



# QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JANUARY 2012

## New Developments in Amateur (Radio) Television: ATV Repeaters and the Internet—and More

Our speaker at PVARC's January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting in the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center will be an expert on Amateur Television, George Migliarini, AC6RB, of Laguna Hills.

Amateur Television has undergone some interesting developments recently using the internet for worldwide linking of ATV repeaters (there are eight in Southern California, all but one at high altitudes). If you have a Technician Class ham radio license, you can operate ATV.

Some hams are also experimenting with digital amateur television and several digital ATV projects are underway in the U.S. and Europe. These developments are in their early stages, but hold interesting potential.

George, AC6RB, is currently Vice President of the Amateur Television Network club in California and a long-time member of that organization. He will discuss how linked ATV repeaters have come a long way from the Slow-Scan amateur TV some of us might remember.

**Where:** Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center (Sunset Room), 31501 Palos Verdes Drive West. *Please note the different location for this month's meeting only.*

**When:** 7:30 pm, Wednesday, January 18, 2012



The Snow Peak ATV repeater antenna.  
PHOTO CREDIT: Amateur Television Network Website

### ATV Repeaters in Southern California and their Elevations Above Sea Level

- Mt. Wilson, 5,680 ft.
- Oat Mountain, 3,747 ft.
- Santiago Peak, 5,670 ft.
- Crestline, 5,400 ft.
- Blueridge (High Desert), 8,450 ft.
- Snow Peak (Low Desert), 7,987 ft.
- Santa Barbara, 2,500 ft.
- Pt. Loma (San Diego), 440 ft.

# Our President Speaks: There's Nothing Like a Computer Crash to Ruin Your Day (and Your QSL Log!)

By Jeff Wolf, K6JW  
PVARC President

Happy New Year to all! I hope you had a great holiday season and are now ready to take on the challenges of a new year.

In my Weekly Bulletin from 22 December, I mentioned that my new station computer had suffered an abrupt and catastrophic hard disc crash.

Yup. Turned on the computer and it seemed, at first, to be OK. Then, my logging program wouldn't boot. I shut down the computer and tried to restart it and, to make a long story short, began to see all sorts of weird behavior. Time after time, it wouldn't boot properly and, finally, it told me it couldn't recognize any operating system!

Since many of us have become so dependent upon computer interfacing in our stations, I think it would be worthwhile to detail the ensuing saga. Here goes.

Fortunately, I back up my data frequently but, unfortunately as I soon learned, my sick computer hadn't been doing the automatic backups to the external drive for several days. What to do???

Well, my first task was to try and get those contacts off the hard drive if I could. The way I did it was to run Ubuntu (a free version of Linux) from a CD and access the directory from that operating system. It worked, and I got my updated log file as well as some other stuff that was nonessential but which I wanted off the computer.

Next, because I couldn't boot it at all – even with rescue discs – I called Lenovo. After waiting ten

minutes on hold, Friendly Support Tech #1, someone I could barely understand, managed to spit out that, yes, while I had called their technical service line, they couldn't help me because they only offered assistance for hardware problems. It was like pulling teeth, but he finally gave me the number of their software tech support service. Another ten minutes on hold and now Friendly Support Tech #2 told me that for \$59 they'd be glad to send me a disc that would work to restore the operating system.

These discs used to be supplied with new computers. Then, manufacturers abandoned that practice and put the recovery info ON the hard drive – something I've never seen work properly. Most computers also allow you to make so-called recovery discs that will restore your computer to factory default conditions. Guess what? The discs I made wouldn't run.

Now, to have to pay \$59 for software *that one has already bought* when the computer was initially purchased is nothing short of abusive. Still, Friendly Support Tech #2 assured me that I'd have the new discs in 2 to 5 days.

Ten days later and no discs. I called Lenovo and was greeted this time by Friendly Support Tech #3. I gave him the case number. That didn't work. I gave him my name: Jeffrey Wolf. He said, "Is your name Elizabeth Snell (not her real name but, I assure you, it was nothing like mine)?" Finally, he told me he was going to speak with his boss. Five minutes later he was back to tell me it was going to take a few more minutes. I stopped counting. Eventually, he returned to tell me he had found the order but was going to try and find Friendly Support Tech #2 to help me.

