

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



KG6PV



Curt Kaplan, KB6GBW

Weather Spotters are volunteer hams working with the Weather Bureau, who have been trained in how to report storm conditions at their locations and what conditions to report.



“If you want to know what the weather’s like, look out a window. The Skywarn program gives us the ability to look out many windows.”

Our speaker is a forecaster with the National Weather Service. He is also the coordinator for his County’s Weather Spotter/Skywarn program.

This program is for all you weather buffs who don’t know enough to come in out of the heat or rain or snow or tornado...



Visit Our Web Site

KG6PV

www.palosverdes.com/pvarc



The President Pontificates

Ginger Clark, KG6TAU



First, I'd like to thank Mel Hughes, K6SY, for his flowery, compliment-filled, and undoubtedly accurate summary of my virtues in his nomination speech at the last Club meeting. For those of you who missed the meeting, and haven't been in the loop, your new president is me, Ginger Clark, KG6TAU. And for the record, if I had remembered I was going to have to write the president's column, I wouldn't have volunteered for the job. The QRO editor is relentless.

The Club now has a Tuesday night net at 7:30 p.m. (or 1930), as everyone with email must know by now. We've had three nets so far. Our Net Operators have been Mel Hughes, Steve Nash, and Bill Harper, and we've had a steady increase in the number of members checking in; some who've gone to great lengths to be there. For the first Tuesday Club Net, Denzel, KG6QWJ, stepped out of a movie theatre to check in, and Curtis W, KI6KUK, took a few moments from his birthday dinner. At that net I was asked to say a few words so I said a bunch, but no one could hear me. I finally switched to a rubber ducky and got into the repeater just fine for the rest of the Net. But no one asked me to talk again. The problem was later tracked down by Mel, K6SY, who did an antenna check, and discovered my problem...bum coax (well, okay, coax incorrect for the frequency--a problem I apparently got away with for awhile).

One of the great benefits of the Club Net has been information-sharing (gossip). During the first net, Dan Colburn, W6DC, mentioned the Space Station fly-by that evening, and after the net I'm pretty sure most of us were out searching

the southwestern sky for its arrival. It was pretty spectacular when it showed. Thank you, Dan.

John Freeman, WW6WW, got a lead on his quest to locate Guenther Daub, Steve Chmura, KC6WJA, is studying for his Extra license, Dan, W6DC's Kenwood is inoperative but Homer Meek, K6HKT, will loan his if it's not fixed by Lighthouse Weekend. It should be fixed, though, since Norm Witt, WI6TT, told us of a good Kenwood repair person in Placentia. And that's pretty much how the Club Net goes.

Our new Board has decided that this is the year we will create a master list of all the equipment that's been donated to the Club or acquired by the Club and which is being stored at various member's homes. For instance, I have a number of CDs and things that were donated to the Club by Dale Hanks, N6NNW, and I know many other members have stored stuff for the Club over the years.

Bryant Winchell, W2RGG, has offered to handle the list. His official title is Club Librarian; a title which I'm sure will be a surprise to him. (forgot to tell him) If you have items that you've been storing for the Club will you send a list of those items to Bryant?

It is with a sense of loss that I direct you to page 5 to read our webmeister's resignation. He will be moving out of state after his house is sold. Fortunately, not quite yet.

PVARC has been the better for having Rick, K6WXA, as a member. We owe him gratitude for all the roofs he's climbed, the antennas he's installed, the website he's created, and the massive amount of volunteer time he has so freely given. *(continued bottom of pg 3)*



de the VP

The VP's remarks will be shorter than usual this month for several reasons. For better or worse, I never quite retired, and a few weeks ago took on a job that will keep me very busy most of the way through April, trying to finish on time. It's terrible what people will do for money! Another member of the family says I must either quit working or quit volunteering. Maybe I really will retire; or at least raise my price enough to have much the same effect.

First, though, remember the upcoming meeting on the evening of April 16th. Our speaker will be Curt Kaplan, KB6GBW, who is coming from Simi Valley. He is with the National Weather Service, where he is forecaster and Weather Spotter / Skywarn coordinator. He will be looking for more volunteers as weather spotters. (Thanks to Rick Murray for finding him!)

