



QRO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MARCH 2018



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Los Angeles County's Government-Affiliated Disaster Amateur Radio Organizations

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

Thursday, March 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 March 1 meeting: Understanding the various official disaster amateur radio groups in Los Angeles County

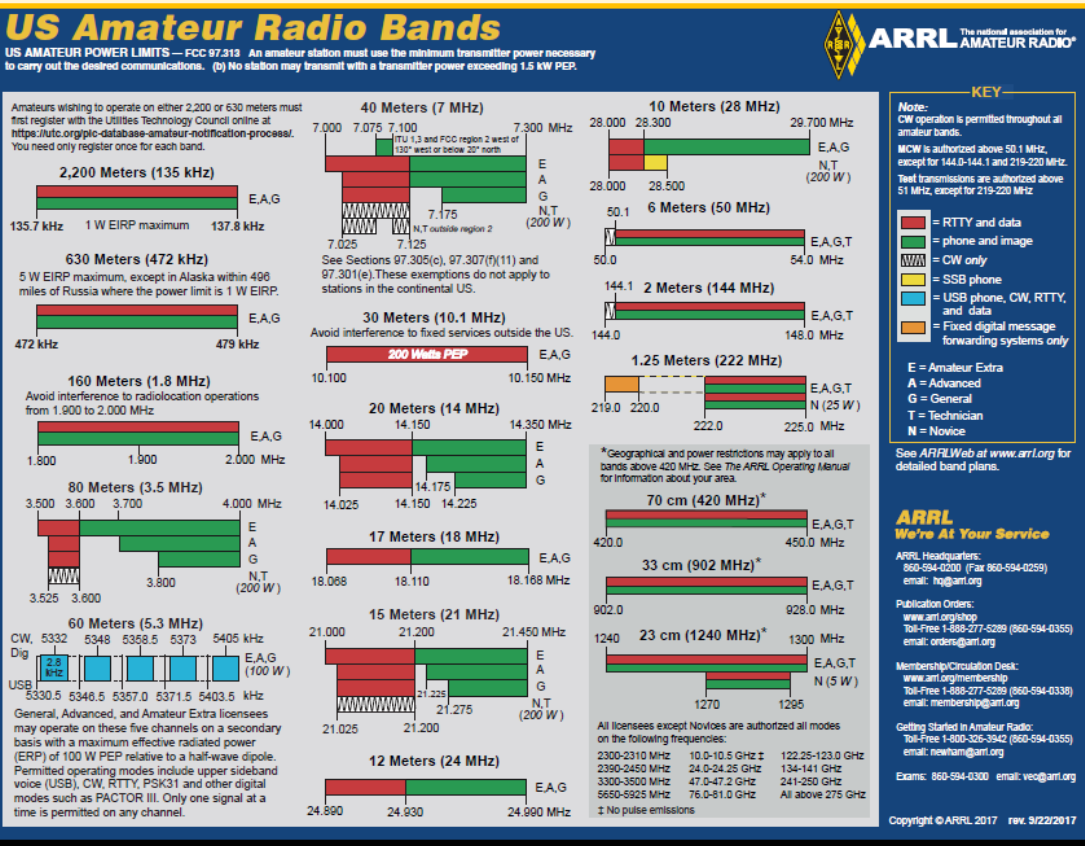
One of amateur radio's founding pillars is to provide public service communication during emergencies or disasters. In return for this expectation amateur radio has been given a large swath of radio spectrum—free of charge—ranging from 135 kHz (below the AM Broadcast band) up to beyond 275 GHz for emergency communication, DXing, experimentation, personal communication, and many other non-commercial uses.

Here in Los Angeles County numerous government-affiliated disaster amateur radio groups are ready to serve public needs when necessary. The PVARC's March 1 meeting will provide a tour through the various disaster ham radio groups in L.A. County by explaining the respective agencies served, the membership of each group and its assets, plus the steps many of these groups have recently been taking for interoperability with each other.