*Continued on next page ►*

## ► *continued...* There's Nothing Like a Computer Crash to Ruin Your Day (and Your QSL Log!)

After another wait of indeterminate but not short length, I was greeted like an old friend by Friendly Support Tech #2, who told me that, yes, my credit card had been billed (of course) but the order was never processed for delivery. He'd get right on it and call me the next day with the shipment tracking number.

Next day: no call. Friendly Support Tech #4 picked up the phone after a 10 minute wait. Then, he put me on hold again, after telling me that my case ID number was invalid. Sometime later, he returned with the "real" case ID number (nothing even remotely resembling the number given to me by FST #2) and, amazingly enough, a tracking number!

Well, anyway, the new discs finally arrived and...they failed to restore the computer. Now, Lenovo finally acknowledged that it was a hard drive failure, as I originally told them, and agreed to replace the computer under warranty. One hour later, they retracted the offer and said they'd send an onsite technician to replace the hard drive. He finally showed up on 4 January and, in about fifteen minutes, replaced the hard drive. I reloaded the operating system and as of this writing (6 January), everything seems OK.

Of course, I've got to reinstall all my software, and getting LoTW back online will require resubmitting to the ARRL for another two certificates (for my present and old call signs), but at least everything will finally be back to normal.

So, why, then, did the hard disc crash with irreversible corruption of the boot sector? The last thing I did on the day before the crash was to install LOGic8, a logging program I used for a number of years before switching to CommCat awhile back. I needed it on the computer because I have some old PVARC log files that were generated using that program, and since I do the club's QSLing, I need the program on the computer. I installed it from the original program CD. The next time I tried to boot the computer, I

ran into the hard drive problem.

So, I *think* it might have had *something* to do with the installation of LOGic8, but what or why I haven't a clue. In fact, loading LOGic8 may have had *nothing* to do with the hard drive's failure at all. What I *do* know is that I won't be trying to install it again. I have the program on an older computer, so I think I'll load the data files into it and then export them to ADIF format and import them into CommCat on the restored computer for future access.

Moral of the story: If you're as dependent upon computer interfacing for your station as I am, be sure to back up every contact immediately and make frequent restore points or, even better, regularly image your hard drive.

And, as in my case, be sure that what you think you've set up is actually occurring. I thought every contact was being backed up but I should have verified it periodically. Fortunately, using Linux I was able to retrieve all my data.

Remember to attend the January meeting of the club. Elsewhere in this issue of **QRO** you'll find the Board's recommended slate of officers for 2012, but at the January meeting nominations will be taken from the floor, should members care to do so.

73,  
Jeff, K6JW ■

```
A problem has been detected and windows has been shut down to prevent damage to your computer.
```

```
UNMOUNTABLE_BOOT_VOLUME
```

```
If this is the first time you've seen this Stop error screen, restart your computer. If this screen appears again, follow these steps:
```

```
Check to make sure any new hardware or software is properly installed. If this is a new installation, ask your hardware or software manufacturer for any windows updates you might need.
```

```
If problems continue, disable or remove any newly installed hardware or software. Disable BIOS memory options such as caching or shadowing. If you need to use Safe Mode to remove or disable components, restart your computer, press F8 to select Advanced Startup options, and then select Safe Mode.
```

```
Technical information:
```

```
*** STOP: 0x000000ED (0x84CD1C98, 0xC000014F, 0x00000000, 0x00000000)
```

**Have A Nice Day!**

# Monthly Program Notes From Our Vice President

By Bob Sylvest, AB6SY  
PVARC Vice President

With the New Year comes the opportunity to make that long-delayed resolution. I know, I know, most of them fall by the wayside, and some, like getting into an exercise routine or losing weight, often get left at the starting gate.

But, if you're like me, you may have a resolution in mind for ham radio. This might be an easy one to *keep* because the payoff in fun and novelty will more than make up for the effort. Maybe it's getting a new antenna installed, computer-linking your station, or maybe just getting familiar enough with your HT that you can use it in an emergency. Or, well, how about this resolution: **"Learn and operate a new ham radio mode in 2012"**?

