

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



K6PV



PVARC Meets Every third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m,
Hesse Park, Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes

Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ President of

ELECRAFT



Elecraft was founded in 1998 by Wayne Burdick (N6KR) and Eric Swartz (WA6HHQ). They say "We're dedicated to *hands-on* ham radio. We offer unique, high-performance transceivers and accessories that you can easily build yourself."

Build it myself? Why?

Come to the meeting and find out.



Visit Our Web Site

K6PV

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc



The President Pontificates

Joe Pace, NZ6L



As the 77th ARRL field Day approaches this month, I thought it might be interesting to explore some of the history of this event, which is perhaps the largest annual civil emergency preparedness exercise in the country.

“Steeped in tradition and mystery, today’s Field day evolved from humble beginnings in the golden Age of Radio. Anything but stable, Field Day rules and practices have changed radically since the 1930s(1)

The very first ARRL Field Day, from 4pm on Saturday, June 10th until 7pm on Sunday, June 11th, invited all US and Canadian amateurs to get out in the field and enjoy the fine spring weather to test their licensed (2) portable stations and contact as many other amateur stations as possible. There wasn’t a formal contact exchange, and the point system favored working other portable stations (two points), and foreign stations (three points) in this all-band, all-mode (including telegraph) contest. (The contest started on local time rather than a nationally coordinated start time. This practice lasted until 1957(3)

This first experiment turned out to be rather successful with the winning group, W4PAW, having made 62 QSOs and 28 multipliers (ARRL sections/countries) totaling 1876 points, and the next Field Day was in the works with scoring adjusted to emphasize number of stations worked and multipliers shifted from type of station to power output levels and whether power was independent of public mains. Alternative power had seminal origins within Field Day.

1937 brought the first Field Day message for bonus points, which rather than copying the League message as we do today (4) stations were given ten points of credit for sending a message to the League Headquarters reporting their number of operators, location, conditions, and power.

In 1938 the duration of the contest was lengthened to 26 hours, and over the next several years, a site perimeter restriction of 100’ was added, and then expanded to 500’ in 1940, 1000’ in 1950. In further years, the setup and run times were adjusted numerously.

Surprisingly, up until 1940, stations were not allowed to contact each other on multiple bands, and scoring multipliers favored power output levels and whether power was off the public mains. (5)

Following the cessation of amateur radio activity during the war years of 1942 to 1945, Field Day in ’46 started with a new VHF-only category to encourage the participation of VHF based emergency Corps networks, followed by the addition of the 11m band in 1948, and a specific contact exchange of signal report and ARRL section became required in 1949 together with a new class for mobile operation.

The period from 1950 on brought many changes to scoring, operational classes, setup and operating constraints. Some notable milestones were the allowance of contacts through a repeater, if that repeater happened to be the OSCAR 6 amateur radio satellite, the 2X point advantage of CW to offset the surge in popularity of SSB, and the establishment of new bonuses for natural power, publicity, and other efforts to increase public awareness of amateur radio’s use in support of civil emergencies.



ARRL FIELD DAY 2009 June 27-29

In the end, Field Day is what we all make of it,

and what we want to glean from it as a fun and challenging experience. I wonder what it will be like in another 77 years.

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- (1) Rol Anders, K3RA. *FIELD DAY: A Mirror of Amateur Radio History*. QST December 1999, p 28--
[this article draws completely from Rol ander's publication]
- (2) In this day, portable stations had to be separately licensed, and had an extended call-sign. Prior to 1933 a "ZZ" suffix was added, e.g., K6ZZPV, and in 1933 this changed in favor of something even longer, e.g., K6PV===6 (three breaks).
- (3) Except in 1941, where a typo inadvertently started everyone at 4 p.m. Eastern time.
- (4) The 100-bonus point ARRL WIAW message that we know today started in 1980.
- (5) The 3X multiplier for having both transmitter and receiver off the mains lasted until 1971 (37 years)
-



de the VP

Knut J. Myhre, N6BNP

As we all know great and important developments have taken place over the last years in electronics and with that naturally in ham radio electronics as well.

Our radios, both on the receive and the transmit side have improved quite a bit. Even these days when we are in the doldrums of the sunspot activity we can from time to time catch openings on the HF bands and manage decent DX QSOs. For a DXer this makes the hunt "interesting" and exciting using ones skills when on the air operating.

Of course, it has always been like that in our hobby and by using the latest technically-advanced developments to catch the weak ones during noisy conditions increases the satisfaction level and excitement.

At the upcoming meeting on June 17 we will be presenting a speaker that has been in the forefront of developing radios and accessories for

radio amateur use. He is WA6HHQ, Eric Swartz, the president of Elecraft Inc. The main topic for his presentation is the flagship radio from the company, the K3!