Presenting this from a unique perspective is your **QRO** Editor Diana, AI6DF, who is active on several emergency communications fronts. She has been very active since 2006 in the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service—the volunteer emergency communication organization overseen by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department—that interfaces with many city radio groups and between Sheriff's Stations. Diana has served as head of the Lomita Sheriff Station's DCS group since mid-2009 and in mid-2015 also became the countywide DCS Training Officer and member of the DCS Administrative Staff. In 2016 the Lomita Station's DCS group absorbed the South Los Angeles Sheriff Station's DCS function (formerly Lennox Station) to provide coverage throughout all 14 South Bay cities comprising Area G of the Los Angeles County Operational Area. Diana is also a member of the PVAN radio group serving Rancho Palos Verdes and as ARRL Los Angeles Section Manager is Interim District Emergency Coordinator for the ARRL's ARES LAX-South District centered in Long Beach.

While there are numerous government-affiliated disaster amateur radio groups in L.A. County there are substantial differences among them in training, readiness, frequencies, and area coverage. This presentation

will address many of these issues as well as spectrum chaos that might spontaneously unfold in a wide-area disaster across the County. We hope you can attend our March 1 meeting. ■



Left: The familiar ARRL amateur radio band chart shows the vast range of spectrum allotted to amateur radio due in large part to an expectation for providing public service during times of emergency.

CHART CREDIT: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The PVARC's upcoming meeting topics...

Our April 5, 2018, meeting presentation covers the PVARC's Feb. 21-25 DXpedition to Two Harbors on Santa Catalina Island for Islands On The Air. Our nine-member team was led by Ray Day, N6HE, who will present the team's efforts on the island. This year's IOTA DXpedition presentation will have much more video coverage than in prior years' talks.

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

For our June meeting we hope to have a speaker discussing the Reverse Beacon Network.

Show Us Your Shack

And back for an encore later in 2018....

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 (in 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**
April 29 and May 5; 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 meets on 2nd Saturdays now at Palos Verdes Library District's Peninsula Center site

Our HF Enthusiasts Group's February 10, 2018, meeting was its first at the Palos Verdes Library District's Peninsula Center Library. The Purcell Room worked well for all participants with ample room for more attendees. We've now reserved the Purcell Room from 10:00 am-Noon on every 2nd Saturday through November.

Here's a brief report on the February 10th meeting:

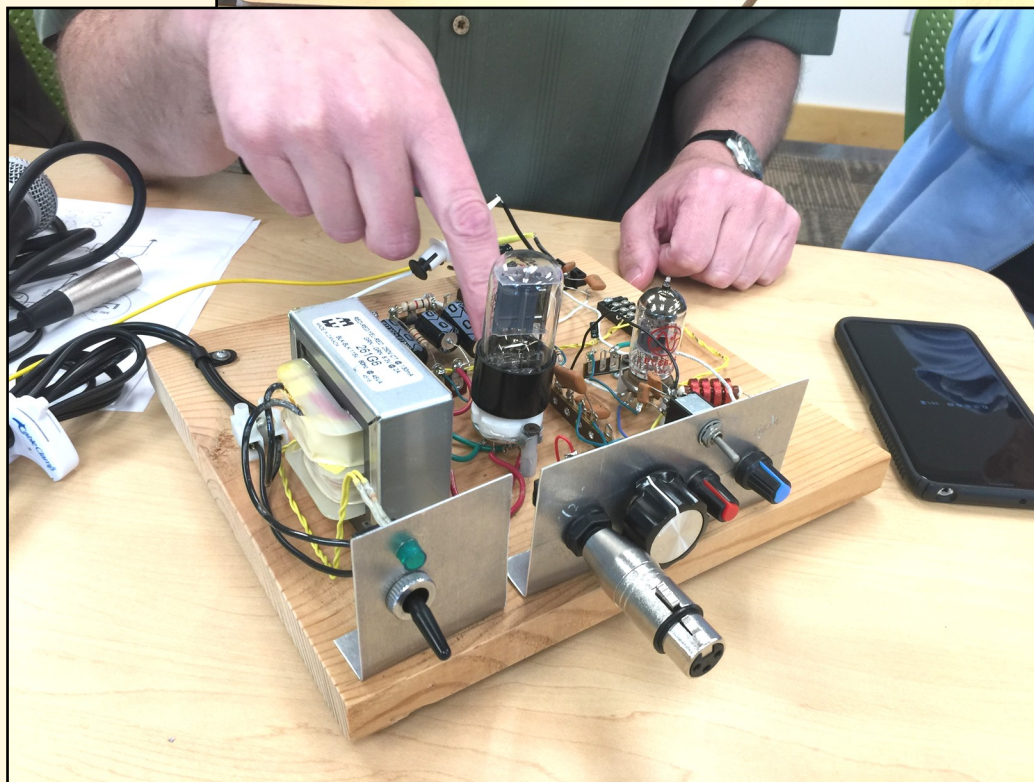
Sixteen attendees discussed numerous HF aspects. Among other things....Ron, AC6RW, showed his home-built "breadboard" two-tube power supply and modulator for an AM HF rig. Jerry, NG6R, brought his new Begali single-lever key and demonstrated sending Morse code at 30 words per minute. Ray, N6HE, brought a keyer relay box for cathode/grid keying of legacy transmitters.

