

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



K6PV



Don Minkoff, NK6A QRP Operating With an emphasis on Maritime Mobile



Don Minkoff operated QRP from a cruise ship in the Atlantic and down the St Lawrence, between Boston and Montreal. We'll hear about his experiences on this unusual QTH, and his experiences operating QRP. And he'll bring his rig to show.

Don Minkoff was first licensed at age 12, in 1959, as WV6HYF, when he used a DX40 and a Halicrafters SX99. He later became WA6IYK and became interested in chasing DX. He also discovered QRP operating and built a Heath HW8. HW9. He now has the Elecraft K2/100, K1 and KX1. and operates from the field and on vacations using the KX1.

As usual, the meeting will be on the third Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 p.m., Hesse Park.



Visit Our Web Site

K6PV

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

The President Pontificates

Ginger Clark, KG6TAU



The Tuesday night Club net is lively as ever. And thanks to Bill Harper, WA6ESC, and his two-meter cross band, the members on the west side of the hill are having an easier time getting in to the repeater. The east side of the hill doesn't seem to have any difficulties. Sam Tepllar, KG6ZAW, from the Miraleste area, always comes in full quieting.

For the past three weeks our net has been controlled by the friendly voice of Rick Murray, K6WXA. Apparently the experience has so unnerved him, that he's leaving post haste for Texas before the next net. It's very lucky that we have a club of good operators to call on to become net control in his place. We'll keep rotating the net control job again for awhile.

Those of us who attended Rick Murray's send-off dinner would like to thank Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK, for handling it from start to finish. Great job!

I also want to thank Joe Locascio, K5KT, for becoming the club rep for the Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, and for going to their first of six bi-monthly meetings. We'll have a report on this meeting, and our participation in this group, in the July QRO.

Bryant Winchell, W2RGG, is doing a great job locating Club-owned items that members have been storing for the Club. He has a few more people to contact. If you have any Club-owned items, or know of someone

who does, would you let Bryant know so he can put them on his list?

In case you haven't noticed, we have a new Web Page Editor, John Freeman, WW6WW. Actually, John's been recycled and returned. He was the Webmaster before K6WXA took on the job. If you haven't seen the new website, check it out!

Former President Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, has been quietly handling the VE Coordinator's job for which we should all be most grateful. I think he needs someone with a General license, though, to represent the Club's VEs to ARRL (or FCC). It's probably a small figurehead job which will get you a mention in the QRO without too much work attached.

Which brings me to a question that I've been mulling. Does joining a club obligate you to help out with it? I personally think not. I do think, though, that it's in each member's best interest to help the Club out with jobs that sometimes aren't interesting but which are necessary for the Club to survive. If you want the Club to thrive so it can continue to provide you with events and programs and people to talk shop with, sometimes you have to do stuff. Just makes sense.

So the question is, why do we have two events that the organizers are struggling to get volunteer operators for?

First, we have the Palos Verdes Marathon this weekend that Denzel, KG6QWJ, took over from Walt Ordway, K1DFO, a cou-



ple of years ago. I don't really remember the event's history other than that Walt ran it for a long, long time and Denzel came to his rescue when Walt decided, quite reasonably, that he really wanted to start going to Dayton on that weekend.

The other event is Field Day which Jeff, K6JW, is pretty burned out over right now. Its history is that we'd done it for years with another group and some time ago, we apparently separated from them in order to do Field Day the way we thought best.

I'm pretty sure that the Club's involvement in each of these events began as a grass-roots, gung-ho, we-can-do-it effort.

In the case of the Palos Verdes Marathon, we were the logical Club to handle the radios since it is run on our home turf and so would be a matter of pride for the PVARC to do it. We wouldn't want URAC or Torrance doing OUR event. And probably in the beginning, the Club rallied around Walt and OUR event. Perhaps over the years, we've begun to count on the job getting done and we've forgotten our reasons for embracing the job in the first place. So slowly our participation has dwindled.

(I don't quite understand this since the pride of having an event with our name on it far outweighs the time output which is only a part of one Saturday per year.)

In the case of Field Day, well, it's true that not all of us are contesters, but a considerable number of us are geared up for emergency operation—evidence our participation in DCS, PVAN, and NART. Field Day should be right up our alley in terms of interest. But Jeff, K6JW, believes he's not getting enough support for this event to even hold it this year. Since it may (or may not) be a bit early in the

process to know for certain, we'll have to wait and see who volunteers.

The point of all this chatter is not that we should all run out and volunteer — although I think since we've committed, as a club, to work the Marathon, we should bail out Denzel and fulfill our commitment this year. Please help if you possibly can this Saturday morning.

No, my point is that we as individuals need to decide what's important to us and what's not. I don't think we should decide to do events because it's expected of us, or because we always did them, or because we'll impress people. I don't think that's motivation enough to get any of us out there, anyway. I think we should decide what we want to commit to, based on whether enough of us are interested. And I think it's the decision of each event's Head Honcho.

