



QRO

THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

Inside this month's QRO...

Speakers at upcoming PVARC meetings.....	2
Upcoming PVARC officer and director elections.....	2
Herb Epp, W6RBW (SK).....	3
Thoughts on how to make your PVARC experience great.....	4
Ham radio license instruction developments.....	5
When you volunteered to do amateur radio but ended up doing something else.....	6
PVARC 2024 membership renewals.....	7
PVARC website working again at www.k6pv.org	8
2024 major events; info on club jackets/badges/patches.....	9
About us.....	10
February 2024 calendar	11
PVARC new membership & renewal form.....	12
Upcoming ham license classes at Hesse Park.....	13

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.

"Getting Started in Microwaves"

Bill McNally, N6MN

Thursday, February 1, 2024, 7:30 pm at Hesse Park and via Zoom

Optional 5:15 pm no-host pre-meeting dinner at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Rd., Rolling Hills Estates (arrive by 5:15 pm to be seated)

**Hesse Park meeting room opens 6:45 pm;
Zoom meeting room opens by 7:15 pm**

Also in February:

**Saturday, February 10, 10:00 am-Noon,
PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meeting at
Palos Verdes Library main branch**

Upcoming PVARC meeting speakers in 2024...

Our February 1, 2024, meeting at Hesse Park and via Zoom has fellow PVARC member Bill McNally, N6MN, presenting “Getting Started in Microwaves” on the ham bands above 1.2 GHz. Bill is a retired radar systems and satellite payload engineer with Hughes Aircraft/Boeing and previously with Raytheon. He is also Radar Restoration Volunteer for the Battleship Iowa museum ship and a member of the San Bernardino Microwave Society amateur radio club. There’s been new interest from SoCal hams in microwave bands and we hope PVARC members can learn more.

A footnote to our February meeting: we won’t have access to Hesse Park until 6:45 pm due to another group meeting before us. The park is compensating by allowing us to completely leave at 9:45 pm instead of the usual 9:30 pm.



Above: PVARC member and Director Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, operating his 10 GHz microwave unit at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse in August 2018. PHOTO: RAY DAY, N6HE

PVARC’s March 7th monthly meeting has Dennis Kidder W6DQ giving a new presentation, “Online Propagation Tools – or – Can Anybody Hear Me?” Dennis grew up on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and after an aerospace-industry career retired to the Inyokern, CA, area. He has given at least seven talks to our club...and frequently speaks at other ham clubs.

Note: Our March 7 meeting will be held via Zoom only because Hesse Park’s building is unavailable for any meetings, classes, or other room rentals that week.

PVARC officer/director elections at our February meeting; no additional nominations received at January meeting

Our club’s officers and directors are elected annually at PVARC’s February monthly meeting. At our January monthly meeting no additional nominations were received beyond those already slated by a nominating committee. These positions will now be affirmed by simple voice vote at our February 1 meeting.

The following PVARC members are slated and committed to fully serve from February 1, 2024, to February 6, 2025, if elected:

- For President: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
- For Vice President: Ray Day, N6HE
- For Secretary: Ron Wagner, AC6RW
- For Treasurer: Don Putnick, NA6Z
- For Director (2): Clay Davis, AB9A, and Gary Lopes, WA6MEM ■

Herbert (Herb) Epp, W6RBW (SK)

We were saddened to learn past PVARC member Herb Epp, W6RBW, became a Silent Key on January 11, 2024, at age 90.

Herb and his wife Carol KD6VLO moved from the Palos Verdes Peninsula to Tucson, AZ, in early 2021 after being PVARC members for nearly 40 years. Herb held an Amateur Extra class license and also served as PVARC President in 2002. We remember him with thoughts by his good friend, fellow PVARC member Dick Rath WA6NSR, and by your **QRO** Editor AI6DF.

Dick Rath, WA6NSR: I think Herb was first licensed back in New York before coming to LA. Before moving to the Palos Verdes Peninsula in 1972, Herb and Carol lived in Westchester right above the old Hughes Aircraft runway in Playa Vista and every morning he walked down the hill to work. Herb worked at Hughes for more than 30 years, and retired out of Boeing Space Systems after Hughes broke up into Boeing and Raytheon in the late 1990's. He was a power supply design engineer and most if not all the Hughes/Boeing satellites have his power supplies in them.