The HF Enthusiasts Group meets next on Saturday, March 10, at 10 am. No RSVP needed...just come if interested.



Above: Everyone enjoying the new Purcell Room venue for PVARC's monthly HF Enthusiasts Group meetings.

PHOTO: MALIN DOLLINGER, KO6MD



Left: Ron, AC6RW, points to details on his homemade two-tube power supply and modulator for legacy "boat anchor" AM transmitters (i.e., the older boxy transmitters, generally with tubes.)

PHOTO: RAY DAY, N6HE

Here are reference links from our February 1 monthly meeting about dealing with RFI/EMI

Links from Chris Parker, AF6PX, as shown in his February 1, 2018, presentation:

ULTRASONIC POWERLINE NOISE DETECTOR:

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/PLN/Ultrasonic_Pinpointer.pdf

VHF TAPE MEASURE BEAM <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/HANDSON.pdf>

RFI NOISE HUNTING:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/RFI/FOESTER.PDF>

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/RFI/Thompson%20Noise.pdf>

<http://www.rfiservices.com/>

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/pdf/ExternalNoiseHandbook.pdf>

ARRL RFI webpage <http://www.arrl.org/radio-frequency-interference-rfi>

ARRL Powerline Noise webpage <http://www.arrl.org/power-line>

ARRL RFI Book: Find and Resolve Interference, 3rd Edition, Item No. 0915, ARRL web store

RFI@contesting.com (mail list devoted to RFI mitigation) <http://www.contesting.com/FAQ/rfi>

RFI presentation slide show: <http://palomar-engineers.com/>

Ferrites and Toroids: Amidon, Fair-Rite, Palomar Engineering, Mouser, Digi-Key

AC Line Filter: <http://tomthompson.com/radio/GrowLight/Ballast%20Filter%20Layout.jpg>



In Memoriam

Peter Krahenbuhl, KG6ND (SK)

We recently learned long-time PVARC member Peter Krahenbuhl, KG6ND, became a Silent Key on February 6 at age 93. Peter lived in Rolling Hills Estates and had been a PVARC member continuously since 1986 although his health prevented him from attending our meetings/activities in recent years. His son Ted advised there would not be any funeral or memorial service and in keeping with Peter's wishes his ashes were scattered over the Pacific Ocean. ■

Mike Gould, W6FI (SK)

Mike Gould, W6FI, was a PVARC member in the 1990's through 2003 whose legacy here lives on long after moving to Northern California's Placerville in 2003. Mike was an excellent CW operator (30+ WPM) who also had a UHF repeater that eventually became K6PV. With a rapid move north to Placerville Mike sold his 440 repeater at an attractive price to fellow PVARC member Dan Colburn, W6DC. Dan and Jeff Wolf, K6JW, along with a few others donated funds for the purchase, then gave the repeater to our club after briefly operating it from Dan's home. Mike recently passed away in Placerville at age 75 after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease, preceded in death by his wife Janet. He continued being active in amateur radio until two years ago. Besides ham radio he was also known to many for his love of Corvette automobiles. ■

K6PV/6 DXpedition team returns from Catalina Island—all had a great time

The PVARC’s team members on the K6PV/6 2018 DXpedition to Two Harbors on Catalina Island safely returned on Sunday, February 25.

Despite no sunspots (i.e., poor propagation) the team made nearly 1,200 contacts with all 50 U.S. states, all Continents, and 22 countries (the best being the African nations of Ethiopia and Zambia). And this despite having to lower our main hexbeam antenna due to strong winds during the 2018 DXpedition.

Our team members Hugo, KM6DQU, and George, WA6YBR, also ascended Silver Peak to activate it for Summits On The Air.

