



# QRO

THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

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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.

**"So you want to go on a DXpedition?"**

**Arnold Shatz, N6HC**

**Thursday, January 4, 2024, 7:30 pm at Hesse Park and via Zoom**

*Optional 5:30 pm no-host pre-meeting dinner with N6HC and other PVARC members at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Rd., Rolling Hills Estates (arrive by 5:30 pm to be seated)*

**Hesse Park meeting room opens 6:30 pm;  
Zoom meeting room opens by 7:10 pm**

***Also in January:***

**Saturday, January 13, 10:00 am-Noon,  
PVARC HF Enthusiasts Group meeting at  
Palos Verdes Library main branch**

## Upcoming PVARC meeting speakers in 2024...



**Above:** Dr. Arnold Shatz, N6HC, photographed aboard the MS Braveheart en-route to FT5ZM Amsterdam Island in 2014

PVARC's **January 4, 2024**, monthly meeting speaker is Arnold Shatz, N6HC, presenting a new topic in-person, **"So, you want to go on a DXpedition."**

Arnie will talk about the different kinds of DXpeditions, what one needs to consider when planning such a trip, and how to get invited onto a major DXpedition. He's well-versed on ham DXpeditions having served as team physician and operator on 14 major DXpeditions including to some of planet Earth's most remote places. Arnie also is on the ARRL DXCC #1 Honor Roll and holds DXCC on 9 bands for SSB, CW, and RTTY.

Arnie will also be our guest for a 5:30 pm no-host pre-meeting dinner at the Red Onion Restaurant open to any interested PVARC member. Order what you wish from the menu but to be seated together you must be in the restaurant lobby by 5:30 pm.

Our **February 1, 2024**, meeting 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 on the microwave bands lately and we hope PVARC members can learn more. ■

## PVARC officer/director elections at our February meeting; additional nominations taken at January meeting

Our club's officers and directors are elected annually at PVARC's February monthly meeting. At our January monthly meeting we take nominations (if any) beyond those shown below already slated by a nominating committee. Any contested positions will be decided by secret ballot of paid members at the February meeting. If no additional nominations are received at the January meeting the uncontested positions may be affirmed by simple voice vote at the February 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 ■



*Announced at our December 14, 2023, Holiday "After"-Dinner...*

## Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD, is recipient of PVARC's 2023 W6AM Rhombic Award

Since 2008 the PVARC has presented at its annual Holiday Dinners and "After"-Dinners our W6AM Rhombic Award for Outstanding Service. Our 2023 recipient is Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD, for his excellent work leading our Volunteer Examiner test sessions and as a net control operator on our DMR digital nets. He also is PVARC's interface with the combined VE team at the monthly W6TRW Swap Meet in conjunction with the South Bay ARC (W6SBA) and Hughes ARC (W6HA).

The Rhombic Award is so-named because it contains a snippet of wire from the massive rhombic antenna operated atop Rancho Palos Verdes until 1985 by legendary DXer Don Wallace, W6AM. Don's former ham station along Highridge Road is often described as the greatest ham station ever built. The site is now the Wallace Ranch community of 82 large homes developed by a former Mayor of Palos Verdes Estates who purchased the property from Don's family after his death. The 3,300-5,200 sq.ft. homes are now each valued between \$2.6-\$4.0 million, per the Zillow.com website.



We greatly thank Jerry KI6RRD and all our past Rhombic Award recipients below for their service to our club. ■

2008	Dan Colburn, W6DC (SK)
2009	Homer Meek, K6HKT (SK)
2010	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU John Freeman, WW6WW Karen Freeman, KG6BNN
2011	Bill Harper, WA6ESC
2012	Dale Hanks, N6NNW
2013	Bob Closson, W6HIP
2014	Walt Ordway, K1DFO
2015	Joe Pace, NZ6L
2016	Mel Hughes, K6SY
2017	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
2018	Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

2019	Rocco Lardiere, N6KN
2020	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH)
2021	Malin Dollinger, KO6MD
2022	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
2023	Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD

**Our Board of Directors gratefully thanks PVARC members for their voluntary donations in 2022-2023 helping to fund club activities**