Right now, we have the following events: Marathon (stations) Denzel Dyer; Field Day (Operating and material support like antennas and tents) Jeff Wolf; the IOTA (being there) Mel Hughes; and Lighthouse Weekend (operating) Bob Closson, W6HIP (welcome Bob!).

I hope everyone will do some thinking about what he would like to do for any of these events and contact the Head Honcho (HH). That way, the HH will know whether to go ahead with the event or to reconsider.

The exception is the Marathon. As I said, since we've committed to it this year, we need to give Denzel a hand this once. Please do. He needs 3 to 4 people. Then we each can stop, take a breath, and consider what we really want to do.

73s

Ginger/kg6tau



de the VP

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ



First, of course, remember the coming ban on using cell phones while driving. As you already know, that ban does not apply to mobile radio. That means that you are still allowed to talk while reading the LA Times, shaving, applying makeup, combing your hair, and reading the map.

But you really wanted to know about the May program; at least, I hope you do.

This is the second edition on the May program, because Jeff Wolf, K6JW, has just now secured a speaker who should be great.

Speaker: Don Minkoff, NK6A

Topic: QRP operating with emphasis on maritime mobile operation from a cruise ship.

Mr. Minkoff will speak for about 30 minutes, plus some time for questions, and for show and tell. He will bring some QRP gear to the meeting, and Jeff will also bring some.

See you there!

We had a collection of short programs planned (the recent DX convention and the Dayton Hamvention in particular). They will show up later.

Jeff will have a few words about Field Day.

Inquiries about future interests:

- QSL party: especially for new General licensees
- What QSLing is, QSL cards, how to get your own; sending and receiving; examples of some of your favorites;

Perhaps a program on:

Logbook of the World.

- White elephant auction of surplus equipment, with a percentage to the club
- Possible foxhunt? Handheld in one of the parks? Mobile covering the peninsula?

Looking farther ahead:

June: Curt Kaplan, NOAA, on Skywarn and the Weather Spotter program

July: Not firm at present; Perhaps a good time for the QSL party, if there is interest.

August: The Lighthouse Picnic: On the grounds of the Point Vicente Lighthouse, with access limited to PVARC members and their guests. A very nice setting, with lots of fresh air -- we get the very first of the prevailing southwest wind. We will again be looking for members to bring food -- look for a list of suggestions soon. Oh, yes, there will be some radio operation at the lighthouse that weekend, too.

Several possibilities at present for the rest of the year -- haven't settled on the arrangement yet.

In the poll of interests over a year ago, the first place was grounding and lightning protection.

Dennis Kidder has developed a talk on the subject, and we will try to arrange for him in the Fall.

73, KG6QWJ





Palos Verdes Marathon!

Saturday, May 17th

Be a part of the second-oldest Marathon operating continuously in the US--Only the Boston Marathon is older!

Because of a move, a business trip, etc., we still need more operators.

Specifically, we seriously need at least two more:

1. Someone to ride with the YMCA Van 1 covering the course east of the landslide. A hand-held radio works well (and a mobile outfit wouldn't be convenient). The van transports supplies to the aid stations, and picks up casualties among the runners for transportation back to the starting point at Point Fermin. All-day job, from 0600.

- 2. Someone with a vehicle and mobile rig as Rover 2. Rover 2 covers the course from the west end of the slide to the turnaround at 1500 Paseo del Mar. The Rover may at times be asked to make deliveries to aid stations, but the principal mission is to look for runners who may be in trouble along the part of the course between aid stations, and to call Van 2 for transportation. As most of the runners (all the serious ones) will be back east of the slide by noon. There's potential for early release. Needed by 0715 but the earlier the better.

It would be very good to have:

- 1. Someone as potential backup at an aid station if the assigned operator can't make it.
- 2. Someone as backup for the net control operator.

Nice to have, but not essential:

- 3. An operator at the turnaround, 1500 Paseo del Mar. That spot requires a mobile rig with a good antenna (possibly a mast, perhaps with a Yagi on it). The race director hopes to have someone there to check runners' numbers just to make sure that none of them found an earlier turnaround. Needed by 0745; potential for early release (noon or even earlier).

As a possible alternative, I can handle any one of those spots, IF someone is willing to handle the Net Control spot. As promised before, that doesn't make you my heir for that job. Besides, the actual operation is no problem; it's getting organized that presents the problem.

Speaking of getting organized, no word yet on the repeater; but backups are available. I will get information out within a week.

Volunteers for one of the spots listed above: please let me know ASAP (getting nervous).

Denzel Dyer (KG6QWJ), denzel.dyer@verizon.net.

Palos Verdes Marathon!