A full presentation including many video segments will be shown at our April 5 monthly meeting. ■

Below: A few scenes from our 2018 Islands On The Air DXpedition to Catalina Island—more to come plus video at our April club meeting.

PHOTOS: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

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

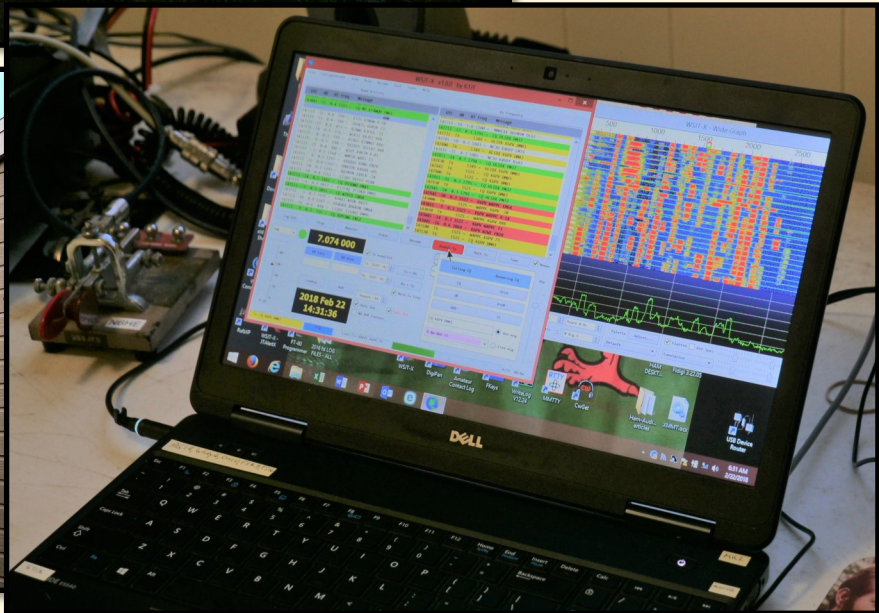
Ray Day, N6HE (Team Leader)
Clay Davis, AB9A
Hugo Dominguez, KM6DQU
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Jerry Kendrick, NG6R
Rocco Lardiere, N6KN
Gary Lopes, WA6MEM
Steve Mandich, K6NT
George Nestojko, WA6YBR



Top left: View of station cabins at sunrise with hexbeam antenna.



Bottom left: Club banner with 17-meter two-element Yagi antenna and outdoor kitchen in background.



Bottom right: First use of FT-8 mode on any K6PV DXpedition or activity.

Test Fixture for DC Power Supplies

By Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Many of the modern amateur radio station components we use require an external 12V power supply (PS). We generally consolidate these station needs and acquire a single DC power supply with a large enough current capacity to power all these components. For example, we might have our main HF transceiver; some kind of digital computer interface unit tied to the HF transceiver; several VHF/UHF 12V transceivers; display lamps in the HF antenna tuner; a CW electronic keyer; and a powered speaker all connected to the same high-current-capacity 12V power supply. It's much more cost and weight effective for manufacturers to omit individual unit power supplies (that convert from 120V AC to 12V DC) in favor of using an external 12V power source that has become so ubiquitous in modern ham stations. But, just how good is that power supply? Will it hold up to the current demands you want to place on it? How will it respond if it is overloaded? Is it regulated and if so just how stable is the regulated output voltage as the current demand changes? These and other questions can be answered by using a means to monitor the output voltage and current as the load varies. That is the purpose of the DIY test fixture described in this article. **Figure 1** shows how such a test fixture was constructed.

