

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



K6PV



**EAT
BEEF**



Jeff Wolf's Antenna Tower Saga Continues

Jeff's November talk will be Part II of his quest for a tower installation in Rolling Hills Estates.

In Part I, we saw how miserably drawn out and expensive it was to get through the permit process, it costing about \$5000 just to reach the point where he got a piece of paper saying it was okay to proceed.

In Part II, you'll see the construction phase and the final result-- a 55 foot tower with both HF and VHF/UHF antennas, surge protected feedlines, and all cables buried in conduit between the tower and shack.

Don't miss it!



Visit Our Web Site

K6PV

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc



The President, K5KT, Pontificates

Well, here it is, already November.... Time sure flies by. But, then it's very nice to be here to see it happening, right? Sadly, not so for Sheila Renkowiz, the now late wife of Don Renkowitz, W6SQF, and a neighbor of mine.

With the time change (from daylight time to standard time), things seem to take on a different light (pun??). Though the darker look and feel, especially for some of us, it is still a good time to remember our blessings and the good things in our lives. Remember too, November = Thanksgiving (this year on the 22nd)!

Well last month, I was off to my 'homeland' of Louisiana for what was primarily a family visit and an exciting sporting event. My two sisters and brother were all there. We all were fortunate to be able to see the ENORMOUS (square MILES of) tailgate party on the LSU Campus for the LSU vs. Florida football game. Three of my cousins put on quite the party just a block from Tiger Stadium. My brother is a (now retired) Horticulture Professor of over 40 years at the U of FL. He was not very happy with the game (LSU 28 FL 24 with a great LSU 4th quarter comeback). I also got to see a few old friends too, including W5ZPA and W5FKX in New Orleans as well as AE5RN and WB5FBS (college chums). I even got to see some RAIN too!

I also managed to clean up the Shack (just) enough to be able to operate in the CQ WW DX Contest (SSB) over my birthday weekend (27th/28th). I operated only on 40M with a significant effort; but, only modest results this year. Propagation was relatively poor. Added frustration were those DX stations operating in the lower part of the band (not available to US stations) that were not and did not listen up in the US portion of the band – a not infrequent activity for some DX stations. This happens because of the different 40M band allocations that are made by International agreement that results in the US stations frequency allocation being different on SSB than most of the rest of the world. This is not a factor on CW with all countries using virtually the same CW allocation. However, it does help a LOT to have an Extra Class license to be able to operate in bottom 25 KHz of the CW allocation too. Anyway, I am planning on operating as much as I can in the upcoming CW WW DX (CW) contest the end of the month – 24th and 25th. Join in and have some fun while you improve your CW skills. Don't hesitate to ask about this most interesting and exciting HF DX Contest.

Interest in the upcoming Club Christmas / Holiday Party on 14 December is progressing. For those of you who are planning to come to this FUN event, please indicate your interest and intention to our Club Treasurer, Bill WA6ESC. We want to be sure you are included in the final number before the deadline for reservations occurs. Please make your reservations sooner than later... It will help us to better plan this annual fun Club dinner event. Thanks!

With a couple of home activities, including renovation of two bedrooms, my shack cleanup efforts were again delayed... With these activities completed, I hope to attack the problem more this month, especially before the HF contest just after Thanksgiving.

For those interested in erecting a Tower, this month's program should shed a bit of light of what's involved... ideally not necessarily as much though. Come to the meeting and find out.

See you all there!



De the VP, Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ

Coming Attractions

Wednesday, 21 November: Some months ago, PVARC member Jeff Wolf told us of his trek through the city permit jungle in pursuit of a permit to erect an antenna tower at his home. Jeff finally did get the permit. Now he will tell about his experiences in actually installing the antenna.

Friday, 14 December: The annual Club party at the Rancho Palos Verdes Interpretive Center. Happy Hour at 6 PM, Dinner 7 PM. You will already have seen the description of the catered dinner. That by itself is worth the cost of tickets, but we also have an outstanding speaker:

David Doody, is the JPL Flight Operations Lead, Cassini Mission Support and Services Office. He will have some outstanding pictures (photography is communication, after all). Significant door prizes, too. Do get your reservations submitted to Bill Harper (310-377-8267) in good time!