There are almost limitless possibilities to explore with a resolution like that, and to help from an educational perspective, I've been looking at possible programs for our club that will highlight some less-frequented aspects of the hobby: things like amateur television, digital voice modes, software defined radio, among others.

This month, we will have the opportunity to dive into Amateur Television and learn from one of the experts in this field. Our speaker will be George Migliarini, AC6RB, a long-time member of the ATN (Amateur Television Network) in CA and its Vice President for 2011. An Extra Class operator, he has put repeaters to work, including internet links, and has stations in the US, Germany, England, Italy, Australia, Spain, Japan, Mexico and Argentina. He QSOs audio and video in real time to all these places. (information from his site at <http://www.ac6rb.com>). And to give an idea of how well equipped Southern California is with ATV repeaters, see the list on page one.

You might also want to check <http://atv-tv.org/>, the website of the Amateur Television Network. There you'll find numerous links to repeater maps, network activities, equipment sources, on and on.

There is an interesting demonstration of the quality, color, speed and capability of ATV operating portable by W2NYC on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TQpbfJqWU8>.

So, January's program at the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center is all about Amateur Television.

In February we will hear from Marty Woll, N6VI, the Vice Director for the Southwestern Division of the ARRL. He will speak on "Tales of a Contest Expeditioner", a just-in-time topic, since the next week is our own club-sponsored mini-expedition to Catalina Island.

And by the way, if you haven't ever been to this outing, I would highly recommend giving it a try...even if it's just for part of the expedition. You'll learn a lot, work some interesting pileups (from the receive end), probably step up your own operating skills, eat well and get to know other club members. With the bands more open than any time since we've operated this expedition, it should be "a blast" according to Ray Day, N6HE, the organizer.

In our March meeting, we will hear all about that trip, and most likely April will bring a program on software defined radio. We have a program on digital voice modes in our back pocket and are always on the lookout for other ideas from club members. Don't hesitate to suggest what you'd like to hear about! ■

## Deadline for Participating in PVARC's 2012 Catalina Island DXpedition is Nearing

Interested in going on PVARC's February 22-26 Islands on the Air DXpedition to Catalina Island (whether for a couple of days or the entire time)?

If you haven't already, contact our DXpedition leader Ray Day, N6HE, as soon as possible so cabin reservations can be made at Two Harbors (Ray's email address: [rayday@cox.net](mailto:rayday@cox.net)). He can also answer any questions you have.

We're still excited about participating in this year's CQ Worldwide 160-Meter SSB contest and the North American RTTY QSO Party while on Catalina and hope to fire-up a 6-meter station as well.

There's no stress about operating while on Catalina, however. Do as much or as little as you like, but there will also be opportunities for hiking and exploring around Two Harbors, including buffalo spotting. We'll be cooking our meals together, except for Wednesday and Saturday dinners at the one restaurant in town.

Accommodations are "Forest Service" type cabins at modest cost but rooms are available at the Banning House bed and breakfast up the hill. ■

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### PVARC Tuesday Nets: Please Drop In

All club members and guests are invited to communicate locally during PVARC's nets at 7:30 pm each Tuesday on the K6PV repeater, 447.120 MHz, PL 100.0. But the K6PV repeater does quite well on Catalina Island too, should you happen to be there.

Peter Landon, KE6JPM, has joined PVARC's Net Control team on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays. Dale Hanks, N6NNW, serves as Net Control on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays; Dan Yang, K6DPY, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays; and Bob Sylvest, AB6SY, on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays.

Previous net control operators since our nets began in 2008 have been: Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ; Diana Feinberg, AI6DF; Bill Harper, WA6ESC; Homer Meek, K6HKT; and Knut Myhre, N6BNP. ■



Jacket patch for IOTA DXpedition participants.

### Had K6PV Repeater "Problems" Lately? It's the Weird Weather

There's more than just warm off-shore air resulting from our unusual weather this fall and early winter. Add ragged transmissions into our K6PV club repeater as another consequence.

Repeater trustee Mel Hughes, K6SY, reports:

"I don't think it is an antenna problem...it is, once again, the very strong inversion layer that has kept the top of Peninsula hot and fog free, while those living below about the 600 foot level were in very heavy coastal fog. Those below the inversion layer will have a very difficult time getting into the repeater with low power and omni-directional antennas. The steeper the angle of incidence the more the signal is reflected. Those with more oblique angles of incidence, from, say, Torrance or Hawthorne will have less difficulty getting into the machine. The problem will abate itself as the stalled high pressure area moves East and normal weather returns with on shore wind conditions."

