

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



K6PV



Taming Those Electrons

By Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ.

Quite a long time ago we had a poll to determine interests for programs. The highest-scoring subject was ‘Grounding and Lightning Protection’. There seem to be two extreme views on the subject: ignore it, or live in a solid silver house wrapped in grounding cables and totally immersed in salt water. It has taken a long time, but we have finally found someone willing to talk about it.

Our speaker, Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, has been practicing his talk on lightning and grounding at several other clubs, but it was PVARC that sparked his interest.

Dennis was first licensed, as WN6NIA, back in 1969. He upgraded to Advanced and became WA6NIA then recently traded his call of 37 years in for W6DQ, the call sign of one of his early Elmers.

In addition to various HF, VHF and UHF activities, he operates Earth-Moon-Earth on 144 MHz. He has a special passion for collecting ‘boat anchors’ – older vacuum-tube amateur, commercial, and military radios from manufacturers such as Collins, Johnson, Drake and Hammarlund.

Dennis is a Life Member of ARRL; an Assistant Emergency Coordinator with the Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communications System; and current President of Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. He is (incidentally?) a Principal Systems Engineer with Raytheon, working on development of UHF tactical communications systems.



Visit Our Web Site

K6PV

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

The President Pontificates

Ginger Clark, KG6TAU



This is a shorter QRO this month. I seem to be needing a bit of a break.

We had a pretty good turnout for Lighthouse weekend for the three-day operations in the lighthouse, and for the Sunday picnic.

I'd like to thank Marian Locascio, Carol Epp, Doris Hughes, Susan Closson, and Barbara and Lara Pohlman for stepping in and organizing all the food at the picnic. What a pleasure to be surrounded by such willing hands and good hearts. Thank you.

Kudos to Herb Epp who cooked up a storm of burgers and dogs. I don't think he ever left his post but I think he ate pretty well and people seemed to congregate around him so he never seemed to be alone.

We all had to figure some things out about the weekend even though Rick Murray, K6WXA, left excellent instructions in his stead.

Those of you who came to the picnic and had a chance to vote for the Club banner know that Bob Closson's design won. Bob and Mel Hughes will be getting together to decide on colors and work out the design a little more clearly and then Mel will submit it to the banner place to sew it up. Thank you Doris Hughes for handling this so capably.

So finally we will have an identifying banner to fly when we go out on our IOTAs and Field Days and any other off-site event our members decide to think up.

Another very fun event this month was the opportunity to get on the air to hear, and even talk with, Jeff Wolf, K6JW, while he was operating from W1AW at ARRL headquarters in Connecticut. Next month Jeff will send in an article with his perspective on the experience. From our

angle, it was a real party and Jeff did an impressive job handling the pileup.

I was so excited at the prospect of being a part of that pileup, that the day before Jeff was to be on the air, I put up the inverted V antenna that Rick Murray had given me when he left. Thank you to Bill Harper, WA6ESC, who provided advice, tacked the extension ends of the antenna to the house eaves, and hung around to call 911 if I fell off the roof.

The installation needs more tweaking, though, so although I strongly heard Homer Meek, K6HKT, and Joe Locascio, K5KT, I didn't hear anyone else.

Our next event will be the Holiday dinner. Bill Harper has confirmed that we have that wonderful room overlooking the ocean at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center, and he's gotten the same caterers we had last year. So we'll have the same terrific food that we had last year. However, the Board has decided to lower the price this year from \$37.50 to \$37.00. Denzel got us another good speaker--see his comments on the next page.

We're looking forward to celebrating December and meeting our friends in the Club on Friday, December 5th. Sign-up with Bill Harper at the Club meeting next week.

See you on the Tuesday Club net and then at the Club meeting this coming Wednesday.

73, Ginger, KG6TAU





de the VP

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ

OK, so I was off on a trip for almost 4 weeks and no one noticed!

But there are some things coming up that you may enjoy, or at least should know about.

September meeting: Remember the poll on program subjects a year and a half ago? The very top item on the list was 'Grounding and lightning protection'. We have finally found someone willing to talk about it. That's Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, who talked last winter on Time. More about Dennis and lightning on the front page. Bob Lace has a short video about an interesting collection of old radios. Being more than a little uncoordinated, I didn't get that in when intended a couple of months ago. Better luck this time.

