



Community Services

One of the PVARC's principal thrusts is providing community service and fostering emergency communication using amateur radio technology.

Emergency Service: Approximately half our members are active either with,

- Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Disaster Communications Service (DCS) units at the Lomita and South Los Angeles Sheriff Stations;
- Peninsula Volunteer Alert Network (PVAN), the emergency communications service for the city of Rancho Palos Verdes, to whom our K6PV repeater and trailer with 40' antenna tower are available;
- Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART), the emergency communications service for the city of Palos Verdes Estates;
- Torrance Amateur Radio Association (TARA), the amateur radio emergency service for the city of Torrance.

In 1996 the PVARC initiated a project to provide emergency communications for all Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District sites and any interested private schools on the Peninsula. This effort involved installing equipment at every location, training staff members to obtain amateur radio licenses, ongoing administration, and maintenance activities. Today 19 public and four private school sites participate in this project which the Lomita Sheriff Station DCS unit now oversees.

Ham Radio Instruction and Licensing: The PVARC provides free classes three-times each year for rapidly obtaining Technician or General ham licenses. Classes are not limited to local residents--we have attendees from all areas of Los Angeles County.

PVARC instructors and examiners have also licensed over 30 staff members at two South Bay hospitals and 35 staff members at three Palos Verdes Library branches to be capable of using amateur radio "When all else fails."

Public Service: The PVARC has a long history providing no-cost communication at many wide-area charitable events. We have handled course-wide communication annually for the Palos Verdes Half-Marathon (previously the Palos Verdes Marathon) since the late 1970's; the Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive 10K/5K"; the Ridgecrest Intermediate School 5K; and "Conquer the Bridge" 5.7 mile run/walk across Los Angeles Harbor's Vincent Thomas Bridge. We also provided radio communication at numerous former events such as the 62-mile RAT Beach Bike Tour through 11 South Bay cities; Community Helpline Bike Tour; and Habitat For Humanity's Palos Verdes Ride for Habitat bike tour.

Interested in learning more about amateur radio for emergency communication and public service? We have many members glad to share their knowledge or welcome you to emergency communication organizations.