**PVARC Donors, 2022-2023**

Don Beaumont KE6PMN  
Anthony Bressickello W6GEZ  
Frank Brown KM6YGQ  
David Calloway K6DKC  
Mike Caulfield AF6VT  
Brian Clebowicz K6BRN  
Robert Closson W6HIP  
Melody Colbert KI6SPA and Richard Fowell  
KJ6CBA  
Steven Collins KI6TEQ  
Matthew Cruse N6MDC  
Robert Cullinan NJ6I  
Clay Davis AB9A  
Ray N6HE and Donna W6DLD Day  
Malin Dollinger KO6MD  
Victor Estrada KN6UMQ  
Diana Feinberg AI6DF  
Sergio Fernandez WA6WW  
John WW6WW and Karen KG6BBN Freeman  
Ken Getzin NE6K  
Rick Heaston KG6RH  
Mark Holloway KA6ZTO  
Mel K6SY, Doris K6KSY, Denise K6DAH Hughes  
Patrick Hutchings W6PBH  
Robert Keller K9BGC  
Jerry Kendrick NG6R  
Robert King KI6EAI  
Robert Kollar KI6YMD  
Peter Landon KE6JPM  
Mike Leyba KK6KCH  
Annalisa Little KM6YGS  
Gary Lopes WA6MEM  
Steve KK6EOS and Debbie KK6EOW Marschke

James Maxwell W6JBN  
William McClure W7QLI  
James Nadal K6MU  
Joel WJ1P and Maria W6BMD Pastor  
Steve Perry KN6WVP  
Joe Platnick KN6QHJ  
Don Putnick NA6Z  
Bradley Rachiellies KC6NNV  
Jeff KA6JMR, Laura KA6LJR, Marlee KA6MJR,  
and Jack KA6JWR Remington  
Ted NX6C and Joan KF6MDV Spiegel  
Chris Storey W6YBW  
Bob Sylvest AB6SY  
Norman K6UU and Denise KF6VTN Thorn  
David Turner KM6LGX  
Kelvin Vanderlip W6KCV  
Shannon Wertz  
Sidney KF6QFH and Frances KF6QFG Wielin  
Don Wilt WG6E  
Jeff Wolf K6JW

## Tuesday night K6PV nets about to complete their 16<sup>th</sup> year... our Net Control Operators and check-ins made this possible

### 2008-2012 Net Control Operators

Bill Harper, WA6ESC  
Diana Feinberg, AI6DF  
Dale Hanks, N6NNW  
Knut Myhre, N6BNP (SK)  
Homer Meek, K6HKT (SK)

### 2012-2016 Net Control Operators

Bob Sylvest, AB6SY  
Dan Yang, K6DPY  
Dale Hanks, N6NNW  
Malin Dollinger, KO6MD  
Peter Landon, KE6JPM  
Ron Wagner, AC6RW

### 2016-2020 Net Control Operators

Bob Sylvest, AB6SY  
Dale Hanks, N6NNW  
Peter Landon, KE6JPM  
Malin Dollinger, KO6MD  
Ron Wagner, AC6RW  
Dan Yang, K6DPY

### 2020-2024 Net Control Operators

Dale Hanks, N6NNW  
Malin Dollinger, KO6MD  
Ron Wagner, AC6RW  
Rick Heaston, KG6RH  
Jeff Remington, KA6JMR  
Laura Remington, KA6LJR  
Marlee Remington, KA6MJR  
Dave Turner, KM6LGX  
Derek Okada, K6DMO  
Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD (DMR)  
Clay Davis, AB9A (DMR)  
Gary Lopes, WA6MEM (DMR)

The PVARC started its 7:30 pm Tuesday night analog nets in March 2008 under the leadership of Bill Harper, WA6ESC, who also served as our club treasurer during 2003-2009.

Over the years our Net Control Operator team evolved to include newer operators and a wider range of personalities. We greatly appreciate our NCOs service and the PVARC members who've checked in when they have a chance.

Our weekly nets enable members to test their UHF transceivers and power sources, say hello to fellow club members, plus hear any latest info from club officers.

Ham radio nets have been important to most amateur radio clubs for decades, although we realize not everyone can check in due to terrain issues or other commitments.