This is a very unique and interesting radio in many respects and can even be obtained from the company as a kit if one likes to put it together oneself. I am sure we will learn much from Eric about this pioneering company and their products, particularly the K3, and we will have ample time to ask questions.

There are of course several companies today that very much are up to date with good and important developments. The Flex Radio Co. is one that has developed very, very good and interesting products for amateur radio, and perhaps later on we will have a presentation at a Club meeting.

See you all at the meeting on June 17.

Knut / N6BNP



Treasurer's Report

Bill Harper

June 2009

PVARC Balance	\$2,443.33
John Alexander Fund:	\$1,033.00
Repeater Fund:	<u>\$1,080.66</u>
Total Bank Balance	<u>\$4,556.99</u>

Membership 2009	124
ARRL Members	71



Need a Club Badge?

Karen Freeman, KG6BNN
310-541-6971



Need a Club Patch? Or a Club Jacket?

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
310-373-3816

Where am I and why am I in this hand basket?

Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

Happy June Birthday !!

Martin Lindquist, KG6FOQ
Rick Carl, KF6ZRF
Don Huseman, KD6UMC

Be sure to let Bill Harper know your birthday month so we can all wish you a merry one.

Board of Directors

President	Joe Pace, NZ6L
Vice President	Knut Myhre, N6BNP
Treasurer	Bill Harper, WA6ESC
Secretary	Bill Leighton, KG6WVF
Past President	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Director (1)	Mel Hughes, K6SY
Director (2)	Jeff Wolf, K6JW

Appointed Offices

QRO Editor	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Asst to Editor	Paige Omoto, KI6MAH
Web Page Editor	John Freeman, WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liason	Jeff Wolf, K6JW /Alan Soderberg W8CU
LAACARC Rep	Joe Locascio, K5KT

Contacts

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

"It wasn't my fault. My cousins have been marrying each other for generations." (Betty White as Rose on Golden Girls.)



Looking for an on-line practice exam for your next upgrade?

Check the PVARC website for all your options at:
<http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/VETesting.htm>

Welcome 2009 Members!

Helen Dyer, KI6VSB
 Robert Sylvest, AB6SY
 Steven Collins, KI6TEQ
 Don Huseman, KD6UMC
 Richard Archey, KI4CQE
 Wilma Archey
 Patrick Hutchings, KI6VSC
 Donald Leeds, KI6VRZ
 Brian Tilley, KA6UHM
 Mike Semos, N6DBS
 (long-time member, newly renewed.)
 Thomas Carlson, KI6VRX
 Eric Mockler, KI6HQX
 Charles McCown, K6CTM
 Michelle Pace
 Candy Fletcher
 Lovell Chase, KI6YZS



The difference between a pigeon and a London investment banker? The pigeon can still make a deposit on a BMW.

Every time I close the door on reality, it comes in through the windows.

Henry Ford once answered why he did not do public research to determine exactly what people wanted instead of just boldly producing millions of the same-old black Model T. His answer was because if he had asked everyone, their response would have been that they wanted a faster horse.

"If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough."
 Albert Einstein

A poor memory is not the same as a clear conscience.



Rolling Hills Estates 10K/5K

This year's annual RHE 10K/5K event has been moved to Saturday, 8 August. The event starts and finishes at Ernie Howlett Park, just off of Hawthorne Blvd.

This 10K/5K event is a bit different from other 10K/5K events. This one is run mostly on the horse trails in the City of Rolling Hills Estates, and also goes through the Botanical Gardens.

The race will start at approximately 8:30 a.m. and will be completely finished by around 10:00 a.m. If you'd like to help with the radio communications for this event, please contact Walt, K1DFO, at walt.ordway@juno.com.



Field Day Signup Sheet

PEOPLE

Your Name Here

Field Day Chairperson(s) - Person(s) responsible for coordinating the event as a whole. (Grab a friend and offer to co-chair the event)

HF-SSB Station Chief - Manages the HF-SSB station (equipment, setup, operator schedule, teardown)

Chuck McGowan, K6CTM

HF-CW Station Chief - Manages the HF-CW station (equipment, setup, operator schedule, teardown)

Rocco Lardiere, N6KN

HF-GOTA Station Chief - Manages the HF-GOTA station (equipment, setup, operator schedule, teardown)

Safety Officer - Insures site safety (safety of erection and operation of antennas, generators, safe fueling, tripping hazards, etc)-- probably two or three people in shifts.

Mel Hughes, K6SY

Publicity - Person who communicates with the media for the event and manages the information table during the event and other publicity items.

Ginger Clark, KG6TAU

ARRL FD Bulletin Copier - A person who can copy the ARRL CW transmission to provide bonus points for the club.

