



QRO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FEBRUARY 2018



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Finding and Dealing With EMI/RFI In The Greater Los Angeles Area

Guest speaker:

Chris Parker, AF6PX

Thursday, February 1, 2018

General Meeting: 7:30 pm

"What's Next?" group: 6:30 pm

Fred Hesse Community Park
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
Visitors Welcome

Optional No-Host dinner:
5:30 pm. Red Onion Restaurant,
736 Silver Spur Rd.,
Rolling Hills Estates

At our February 1 meeting: How to challenge the rising “urban noise floor” affecting radio communication

A paradox of modern life emanates from electrical devices intended to improve our lives and pastimes that sometimes just make other matters worse.

Welcome to the “urban noise floor”...where everything from power lines to street lights, grow lights, solar power systems, battery chargers, transformers, dimmer switches, electric motors and more team up to generate electro-magnetic and radio-frequency interference. The urban noise floor increasingly affects amateur radio operators on the HF bands as well as into VHF and UHF frequencies.

How ham operators identify and resolve urban electrical noise is the focus of our February 1 meeting. Listening to these noises is crucial for determining one’s initial investigation leading to remediation.

Our meeting speaker **Chris Parker, AF6PX**, has been fascinated with electronics since childhood. Building upon that interest, he became a Member of the Technical Staff at TRW in Redondo Beach where he worked on analog, digital, RF and fiber optic systems in support of national technical assets.

In 1998 Chris left TRW to pursue another lifelong passion of his, flying. He is now an International Captain flying the Bombardier Challenger business jet worldwide for VIP clients. Not wanting to let the jet’s very expensive Collins HF radios sit idle on long flights, he studied for and earned his Amateur Extra Class FCC license in 2009.

Besides his home station he sometimes operates Aeronautical Mobile from 35,000 feet, where manmade noise is virtually nonexistent. This motivated him to reduce noise at his home station by eliminating sources of RFI that can plague HF communications. Towards that goal for the past six years he has worked closely with and assisted the Radio Frequency Interference Investigator from Southern California Edison to solve RFI issues in the local area.

Chris was appointed as an ARRL Technical Specialist for the Los Angeles Section in 2016 and his RFI-solving exploits were featured in the League’s 2016 Annual Report. From malfunctioning coffee makers, to bad insulators and other power-line noises, he is on a mission to reduce the noise floor one dB at a time. ■

Right: Got urban electrical noise? Image of the continental United States at night is a composite assembled from data acquired by the Suomi NPP satellite whose filtering techniques observe dim signals such as city lights, gas flares, auroras, and more.

CREDIT: NASA EARTH OBSERVATORY/NOAA NGDC



The PVARC's upcoming meeting topics...

Our March 1, 2018, meeting features your QRO editor Diana, AI6DF, presenting "The government-affiliated disaster amateur radio groups in the South Bay and Los Angeles County." She will explain the objectives and directions for each of these radio groups and how they inter-operate. On an unrelated subject, she also expects to show a 6-8 minute video she will create about the Yuma (AZ) Hamfest on February 16-17. The 2018 and 2019 Yuma Hamfests also double as the ARRL Southwestern Division Conventions in those years.

Our April 5th monthly meeting will have a short (mostly video) feature about our Feb. 21-25, 2018, Islands On The Air DXpedition to Catalina Island along with another topic to be announced soon.

Speaking at our May 3rd monthly meeting is Don Minkoff, NK6A, presenting his visit to the Marconi Museum in Italy and Don's QRP ham radio operating while there. Don previously spoke at our club about Summits On The Air in which he is an avid hill-topper and SOTA chaser.

And back for an encore later in 2018...