Mel's comments also explain several recent Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District ham radio drills. Signals from the low-altitude Malaga Cove administration complex into a hilltop 220 MHz repeater have been weak on days with such weather inversions, but quite good during normal conditions. ■

# Will the “Real” RF Safety Calculator Please Stand Up?

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

While studying economics I was well-aware of Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw’s saying, “If all economists were laid end to end, they still would not reach a conclusion.” Fortunately that’s not supposed to be the case with online “estimated” RF safety calculators laid side by side, but lately I’ve found they too might not reach the same conclusion.

As most know, every ham is required to perform RF compliance calculations before using high power on HF bands and more than 50 watts when using the 10-meter and VHF bands (70 watts on 440 MHz).

VHF/UHF frequencies are especially critical to test with an RF safety calculator before operating mobile radios and gain antennas at field locations. Other people will likely be very close-by at public service events, emergency command posts, or in adjacent vehicles.

The eham.net website conducted an unscientific on-line poll in August 2011 in which only 65% of 1,315 responding hams confirmed their station complied with electro-magnetic radiation safety standards. It’s unclear whether these hams also tested mobile or field compliance. But 26% of the responding hams said they didn’t know or needed more information.

Much to my surprise, one of three online RF safety calculators returned different values when estimating the safe Controlled and Uncontrolled Distances from a new VHF/UHF mobile antenna I recently purchased (*see right*). All calculators should use the same formula to give approximate safe operating distances. So what gives? There are a lot of factors involved, but...

What’s given way are differences of the estimated power density in the direction of propagation (milliwatts per square centimeter). The cell phone industry is reported to be keenly involved with these. I suggest you try these three online RF safety estimators (links at right); the first two return identical answers. All three are easy to use. The resulting calculations, of course, are estimates but there are no more excuses for not trying to conclude one’s operations comply with distances for Maximum Permissible Exposure! ■

## Amateur Radio RF Saf

### Calculation Results

Average Power at the Antenna	38 watts
Antenna Gain in dBi	5.5 dBi
Distance to the Area of Interest	8 feet 2.4384 metres
Frequency of Operation	442.120 MHz
Are Ground Reflections Calculated?	Yes
Estimated RF Power Density	0.462 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>

	Controlled Environment	Uncontrolled Environment
Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE)	1.4787 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.2997 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>
Distance to Compliance From Centre of Antenna	4.529 feet 1.3804 metres	10.0654 feet 3.0679 metres
Does the Area of Interest Appear to be in Compliance?	yes	no

**Above:** Partial screenshot of [hintlink.com](http://hintlink.com) power density calculations, assuming 38 watts into antenna (after coax loss), 8 feet distance, and transmit on K6PV repeater input frequency, 442.120 MHz. Uncontrolled Environment (those un-associated with station) is not in compliance—10.07 feet required.

**Below:** Partial screenshot using [wirelessconnections.net](http://wirelessconnections.net) with same inputs, but now the Uncontrolled area is compliant—distance almost 4-feet less than above. Ground reflections checked “Yes” on input screen, but says “No” in results.

Distance to Compliance from Center of Antenna	
Controlled Env:	0.868 meters (2.849 feet)
Uncontrolled Env:	1.923 meters (6.310 feet)
Is the Controlled Env Area Compliant?:	Yes
Is the Uncontrolled Env Area Compliant?:	Yes

#### INPUTS:

Frequency of Operation : 442.120 MHz  
 Average Power at Antenna : 38.000 Watts  
 Antenna Gain : 5.500 dBi  
 Distance from Antenna : 2.438 meters (8.000 feet)  
 Estimated Power Density : 0.181 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 Ground Reflections : No

(Note: “Yes” was specified)

<http://www.bcwireless.net/tools/rf/rfsafety.main.cgi>

[http://hintlink.com/power\\_density.htm](http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm)