Jeff Wolf, K6JW

Computer/Logging Chief - Provides and manages the computer logging equipment, handles the collection and input of paper logs.

Jeff Wolf, K6JW

ARRL Submission - Completes all paperwork for submission to ARRL of the computerized logs.

Jeff Wolf, K6JW

Site keys/sprinkler control - Arranges for sprinklers to be off in operating areas -- also coordinates with the High School for access/keys, etc.Needs to be done before the weekend (Last year we got wet!)

Dan Colburn, W6DC

Operators and loggers for HF-SSB; HF-CW; HF-and GOTA;

Mel Hughes, K6SY

Overnight operators (in shifts from dark to dawn--need people there to guard the equipment overnight)

Sign up with Chuck McGowan and Rocco Lardiere.

Setup begins at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Tear-down begins promptly at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

ARRL Report June, 2009

Bryant Winchell, W2RGG

[Note: To read the entire article referenced below go to <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> and click on the appropriate Volume and Number.]



ARRL SEEKS MEMBER SUPPORT FOR HR 2160

To support HR 2160 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- the ARRL is asking its membership to contact their members of the US House of Representatives with a request to become co-sponsors of this significant piece of legislation *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 19.*

"THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag: Question -- Mario Bedard, VE2FZH, of St-Andre de Kamouraska, Quebec, Canada, asks: Is an antenna tuner of any use in a receiving system with a long wire or dipole antenna? If not, should I disable it while strictly receiving? *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 20*

FCC'S BILL CROSS: "BEHAVE YOURSELVES!" Bill Cross, W3TN, a staff member in the FCC's Mobility Division, and Laura Smith, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Enforcement, spoke at the FCC Forum on Saturday, May 16 at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention. Cross opened by explaining just where Amateur Radio falls in the FCC's bureaucracy: "In the Mobility Division [part of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau], we handle the day-to-day administration of the Amateur Service and some of the rulemaking activities that affect Amateur Radio. The Division also has staff members in our Gettysburg, Pennsylvania office. Our Gettysburg staff handles most of your applications and the licensing matters and deals with the Universal Licensing System, or ULS".

AMATEUR RADIO AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A topic that keeps popping up, Cross said, is business use of Amateur Radio, specifically transmitting messages on behalf of an employer. "Section 97.113 answers this question straight on: 'No amateur station shall transmit communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules.' There are two exceptions. There are exceptions for teachers who are using Amateur Radio as the control operator of a station in an educational institution as part of a classroom thing and control operators of club stations in certain cases. A station is also not allowed to transmit communication in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. There is an exception to that rule that allows you to transmit communications that are commonly referred to as "swap nets," but eBay seems to have reduced the need for these nets. And you're not allowed to transmit communications on a regular basis which could reasonably be furnished through other radio services."

The last topic Cross addressed concerned public service communications. "There's no rule about public service communications as such in Part 97, because most of the messages you transmit that you think of as public service communications are allowed by Section 97.111. Paragraph (a) authorizes an amateur station to transmit two-way communications including, among other things, exchanging messages with other stations in the Amateur Service and communications necessary to meet essential communications needs and to facilitate relief actions." Cross noted that most of these transmissions -- the essential communications needs and facilitating relief actions -- are two-way exchanges with messages with other amateur stations. "The rule also authorizes you to transmit one-way communications, such as



transmissions necessary to make adjustments to the station -- these are your tests, your tones, tossing the carrier to see what the SWR is, that sort of thing -- and brief transmissions necessary to establish two-way communications with other stations."

Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 21

ARRL FIELD DAY TIPS AND TECHNIQUES THAT EVERYONE CAN USE

Many amateurs treat ARRL Field Day (June 27-28) as a contest, even though it isn't one. But if your idea of Field Day fun is to go for the highest score possible, ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, offered the following suggestions at the ARRL Field Day Forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention.

- 1) You will get many more stations in your log by calling CQ than by tuning the dial and answering CQs; however, if you're calling CQ and not getting any replies, keep calling. Most major contesters call CQ for several minutes at a time before giving up. Giving up after three or four CQs is giving up too soon.
- 2) Keep your CQs short and to the point: "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, Field Day." Wait about 5 seconds between CQs -- this gives stations enough time to answer you.
- 3) Use standard phonetics. "Cute" phonetics don't always get through and they can confuse operators.
- 4) When working a station, you should give your exchange information only once and keep it simple. "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy three Foxtrot Connecticut, QSL?" If they didn't get all of the exchange, they will ask for a repeat.
- 5) If you are running a pileup: Once you have pulled a call out of the pileup, give your exchange information first. Here's an example: "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy 3F Connecticut, QSL?" Don't ask for the calling station's information first -- this will reduce any sense of rhythm and timing in the pileup.
- 6) If you get a pileup of stations and can't make out an entire call, listen for one letter and ask for it specifically: "The station with Delta only, go ahead."
- 7) When you get the other station's information, keep your acknowledgment simple. "QSL, thanks, QRZ Field Day from Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey."
- 8) Find a comfortable pace for you and maintain that pace. You will tire quickly if you are screaming into the microphone or trying to work stations too quickly. This leads to inefficiency.
- 9) Use a headset with a boom microphone and a foot switch -- this frees up your hands to log QSOs. Writing or typing with a mike in your hand slows you down.
- 10) Go for as many bonus points as you possibly can. Numerous opportunities exist, from copying the Field Day message to sending traffic to using natural power for QSOs.

