



QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FEBRUARY 2014

Dennis Kidder Speaks on Maker Faire: “It’s Not Your Grandfather’s Ham Radio”

Maker Faire® has energized thousands of people—young and old—to again consider “Doing It Yourself”, especially in electronics and related fields. At our February 12 club meeting (**one week earlier than usual**) retired Hughes and Raytheon engineer Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, will present what the Maker Faire “show and tell” movement is all about and how you can participate.

Dennis explains Maker Faire as: “The Maker Faire Experience is Bringing Ham Radio to a New Community. Have you heard of the Maker Movement? Well, it is becoming a Renaissance of hobbyist electronics. We as hams have been ‘makers’ for over 100 years, so we think of this as nothing really new. But it is exciting to see a new group of people becoming interested in the things that got many of us into ham radio in the first place. This presentation is the story of how a group of hams have been presenting what WE do to the Maker Community for the past several years and a number of events. Our hope is that we can get more hams involved and participating in Maker Faires around the world!” ■

“Maker Faire: It’s Not Your Grandfather’s Ham Radio”

Dennis Kidder, W6DQ

When: PVARC Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm, Wednesday, **February 12, 2014**. Visitors Welcome.

Where: Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes

Also: Pre-meeting no-host dinner at Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Rd., Rolling Hills Estates, 5:30 pm

As we finish another activity year we look forward to the next one

**By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
PVARC President**

To a physicist, precisely measuring time uses almost 9.2 billion oscillations of a cesium atom to define a “second”.

To the PVARC, we measure time using somewhat imprecise activity years running from the 3rd Wednesday of February to the 3rd Wednesday in February next year. These dates coincide with each year’s PVARC officer and director term. Merging physics with the PVARC, about 289,899 trillion cesium atom oscillations would define a PVARC activity year for our officers, directors, and members.

But looking at our activity year in a simpler manner, I would like to sincerely thank all our members for making the current activity year a highly successful one. Additionally, our Board members have each contributed significant amounts of time (actually, in the low trillions of cesium atom oscillations) to facilitate the club’s many events and other activities.

Most of the current PVARC Board is expected to continue serving during the next activity year. Joe Pace, NZ6L, is stepping down from the Board after six years due to his increased out-of-state travel schedule for American Honda Corp. We greatly appreciate Joe’s major contributions to the club as a two-term PVARC President, Past President, and Director—in addition to his roles in recent years as Logistics Chief for our IOTA DXpeditions and Lighthouse Weekend picnics. We’re glad that Joe will still be available to facilitate club events as his schedule allows.

Our membership at the end of calendar 2013 stood at 150 people from the Palos Verdes Peninsula, the Beach Cities, San Pedro, and many other locales—making the PVARC one of the largest amateur radio clubs in Los Angeles County.

In the past year we implemented an Elmer’s program, including the “Elmer’s Corner” at our monthly meetings. All PVARC members are encouraged to take advantage of the extensive base of amateur radio knowledge within our club.

Let us know if there’s anything our club can do to make you a better amateur radio operator. Whether or not you choose to participate in our operating activities or attend our meetings, we’re always here to serve you. ■



The PVARC’s tower trailer at sunrise on Field Day.

Thank you to all PVARC members for supporting our club in 2013. We couldn't have accomplished our public service and club activities without your membership.

Additional funding provided during January-December 2013 by:

K6PV Repeater Fund Donors:

Ron Anderson, KK6AAZ
 Laura Behenna, KK6BFI
 Thomas Bell, KJ6YCM
 Tony Bressickello, W6GEZ
 Dale Carlson, KF6LIX
 Mike Caulfield, AF6VT
 Andrew DeCristofaro, KI6BKD
 Ken Getzin, NE6K
 Jim Haire, KE6SYL
 Dale Hanks, N6NNW
 Pat Hutchings, W6PBH
 Dick Krown, W6DDK
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 Gary Parsons, KJ6NIY
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 and Debbie Marshke, KK6EOW
 Brad Perranoski, KJ6UML
 Dan Yang, K6DPY

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Ken Carr, K6HRN
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 Clay Davis, AB9A
 Ray Day, N6HE
 Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
 Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, and Helen Dyer, KI6VSB
 Mel Hughes, K6SY, and Doris Hughes, K6KSY
 Walt Ordway, K1DFO
 Joe Pace, NZ6L
 Chris Storey, KA6WNK
 Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
 Nicholas Wagner, KB6PL

(If we inadvertently omitted your name please let us know.)

A major PVARC project for 2014: Re-finishing our tower trailer

The PVARC's tower trailer used for Field Day, Lighthouse Weekend, and emergencies needs rust-removal and re-finishing in 2014—a periodic action given a storage location with damp marine air.

