



QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

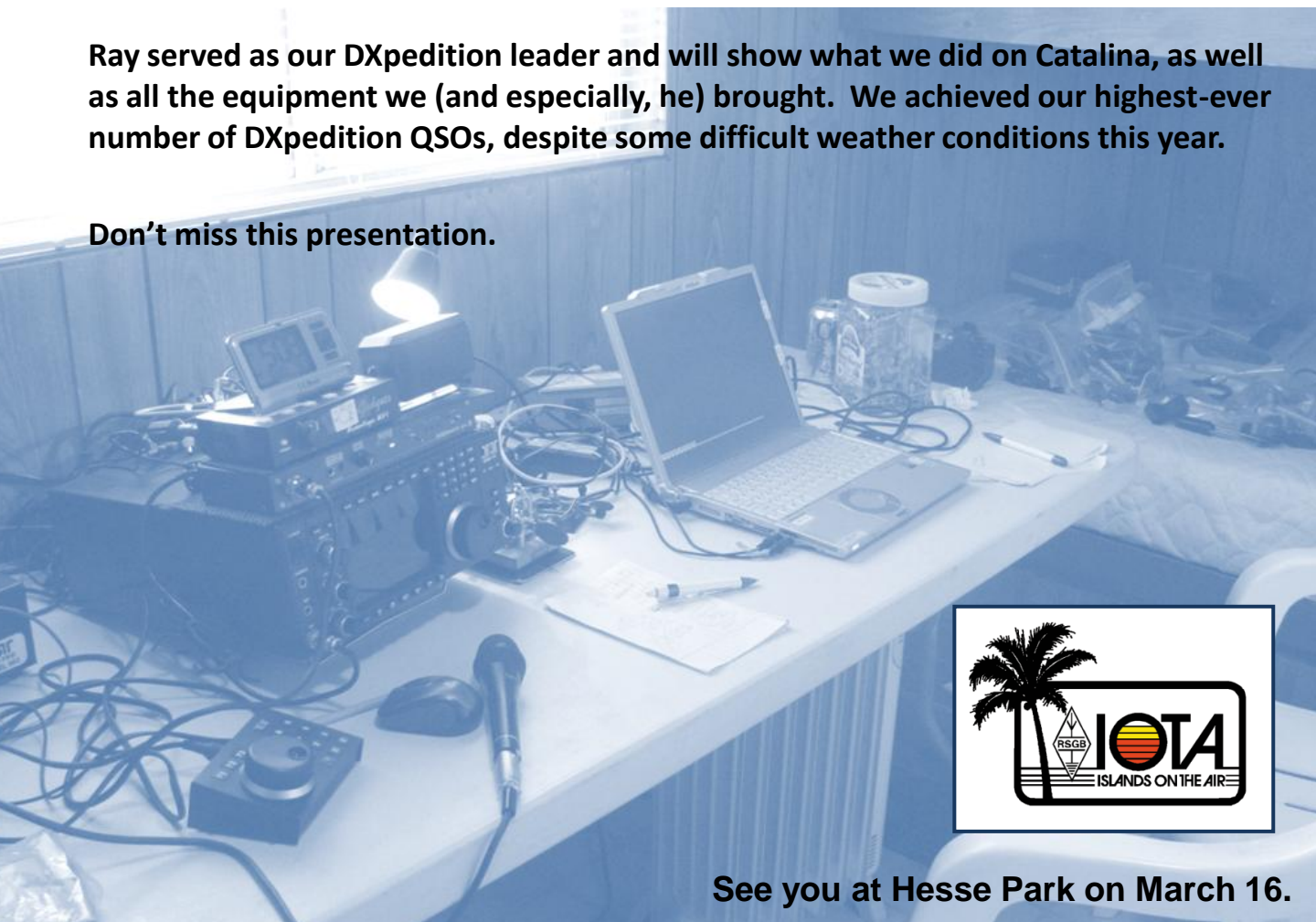
March 2011

Our Club's 2011 DXpedition to Catalina Island, Feb. 23-27

Ray Day, N6HE, will give an illustrated presentation of our recent "Islands On The Air" DXpedition to Catalina Island during PVARC's March 16th general meeting at 7:30 pm in Fred Hesse Community Park's Activity Room.

Ray served as our DXpedition leader and will show what we did on Catalina, as well as all the equipment we (and especially, he) brought. We achieved our highest-ever number of DXpedition QSOs, despite some difficult weather conditions this year.