Show Us Your Shack

One of our most popular meeting topics has been "Show Us Your Shack," or more loosely "Show Us Your Project." We seek four to six PVARC members to briefly (10-15 minutes) present their home amateur radio station, a portable ham station, or some kind of amateur radio-related project that fellow club members might find interesting. Have something you feel worthy of presenting at a future meeting? Contact our Vice President Ray Day, N6HE, at rayday@cox.net and let him know. ■

Other PVARC dates in 2018

- ◆ **PVARC monthly meeting at Hesse Park, McTaggart Hall**
1st Thursday each month, 7:30-9:30 pm, except in August and December
- ◆ **HF Enthusiasts Group meetings at Palos Verdes Library, Peninsula Center (Purcell Room)**
2nd Saturday each month, 10 am to Noon, except December
- ◆ **Walt Ordway, K1DFO, amateur radio license classes at Hesse Park**
February 3 and 10; May 5 and 12; August 4 and 11; November 3 and 10
- ◆ **Field Day at Ridgecrest Intermediate School, Rancho Palos Verdes**
Saturday-Sunday, June 23-24
- ◆ **International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse**
Friday-Sunday, August 17-19; PVARC Family Picnic at the Lighthouse, Sunday, August 19
- ◆ **PVARC Holiday Dinner, location TBA**
Thursday, December 6

PVARC's HF Enthusiasts Group meetings on 2nd Saturdays now at Palos Verdes Library District's Peninsula Center site

Our HF Enthusiasts Group meetings grew beyond the living rooms of PVARC hosts so we tried a restaurant in Torrance with a "private room" for the January 13, 2018, meeting. But after shortcomings from our restaurant experience starting February 10, 2018, the HF Enthusiasts Group will meet from 10 am-Noon on 2nd Saturdays in the Purcell Room at the Palos Verdes Library District's Peninsula Center Library.

As shown in the illustration below to reach the Purcell Room enter the library's 2nd floor, walk past the Circulation Desk to the Reference Desk, then turn behind the Reference Desk to the rear corner where there's a "Purcell Room" brass plaque on the door. Please note the library opens at 10 am on Saturdays and we must vacate our room at Noon. Free parking atop the library (vertical clearance of 8') is approached from Deep Valley Drive or in a smaller indoor lot entered from Silver Spur Rd. (clearance of 7'6"). The Purcell Room holds up to 40 participants with plenty of room for our HF Enthusiasts Group. ■



PVARC Board members to be elected by voice affirmation at February 1st monthly meeting

At our February 1 monthly meeting the PVARC will affirm by voice vote its officers and directors to serve for the following 12 months. These candidates were slated and presented at our January 4 meeting with no additional nominations received from the floor:

For President: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

For Vice President: Ray Day, N6HE

For Secretary: Ron Wagner, AC6RW

For Treasurer: Peter Landon, KE6JPM

For Director: Clay Davis, AB9A

For Director: Gary Lopes, WA6MEM

All the above candidates have committed to fully serve in their respective positions during the February 2018-2019 term if elected. ■

It's 2018 membership renewal time

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club annual membership dues should be submitted by January 31 each year. Thank you to those who have already renewed.

If you haven't renewed yet a membership renewal form is on page 16 of this month's **QRO**. Forms will also be available at our February 1st monthly meeting for payment there or by mail.

(Note: Complimentary memberships for our newest hams who earned licenses at our Fall VE test session are good for all of 2018.)

The PVARC continues to have among the lowest annual dues of all non-employer-related amateur radio clubs in Los Angeles County. Our membership dues are still \$15 annually for an individual membership or \$20 annually for a family membership. Other radio clubs typically have dues of \$20-\$25 for individual memberships and \$30-\$40 for family memberships. One radio club in the La Crescenta area charges \$35 per person annually and another nearby has \$45 per person dues.

Although we have low dues we aim to provide quality programs for our members whether at monthly meetings or in the field serving our communities, to new hams through our license classes or other assistance. ■

DMR repeater update: We're starting modestly with DMR

Our club Board of Directors decided at its January 2018 meeting to begin PVARC's participation with UHF Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) using the dual-mode N6RPV repeater atop San Pedro Hill as a test. Before purchasing our own DMR/analog repeater we felt a better understanding of DMR's implementation complexities was warranted...and we needed to gauge if there was enough interest from our members.

Do you have any interest using DMR? Would you like to be part of a small PVARC team that will implement DMR using N6RPV? If so, please advise Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, at: gary@wa6mem.com ■

K6PV/6 DXpedition heads to Catalina Island for IOTA activation during Feb. 21-25 with 9 operators, 4 radios, and 4 antennas

The PVARC's K6PV/6 2018 DXpedition to Two Harbors on Catalina Island departs from San Pedro at 9 am on February 21 with an intrepid team of nine. They're bringing nearly 1,400 pounds of stuff, including four HF radios, HT radios for all, antennas, coax lines, mast sections, and most importantly—food.

