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All QRO monthly issues since 2007 are on the PVARC website at www.k6pv.org under the "Newsletter" tab.

Additional club news appears in the PVARC Weekly Bulletin sent by email to members.

Ham Radio Go-Kits

Dennis Kidder, W6DQ

Thursday, October 6, 2022

PVARC monthly meeting at Hesse Park and virtually via Webex

Hesse Park McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

6:45 pm: Hesse Park room opens
7:10 pm: Webex online room opens
7:30-9:15 pm: Meeting

Guests welcome. Email ai6df@arrl.net for the Webex meeting link.

Also this month:

PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meeting
Saturday, October 8, 10:00 am-Noon at
Palos Verdes Library Purcell Room

PVARC EmComm Interest Group meeting Saturday, October 15,
10:00-11:00 am via Webex

About PVARC's October 6th monthly meeting...

PVARC's October 6 monthly meeting features Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, speaking from Inyokern about ham radio go-kits. His talk, "What's in YOUR Go-Kit?" has been given to other radio clubs and hopes to get you thinking about what's right for your radio operations.

Never heard of a go-kit? It's all your appropriate radio equipment "assembled"/organized for rapid deployment when needed. There's no single solution leading to the ideal go-kit...it depends on you, your equipment, communication purposes, and where you might use it all. You can build a go-kit into many types of durable enclosures.

An online search quickly shows go-kits ranging from simple to complex...the choices are yours. But get inspired and organized at our October 6th monthly meeting. ■



ABOVE: A simple go-kit made from plywood.
PHOTO CREDIT: SImone, IW5EDI; iw5edl.com



RIGHT: Our fellow member Jerry, NG6R, built this complex all-bands go-kit into an 19"-wide rack mount case.

PHOTO CREDIT: Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Continuing: PVARC member random accomplishments...in 35 words (more) or less

Over 3,000 runners/walkers participated in "Conquer the Bridge" at Los Angeles Harbor on Labor Day and PVARC was there providing radio communication using the Battleship Iowa's 2-meter amateur repeater.

PVARC operators serving at this year's run/walk were Walt K1DFO (Net Control), Mike KK6KCH, Ralph AI6GP, Matthew N6MDC, Bob AC6RM, Don NA6Z, and Steve KI6TEQ. Glen KJ6ATN, Cynthia AG6NW, and Thomas KN6IPZ also supported the radio operations.



ABOVE: How the Vincent Thomas Bridge appears when ham operators arrive for "Conquer the Bridge" service at 5:00 am. **PHOTO CREDIT:** By Joe - originally posted to Flickr as *starry starry night*, CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4056416>

Walt K1DFO's October 1st license class started with Jeff, K6JW, giving PVARC's Amateur Radio Overview presentation—marking 10 years since Jeff created this in 2012 and it has been shown to all PVARC classes since.

Our fellow member Ed Jenkins, K6EXY, and two other hams were credited with assisting via radio a disabled sailboat off the Northern California coast to safely reach San Francisco Bay. See the ARRL article at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-helps-disabled-sailboat-to-port>

Is there a random accomplishment in your amateur radio life? If so, let us know. (Note: Your **QRO** Editor might find some independently.)

Public service is key for amateur radio...today, and for tomorrow

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

QRO Editort

We hope you learned more about the South Bay's government-affiliated disaster amateur radio groups at our September 1 monthly meeting. Communicating effectively during sudden disasters involves more than pushing the PTT button...it's also about training for communication efficiency, preparedness, and not becoming overwhelmed by the incident.

All these disaster radio organizations need additional ham members to replace those who moved or became Silent Keys. The PVARC has sponsored and promoted amateur radio public service since our club's 1975 founding; we've also played a key role in starting several such radio groups and exhibiting at disaster preparedness expos.