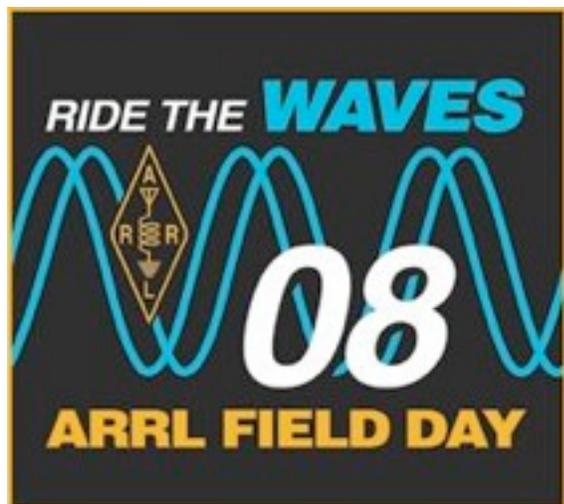
Saturday - May 17th

Marathon Assignments and Openings

Finish 1	Bill Leighton
Aid 1	Steve Smith
Aid 2	Curtis Watanabe
Aid 3	Homer Meek
Aid 4	Bill Pomerantz
Aid 5	Joe and Marian Locascio
Aid 6	Marty Dodell
Aid 7	Lora Dodell
Aid 8	Bill Harper
Aid 9	Mike Semos
Marathon Turn	Nice to have an operator there
PVE Command	Bryant Winchell
Walt 1	Sid Wielin
Van 1	Matt Orlich
Van 2	Stu/Martha Salot
Rover 1	Craig Baker
Rover 2	OPERATOR NEEDED
Net Control	Denzel and Helen Dyer

Also very nice to have a backup operator,
especially if also able to back up net control.





FIELD DAY ALERT!

Those of you who read my column in QRO last fall, or who have heard my pleas at Club meetings since then, are aware that I have placed a challenge before the Club with respect to this year's Field Day (Saturday and Sunday, 28-29 June). Instead of being the Club's FD organizer/supervisor/graveyard CW operator/safety officer/general cheerleader, I am taking a much less directive role this year.

Why is this? Because Field Day should be a CLUB event, with support by the Club's membership. After 18 years of close involvement with the event, about 15 of them as the event's chairperson, I firmly believe that it is time for new blood, new thinking, and some real initiative from the membership to keep the Club and amateur radio on the community's radar screen as a vital resource available when all other means of communication fail. Unless the greater membership is motivated, my efforts will mean little.

Since my QRO article appeared, since circulating copies of the article at the February Club meeting, and since speaking to the Club about it at that meeting, I have heard from exactly two Club members that they will be there and provide some material support for the event. That won't cut it, folks.

Although I have taken steps to secure our regular high school site for the FD weekend, at this time I cannot say that there will be a Club event because I have no indication that there will be sufficient member support to run it. What do we need? Here's a partial list:: station chiefs to oversee each station we may run, operators and loggers to staff the station(s) over the 24 hours of the event, radios, power supplies, generators, power cords and plug strips, antennas, computers, coax, tables, chairs, lamps, tent(s), shelters or trailers/5th wheels to host station(s), pads, pencils, trash bags... You get the idea.

Typically, I host an organizational meeting in late May or early June to formalize what we've got, but doing it is dependent upon knowing BEFORE the meeting that I'm likely to have enough support even to hold that meeting. We are now in the late spring, and I simply don't have any reassurance that we will have what we need to make it a "go".

So, fellow Club members, what's it to be? Will we have a Field Day operation or not? It's up to YOU. I'm waiting for your call.

73,

Jeff, K6JW

April 16, 2008 PVARC Meeting Minutes

Bill Leighton, KG6WVF

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, brought the meeting to order and after the Pledge of Allegiance, asked members to introduce themselves and report interesting activities.

Mel Hughes, K6SY, showed an article in "Peninsula People," a profile of Bill Pomeranz, KB6FB. Mel also announced CERT training at Peninsula High for 3 weeks beginning Saturday 4/19.

Bill Pomeranz announced that the NIMS courses required for DCS volunteers will be given Saturday 4/19 at Torrance airport. Courses 100 and 700 in the morning, and 200 and 800 in the afternoon.

Dale Hanks, N6NNW, who is Chief radio Officer (CRO) for Rancho Palos Verdes, was presented a DCS award for best CRO in Los Angeles County.

Three more volunteer operators are needed for the PV Marathon on Saturday May 17.

Bill Harper, WA6ESC, presented the treasurer's report. Financial status is good

with



\$3780 total balance. We have 94 paid members, including 3 new members.

Bill then offered documentation on several relatively small HF antennas using traps.