Don't miss this presentation.



See you at Hesse Park on March 16.

Greetings from Our Club's Newly-Elected President

By Jeff Wolf, K6JW
PVARC President

My thanks (I think) for electing me as your 2011 club President. The last time I did this was back in 1992, although I've been VP at least two or three times since, and have also served several years as a Director. I want to assure everyone of my dedication to task. The PVARC represents our collective amateur radio presence on the Peninsula and surrounding South Bay/San Pedro environs, and the responsibility that goes with that voice and presence weighs heavily upon me.

I'm delighted to be able to report that, as we enter 2011, our club is thriving. With growing membership, a secure treasury, and a body of members more active than at any time I can recall in the past 20 years or more, we are poised for a great year. In large measure, we are in such good shape due to the leadership of Past President Joe Pace, NZ6L. I've been member of the PVARC for about 23 years, as best I can tally, and in that time I've never seen a President work as hard or show the degree of dedication that Joe has over the past two years. The club owes Joe much for his efforts, and I will find him a tough act to follow.

We have some really great things in store for the PVARC this year. Actually, already completed is our 5th and now annual Islands on the Air (IOTA) trip to Two Harbors on Catalina island, which took place from 2/23 to 2/27. Our intrepid leader, Ray Day, N6HE did his usual great job in getting and keeping things organized, and those who attended will attest to the fun had by all. I won't take the wind from Ray's sails by revealing some of the more interesting, and occasionally outrageous, details about the trip – he'll be presenting the highlights at our meeting this month. I will tell you, however, that we made 1247 contacts between Wednesday evening and Sunday morning, working all 50 states and contacting 32 DX entities. Plan on being at this month's meeting to learn more.



If you've never been on a DXpedition, or had the thrill of being on the "short end" of a pileup of stations wanting to work YOU, you might want to consider joining next year's IOTA team. Okay, okay, I know that the accommodations on the island are, shall we say, a bit, er, rustic, but that's part of the adventure. And, who knows? Back in 2010 we were there for the tsunami. You never can tell what Murphy will throw at you!

Coming up on 14 May is this year's Palos Verdes Marathon, an event for which the PVARC has provided critical communication support for many years. A change in the course this year has created a number logistical issues, but one fact is clear: we'll need a minimum of 22 hams to cover the race at the start/finish line, at aid stations, at the several parking areas, and in course "rover" vehicles. If you've got a VHF/UHF handheld transceiver, we need YOU for this event, and it's not too soon to contact Diana, AI6DF to volunteer for duty!

The next big event on the calendar after the PV Marathon is Field Day, June 25-26. Over the past two years, I've stepped back from the role of event chairman that I accepted for many years. I felt that new blood was needed to rejuvenate the club's participation in this, the biggest domestic amateur radio operating event of the year. And...yes... people stepped up and got involved and, not incidentally, had a great time doing it. So, if you didn't participate last year, you should definitely do so this year.

Article continued on next page ►

Greetings from Our Club's Newly-Elected President...

► *Continued from previous page*

Of course, over the weekend of August 20-21 we'll be having our annual picnic and, all being well, participation in International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend at the Point Vicente lighthouse. Last year, for the first time, we partnered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary for the event, and it worked out well. Final arrangements for this year TBD.

September 9, 10, and 11 will see Hamcon, the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention held at the Torrance Marriott hotel. Our club is a sponsor and participant in the convention, and we'll be looking to club members to provide support by donating time to work at the event. The upside for the club is that we will share in the convention's proceeds. So, mark your calendars for a fun and profitable weekend.

Finally, on December 14 we'll be having our annual holiday dinner with a program and the usual raffle. The venue this year is Ports O' Call Restaurant in San Pedro, a really nice facility with a great view through large windows on two sides of our banquet room.

All this plus, maybe some other public service events, our regular meetings with entertaining programs, and the camaraderie that that goes along with membership in a great organization. So, be involved and get ready for a year of fun.

73 es gud DX,

Jeff ■

...and Greetings from Our Club's Newly-Elected Vice President

By Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
PVARC Vice President

The two main roles of the vice president in the PVARC are to act as president in the president's absence and, by custom, to act as program chairman. In that latter role, I've been soliciting ideas for program topics that members would like to hear about.