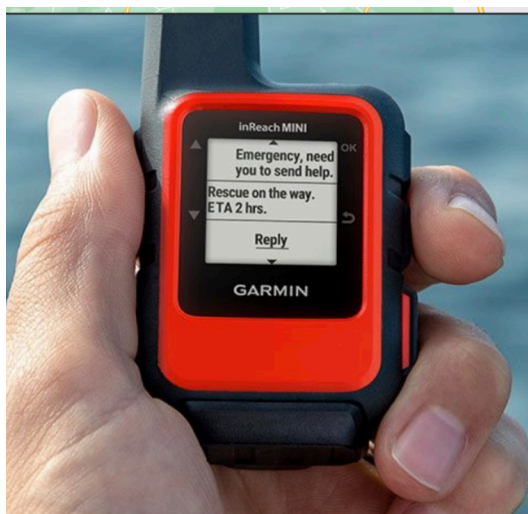
Please get involved with disaster amateur radio groups serving your area...here's where:

- City of Los Angeles Fire Department Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS), South Bureau for San Pedro/Harbor areas: <http://lafdacs.org/>
- City of Manhattan Beach–Manhattan Beach CERT Assn.: <https://www.mbcerta.org/>
- City of Palos Verdes Estates–Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART): <https://www.pvenart.com/>
- City of Rancho Palos Verdes–Peninsula Volunteer Alert Network (PVAN): <http://n6rpv.net/pvan/>
- City of Torrance–Torrance Amateur Radio Association (TARA): <http://w6tpd.org/>
- Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service (DCS), overseen by Sheriff's Department, members may live/work in any LA County city: unit at Lomita Sheriff Station, www.qsl.net/lmtdcs; Countywide site: www.lacdcs.org.

PVARC members are also encouraged to operate at public service events such as running races. ■



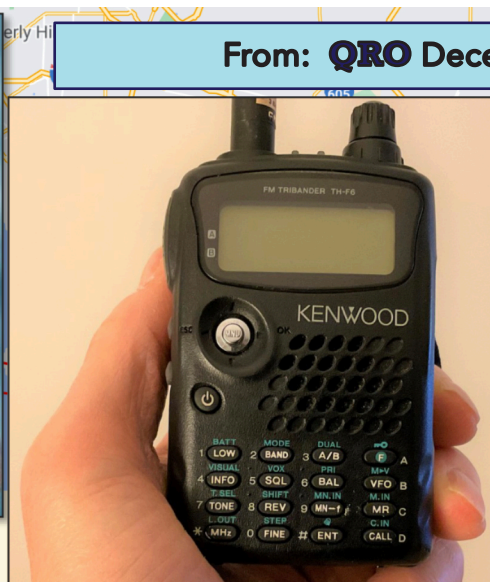
Above: On September 17, 2022, hams with L.A. County DCS operated with City of L.A. ACS, Culver City ARES, and ARES LAX-Northwest, -High Desert, and -South District hams for a joint interoperability exercise on San Vicente Mountain. PHOTO: AI6DF



Garmin inReach Mini (larger models also available.)

Pros: Uses low-Earth orbit Iridium satellites to send your exact GPS coordinates and 160-character short text messages. Very precise, efficient. Emergency Alert center staffed 24/7—just push the trigger to send interactive text SOS.

Cons: The costs—\$300-\$350 for this device, \$15-\$35 monthly for service subscription (plus local taxes and federal fees); additional charges for excess messages. Need clear view of skies; satellites continually in motion, might need to wait briefly for next to pass overhead.



Pros: If a ham, you likely have an HT and the service is free. Can store and try using many repeater frequencies to cover different areas. Maximum 5 watts TX power, can attach a gain antenna too. Ham 144-450 MHz frequencies propagate farther than the cellular 700/800/900/1700/1800/1900/2100/28000/39000 MHz frequencies. Also, some hams do routinely monitor the 146.520 MHz national calling frequency.

Cons: Ham radio is voluntary service, no one monitoring all ham repeaters 24/7. Terrain can block nearby repeaters. May need to get your GPS coordinates using another device.



Pros: You almost certainly have one. 911 calls monitored 24/7 if reachable.

Cons: Poor cell coverage in local mountains; low transmit power (max. 2-3 watts).

Oct. 2022 update: Getting emergency assistance in remote areas is getting easier with smartphone satellite connectivity

Your new smartphone soon might be your closest friend—wherever you are.

Ten months ago the **QRO** December 2021 article “Stranded in SoCal mountains? Your ham radio might work (or, not)” compared Garmin subscription GPS message devices using Iridium satellites, ham radio, and cellphones for remote-area wireless communications (article excerpt, above.) Now a new breed of cellphones promises to connect with Low-Earth-Orbit satellites for SOS situations having no terrestrial cell service. But it’s still worthwhile having your ham radio if all else fails.

Haven’t been following all the hype? In late August 2022 T-Mobile and the SpaceX Starlink LEO satellite constellation announced a proposed network enabling T-Mobile smartphone connectivity from anywhere in the U.S., including dead zones. According to T-Mobile “the vast majority of smartphones” already connected to its network will work with the Starlink satellites. It’s expected to start in late 2023 from selected areas and likely for text messaging initially.