- A 75-meter antenna, 50 ft. in length
- A 40-meter antenna, 32 ft long compared to 60 ft for a full length dipole
- A 60-meter antenna, 42 ft long compared to 88 ft for a full dipole

He showed a trap for his current project, a 160-meter antenna.

Bryant Winchell, W2RGG, is compiling a list of club-owned material and requests input from all members having such property.

The evening's speaker was Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK, who presented a slide show and report on the IOTA DXpedition to Catalina in March (3/7 to 3/10).

Bill Leighton, KG6WVF

Sunshine

It finally happened for Steve Chmura, KC6WJA. He passed his Extra exam last weekend. He plans to apply for one of those great vanity call signs to reflect his achievement. **Bill Leighton, KG6WVF,**'s daughter will be graduating from Columbia University this month. Congratulations to her and to her Dad and Mom.

Ed Mitoma, W6EYM, is convalescing from his fall and would certainly appreciate hearing from everyone. For the next month, his address is: c/o Del Amo Gardens Convalescent Center, 22419 Kent Ave., Torrance, 90505.

Guenther Daub is ill. Bob Keefer, KO6UA, will be happy to give details if you contact him. **Curtis Jones, AE6CJ,** has a family member with a serious medical problem and would probably appreciate a card to let him know we're behind him during this tough time.



Words From The Webmaster

John Freeman, WW6WW

The expression, "What goes around, comes around" seems to apply here. After a four-year sabbatical, I volunteered again.

First, I want to say a big "Thank you!" to Rick Murray, K6WXA, for his club service as Webmaster for the PVARC website for the last four years. He's done a great job, and I hope to continue that tradition.

I've been working on an updated look and feel design for our club website, which I am implementing over the next month. Don't worry, your favorite features and information are still there. Recently, I've updated the pages relating to the Constitution, Officers, QROs, and added a new Photo Gallery. I'm adding the latest IOTA Catalina pictures. Take a look:

<http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/>

Please contact me (jrfree@cox.net) with any problems, suggestions or topics that you feel could enhance the website.

John Freeman, Webmaster
WW6WW



BILL HARPER'S TREASURER'S REPORT MAY 2008

PVARC BALANCE	\$2,183.38
JOHN ALEXANDER FUND	803.00
REPEATER FUND	957.66
TOTAL BANK BALANCE	\$3,944.04
MEMBERSHIP 2007	121 MEMBERS
RENEWED SO FAR 2008	107 MEMBERS
ARRL MEMBERS	69 MEMBERS

Board of Directors

President	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Vice President	Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ
Treasurer	Bill Harper, WA6ESC
Secretary	Bill Leighton, KG6WVF
Past President	Joe Locascio, K5KT

Appointed Offices

QRO Editor	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Asst to Editor	Paige Omoto, KI6MAH
Proofreader	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
Web Page Editor	John Freeman, WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liason	Jeff Wolf/Alan Soderberg
LAACARC Rep	Joe Locascio, K5KT

Contacts

QRO Editor	310-378-7894
WebMeister	310-541-6971

OPPORTUNITIES 2008

MAY

- 17-P. V. Marathon; Contact Denzel Dyer
- 21-Club Meeting
- 31 NOAA Open House, Oxnard, All day.

JUNE

- 7 11:00-12:30 Field Day Worker Bee Meeting. Jeff Wolf's house.
- 14 2:00-5:30 Technician License Class course Part 1 Hesse Park - Walt Ordway
- 18 Club Meeting - 7:30 - Hesse Park
- 21 10:00-2:00 Technician License Class course Part 2 Hesse Park - Walt Ordway
- 28-29 - Field Day!24 hours at Peninsula High Jeff Wolf
- 28 VE Test at Peninsula High

JULY

- 16 Club Meeting - 7:30 - Hesse Park

AUGUST

- 10 Hamfest Santa Barbara
<http://sb.hamfest2008.tosoda.com/>
- 15-17 Lighthouse Weekend
- 17 Club Picnic at the Lighthouse

DECEMBER

- 5 - Holiday Party -- Interpretive Center



1. **One vertical Hy-Gain 7 band vertical antenna, the DX-77A.** Manual included. For \$200.00
The antenna is in very good shape, partly disassembled and ready for pick-up.
2. **One DAIWA SWR meter,** type CN-101, 1.5kw max. Works also on 2m, \$75.00.
3. **One Palomar SWR meter,** type M-227, max 2kw, \$60.00
4. **One Kiksui oscilloscope w/** probe and service manual, 4 channels and good to 100Mhz, \$200.00

Please contact Knut/N6BNP
310-541-6514 or pvknut@cox.net

Found on-line by Bill Harper:
Army Antenna Courses
<http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS/>

DO YOU KNOW?
WHICH ONE OF OUR MEMBERS HAS FOUR CALL SIGNS?

