



QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MAY 2014

“Trouble-shooting for the Non-Techie Ham” is useful knowledge for all at PVARC’s May 21 meeting

“Trouble-shooting for the Non-Techie Ham”

**Marty Woll, N6VI and
ARRL Southwestern Division Vice-Director**

When: PVARC Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm,
Wednesday, May 21, 2014.
Visitors Welcome.

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

Also: 1) Pre-meeting no-host dinner at the
Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur
Rd., Rolling Hills Estates, 5:30-7:00 pm;

2) “Elmer’s Corner” during the meeting
refreshment break; details on page 2.

Almost every ham operator experiences some technical hiccups with their amateur equipment. The famous adage “Nothing is as easy as it looks” often describes some amateur radio setups, along with the corollary statement “If anything can go wrong, it will.”

Marty Woll, N6VI, presents at our May 21 meeting trouble-shooting guidance for many of the problems which non-technical or newer hams might encounter. Experienced amateur operators who Elmer other hams will find Marty’s presentation beneficial as well.

Marty serves as the ARRL Southwestern Division’s Vice-Director and will also discuss some ARRL developments. His ARRL Division—2nd largest of the 15 ARRL Divisions in terms of amateur radio licenses--covers nine Southern California counties (Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, Imperial, and Inyo) plus the entire state of Arizona.

Join us Wednesday, May 21, for an informative evening about ham radio. ■

Also at PVARC's May 21, 2014, Monthly Meeting...

- **“Elmer’s Corner” shows simple indoor HF antennas**
- **Opportunity to briefly describe your ham activities**
- **Drawing for a \$25 Ham Radio Outlet gift certificate**

You can operate inexpensively on the HF bands and get results without a conspicuous antenna! At Elmer’s Corner during the refreshment break at our May 21 meeting Diana, AI6DF, will show her 20-17-15-12-10-meter simple indoor wire dipole antennas altogether costing \$33 (of which \$25 was for a 1:1 current balun.) Horizontal wire dipole antennas typically have less noise than vertical antennas and may be used indoors or outdoors. Building wire dipoles only takes about six minutes per band and switching from one band to another while operating requires about three minutes.

At the start of this month’s meeting we’ll again let everyone have up to 30 seconds to introduce themselves and optionally mention their recent activities. We realize there are months when each of us has no time for ham radio, work/family issues take precedence, or there’s nothing we’d like to share.

We’ll also have our monthly drawing for a \$25 Ham Radio Outlet gift certificate at the meeting’s end. All who joined or renewed their PVARC membership in 2014 are automatically entered in the drawing and the winner must be present. Malin, KO6MD, won the HRO gift certificate at our April meeting after the first name drawn was not present. ■

This Month at Elmer’s

Corner

Wire dipoles still work: Elmer’s Corner at our May 21 meeting will bring simple indoor wire dipole antennas hung in a 2nd floor bedroom that enabled SSB contacts with the countries shown below over the past three months using 100 watts or less. Screenshots below are from the “Awards” window in AI6DF’s ALog logging software (from N3FJP-Affirmatech). Contacts with 42 of these countries have already been confirmed at no cost via the ARRL’s Logbook of the World system.

Countries

Worked			
Alaska	Canary Is.	Guam	New Zealand
American Samoa	Cape Verde	Hawaii	Northern Ireland
Argentina	Chatham Is.	Hong Kong	Norway
Aruba	Chile	Hungary	Poland
Asiatic Russia	China	Ireland	Portugal
Auckland & Campbell Is	Colombia	Italy	Republic of Korea
Australia	Costa Rica	Japan	Romania
Austria	Crete	Kazakhstan	Scotland
Azores	Croatia	Latvia	Serbia
Bahamas	Cuba	Lithuania	Slovak Republic
Barbados	Curacao	Luxembourg	Slovenia
Belarus	Czech Republic	Macedonia	Spain
Belgium	Estonia	Martinique	Sweden
Bosnia-Herzegovina	European Russia	Mexico	Switzerland
Brazil	Federal Republic of Germany	Morocco	Ukraine
Bulgaria	Finland	Netherlands	US Virgin Is.
Canada	France		USA
	Greece		Wales

Digital amateur VHF/UHF radios still not ready for digital inter-communication due to competing technologies