Last month Apple introduced iPhone 14 models that can connect to Globalstar LEO satellites for emergency text messages starting November 2022 (free for two years.) Not to be left out, Google’s upcoming Android 14 update reportedly brings satellite connectivity to Android phones too. The message: Upgrading your friendly phone is more valuable than ever. ■— *Diana Feinberg, AI6DF*

When the alphabet soup begins to thicken...

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

QRO Editor

It's safe to say wherever technologies go, measuring their performance isn't far behind.

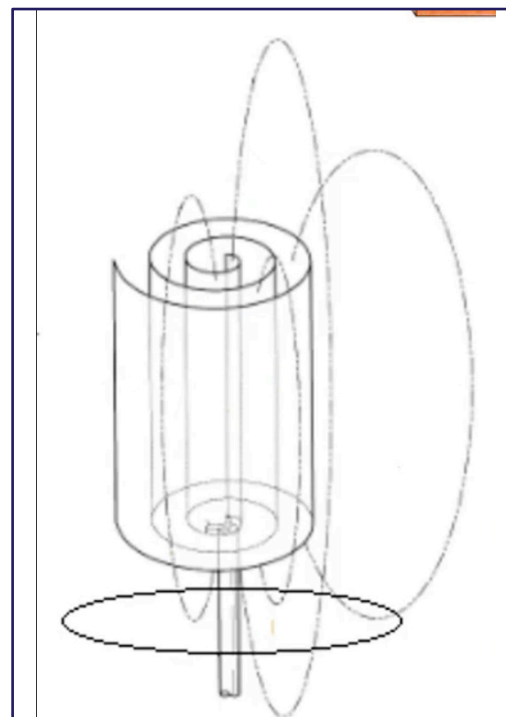
Some measurements become so ingrained that new ones confuse our mindset. For example, motor vehicles are having long-understood Miles Per Gallon (MPG) measurements with the caveat "your mileage may vary" migrate to Miles Per Charge (MPC) and new caveats.

In amateur radio, our alphabet soup of technical abbreviations and acronyms took an unusual turn in an August 2022 **QST** Magazine article reviewing the nine-inch long, 1.5" diameter COMPACtenna 2M/440+ mobile antenna (photo, right). What caught the attention of some hams was this antenna's published gain measurement: 5+ dB-MEG, without further explanation.

Wait a minute...didn't we customarily measure ham antenna gain in either dBi (decibels relative to a theoretical isotropic antenna) or dBd (decibels relative to a dipole)?

After some investigating the abbreviation MEG for antennas stands for "Mean Equivalent Gain." It originated in 1990 for cellphone antennas in urban street canyons and other environments with multi-path signals resulting in flutter. Only a few technical papers on MEG publicly exist and your **QRO** Editor could not find the formula to calculate MEG (still looking, however.)

As for the COMPACtenna its maker claims this antenna's radiating pattern is elliptical for longer line-of-sight range, with less flutter than the usual FM vertical polarization pattern. The antenna's construction is also quite different—it's reportedly made of "extended flat monofilar spiral Tesla-like coils." With all this perhaps it merits a different antenna gain measurement...so might the next antenna innovation. Our alphabet soup awaits. ■



Top: COMPACtenna 2M/440+ reviewed in QST Magazine, August 2022, page 49.

Bottom: Diagram of antenna concept in YouTube presentation by inventor Dr. Jack Nilsson, N8NDL, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AMmyh4VKQQ>

PVARC upcoming events in 2022

- **PVARC hybrid monthly meetings online via Webex and in-person (*no Hesse Park in-person option in November*)**

1st Thursday each month, 7:30-9:15 pm, except in December

- **PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meetings via Webex and/or in-person at Palos Verdes Library main branch:**

2nd Saturday each month, 10:00 am-Noon

- **PVARC EmComm Interest Group online meetings via Webex**

3rd Saturday each month, 10:00-11:00 am or 11:00-Noon (time depends on other radio events that day)

- **Walt Ordway K1DFO Technician and General amateur radio license classes at Hesse Park**

October 1 and 8, 2022 in Fireside Room

(Next classes expected on February 4 and 11, 2023)

Volunteer Examiner license test session at Hesse Park, October 15 (Fireside Room) 10:00 am.