JH1YZJ (JAPANESE)
VK2BZA (AUSTRALIAN)
ZL1BOE (NEW ZEALAND)
AND, OF COURSE
W6DC

Need a Club Badge?



Contact Karen Freeman, KG6BNN
310-541-6971

Need a Club Patch? \$5
Or How About a Club Jacket?



To order one, check with Joe Locascio.



HAM RADIO YARD SALE

At Skip, KJ6Y,s Place

If you missed the last one, you won't want to miss this one.

Lots more!

Towers and antennas -- Lots of hardware and aluminum,
Cables--Radio Equipment--Rotors--Parts

Saturday June 7, 2008

8:00AM to 3:00PM

22712 Califa St

Woodland Hills, CA 91367

818-887-3569

Directions: From Fallbrook Ave turn east onto Hatteras. Go past the corner house and turn north onto the unmarked road (it looks like an alley) Follow it around to the right to the third house on the right. Look for the towers and antennas. Park down the street.

THE ANNUAL GEOCACHING CONVENTION THIS YEAR WILL BE IN WHEATLAND, NORTH OF SACRAMENTO, MAY 24,25, 2008. THIS IS THE 6TH ANNUAL, KNOWN AS GEOWOODSTOCK VI, AND IS LOCATED ON A FARM. IT WILL BE THE FIRST TIME THIS EVENT WILL BE ON THE WEST COAST. IT IS AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT, WITH 1,251 PEOPLE ALREADY REGISTERED ON THE WEB SITE AND PROBABLY ATTENDING.

STEVE, K6NT HAS BEEN ASKED TO GIVE A TECHNICAL PRESENTATION. THE TOPIC IS "FUN WITH GPS TRACKS" AND WILL SHOW HOW TO PLACE TRACKS ON GOOGLE EARTH, GEO-TAG AND EMBED YOUR DIGITAL PHOTOS, AND CREATE FILES TO SEND TO OTHERS. SEVERAL FREWARE PROGRAMS WILL BE DEMONSTRATED. MAY 24, IN THE MILK BARN, 11:30A TO 12:15P. N 39° 00.108 W 121° 25.909

FOR MORE INFO GO TO: [HTTP://WWW.GEOWOODSTOCKVI.COM/](http://www.geowoodstockvi.com/)

California Rally Series

Love to watch cars being
driven to their limits?

From Paula Gibeault, N6OQQ



Here is a list of the upcoming rallies this year that will require amateur radio support.

The way to sign up for them is either to follow the "volunteer" link on the rally's website, or just go directly to <http://www.rallydata.com> and check the event. Register with your name and create a password. If you have questions, contact me (Paula) at gibeault@earthlink.net.

The rally websites are listed on <http://www.californiarallyseries.com>. Volunteer sign-up usually opens about two months before each rally.

2008 California Rally Series Events

Plan B Rallies, Saturday May 31 - Short course events at a new stage just outside of Ridgecrest. Needs a few more hams.

North Nevada Rally, Saturday June 21 - Headquarters at Circus Circus in Reno, stages two hours northeast between Gerlach and Fernley, Nevada. Beautiful high desert roads with wild mustangs, burros, and antelope. New one day event!

Idaho Rally, Saturday - Sunday, July 12 & 13 - Headquarters in Mountain Home (southwest Idaho). Second year for this event, now on Forest Service roads maintained by the county. A great road trip and scenery, well worth the drive.

Gorman Rally, Saturday August 16 - Traditional fun one-day event at Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area. Headquarters in Frazier Park (near Gorman) off the I-5.

Prescott Rally, Friday - Saturday, October 3 & 4 - The classic two-day big event with spectacular scenery and roads. Headquartered in Prescott, Arizona.

Laughlin Rally - This event is still kind of in limbo, keep checking the California Rally Series website for updates.

Amateur Radio Course

Dates have Changed!

to

June 14th and June 21st

FCC “Technician” course (entrée level)

The course is **2 sessions**

The 2 sessions are on **June 14 & 21**

2:00 PM to 5:30 PM on June 14

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on June 21

The location is Hesse Park

29301 Hawthorne Blvd.

Rancho Palos Verdes

- No pre-registration required -- No fee for either course -

- Taking the FCC Test is \$14 -The FCC test will be June 28

Optional Material

- Study book with FCC test questions, \$15 -

- Copy of my Power Point charts, \$10 -

Students (thru grade 12) who take this course and get their license will be reimbursed up to \$40 by The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

For more information contact

Walt, K1DFO, at walt.ordway@yahoo.com

National Weather Service Los Angeles/Oxnard
Invites You to an

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 31, 2008

9:00am – 3:00pm

Spanish and Chinese Interpreters

520 N Elevar Street
Oxnard CA 93030

www.weather.gov/losangeles

520 N Elevar Street
Oxnard CA 93030

• See a weather radar
 • Discover what a meteorologist does
 • View satellite & radar pictures
 • See weather forecasting demonstrations
 • Learn about weather watches and warnings
 • View a weather balloon
 • Test your knowledge with our Weather Wheel
 • Listen to our radio station
 • And more!!!