I want to thank all those who have made suggestions; over 20 program ideas have come to my attention, and I've already started working on these. Locating speakers on these topics is being supported greatly by other club members whose contact base is much broader than mine. If you have an idea for a topic, and especially if you know of an interesting speaker who could address it, please let me know by email (AB6SY@arrl.net). That being said, if YOU have a topic of personal interest that you would like to share with the club, either as a mini-topic or as a main presentation, please let me know as well, and we'll include it. It makes for a stronger club when members jump in and contribute.

Now, as you will read elsewhere in the QRO, the topic of March's meeting is the mini-expedition to Catalina Island by several members of the club. Ray Day, N6HE, was the overall coordinator of this "IOTA activation" and will provide a full account of this little venture in slides and pictures. Those who have heard Ray in the past know this will be an informative and fun main event of the evening. ■

Our IOTA DXpedition to Catalina Island: Two views of Two Harbors from afar

Photos by AI6DF

The calm before the storm (*one week before going*)...

Catalina Island's Two Harbors (center right on horizon), seen serenely at dusk from RPV City Hall.



...and heading there directly into chilly, stormy weather

A view from the bow of "The Dramamine™ Express" en route to Two Harbors (center).

Come to our March 16th meeting at Hesse Park to see what some of your fellow PVARC members experienced at Two Harbors. ■

PVARC's Radio Help Requested for 2011 Palos Verdes Marathon on May 14; Members with HT Radios Needed at Locations in PVE, RHE, and RPV

By Diana Feinberg ,
AI6DF

When our club handles radio communications for the 45th annual Palos Verdes Marathon on May 14th there will be a new course for runners and a new set of major logistical challenges for the Marathon organizers.

The PVARC is meeting with the Marathon organizers and Marathon medical team on March 14th (after this QRO issue's deadline) to learn where our radio operators are required, but we already expect to need more operators than in recent years.

If you have an HT radio, we need your help. This year we also expect to have some short-duration shifts and relief operator positions available.

One of the biggest challenges for this year's Marathon was where to park 2,500 cars in Rancho Palos Verdes. Eleven parking locations have now been secured (*see map, right*) and four shuttle buses will take runners to and from the Start/Finish line outside the Terranea Resort.

Parking Locations for 2011 PV Marathon Runners

(Aid Stations and other Marathon Support Locations not shown on map)



We'll be providing more information about our Marathon radio operating positions during the March 16th monthly meeting at Hesse Park and also post it on our club website.

We hope you can be a PVARC radio operator on May 14th. The PV Marathon is a great opportunity for field operation while serving our communities. ■

ARRL Requests Hams Write Their Members of Congress about H.R. 607; Bill Proposes Taking Away 430-440 MHz From Amateur Radio's 70cm Band

From the ARRL Website

On February 10, 2011, Rep. Peter King (R-NY), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011," which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee (which handles telecommunications legislation). The bill addresses certain spectrum management issues including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network.

As part of that network, the Bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use. HR 607 uniquely, provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. H.R. 607 lists, among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within ten years of the passage of the Bill, the paired bands 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz.

The inclusion of most of the Amateur 70-cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is a major problem. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should not be included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations.

While the ARRL and all Amateurs support the work of Public Safety and recognize their need for dedicated spectrum which would promote interoperability, the ARRL vigorously opposes HR 607 in its present form. HR 607 is a direct threat to our limited spectrum and the ARRL encourages all amateurs to appropriately voice their opposition to this bill. ■

How to Write to Your Representative Regarding H.R. 607

To see a sample letter from the ARRL's website, visit:

<http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters>

For PVARC members living on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, your Representative is:

Congressman Dana Rohrabacher
2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

For PVARC members elsewhere in the South Bay, the recent resignation of Congresswoman Jane Harman has left a temporary void in your areas.

Because of lengthy screening and security delays for regular US mail to be delivered to congressional offices, the ARRL asks that when you wish to send a letter supporting the ARRL's position on legislation you send your letter to the ARRL's Washington lobbying firm, Chwat & Co.

Signed letters to Representatives and Senators may be sent to Chwat & Co.'s offices in one of the following methods:

By US Mail - John Chwat
 Chwat & Co.
 625 Slaters Lane
 Suite 103
 Alexandria, VA 22314

By Fax - Send to: 703-684-7594.

You may also send a signed letter via email to: arrl@chwatco.com ■

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PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Weekly Club Nets:

All members and guests are invited to check-in to our Club net every Tuesday at 7:30 pm on the K6PV repeater, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0.