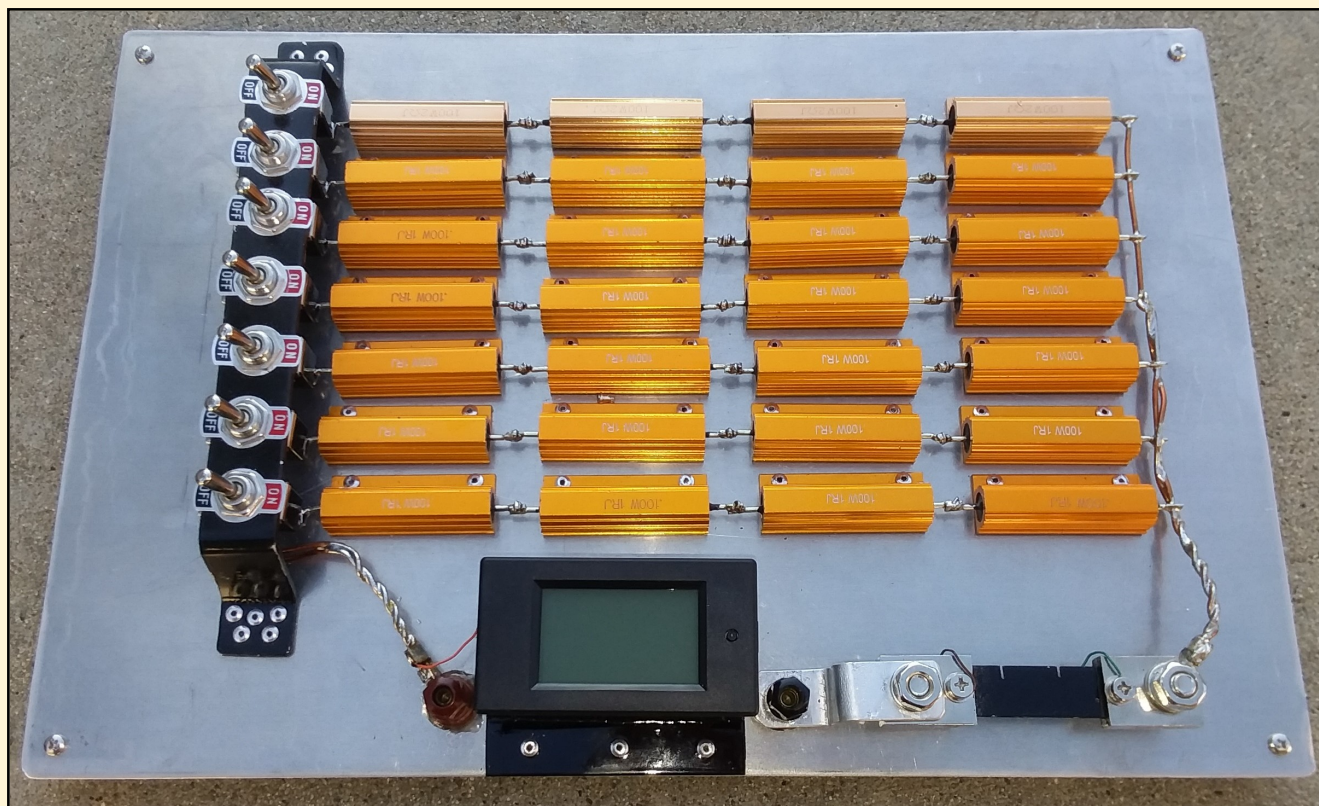


Figure 1. The test fixture constructed by the author is connected as a load on a DC power supply via the red and black terminals located on either side of the display. It is constructed of seven rows of four series 100W resistors each; there are six rows of 1-ohm resistors in series plus one row (top row in photo) of 2-ohm resistors in series. Rows are connected in parallel and each row is switched in separately. Voltage and current (also power and energy) LCD display enables monitoring key electrical characteristics of the PS as the load varies. Large gauge wire is used to minimize internal line losses.

A typical view of the readout display during testing is illustrated in **Figure 2**. Note that instantaneous power in watts and energy in watt-hours—the amount expended since this parameter was last reset using the recessed button—are available on the LCD screen, in addition to voltage and current.

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Test Fixture for DC Power Supplies

