarchik, N6DB (Dir) via videoconference, Joel Wilhite, KD6W (Dir & Technical Coordinator), and non-board member Clark Martin, KK6ISP, (ASVARO Representative). A quorum was present.

Kristen, (K6WX), opened the meeting describing what an interesting experience it was to tour the ARRL home office and meet a lot of the people behind the scenes. She was able to talk to many key people in depth to learn their role in the organization and answer some of her questions. She had several conversations regarding the challenge in getting new hams to become active in the hobby. Seems there is a growing percentage of people getting licensed that never go any further.

Kristen mentioned her reserve of stories is nonexistent, thus there is an urgent need for stories. Please, if you've committed to a story but not submitted it (there are several people out there fitting this category) 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 'homegrown' stories that make PAARAgaphs great", she said.

Vice President's Report: Marty, W6NEV, announced the October speaker is Bill Borucki who will present a talk on "Kepler Mission in Search of Exoplanets". Marty also mentioned that he has speakers booked for the remainder of the year. He's starting to work on next year so please let Marty know of anyone who would be interested in presenting at a PAARA meeting.

Secretary's report: Jim, K6SV, reported that there were 2 new members joining in September. The current membership stands at 198. The current

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gate with the proper paperwork and made sure they got to their spaces properly. As light filled the sky, the spaces filled up and the donuts disappeared. There was so much great gear there and so many friends to see and talk with. The morning wore on and more and more vendors filled the aisles, until we were finally told that we had sold out the entire stock of spaces. A short while later almost all of the donuts were sold and much of the soda. Things looked good financially. But we also had a great time. When 12:00 rolled around, we started tearing things down just as the vendors began packing. Everything was loaded back on the trailer. I and Andrew, N6DRU, began scrubbing off the chalk marks from the asphalt. Finally I was the only one left, with Jim promising to come back and take care of the cardboard recycling after I finished kicking out the slow vendors and cleaning up what I could of the remaining garbage. As it turned out, I missed some garbage, which Jim subsequently picked up. It was a lot of work, but we can be proud of having another successful EFM. And with the lower costs to the club, we should net much more than we have over the last few years. Special thanks go out to KG6LWE, N6NFI, K6SV, KI6LDM, KI6DAR, W6AZ, KK6ISP, K4YR, KD6KYT, KJ6SEE, KE6UZX, KF6EMB, N6DRU, K6AJS, KC6TYD, and KG6ZOO. Without you, it wouldn't have been possible. If I missed anyone, please let me know and you will get special mention next month.

The morning after the last PAARA meeting I flew out to Connecticut to attend my Vice Director orientation at HQ. I was picked up by Dan Henderson, N1ND, at my hotel and he shepherded me through the entire outing. Orientation was an all-day affair where I got a chance to meet and speak with ARRL staff. In particular, I got spend some time with Barry Shelley, N1VXY, interim CEO. It was extremely informative and interesting on many levels. Along the way I got a few questions answered for PAARA and also expressed my opinion about directions the League should consider for the future. Now I'm better informed about how to serve in my

new role, and that will help me to better serve all of you in the Pacific Division.

The Duke City Hamfest in Albuquerque is a wrap for 2018, but it was different this year because it was in a new venue - The Isleta Casino and Resort - and it was a little later in the year. I really like September in New Mexico. It's still warm with just a hint of the winter to come. And the skies are beautiful. I got to talk with the Rocky Mountain Division Director and Vice Director, as well as spend time talking to Nevada Section Manager John Bigley, N7UR, and Bob Heil, W9EID. And I gave a talk somewhere in there. I also got to call out some raffle winners. It was just like being at a PAARA meeting. The hamfest will be staying at Isleta for the next few years at least, and I will be there too. I hope you'll join me there sometime in the future.

Take care and see you all at the next PAARA meeting. CU ON THE BANDS DE K6WX

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membership is made up of 48% Tech/General and 52% Amateur Extra/Advanced licensed amateurs.

Treasurer's Report: Ron, W6AZ, was not able to attend the meeting but did provide information, with the assistance of Bob Korte, KD6KYT. The net profits from the Flea Market were approximately \$2,500. The board was pleased with the efforts of this year's Flea Market and wished to thank all those who volunteered time to make it a success.

Under Old Business,

Marty, W6NEV, updated the board, on the next field trip which is to the SS Red Oak Victory, the last surviving, out of 747, World War II Victory ships. This will be a drive yourself to Richmond tour of the ship. There are 2 tours one can sign up for, one including the engine room, the other not. The tour will also include a box lunch. The field trip will be on November 10th at 10:00 AM. Also, of note, MDARC has been invited to join us. This will give the opportunity for each club to get to know members of the other club and meet at an event other than Pacificon. You can find more about the ship at <http://redoakvictory.us/>. You can

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signup for the tour at <http://www.paara.org/pages/events-current.html>.

Walt, K6WGY, though not at the meeting, has worked at contacting advertisers in PAAR-Agraphs. Several ads have been removed for a number of reasons. The board discussed needing a few more advertisers to fill some of the ad space. If you know of anyone or a company who would be interested in advertising in PAAR-Agraphs, please have them contact Walt.