October meeting: Checking memories again: do you remember hearing about the Great Southern California Shakeout? This will be a large-scale drill to practice, and critique, what to do when a real one hits. H-Hour is 1000, 13 November. We're hoping that Club member Bill Pomeranz will by the October meeting, have enough information on what the local cities and radio operators need to know and do. The idea is that it is a lot better to do the thinking (and make the mistakes) ahead of time than during the disaster. In case Bill runs a little short, members probably won't be too unhappy about being able to go home early for once. Besides, we have some back-up plans.

November meeting: Club members Ann and Ernst Willert, N6GVP and N6IDN, also DJ0IX and DK3FF, have been living in Germany for quite a while now. They plan to visit in November, and will talk with us about amateur radio in Germany.

December meeting: The Christmas Party, of course, at the Interpretive Center again. Last year we had a great talk by Dave Doody of NASA/JPL on the Cassini Project. This year, Mick Connally will be with us from the same organization. He's planning to talk about the NASA Deep Space (Radio) Network and its use in radio astronomy, radio science, and planetary radar.

January meeting: If you ever watch television, you will have seen all those reminders about the coming switch of all broadcast TV from analog to digital. Ever wondered about that? Club member Walt Ordway will fill us in

"IT IS THE MARK OF AN EDUCATED MIND TO BE ABLE TO ENTERTAIN A THOUGHT WITHOUT ACCEPTING IT."
ARISTOTLE - 384 - 322 BC

WE ARE WHAT WE REPEATEDLY DO. EXCELLENCE, THEN, IS NOT AN ACT, BUT A HABIT.
- ARISTOTLE - 384 - 322 BC

COURAGE IS THE ABILITY TO OVERCOME THE FEAR OF SOMETHING YOU THINK MIGHT HAPPEN. - STIRLING MOSS

My Vacation



*This antenna is at a fire lookout station in Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado around four-corners.
Photo taken by Steve Barryte, KI6GUY on his family vacation this year.*

My Shack



Call the QRO editor to talk about your shack. Or send us an e-mail.

We'd sure like to hear what you're doing, what bands you're on, what kind of fun you're having.



Board of Directors

President	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Vice President	Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ
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LAACARC Rep	Joe Locascio, K5KT

Contacts

QRO Editor	310-378-7894
WebMaster	310-541-6971

Treasurer's Report

Bill Harper
September 2008

PVARC Balance	\$1,815.32
John Alexander Fund:	\$ 803.00
Repeater Fund:	\$ 967.66

Total Bank Balance \$3,585.98

Membership 2008	118
ARRL Members	74



September 2008

ARRL Summary Report

September 2008

Compiled by Bryant Winchell, W2RGG



QUESTION POOL COMMITTEE: Wiley presented the QPC report. Wiley, who served as QPC Chair for 2007/2008, stated that the committee strived to make the questions in the Amateur Extra class license question pool easier to understand <<http://www.nevec.org/page.php?id=351>>. A few changes were made after the release of the pool, and the implementations of those changes seem to be going smoothly, he said. He reminded the Conference that there will be no question pool releases in 2009. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 31*

THE ARRL VC AND VCE PROGRAMS: HAMS HELPING HAMS Invariably, when an amateur wants to erect a tower and more antennas, there will be questions about zoning and building ordinances. According to ARRL Regulatory Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, some questions are simple, while others may lead to a long battle with town officials. "Rule number one in any of these cases," Henderson said, "is to make sure you know the legal landscape you are facing before you start any project."

ARRL VCs are fellow amateurs who are attorneys. They have agreed to provide a free initial consultation to hams facing town zoning issues related to the erection of Amateur Radio towers and antennas. ARRL VCEs are registered Professional Engineers (PE) who have likewise agreed to give hams an initial consultation when facing antenna support installation issues required by the town. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 32*

ARISS TEAM LOOKING FOR GROUND STATIONS Do you want to be part of the international network of ground stations that help support Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) operations? ARISS is looking to add numerous ground stations capable of relaying ISS Amateur Radio sessions with schools and also serve as back-up communications relays should they be needed. Locations all over the world will be considered, but the greatest need for stations is in Central America, South America, Falkland Islands, Western Australia, Canada and Alaska. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 32*