Our team will be at Catalina during the North American RTTY QSO Party contest on Feb. 24 as well as the CQ Worldwide 160-Meter SSB Contest during Feb. 23-24. For the latter Jerry, NG6R, is bringing an Ameritron AL-811H linear amplifier to provide several hundred watts of TX power in this very challenging contest.

HF band conditions have been challenging lately, but we hope for the best. At least our Catalina Express boat transportation will seem like a luxury ride compared with the 3Y0Z DXpedition team's ship now enroute to remote Bouvet Island (see article next page.) We'll provide further details about both DXpeditions in our PVARC Weekly Bulletins. ■

K6PV/6 IOTA DXpedition Operator Team Feb. 21-25, 2018

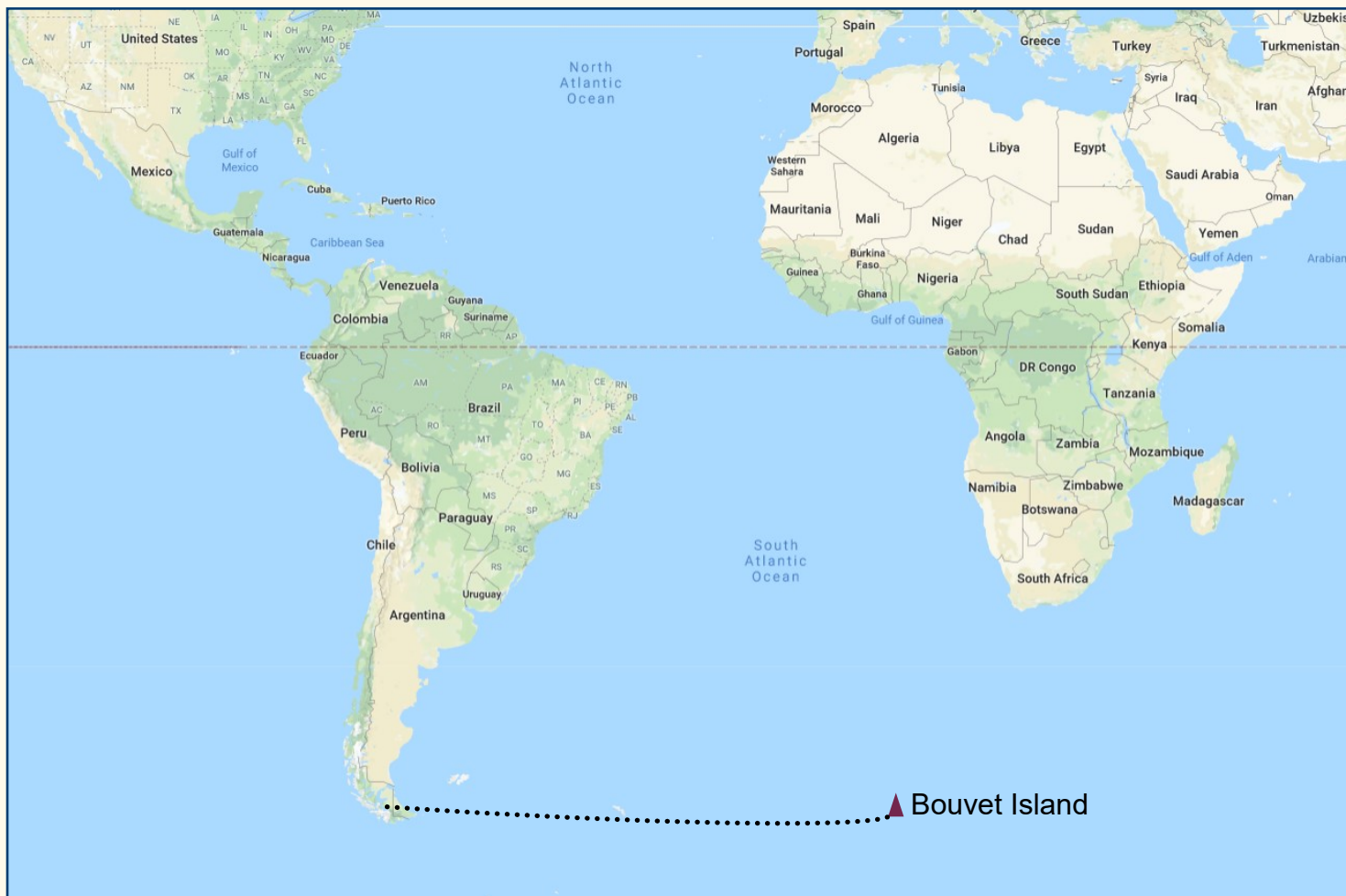
Ray Day, N6HE (Team Leader)
Clay Davis, AB9A
Hugo Dominguez, KM6DQU
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Jerry Kendrick, NG6R
Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Gary Lopes, WA6MEM
Steve Mandich, K6NT
George Nestojko, WA6YBR