Wednesday, 16 January 2008: Joe Moell, K0OV, will talk about radio direction-finding and transmitter hunting (fox hunts). He is an expert on the subject (see www.homingin.com), and highly recommended by two of the Board members who attended a fox hunt during the HamCon in Torrance last summer.

Wednesday, 20 February 2008: Joe Haslett will talk about sailing balsa rafts along the Pacific Coast of northern South America. He used HF amateur radio for communication, and has promised to emphasize the radio part of the voyages for us.

Wednesday, 19 March 2008: Dennis Kidder, W6DQ. He will present his talk on "A History of Precision Time and Frequency" (or "So you think you know what time it is"). Highly recommended by Club members who heard it at the HamCon.

After that, things are still a bit foggy. There are still numerous suggestions to follow up from the poll last March. Dennis Kidder might consider a talk on grounding and lightning protection, which was at the top of the poll. And maybe someone else will run for the VP job!





Treasurer's Report
Bill Harper
November 2007

PVARC Balance	\$3,155.74
John Alexander Fund:	\$ 798.00
Repeater Fund:	\$ 852.66
Total Bank Balance	\$4,806.40
Membership 2007	121
ARRL Members	

Welcome to New Member **Edwin Mitoma, KI6MVJ** who not only renewed his lapsed license but recently re-passed his General exam.



Webmaster's Report, Rick Murray, K6WXA

The end of the year is fast approaching and with it, another clean-up of the Club's website. I'd like to invite you to visit the "QRO Newsletters" page and take a look through the 2003 editions of the QRO for any articles that may interest you that you might wish to copy off. Come early January, 2008, with the posting of the new year's first QRO, the 2003 editions will be removed from the website. Taking a step ahead, they've already been saved and archived off-site.

On another topic, some of you may not want to receive the repeated email messages concerning the various website updates, tech articles, the QRO Newsletter or other such correspondence. If this might be the case, please drop a line to our Club Treasurer at: palosverdesarc@cox.net to have your email address removed from the Club roster. Also, if you wish to continue receiving Club-related email notifications - and you're not presently receiving them - check your "Spam" or "Bulk Items" folder as instances of Club emailings are being reported as showing up there.

73 from Your Webmaster, Rick - K6WX



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"FIFTY SOLDIERS... MARCHING... MAYBE TWO MILES AWAY."



Oct 17 2007 PVARC Meeting Minutes

Bill Leighton, KG6WVE

Joe Locascio, K5KT, called the meeting to order and invited members to introduce themselves.



Bill Harper, WA6ESC reported a total membership of 120, 17 new this year, and a total Club cash balance of \$3609.06.

Bill Harper also announced an upcoming T-hunt Nov. 10, organized by Joe Moel K0OB. Further information can be obtained from Bill or at www.homingin.com. Joe Moel will also be our January speaker.

Alan Soderberg, W8CU, reported finding a repeater (146.7) on Santiago Peak that has good coverage of the Miraleste area. He is negotiating to use this repeater to improve PVAN communications to the east side of the hill.

Mel Hughes, K6SY, reported on his improvements in automated voice announcements on the Club repeater.

The program, improvised on short notice by Joe, Bill, and Mel was on antennas. Mel showed a 6-element yagi he had built, Bill showed a wire antenna for 20 and 40 meters and demonstrated a direction-finding loop that covers 160 meters, 80 meters and more. Joe showed pictures of his tower and pointed out features of his installation that are not obvious but make the tower easier to work with.





*Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
Annual Christmas Holiday Dinner*

*Point Vicente Interpretive Center
31501 Palos Verdes Drive West, Rancho Palos Verdes*

Friday, December 14th, 2007

Happy Hour at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at 7:00 PM

Dinner Menu:

Macadamia encrusted Salmon with a pineapple vanilla butter sauce;
Carving station with Sirloin of Beef plus Leek Mashed Potatoes,
Vegetables, Rolls & Butter. A Dinner Salad is included with mixed
greens, pecans, sliced apple and gorgonzola with a Raspberry Vinaigrette. Appetizers include an Assorted Cheese Platter with Gourmet Crackers and Artichoke Dip or Shrimp with Cocktail Sauce. Dessert follows with a Cheesecake Bar with an array of toppings. Price is \$37.50 per person.