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
PVARC President

The unique aspect of today's new-fashioned digital VHF/UHF amateur radios is that different brands only talk to one another in the "old-fashioned" analog FM mode. That's a left-handed compliment for sure, but it speaks volumes for why digital VHF/UHF ham radios are a long way from full implementation for amateur emergency communication

It was exactly two years ago at the May 2012 Dayton HamVention that Yaesu introduced its new digital VHF/UHF amateur transceivers and repeaters using C4FM technology. So far no other amateur radio manufacturer has adopted this technology. Sadly it's a repeat of Icom's experience as the only manufacturer of D-Star radios despite its "open" protocol. The mercurial chief financial officer of a company where I once worked frequently bemoaned "One hot dog can't talk to another hot dog" and that seems to be the case with amateur radios operating in FM digital modes.

But the market-leading technology in FM digital now is coming from outside ham radio. The Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) open standard—initially known as Motorola's MotoTrbo® and similar to Time Division Multiple Access cell phone service—has rapidly become the leader in digital commercial land mobile radio. Over 20 manufacturers offer DMR radios at many price points—including some impressive low-cost models from China. DMR allows any brand of DMR radio to inter-communicate in digital FM voice mode, although manufacturers may have incompatible additional or absent features such as internet connectivity, text messaging, and signaling protocols. DMR radios are now made by Motorola, Vertex, Tait, Harris, Hytera, various Chinese brands, and others.

Quite a few hams have embraced DMR radios for amateur use. I own two MotoTrbo HT radios and like them a lot. At least one other PVARC member is known to also use MotoTrbo.

Currently there are 53 VHF/UHF DMR amateur repeaters in California, most offering two 12.5 kHz-wide "time-slots" enabling two simultaneous repeater communications on one repeater. DMR repeaters and radios from Motorola also have individual IP addresses and IDs that enable worldwide communication with other MotoTrbo users. Right now there are nearly 650 MotoTrbo internet-linked amateur radio repeaters.

Icom's D-Star protocol currently has 52 VHF/UHF repeaters in California, according to a recent list, despite a five-year head-start over the DMR standard. A few U.S. areas, especially the state of Georgia, have extensive D-Star disaster communication networks. D-Star repeaters are also internet-linked. Our club has D-Star users too.

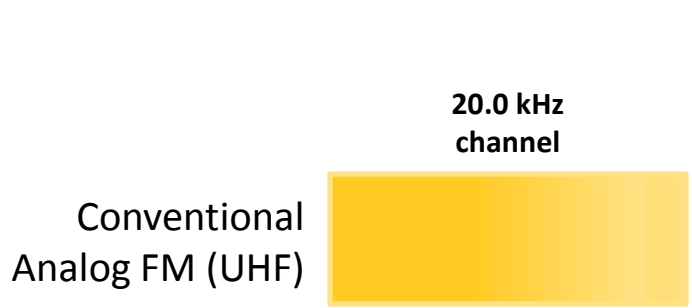
Where's this going to end? Radio interoperability will be the key to successful disaster communication, even if all manufacturers can't agree on a digital standard. So don't sell your current analog radios yet: "old-fashioned" analog FM will remain the common emergency communication platform for "new-fashioned" digital radios in the foreseeable future. ■