Herb also retired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Reserve after serving over 55 years, first working patrol at the old Lennox Sheriff station then transferring to Lomita when it opened in 1975. He was a Reserve Captain at Lomita and also played Santa on the annual Sheriff's sleigh around the Lomita station area. Herb was a member of Rabbit Radio Network and the Cactus Intertie while back in the old AM days on 2m he was part of the West LA group. His wife Carol is KD6VLO, daughter Barbara is KD6VLP and son in law Rich is KD5VLN, all of Tucson.

Herb loved big dualie pickups so he and Carol could pull their big fifth-wheel trailer across most of the U.S. while chasing their genealogy as members of the South Bay Cities Genealogy Society. I converted Herb to the Macintosh computer many years ago and they were members of the South Bay Macintosh User group too. Herb was my friend and radio car partner for over 50 years.



Above: At the PVARC's December 2012 Holiday Dinner from left: Dick WA6NSR and Taffy WA6LKV Rath; guest and Dan Colburn W6DC (SK) in center; Carol KD6VLO and Herb W6RBW Epp on the right. PHOTO: JOHN FREEMAN, WW6WW

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF: I had my ham license for only 37 days when I first met Herb during the PVARC's June 2006 Field Day at Peninsula High School. As a new Technician licensee I was curious about Field Day and ventured to PVARC's Peninsula High location on Saturday night "to avoid the crowd." Our Field Day SSB station in those days wasn't in a tent...it was inside Herb and Carol Epp's large and well-equipped side-expandable trailer which they brought annually for us to use. I made my first-ever HF contacts from the dinette table in the Epp's trailer. First, I watched other operators do it for about 35 minutes, then logged for almost an hour, and finally became the SSB operator for another hour. Herb was there to host, ensure everyone was well, and serve as an Extra class control operator. I will always remember that Field Day.■

Some thoughts on how to make your (and others') experience in the PVARC great

By Ray Day, N6HE, PVARC Vice President

- Attend meetings in person when you can; do the Red Onion pre-meetings when we have an in-person presenter; participate in Field Day and other club events.
- At meetings: welcome guests/first time attendees and relatively new hams; help with any meeting setup/breakdown tasks. Support the presenter showing interest and asking questions. Get to know your fellow club members, maybe at each meeting pick out someone you don't know and get to know them better.
- Support the PVARC: get a club badge with your name/call on it, perhaps even a club jacket?
- Participate in the Tuesday night PVARC K6PV net and the Wednesday night DMR net (the latter if you have DMR capability).
- Volunteer to assist the Board of Directors in their tasks, come to a BoD meeting, consider being groomed to become a "club officer?"
- Give back - become involved in a local emergency communications group (PVAN, NART, TARA, DCS).
- Pay your dues on time, don't be "that guy" that needs to be sent dues reminders every year.
- Of course, be respectful of those who choose to do ham radio differently than you do - we're all in the game for different reasons.
- Upgrade your license class. Consider becoming a Volunteer Examiner; you will become the first person to greet new hams.
- Avail yourself of experienced members' expertise and knowledge. Ask questions.
- Suggest meeting topics on ham radio to the PVARC VP that you would find interesting.
- Be a ham radio "lifetime learner" (explore different communications modes, talk to other members about what they are doing and what they have learned as a ham, be open to new things).
- ASK if you need/want advice, equipment, etc. There are many resources available!



PVARC's next license classes are Feb. 3 and 10...and other developments to spur ham operator growth

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
QRO Editor

The PVARC's next round of ham license classes that Walt Ordway, K1DFO, teaches on February 3 and 10 at Hesse Park has an increased benefit for those up to 18 years old..

The PVARC Board of Directors last month approved raising our maximum reimbursement to those 18 or younger from \$50 to \$85 for expenses incurred with getting a ham license through PVARC's classes and Volunteer Examiner test session.

