The 2009 DXpedition to Desecheo Island - K5D is brought to you from a small, uninhabited islet of the archipelago of Puerto Rico located in the northeast of the Mona Passage. It has a land area of only .59 sq. mi. Desecheo has no known bodies of surface water and reaches a maximum elevation of 715 ft. It is most inhospitable!

Bob, K4UEE and Ed, W4ZSB have produced yet another exciting DXpedition video! In the tradition of previous video productions, the K5D DXpedition video, entitled, "Desecheo... So Rare, So Near, Yet So Far" is full of exciting footage of the helicopter trips, the island from the air, camp set up and takedown, QSO pileups you won't believe and an inside look into the logistics of big DXpeditions. Featured interviews with key team members add human interest and of course, humor abounds.
The Geloso Twins
Rigs from bygone years.

Ben Deovlet, W6FDU

Geloso was a post-WWII Italian electronics manufacturer that produced home radios, audio amplifiers, TV sets, home Hi-Fi and stereo equipment, as well as amateur radio rigs. Geloso was a fully integrated manufacturer in that they produced all of their designs and components as well. The Geloso ham radio equipment was popular during the late mid-fifties through the mid-seventies. “Popular, you say, but why haven’t I heard about them.” Well, they were popular primarily in Europe, Africa, throughout the Middle East, and over to India since they proved to be less expensive than their American counterparts plus their shipping costs, customs duties, and so forth. Remember, the Japanese ham market had not yet been established...that would take another decade. I recall photos in QST of foreign hams’ stations, and most of them were using Geloso. I bought the transmitter and receiver in the early 1960s, and later used them from the top (eighth) floor of the Norton Hall dormitory at the University of California, Berkeley. My roommate, Steve, who is now AC6T and I strung two sets of parallel dipoles from the roof of our dorm to the roof of the adjacent dorm. The antennas were used as a bi-directional phased array, and they worked quite well. Yes, the sunspots were smiling on us during those years.

The Geloso rigs came in custom-made wooden crates with rope handles which, in my opinion, gave them a bit of class over the conventional cardboard packaging. The G-209R receiver was a rather conventional double conversion design that received CW, AM, SSB, and with a Terminal Unit or converter, RTTY. It had a tunable first oscillator and crystal controlled second conversion oscillators, one for USB and one for LSB. For selectivity, it uses a conventional single crystal filter with a phasing control. It covered the 80 through 10 meter ham bands and also included the 11 meter band, which at the

Fig 1. Geloso Receiver and Transmitter, circa 1960s

Fig 2. Receiver Tuning Indicator

(Geloso — Continued on page 3)
Celebrating 82 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

The G-222-TR AM and CW transmitter used a single 6146 final amplifier and was modulated by a pair of 807 tubes and was VFO controlled. It was styled to match the G-209R receiver, and one could think of it as a “lesser” Johnson Ranger. It used a Clapp 6CL6 acting as an oscillator, buffer, and multiplier driving a 5763 amplifier which then drove a single 6146 amplifier running in Class C operation with pi-network coupling to the antenna. Antenna switching from transmitter to receiver was done by a manual transmit/receive switch on the front panel. The “heart” of the rig was a transmitting VFO module, the 4/104-S which was sold as a separate item for the homebrewers. The power amplifier was modulated by a pair of push-pull 807 tubes which were driven by three stages of triode amplification (12AX7 tubes) feeding a 12AX7 phase inverter. The audio input was high impedance, such as from a crystal microphone; I used a D-104 microphone for my dorm room set up.

In addition to Ham equipment, Geloso made TV sets, home audio Hi-Fi and stereos, tape recorders, home radios, and higher power audio amplifiers for use in movie theaters, and so forth. This equipment was widely used within Europe and the related markets. In addition to the Ham transmitter and receiver, they also produced a VFO and converter for the two-meter band and in their later years, an SSB ham band transmitter. Quite frankly, the Geloso Amateur...
Radio rigs represented the conventional designs of the 1950s, and as expected, were not sterling performers. Unlike fine wine, they haven’t improved with age. Yet, they were fun to use. I bought them when their popularity was waning since Geloso, like many other manufacturers, were now producing SSB equipment. I later replaced them with a Hallicrafters HT-32 transmitter and a National NC-300 receiver, and I then later traded these rigs for a used Collins KWM-1 transceiver. This Collins rig worked 20 through 10 meters continuously, and its design was the forerunner of the KWM-2 and the various iterations of the S-line. By the way, I still have my old KWM-1 on the air. Did you know that this rig was designed with the CIA in mind? It has an interesting history, which I’ll save for a future article. Meanwhile, I’ll have these Geloso rigs and their associated schematic and physical layout documents on display for the January show-and-tell.