Marty, W6NEV, mentioned still needing volunteers to staff the W1AW/6 special event station at Pacificon. He especially needs overnight operators/assistants. However, he needs help with all activities related to setting up, assisting operators during the event and teardown of the station. The plan is to start the setup of the station late Thursday, October 18th with the goal of having at least one radio online by noon on Friday. Last year they were able to get all 4 stations operational by noon, which he hopes will be the case again this year. Teardown starts on Sunday the 21st at noon.

Clark, KK6ISP, ASVARO representative, mentioned that ASVARO has started negotiations with Fry's on hosting the Flea Market next year. There is also some discussion on looking into expanding the space and other options for next year.

There are several other items on the agenda that haven't been worked on very much or could wait until the next meeting, thus at this point there is no new news on them.

Under New Business:

Joel, KD6W, updated the board on the repeater shack. He mentioned a small party going up this weekend to re-paint the shack and clean around it in preparation for winter. He also mentioned the 2M radio still is offline due to a fan issue. He's working on fixing the problem. There may be additional work done depending on time.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Jim Thielemann, K6SV
Secretary/membership

Please Welcome New members

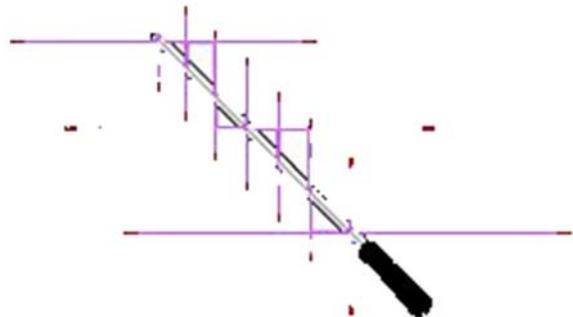
Bill Auth	KM6QCS
Bill Cusick	AI6LS

October Raffle Prizes

- 1st Baofeng UV5RTP Tri-Power VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver / Thanks Kristen K6WX donation



- 2nd Arrow 2m/440 Yagi



- 3rd Daiwa CS-201A Coax Switch



- 4th through 8th prizes will be a surprise.



September Raffle Winners

- 2nd Arrow dual-band Yagi antenna.- John, KM6SKA
 7th Lux Pro 210 Lumen LED light.- Jeff, AJ6XZ
 5th Illuminated head-band magnifier.- Ric, N6AJS
 6th Bosch drill set.- Darryl, KI6LDM
 1st Baofeng 2 Meter HT.- John, KM6LQZ
 3rd Daiwa 2-position coax switch - Stephen, KM6SJA
 4th 2 Midland FRS radios - Rob, KJ6POG

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

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	kristen@alum.mit.edu	
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	w6nev@arrl.net	
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	thielem@pacbell.net	
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	ron@taxhelp.com	

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	kd6w@arrl.net	
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	walt@tradewindsaviation.com	
Director ('18)	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	650 465-8210
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('18)	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	
Asst. to the Treasurer....	Bob Korte, KD6KYT	408 396 4745
	bob@rgktechsales.com	
Badge Coordinator	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wci.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	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-234-8023
Speaker Coordinator	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-234-8023

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	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

Electronics Flea Market

Sponsorship by A.S.V.A.R.O. — Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations

Second Saturday of month, March-September, 6am–12 noon

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.k6va.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, 10M (28.385) 8PM Thur.

Meets 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.

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 2nd Wednesday of every month except July, August and December.

Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, president@wvara.org

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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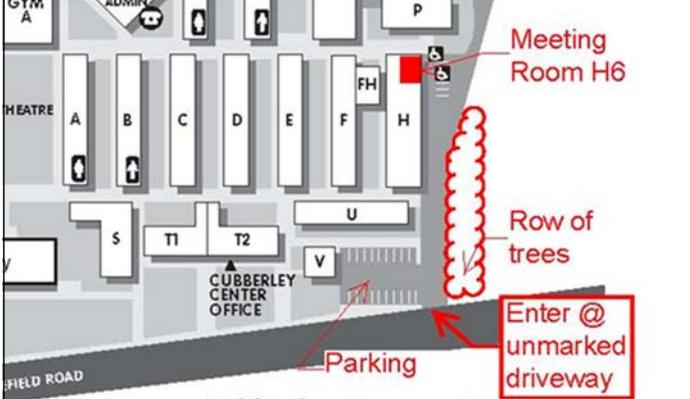
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PAARA Weekly Radio Net

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

Week	Control Operator
1 st	Joel KD6W
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - W1VSL
4 th	Rob - KC6TYD
5 th	Rob - KC6TYD

If you're interested in trying out at Net Control,
 Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice,



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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 \$25.00 per calendar year,
 which includes one subscription to PAARAgaphs
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PAARA Badges

You can order a \$20 badge from the PAARA web site or at a meeting through Doug Teter, KG6LWE, and usually pick it up at the next meeting.

PAARA W6OTX DMR Repeater Frequencies	
144 – 144.9625 up 2.5 MHz	DMR—NOR CAL Brandmeister Network
440 – 444.475 up 5 MHz	DMR
1.2G – 1284.15 down 12MHz	Off line
1.2G – 1249.15 half duplex	Off line



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 Photos: jpg, png or tiff

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

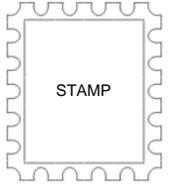
PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

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).
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PAARAgaphs — October 2018

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