At this point I would normally list the May, June and July speakers, and I would certainly do that if I had them. But don't give up!

Remember our talk on RDF/foxhunting by Joe Moell? He has an article in the current CQ (and the cover picture).

Another article in CQ, published ultimately early in April, describes a computerized system which will end the crowding of HF bands by allowing all contesting to be done strictly over the Internet. Another article of the same vintage deals with noise-cancellation systems. (Who remembers the Fenton Silencer of Arthur C. Clark?)

Field Day is only about ten weeks off!

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ

I'm sure more operators would be very welcome.

Still farther out, the Lighthouse Weekend on 15-17 August, and, very particularly, the Club Picnic! See www.palosverdes.com/pvarc, click on "News and Events", and then on what is currently the seventh item on the list, the Club Picnic on the 17th. Why attend? A social afternoon with abundant good food, at an uncommonly good site, with just us. There may be some radios around (see the sixth item), but you don't need to operate to eat. Do plan to bring some food to share!

While I'm thinking of entertainments, there are also the PV Marathon (Saturday, 17 May and the PV Concourse d'Elegance (19-21 September).

That's it for now! Denzel KG6QWJ

Still Pontificating

Personally, I will miss Rick's ready willingness to provide artwork and articles for the QRO and I will miss his friendship.

If I can speak for the Club, when he does go, we wish him a cheery new home, another Club who cares about him, and always good DX.

We have three new members this year: Paige Omoto, KI6MAH, a newbie YL with a great radio presence, Tom Egan, KI6PAN, who earned his Tech license after he joined the Club, and Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, a new member but a long-time ham involved in the microwave bands. All three have checked in on the Tuesday night Club Net as their schedules have permitted, and Paige has managed to check in all three times. Welcome!



March 2008 PVARC Meeting Minutes



Vice president Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, brought the meeting to order in lieu of a president, led the flag salute, and began the meeting by asking for a vote for a Club Bylaw change as follows:

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section 1 The officers of the club shall be: a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers ~~and~~ **with** the immediate Past President **and two elected Directors**, shall constitute the club executive committee for the purpose of conducting club business. All other official club positions shall be filled by appointment by the President; appointive officials shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

The amendment passed by a show of hands.

Denzel then called on Mel Hughes, who nominated Ginger Clark for president of PVARC, She accepted the nomination and was voted into office by a show of hands.

We took a break and then back to the program which answered pretty much every question you ever had about measuring time. Meeting was adjourned at 2100.



		BILL HARPER'S TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL 2008
PVARC BALANCE		\$2,019.38
JOHN ALEXANDER FUND		803.00
REPEATER FUND		957.66
TOTAL BANK BALANCE		\$3,780.04
MEMBERSHIP 2007		121 MEMBERS
RENEWED SO FAR 2008		94 MEMBERS
ARRL MEMBERS		61 MEMBERS

Board of Directors

President	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Vice President	Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ
Treasurer	Bill Harper, WA6ESC
Secretary	Bill Leighton, KG6WVF
Past President	Joe Locascio, K5KT

Appointed Offices

QRO Editor	Ginger Clark, KG6TAU
Editor Emeritus/ Proofreader	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
Graphics Guy	Rick Murray, K6WXA
Web Page Editor	Rick Murray, K6WXA
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liason	Jeff Wolf/Alan Soderberg

Contacts

QRO Editor	310-378-7894
WebMeister	310-544-0982



PVARC Website Statistics

Rick Murray, K6WXA
Webmeister



March 2008:

Number of Visits - 340
Average Visits Per Day - 11
* Visitors included 14 different countries
*14% of all visits were from outside the U.S
Average Page Views Per Visitor - 1.25
Average Time Per Visitor - 2 Minutes

Visitors by Operating System: (top three)

Windows XP (73%)
Windows Vista (13%)
MAC (7%)

Visitors by ISP: (top three)

Cox.net (24%)
Verizon.net (15%)
I.P. Address Only (14%)

Visitors by Web Browser (top three)

IE7 (53%)
IE6 (22%)
Firefox (14%)

1st Quarter of 2008:

Total Number of Visits: 748
Average Visits Per Month: 249
Average Visits Per Day: 8.31
On Average, Visitors from 16 countries visit the website each month
On Average, the visit is for 2 minutes, 11 seconds
On Average, the visitor views 2.21 pages

Administrative Website Data:

The website is 97.7 MB in size, consisting of 2,301 files in 32 topic pages. 6 updates were done to the site in the last quarter and the entire website was backed-up last on March 27th.