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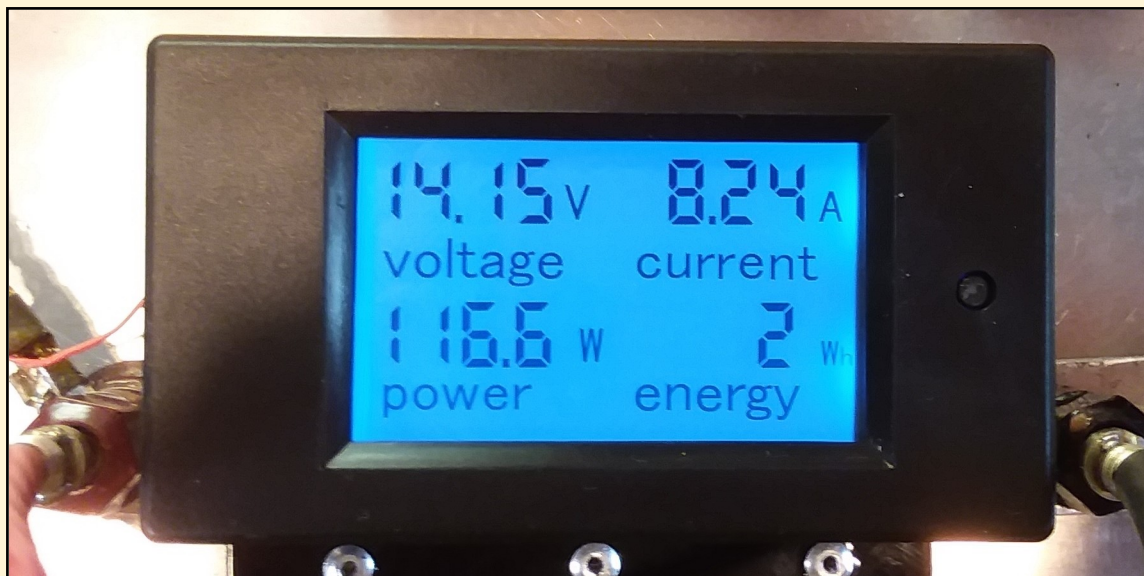


Figure 2. Typical test fixture display image taken during testing of a power supply. Note the four parameters displayed: voltage, current, power and energy. Power is calculated from the first two measurements and energy is the time integral of power.

Although this test fixture could be used as a load for other DC power supply voltages with no modification, such as 18V or 24V, it was designed with the more common 12V supply in mind. The typical 12V power supply regulator is generally set to 13.8V in recognition of mobile operation in which automotive alternator or generator output voltage is somewhat higher than the battery it services. Hence, amateur radio manufacturers generally specify nominal operating voltage for ham gear at 13.8V. So, what we refer to as a 12V supply is most generally operating at approximately 13.8V.

Note that this test fixture also could be used to test batteries. Being able to place loads on a battery and measure its voltage as current varies under different loads can yield valuable information regarding the battery's ability to supply the power your application demands. Change in battery terminal voltage due to charge depletion can be monitored as the battery slowly discharges under load.

Referring back to **Figure 1**, the strategy in building one row of 8 ohms, in addition to six other rows of 4 ohms each, was to enable a smaller gradation in current measurements as the load is progressively increased. That concept is illustrated in **Table 1**. Note, for example, that had all resistor rows been 4 ohms (like the row identified in configuration 1B), the smallest current point would have been 3.45A, whereas with a row of 8 ohms (as in configuration 1A), the smallest current value is 1.73A. Alternately switching in the 8-ohm row every other configuration enables much finer current testing than would be possible with all rows identical. By successively switching in one row at a time (and alternating the 8-ohm row), a reasonably smooth curve of output voltage vs. output current can be created (from approximately 1.73A for one 8-ohm row to approximately 22.26A for all seven rows). That's a fairly broad current range and is sufficient to test many of the power supplies we use in our ham radio hobby.

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Test Fixture for DC Power Supplies

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V (volts)	Config.	R config.	R (ohms)	I (amps)
13.8	0	none	(infinite)	0
13.8	1A	8	8.00	1.73
13.8	1B	4	4.00	3.45
13.8	2A	8 4	2.67	5.17
13.8	2B	4 4	2.00	6.90
13.8	3A	8 4 4	1.60	8.63
13.8	3B	4 4 4	1.33	10.38
13.8	4A	8 4 4 4	1.14	12.11
13.8	4B	4 4 4 4	1.00	13.80
13.8	5A	8 4 4 4 4	0.89	15.51
13.8	5B	4 4 4 4 4	0.80	17.25
13.8	6A	8 4 4 4 4 4	0.73	18.90
13.8	6B	4 4 4 4 4 4	0.67	20.60
13.8	7	8 4 4 4 4 4 4	0.62	22.26

Table 1. There are 14 possible configurations for switching in load resistance. As an example, Configuration 3A calls for the switch on the 8-ohm row and two of the other 4-ohm row switches to be thrown to their ON positions. This would place resistances of 8 ohms, 4 ohms and another 4 ohms all in parallel (illustrated as 8||4||4), resulting in an overall load resistance of 1.6 ohms and a corresponding current of 8.63A, assuming an applied voltage of 13.8V.