de W6FDU, Ben


frequencies above this - even 20 - 15 meters. That’s why daytime propagation on those bands in the summer can be weak. In the spring, though, there isn’t much absorption yet. Then at night, when the F layer begins to recombine (the nuclei and elections of the gas atoms find each other using the electric force), the time spent recombining is shortened. So the layers stay charged longer. It’s a happy medium. This also happens at the fall equinox. This is why there are contest seasons roughly centered around the two equinoxes - propagation is improved meaning more fun! Take advantage of this situation and get on those HF bands. You might find things generally better. With our quiet sun it still might not be great, but you never know until you try.

I made my annual trek to the Yuma Hamfest just a week ago as I write. I missed it last year since I was in Vietnam. The Lunar New Year unfortunately overlapped with the hamfest. I was back this year with two talks to make up for missing the last one. The drive down was nothing but rain, even through LA and beyond. There were many slippery roads through San Bernardo- no. Some were even washed out by rivers of orange mud. I had to drive very slowly in places where there was a foot or more of rushing mud and water. It was really something to see. I finally arrived in Yuma Thursday evening to high winds and clouds. I went right over to see some of my IOOK friends and fellow Vice Presidents and enjoy some adult beverages. The hamfest started on Friday and I gave the first talk of the event. It was so fun being back there with all of the people I knew from years past and the sound of freedom coming from the MCAS across the highway. We got a nice demonstration of a VTOL jet hovering over the runway. I’m not sure what it was exactly, but it was certainly loud and majestic. Friday night we had a traditional IOOK pizza dinner that was unfortunately only lightly attended, in particular because Pink was missing. K7ILA couldn’t make it because she had a cardiac event right before the hamfest. She is fine and was there in spirit. Saturday was another great day with everyone that I capped with a root beer float from Zemmer’s homemade root beer. Fantastic! I ran into PAARA member Henry, W6REK, who came down from SoCal to visit. And then there was the Buzzard BBQ, featuring an amazing array of raffle prizes. Here are just a few: Flex 6600, FT-DX5000, IC-7610, K3S, KX3, IC-7300, TS-890S, and more. It was just unreal, particularly when one person won two of those great radios (the Yaesu and the Kenwood). Banquet tickets sold out in just a few hours. I drove home on Sunday in one big push. The weather was dryer than the trip down, but there was snow over Tejon Pass. It was exciting and treacher- ous. Once again the Yuma Hamfest was unfor- gettable. Please join me there next year.

Don’t forget the PAARA sponsored ASVARO Electronics Flea Market on March 9th. We are the first market of the year this time. I’ve al- ready sent out emails looking for volunteers, but please contact me if you haven’t heard from me and want to help. CU AT PAARA AND THE EFM IN MARCH DE K6WX
Feb 20, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at Marty’s QTH, commencing at 7:20 PM on February 20, 2018. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne, W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann, K6SV (Secretary/Membership), Ron Chester, W6AZ (Treasurer) via videoconference, Darryl Presley, K6LDM (Dir) via audio conference, Walter Gyger K6WGY (Dir), and non-board member Clark Martin, KK6ISP, (ASVARO Representative). A quorum was present. Also present were guests from ASVARO Mikel Lechner KN6IQ (President), Jeff Shimbo AK6TG (Treasurer).