With the passing of my Dad the next step was for us to sell the house and finally settle the estate. At that time I was planning to move out of state. Recently the house sold and we entered escrow. Then escrow fell through as the would-be buyers changed their minds. So once again we're back at square one.

Nevertheless, I needed to plan for the inevitable and after much consultation and consideration, have handed over the job of Webmaster. So I wanted to let you know that as of May 1st, John Freeman, WW6WW, will be taking over as your webmaster. Before handing over the website I plan to, of course, post this edition of the QRO, the quarterly statistical report and the page with photos of the Club's recent IOTA expedition to Catalina Island.

I'd like all of you to know that your friendship has touched me deeply and means more than words can describe. Some of you, and you know who you are, have managed to worm your way into my heart. To all of you, you will not be forgotten.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as your webmaster for the past four years.

73 and good DX
Your webmaster,
Rick



**QRZ KC6TWP
(Guenter Daub) de
PVARC**

Last month I received an email from relatives, living in Germany, who are searching for Guenter Daub. They

saw a picture of Guenter from our club's 2002 Lighthouse Picnic pictures (see above), but have lost touch with him.

Guenter, KC6TWP, a long time member of the club, hasn't been seen at our club meetings since 2006. Guenter lives in Redondo Beach in a secure apartment building. After multiple attempts of contacting him by phone and in person, I finally succeeded. I gave the information from his relatives to Guenter over the phone, but I haven't been able to visit with him yet.

Many thanks to the club members for ideas and suggestions. It really helped. Guenter's current phone number is (310) 318-7961 if anyone would like to contact him.

John Freeman, WW6WW



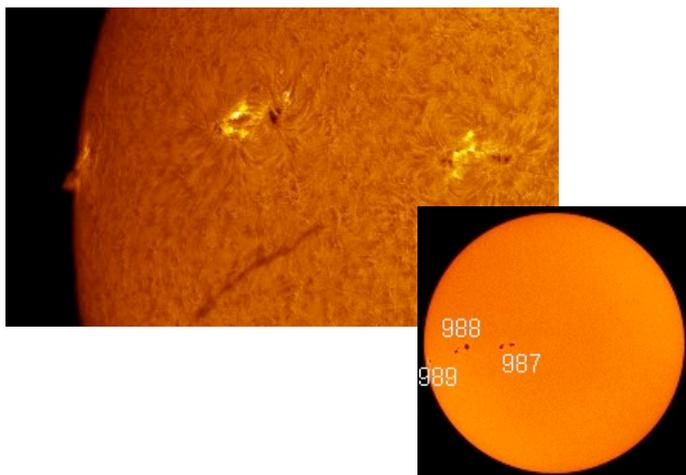
About Us

Belated congratulations to new member Tom Egan who earned his tech. license last month. He is now, KI6PAN.

Robert Keefer, KO6UA, is running a 75-meter net (3885) on Mondays, 1845 hours. Please check with him for whether it's weekly or monthly.

Many thanks to Herb Clarkson, KM6DD, who has been taking care of the PV West repeater site and reports this month that he has changed the cabinet filter, repaired a ceiling hole, and checked the antenna guy wires.

Congratulations to member Ray Day, N6HE. He has been qualified as an ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner and can now help give PVARC's Amateur Radio Exams.



SOLAR ACTIVITY ALERT: With little warning, three big sunspots materialized and on March 25th one of them (989) unleashed an M2-class solar flare. This is the biggest flare of the year and it signals a significant increase in solar activity. "It's March Madness," says Greg Piepol who photographed the three sunspots from his backyard observatory in Rockville, Maryland (Too bad it doesn't signal the new solar cycle).