For over 20 years PVARC's John Alexander Fund had offered a reimbursement of up to \$50—but that was before the FCC imposed its recent \$35 fee for a 10-year ham license. PVARC's new \$85 maximum reimbursement will cover the FCC license fee, the \$15 license test fee, and most of the costs for copies of K1DFO's PowerPoint slides plus Gordon West's Technician license book.

Speaking of Gordon West, WB6NOA—whose books probably helped license at least half of PVARC's current members: In case you missed the January 17, 2024, announcement the American

Radio Relay League has become the publisher and distributor of all three Gordon West license books (Technician, General, and Amateur Extra). Gordon's books will continue to be available through other channels but now also from the ARRL online store.

Additionally, Gordon West has been named "ARRL National Instructor" and will work with ARRL staff to provide more resources for teaching/learning amateur radio.

Encourage your family members, relatives, and friends to become ham radio operators too. ■

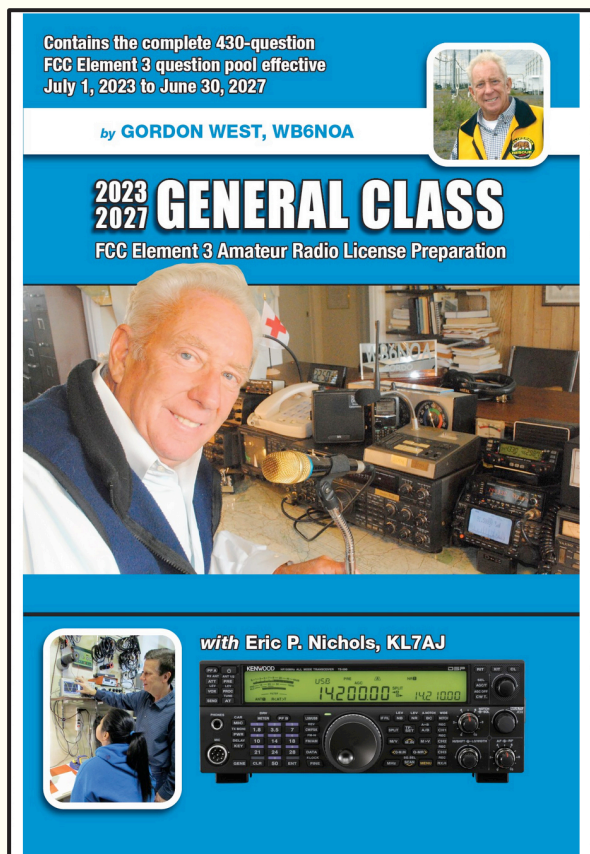


Photo left: Gordon West's latest General Class study book (and future editions) will now be published by the ARRL.
PHOTO CREDIT: ARRL

When you volunteered to do amateur radio but got asked to do something else: ham operators' amazing adaptability

Ham radio operators can be great at adapting to other roles when needed.

Whether it's Field Day, public service at a race, or another aspect where amateur radio serves, sometimes the button that hams push isn't the PTT and the dials turned aren't a VFO or squelch.

For example, our 2023 W6AM Rhombic Award recipient Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD, (top right photo) is a volunteer ham with the Battleship Iowa Amateur Radio Association. He also is lead DJ and manager for the Battleship Iowa NEPM radio-10 and when onboard entertains ship visitors with live broadcasts and music from the station's extensive vinyl LP library.

The Iowa has restored its 1980's vintage TV and radio broadcasting facility and operates three TV channels and two radio channels on weekends. This programming is sent throughout the ship via closed circuit cable. PVARC member Matt Orlich, WA6AJC, is likewise the NEPM radio-9 manager.

In a similar vein your **QRO** Editor through L.A. County DCS volunteered to provide communication at the August 2017 World Police and Fire Games that were hastily moved from Montreal, Canada, to 12 athletic venues around L.A. County. She chose the basketball competition inside the Los Angeles Convention Center but her Yaesu FT-60 HT was unneeded. Instead she was asked to help set up basketball scoreboards on six courts and after the matches began became a 24-second shot clock operator for three days. You're never too old to learn!