Kristen, (K6WX), opened the meeting by yielding the floor to Mikel, KN6IQ. Mikel provided information to the board from the ASVARO board meeting which was held on 2/18/19. Mikel was pleased to report on cost-saving measures that are largely the result of Fry’s hosting the Electronic Flea Market (EFM) and changes in how the trash is handled after the event. PAARA, who has the 1st EFM on March 9th, will have to remove any cardboard left at the close of the event. All sponsoring clubs will also have this added task. The end result of the changes brings the cost to PAARA down to $550! Very welcome news. Mikel also advised us that they voted to replace many of the tables that are falling apart with new plastic ones. This also is welcome as the plastic tables are much lighter and don’t have issues with spilled drinks and ice that the wood ones do.

The board asked Mikel if he had any information regarding what Fry’s thought of the EFM. Though he hasn’t received much feedback from them, they have loosely indicated a modest increase in business when the EFM is there. There is speculation that it may be in additional sales in their food court. Mikel indicated there is no information regarding the EFM being able to sell food other than donuts, though it has been a topic of discussion at ASVARO. After more discussion about ASVARO, the board thanked Mikel for coming to the board meeting and all the information he provided which answered a number of questions the board had.

Kristen, (K6WX), resumed the normal sequence of the meeting mentioning the need for speakers at the meetings. Several possibilities were mentioned to Marty for exploration.

Vice President’s Report: Marty, W6NEV, commented that we’ll again have a DVD of a DXpedition as he couldn’t drum up a speaker. He did mention having two speakers lined up for April and May.

Secretary’s report: Jim, K6SV, reported that there are 216 members but there are 93 on the “chopping block” that haven’t renewed their membership for 2019. He reminds everyone that it’s past time for all 2018 members to renew for 2019. This is the last month non-renewing members will receive PAARAgraphs. Look at your PAARAgraphs mailing label for the year your membership expires. If your membership expires in 2018, it will be in RED. You can renew anytime through our website, http://www.paara.org/pages/members-current.html, drop a check in the mail or at a meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: Ron, W6AZ, reported that the proceeds from January and February are on par for this time of year. The raffle proceeds were very close to breaking even.

Under Old Business,

Marty, W6NEV, reminded the board that a new champion is needed for the special event station at Pacificon this year. He mentioned that it’s not that hard but does take a dedicated individual to put it together. Please contact Marty or any board member if you’re interested in this important role. Though Pacificon seems like a long time from now, MDARC is already in the planning stages for 2019.

Ron, W6AZ, provided a detailed report on a conversation he had with Gerry, N6NV, regarding the “PAARA stuff” that Gerry has stored at the farm or his house. The upshot of the conversation is Gerry would like Rebar to help him inventory the towers and other items that are at the farm and eliminate anything that’s not of value. Gerry feels he has two more pickup truck loads of goodies to sell. Once that is done and the good items that he and Rebar agree are worth

(Minutes — Continued on page 6)
Celebrating 82 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

February Raffle Winners

Front to Back, Left to Right

3rd  Shri, AJ6GV, Sure 450 classic desk mike, N.O.S. in box
7th  Greg, KE7DO, clip-on LED flex light
8th  Cliff, KN6DH, Big bag o' bungees
2nd  Ben, W6FDU, Daiwa, 2-position Coax switch
1st  Ric N6AJS, Arrow dual-band Yagi antenna
5th  Marty, W6NEV, 2 Midland FRS radios with batteries & drop-in charger
6th  Darryl, KI6LDM, 175 Lumen LED headlight
4th  Steve, WB6KIO, Tool and 1/2" socketset

Keeping are moved out of the farm, Gerry will be officially retired from being the PAARA property manager and selling PAARA "stuff". The board recognizes the GIGANTIC contribution Gerry has made over his many years of service to the club in his many roles and to the financial health of the club.

As it was getting rather late, other items on the agenda that haven't been worked on very much or weren't as critical will be topics for next month.

Under New Business:

Jim, K6SV, mentioned Rachell Kinoshita, KK6DAC, (new member mailing) contacted him indicating she's run out of new member cards. She also mentioned the need to find another volunteer for this job. There was a short discussion regarding the impact this program has had on drawing new members. The jury is out on that so the decision was made to hold off on printing any more cards for the time being.

Kristen, K6WX, asked if a Field Day planning meeting was in the works yet. The short answer was not yet. One needs to happen very soon as June will rush up on us very quickly.