Below: A few scenes from our 2016 Islands On The Air DXpedition to Catalina Island. It looks easy, but not shown: All the heavy lifting of gear and equipment/antenna setups. PHOTOS: BOB CLOSSON, W6HIP



Bouvet Island, world's #2 most-wanted DX entity, on the air during February—but it's been a rocky boat ride to get there

DXers worldwide anxiously await the costliest-ever-attempted DXpedition finally reaching its Bouvet Island site in early February. Highly-isolated Bouvet (a Norwegian dependency in the far-southern Atlantic Ocean) is planned to be on the air for two weeks. An experienced team of 21 ham operators personally footing 50% of the DXpedition cost has encountered various weather delays en-route to Bouvet. Their specially-equipped ship also has two helicopters (with pilot crews) aboard needed to fly the team and its equipment onto and off the island. But it's been a rough ocean ride getting there, as noted below.



As the PVARC prepares for its February 21-25 mini-DXpedition to Catalina Island, consider these reports posted on the Bouvet Island DXpedition's website <https://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates/>:

January 28, 2018, 1200 UTC: 54 degrees 30 minutes South; 14 degrees 54 minutes West.

The seas have calmed somewhat. The predominant motion of the ship remains a moderate roll. We have not restored our maritime mobile stations, due to difficulty in securing the equipment to prevent damage. There are occasional breaks in an overcast sky. Visibility is estimated at 15 to 20 miles. Our current forward speed is 8.8 knots; a compromise between creature comfort and structural stresses and getting to Bouvet.

Attendance at breakfast this morning was sparse, with most team members preferring their bunks over caloric intake.

N9TK, N4GRN, and KØIR continued working on flight sequencing last night, and should complete the process this evening. We have a lot of "stuff" to get ashore as fast as possible in the weather windows Mother Nature sees fit to give us.

Our forecast is for moderate snow ahead, followed by clearing. Icebergs remain visible but have decreased in number.

73 – Ralph, KØIR

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Bouvet Island, world's #2 most-wanted DX entity, on the air during February—but it's been a rocky boat ride to get there

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Top: The 3G9A/MM radios on ship before the storm.

Bottom: The 3G9A/MM radios on ship during the storm.

PHOTOS: 3YØZ BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION WEBSITE

Earlier report:

January 25, 2018, 2100 UTC: Today, the seas remained relatively calm, but the temperature has dropped significantly, and the wind velocity is increasing. We passed another iceberg today. The weather is supposed to deteriorate tomorrow.

We spent the day moving our anchorage systems and support masts from the cargo hold to an area closer to our helicopter staging area, hoping to make our loading and flights to the island more efficient and faster.

Propagation is becoming closer to that predicted in our model. Once we are on the island and have better antennas with no noise, we expect we will hear much better. Right now, signals are fairly weak, but definitely there under some local noise from the ship.

After tomorrow, it looks like the weather will calm a bit. We are hopeful this will coincide with our arrival time at Bouvet. We are well past the half-way point of our voyage.

January 27, 2018, 0530 UTC: Last night was a tough night for us. The full fury of the South Atlantic was unleashed upon us. Shifting winds and turbulent seas changed our ship's motion from severe pitching to pitching and yawing to very marked rolls. That which was not secured is no longer where it was. Some of those who were up and about yesterday are down and out today. Personal items are scattered, and some small items are lost in the mix. Bathroom floors are wet from water splashing out of the toilet bowls.