The 2017 WPFG had been long-scheduled in Montreal but a pension dispute with firefighters there led many teams to boycott the games. In just a few months the City and County of Los Angeles quickly adapted to organizing as the host city—and everyone came. ■



Above, top: Jerry, KI6RRD, spinning the hits at the Battleship Iowa's vintage radio-10 station. PHOTO CREDIT: GARY LOPES, WA6MEM (thanks for Iowa NEPM radio info too)

Above, bottom: It's not ham radio...Diana, AI6DF, operating the 24-second shot clock during Hong Kong PD vs. Calgary, Canada PD men's basketball match. PHOTO CREDIT: WPFG VOLUNTEER USING AI6DF SMARTPHONE

Let **QRO know if you volunteered for ham radio operation but adapted to doing something else.**

PVARC membership for 2024 (as of 1/26/2024)

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their PVARC membership for 2024 or holds a complimentary membership for the year. To ensure we better acknowledge all membership renewals—whether received by postal mail, PayPal, or in-person—we'll be listing renewals in **QRO** for the next several months. Let us know if you renewed (or recently joined) but do not see your call sign here.

We'll have membership forms available at our February 1 monthly meeting for in-person renewals. You may also use the fillable form on our website with PayPal payment or mail the form with check to our PO Box address. ■

AB6SY
AB9A
AC6RM
AC6RW
AF6VT
AI6DF
AK6CZ
K0MZ
K1DFO
K6BRN
K6JW
K6JW-XYL
K6LH
K6MU
K6NT
K6UU
K9BGC
KA6ZTO
KC6NNV
KE6PMN
KE6SGP
KF6MYQ
KG6BNN
KG6RH
KI6EAI
KI6GUY
KI6HGX
KI6TEQ

KI6YMD
KJ6CAU
KK6EWB
KM6ATI
KM6LGU
KM6LGX
KN6FYW
KN6UMV
KN6YDX
KN6YSJ
KO6BVD
KO6CIA
KO6CIK
KO6MD
KO6S
N6AA
N6HE
N6KN
N6NNW
N6YFM
NA6Z
NG6R
W6BMD
W6DLD
W6HIP
W6HIP-XYL
W6KCV
W6KCV-XYL

W6MO
W6OQ
W6PBH
W6YBW
W6YBW-XYL
WA6LKV
WA6MEM
WA6NSR
WA6OWM
WA6OWM-XYL
WA6WV
WD6Y
WJ1P
WW6WW

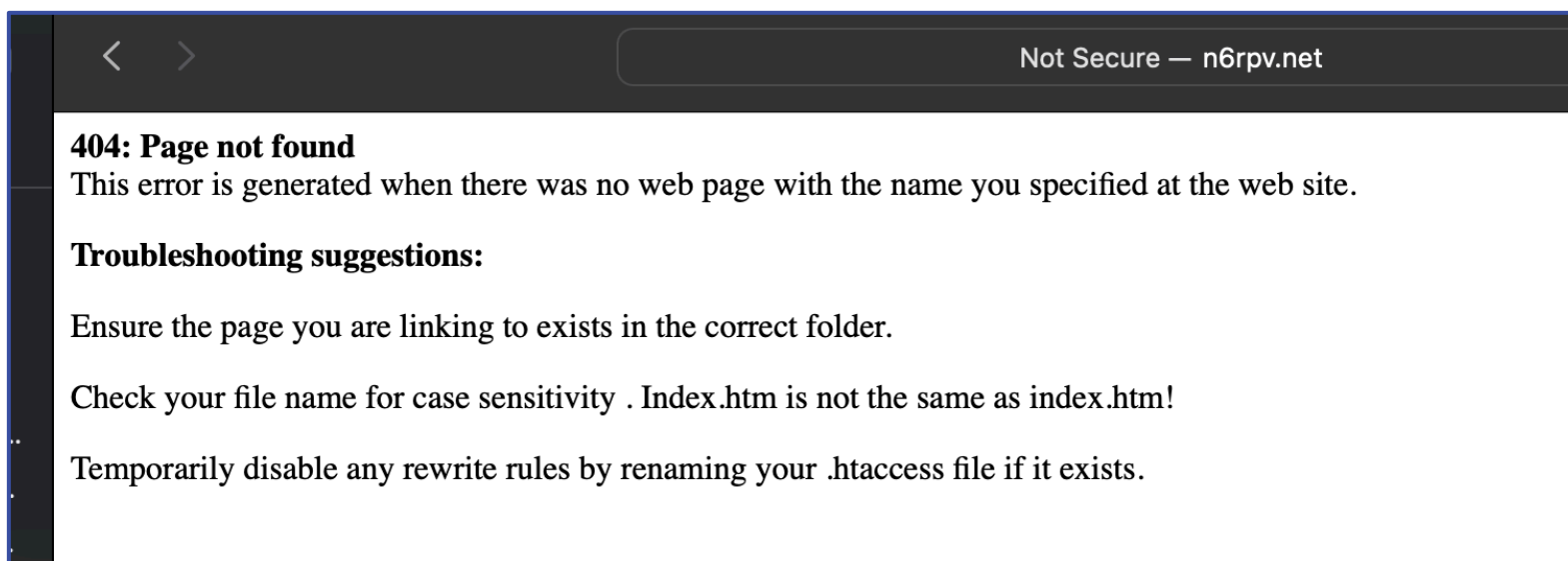
Solved: accessing PVARC's website after a technicality