Walt, K6WGY, reported being proactive in getting all the advertisers in PAARAlgraphs contacted and sent invoices for 2019. He reported hearing from almost all of them.

The board meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.
Jim Thielemann, K6SV
Secretary/membership

Please welcome

New members:
[Jan]: Ryan Linehan, no call, Truman Lindsey, N6TRU,
[Feb] Lee Manter, KM6YZB

New family members:
[Jan]: Brandon Williams, KM6FZD, Marshall Williams, KM6GAR
## Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

**PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026**

### Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kristin McIntyre, k6WX</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Marty Wayne, w6nev</td>
<td>408-234-8023</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Property Manager</td>
<td>Gerry Tucker, N6NV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asst. to the Treasurer</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kk6isp@comcast.net">kk6isp@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Webmaster</td>
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<tr>
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### PAARAgaphs Staff

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Jim Thielemann, k6sv</td>
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<td>Walt Gyer, K6WGY</td>
<td>408-921-5901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Profiles</td>
<td>Diana Lloyd, KK6YGM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Tips</td>
<td>Vic Black, AB6SO</td>
<td>650-366 0636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 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](http://amateur-radio.org) or Contact Al, WA6IMX@ARRL.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.electronicsfleamarket.com/](http://www.electronicsfleamarket.com/)

### PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Room H4, Cubberley Community Center; Net 145.230 - PL 100Hz Mondays at 8:30. See our website at [http://www.paraa.org](http://www.paraa.org) for more information or contact: Joel Wilhite K6DW, kd6w@arrl.net, 650-325-8239

### FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pm

Contact: [http://www.fars.kf6ya.org](http://www.fars.kf6ya.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](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](http://50MhzandUp.org)

### SVECS — Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System

Most members are Extra Class or VE's. See QRZ dot com/kv6r for class info

Contact: AA6T@ARRL.NET

### SCCARA

Contact: [http://specsnet.org](http://specsnet.org) or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

### SCARES

Operates W6UU & W6UU/R, repeater 146.985-pl

Contact: [http://wvara.org](http://wvara.org), Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, president@wvara.org

### WVARA — West Valley Amateur Radio Association

Meetings are 2nd Wednesday of every month except July, August and December. See website for details and exceptions: [http://wvara.org](http://wvara.org)

### American Red Cross, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Contact: [http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org](http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org) or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924

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- fshensley@Novell.com
- Contact: [http://50MhzandUp.org](http://50MhzandUp.org)
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Celebrating 82 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Joel KD6W</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Doug - KG6LWE</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Jack - W1VSL</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Rob - KC6TYD</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>Rob - KC6TYD</td>
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If you're interested in trying out at Net Control, Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice,

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

Your grandfather told your father and your father told you. If he had invested his money in real estate he would be a rich man today — what will you tell your children?

Whether to invest or reap the rewards of having invested in Real Estate, Call KARL DRESDEN, KJ6GUK, full time Realtor since 1976 — BRE#00525686
Terrace Associates, Inc., 777 Woodside Rd., Suite B, Redwood City, CA 94061; Office Ph: 650-369-7331,
Fax Ph: 650-369-7339,
KARL Cell Ph: 650-274-8155 General License KJ6GUK
Email: KARLDRESSEN@juno.com

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 $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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ARV’S, WA6UUT (SK)
WEDNESDAY
HAM RADIO
LUNCHEON
Our 11th year!
- Since May 2, 2007 –
BLACK BEAR DINNER
Sunnyvale, California
415 East El Camino Real
(Just “North” of South Fair Oaks Avenue on El Camino Real)
11:30 AM ~ 3:00 PM
Website: www.blackbeardiner.com

Many food choices available from the breakfast, lunch or dinner menus. Ample parking is available. Walk in & “bear” left for our location in the restaurant!

NOT A CLUB, CLOSED GROUP OR CLIQUE; AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS AND FRIENDLY PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

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

<table>
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<tr>
<td>440 – 444.475</td>
<td>DMR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2G – 1284.15</td>
<td>Off line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2G – 1249.15</td>
<td>Half duplex, Off line</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PowerFlare® safety lights:
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1. 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).
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals; $5-business card size, $14.00-quarter page, $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.

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