It was a tough night, but we knew this was likely when we signed on. We will persist and continue towards Bouvet.

Ralph, KØIR

January 26, 2018, 0945 UTC: The forecast for worsening weather was accurate. The seas are an estimated 15 to 20 feet, and we are in heavy snow, as we continue toward Bouvet. There will be fewer of us at breakfast this morning.

Yesterday afternoon, the team and ship's crew moved our rod anchors, T-post anchors and the DX Engineering antenna masts to the rear of the ship for faster access during landing operations. This was a good thing, since these operations would not be possible today. Last night, N4GRN, N9TK and KØIR began planning the loading and sequencing of helicopter flights to the island. We plan to run one helicopter with only sling loads and one with only interior loads and passengers. One aircraft can operate off of the rear helicopter pad and one off the hanger deck.

Today, we will continue to work on load sequencing, and continue our packing and re-packing of the personal gear we will each take to the island. The landing process will focus on safety and building of our infrastructure, so that it can support the number of people on the island at any given time.

1600 UTC: We are slowly being overtaken by a deep low pressure system moving from west to east. Strong southerly winds are producing a mixed-up and angry sea. This has slowed our forward speed to 2 knots. We should be out of this system around 2300 UTC tonight. That's the good news. The bad news is that there is another low right behind this one, although it is not as deep.

2200 UTC: We are still rocking and rolling, but sea conditions have improved since my earlier post. We had to take our stations off line, as equipment was not staying on the tables. Precipitation has stopped. We've been able to increase our speed to 8 knots. Attendance at dinner was down, but better than expected.

Ralph, KØIR

Our PVARC Weekly Bulletins will highlight the 3YØZ team's progress after it lands and begins operation. ■

Homemade 17-meter two-element Yagi Antenna

By Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Hams constantly improvise, modify or look for a better, cheaper or higher performance way of doing things—it just seems to be in our nature. And, maybe that's what keeps us attracted to amateur radio—this drive we share to improve upon the status quo, always looking for new possibilities. Consider the following case in point. In our Club's annual sojourn to activate Catalina Island as part of the Islands On The Air (IOTA) program, we've recently taken with us and erected a collapsible MFJ dipole of the type shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Stock photos of the MFJ-2299 collapsible dipole antenna (left), which includes the MFJ-347 dipole mount (right) and two 16' MFJ-1979 stainless steel telescopic whips with 3/8" x 24 studs, each whip collapsible to 27 inches

The MFJ-2299 can be adjusted in length to operate on any ham band from 20m to 6m. At Catalina we adjusted the lengths of the two telescopic whips to resonate in the 17m band (18.068-18.168MHz). The 17m band, although narrow, has both a CW and SSB portion, as well as supports RTTY and other digital modes. We make sure that the dipole antenna is oriented broadside to the generally-northeast direction of our primary contact base (central U.S., East Coast and Europe)—same direction as the multi-band hex beam deployed some distance away and diagonally across the motel compound that we occupy while on the island. With this orientation, interference between the two antennas is minimized.

Our Club leader on these yearly trips to Catalina, Ray N6HE, has been pleased with our capability to operate on 17m with this dedicated dipole while simultaneously operating on another DX band like 20m or 15m using the hex beam. But, true to our aforementioned nature, he wondered how much our operating performance could be improved on 17m if we could deploy a directional beam antenna instead of just a dipole. A horizontal dipole is somewhat directional, especially compared to a vertical antenna with its omnidirectional pattern. But, considering the dipole's figure-8-shaped coverage pattern, it does waste energy by sending as much radiation out the "back," where it isn't needed, as toward the "front" where we want it to go.

Ray and the author each have one of these MFJ-2299 dipole antennas. So, we immediately seized upon the idea of putting the two antennas together to form a 2-element beam antenna. Doing so would yield several interrelated improvements: increased gain in the desired direction (toward the northeast), significant front-to-back gain ratio to minimize the loss of energy toward the "back" of the antenna, and outstanding front-to-side gain ratio to cut down on unwanted signals coming from directions off to the side (as well as helping to minimize interference to/from the hex beam, which is at right angles to the dipole's broadside pointing direction). Figure 2 shows a photo of the homemade Yagi antenna we constructed and erected for test purposes at the author's QTH, about 20 feet above the ground on a telescoping mast.

