



# QRO

THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023

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All QRO monthly issues since 2007 are on the PVARC website at [www.k6pv.org](http://www.k6pv.org) under the "Newsletter" tab.

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

## Software Defined Radio and Flex Radio

Thursday, January 5, 2023

**PVARC monthly meeting via Webex  
(No Hesse Park in-person meeting)**

7:10 pm: Webex online room opens

7:30-9:15 pm: Meeting

Guests welcome. Email [ai6df@arrl.net](mailto:ai6df@arrl.net) for the Webex meeting link.

Also this month:

**PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meeting**  
Saturday, January 14, 10:00 am-Noon at  
Palos Verdes Library Purcell Room (no  
Webex)

**PVARC EmComm Interest Group  
meeting** Saturday, January 21,  
10:00-11:00am am via Webex

## PVARC monthly meetings in January-March 2023

PVARC's **January 5** meeting via Webex features a presentation from Flex Radio about software defined transceivers.

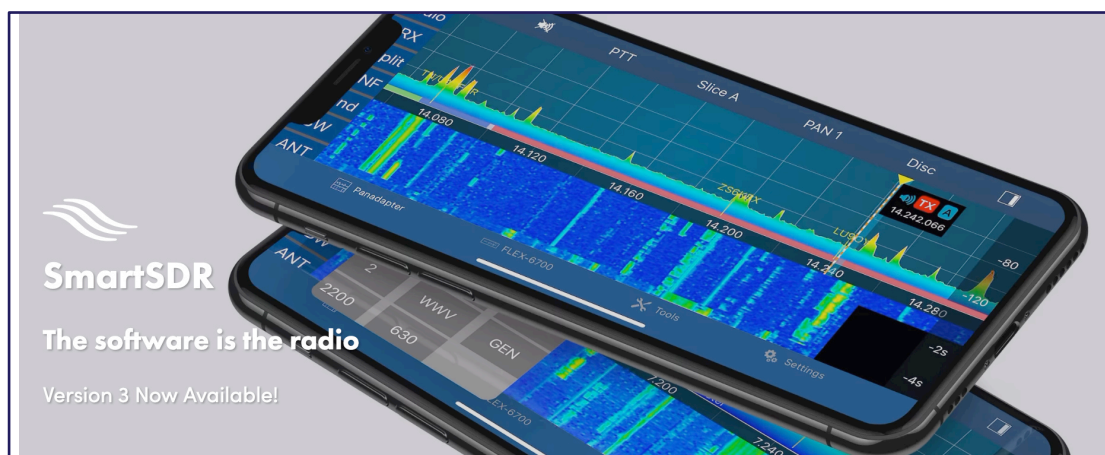
Flex Technical Specialist Michael Walker, VA3MW, will be speaking remotely from Austin, TX where Flex is based. Their presenters are always very knowledgeable, personable, and bring enthusiasm to their subject—especially the capabilities of Flex's Smart SDR software. As Flex frequently says, "The software is the radio."

We're aware of at least seven PVARC members currently owning Flex SDR transceivers. Flex's Smart SDR software runs on Windows, Mac, and iOS platforms—some Flex owners even use their iPhone to remotely operate the home station (see photo below.)

Due to a resurgence of COVID and flu cases in the post-holiday period our January meeting will only be held virtually. Do not go to Hesse Park on January 5...the park will be locked then.

PVARC's **February 2** meeting, currently planned as a hybrid in-person/virtual one, has a definitive presentation on portable solar generators by your **QRO** Editor AI6DF. AI6DF's solar generator presentation was originally developed for Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service and given at the DCS August 13, 2022 quarterly training. It has been updated for recent developments in this fast-growing technology.

Our **March 2, 2023** meeting topic will be announced soon. Unlike pre-pandemic times nearly every ham radio club in the ARRL Los Angeles Section is finding it difficult to secure in-person presenters for monthly meetings other than their own members. The PVARC is no exception but we'll keep seeking outside speakers able to be at Hesse Park.



**Above:** From the FlexRadio website an illustration of operating a Flex Radio from anywhere with your smartphone (assuming your Flex at home is connected to the internet.) PHOTO CREDIT: [www.flexradio.com](http://www.flexradio.com)

## And now for something different: PVARC accomplishments as a club in 2022...and outlook for 2023

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF  
PVARC President

It's safe to say every U.S. business, organization, and household changed in unexpected ways after the COVID pandemic became problematic in March 2020. The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club needed to pivot too...and I believe we've done reasonably well vs. many other ham clubs facing similar challenges.