Wattage rating of the resistors was sized to avoid excessive heating of the aluminum plate to which they are riveted. Except for the first series row of 2-ohm resistors that consume even less power, each switched-in row of 1-ohm resistors will consume about 48W ($E^2/R = 13.8^2/4$). Therefore, each resistor in that row will consume one-fourth of 48W, or 12W. Since each resistor is rated 100W, that's an operating condition of only 12% of rated power. The resistors will get a bit warm, but not hot.

Before using the test fixture, it's very important to determine just how accurate are the voltage and current values displayed in the fixture's LCD readout. There are basically two sources of inaccuracy in displaying the power supply's output voltage. The first is the inherent inaccuracy of the display itself. The second is that the display shows the voltage at the test fixture, not the voltage at the power supply output terminals. These may be different because there is a small voltage drop in the cables between the power supply terminals and the test fixture itself. **Table 2** was created using a bench power supply with somewhat long power cables that have some voltage drop in them; hence, the voltage drop you see in the table increases as the load increases. But, **Table 2** focuses on the first of the two sources of inaccuracy by comparing the voltage readout on the test fixture display (**Vdisp**) against the voltage readout from a high-quality digital volt meter (**Vdvm**) and measured on the test fixture at the same location as the display. As you can see from the **Delta V (%)** column, the displayed voltage is less than 1% inaccurate, relative to the same measurement using the precision dvm.

Table 2 also shows displayed current (**I_{disp}**) as compared with a calculated value of current (using Ohm's law based on an accurate dvm voltage measurement and known resistance, dependent on which resistor rows were switched in). Displayed current isn't quite as accurate as displayed voltage, as shown in the **Delta I (%)** column. In fact, displayed current appears to be reading approximately 6 percent low over much of the current range, compared to the value of calculated current. That amount of inaccuracy in displayed current readout will need to be considered if greater accuracy is required in a particular application.

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Test Fixture for DC Power Supplies

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Vdisp	Vdvm	Delta V (%)	Idisp	R config	R	Icalc	Delta I (%)
13.51	13.53	0.15	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	N/A
13.42	13.45	0.22	1.47	8	8.00	1.68	14.37
13.35	13.39	0.30	3.09	4	4.00	3.35	8.33
13.27	13.32	0.38	4.67	8 4	2.67	4.99	6.95
13.19	13.25	0.45	6.25	4 4	2.00	6.63	6.00
13.10	13.17	0.53	7.77	8 4 4	1.60	8.23	5.94
13.02	13.10	0.61	9.29	4 4 4	1.33	9.85	6.02
12.95	13.03	0.62	10.77	8 4 4 4	1.14	11.43	6.13
12.86	12.95	0.70	12.20	4 4 4 4	1.00	12.95	6.15

Table 2. Partial list of actual load conditions showing comparison between test-fixture-displayed voltage and current, relative to voltage read at the test fixture by an accurate digital volt meter (dvm); and current calculated from dvm-measured voltage with known load resistance values. Note that displayed voltage and dvm-measured voltage are within 1% of each other, so the test fixture voltage readout is quite accurate. Displayed current is approximately 6% low and should be corrected by the user if more measurement accuracy is required.

Prior to using this test fixture to gather voltage vs. current performance data, it's important to remember that regardless of wire gauge or length of the interconnect cables from the power supply to the test fixture, some amount of voltage drop will occur in these cables. And, it is particularly noticeable at higher currents. In order to record the truest power supply voltage, either the cables should be large diameter and as short as possible or else an accurate voltage measurement (say, by a dvm) should be taken right at the PS terminals themselves (thus, ignoring the test fixture displayed voltage). The test fixture display obviously will be the most convenient source of measurement data, provided a set of short and large diameter interconnect cables can be utilized. Use of the test fixture displayed values for voltage and current will be sufficient for most applications.

This test fixture was used to test an available 12V power supply: an Acopian model A7120B. The regulated output voltage of this PS can be adjusted from 6.1V but only up to ~12.3V, not the typical 13.8V we find in supplies sold specifically for ham radio. The PS is an older regulated unit typical of supplies extracted from surplus commercial electronics and sold at ham radio swap meets.

Table 3 below shows load data for this Acopian power supply. Thick short cables were used to connect from the PS to the test fixture, but for completeness and to show the amount of voltage drop across these cables, the voltage at the output terminals of the PS (**Vps**) was recorded along with the voltage at the input to the test fixture (**Vdisp**), i.e., as read by the test fixture display.