More on digital VHF/UHF radios on next page ►

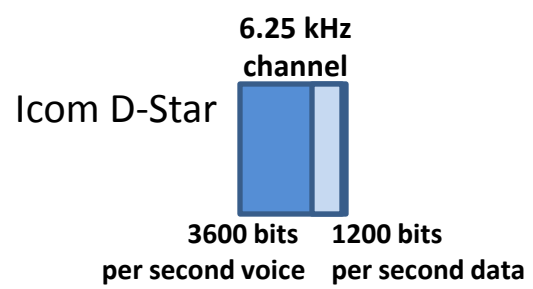
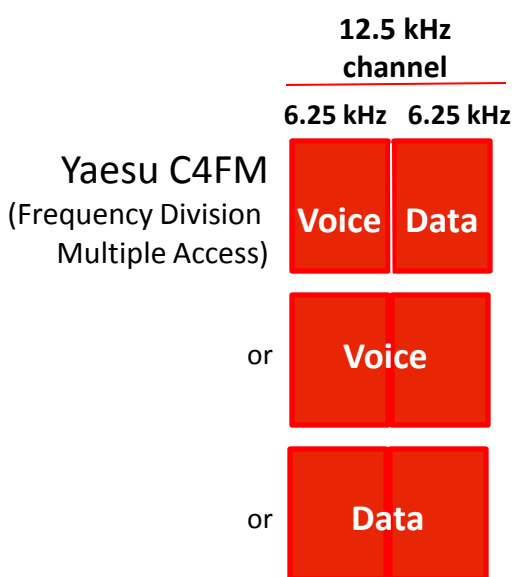
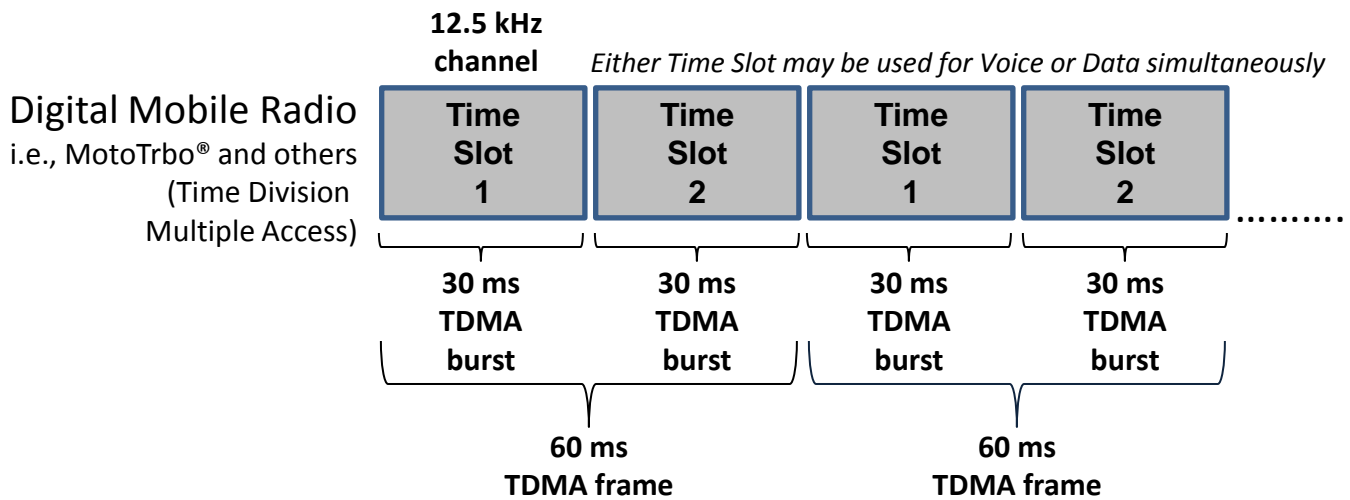


Left: My Motorola XPR-6550 MotoTrbo radio tuned to Time Slot 1 of the Hollywood Hills DMR repeater.
PHOTO: AI6DF

Digital amateur radios illustrated: Why “one hot dog can’t talk to another hot dog”



The digital modes use less spectrum than analog FM, can easily handle data, and offer Forward Error Correction which analog doesn't. But the various digital technologies can't speak to each other except in analog FM mode, which these radios have as a fallback. There's far more complexity to each digital mode than is shown here, but these graphics depict the most basic differences. Also keep in mind: the wider the channel width the faster the maximum data transmission rate.



Getting Started with Computer Logging Software

By Jeff Wolf, K6JW

In August 2013 **QRO** carried an article by me about computer logging. It was an overview of my history with logging programs but wasn't really a nuts and bolts how-to to help hams get started with computer logging.

The article below is meant to build upon what was discussed in that first article. There is one caveat, however: no short article, even this one, can cover everything. It's my hope, however, that the following few tips on things to think about will help you get started in using your computer with your radio.

As a disclaimer, let me say that the software I know is all for the PC. I have no Mac experience. The program I use for all but contest logging is CommCat, which is tailored for the serious DXer but also works well for general logging. For contest logging, I use a dedicated contest program, N1MM. Other popular logging programs include but aren't limited to DX4Win, Ham Radio Deluxe, LOGic, AC Log, and for contesting, WriteLog. I am not going to recommend any of these programs, including the ones I use, over any others. This article is simply informational – the choice is up to you. All of these programs and others have websites. Google them for their current URLs.

Here is a list of the most common functions present in current day logging programs. (Note: not all functions may be present in all programs.)