Consider that in 2022 PVARC accomplished:

- 11 monthly meetings with speakers on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays (6 in-person/virtual sessions; 5 virtual only)
- 1 virtual Holiday "After"-Dinner (free to attend; 10 ham radio gift certificates awarded)
- 11 HF Enthusiasts Group meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays (mostly in-person, some via Webex)
- 11 EmComm Interest Group meetings, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays via Webex
- Three rounds of ham license classes at Hesse Park and VE test sessions
- PVARC Volunteer Examiners assisting at monthly W6TRW Swap Meet test sessions
- Public service communication for three run/walk events (Ridgecrest Intermediate School 5K, Hills Are Alive 10K/5K, and Conquer the Bridge 5.3-mile run/walk)
- Outstanding combined performance as a club during ARRL Field Day from home stations (top 3%, 46th of 1,640 ham club scores submitted from across U.S.)
- K6PV repeater nets almost every week (analog on Tuesday nights; digital DMR on Wednesday.)

We offer all these to further amateur radio across our geographic area while providing PVARC members with additional ham radio knowledge and another social venue. No member is obligated to participate in any activity...you may participate (or not) as your schedule and interest allow.

*Continued on next page ►*



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



## And now for something different: PVARC accomplishments as a club in 2022...and outlook for 2023

*Continued from previous page ►*

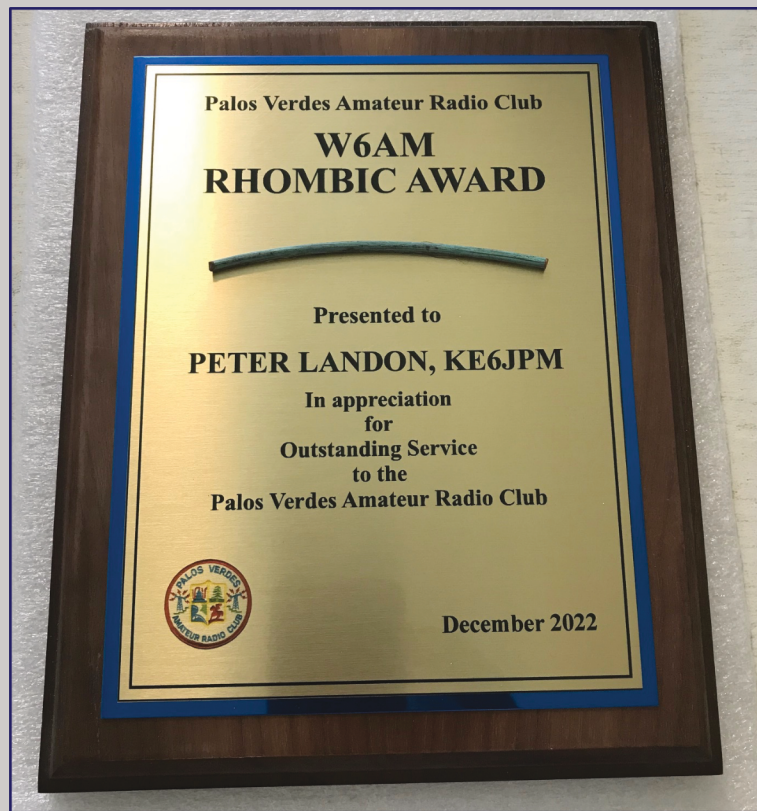
At the 2022 Holiday "After"-Dinner on December 8 we also celebrated PVARC's year by awarding Peter Landon, KE6JPM, the annual W6AM Rhombic Award for outstanding service to the club. Peter served as: our club treasurer for six years; a weekly K6PV net control operator; a vital operator annually at our SSB Field Day stations, and; logistics guru for large tents and antenna tower transport supporting PVARC events. Peter relocated to the Portland, OR, area in 2021 for a new career position in air freight forwarding/logistics management but he checks in on our DMR nets and is a club member.

In 2023 we remain hopeful for a partial return to pre-pandemic activities. The PVARC will continue hybrid in-person/virtual monthly meetings (assuming Hesse Park is feasible) at least through June but we'll always have virtual capability when needed. Our in-person HF Enthusiasts Group meetings are booked with the Palos Verdes Library through March and we'll consider future options then. PVARC's EmComm Interest Group meetings will remain online only.

Our ham license classes, VE test sessions, weekly nets, and public service activities continue as usual.

We are optimistic for a traditional ARRL Field Day at Soleado Elementary School in late June. But returning to Pt. Vicente Lighthouse for an annual family picnic depends on conditions then, including the lighthouse grounds infrastructure. Lastly, we'll be exploring new formats/venues for a possible Holiday Dinner after substantial price increases at our previous location.■

### Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club W6AM Rhombic Award Recipients



2022	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
2021	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
2020	David Scholler, KG6BPH
2019	Rocco Lardiere, N6KN
2018	Jerry Kendrick, NG6R
2017	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
2016	Mel Hughes, K6SY
2015	Joe Pace, NZ6L
2014	Walt Ordway, K1DFO
2013	Bob Closson, W6HIP
2012	Dale Hanks, N6NNW
2011	Bill Harper, WA6ESC
2010	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU John Freeman, WW6WW Karen Freeman, KG6BNN
2009	Homer Meek, K6HKT (SK)
2008	Dan Colburn, W6DC (SK)



## If it's January it's time for PVARC membership renewal

PVARC membership dues are due in the early months of each year. You'll find our current membership/renewal form on page 11 in this issue.