Bill Harper, WA6ESC, has offered to lead an effort for re-finishing the trailer ourselves. We will organize a club team for this during the Spring months when rain chances are minimal.

The PVARC has also sought estimates for having some or all of the work professionally done. We thank Dan Colburn, W6DC, for obtaining our trailer years ago from the former Douglas Aircraft Co. ■



PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF



PVARC honored for public service in the South Bay

The PVARC received recognition from the City of Torrance on January 16 for our annual communication work on behalf of the 62-mile RAT Beach Bike Tour sponsored by the South Bay Sunrise Rotary Club.

Torrance City Councilmembers Heidi Ashcraft, Pat Furey, and Bill Sutherland presented our certificate while also recognizing the Rotary Club's financial donations to three Torrance-based non-profit health organizations. These three organizations, in part supported by RAT Beach Bike Tour proceeds, serve individuals with special needs throughout the South Bay.

This bike tour covers far more area than any other PVARC public service event. We are glad to assist.

Continued on next page ►

Many thanks to our radio operator teams each year:

2010: 1st RAT Beach Bike Tour

Deane Bouvier, N5DQ
 Lovell Chase, KI6VZS (SK)
 Steve Collins, KI6TEQ
 Matthew Cruse, N6MDC
 Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
 Cynthia Gonyea, AG6NW
 Gary Lopes, WA6MEM (tech support)
 Homer Meek, K6HKT
 Matt Orlich, WA6AJC (tech support)
 Stu Salot, W7UW
 Dan Yang, K6DPY

2011: 2nd RAT Beach Bike Tour

Steve Collins, KI6TEQ
 Matthew Cruse, N6MDC
 Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
 Pat Hutchings, W6PBH
 Gary Lopes, WA6MEM (tech support)
 Homer Meek, K6HKT
 Matt Orlich, WA6AJC (tech support)
 Joe Pace, NZ6L
 Stu Salot, W7UW
 Dan Yang, K6DPY

2012: 3rd RAT Beach Bike Tour

Deane Bouvier, N5DQ
 Bob Closson, W6HIP
 Steve Collins, KI6TEQ
 Matthew Cruse, N6MDC
 Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
 Cynthia Gonyea, AG6NW
 Pat Hutchings, W6PBH
 Gary Lopes, WA6MEM (tech support)
 Matt Orlich, WA6AJC (tech support)
 Joe Pace, NZ6L

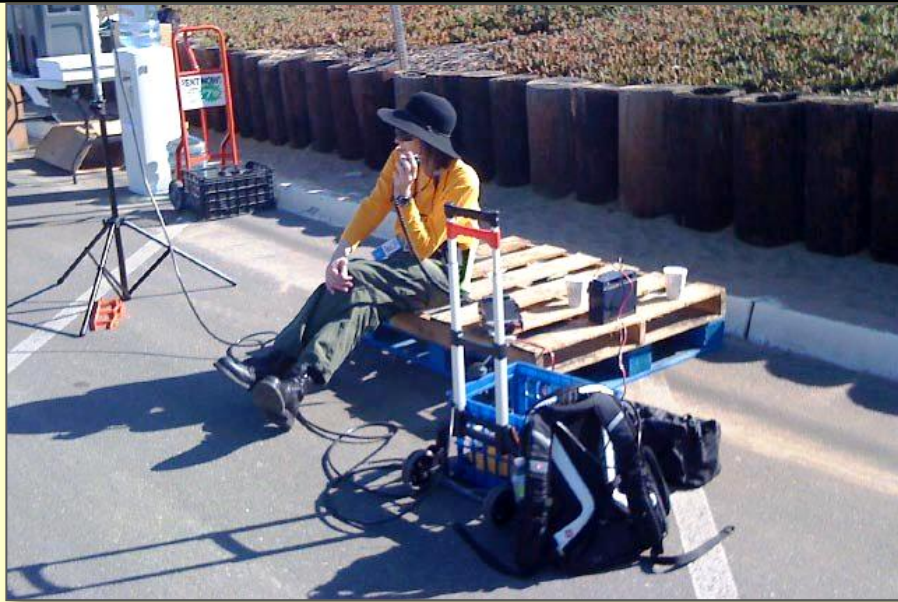
2013: 4th RAT Beach Bike Tour

Deane Bouvier, N5DQ
 Herb Clarkson, KM6DD
 Bob Closson, W6HIP
 Matthew Cruse, N6MDC
 Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
 Walt Ordway, K1DFO
 Joe Pace, NZ6L

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In a few photos: The PVARC's involvement with the 62-mile South Bay RAT Beach Bike Tour