- Contact logging (of course!)
- Award tracking, at least for the ARRL's DXCC awards
- Packet and/or Telnet based DX spotting
- Internet connectivity for callsign and contact information
- ARRL Logbook of the World connectivity for uploads and downloads
- Customizable report generation
- Configurability for window size, and location, text and background colors
- Ability to color code or otherwise show on screen whether specifically spotted stations

are needed as all time new or new band/mode contacts

- Integration of spotting, internet lookup, radio tuning, antenna rotation, and logging of spotted contacts
- World map display with contact paths shown
- Ability to function as base software for remote access
- Ability to interface with multiple radios
- Ability to accommodate multiple separate logs
- Ability to facilitate SteppIR antenna tracking as the transceiver is tuned.
- Ability to page or send e-mail to you when a desired station is spotted.
- Inclusion of RTTY text display with logging, either based upon internal capability of the program or ability to be interfaced with a program such as MMTTY.
- Other digital mode support, such as PSK-31 (for which you'll often need another program, such as Digipan)
- Ability to generate CW and key the transceiver
- Contact and address label printing.
- QSL design and printing

Finally, no matter what you decide about program features, you need to speak to logging program users (our club has several) and check online reviews (*e.g.*, those on eham.net) to see what folks say about customer support and upgrade policies. With respect to the latter, some programs charge for upgrade availability, software patch access, and tech support on an annual basis after the first year (for example, currently about \$50/year for Ham Radio Deluxe) while others (such as CommCat) may provide free upgrades, patches and tech support forever.

Also be aware that the cost of a program does not necessarily relate to its functionality. In other words, more expensive does not always mean better, depending upon your needs, desires, and aesthetic preferences for the user interface.

Continued on next page ►

Getting Started with Computer Logging Software

► *Continued from previous page*

Once you've selected a program, you'll have another decision to make, namely, are you planning to have the software function without any interface to your radio and, if you have one, any rotatable and/or tunable (*i.e.*, SteppIR) antenna? If so, getting up and running is simple. Just install the program and check out the manual for all the stuff you can do without an interface.

Things get a bit more complicated, however, if you want a radio, rotator, or SteppIR interface, and if you're going to be running RTTY. While it's not possible to discuss every conceivable way to connect up all this stuff in a short article, here are a few considerations and potential ways to deal with the task:

Connection to the Transceiver for Rig Control and Data Exchange:

Most new computers lack serial (RS-232) ports, while most transceivers have DB-9 serial connectors for interfacing. If your transceiver has one of these and does not have a USB port (or, like ICOM and older Kenwood radios, the need for an external level converter), you will need to add an aftermarket serial port to your computer or use a serial-to-USB adapter cable.

Add-on serial port boards are available inexpensively at places like Best Buy and Fry's. Adapter cables run about \$35 if you buy them at Best Buy or Fry's but they're available for less on the internet. If you need one, I recommend buying it with an FTDI chipset rather than the Prolific chipset. The FTDI chipset seems to function more reliably in many setups. Likewise if your computer lacks serial ports, you may need add-on serial ports or serial-to-USB converters for certain other accessories, such as rotator controllers.

Using software in your station can involve as much or as little complexity as you wish beyond

merely entering your contacts. If it seems a bit daunting at the outset, once you get into it you'll find it makes your life much easier, and your operating much more fun. If you're ready to step into the world of computer logging software and all it can do, please seek out the advice of experienced hams in the club before buying any software. Making the right choice from the outset can save you the hassle of moving your log to some other program later, and maybe having some difficulty doing it.

Three points bear emphasis:

Research carefully before jumping into a program, both by looking at program websites and talking with experienced hams. Some programs offer demonstration versions of their software, and you might want to load a couple onto your computer and tinker with them before making a commitment.

Be sure the program will meet your needs and desires. Getting the wrong program may result in some unhappiness later.

Don't be afraid to ask for help when setting up your software. These programs often can do things you wouldn't imagine and can't really appreciate from their manuals. An experienced user can open you up to worlds of possibilities.

73 and have fun! ■

What's with Mac logging software?

The notorious 1930's bank robber Willie Sutton famously said he robbed banks because, "That's where the money is." So it appears regarding the dearth of full-featured logging software for Mac computers: For software developers, Windows is where the money has been (albeit legally).

There presently are only four full-scale Mac logging programs of note: MacLoggerDX (\$95); Aether (\$39); Jlog (free, also available for Windows and Linux); and RUMLog (free).