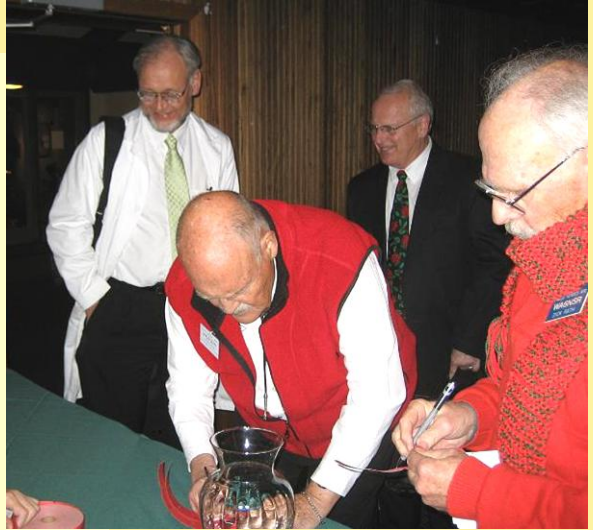
<http://www.wirelessconnections.net/index.php/Calculations.html>

Note: Until 2009, the University of Texas-Austin Amateur Radio Club had an RF safety calculator that was linked on numerous ham websites. Those links are often still there, but for reasons unknown the U of T’s RF calculator isn’t.

## Some scenes from PVARC's Dec. 14, 2011, holiday dinner at Ports O'Call Restaurant...a good time was had by all.



**L-R:** Dale, N6NNW; Steve, W6ZJD; Herb, KM6DD; and Dan, W6DC.



**L-R:** Our speaker, Prof. Jay Jones, WB9FPM; Herb, W6RBW; Bob, AB6SY; and Dick, W6NSR, at the raffle ticket table.



ARRL LAX Section Manager David Greenhut, N6HD (right), PVARC President Jeff Wolf, K6JW, and XYL Rowie, survey the food.



**At table in foreground, L-R:** Knut, N6BNP; Chuck, K6CTM; John, W6EGR; Dan, K6DPY; and Cynthia, KJ6GPG.

Photos by John Freeman, WW6WW, and Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

Additional photos are on our club's website:  
<http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/2011HolidayParty.htm>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2012

**Robert Hanel, KJ6RAA**

**Gary Parsons, KJ6NIY**

**Steve Mandich, K6NT**

**Gina Mandich, KF6MYQ**

**Robert King, KI6EAI**

## PVARC's Election of Officers To Be Held Next Month

The following PVARC members have been slated by the Board (and truly willing) to serve as the club's officers from March 1, 2012, until February 28, 2013. Additional nominations, if any, will be taken from the floor at our January meeting and elections held at our February meeting.

President: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF  
 Vice President: Clay Davis, AB9A  
 Treasurer: Bob Sylvest, AB6SY  
 Secretary: Dan Yang, K6DPY  
 Director: Ray Day, N6HE  
 Director: Peter Landon, KE6JPM  
 Past President: Jeff Wolf, K6JW ■

## Bill Harper, WA6ESC, Recipient of 2011 W6AM Rhombic Award

Long-time PVARC member Bill Harper, WA6ESC, received the 2011 W6AM Rhombic Award last month in recognition of his many years of club service. Bill wasn't able to attend our holiday dinner, but PVARC President Jeff Wolf (K6JW) presented the plaque at Bill's home in Palos Verdes Estates the next day.

Bill served as PVARC Treasurer for six years, has handled net control and record-keeping for our club nets, and is widely respected for his antenna building. Many of his antenna designs are posted on PVARC's website and were presented during his frequent "Antenna of the Month" talks at club meetings. He also built antennas for club use and for the Palos Verdes public schools, in addition to cloning many members' radios.

PVARC inaugurated its W6AM Rhombic Award in 2008 to recognize members making significant contributions to the club over a period of time. Past recipients were:

2010: John Freeman, WW6WW; Karen Freeman, KG6BNN; and Ginger Clark, KG6TAU.

2009: Homer Meek, K6HKT

2008: Dan Colburn, W6DC

W6AM was the late Don Wallace's call sign. His former "Radio Ranch" on Highridge near Crestridge in Rancho Palos Verdes is now the site of luxury homes. The design of PVARC's Rhombic Award plaque includes a piece of wire from Wallace's massive rhombic antenna that spanned his "Radio Ranch". ■

## A Different Meeting Place for PVARC in January 2012 Only

**"We say again":** This month's regular meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, will be held at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center, 31501 Palos Verdes Drive West.