Year 1, top right: At the inaugural RAT Beach Bike Tour in 2010 the PVARC's net control position at Torrance Beach was atop two wood pallets used for delivering bottled water. That's AI6DF operating on the pallets with a mobile radio and battery for nearly seven hours in the sun. Severe multi-path distortion affected our 440 MHz signal after In-N-Out Burger's 53-foot stainless steel mobile kitchen feeding cyclists and volunteers parked near our omni-directional antenna. PHOTO: HOMER MEEK, K6HKT



Year 2, center left: Dan Yang, K6DPY, and Diana, AI6DF, operating net control for the 2nd RAT Beach Bike Tour in 2011 at Torrance Beach. We provided our own table, chairs, and canopy but a high dew point caused continuous condensation on our equipment. We borrowed towels from an adjacent massage therapist to repeatedly wipe off the water from all our radio gear, cables, and batteries.

PHOTO: UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHER

Years 3 & 4, bottom: Deane Bouvier, N5DQ, and Matt Cruse, N6MDC, handled net control at Redondo Beach King Harbor—a much better location for all concerned. Deane's J-pole antenna (in foreground) easily reached the K6RH repeater in 2012 and the new N6RPV eastside repeater in 2013. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF



Our field operators in Roving Vans and at the SAG Stops in El Segundo, Torrance, and San Pedro also saw improvements in bike tour operations and our communication since 2010.

The Bike Tour's participation has grown too, with 576 cyclists in 2013 vs. 265 in 2010. ■

PVARC 2014 Board Election Set For February 12 Meeting

The PVARC elects its officers and directors annually at the February club meeting.

There were no additional nominations from the floor at the PVARC's January meeting beyond the candidate slate announced in the January **QRO** issue. Since the January club meeting Mike Caulfield, AF6VT, has been slated to serve as Secretary. The final candidate slate is:

For President: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
 For Vice President: Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
 For Treasurer: Peter Landon, KE6JPM
 For Secretary: Mike Caulfield, AF6VT
 For Directors: Clay Davis, AB9A, and Ray Day, N6HE

The above members have fully-committed to serve the PVARC in their respective positions for the year beginning in mid-February and will be voted by voice affirmation at the February 12 meeting. ■

The “Process of Continuous Improvement” is what we practice

Let your club officers know if you have suggestions—big or small—for improving our programs, activities, or other services. We aim to be responsive to member needs and provide a positive experience for hams of all experience levels.

Among some of the improvements we've recently made: upgrading the refreshments served at club meetings, including switching to a better drip coffeemaker from Hesse Park's noisy percolator. We also implemented the \$25 Ham Radio Outlet gift certificate award drawing for those who renewed their membership and attend club meetings.

We're all ears to know what can make our organization the best ham radio club in L.A. County. ■

Here's An Innovative Way to “Elmer” Yourself

QRO Editor's Note: PVARC member Norm Witt, WI6TT, shared this article written 20 years ago by long-time PVE ham Jim Hurzeler, N6TKL, who became a Silent Key in July 2012 at age 94. Norm is that energized “new” ham Jim attempted to Elmer.

ELMERING

Jim Hurzeler, N6TKL
 Northrop Radio Club
 Newsletter, January 1994

This is a success story.

A little over a year ago a friend of mine became interested in amateur radio. Because I still owed Spud, K6KH, for Elmering (hounding) me, I decided to help this poor soul become licensed. I loaned him some old Acco tapes, a buzzer key, phones, and old QST magazines to soak him in folklore.

After about a month, Norm thought he was ready. Dan, AA6JD, and I put him through the sweaty palm Novice test - and he passed! By the time he got his call, KD6QZR, he had passed the Tech. When he borrowed my General book, I decided I had better get off the duff because my pupil was gaining on me.

After a couple of months I passed the Advanced - but he passed the General written and wanted to borrow my Advanced book! What have I Elmered here? I bought myself a red Extra book and did some serious studying. Two weeks after I passed the written Extra, Norm passed both the 13 wpm code and the Advanced theory! Now he wants to borrow my Extra book!

In a year and 2 or 3 days, Norm went from “what's ham radio?” to an Advanced call. Now, I may not be smart, but I know when I'm beat. That kind of pressure is a lot harder to take than the verbal abuse that Spud laid on me years ago. If you are mildly interested in upgrading, just try my method. Elmer some poor soul, who you find later to be smarter and more competitive than you. Then try to stay ahead of him.

Thanks Norm - but turn the plate voltage down a little - I'm about to blow my finals.

[Ed. note: Change your roster for Norm Witt to KO6DA].

If you know someone aspiring for their Technician Class license...

Be advised a new 430+ question pool for amateur Technician Class licenses takes effect July 1, 2014. Anyone with current Technician training books or class notes should consider taking their Technician exam by June 30th. ■

Helpful Hint: Making a VHF/UHF homemade Yagi antenna more portable

By Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Some of us really enjoy constructing VHF and UHF antennas from readily available “junk-box” materials. These antennas may be given to new hams, swapped to a fellow amateur for something interesting, or taken into the field for remote operation.