ARRL Summary Report May 2008 compiled by Bryant Winchell, W2RGG



AMATEUR RADIO "WELL REPRESENTED" AT NATIONAL HURRICANE CONFERENCE

More than 2000 people attended the 30th Annual National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, Florida March 31-April 4. Conference Chairman Max Mayfield stated in his opening remarks that he was pleased to see such a turnout, despite the fact that the 2007 hurricane season didn't impact the United States as in past years. ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, attended on behalf of the League Ref.: *The ARRL Letter*; Vol. 27, No. 15

FORUM SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED FOR DAYTON HAMVENTION

One of the many highlights at Dayton Hamvention is the myriad of educational and fun forums that take place the entire weekend at Hara Arena. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association has coordinated 46 unique programs that encompass nearly 80 hours of programs and activities for the thousands of people expected to attend these programs. Hamvention, the largest event of its kind, will be May 16-18 at Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio. <<http://www.hamvention.org>>. <http://www.arrl.org/expo> Ref.: *The ARRL Letter*, Vol. 27, No. 15

SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Wild men who caught and sang the Sun in flight" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: We saw a string of zero-sunspot days over the past couple of weeks, but this week saw a brief but significant sunspot that lasted only a couple of days. Sunspot 990 emerged as a tiny speck over April 14-15, but it was definitely a Solar Cycle 24 spot. Ref.: *The ARRL Letter*; Vol. 27, No. 15

NEWSPAPER REPORTS "BPL PLAN IS DEAD IN DALLAS" The Dallas Morning News has reported that "an ambitious plan for using power lines to deliver fast Internet service to 2 million Dallas-area homes collapsed Thursday." Current Group, LLC has announced plans to sell its Dallas BPL network to Oncor, a regulated electric distribution and transmission business, for \$90 million. Oncor reportedly has no plans to offer Internet service but will use the network to detect distribution network issues Ref.: *The ARRL Letter*; Vol. 27, No. 17

EIGHT TORNADOES RAVAGE EASTERN VIRGINIA When tornadoes swept across the state of Virginia on Monday, April 28, local Amateur Radio operators responded to the call for assistance.

<snip>

"The tornado produced severe damage to many structures, downed large trees, and destroyed power lines. Approximately 200 injuries were reported and several homes and businesses were destroyed. There were no fatalities," Murphy said. Upon spotting the tornado, Murphy placed a call on the Portsmouth repeater, asking for someone to notify the National Weather Service and the local EMS. A SKYWARN net was activated on another repeater; Ref.: *The ARRL Letter*; Vol. 27, No. 17

SPRING 2008 W1AW FREQUENCY MEASURING TEST SCHEDULED THIS MONTH

Capitalizing on the popular and effective automated online results reporting system developed by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, for the Frequency Measuring Test (FMT)

<<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/fmt/>> in November 2007, W1AW will conduct a spring FMT. This FMT will begin on Wednesday, May 21 at 9:45 PM (EDT) (that's the same as 0145 UTC on May 22), replacing W1AW's normally scheduled phone bulletin. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, recommends that those planning to participate should listen to W1AW's transmissions prior to the event to determine which band -- or bands -- will be best for measurement purposes. Ref.: *The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 17*



TEN NEW SATELLITES IN ORBIT

Ten satellites reached orbit April 28 aboard an Indian PSLV-C9 rocket launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Center. The primary payloads were India's CARTOSAT-2A and IMS-1 satellites. In addition to the NLS-5 and RUBIN-8 satellites, the rocket carried six CubeSat <<http://www.cubesat.org/>> research satellites, all of which communicate using Amateur Radio frequencies. All spacecraft deployed normally and appear to be functional at this time. Ref.: *The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 17*

NEW NASA TOOL ALLOWS EXPLORATION OF IONOSPHERE FROM INSIDE

Last week at the Space Weather Workshop in Boulder, Colorado, NASA released a 4D live model of the Earth's ionosphere <http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/30apr_4dionosphere.htm?list212589>.