This location is a one-time change. We'll be back at Hesse Park in February after repairs there are completed.

You should carry a small flashlight if you need to walk from the Interpretive Center's two outlying parking lots where lighting is minimal after dark. ■



Photo Credit: Google



## Lovell Chase, KI6VZS (SK)

We were saddened to learn PVARC member Lovell Chase, KI6VZS, of Rancho Palos Verdes passed away on December 18 at his home following a lengthy illness.

Lovell became a ham in 2009 and we thank him for serving as a radio operator at almost all of PVARC's public service events since then.



He will be remembered for his outstanding service at the 2010 and 2011 Palos Verdes Marathons for mobile communication from roving vans. He also served multiple years at the Conquer the Bridge Race, the Rolling Hills Estates "Hills are Alive" run, and the RAT Beach Bike Tour in 2010. His final event was helping staff our Hamcon 2011 information desk at the Torrance Marriott. Lovell was also an active PVAN member and served as treasurer of the Pacific View Home-owners Association.

A memorial service is scheduled this Saturday, January 18, at 11 a.m. in the Branch of Hope Church, 2370 W. Carson St, #100, Torrance. A luncheon will follow. ■

## PVARC 2012 Membership Dues are Due on January 31

We thank the members who have renewed their PVARC membership for 2012 and remind others that 2011 membership expires on January 31.

Please use the membership renewal form on the next page and either mail it or bring it to our next club meeting. Be sure to sign the form.

We promise to provide a great year of programs, newsletters, public service events, and access to fellow club members for enhancing your radio knowledge.

PVARC annual membership dues of \$15 (\$17 per family) are among the lowest of all non-employer affiliated amateur clubs in the L.A. area. ■

◆ PVARC's financial report is available upon request to any member.

## 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 Pace, NZ6L
Yahoo PVARC Group Moderator	Daniel Yang, K6DPY

### Contacts:

Interim QRO Editor: 310-544-2917, [ai6df@arrrl.net](mailto:ai6df@arrrl.net)  
Webmaster: 310-541-6971, [jfree@cox.net](mailto:jfree@cox.net)

Email us: [k6pv@arrrl.net](mailto:k6pv@arrrl.net)

Website: [www.palosverdes.com/pvarc](http://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.

### Repeaters (Open, though often listed as "Closed"):

Club: K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0, CTCSS  
"PV-West": K6IUM, 449.980 MHz (-), PL 173.8, 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 on a winter afternoon from near the Interpretive Center.*  
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

# Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club 2012 Calendar

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

 Club Activity  Club Public Service

## 2012 Major Contest Dates

 ARRL  CQ Magazine and Other

- Jan. 7-8: ARRL RTTY Roundup
- Jan. 21-23: ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- Jan. 28-29: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (CW)
- Feb. 11-12: CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX
- Feb. 18-19: ARRL DX (CW)
- Feb. 25: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Feb. 25-26: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (SSB)
- Mar. 3-4: ARRL DX (SSB)
- Mar. 24-25: CQ Worldwide SSB WPX
- May 26-27: CQ Worldwide CW WPX
- Jun. 9-10: ARRL VHF QSO Party
- Jun. 23-24: ARRL Field Day 
- Jul. 14-15: IARU HF Championship
- Jul. 21-22: CQ Worldwide VHF
- Aug. 4-5: ARRL UHF Contest
- Sept. 29-30: CQ Worldwide RTTY DX
- Oct. 6-7: California QSO Party
- Oct. 27-28: CQ Worldwide SSB DX
- Nov. 3-4: ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
- Nov. 17-18: ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
- Nov. 24-25: CQ Worldwide CW DX
- Dec. 1-2: ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- Dec. 8-9: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

## PVARC Nets

Join in every **Tuesday** at 7:30 pm on K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0. All members and guests are invited to check in and share information.

## PVARC Meetings

7:30 pm on **3rd Wednesday** of every month, except August and December, at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes. Guests always welcome. Optional no-host dinner at 5:30 pm before club meetings at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates.

**August 19:** Annual family picnic at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse in conjunction with International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend.