One very effective directional antenna that can be made from a piece of PVC (or strip of wood) and some coat hangers is the homemade “cheap Yagi” described at the following website:

<http://www.wa5vjb.com/yagi-pdf/cheapyagi.pdf>.

It can be oriented with the elements vertical for FM operation or, by convention, rotated to the horizontal orientation for CW or SSB. These antennas are fun and easy to build and perform very well, once cut to resonate at the proper frequency within the band of interest.

The photo at upper right is an example of a 440 MHz homemade Yagi installed at the QTH of PVARC member Norm, WI6TT. It is fixed in position and pointed in the direction of PVARC’s K6PV repeater. A strip of 1” x 2” pine wood was used as the boom and the antenna was weatherized by painting and a strategic application of two-part epoxy sealant.

The following helpful hint is of benefit in transporting and storing these antennas. If PVC pipe is chosen as the boom, rather than a piece of wood, use a second piece of PVC pipe with a built-in coupler, as in the photo below.

Continued on next page ▶



Above: 70cm inexpensive homemade Yagi built by NG6R using pine wood as the boom. Shown installed at WI6TT’s QTH in Palos Verdes Estates.

PHOTOS: JERRY KENDRICK, NG6R

Below: Same antenna as above photo, but with PVC pipe used as the boom. Note how the two sections mate using the coupler in one section of PVC pipe.



Helpful hint: Making a VHF/UHF homemade Yagi antenna more portable

► *Continued from previous page*

As shown below, the antenna can now be broken into two pieces and more readily stored or transported. This photo shows an 8-element 70cm Yagi, whose driven element is cut to resonate at 442 MHz and which has an SWR of around 1.1:1 at this frequency. It's ideal for getting into the PVARC repeater from an otherwise marginal area. It's also perfect as a grab-and-go 440 MHz antenna with lots of gain for that remote operation in the field.

Plans are available for antennas that can be constructed for several bands, including 144 MHz, 220 MHz and 440 MHz. Just remember to place the PVC coupling element about half way along the antenna boom. Also, the antenna balances better on the mast if the support bracket is positioned near the center rather than at the end of the boom. The photo below shows the configuration of this antenna for storage and transport. Try one of these! ■

Antenna is now
easy to transport.
Boom
sections
re-connect here:



PHOTO: JERRY KENDRICK, NG6R

**Is there a technical hint you would like to share with fellow PVARC members?
Let QRO know and we'll publish it.**

PVARC operator team ready for our most diverse IOTA DXpedition ever on February 19-23

This year's PVARC DXpedition to Two Harbors on Catalina Island has our largest and most diverse operator team ever. What also makes this year's "Islands On The Air" DXpedition during February 19-23 exciting is being able to operate on all HF and VHF bands in multiple modes.

Our 2014 team is now at 11 club members—the most we've had at Two Harbors—with many bringing special amateur radio interests to pursue. This will be our first DXpedition with extensive CW operating, as well as the first using PSK-31, amateur satellites, and 2-meter SSB grid square chasing (see sidebar).

This year we'll have CW operation on HF bands, principally with Jeff K6JW, Jerry NG6R, and Ray, N6HE, heading that action. Also new this year are more operations on 80- and 40-meters at night and an antenna for 17- and 12-meters. We've never used the WARC HF bands from Catalina, giving IOTA participants world-wide a new reason to seek QSO's with K6PV/6. IOTA's website indicates only 32.4% of IOTA participants have worked Catalina Island (technically known as IOTA NA-066, "California state group South", which includes Santa Barbara Island and U.S. Navy-controlled San Clemente Island.)

This year's radio transceiver mix is also the most diverse we have brought to Two Harbors. We'll be using a Ten-Tec Omni VII; Elecraft K-2; Elecraft KX-3 (on PSK-31); Yaesu FT-847, a Yaesu FT-897D as back-up, plus a Yaesu FT-8800 VHF/UHF FM radio for communicating through the K6PV repeater. All our radio operators will bring a 440 MHz-capable HT radio to keep in contact while on the island.

Our operating plans still include participating in the CQ Worldwide 160-Meter SSB Contest during night hours on February 21-22 and the intense North American RTTY QSO Party on Saturday, February 22.

Try working K6PV/6 on any band or mode and you can get our "happy pelican" QSL card, too. ■

2-Meter SSB grid chasing doesn't get more precise than this...