Vdisp	Vps	Config.	Idisp (A)
12.34	12.36	0	0
12.33	12.36	1A	1.34
12.32	12.36	1B	2.84
12.31	12.36	2A	4.34
12.30	12.36	2B	5.81
12.30	12.37	3A	7.27
12.28	12.37	3B	8.75
12.28	12.37	4A	10.19
12.26	12.37	4B	11.68
12.25	12.37	5A	13.09
12.24	12.37	5B	14.52
7.4 -		6A	Display flicker! Test terminated.

Table 3. Acopian PS current increased under load with virtually no drop in output voltage until reaching approximately 15A, at which time the regulator circuitry inside the power supply hit the "current limit" point and the output voltage dropped dramatically.

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Test Fixture for DC Power Supplies

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Note in the second column of **Table 3** that the PS itself showed almost no variation in output voltage up until it went into current limiting at about 15 amps. Again, for completeness in this test, both the test fixture display voltage (**V_{disp}**) and the actual PS terminal voltage (**V_{ps}**) were recorded. This was done to show the amount of voltage drop that occurs in the short cabling from PS to test fixture and further underscores the need to take that into account if a particular application demands a higher degree of accuracy. Otherwise, the test fixture's display voltage value is generally accurate enough for most applications.

Most modern regulated DC power supplies have circuitry to limit current if the load becomes excessive (i.e., more current than the unit can safely supply at the regulated output voltage). Also, circuitry in some devices that the DC supply is powering can be damaged if excessive current is allowed to flow into them from the power supply. Quite often, the current limit of a power supply can be adjusted with an internal variable resistor and is generally set by the factory when the unit is built. Some power supplies, particularly more expensive test bench power sources, have an external front panel control to adjust the current limit point. More information on current limiting can be found in the references.

While this article is cast as a DIY project, it is not a project that has general appeal—for most, it simply won't be used often enough to warrant the effort. However, when it is needed, there's just no good substitute. That's why this test fixture is being made available to any PVARC club member who wants to use it. Consider it a "club asset," readily available to those who wish to test a power supply as described in this article. Just contact the author—reachable via the **QRZ.com**-listed email address or via the club roster. The user of the test fixture assumes full responsibility for any risk to the power supply under test. There is virtually no risk to the test fixture itself from normal testing. ■

References:

<http://www.repeater-builder.com/astron/astron-repair/astron-repair.html>

<http://www.egr.msu.edu/classes/ece480/capstone/fall08/group01/Doc/Kyle%20Application%20Note.pdf>

<http://powersupply.blogs.keysight.com/2012/07/how-does-power-supply-regulate-its.html>

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

<https://community.keysight.com/community/keysight-blogs/general-electronics-measurement/blog/2017/02/21/types-of-current-limits-for-over-current-protection-on-dc-power-supplies>

PVARC Club News

Reminder: Hesse Park's building entrance re-opened

In case you missed this news: 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. ■

Bonus feature at March 1 meeting

Your **QRO** Editor Diana, AI6DF, will also show at our March 1 meeting a six-minute video she created from attending the Feb. 16-17 Yuma (AZ) Hamfest. If you've attended any of the HAMCON conventions at the Torrance Marriott Hotel you will find the Yuma Hamfest to be quite a different experience. ■

ARRL Field Day is June 23-24

The PVARC expects to again operate on Ridgecrest Intermediate School's soccer field during ARRL Field Day on June 23-24. We plan to have our customary CW and SSB stations, plus the allowed bonus VHF/UHF station. More information to follow as the date nears. ■

Walt Ordway's next ham classes set for April 28 and May 5

Please advise your non-licensed family members, relatives, and friends about the PVARC's next round of Technician license classes on April 28 and May 5 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 1:45-5:00 pm. At the start of the April 28 Technician class a short presentation on the many things one can do with amateur radio will be given.

The PVARC will also have a license exam session at 10 am on Saturday, May 12, in Hesse Park's Fireside Room. ■

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

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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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Email us: k6pv@arrl.net

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 at sunrise on a winter morning.*

PHOTO: ROD JENSEN, KK6CYU

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

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 28 April and 5 May 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 12 May 2018

At the start of the 28 April 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: _____