These tips should help maximize your score on Field Day. Remember: No matter how you choose to enjoy Field Day, maximize your fun, however you define it. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 21*

THE ARRL TRIPLE PLAY AWARD: A WORLDWIDE EVENT!

The ARRL Triple Play Award (TPA) -- introduced January 1, 2009 is available to all amateurs worldwide who confirm QSOs with each of the 50 states on voice, CW and digital modes via Logbook of the World (LoTW). Not even six months since its inception, the Triple Play Award has been awarded to 269 hams around the world.

The first recipient was Dave Strout, W2YC, of Williamstown, New Jersey. Strout achieved this milestone on January 15. The very next day, Jeff Wheeler, W7JW, of Plymouth, Michigan, received TPA #2. But the TPA is not limited to US hams. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 21*

CHANGES TO ARRL VHF/UHF CONTEST RULES NOW IN PLACE

The League's Programs and Services Committee has approved recommendations made by the ARRL's VHF-UHF Advisory Committee (VUAC) to change two rules in the ARRL's VHF/UHF contest program. These changes are in effect immediately, and include the 2009 June VHF QSO Party, scheduled for June 13-15. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 22*

PRESIDENT OBAMA TO RENOMINATE FCC COMMISSIONER ROBERT MCDOWELL FOR NEW TERM

On Tuesday, June 2, President Barack Obama announced that he will renominate current FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell for another term. McDowell, a Republican, was first nominated by President George W. Bush and sworn into office in June 2006, filling the unexpired term of Republican Kathleen Q. Abernathy. McDowell, whose present term expires June 30, 2009, would need to be confirmed by the Senate. Commissioners' terms are five years long. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 22*

NASA, NOAA RELEASES NEW PREDICTIONS FOR SOLAR CYCLE 24

An international panel of experts -- led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and sponsored by NASA -- has released a new prediction for the next solar cycle: Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with a below-average number of sunspots. "If our prediction is correct, Solar Cycle 24 will have a peak sunspot number of 90, the lowest of any cycle since 1928 when Solar Cycle 16 peaked at 78," said panel chairman Doug Biesecker of NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center. This report clarifies a NOAA report from May 2009 that stated that Solar Cycle 24 would bring "90 sunspots per day on average" *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 22*

SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "In the Sun he sang with cheerful heart" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: It is so great to see some real Solar Cycle 24 sunspot activity this week. Instead of a phantom that pops into view one day and is gone the next, we have sunspot 1019, which has persisted for five days so far. Emerging on Sunday, May 31, the resulting daily sunspot numbers through June 4 are 15, 23, 19, 17 and 17. This is a Solar Cycle 24 spot, and at high latitude too -- an indication of a new cycle spot. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 22*

MORE 2009 FIELD DAY T-SHIRTS ON THE WAY The 2009 ARRL Field Day T-shirts are a huge hit topping demand from previous years. "While the current supply of Field Day shirts has stocked out, we expect to be re-supplied before the end of next week -- in time to fulfill all orders to clubs and individuals," *Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 22*



End of ARRL June Report! See you in July.





Amateur Radio Course FCC "**Technician**" course (entrée level)

This is a Two-Session course

August 15 and 22 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (both Saturdays)

Plus:

The FCC test on Aug 29 from 1:30 to 3:30 PM

Cost \$14

All sessions and the FCC test are at:

Hesse Park

29301 Hawthorne Blvd.

Rancho Palos Verdes

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

Optional Material

- Study book with FCC test questions, \$20 -
- Copy of my Power Point charts, \$10 -

Students thru grade 12 who take the course and get their Technician license will be reimbursed up to \$50 by:

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

For more information contact

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





K6PV

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

New Membership Application and Member Renewal Form

New: _____ or Renewal: _____ Membership Date: _____

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

(Applying) New Member Information: or **Member Renewal: same as Last Year? YES___NO___**

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 Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Member of: (DCS, RACES, ARES, PVAN, NART) _____ District _____ Unit ID # _____

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

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL _____ Birth Date: _____
(Only: Month - Day)

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 (PVARC)

NOTE: Dues are based on January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year