- **PVARC 2022 Holiday After-Dinner, Dec. 8, virtually from everyone's home.**

Non-PVARC Events of Note:

- **W6TRW Swap Meet**, last Saturday each month. 7:00-11:30 am. Northrop Grumman parking lots, Aviation Blvd./Marine Ave., North Redondo Beach. VE license testing in Building S-2 at 10:00 am.
- **PACIFICON 2022 / ARRL Pacific Division Convention**, San Ramon, CA, Oct. 14-16. <https://www.pacificon.org>
- **Great California ShakeOut** earthquake exercise, Oct. 20 at 10:20 am. ■

Become an ARRL member: support amateur radio while increasing your learning

Consider joining the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) if not already a member. The ARRL is the only national organization representing amateur radio and has another significance for the PVARC: We receive benefits from being an ARRL-affiliated club, which requires at least 51% of club members be ARRL members.

Annual ARRL membership costs \$49 and includes your choice of the printed monthly **QST** magazine or the ARRL's new On The Air magazine for newer hams. Both are available electronically to all ARRL members plus free online access to ARRL's two other publications, **QEX** and **National Contest Journal**.

Additionally all ARRL members can access numerous web-based materials, ARRL staff, and assistance with ham radio issues. Visit: www.arrl.org/. ■

Need a PVARC badge?

If you wish to order a new or replacement engraved PVARC badge please contact Gary Lopes at wa6mem@cox.net and he will make arrangements for your payment and sending your new badge. Badges cost \$13. ■

Embroidered PVARC patches still available

PVARC club patches are still available by special arrangement for \$4 each. They may be sewn onto any cap, jacket, shirt, or bag.

During our period of virtual meetings if you would like a patch contact Diana, AI6DF, ai6df@arrl.net and we'll find a way to get your patch to you. ■



About Us...

Welcome to the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, K6PV.

Founded in 1975, today our 150+ members hail from every city in Los Angeles County's South Bay region...and beyond.

Our club fosters diverse ham radio interests including public service, DXing, contesting, digital modes, and electronic experimentation.

We also teach license classes several times annually and gladly assist newer hams in understanding amateur radio technology or procedures.

Many PVARC members serve in the government-affiliated disaster amateur radio groups for the South Bay's cities and Los Angeles County. We also provide public service communication at no charge to sponsors of community and running events.

No matter where you are along your ham radio journey you are welcome as a PVARC member. ■

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 | (Open) |
| Secretary | Ron Wagner, AC6RW |
| Directors | Clay Davis, AB9A |
| | Gary Lopes, WA6MEM |
| Past Vice President | Bob Sylvest, AB6SY |

Appointed Offices:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| QRO Editor | Diana Feinberg, AI6DF |
| K6PV QSL Manager | Jeff Wolf, K6JW |
| K6PV Trustee | Mel Hughes, K6SY |
| LAACARC Delegate | Jeff Wolf, K6JW |
| VE Coordinator | Dave Scholler, KG6BPH |
| VE ARRL Liaison | Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD |
| Net Control Operators: | Laura Remington, KA6LJR; |
| | Ron Wagner, AC6RW; Dale Hanks, N6NNW; Bob |
| | Sylvest, AB6SY; Malin Dollinger, KO6MD; Dave Turner, |
| | KM6LGX; Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD; Gary Lopes, WA6MEM; |
| | Clay Davis, AB9A; Rick Heaston, KG6RH; Jeff |
| | Remington, KA6JMR; Marlee Remington, KA6MJR; |
| | Derek Okada, K6DMO |

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

Repeaters (Open, though often listed as "Closed"):

PVARC: K6PV, 447.120 MHz
 Analog FM: (-), PL 100.0, CTCSS
 Digital DMR: 447.120 MHz (RX); 442.120 MHz (TX)
 Talkgroup 31060, Color Code 1, Time Slot 2
"PV-West": W6MTA, 449.980 MHz (-), PL 173.8, CTCSS

Club badges: Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, wa6mem@cox.net

Club jackets or patches: Dave Scholler, KG6BPH,
 310-373-8166

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Front page photo — Pt. Vicente Lighthouse on afternoon of September 27, 2019. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

-PVARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2022-

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-----------|---|--|---|---------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 PVARC ham license classes at Hesse Park |
| 2 | 3 | 4 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm | 5 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm | 6 PVARC's Monthly Meeting at Hesse Park and via Webex: Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, 7:30 pm | 7 | 8 PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group, 10:00 am. PV Library; Ham classes at Hesse Park, continued |
| 9 | 10 | 11 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm | 12 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm | 13 | 14 | 15 PVARC EmComm Interest Group, 10:00 am Webex; VE test session at Hesse Park 10:00 am |
| 16 | 17 | 18 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm | 19 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm | 20 2022 Great California ShakeOut, 10:20 am | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm | 26 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm | 27 | 28 | 29 W6TRW Swap Meet, Northrop Grumman, N. Redondo Beach 7:00-11:30 am |
| 30 8 th Annual Peninsula Preparedness Expo, 10:00am-1:00pm, PV Peninsula High School | 31 | Nov. 1 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm | Nov. 2 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm | Nov. 3 PVARC Monthly Meeting via Webex (Hesse Park not available) | Nov. 4 | Nov. 5 |

Postal mail form below; email version: http://www.n6rpv.net/n6rpvpage/pvarc/membership_form.pdf



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2316

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

<http://www.k6pv.org>

MEMBERSHIP FORM

New

Renew

Date _____

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Email address _____

(Unless otherwise noted, emails will be sent to the applying member only)

License Call _____

Class _____

ARRL Member? _____

Other amateur radio groups you belong to _____

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

Last _____ First _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL? _____

Last _____ First _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL? _____

Last _____ First _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL? _____

Membership (\$20 Individual, \$25 Family) \$ _____

(Optional) donation to support PVARC activities \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Paypal to recipient
PVARC90274@gmail.com
Go to www.paypal.com

Cash

Check made payable to
Palos Verdes Amateur Radio
Club

Check # _____

Please email completed form to PVARC.Membership@gmail.com or print and mail to the address at top. Dues based on January 1st to December 31st year.
By submitting this application/renewal you agree to the Club's constitution and by-laws, available on-line at: <http://www.n6rpv.net/n6rpvpage/pvarc/constitution.pdf>.

Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

The Hesse Park facility no longer requires a mask

FCC **“Technician”** course (entry level)

FCC **“General”** course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 1 and 8 October 2022

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:15 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 15 October 2022

At the start of the 1 October Technician course, a member of the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30-minute presentation on how to get further involved in amateur radio.

**The class location is at Fred Hesse Community Park,
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**

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

I charge no fee for either course. Taking the FCC test is \$15. After passing the Technician test the FCC will send you an e-mail for paying its \$35 license fee and then they will post your call sign.

Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,

\$30 for the Technician and \$26 for the General

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$28 for the Technician and \$24 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.

PACIFICONSM 2022



Saturday Breakfast
with Gordon West

All Day Friday
Antenna Seminar

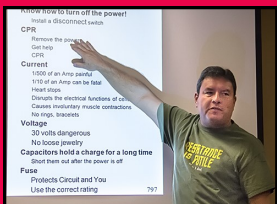
Scout JOTA-JOTI &
Merit Badge Class



Latest
Ham Radio
Equipment for Sale

Ham License Testing

One Day Technician
& General License
Prep Classes



ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION HAM RADIO CONVENTION

Pacificon comes back strong!!

Produced by the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

October 14, 15 & 16, 2022
San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon, California 94583

**GENERAL ADMISSION:
\$25 IN ADVANCE - FOR ALL 3 DAYS!**

*Tickets at the door will cost \$30; 17 years old & under are free;
College Students with valid student ID (25 & under): \$5*

*** Some events have additional cost ***

If you need hotel accommodations
either call Marriott Hotel Reservations at
925-867-9200 by Sept 21, 2022 (per availability)
to ask for the Special Pacificon rate of \$152/night,
or reserve your room on-line at www.pacificon.org

**Go to the Pacificon Website for
Events - Schedules - Registration
WWW.PACIFICON.ORG**

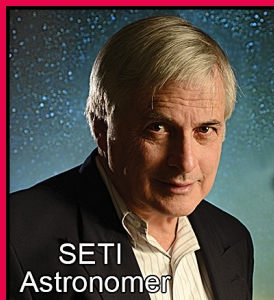
*** Events are subject to change – check website **
See current COVID-19 safety measures on website*



Outstanding
Technical Forums

Sunday
Swap Meet

Electronics
Kit Building



SETI
Astronomer

Saturday Banquet
with Keynote Speaker
Dr. Seth Shostak

Gordon West's
Ham Instructor Academy

Get-On-The-Air
Special Events Station