Again, our thanks to everyone participating in our nets (including our DMR nets on Wednesday evenings since 2019.)■



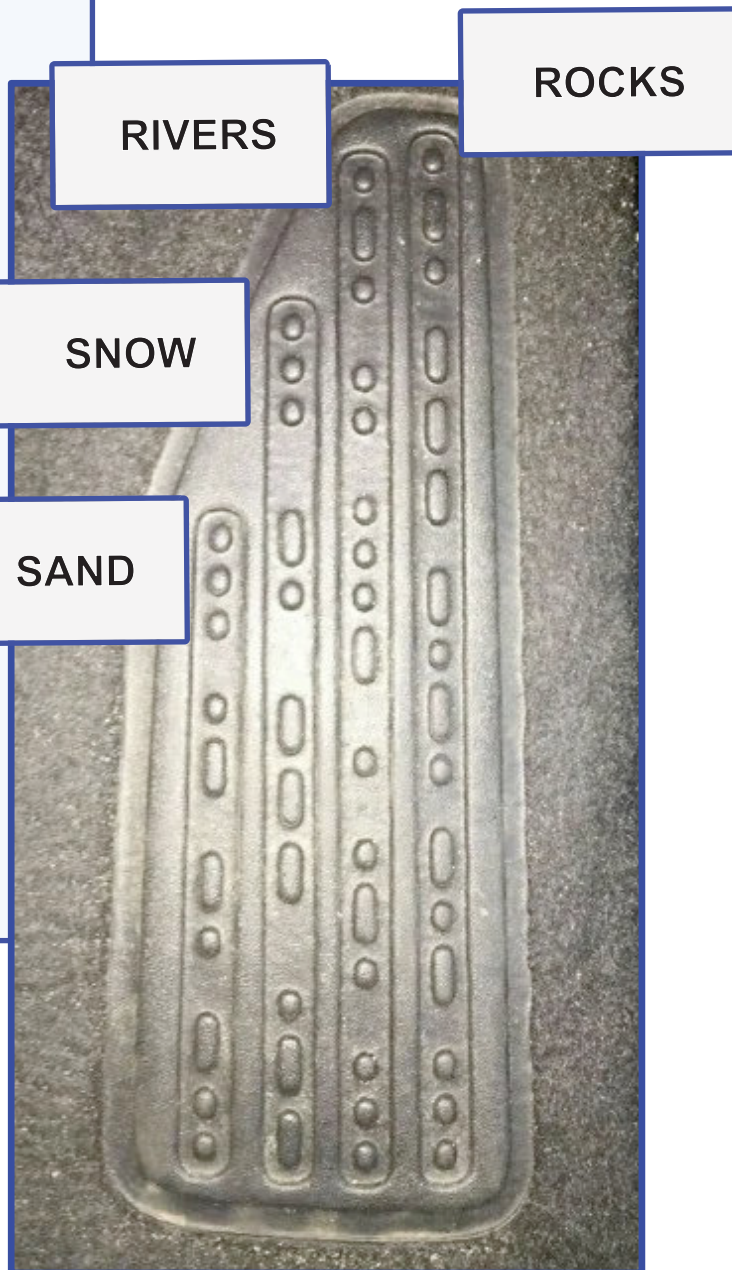
## From “The Department of Who Knew?”

Just when you thought enough electronics and related aspects are creeping into new cars and trucks there’s still another use for Morse Code,...on the floors of Jeep® vehicles.

Fellow PVARC member Steve Barryte, KI6GUY, brought to our attention the left-foot “dead-pedal” of many Jeep® models. These “dead-pedals” look like a textured surface for scraping dirt from your left shoe sole or massaging your sock foot. But look more closely and in Morse Code the raised surfaces spell, “SAND”, “SNOW”, “RIVERS”, and “ROCKS”.

Now that you know where Jeep® vehicles can go do check if your model has the Morse “dead-pedal.” Morse isn’t dead after all!

Note: Your **QRO** editor has never owned a Jeep® vehicle but rented a 2016 Jeep Compass while attending the 2017 Dayton Hamvention. With all the rain and mud at Hamvention’s new location that year the dead-pedal wasn’t closely examined. But the “Morse on the floor” appears to be part of Jeep’s reputed “Easter Egg Hunt” where owners search for unexpected symbols or markings manufactured on their vehicles. It also seems the perfect inspiration for exploring the unexpected while driving your Jeep®.■



PHOTOS:  
Reddit postings  
showing Morse  
Code on driver-  
side floor cover  
of 2018 Jeep  
Compass.