K6JW's advice still applies when evaluating Mac logging software. Determine your needs and check the reviews at eham.net as well as the respective software websites.

-- Diana, AI6DF ■

Final thought on logging software: Can it upload to and download from ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) with just a couple of mouse clicks?

An example: One click here in ACLog's main window brings up a LoTW Manager screen, below.

The screenshot shows the ACLog software interface. At the top, the menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'Settings', 'Clear', 'CallBook', 'List', 'Search', 'Awards', 'LoTW', 'eQSL', 'Recall', 'Net', 'View', and 'Help'. The 'LoTW' menu item is circled in red. Below the menu bar is a 'Recent Contacts' table with columns: Rec#, Call, Date / Time, Bnd, Mode, Power, Snt, Rec, Off, Country, ST, and County. The table contains 29 rows of contact data. Below the table is the 'LoTW Manager 1.3' window. It has several sections: 'LoTW User Name:' with a text box containing 'AI6DF'; 'LoTW Login Password:' with a masked text box and a 'Display Password' checkbox; 'LoTW Station Location:' with a dropdown menu showing 'AI6DF home' and 'Edit'/'Add' buttons; 'TQSL Software path:' with a text box containing 'C:\Program Files\TrustedQSL' and a 'Browse' button. The 'Sign and Upload' section has buttons for 'Selected Contacts from Main Form', 'All Contacts Not Uploaded' (circled in red), and 'Entire Log', along with a 'Show Date Range' checkbox. The 'Download' section has buttons for 'Confirmed Since 2014/05/16' (circled in red), 'All Since', 'All Confirmed', and 'All Data', along with checkboxes for 'Require EOF Tag' and 'Display Raw Data'. There is also a 'Copy to Clipboard' button. On the right side, there is a text area with instructions: 'To sign and upload records to LoTW, you must have a valid TQSL certificate and passwords. The signing process requires you to have a valid TQSL certificate and passwords. I love supporting my software and I'm happy to provide links in the chain beyond AC Log to interface with LoTW. Configuring LoTW is usually simple enough, but I've provided software's interface with LoTW via my LoTW Manager. That said, in most cases, setting up LoTW is a bit tricky. If you're getting started with LoTW, please click the link: http://www.n3fjp.com/lotwhelp.html'. At the bottom, there is a table titled 'Records Downloaded from Logbook of the World' with columns: Rec, Call, Band, Mode, Date, On, R, R Date, Country, CQz, and ITU.

Then: One click is all that's needed anytime to upload or download with Logbook of The World after saving your user name and LoTW password. ■

12 New or Upgraded Ham Licenses Earned at the PVARC's Latest VE Session

Nine Technician licenses, two upgrades to General class, and one Extra class license were earned at the PVARC's VE session on Saturday, May 17, at Hesse Park. We welcome them all to the ranks of amateur radio operators. Added to our previous VE session results we've now awarded 19 Technician licenses, three General, and one Extra class license to-date in 2014.

Serving as the Volunteer Examiner team on May 17 were: Dan Colburn, W6DC; Diana Feinberg, AI6DF; Curtis Jones, AE6CJ; Jerry Kendrick, NG6R; and Bill Leighton, KG6WVF. Janice Scholler, KG6BPI, handled the sign-ins and payments. ■

ARRL 2014

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[Presenters & Forums](#)
[Exhibitors & Flea Market](#)

ARRL National Centennial Convention 2014

Thursday, July 17, 2014 - Saturday, July 19, 2014

Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Blvd
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

 [Map and Directions](#)


What's Popular:

[Convention News](#) • [\\$5,000 Centennial Station Giveaway](#) • [Exhibitors](#) • [Printed Flyer \(PDF\)](#)

Come celebrate! Thousands of members and friends of [ARRL](#) will gather at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, ARRL's birthplace, to celebrate the organization's first 100 years of members "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio." Founded in 1914, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for [Amateur Radio](#) in the US and the


[Register Now](#)

Contact Information

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8 AM to 5 PM ET M-F
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Payment Instructions

Pre-registration recommended.
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3-Day Ticket
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ARRL Southwestern Division Convention 2014 San Diego September 12th - 14th



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Is there an ARRL Convention in your future?