To keep track of sunspots:

<http://www.spaceweather.com/>

Palos Verdes Marathon!

Coming up on Saturday, 17 May. We're in tolerably good shape with most of last year's operators returning, but unless we can somehow plug up Rick Murray's escrow process, we're going to want at least two more operators.

One of them will handle one of the fixed locations, probably the turnaround in Palos Verdes Estates. That one has been a problem, probably calling for a mobile transceiver and a particularly good antenna.

We also need one more Rover, who will have the mission of driving back and forth along the west and north end of the course (west end of landslide to the turn-around) watching for runners in trouble, and probably making a few deliveries. The far north end will be challenging to the Rover, too – you will want a mobile rig and a good antenna.

There will be room for a few more operators, too.

Join us for a day of UHF operation while doing something useful for the runners, on what is always a beautiful day on the coast. Call/e-mail Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ: denzel.dyer@verizon.net, or 1-310-377-7579.

It is said to be the second oldest Marathon operating continuously in the US next only to the Boston Marathon.

The route is from Point Fermin (San Pedro) to Western Avenue, then to 25th St. and west on Palos Verdes Drive South and Palos Verdes Drive West, then returning by the same route.

Denzel Dyer KG6QWJ
(denzel.dyer@verizon.net)



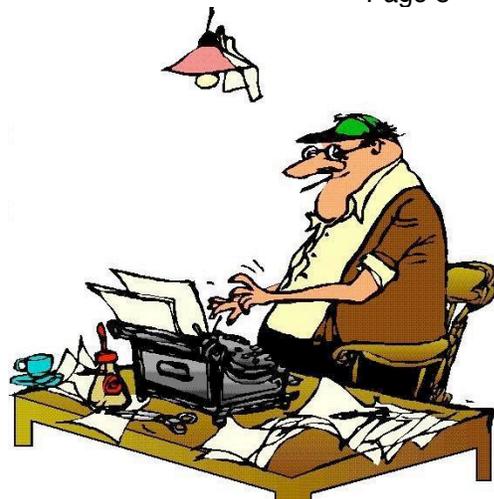
Be There or Be Square



Courtesy of WB6PSY and pilfered (with permission) from The Southern California DX Club newsletter.

ARRL Summary Report April 2008

compiled by Bryant Winchell, W2RGG



AMATEUR RADIO EXEMPT FROM CALIFORNIA'S NEW

"HANDS-FREE" LAW: On July 1, the State of California will have new laws on the books to deal with the use of wireless telephones while driving. There has been some confusion as to whether California amateurs who operate in their car will be affected by the new law. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicle's Web site "the use of dedicated two-way radios such as walkie-talkies or Citizen Band (CB) radios is not affected by the new law" for drivers 18 or older. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 10

STATION LOCATOR SERVICE NEW FOR FIELD DAY 2008 This year, for the first time, the ARRL has put together a Station Locator to help amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day site near them. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, go to the Field Day Station Locator Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>> and follow the instructions. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 11

EMCOMMWEST COMING TO RENO IN MAY EMCOMMWEST 2008 -- an ARRL specialty convention devoted entirely to emergency communications -- is coming to the Circus Circus Hotel Resor in Reno, Nevada May 2-4. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 11

ARRL EXPO REVVING UP FOR THE 2008 DAYTON HAMVENTION ARRL EXPO said Coordinator Katie Breen, W1KRB, <<http://www.arrl.org/expo>> "We're looking forward to this year's Dayton Hamvention <<http://www.hamvention.org>>. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 12

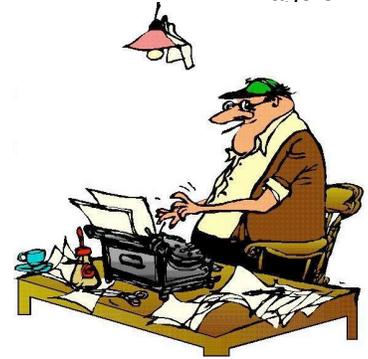
SOLAR UPDATE Tad "How the March Sun feels like May!" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: It is exciting to see heightened solar activity one week into spring. Currently, three sunspots are visible: 987, 988 and 989. The consensus says that all seem to be old Solar Cycle 23 spots. But with the three sunspot groups so close to the Sun's equator, it is hard to tell for certain. We know that Cycle 24 spots should have magnetic polarity opposing the magnetic signature of Cycle 23 sunspots, but this is also true for sunspots below the equator relative to sunspots above Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 12