Many hams enjoy hunting Maidenhead grid squares on VHF bands. Not familiar with these grid squares? See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maidenhead_Locator_System

Most of Southwest Los Angeles County (including the Palos Verdes Peninsula, all the Beach Cities, and San Pedro) is in grid square DM03. What makes our Two Harbors IOTA site interesting is the boundary of two DM03 grid sub-squares running straight through our operating position! On one side of a cabin is sub-square DM03rk and on the other DM03sk. ■


PVARC's 2014 operator team on IOTA NA-066:

Chris Storey, KA6WNK
Clay Davis, AB9A
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Jeff Wolf, K6JW
Jerry Kendrick, NG6R
Joe Pace, NZ6L
Mike Caulfield, AF6VT
Norm Thorn, K6UU
Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Ray Day, N6HE
Steve Mandich, K6NT

Santa Catalina Island

K6PV

NA-066
IOTA DXpedition



Palos Verdes
Amateur Radio Club
K6PV
Post Office Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274 USA
k6pv@arrl.net

"Twenty six miles across the sea
Santa Catalina is a haven for me
Santa Catalina, the island of romance
Romance, romance, romance"

Santa Catalina Island has been inhabited for over 7,000 years, was discovered for Europe by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542, became part of the Russian and American sea otter trade in the 1770s, and has a rich history as the first safe harbor port for Los Angeles in the mid 1860s.


Catalina Island was developed as a tourist destination towards the end of the 19th century by George Shatto, then the Banning family, and finally by William Wrigley, Jr., the famous chewing gum magnate.

Today, 88% of the island is stewarded by the Catalina Island Conservancy, and it continues to be a wonderful place to live, visit and explore.

TO RADIO

DATE	UTC	MHZ	2-WAY MODE	RST

PSE QSL TNX



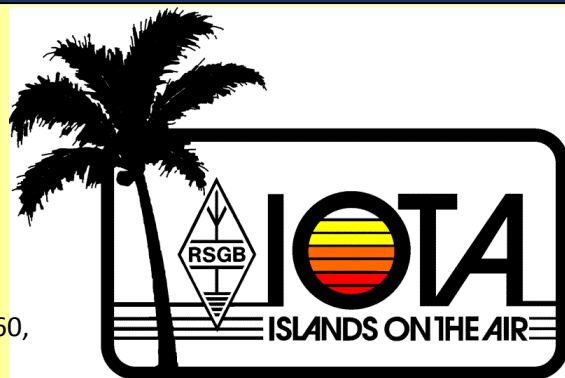
Four ways to follow K6PV/6 during our 2014 IOTA DXpedition

- **Monitor HF ham bands**
 - IOTA frequencies vary around these suggested starting frequencies
 - **SSB:** 28.560, 28.460, 24.950, 21.260, 18.128, 14.260, and 3.755 MHz.
 - **CW:** 28.040, 24.920, 21.040, 18.098, 14.040, 10.115 and 3.530 MHz

- **View DX spotting websites (look for K6PV/6 spots)**
 - IOTA website has latest island spots, <http://www.rsgbiota.org/>
 - DX Summit, <http://www.dxsummit.fi/CustomFilter.aspx>
 - Dxwatch.com, <http://www.dxwatch.com/>

- **K6PV repeater, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0**
 - Call on K6PV—the team will be monitoring and have updated frequency information and results (except during meal breaks)

- **Two Harbors webcam**
 - Operate a webcam overlooking our campground site at: <http://www.visitcatalinaisland.com/island-info/media/two-harbors-cam>



Above: 9:05 am Thursday, February 6, 2014. The Two Harbors wide-angle webcam view shows campground area where K6PV/6 will be situated during February 19-23. Our cabins are just to right of tennis courts (center). This webcam has interactive viewer controls that enable zooming and panning the camera lens but the webcam does not provide full-motion video. The webcam will probably show our antennas and perhaps some operators walking about during our DXpedition. PHOTO: SCREENSHOT FROM TWO HARBORS WEBCAM, <http://www.visitcatalinaisland.com/island-info/media/two-harbors-cam>

PVARC Annual Dues Are Due; No Change in Cost for 2014

Annual membership dues in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club were due January 31st. By late February we begin dropping unpaid members from the club's roster.

Many PVARC members have already sent their 2014 dues and we thank each of them. If you haven't done so please renew soon. We require a new signed membership form each year with your dues for ensuring our records are accurate and compiling our annual report to the ARRL.

At least 51% of our full members must be ARRL members for us to continue enjoying benefits as an ARRL-Affiliated Club, especially the ARRL's Club Liability Insurance program. We realize some hams will belong to the ARRL in certain years and not others, but we need to know for sure each year. A PVARC membership renewal form appears on page 15 of this month's **QRO**. Annual dues remain at \$15 for a single membership, \$17 for family membership.