For Reservations and Payment Information, please contact
Bill Harper-WA6ESC at (310) 377-8267
or via palosverdesarc@cox.net



Catered by "Entertaining Friends" of Manhattan Beach



ARRL Summary Report November 2007 compiled by Bryant Winchell, W2RGG



SON OF FIRST HAM TO OPERATE IN SPACE FOLLOWS IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Richard Garriott, KE5QNX, son of Owen Garriott, W5LFL, will be launching into space and living aboard the International Space Station in October 2008 as a client of Space Adventures. Owen Garriott operated the world's first Amateur Radio Station from space. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 40

ARRL AND MARS TEAM UP

The ARRL and Virginia radio amateurs associated with the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) put their emergency communications skills to the test on October 3, demonstrating to members of Congress and other Federal agencies how ham radio continues to work when other means of communications are disabled during hurricanes or other natural or man-made disasters. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 40

Rich Roznoy, K1OF, wants to make sure you have the right kind of antenna for your car. You'll want to read his article, "A Comparison of HF Mobile Antenna Designs." If you need an easy-to-make Yagi antenna for your handheld transceiver, be sure to check out the article by Tom Hart, AD1B [in the November, 2007 QST].

Get out your calendars and make sure you're on the air for the ARRL 160 Meter Contest, November 30-December 2, and the **ARRL 10 Meter Contest**, December 8-9. November QST has the official contest announcements and indicates just what you need to do to participate in these great operating events. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 40

NASA TV SHOWS LAUNCH, DOCKING OF SPACECRAFT, MORE

If you have ever wanted to see what goes on when a spacecraft launches into space or docks with the International Space Station (ISS), be sure to check out NASA TV <<http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>> on your computer. You can watch live coverage of preparations for the launch, the launch and even the docking and hatch openings and closings as spacecraft arrive and leave the ISS. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 40

THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Question -- Ray Fritts, KA8SYX, of Jacksonville, Florida, asks: If a piece of coaxial cable has a specified loss figure in dB per 100 feet at a given frequency, does that mean that the loss in a different length of the same cable that is a fraction of 100 feet long is the same fraction of loss? For example, I have a type of coax that has a loss of 6 dB per 100 feet at 150 MHz. I have a 15 foot length I want to use as a feedline for my 2 meter mobile SSB transceiver. Does that mean that my feedline would have a loss of about 0.9 dB, not including SWR and connector insertion? I am particularly interested in the loss in received signal. Is my math correct, or is there a different method to determine the amount of signal lost in a coaxial cable when the length is different from that for which the published loss figures are expressed?

November 2007

The Doctor Answers -- Your calculations are right on. That's all there is to it. But do keep in mind just a few potential pitfalls: Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41



THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NCJ IS ON ITS WAY

Now that "contesting season" is in full swing, you don't want to miss a thing and you can get in-depth contesting articles, techniques and information from the National Contest Journal (NCJ). This bi-monthly magazine from the ARRL features articles on contesting in all modes, including phone, CW and RTTY, product reviews and station profiles, as well as regular columns. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41

FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Guy E Weitzl, WB6HGJ, of San Diego, California, received notification from the FCC of a complaint alleging "numerous instances of out of band operation on Twenty Meter frequencies 14.003, 14.005, 14.011 and 14.106 MHz, frequencies for which you are not authorized as a General Class licensee. The complaint also alleges that you have been sent several notices about out of band operation. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41

ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPHOLDINGS ETHICS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE'S DECISION TO DISQUALIFY SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR CANDIDATE

The ARRL Executive Committee met the first weekend in October in Little Rock, Arkansas. One item on their agenda was of the appeal of Carl Gardenias, WU6D, concerning his disqualification from the race for Southwestern Division Director. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41

WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE STARTS NEXT WEEK IN GENEVA