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Homemade 17-meter two-element Yagi Antenna

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Figure 2. 17m 2-element antenna erected for testing at approximately 20 feet above the ground; this Yagi configuration uses two MFJ-2299 dipole antennas (one modified as described in the text) supported on a boom made of PVC pipe, with the two elements spaced 10 feet apart, or approximately 0.18λ element separation [Note: λ (wavelength) at 18.1MHz = ~ 16.6 m or ~ 54.4 feet; therefore, $10' = 0.18\lambda$; element spacing from 0.15λ to 0.25λ is considered acceptable, with little variation in antenna gain.] Boom sag was countered by use of support cords attached to each end of the boom. The slight sag of the two elements does not significantly degrade antenna performance.

There are two elements that compose this Yagi antenna. The driven element, to which the coaxial cable is connected, is a standard MFJ-2299 dipole clamped to a short piece of PVC pipe and size adaptor section for positioning at one end of the PVC boom and is shown in Figure 3.

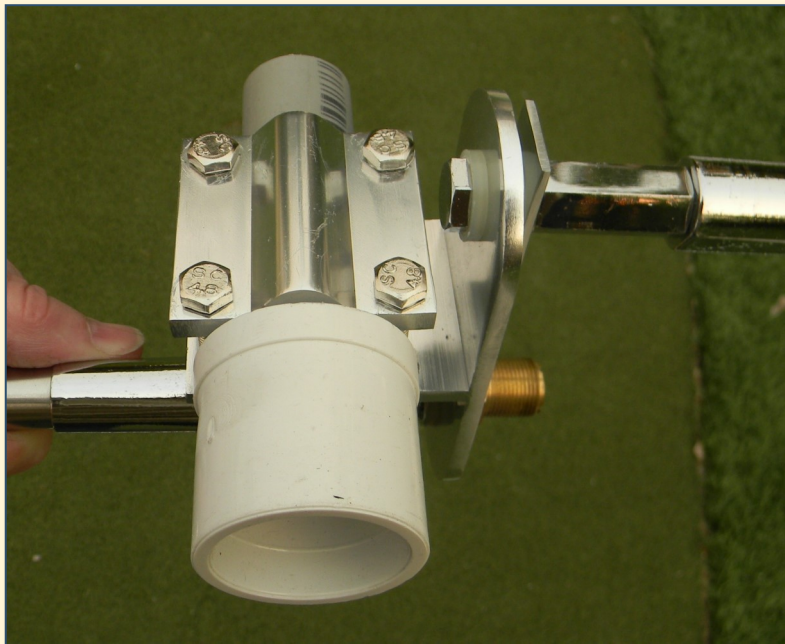


Figure 3. (left) Standard unmodified MFJ-2299 dipole (with PVC adaptor section) is used as the driven element for the Yagi.

Figure 4: (right) Modified dipole mount for the reflector element

Unlike the driven element, the reflector element (sometimes called a “parasitic” element because it is not connected to the RF power source) does not need to be segmented. I.E., the two halves of the dipole are mechanically and electrically connected together as shown in Figure 4. So, the center mount (MFJ-347) portion of the dipole has been modified to eliminate the coax connector and insulators so as to form a continuous reflecting surface comprised of the two telescopic whips connected together. Computer modeling has shown that a reflector element about 5% longer than the driven element will provide the best antenna SWR.

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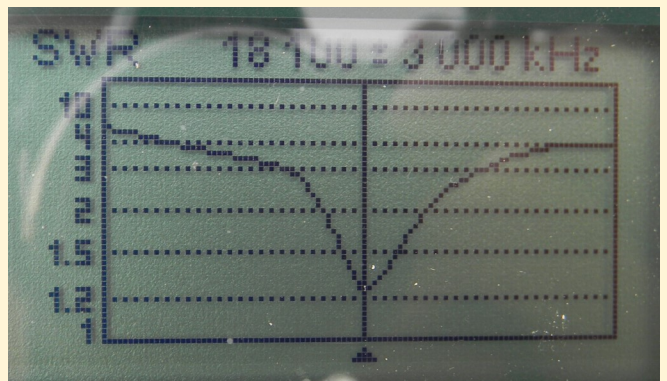
Homemade 17-meter two-element Yagi Antenna