Paid PVARC members will be automatically entered in a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate from Ham Radio Outlet stores, to be awarded near the end of each meeting in 2014. Bill Leighton, KG6WVF, won the HRO Gift Certificate at our January meeting.

We'll have membership renewal forms at our February 12 club meeting. Or mail your form with dues to : PVARC, PO Box 2316, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274. ■

Check In to PVARC's Tuesday Nets

We invite your participation with the "mystery question" during PVARC's weekly nets at 7:30 pm Tuesdays on the K6PV repeater. All members and guests are welcome to check in. There's never any obligation to participate with the mystery question. But you might find the answers interesting—and perhaps the answers are the real "mystery"!

We will announce each week's mystery question in the club's Weekly Bulletin emailed early on Tuesdays. This provides some time for considering the "mystery" answers. ■

◆ 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	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Vice President	Clay Davis, AB9A
Treasurer	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Secretary	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
Directors	Ray Day, N6HE, Joe Pace, NZ6L

Appointed Offices:

QRO Editor	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Webmaster	John Freeman, WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
K6PV Repeater Trustee	Mel Hughes, K6SY
LAACARC Delegate	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liaison	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Net Control Operators	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD, Dale Hanks, N6NNW, Peter Landon, KE6JPM, Bob Sylvest, AB6SY, Dan Yang, K6DPY

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Webmaster: 310-541-6971, jrfree@cox.net

Email us: k6pv@arrl.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.

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—*The Pt. Vicente Lighthouse at dusk, late in December, 2013. Two Harbors, site of our IOTA DXpedition, is across the water where the Catalina Island range "dips".*

PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

*Marathon Ham Radio Operator News***L.A. Marathon Needs Hams on March 9; P.V. Half-Marathon Scheduled for November 15**

The 26-mile Los Angeles Marathon from Dodger Stadium to Santa Monica on Sunday, March 9 is seeking additional amateur radio operators. Hams are needed at each mile Water Station and at various Medical Stations along the course. Locations after Mile 9 have two or more operators.

About 26,000 entrants start this festive marathon and most finish it. To sign up for operating (which uses 440 MHz repeaters) visit the L.A. Marathon Radio Operators site at:

<http://www.lamarathon.ham-radio-op.net/>

Closer to our area, the 2014 Palos Verdes Half-Marathon has been scheduled for Saturday, November 15 along the Peninsula's west-side. Our club will again handle radio communication for this Half Marathon and begin seeking member involvement in September.

Marathons definitely provide great field operating experience for ham operators. ■

Can You Be An Elmer To a New Ham (Even in A Small Way)?

We say again: Our club has assembled a list of PVARC members who offered to assist new hams or longer-timers on any amateur radio issue.

We'll make the list of Elmers available to club members who ask for assistance. How about adding your name to our list ?

Please contact Clay Davis, AB9A at: ab9a@arrl.net

■

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE
PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
IN 2013-14**

Laura Behenna, KK6BFI

Anthony Bressickello, W6GEZ

Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Peter Martinez, KK6CLI

Robert Kollar, KI6YMD

Tony Kordich, KK6DYL

Cindy Matsuda, KJ6NWO

Blake Bartosh, KK6CZC

David Bloodgood, K6WN

Larry Shapiro, K6RO

Nicholas Wagner, KB6PL

Steve Marschke, KK6EOS

Debbie Marschke, KK6EOW

Andrew DeCristofaro, KI6BKD

Dominic DeCristofaro, KI6BOO

Richard Carl, KF6ZRF

Don Beaumont, KE6PMN

Cindy Sattler, KK6EOZ

"Elmer's Corner" Takes A Break This Month

Our "Elmer's Corner" won't be at the February 12 club meeting due to an otherwise full program and room space issues. "Elmer's Corner" resumes at our March 19 monthly meeting with a short presentation covering why and how to make RF chokes.

ARRL Members: Did you know there's a printable special ARRL membership certificate for your shack wall that also commemorates the ARRL's Centennial Anniversary in 2014?

Go to the ARRL website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/membership-certificate> and sign in with your log-in name and password. ■

The sample ARRL Centennial membership certificate below is shown reduced. The actual size is a standard 8½ by 11 inch sheet and stiffer paper stock is recommended for your printer. Your name and call sign, as listed with the ARRL, will appear on your certificate.