- **Top:** ARRL 100th Anniversary Convention in Hartford, CT, July 17-19, 2014. See its website at: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1248082>
- **Center:** 2014 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in San Diego, Sept. 12-14, 2014. Early-bird registrations due by May 30. Website at: <http://www.sandarc.net/~convention2014~/index.php>
- **Right:** 2015 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention comes to L.A. at the Torrance Marriott Hotel, Sept. 11-13, 2015. The PVARC is one of the 13 amateur radio clubs organizing this convention.

ARRL SW Division Convention

Ham Radio
A Bridge To
The Future



Torrance, CA



PVARC Short News Items

ARRL Field Day is June 28-29; PVARC members needed

The PVARC's 2014 ARRL Field Day site during June 28-29 on the soccer field at Ridgecrest Intermediate School in Rancho Palos Verdes needs our members to make it happen.

We welcome all PVARC members to Ridgecrest whether for operating, logging the contacts, observing, or helping with Field Day equipment and setup. Field Day is truly a club activity.

We will again operate a "Get On The Air" station enabling newer hams, Technician class license holders, or anyone who hasn't experienced the HF bands to operate in a no-stress environment. Chris Storey, KA6WNK, has graciously stepped up to oversee this year's GOTA station. Chris is an excellent instructor --hams new to HF will appreciate Chris' experience, guidance, and patience.

Jerry Kendrick, NG6R, continues building and testing several sets of low-cost bandpass filters to eliminate much of the cross-interference we experienced last June.

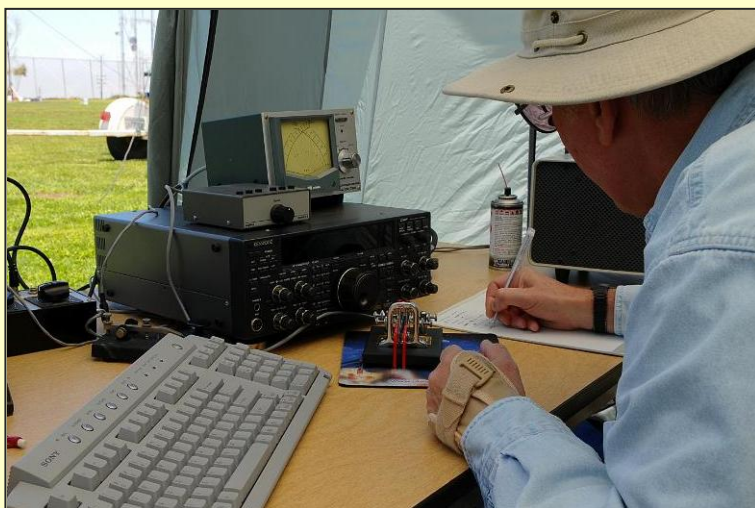
We still need two more gasoline-powered generators at our Field Day site. Please advise if you can loan one.

Mark your calendars for this year's Field Day on June 28-29. It only happens once a year and we really welcome members to be there. ■

Photos from 2013 Field Day:
(Center, above) Jeff K6JW, operates at the CW tent Saturday afternoon.

(Bottom right) The PVARC's SSB tent and antenna at 4:00 am during Field Day's 24-hour cycle.

PHOTOS: CHRIS STOREY, KA6WNK



PVARC Short News Items

PVARC's antenna purchase becomes a "no-gain" antenna

The used Mosley TA-33-jr Yagi antenna our club agreed to purchase for a modest price from a ham in Fontana, CA, turned into a "no-gain" antenna. While we were making final arrangements to pick up and pay for this antenna, as agreed, the seller reneged and announced he had sold it to someone else.

We are still seeking one of these three-element beam antennas. The Mosley TA-33-jr weighs only 21 lbs., is highly portable, and will be very useful on our Catalina DXpeditions as well as Field Days. ■

Cross-band repeater setup sought for PVARC's Tuesday Nets

Terrain issues prevent many PVARC members living on the Palos Verdes Peninsula's west side from reaching our K6PV repeater atop the Peninsula.

Lately we've been exploring some cross-band repeater options that might finally enable our members near Lunada Bay, lower Hesse Park, and the Golden Cove areas get into our weekly nets on K6PV.

Net participants from the Peninsula's west side would use a 2-meter simplex frequency to get onto K6PV's 447.120 MHz repeater frequency pair. This link would only be applied during our Tuesday night nets, not 24/7.