ARRL RESPONDS TO CONCERNS RAISED BY CALIFORNIA REPEATER OWNERS AFFECTED BY PAVE PAWS Earlier this week, the ARRL responded to a series of concerns raised by repeater owners regarding the ongoing PAVE PAWS interference mitigation project at Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California. In a lengthy e-mail dated August 20, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, addressed a series of concerns raised by Tom Naso, N6MVT, of Lafayette, California; Naso is owner or trustee to several involved repeaters. Naso's letter can be found here <http://www.arrl.org/news/files/pavepaws_querry_2008aug20.pdf>. Henderson's reply can be found here <http://www.arrl.org/news/files/pavepaws_response_2008aug20.pdf>.

"Tom raised a series of thoughtful, valid concerns," Henderson stated. "The ARRL's response to his queries, though lengthy, attempts to address them in detail. With Tom's permission, we are releasing both his original e-mail and the ARRL's response in order to get the most accurate and full information out to repeater owners and users as possible. It also gives us the opportunity to make sure a couple of other issues relating to the PAVE PAWS situation that have arisen are brought to the public's attention." *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 33*



NEW TOWER, ANTENNA MODIFICATIONS FOR W1HQ

On August 13, XX Towers installed a new 40 foot tower on top of the ARRL Headquarters building for use at W1HQ, the Laird Campbell Memorial HQ Operators Club. This new tower supports the 3 element SteppIR 20-6 meter Yagi antenna that was moved from the old tower; the antenna was placed on the old tower in November 2007. The antenna also received modifications, allowing operations on 30 and 40 meters. Both the antenna and the 30-40 meter modification kit were donated by Mike

Mertel, K7IR, of SteppIR. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 33*

REUNION ISLAND, SOUTH AFRICA CONNECT ON 2 METERS On Thursday, August 14, Phil Mondon, FR5DN, on Reunion Island had a successful QSO with Glen Kraut, ZS2GK, in South Africa on 2 meters. According to Dave Pedersen, N7BHC, this contact is "very likely the longest 2-meter QSO via troposphere for either country. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 33*

<http://www.astrorun.com/%7Efr5dn/radio/tropo/14aout2008/zs2gk_14august2008.html>

ARRL APPLIES FOR EXPANSION OF 100-kHz EXPERIMENTAL LICENSE On August 22, the ARRL applied to the FCC for expansion of the 500-kHz experimental license WD2XSH. If approved, this application will raise the total number of stations from 20 to 40. This will provide greater geographic coverage, including Alaska and Hawaii, and will provide more opportunities for ground-wave testing. Also included are requests for an expanded frequency band (495-510 kHz) and portable operation within 50 km. The current four modulation modes (CW, PSK-31, FSK-31, and MSK-31) are included. -- Fritz Raab, W1FR

ARRL HAM AID GO KITS SUPPORT AMATEUR RADIO OPERATIONS DURING HURRICANE GUSTAV -- AND BEYOND As Amateur Radio operators prepared for Hurricane Gustav, the ARRL deployed complete radio stations comprised of industry-donated Amateur Radio equipment, thanks to the generous contributions of ARRL members to the Ham Aid Fund. Created in 2005 to assist with the response to Hurricane Katrina, the Ham Aid Fund is designated to finance Amateur Radio equipment needed for disaster response. In preparation for Hurricane Gustav, ARRL received requests for radio equipment from Louisiana and Texas. The shipping costs for this equipment were covered by the Ham Aid Fund. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 35*

PENTAGON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TO HOST SPECIAL EVENT STATION COMMEMORATING 9/11 On Thursday, September 11, the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) will operate a Special Event station commemorating the 7th anniversary of the attacks that occurred on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and over Pennsylvania in 2001 <<http://www.k4af.org/>>. This special event will be held in conjunction with President Bush's visit to the Pentagon to dedicate the new Pentagon Memorial <http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2008/0708_memorial/index.html>, honoring the 184 people, both at the Pentagon and on American Airlines flight 77, who lost their lives in the attacks. Operators will be on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters -- both phone and CW -- with plans to operate on a 12 hour basis (1200-2400 UTC). There will be a special QSL card available for stations that work K4AF. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 35*

SOLAR UPDATE Tad "Happy we who can bask in this warm September Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: We're still looking at a quiet sun, but currently a solar wind is disturbing the Earth's magnetic field. Six meter operators -- after enjoying a fine season of sporadic E propagation this summer -- may see some added excitement from auroral propagation. *Ref.: the ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 35*



Ready for Emergency Situations

By Megan Taros

Although Tuesday's 5.4 earthquake was not the big one that is being anticipated, many people in enough proximity to feel the tremor pulled out their cell phones immediately afterwards, only to become frustrated as their attempts to place a call were responded by a "call failed" or "network busy" alert from their phone.