**December 12:** Holiday dinner

## PVARC Public Service Events

- May 19:** Palos Verdes Marathon
- August 11:** Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive" 5K/10K
- Sept. 3:** L.A. Harbor "Conquer the Bridge" Race
- Sept. 22:** RAT Beach Bike Tour
- October 13 & 18:** Great California ShakeOut

## PVARC's Islands on the Air Annual DXpedition

**Feb. 22-26:** Two Harbors, Catalina Island.

## ARRL Events

**Jan. 28:** Palm Springs—Desert Rats Hamfest

**Feb. 17-18:** Yuma, AZ—ARRL SW Division Annual Convention.



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: \_\_\_\_\_

Other amateur radio groups you belong to: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

I am applying for a new or renewal membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club and understand that by accepting membership I agree to abide by the Club's constitution and by-laws (available on-line at:
http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/constitution.htm or upon request.)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*PVARC's next amateur radio license course taught by Walt Ordway, K1DFO, starts on February 4th. Please tell your friends, neighbors, and family members.*

## **Two Amateur Radio Courses**

FCC "**Technician**" course (entry level)

FCC "**General**" course (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The 2 sessions are on 4 & 11 February 2012

**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 18 February 2012

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 the Technician and \$26 for the General -
- Copy of my Power Point charts,  
\$18 for the Technician and \$18 for the General -

For courses sponsored by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, students thru grade 12 who pass their examination at a PVARC VE session will, upon application to the Club, be eligible for reimbursement up to a maximum of \$50 to cover the cost of materials and the examination fee.

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

*The next ARRL-sanctioned hamfest in Southern California will be on January 28th in Palm Springs. The event includes a swapmeet and vendor displays as well as talks.*

## The Desert Radio Amateur Transmitting Society

invite you to attend the 3rd annual \* \* \* Palm Springs HAMFEST!

Special event  
station on  
14.251 and  
7.251 from  
0300z to 1200z

Saturday, January 28  
9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**ONLY \$2**

Talk-in frequency:  
146.940- PL 107.2  
WD6RAT Desert RATpeater  
Daily Nets Thursday thru Sat.  
8 A.M. - Noon - 6 P.M.

Bring your ham gear to sell, no fee charged for selling if you bring own table and chairs. Or bring it to the club table ( small commission to the club) ...we'll handle the sale.



# HAMFEST!



**Jan 28, 2012 follow the rat @desertratsam**

**FOOD! FUN! PRIZES!**

Raffle tickets only \$1

Ham Radio talks by

Clint Bradford and Gordon West

Old Military Radio collection on display by  
Michael Brennan KA6PGN

### Vendors

Alinco YAESU DX Store  
Ham Radio Outlet

Buds Engraving Alpine Antennas  
Byonics ARRL W5YI RF Stuff

EDS Emergency Pack Impulse Electronics

Rouend Comm with ABR Industries Coax

CQ Magazine Quake Safe Kits

And a great SWAP MEET!



Email us for more info:  
Peter Reinzuch VE7REZ~President of  
'the Desert RATS' Club  
[ve7rez@desertrats.am](mailto:ve7rez@desertrats.am)

Riverside County ARES  
[riversidecountyares@gmail.com](mailto:riversidecountyares@gmail.com)

~Check ze Tweets @hamradio  
@RivCoARES

Check the website for  
directions and  
vendor updates!

<http://www.desertrats.am>

Event Coordinators Gary Boskovich KD6QLT and Susie Boskovich KD6QVO 760-328-9662 [sboskovich@dc.rr.com](mailto:sboskovich@dc.rr.com)

RSVP: RV Dry Camping reservations for vendors: [sboskovich@dc.rr.com](mailto:sboskovich@dc.rr.com) Vendor Set-up time 7:00-9:00 AM

Hotel Nearby: Quality Inn of Palm Springs 760-323-2775 check early to get reservations!