Also part of the ARRL's Centennial Anniversary in 2014:

Don't miss the ARRL Centennial QSO Party where W1AW/"Portable" stations will operate on a rotating schedule in every U.S. state and most U.S. territories during 2014. Not only can Worked All States awards be earned but the Centennial QSO Party Challenge enables earning points for contacts with other ARRL members, ARRL volunteers, ARRL officers, and ARRL staff. Each ARRL member contact is worth one point; contacting an ARRL Volunteer Examiner, 5 points; a QST columnist contact is 30 points; an ARRL Section Manager QSO is worth 175 points; and an ARRL Vice President contact gets 250 points (to mention a few examples). For the full rules and point schedule see: <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party#Scoring>

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club 2014 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
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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	

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
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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		

- xx Club Meeting
- xx Club Net
- xx PVARC HF Operations
- xx PVARC Public Service
- xx Ham Convention
- xx PVARC Ham License Class

2014 Major Contest Dates

- ARRL ARRL
- CQ Magazine and Other CQ Magazine and Other

- Jan. 4-5: ARRL RTTY Roundup
- Jan. 18-19: ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- Jan. 24-26: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (CW)
- Feb. 8-9: CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX
- Feb. 14-16: ARRL DX (CW)
- Feb. 22: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Feb. 21-22: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (SSB)
- Mar. 1-2: ARRL DX (SSB)
- Mar. 28-30: CQ Worldwide SSB WPX
- May 23-25: CQ Worldwide CW WPX
- Jun. 14-16: ARRL June VHF Contest
- Jun. 28-29: ARRL Field Day
- July 12-13: IARU World Championships
- Jul. 18-20: CQ Worldwide VHF
- Aug. 2-3: ARRL UHF Contest
- Sept. 13-14: ARRL September VHF Contest
- Sept. 26-28: CQ Worldwide RTTY DX
- Oct. 4-5: California QSO Party
- Oct. 24-26: CQ Worldwide SSB DX
- Nov. 1-2: ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
- Nov. 15-16: ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
- Nov. 28-30: CQ Worldwide CW DX
- Dec. 5-7: ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- Dec. 13-14: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

PVARC Nets

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm on K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0, all club members and guests welcome.

PVARC Meetings & Meals

Meetings 7:30 pm **3rd Wednesdays** except February (2nd Wed.), August and December (no meeting) at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes. Guests welcome. A no-host dinner at 5:30 pm before club meetings is held at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates. **3rd Sunday in August:** Annual family picnic at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse. **December 10:** Holiday dinner. Ports O'Call Restaurant, San Pedro.

Major Ham Radio Conventions

- Apr. 4-6:** Intl. DX Convention, Visalia
- May 16-18:** Dayton HamVention
- Sept. 12-14:** ARRL SW Div., S.Diego.

PVARC Public Service Events

- August 9:** Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive" 5K/10K
- Sept. 1** L.A. Harbor "Conquer the Bridge" Race
- Sept. 20:** RAT Beach Bike Tour
- Oct. 12:** Mary's Promenade 5K/10K
- Nov. 15:** Palos Verdes Half-Marathon

PVARC HF Operating Events

- **Feb. 19-23:** Islands On The Air DXpedition, Catalina Island;
- **June 28-29:** ARRL Field Day;
- **August 15-17:** Intl. Lighthouse Weekend, Pt. Vicente Lighthouse

PVARC Ham License Classes

Fred Hesse Park (Fireside Room), 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho PV

Feb. 8 & 15; May 3 & 10
(More dates to be announced)



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

**NEW MEMBER &
 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

NEW: _____ **RENEWAL:** _____ **MEMBERSHIP DATE:** _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ [] Work _____ [] Cell _____ []
 (please indicate [x] which number(s) [limited to two] you would like included in the PVARC roster)

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.

In applying for or renewing my membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, 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: _____

Tell your friends and relatives about the PVARC's May 2014 Technician and General license classes



Whether for emergency communication, communicating around the world, or learning a bit about electronics, there's nothing else like amateur radio (also known as "ham radio"). Amateur radio operators have long provided the communication "when all else fails" during disasters. Please tell your friends and relatives that with a short course, they can join the over 710,000 men, women, and children in the United States from all walks of life who are licensed to operate ham radios.

Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "Technician" course (entry level)

FCC "General" course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The next sessions are on 3 May & 10 May 2014

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:45 PM both Saturdays

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

FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to Noon on 17 May 2014

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will make a brief presentation at 9:30 AM at the start of the 3 May Technician class on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The location is Fred 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 (sold at cost)

- Gordon West book with all the FCC test questions,
\$22 for the Technician, \$26 for the General;
- Copy of PowerPoint charts: \$20 for the Technician, \$20 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 waltordway@juno.com

Looking for a Winter Hamfest? The 2014 Yuma, AZ,
Hamfest & ARRL Arizona Section Convention is Feb. 14-15

2014 Arizona Section Convention

10th Annual

Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 14 & 15, 2014

Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona



www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information

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

Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
Incredible Grand Prizes
Emergency Preparedness
Admission Prize
Hospitality Area
“Near Space” Balloon Launch
Antenna Clinic

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

Email Contact: 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 or explains all short text items in this month's QRO into a larger body of text to facilitate conversion into speech.