In a more severe disaster, this flood of calls affects the infrastructure, cutting off cell phone and internet use and leaving many with no means of communication.

This is when amateur radio operators take charge and begin relaying those failed calls to the police, 911, and other appropriate emergency response centers. This is possible because this means of communication does not rely on a highly trafficked network.

While some may be pressed and frustrated by their limitations, Lomita resident, Paige Omoto politely says "that's not me" as she shakes her head and smiles. Being blind has never been a reason for Omoto to be stopped by obstacles.

Omoto, a member of the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, does various things for the club and has been interested in amateur radio since April of 2007.

"I just thought it would be interesting," Omoto said. "A friend piqued my interest. I met him and he began talking to me about it, so I decided to study and join up with the club."

Omoto studied for the radio license test from August to September, but since the information is not available in Braille, friends come over and read the material aloud to her.

"They would read the book to me go over the questions until I got it," Omoto said.



"When I went to take my test, I was given an oral exam where a few people read the questions to me."

The members of PVARC welcomed Omoto, and encouraged her as she attempted to get her license and thereafter.

"They were thrilled that I got my license and was able to get on the air," Omoto said. "They were all very supportive."

In order to fully be able to operate the equipment, Omoto must have some modifications made, such as a voice-announce chip which announces frequency information to her.

"There are only a few things that I need, but I also have something in order to write in Braille in case I need to write down information like names and call signs," Omoto said.

In addition to working with radios, Omoto is an assistant proofreader to Ginger Clark, who writes the newsletters for the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club.

"She's such a help," Clark said. "She's trained herself to have a good memory so she can help me because she knows all the call signs, so when I make a mistake, she will catch me on it."

The club is hoping to have Omoto be a net controller, who keeps records of activity and sends help if needed, for an upcoming 10-kilometer race.

"She can handle it. It requires no vision and she's great at remembering calls

Interview With Paige Omoto
(Continued)



and information," Clark said. "We'll figure out different ways to use her because she's just so helpful and always offering."

Omoto attended the annual Field Day event in which amateur radio clubs nationwide attempt to make contacts and prepare for emergencies.

She said that she feels confident in her abilities and encourages others to take part in amateur radio if they truly have an interest.

"I think I can do it," Omoto said. "I have to have a few things modified, but I can still do it. In fact, I believe if someone actually wants to do it, they can, as long as they take it seriously and don't play games." *This is part of the August 1, 2008 online edition of The Lomita-Harbor Connection.*

Opportunities

September

September 12-14 Hamcon in Mesa, Az.

See Page 10 for details.

September 20 Emergency Preparedness Fair, Ken Malloy harbor Regional Park -

See Page 11 for details.

September 20-21 - Concours d'Elegance Trump National Golf Course-Walt Ordway

December

December 5--Holiday Dinner--Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center. Tickets from Bill Harper



Need a Club Badge?

Contact Karen Freeman,
KG6BNN,
310-541-6971



Need a Club Patch?

Joe Locascio, K5KT
310-541-5495



\$5

A POOR MEMORY IS NOT THE SAME AS A CLEAR CONSCIENCE.

IT'S NOT HARD TO MAKE DECISIONS WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR VALUES ARE.

ROY DISNEY

I'VE LEARNED THAT WHENEVER I DECIDE SOMETHING WITH AN OPEN HEART, I USUALLY MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION.

THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE IS TO PLANT TREES, UNDER WHOSE SHADE YOU DO NOT EXPECT TO SIT.

~ NELSON HENDERSON

"I DON'T KNOW THE KEY TO SUCCESS, BUT THE KEY TO FAILURE IS TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYBODY."