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The gain of a 2-element Yagi is approximately 5dBd (i.e., 5dB increase relative to the gain of a dipole), or about 7.1dBi, since half-wave dipole gain relative to a theoretical isotropic antenna is approximately 2.1dBi. While this amount of gain, in the order of about one S-unit, doesn't sound like much, it can make a significant difference when received signals are about the same power level as the prevailing received noise. Also, relative to transmit operation, this improvement in gain can make 100W into a dipole seem like it was 315W (i.e., 100W increased by 5dB), which could be a substantial benefit to an operator at the other end of a QSO.

A characteristic of Yagi antennas operating at approximately one wavelength height is relatively low impedance (in the order of 25 ohms). This became a consideration relative to SWR, if not a concern, since this antenna would be connected to a transceiver with coax cable of 50 ohms characteristic impedance. However, a test of the Yagi antenna at approximately 20 feet (about the same height as it will be operated on Catalina) showed a very favorable SWR, as shown in Figure 5. The explanation is that the operating height at 20 feet is less than 0.4 lambda and impedance of the antenna increases when operated nearer to the ground. So, no impedance matching efforts will be required for the Catalina deployment of this homemade Yagi antenna. We look forward to its successful debut on our February 2018 annual IOTA trip to Catalina. ■

Figure 5. Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) of 2-element Yagi operating at about 20 feet above the ground



References:

<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/tis/info/pdf/8108032.pdf>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yagi-Uda_antenna

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/wb2vuo2elyagi.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dipole_antenna

And now, for an unrelated example of improvising...

Filming the motion picture "Dunkirk," directed by Christopher Nolan, pre-empted the PVARC's 2016 Lighthouse Weekend at Pt. Vicente. Now "Dunkirk" has just received eight Oscar nominations, including for Best Picture. Shown at right is cockpit filming at Pt. Vicente.



PHOTO: WARNER BROS. STUDIOS VIA IMDB.COM

PVARC Club News

Enter as usual: Hesse Park's building entrance re-opened

Just in time for the PVARC's February 1 meeting: All construction work near the Hesse Park building entrance was completed on January 23 and park visitors again have front-door access to the building.

The most visible changes from this multi-month project are metal handrails on both sides of the ramped walkway leading to the park building door. Several interior modifications were also made. ■

FREE to a new PVARC ham...

From Jerry Kendrick, NG6R: "I have RG-58c/u 50-ohm coaxial cable, manufactured by AlphaWire. A large roll is available, so just tell me how much you need. If needed, I will also help you attach a connector for your HF rig. RG-58c/u is generally adequate for HF (attenuation loss from 0.5dB to 1.5dB for 50 feet, depending on frequency), but you should use a different lower-loss cable for VHF or UHF." ■

Walt Ordway's next ham classes are Feb. 3 and 10

Please advise your non-licensed family members, relatives, and friends about the PVARC's next round of Technician license classes on February 3 and 10 at Hesse Park.

Walt Ordway, K1DFO, will teach the Technician course from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm on both days, followed by the General license course from 1:30-5:00 pm. At the start of the February 3 Technician class Ray Day, N6HE, will give the PVARC's short presentation on the many things one can do with amateur radio.

The PVARC will also have a license exam session at 10 am on Saturday, February 17, in Hesse Park's Fireside Room.

Walt's following ham classes at Hesse Park will be on Saturdays May 5 and 12, 2018. ■

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

An American Radio Relay League Affiliated Club

Board of Directors:

President	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Vice President	Ray Day, N6HE
Treasurer	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Secretary	Ron Wagner, AC6RW
Directors	Clay Davis, AB9A, Gary Lopes, WA6MEM

Appointed Offices:

QRO Editor	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
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Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
K6PV QSL Manager	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
K6PV Repeater Trustee	Mel Hughes, K6SY
LAACARC Delegate	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE ARRL Liaison	Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD
Net Control Operators	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD, Dale Hanks, N6NNW, Bob Sylvest, AB6SY, Ron Wagner, AC6RW, Dan Yang, K6DPY

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Website: www.k6pv.org

Mailing Address:

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

Monthly Meetings:

1st Thursday (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:

Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, gary@wa6mem.com

To order a Club jacket or patch:

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, 310-373-8166

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Front page photo — The *Pt. Vicente Lighthouse* is partially-obscured on a foggy morning, January 12, 2018.

PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

PVARC Club News

Something new...

“What’s Next?”– no-stress, no-pressure help for our newer hams

Did you recently obtain your amateur radio license and wonder what to do next? Or you’ve had your license for several years and want to know more about avenues in amateur radio? Come to the PVARC’s “What’s Next?” gatherings at Hesse Park anytime from 6:30-7:20 pm just prior to our regular monthly meetings and ask for help with any question. We’re here to assist in a no-stress manner—and no ham radio-related question is considered “dumb” to ask.

Led by our Vice President Ray Day, N6HE, we can help hams better understand how to operate their radios (and/or help purchase the best one for their budget.) We can also provide help on other ham radio subjects, whether for VHF/UHF bands or HF bands; public service or DXing/contesting, or ???

Among the most frequently asked questions by new hams are “Which radio to buy?” and “How do I program my radio?” If you have others we’re glad to help with those too. Look for Ray Day and Ron Wagner, AC6RW, off to one side of our room at Hesse Park while setup is underway for the main meeting. ■

Helpful guidelines when submitting QRO articles

Our **QRO** newsletter welcomes articles about technical subjects and PVARC member activities.

To facilitate layout and editing please send your article as two separate files: 1) all the text as a straight Microsoft Word file and 2) any photos, illustrations, or diagrams in a second file or as separate JPEG files. If possible please keep the text portion to not exceed 800 words. ■

QRO’s Dept. of Errors and Omissions

We strive for 100% accuracy in each issue but if you notice any errors or omissions in **QRO** please advise your **QRO** Editor, Diana AI6DF, at: ai6df@arrl.net. ■

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2017-2018

Thomas Essenpreis, KB9ENS

Mark Greenberg, KM6GYC

Lori Tanimura, KM6GXY

Cheri Tanimura, K6CTT

Heidi Stromburg, KG0GGY

Mike Semos, N6DBS (returning member)

Rick Heaston, KM6GXZ

Larry Fadden, KK6TXN

Steve Sheridan, KM6IQO

Pamela Gaume, KM6MMJ

Vincent Reher, KM6LGT

Bernadette Sabath, KM6SAB

Zvika Golan, KJ6LHL

Fred Cook, KE6AZB

Jeff Wolfe, KM6GYB

George Nestojko, WA6YBR

Irene Turner, KM6LGU

Dave Turner, KM6LGX

Don Wilt, WG6E

Don Putnick, NA6Z

George Rizkalla, KM6OXX

Alfred Visco, KM6OPB

Noel Park, KM6OPA

Michael Leyba, KK6KCH

John Tsohas, KM6OPE

2018 Southwestern Division Convention

Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 16 & 17, 2018

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>Hamfest Dinner & 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
Hamfest Dinner
ARRL Speakers
Transmitter Hunt
\$5.00 Admission

Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
\$25,000 in Grand Prizes
Emergency Preparedness
Admission Prizes
Hospitality Area
Near Space Balloon Launch
Antenna Clinic & T-hunt

W1AW /7 Special Event Station

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.780 (-) PL 103.5 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

Tell your friends and family about our upcoming ham license classes at Hesse Park

Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "Technician" course (entry level)

FCC "General" course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 3 and 10 February 2018

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM both Saturdays (bring your lunch)

General 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 17 February 2018

At the start of the 3 February Technician course, the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30 minute presentation on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The class location is at Fred Hesse Community Park,
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes.

Confirm your attendance to Walt, K1DFO at waltordway@juno.com

There is no fee for either course.

Taking the FCC test is \$15.

Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,

\$22 for the Technician and \$26 for the General

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$22 for the Technician and \$22 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 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 VE 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.



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
www.n6rpv.net/pvarc or k6pv.org

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 (\$20.00) \$ _____

Additional donation to support PVARC activities \$ _____

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.n6rpv.net/pvarc/constitution.htm or upon request.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Family Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Family Member Signature: _____ Date: _____