Any cross-band link needs to be located at a member's home and might not be available for every weekly net. Do you have a dual-receive VHF/UHF mobile transceiver like a Yaesu FT-8800R, an external antenna, live somewhere above Hesse Park, and know how to activate your transceiver into cross-band mode? If so, your QTH would be a possible site.

We would like several locations for cross-banding our weekly net so the "control" operators don't need to be home every Tuesday night. We'll advise all members via the PVARC Weekly Bulletin emailed every Tuesday if a cross-band link will be activated. ■

◆ 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	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
Treasurer	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Secretary	Mike Caulfield, AF6VT
Directors	Clay Davis, AB9A, Ray Day, N6HE

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

Contacts:

QRO Editor: 310-544-2917, ai6df@arrl.net
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 before sunset with hot Santa Ana winds driving the air temperature to 90° F, photographed May 15, 2014.* PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

PVARC Short News Items

Updated club roster now on PVARC website

We recently updated our club roster to reflect all 2014 membership information as of May 15. The next update will be on May 23.

The roster is on our website at:

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/files/PVARC_ROSTER.xls as an Excel spreadsheet.

The PVARC roster is still password-protected; ask a club officer if you need the password. Please heed our request not to share the PVARC roster with others or to use the roster for any commercial purposes. ■

Speaking at PVARC meetings in the near-future will be...

Our Vice President Malin Dollinger, KO6MD, has scheduled Brian Thorson, AF6NA and Electro-magnetic Fields Specialist at Southern California Edison, to speak at the PVARC's June 18th meeting on radio and TV interference issues. Many PVARC members know Brian from his previous presentations on EMI/RFI and microwave communication.

Our July 16th meeting has a subject of rapidly-growing interest. Bill Prats, K6ACJ, will speak on "Arduino, Picaxe, and Raspberry Pi for Ham Radio." Bill was a major contributor to the ARRL's recently-published book, "Ham Radio for Arduino and Picaxe", <http://www.arrl.org/ham-radio-for-arduino-and-picaxe> ■

Radio for sale by PVARC member

For Sale: Yaesu FT-2000 Transceiver w/Yaesu DMU 2000 Data Management Unit.

100 watts output to 160m through 6m.
Firmware upgrade down at factory.
Used less than 50 hours. Mint condition.
Recently published prices for both new- over \$5,000. Asking \$2500.

Contact: Bryant Winchell, W2RGG, at: w2rgg@arrl.net

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2013-2014

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

Dave Held, WA6PHS

Raphael Yoon, KJ6ZYD

Joel Pastor, WJ1P

Terri Pastor, W6BMD

Thomas Bacalja

Eric Olson, KK6JPV

James Maxwell, W6JBN

Carl Barnes*

Allen Binder*

Henry Bremer*

Scott Hartnett*

James Liao*

Ricardo Quinones*

Shawn Sorbom*

Kelvin Vanderlip, Jr.*

** New license earned at PVARC VE session; FCC call sign in process.*

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
		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	

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

2014 Major Contest Dates

- ARRL
- 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
- July 17-19:** ARRL 100th, Hartford
- 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; Sept. 20 & 27**



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 September 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 20 September & 27 September 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 Saturday, 4 October 2014

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will make a brief presentation at 9:30 AM at the start of the 20 September 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 also pass their examination at a PVARC test 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.

Everyone who obtains their first ham radio license through a PVARC test session, regardless of age, will receive a free membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the current calendar year.

For more information contact Walt, K1DFO, at waltordway@juno.com

(The Fine Print: The following cruise is not sponsored by the PVARC. This ad is shown solely for the convenience of our members and neither conveys nor implies any endorsement or assumption of liability by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club.)

***My Pin Money Travel, LLC Announces
Its Fourth Amateur Radio Cruise
MPMT'S HAM RADIO CRUISE 4
On the Carnival Magic April 19, 2015 for 7 Days***

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

Planned activities onboard include 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 Belize, plus
Roatan and Cozumel returning to Galveston.



Only 48 cabins reserved. Book quickly - don't miss the great prices & extras!*

All prices are double occupancy and include government taxes and fees. You may book an Inside Cabin or a Balcony Cabin as part of our reserved group price until November 20, 2014.

After that date, prices are subject to availability.

(Ocean View, Cove Balcony and Suites available by special arrangements.)

DEPOSIT of \$250 PER PERSON DUE AT BOOKING in order to assign your stateroom.