The 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is set to begin Monday, October 22, running through Friday, November 16 in Geneva, Switzerland. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 42

QST.ORG WEB ADDRESS NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE ARRL

Long-time ham and ARRL member David Lien, W6OVP, of Battle Ground, Washington, has transferred the Web address www.QST.org <<http://www.qst.org>> to the ARRL. If you head to that URL, you'll now find yourself in the QST section of the ARRLWeb. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 42

SAN DIEGO HAMS ACTIVATED AS WILDFIRES RAVAGE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

As fires raged through parts of the San Diego area and other areas in Southern California, ham radio operators did their part to ensure the safety of residents either affected or threatened by the fires.

Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 42 [note this is an interesting and detailed report. BW]

ARRL AND MFJ TEAM UP TO OFFER 40 METER TRANSCEIVER KITS

Earlier this fall, ARRL introduced the third edition of its "Low Power Communication" book, written by Rich Arland, W3OSS. This new edition includes the complete assembly manual for a 40 meter transceiver kit produced by MFJ Enterprises. ARRL has also bundled the book with the kit. The kit is the MFJ 40 Meter CW Cub Transceiver Kit. The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 44

SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Just Enjoy this Ride on My Trip around the Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The average for August, September and October (centered on September) at 5.4 is the lowest yet for this side of Cycle 23. The past week has shown no sunspots and we will probably see more of nothing. We should be more active soon due to a returning solar wind. The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No.42 & 44





Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

Members of Curtis Watanabe's Cub Scout troop participated in this year's Scout Jamboree on the Air using the United Amateur Radio Club's (URAC) shack at the Los Angeles Maritime Museum in San Pedro.

According to Curtis, his troop talked with boys in Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops in Louisville, Kentucky, Houston, Austin, and Ft. Worth, Texas, and a couple of towns in Indiana. They also monitored conversations from Scouts from as far away as Chihuahua, Mexico, and Canada.



He said that other troops had been able to contact kids in Germany and other European countries.

What a great way to get youngsters involved in Ham radio!



Opportunities

November

21 - Club Meeting, Jeff Wolf's Antenna Project, Hesse Park 7:30 p.m.

December

December 14--Christmas/Holiday Dinner--
Check out the flyer on page 5
and then
contact Treasurer Bill Harper.
Should be fun!

January

16 - Club Meeting, Joe Moell, foxhunting, Hesse Park, 7:30 p.m.

February

20 Joe Haslett - Sailing a balsa raft up the coast of south America.

March

19 Dennis Kidder wrestles with Time and Wins

Need a Club Patch? \$5

Or How About a Club Jacket?

Joe Locascio, K5KT

310-541-5495



Need a Club Badge?

Contact Karen Freeman, KG6BNN

310-541-6971

\$13



Christmas/Holiday Dinner!

David Doody, JPL,
Project Manager for
Spacecraft Communications for
the
Cassini Saturn Craft.

David Doody will
give a fascinating
and non-technical talk on
Cassini's exciting mission to Saturn, and
how we communicate with this spacecraft
across the vast distances.

The food is going to be terrific again, too!

**Send your \$37.50 per person
Right Now!**

To
Bill Harper--Address is in the Roster
and
On the Website!

Don't wait until the last minute
Because
You'll worry the Treasurer--
He needs to know now!

thanks!





**Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274**

New Membership Application and Member Renewal Form

New: _____ or Renewal: _____ Membership Date: _____

Individual ____ (\$15/Year) or Household and/or Family Membership ____ (\$17/Year)

(Applying) Member Information: **Member Renewal same as Last Year? YES__NO__**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email address: _____

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

License Call: _____ License Class: _____ ARRL Member? _____

Member of: DCS/RACES/ARES/PVAN _____ District _____ Unit ID # _____

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

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Class _____ ARRL _____

Individual membership (\$15.00) \$ _____
Household and/or Family membership (\$17.00) \$ _____
Donation to the John Alexander Fund \$ _____
Donation to the Repeater Fund \$ _____
Donation to PVARC \$ _____
Cash: _____ or Check: _____ Date _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

Dues are based on the January 1st to December 31st calendar year.