**Please use only our current membership form, not one you might have seen in a past QRO issue.** PVARC dues are unchanged from 2022 and if you joined with a paid membership in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2022 you are considered paid for 2023.

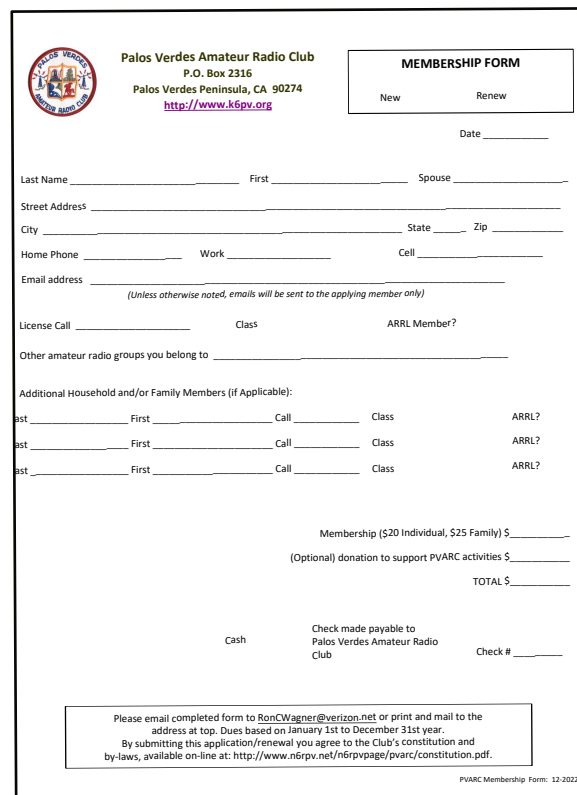
We've had to temporarily suspend our PayPal payment option while we await a new club treasurer who will assume office in February 2023 and create a new PayPal account.

In the meantime, please mail your renewal check and membership form to our address:

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 2316  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

Or, you may renew at any PVARC in-person meeting—a common practice for many before the COVID pandemic.

We strive to be an active club with many opportunities for amateur radio growth and friendship—to whatever extent you choose. Thank you to all who have renewed for 2023. ■



The form is titled "MEMBERSHIP FORM" and includes the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club logo. It contains fields for personal information (Last Name, First, Spouse, Street Address, City, State, Zip, Home Phone, Work, Cell, Email address), license information (License Call, Class, ARRL Member?), and household information (Additional Household and/or Family Members). It also includes a section for payment (Membership fee, optional donation, total, cash, check) and a footer with contact information and a disclaimer.

## PVARC's Officers and Directors election at February meeting; additional nominations taken at January meeting

At the PVARC's February general meeting each year our club elects its officers and directors to serve for the following 12 months. In advance of that a slate of candidates committed to fully serve if elected is presented at our January meeting and additional nominations (if any) taken from the floor. At the February meeting any contested positions will be decided by secret ballot voting, with only paid members eligible to vote per our constitution/bylaws. Uncontested positions can be affirmed by simple voice vote at the February meeting.

A nominating committee slated the following members who have committed to fully serve if elected:

- For President: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
- For Vice President: Ray Day, N6HE
- For Secretary: Ron Wagner, AC6RW
- For Treasurer: (Open)
- For Director: Clay Davis, AB9A; and Gary Lopes, WA6MEM. ■

## Unique year-long ARRL “Volunteers On The Air” event started January 1...every ham can participate, even on VHF/UHF

Every ham—whether ARRL member or not—can participate within the limits of their respective license in ARRL’s 2023 Volunteers On the Air Operating Event. It’s much like the ARRL’s highly-successful 2014 Centennial QSO Party, only better!

From January 1 to December 31, 2023, hams earn points for non-repeater contacts with ARRL officials, Division Directors, Section Managers, numerous appointed ARRL volunteer positions, W1AW/x portable stations in every state (two states each week), and regular ARRL members.



All ham bands except 60-meters and the WARC bands (30/17/12-meters) are available for contacts—even VHF/UHF and microwave bands may be used. Each ARRL Volunteer may be worked for multiple credit on voice, CW, and digital (any one mode of the latter.)

Like the 2014 Centennial QSO Party there’s a tiered point structure where some positions are worth substantial values. Each contact with an ARRL member is worth at least one point...and for some elected positions several hundred points. All contacts will be submitted via ARRL’s Logbook of the World program and the appropriate point values automatically calculated. A “leaderboard” and operator scores will be available online. Certificates for framing will be available later for all participants.