Without leaving home, anyone can fly through the layer of ionized gas that encircles Earth at the edge of space itself. All that is required is an Internet connection and a free copy of Google Earth <<http://earth.google.com/>>. NASA calls the ionosphere the "last wisp of Earth's atmosphere that astronauts leave behind when they enter space. Ref.: *The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 18*

ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST WAS CONDUCTED MAY 10

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard co-sponsored the annual Military/Amateur Radio Crossband Communications Test in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). <snip>

The annual celebration featured traditional military to amateur crossband communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. These tests gave Amateur Radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense and/or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. Ref.: *The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 18*

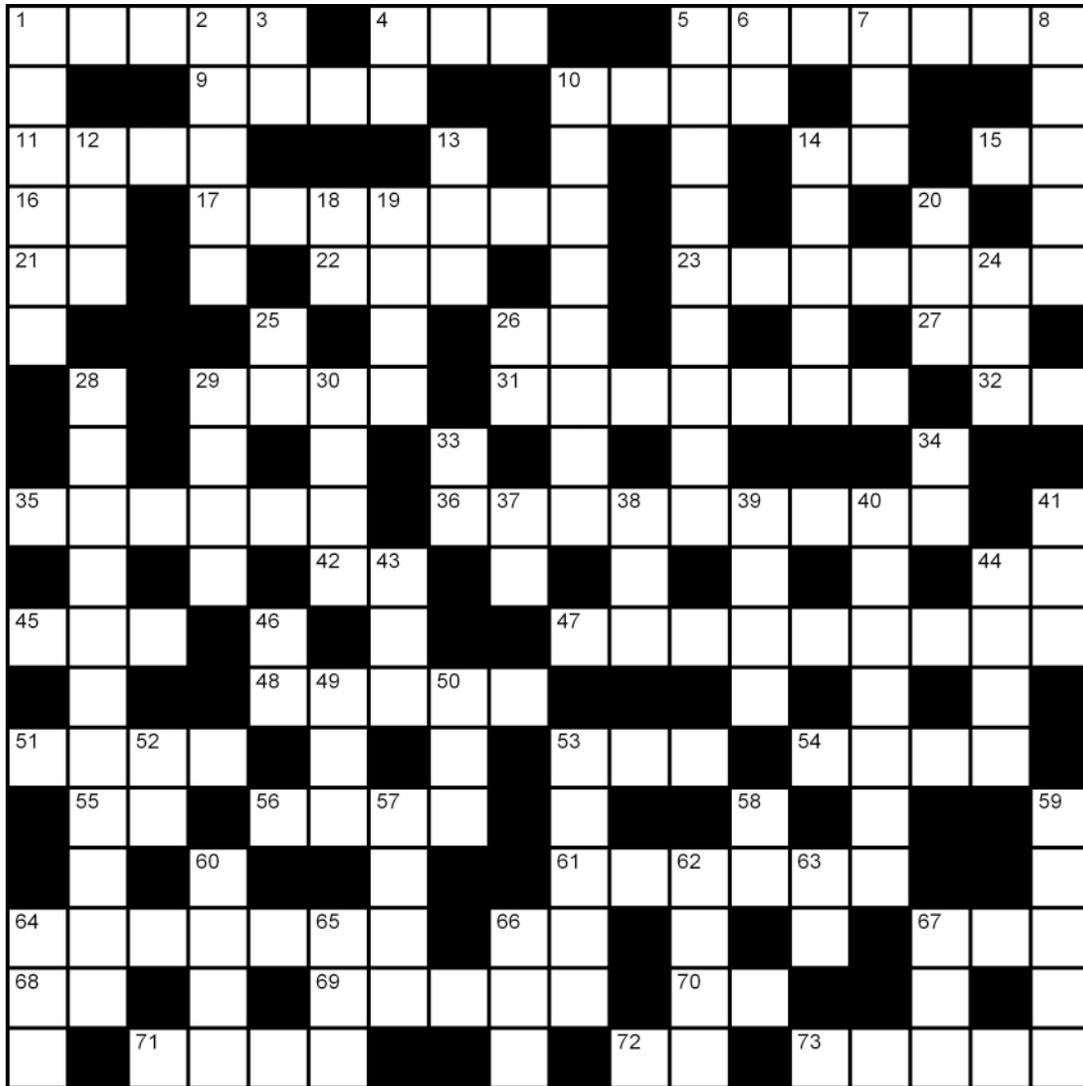
SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Ne'er shall the Sun arise on such another" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Again this week, we saw a new, but brief sunspot, sunspot 993. Judging from the polarity of the spot, it looks to be from new Solar Cycle 24; Ref.: *The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 18*.

The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler By H. Ward Silver, N0AX

This installment of the Crossword Puzzler celebrates the ham's equivalent of the V-8 engine and wide tires--the linear amplifier and its reliable workhorses, vacuum tubes.

In other words: QRO!