Monthly No-Host Dinners:

Prior to each month's General Meeting, join club members (and often our speaker) at 5:30 pm for a No-Host dinner at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates.

- March 12th – FCC Exam at Hesse Park
- March 16th – General Meeting
- March 27st – Ridgecrest 5K
- April 20st – General Meeting
- May 7th – FCC Exam at Hesse Park
- May 14th – Palos Verdes Marathon
- May 18th – General Meeting
- June 15th – General Meeting
- June 25th-26th – ARRL Field Day!
- July 20st – General Meeting
- August 13th – RHE 5K/10K Run/5K Walk
- August 19st-21nd – Lighthouse Weekend
- August 21nd – Summer Picnic at Pt. Vicente
- September 5th – Conquer the Bridge Run
- September 9th-11th – HAMCON 2011
- September 18th – Concours d'Elegance
- September 21th – General Meeting
- September 24th – RAT Beach Bike Tour
- October 19th – General Meeting
- November 16th – General Meeting
- December 14nd – Holiday Dinner, Ports O' Call Restaurant

Time for 2011 Membership Renewals

If you have already submitted your renewal dues for 2011, we thank you. If not, please complete our membership form and return it with your payment to our Post Office Box or to our next general meeting at Hesse Park.

Have a Photo of the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse to share in QRO?

Do you have any interesting photos of the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse you are willing to let us publish on QRO's front page? This lighthouse is an icon for our club. Email your photos to the QRO editor.

And now, for something entirely different...

Our weekly club nets on 1st Tuesdays will have "Guest" Net Control Operators

Effective with our April 5th net, PVARC's 1st Tuesday of the month nets at 7:30 pm using the K6PV repeater will have Guest Net Control operators. Tune in and check in: find out who will be on the air as our Net Control on any first Tuesday. Let us know if you are interested in being a 1st Tuesday Net Control operator sometime.

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, has "retired" after three years as our 1st Tuesdays Net Control. Thank you, Denzel: We've greatly appreciated your calming Nebraska demeanor and wit every month since 2008. But thankfully Denzel isn't leaving us completely. He'll still be checking into our nets when he and Helen are not traveling. ■

PVARC Treasurer's Report, 03-03-2011

PVARC General Fund	\$2,331.87
John Alexander Fund	\$994.00
Repeater Fund	\$1,227.86
Total Bank Balance	\$4,553.73
2010 Membership	136
2009 Membership	129

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

An American Radio Relay League Affiliated-Club

Board of Directors:

President	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
Vice President	Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
Treasurer	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Secretary	Chuck McCown, K6CTM
Past President	Joe Pace, NZ6L
Directors:	Clay Davis, AB9A
	Mel Hughes, K6SY

Appointed Offices:

Interim QRO Editor	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Asst. to Editor	Paige Omoto, KI6MAH
Webmaster	John Freeman, WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liaison	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
LAACARC Rep	Joe Locascio, K5KT
Yahoo PVARC Group Moderator	Daniel Yang, K6DPY

Contacts:

Interim QRO Editor: 310-544-2917, ai6df@arrrl.net
Webmaster: 310-541-6971, jfree@cox.net

Email us: k6pv@arrrl.net

Website: www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

Mailing Address:

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274-8316

Monthly Meetings:

Third Wednesday (except August and December) at 7:30 pm at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Visitors always welcome.

Club Repeater (Open):

K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0, CTCSS

To order a Club badge:

Karen Freeman, KG6BNN, 310-541-6971

To order a Club jacket or patch:

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, 310-373-8166

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Front page photo of Pt. Vicente Lighthouse by:
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

**NEW MEMBER &
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

NEW: _____ or RENEWAL: _____ MEMBERSHIP DATE: _____

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 Mo./Day: _____

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

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

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Mo./Day: _____

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Mo./Day: _____

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Mo./Day: _____

Individual membership (\$15.00) \$ _____

Household and/or Family membership (\$17.00) \$ _____

Donation to the John Alexander Fund \$ _____

Donation to the Repeater Fund \$ _____

Other Donation to PVARC \$ _____

Cash: _____ or Check #: _____ Date _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club; Dues based on January 1st to December 31st year.
All New and Renewal Member applications must be signed below.