No, that wasn't you or your web browser malfunctioning if you recently tried accessing PVARC's website at www.k6pv.org. But all is well now.

A recent high-level technical change by the service hosting our website caused www.k6pv.org to return a "404: Page not found" screen (see below). However, PVARC's website was always accessible at: www.n6rpv.net/pvarc

The top-level n6rpv.net site is run by our member Dale Hanks, N6NNW, and also hosts the Rancho Palos Verdes PVAN webpages, among others—including PVARC's website at no cost to our club. The recent difficulty occurred when n6rpv.net's hosting service started disallowing direct access to webpages more than two levels down from the top domain. But we found a way to restore access via www.k6pv.org that gets automatically redirected to www.n6rpv.net/pvarc..

We say again: PVARC's website is fully accessible and functional starting from www.k6pv.org ■



In case you got the above message while trying to get onto our website (right) at www.k6pv.org...all is now good.



PVARC 2024 upcoming events

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

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

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

2nd Saturdays, 10:00am-Noon

- **PVARC EmComm Interest Group online meetings via Zoom (*currently under review*)**

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

February 3 and 10, 2024; 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

- **Volunteer Examiner license test session at Hesse Park, February 17, 2024 (Fireside Room) 10:00 am**

- **PVARC 2024 Holiday Dinner or virtual “After-Dinner”, December 12**

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 9-11, 2024;** Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, FL (world's 2nd largest gathering of hams); website: <https://www.hamcation.com/>

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 that at least 51% of club members be ARRL members.

Annual ARRL membership costs \$59 and includes digital access to all four ARRL periodicals (**QST** magazine, **On The Air** magazine, **National Contest Journal**, and **QEX** magazine focusing on advanced technical topics.) Subscriptions to printed copies of ARRL publications are available at additional charge.

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 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 available

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

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	Don Putnick, NA6Z
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

Contact us:

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 Email: k6pv@arrl.net
 Website: 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

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

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Front page photo — Pt. Vicente Lighthouse after sunset on August 17, 2019. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

PVARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 PVARC monthly meeting at Hesse Park and via Zoom, 7:30 pm	2 Groundhog Day	3
4	5	6 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	7 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	8	9	10 HFE Enthusiasts Group meeting, PV Library, 10 am
11 Super Bowl	12	13 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm Mardi Gras	14 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15	16	17 No EmComm Interest Group meeting...just yet
18	19 President's Day	20 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	21 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	22	23	24 W6TRW Swap Meet, Northrop Grumman, N. Redondo Bch. 7:00-11:30 am
25	26	27 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	28 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	29		



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2316

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

<http://www.k6pv.org>

Fillable PDF form is downloadable from PVARC website at: http://www.n6rpv.net/n6rpvpage/pvarc/membership_form.pdf

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 PVARC90274@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

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

FCC **“General”** course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 3 and 10 February 2024

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 17 February 2024

At the start of the 3 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 waltfordway@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 \$33 for the General

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$29 for the Technician and \$26 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 \$85 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.