Page 1: The photo at top shows the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse at dusk, with Catalina Island in the background across the channel.

Page 2: The photo at right has the caption, "The PVARC's tower trailer at sunrise on Field Day."

Page 3: The table at the top acknowledges PVARC members who donated to the club's special funds. The photo at bottom right simply shows the club's antenna tower trailer and a photo credit, "PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF"

Page 4: The photo on the top half of the page shows the Certificate of Recognition the PVARC received from the City of Torrance. A text box at lower right lists all the radio operators at the first four RAT Beach Bike Tours.

Page 5: The top photo has the caption, "Year 1, top right: At the inaugural RAT Beach Bike Tour in 2010 the PVARC's net control position at Torrance Beach was atop two wood pallets used for delivering bottled water. That's AI6DF operating on the pallets with a mobile radio and battery for nearly seven hours in the sun. Severe multi-path distortion affected our 440 MHz signal after In-N-Out Burger's 53-foot stainless steel mobile kitchen feeding cyclists and volunteers parked near our omni-directional antenna. PHOTO: HOMER MEEK, K6HKT ". The center photo has the caption, "Year 2, center left: Dan Yang, K6DPY, and Diana, AI6DF, operating net control for the 2nd RAT Beach Bike Tour in 2011 at Torrance Beach. We provided our own table, chairs, and canopy but a high dew point caused continuous condensation on our equipment. We borrowed towels from an adjacent massage therapist to repeatedly wipe off the water from all our radio gear, cables, and batteries. PHOTO: UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHER ." The bottom photo has the caption, "Years 3 & 4, bottom: Deane Bouvier, N5DQ, and Matt Cruse, N6MDC, handled net control at Redondo Beach King Harbor—a much better location for all concerned. Deane's J-pole antenna (in foreground) easily reached the K6RH repeater in 2012 and the new N6RPV eastside repeater in 2013. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF". An additional text box says, "Our field operators in Roving Vans and at the SAG Stops in El Segundo, Torrance, and San Pedro also saw improvements in bike tour operations and our communication since 2010. The Bike Tour's participation has grown too, with 576 cyclists in 2013 vs. 265 in 2010."

Page 7: The photo at upper right shows a homemade UHF antenna and has the caption, "Above: 70cm inexpensive homemade Yagi built by NG6R using pine wood as the boom. Shown installed at WI6TT's QTH in Palos Verdes Estates. " The photo at bottom has the caption, "Below: Same antenna as above photo, but with PVC pipe used as the boom. Note how the two sections mate using the coupler in one section of PVC pipe. " PHOTOS BY JERRY KENDRICK, NG6R.

Page 8: The photo at right has the caption, "Above: 70cm inexpensive homemade Yagi built by NG6R using pine wood as the boom. Shown installed at WI6TT's QTH in Palos Verdes Estates." The photo at the bottom has the caption, "Below: Same antenna as above photo, but with PVC pipe used as the boom. Note how the two sections mate using the coupler in one section of PVC pipe." Photos by Jerry Kendrick , NG6R.

Page 9: The photos at bottom left show both sides of the K6PV Catalina DXpedition QSL card.

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

*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 or explains all short text items in this month's **QRO** into a larger body of text to facilitate conversion into speech.*

Page 10: The illustration at top right shows the Islands on the Air logo. The photo at the bottom has the caption, "Above: 9:05 am Thursday, February 6, 2014. Two Harbors wide-angle webcam view shows campground area where K6PV/6 will be situated during February 19-23. Our campground is just to right of tennis courts (center). This webcam has viewer controls that enable zooming and panning the camera lens but the webcam does not provide full-motion video. The webcam will probably show our antennas and perhaps some operators walking about during our DXpedition. PHOTO: Screenshot from Two Harbors webcam, <http://www.visitcatalinaisland.com/island-info/media/two-harbors-cam> "

Page 12: A graphics box at the bottom of the page says, "Elmer's Corner" Takes A Break This Month". "Our "Elmer's Corner" won't be at the February 12 club meeting due to an otherwise full program and room space issues. "Elmer's Corner" resumes at our March 19 monthly meeting with a short presentation covering why and how to make RF chokes."

Page 13: The illustration at the center shows a special ARRL membership certificate design that also incorporates the ARRL Centennial. Two text boxes explain how to get the certificate printed.

Page 14: The entire page is the PVARC's 2014 calendar of events.

Page 15: The entire page is the club's membership form.

Page 16: The entire page is the announcement for the next ham radio license classes at Hesse Park on May 3 and 10, 2014.

Page 17: The entire page is the flyer for the ARRL Arizona section convention and Yuma Hamfest in Yuma, Arizona, on February 14 and 15.