Across

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. Not tight | 21. Varying voltage | 36. Safety mechanism |
| 4. Current across a gap | 22. A pair | 42. Distance (abbr.) |
| 5. Removing heat | 23. Electron source | 44. Waveguide (abbr.) |
| 9. Thermal energy | 26. Wattmeter (abbr.) | 45. Full Break-In (signal) |
| 10. Low gain | 27. Titanium (symbol) | 47. Unwanted oscillation |
| 11. One-billionth | 29. Contains a vacuum | 48. Adjust to the same impedance |
| 14. Thousand kilowatts | 31. These raise the temperature | 51. Inductor |
| 15. Power Amp (abbr.) | 32. Output network | 53. Excessive power |
| 16. Az-_- | 35. Legal maximum is a full ... | 54. Cut or trim |
| 17. The means of adjusting | | |

- 55. Radio Frequency (abbr.)
- 56. Old tubes get like this
- 61. What always comes first
- 64. Four element tube
- 66. Stainless Steel (abbr.)
- 67. Unit of conductance
- 68. Boolean complement to AND
- 69. Magnetically-controlled switch
- 70. Where the drive goes
- 71. Trust
- 72. Aluminum (abbr.)
- 73. Most positive electrode

Down

- 1. Replicates accurately
- 2. Electrical jolt
- 3. Engineer (abbr.)
- 4. Antenna Tuner (abbr.)
- 5. Stores electric energy
- 6. Old Timer (abbr.)
- 7. Not high
- 8. Smooth surface on ceramic

- 10. Lights up under power
- 12. Controls amp gain (abbr.)
- 13. High Power (signal)
- 14. Measuring instrument
- 18. Rarest Tenth District state (abbr.)
- 19. Adjust frequency
- 20. High temperature
- 24. Shows plate current resonance
- 25. Voice level units (abbr.)
- 26. Watt-hours (abbr.)
- 28. Changes AC voltages
- 29. Use your voice
- 30. Frequency range
- 33. Prefix for two
- 34. Touch the HV and you'll be one of these (abbr.)
- 37. Normally Open (abbr.)
- 38. Prefix for a billion-billion
- 39. Dummy
- 40. Glass air guide
- 41. Controls gain (abbr.)

- 43. Variable transmit tuning
- 44. First bit of smoke
- 46. Mode with a steady carrier
- 49. At a previous time
- 50. Stop the action!
- 52. Intermediate frequency (abbr.)
- 53. Contaminated vacuum
- 57. The best price
- 58. From (abbr.)
- 59. Keeps RF current out
- 60. Natural antenna support
- 62. To stop working
- 63. Switch between talk and listen (abbr.)
- 64. Not the bottom
- 65. Remove water
- 66. Hang down in the middle
- 67. One thousand kVA (abbr.)

ANSWERS

1	L	O	O	2	S	3	E		4	A	R	C		5	C	6	O	O	7	L	I	N	8	G
	I			9	H	E	A	T					10	F	L	A	T		O					L
11	N	12	A	N	O					13	Q			I		P		14	M	W		15	P	A
16	E	L		17	C	O	N	18	T	R	O	L			A		E		20	H			Z	
21	A	C		K		22	D	U	O		A		23	C	A	T	H	O	24	D	E			
	R			25	V		N		26	W	M		I		E		27	T	I					
	28	T		29	T	U	B	E		31	H	E	A	T	E	R	S		32	P	I			
	R		A		A			33	D		N		O			34	S							
35	G	A	L	L	O	N		36	I	N	T	E	R	L	O	C	K		41	A				
	N		K		42	D	43	X		O		X		O		H		44	W	G				
45	Q	S	K		46	A		I		47	P	A	R	A	S	I	T	I	C					
	F			48	M	A	T	50	C	H				D		M		S						
51	C	O	52	I	L		G		U		53	G	A	S		54	S	N	I	P				
	55	R	F		56	S	O	57	F	T		A			58	D		E				59	C	
	M		60	T				R		61	S	A	62	F	E	63	T	Y					H	
64	T	E	T	R	O	D	E		66	S	S		A		R		67	M	H	O				
68	O	R		E		69	R	E	L	A	Y		70	I	N			V					K	
P		71	R	E	L	Y				G		72	A	L		73	P	L	A	T	E			



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

New Membership Application and Member Renewal Form

New: _____ or Renewal: _____ Membership Date: _____

Individual ____ (\$15/Year) or Household and/or Family Membership ____ (\$17/Year)

(Applying) Member Information: **Member Renewal same as Last Year? YES__NO__**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email address: _____
(Unless otherwise noted emails will be sent to the applying member only)

License Call: _____ License Class: _____ ARRL Member? _____

Member of: DCS/RACES/ARES/PVAN _____ District _____ Unit ID # _____

Additional Household and/or Family Members (if Applicable):

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

	Individual membership (\$15.00)	\$ _____
	Household and/or Family membership (\$17.00)	\$ _____
	Donation to the John Alexander Fund	\$ _____
	Donation to the Repeater Fund	\$ _____
	Donation to PVARC	\$ _____
Cash: _____ or Check: _____	Date _____	TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

Dues are based on the January 1st to December 31st calendar year.