*The 2012 ARRL Southwest Division Convention will be held in Yuma, AZ, during February 17-18 when the weather there is pleasant.*

# **2012 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention**

*8<sup>th</sup> Annual*

## **Yuma Hamfest & Arizona State Convention Yuma, Arizona Feb. 17 & 18, 2012**



Yuma County Fairgrounds  
2520 East 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona

**[www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org)**

Check the Website for Additional Information  
and a Current Schedule of Activities and Seminars

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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**Vendors & Exhibitors  
Consignment Sales  
License Testing  
Hourly Door Prizes  
On-site RV Camping  
Famous Buzzard BBQ  
ARRL Forum  
\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)  
Full Seminar Schedule  
DXCC Card Checking  
Grand Prizes worth \$10K  
Emergency Preparedness  
iPad 2 Admission Prize  
Hospitality Area  
Antenna Clinic & T-Hunt**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (-) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: [info@yumahamfest.org](mailto:info@yumahamfest.org)



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio  
Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of  
our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio  
Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization

## Captions to photographs and other illustrations in this month's **QRO**.

*Certain software programs that convert the text of PDF files into spoken words reportedly have difficulty converting short stand-alone text items such as photo captions and text boxes. The following combines all short text items in this month's **QRO** into a larger body of text to facilitate conversion into speech.*

Page 1: The top photograph shows the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse from the Interpretive Center before sunset. The middle right photo accompanies the announcement of our meeting speaker and has the caption, "The Snow Peak ATV repeater antenna. PHOTO CREDIT: Amateur Television Network Website". A text box below lists the ATV repeaters in Southern California.

Page 3: The photo at bottom right shows a "blue screen" computer crash situation.

Page 5: Photo at top right shows the embroidered jacket patch for participants of PVARC's Islands on the Air DXpedition to Catalina Island.

Page 6: Two screen shots from online RF safety calculators appear on the right side. The caption says, *Above:* Partial screenshot of hintlink.com power density calculations, assuming 38 watts into antenna (after coax loss), 8 feet distance, and transmit on K6PV repeater input frequency, 442.120 MHz. Uncontrolled Environment (those un-associated with station) is not in compliance—10.07 feet required. *Below:* Partial screenshot using wirelessconnections.net with same inputs, but now the Uncontrolled area is compliant --distance almost 4-feet less than above. Ground reflections checked "Yes" on input screen, but says "No" in results.

A text box at the bottom of the page lists links to three online RF safety calculators:

<http://www.bcwireless.net/tools/rf/rfsafety.main.cgi> [http://hintlink.com/power\\_density.htm](http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm)

<http://www.wirelessconnections.net/index.php/Calculations.html>

With a Note: Until two years ago, the University of Texas-Austin Amateur Radio Club had an RF safety calculator that was linked on numerous ham websites. Those links are often still there, but for reasons unknown the U of T's RF calculator isn't.

Page 7: Five photographs from PVARC's December 14<sup>th</sup> holiday party are shown. The captions read: L-R: Dale, N6NNW; Steve, W6ZJD; Herb, KM6DD; and Dan, W6DC. L-R: Our speaker, Prof. Jay Jones, WB9FPM; Herb, W6RBW; Bob, AB6SY; and Dick, W6NSR, at the raffle ticket table. ARRL LAX Section Manager David Greenhut, N6HD (right), PVARC President Jeff Wolf, K6JW, and XYL Rowie, survey the food. ARRL LAX Section Manager David Greenhut, N6HD (right), PVARC President Jeff Wolf, K6JW, and XYL Rowie, survey the food. Photos by John Freeman, WW6WW, and Diana Feinberg, AI6DF. Additional photos are on our club's website:

<http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/2011HolidayParty.htm>

Page 8: The box at upper left welcomes new club members: Robert Hanel, KJ6RAA, Gary Parsons, KJ6NIY, Steve Mandich, K6NT, Gina Mandich, KF6MYQ, and Robert King, KI6EAI. The photo at lower right is an aerial photo of the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center with parking locations overlaid. Photo credit: Google.

Page 9: The photograph at upper right is a portrait of Lovell Chase, KI6VZS (SK)

Page 10: Shows a calendar with days of the year highlighted for PVARC events, ARRL meetings, and major amateur radio contests.

Page 13: Contains full-page announcement for 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Desert Radio Amateur Transmitting Society Palm Springs Hamfest on January 28. Page 14 is a full-page announcement for the ARRL 2012 Southwest Division Convention to be held in Yuma, Arizona, on Feb. 17 and 18.