Using amateur radio equipment improperly or ignoring safety practices can lead to injury or other harm. Don't try to perform amateur radio operations you might learn through PVARC or elsewhere unless you are certain they are safe for you. If something doesn't feel right, either: 1) do not do it; 2) look for another approach; or 3) ask for assistance from someone who is more experienced. PVARC wants you and your family to be safe and enjoy amateur radio to its fullest. Your signature below acknowledges that you will take responsibility for keeping safety foremost when working with amateur radio equipment or at events.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Family Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

PVARC's next amateur radio license courses taught by Walt Ordway, K1DFO, begin on April 23rd. Please tell your friends, neighbors, and family members.

Two Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "Technician" course (entry level)

FCC "General" course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The 2 sessions are on April 23 & 30

Technician 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM both Saturdays

General 2:15 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

FCC tests will be 10 AM to noon on May 7

The location is Hesse Park

29301 Hawthorne Blvd.

Rancho Palos Verdes

- No pre-registration required -
- No fee for either course -
- Taking the FCC Test is \$15 -

Optional Material

- Gordon West book with all the FCC test questions,
\$22 for Technician and for General -
- Copy of my Power Point charts,
\$18 for Technician and for General -

Students (thru grade 12) who take this course and get their license will be reimbursed up to \$50 by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

For more information contact
Walt, K1DFO, at walt.ordway@yahoo.com

PVARC members occasionally have ham radio items for sale, or items they wish to purchase. Advise the QRO editor if you have any items to list.

Our Fine Print policy applies: These listings are shown solely for the convenience of our members and the PVARC makes no representations, warranties, or assumptions of liability in connection with any item or transaction..

Bob Lace, W6ODI, is offering the following electronic parts and equipment for sale:

- RCL bridge – Heath
- Frequency counter – Yaesu
- Frequency standard – Gertch
- Miscellaneous tubes
- AC/DC adapters, various output voltages
- Trumpet speakers – 20 watt
- Cabinet speakers
- Audio amp
- Motorola P10 H/T 400 MHz-8 channel commercial radio with chargers
- Miscellaneous parts
 - Resistors
 - Capacitors
 - Semiconductors
 - Solid state rectifiers
 - Connectors
 - Relays
 - Cable connectors
 - Stranded wire
 - Knobs
 - Plug-in adapters
 - Transformers
 - Many other miscellaneous items

If interested, call Bob at 1-310-541-2363

And lastly, two repeat announcements about other amateur radio venues.

(The fine print: The following events are not sponsored by the PVARC. These events are shown solely for the convenience of our members and do not imply any endorsement or assumption of liability by the PVARC.)

1. The International DX Convention is in Visalia, CA, during mid-April

DXers! Contesters! Don't miss our 62nd annual International DX Convention April 15-16-17, 2011 in Visalia, California. Enjoy DXpedition presentations - Technical sessions - Vendor exhibits - Contest Academy - Ladies Tour - Golf Tournament - Saturday Banquet - Over \$25,000 in raffle prizes - and meet DXers who travel from around the world to this premier DX event. Early registration closes on March 19th, so register today at <http://www.dxconvention.org/>

2.

My Pin Money Travel, LLC Announces It's First Amateur Radio Cruise

HAM RADIO CRUISE 2011

On the Carnival Conquest October 30, 2011 for 7 Days

**The perfect gift for the "hard to buy for" person.
Great vacation with family and friends**

Planned activities onboard include DX and Technical seminars conducted during days at sea, working Maritime Mobile on two ship installed HF stations with DX for all licensed amateurs and all the fun of a Carnival Cruise! Special arrangements have been made with Carnival Cruise Lines for two HF operating stations and antennas.

Cruise from Galveston, Tx. To Montego Bay, Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, Cozumel, Mexico returning to Galveston.



Only 50 cabins reserved. Book quickly - don't miss the great prices & extras!*

All prices are double occupancy and include government taxes and fees as follows:**

Inside Cabin (Cat 4B) -- \$556.43 per person
Ocean view Cabin (6B) -- \$676.43 per person
Balcony Cabin (8B) -- \$846.43 per person

Deposit of \$250 due at booking in order to assign your stateroom.
Full payment due by June 1, 2011.

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS OPTIONAL, BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
It can be purchased when you book your stateroom and is generally \$100 or less per person.

Cruise through Debbie Rumfield, N5DSR with My Pin Money Travel, LLC who can be reached at mypinmoneytravel@yahoo.com or by telephone at 832-656-0731.