## PVARC membership for 2024 (as of 1/2/2024)

Thank you to the following who as of January 2, 2024, have renewed their PVARC membership for 2024 or hold a complimentary membership for the year. To ensure we better acknowledge all membership renewals during the annual renewal cycle—whether received by postal mail, PayPal, or in-person—we'll be listing these in subsequent **QRO** issues as well. Please let us know if you renewed but do not see your call sign here.

We'll have membership forms at our January 4 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. The PVARC ended 2023 with 153 members including those in family memberships and we look forward to having you as a fellow member in 2024. ■

AB6SY  
AB9A  
AI6DF  
AK6CZ  
K1DFO  
K6JW  
K6JW-XYL  
K6LH  
K6NT  
KC6NNV  
KE6PMN  
KF6MYQ  
KG6BNN  
KI6HQX  
KM6ATI  
KM6LGU  
KM6LGX  
KN6FYW  
KN6UMV  
KN6YDX  
KO6BVD  
KO6CIA  
KO6CIK  
KO6S  
N6AA  
N6HE  
N6KN  
W6BMD  
W6DLD  
W6MO

W6YBW  
W6YBW-XYL  
WA6MEM  
WA6OWM  
WA6OWM-XYL  
WJ1P  
WW6WW

## Major renovation of Two Harbors cabin complex pushes PVARC's Catalina Island return to late-2024 or early 2025

An unexpected situation halted resuming our annual DXpeditions to Catalina Island's Two Harbors in early 2024.

When our Vice President Ray Day N6HE inquired in late December it turned out no cabins are available for us until November 1, 2024. We learned the Catalina Island Company is currently undertaking a major renovation of the cabin complex where we stay/operate and where seasonal workers live during April through October.

Most previous PVARC DXpedition participants would agree that the "rustic" cabins, the outdoor community kitchen area, community restrooms, and the electrical system could use an overhaul. What we don't know is how these renovation costs will factor into future cabin rates.

The only alternative lodging at Two Harbors is the beautiful but expensive hilltop Banning House bed and breakfast. Banning House's Friday and Saturday nightly rates now start in the \$260-\$300 range depending on the weekend vs. \$169 per night in February 2019 during our last DXpedition. Banning House is also closed from January 2 to March 1 this year during the Two Harbors renovation.

Thanks again go to Steve Mandich, K6NT, for assuming the role of our DXpedition Team Leader from Ray N6HE who is still coordinating some details and passing along his DXpedition knowledge. If enough PVARC members are interested we're eager to go if the costs are still reasonable.

Each team member is responsible for his/her own expenses which include Catalina Express transportation, cabin rental at Two Harbors, food from the common supply we bring for breakfast and lunches, and any dinners at the one restaurant in Two Harbors.

More info to follow as it becomes available. Anyone else interested? Contact Ray Day, N6HE, at: [rayday@cox.net](mailto:rayday@cox.net) ■



**Top photo:** PVARC's DXpedition patch

**Left photo:** Rustic cabin facilities at Two Harbors were due for some kind of redo. This scene during our 2019 DXpedition was taken from the open-sided community kitchen's rooftop.

PHOTO: HUGO DOMINGUEZ, JR, KM6DQU



## PVARC 2024 upcoming events

- **PVARC hybrid monthly meetings online via Zoom and in-person as announced**  
1<sup>st</sup> 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**  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> largest gathering of hams); website: <https://www.hamcation.com/>

## 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](mailto:ai6df@arrl.net) and we'll find a way to get your patch to you. ■

## 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 \$49 until Dec. 31, 2023 (\$59 effective January 1, 2024) 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/](http://www.arrl.org/). ■

## Need a PVARC badge?

If you wish to order a new or replacement engraved PVARC badge (example below) 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. ■





## 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:

<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 after sunset on July 24, 2019. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

## PVARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 PVARC monthly meeting at Hesse Park and via Zoom, 7:30 pm; no-host dinner at Red Onion, 5:30 pm	5	6
7	8	9 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	10 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	11	12	13 HFE Enthusiasts Group meeting, PV Library, 10 am
14	15	16 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	17 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	18	19	20 <i>No EmComm Interest Group meeting</i>
21	22	23 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	24 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm	25	26	27 W6TRW Swap Meet, Northrop Grumman, N. Redondo Bch. 7:00-11:30 am
28	29	30 K6PV analog net, 7:30 pm	31 K6PV DMR net, 7:30 pm			





# 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](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](http://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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 \$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.