-- BILL COSBY

HENRY FORD, ASKED WHY HE DID NOT DO PUBLIC RESEARCH TO DETERMINE WHAT PEOPLE WANTED INSTEAD OF JUST PRODUCING MILLIONS OF THE SAME-OLD BLACK MODEL T, ANSWERED: "BECAUSE IF I HAD ASKED EVERYONE, THEIR RESPONSE WOULD HAVE BEEN THAT THEY WANTED A FASTER HORSE."

(THANKS TO W2RGG FOR THIS)



ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

Keynote Speaker



Mark Sloan

Director
Homeland Security
& Special Projects
Harris County, TX

Presented by Amateur Radio Council of Arizona

**September 12-14, 2008
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VE Testing
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DX Breakfast

Raffle

Confirmed Programs

National Traffic System
Tomy Ivan KF7GC

Military Affiliated Radio System
Grant Hays AAA90

DX Program
CADXA

A New Look at CW
Scotty Cowling WA2DFI

Basic Amateur Television
Advanced Amateur Television
Ron Phillips AE6QU

AMSAT
Larry Brown W7LB

Scouting Programs
Tom Sharp WA9OXY

Arizona Emergency Net
Panel Discussion Hosted by
Mike Pulley WB4ZKA

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SATURDAY
September 20, 2008

Ken Malloy Harbor
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Harbor City, CA 90710

Community Outreach Promoting Safety and Security
COPSS-ca.org




www.lacity.org/emd





*Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
Annual Christmas Holiday Dinner*

*Point Vicente Interpretive Center
31501 Palos Verdes Drive West, Rancho Palos
Verdes*

*Friday, December 5th, 2008
Happy Hour at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at
7:00 PM*

Dinner Menu:

Macadamia encrusted Salmon with a pineapple vanilla butter sauce; Carving station with Sirloin of Beef plus Leek Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Rolls & Butter. A Dinner Salad is included with mixed greens, pecans, sliced apple and gorgonzola with a Raspberry Vinaigrette. Appetizers include an Assorted Cheese Platter with Gourmet Crackers and Artichoke Dip or Shrimp with Cocktail Sauce. Dessert follows with a Cheesecake Bar with an array of toppings. Price is ~~\$37.50~~ \$37.00 per person.

For Reservations and Payment Information, please contact
Bill Harper-WA6ESC at (310) 377-8267
or via palosverdesarc@cox.net



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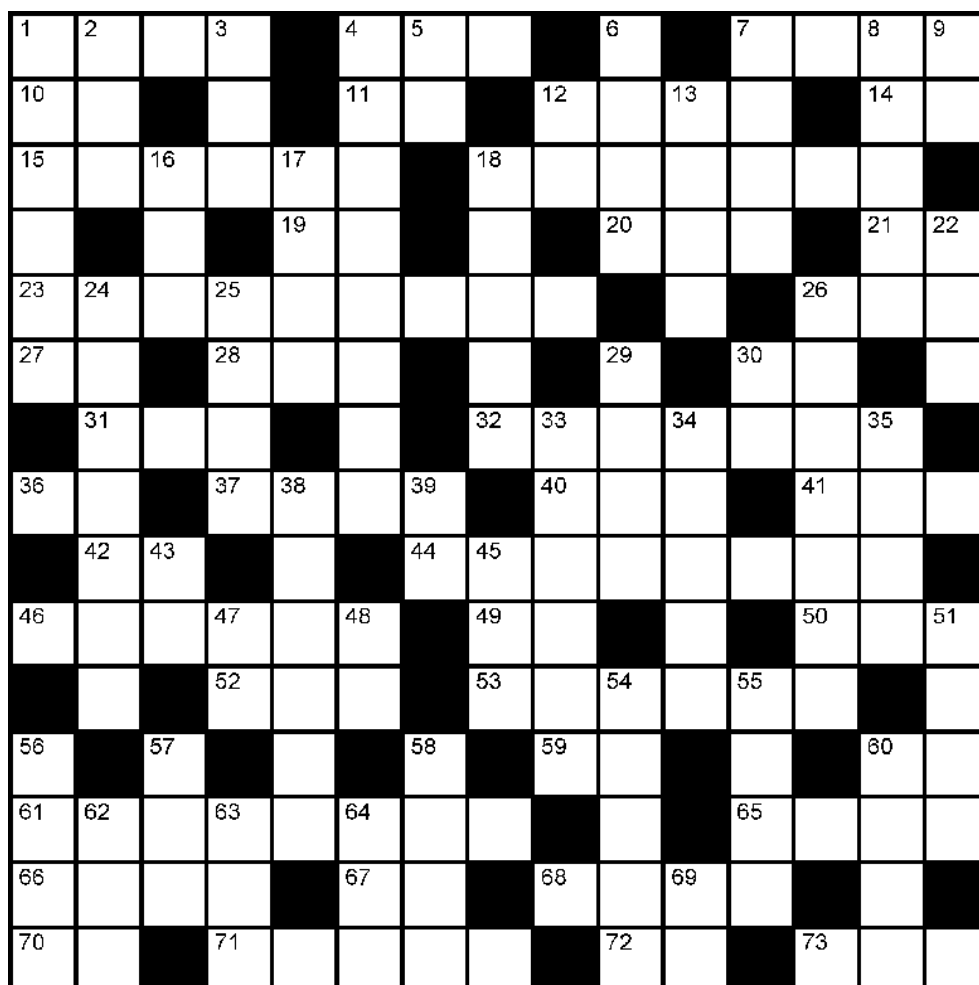


Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

By H. Ward Silver, NØAX
Contributing Editor
December 22, 2006

Weather Or Not

This past few weeks have seen some rather severe weather sprinkled around North America, including the puzzle author's home town of Seattle! As usual, hams have risen to the occasion, providing emergency communications and support to the public and public safety organizations. Good job, all of you! While you're warming up, here's a windy weather puzzle that won't blow you away. And happy holidays to all my loyal box-fillers out there!



Across

1. What falls on guy wires
4. Burp from the sun
7. Unit of length
10. Not centered (abbr)
11. Made it yourself (abbr)
12. A type of 1 Across
14. Prefix meaning "not"
15. Type of hot matter
18. The guy that brings the electricity back
19. What the user uses (abbr)
20. Equipment that doesn't work when you get it
21. Send a copy to (abbr)
23. Strike from the sky
26. Manages ARES in an ARRL section
27. Makes "R" in Morse (two letters)
28. Chain of ham radio stores (initials)
30. Abbreviation for 7 Across
31. Question mark prosign
32. NOAA weather monitor organization
36. Home to the Great Salt Lake (postal code)
37. Air pressure has these as well as highs
40. Tax-free savings account
41. Electric animal
42. Not out
44. To add notes and discussion
46. Tuned hollow enclosure
49. Number of words in radiogram text (abbr)

50. Time zone in Chicago during the summer (abbr)

52. Patches a roof
53. Look for
59. Tends to the injured (abbr)
60. Number (abbr)
61. Task left undone (two words)
65. Precipitation
66. Assistant
67. Output power (abbr)
68. Sudden peak in wind speed
70. Subaudible tone (abbr)
71. After freezing
72. Local ARES leader
73. Makes nests in towers and stings climbers

Down

1. Push over
2. The three primary electronic components (abbr)
3. Type of guy wire
4. Used to remove 1 Across
5. Postal code for VE4
6. Moving air
7. Government emergency agency
8. Unit of weight
9. Home to Nashville (postal code)
12. Inductive reactance over 2 x freq x inductance
13. Glowing gas used in lights and signs
16. Average (abbr)
17. Cut off audio
18. These carry electricity



K6PV

**Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274**

New Membership Application and Member Renewal Form

New: _____ or Renewal: _____ Membership Date: _____

Individual _____ (\$15/Year) or Household and/or Family Membership _____ (\$17/Year)

(Applying) New Member Information: or **Member Renewal: same as Last Year? YES ___ NO ___**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Email address: _____

(Unless otherwise noted emails will be sent to the applying member only)

License Call: _____ License Class: _____ ARRL Member (?) _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Member of: (DCS, RACES, ARES, PVAN, NART) _____ District _____ Unit ID # _____

Additional Household and/or Family Members (if Applicable):

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Individual membership (\$15.00) \$ _____
Household and/or Family membership (\$17.00) \$ _____
Donation to the John Alexander Fund \$ _____
Donation to the Repeater Fund \$ _____
Donation to PVARC \$ _____
Cash: _____ or Check #: _____ Date _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club (PVARC)

NOTE: Dues are based on January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year.