*Each guaranteed stateroom also receives a \$25 onboard credit, bottle of wine and 2 tote bags.
TRAVEL INSURANCE IS OPTIONAL, BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

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

This event is organized by Lance Rumfield, WD5X, in an effort to offer amateurs the ability to enjoy the rare opportunity of operating at sea while participating in a terrific vacation.

**Carnival reserves the right to add a fuel surcharge of \$9 per person per day if oil goes to \$70/barrel

**NOTE: U.S. Customs recommend all cruise passengers possess a valid
U.S. passport in order to board the ship!!!!!!**

(The Fine Print: The following cruise is not sponsored by the PVARC. This ad is shown solely for the convenience of our members and neither conveys nor implies any endorsement or assumption of liability by the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club.)

Details about the 2015 Ham Radio Cruise, continued

Operating Details as planned:

Two Kenwood TS-480 HX (or similar) HF mobile transceivers with two screwdriver antennas will be installed on the ship's aft railing. Stations and antennas will be on opposite sides of the ship at the stern. Bring your own keyers/phones/computers /interfaces/etc!!! (Sorry - no HF operation or external antennas of any kind will be allowed from individual staterooms, balconies, or public areas.

Houston Amateur Radio Supply has again graciously agreed to be our sponsor !!! **Thanks Dave!!!**

Personal Handi-Talkies may be used on the Carnival Magic while at sea!!!

Special permission to operate onboard the Carnival Magic has been arranged as long as proper licensing is obtained and formal agreements between Carnival and My Pin Money Travel are acknowledged and followed.

Amateur operation will be while in U.S. or international waters.

Each participating amateur will receive a copy of the authorization to operate as signed by the Captain of the Magic, Technical Coordinator, Travel Agent and the amateur!

Licensing Requirements:

If you wish to operate a station or handheld while on board, copies of the following documents must be submitted to Debbie as soon as possible as it may take up to 90 days to acquire all required documents and we must have documents submitted to Carnival before final guaranteed selling date:

- 1) Copy of valid U.S. amateur license
- 2) Confirmation of completed IARP application. Please send your paperwork, photo and monies to the ARRL immediately as this process takes time. The ARRL will forward a batch of the permits to Debbie shortly before sailing. She will forward you a copy of your permit and provide you the original IARP once on the ship.

Please consider joining us in 2015. We had a great time in 2011, 2013 and 2014 and look forward to another great event!!!!

Note: Only licensed amateurs who are participants of this limited opportunity group event will be allowed to operate amateur equipment while on the Carnival Magic.

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 has the caption, "The Pt. Vicente Lighthouse before sunset with hot Santa Ana winds driving the air temperature to 90° F, photographed May 15, 2014. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

Page 2: Screen shots at the bottom of the page are from a logging program showing the countries recently worked on HF bands with wire dipole antennas.

Page 3: The photo at the lower right corner has the caption, "My Motorola XPR-6550 MotoTrbo radio tuned to Time Slot 1 of the Hollywood Hills DMR repeater. PHOTO: AI6DF "

Page 4: Several graphical representations of radio spectrum show the differences between conventional FM analog amateur radio and digital FM (i.e., Digital Mobile Radio, Yaesu's C4FM, and Icom's D-Star.)

Page 7: Two screenshots from the N3FJP ALog logging software show the ease of connecting with the ARRL's Logbook of The World for uploading or downloading radio contacts.

Page 8: Three graphics show website pages and logos for the ARRL Centennial Convention in Hartford, CT, in July 2014; the 2014 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in San Diego during September 2014; and the 2015 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention scheduled at the Torrance Marriott Hotel on Sept. 11-13, 2015.

Page 9: The illustration at top right is the ARRL's logo for Field Day 2014. The photos at center and bottom right have the caption, "Photos from 2013 Field Day: (Center, above) Jeff K6JW, operates at the CW tent Saturday afternoon. (Bottom right) The PVARC's SSB tent and antenna at 4:00 am during Field Day's 24-hour cycle. PHOTOS: CHRIS STOREY, KA6WNK"

Page 12: The entire page is the PVARC activity calendar for 2014.

Page 13: The entire page is the club's membership application.

Page 14: The entire page is the announcement for Walt Ordway's next ham radio license classes in September 2014.

Pages 15 and 16: Both pages are announcements for the next ham radio cruise in the Caribbean Sea in April 2015 and have a photo of the ship.