Shown at right are VOTA point values for some of the many ARRL member, volunteer, and staff positions. All may be contacted regardless of your ARRL Section or Division. For more information about Volunteers On The Air visit: <https://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air> ■

ARRL Positions (77 in total, just a few specified below...)	VOTA Points
Any ARRL member	1
Any W1AW/portable station (in all 50 states)	5
Any Volunteer Examiner or Registered Instructor	5
Any of various Section-appointed positions	12
Any Section Technical Coordinator or Section Traffic Manager	30
Any Assistant Section Manager	35
Most ARRL HQ Staff Members	50
W1AW ARRL HQ station	100
Any Section Manager (71 of them)	175
Any Vice Director (16)	200
Any Director or Director Emeritus	225
ARRL President	300

## No Islands on the Air DXpedition for K6PV/6 in 2023

Our K6PV/6 IOTA DXpedition to Catalina Island has been postponed to February 2024 due to few PVARC members available for a February 2023 trip.

Only three (possibly four) PVARC members and no leader committed to a February 2023 DXpedition following notices in recent **QRO** issues to contact Ray Day, N6HE. Those serving on our most recent Catalina operations were also contacted by email to gauge their interest.

Additionally, the PVARC Board of Directors in mid-December 2022 recognized considerable health risks in a near-future Catalina DXpedition owing to COVID/flu conditions not improving combined with team members' necessary close operating and eating proximity.

As reported, late February is the best time of year for this DXpedition after considering likely weather plus contest opportunities and cabin availability before seasonal workers start returning in late March.

More info on the February 2024 DXpedition as the date nears...and COVID conditions improve.



IMAGE: GOOGLE MAPS



## PVARC upcoming events

- **PVARC hybrid monthly meetings online via Webex and in-person as announced**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month, 7:30-9:15 pm, except in December (*no Hesse Park in-person option in January, August, or December 2023*)

- **PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meetings in-person at Palos Verdes Library main branch**

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month, 10:00 am-Noon

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

3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

February 4 and 11, 2023 in Fireside Room

- **Volunteer Examiner license test session at Hesse Park, February 18, 2023 (Fireside Room) 10:00 am**
- **PVARC 2023 Holiday Dinner or virtual After-Dinner, December 14**
- **ARRL Field Day at Soleado Elementary School, Rancho Palos Verdes, June 24-25**

### 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.
- **Orlando Hamcation**, February 10-12, 2023, Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, FL (2<sup>nd</sup> largest ham convention in Western Hemisphere.) Website: <https://www.hamcation.com/>
- **Dayton Hamvention**, May 19-21, 2023, Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH (largest ham convention in Western Hemisphere.) Website: <https://hamvention.org/>

## 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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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:

<b>QRO</b> 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

### Contact us:

**QRO** Editor: 310-544-2917, ai6df@arrl.net  
 Email: k6pv@arrl.net  
 Website: [www.k6pv.org](http://www.k6pv.org)  
 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](mailto:wa6mem@cox.net)

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

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Front page photo — Pt. Vicente Lighthouse starts its evening shift on cool night. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

## -PVARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2023-

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>  <i>New Year's Day</i>	<b>2</b>  <i>New Year's Day observed</i>	<b>3</b>  K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	<b>4</b>  K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	<b>5</b>  PVARC's monthly meeting via Webex: 7:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  <i>Orthodox Christmas</i>  ARRL RTTY Roundup
<b>8</b>  ARRL RTTY Roundup	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	<b>11</b>  K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group, 10:00 am. PV Library  North American QSO Party-CW
<b>15</b>  North American QSO Party-CW	<b>16</b>  <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	<b>17</b>  K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	<b>18</b>  K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  PVARC EmComm Interest Group, 10:00 am Webex  North American QSO Party-SSB
<b>22</b>  <i>Chinese New Year</i>  ARRL Jan. VHF  North American QSO Party-SSB	<b>23</b>  ARRL Jan. VHF	<b>24</b>  K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	<b>25</b>  K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  CQ WW 160m CW	<b>28</b> W6TRW Swap Meet, Northrop Grumman, N. Redondo Bch. 7:00-11:30 am  CQ WW 160m CW  Winter Field Day
<b>29</b>  CQ WW 160m CW  Winter Field Day	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm		Major ham radio contests shown in red		





# 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash

Check made payable to  
Palos Verdes Amateur Radio  
Club

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Please email completed form to [RonCWagner@verizon.net](mailto:RonCWagner@verizon.net) 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> level)**

**Each course is 2 sessions**

**The sessions will be on 4 and 11 February 2023**

**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 18 February 2023**

**At the start of the 4 February 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](mailto: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.**