Notes from the DXCC Desk: ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that the following operations have been approved for DXCC credit: the 2008 VP6DX DXpedition to Ducie Island; the 2008 TX5C DXpedition to Clipperton Island, and the 2007 S05A operation to Western Sahara have been approved for DXCC credit. If you have any questions about these operations, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk <dxcc@arrl.org>. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 12

GET READY FOR WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY ON APRIL 18

Each year on the anniversary of its founding, April 18, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) marks World Amateur Radio Day. On this 83rd anniversary of its inaugural meeting in Paris, the IARU dedicates World Amateur Radio Day to the future of Amateur Radio with its theme, "Amateur Radio: A Foundation for Technical Knowledge."

Many professionals in the field of radio, TV, communications and electronics have started their technical education as young radio amateurs. Although Amateur Radio has a different face nowadays, it is even of greater value as a foundation for technical knowledge for youngsters. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 13



ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST SCHEDULED FOR MAY The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on May 17, the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 10 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention, scheduled for May 16-18.

The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur crossband communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. These tests give Amateur Radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense and/or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital Armed Forces Day message from the Secretary of Defense Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 13

SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Who bade the Sun clothe you with rainbows" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The past few days have had very stable geomagnetic conditions. After unsettled to active geomagnetic indicators on March 26-28, conditions quieted down dramatically. Combined with the nearly two-week run of sunspots and the spring season, this makes good HF conditions. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 13

HAMS COME TO RESCUE IN UTAH: Idaho ham Eldon Kearn, K7OGM, came upon a truck which had fallen more than 100 feet over a cliff. Witnesses cell phones couldn't get coverage for help. Kearn was able to get a hold of another ham, Roger Ellis, KE7HTE, of Logan, Utah, who called 911. The driver and passengers suffered only minor injuries, but a spokesman for the Utah Highway Patrol said that if Kearn and Ellis had not gotten help so quickly, the injuries could have been much worse. As Kearn said, "It all worked out pretty good." Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 13

EXHIBIT KITS AVAILABLE FOR FIELD DAY: Visit the ARRL Field Day information page <<http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>> for all the details on Field Day rules, frequencies, forms, pins, logos and T shirts. The complete Field Day packet can be downloaded from the site as well. Ref.: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 13

OPPORTUNITIES 2008



APRIL

- 16 Club Meeting** Curt Kaplan of NOAA-- Skywarn and Weather Spotter programs. Hesse Park, 7:30 p.m.
- 19-20 Baker to Vegas Relay** <http://www.b2v.org>
- 25-27-International DX Convention-Visalia**

MAY

- 17-P. V. Marathon;** Contact Denzel Dyer
- 21-Club Meeting**

JUNE

- 14 2:00-5:30 Technician License Class course Part 1** Walt Ordway
- 18 Club Meeting - 7:30 - Hesse Park**
- 21 10:00-2:00 Technician License Class course Part 2** Walt Ordway
- 28-29 - Field Day!** Jeff Wolf
- 28 VE Test at Peninsula High**

JULY

- 16 Club Meeting - 7:30 - Hesse Park**

AUGUST

- 10 Hamfest Santa Barbara**
<http://sb.hamfest2008.tosoda.com/>
- 15-17 Lighthouse Weekend**
- 17 Club Picnic at the Lighthouse**

DECEMBER

- 5 - Holiday Party -- Interpretive Center**

**Are You Missing This Event?
Last Chance To Sign Up and Go**

The southern California DX Club is hosting the event this year April 25-27, and it is being co-chaired by our very own Mel Hughes, K6SY.

This convention is a most inexpensive way to meet, mingle, and learn from, some of the top DXers in the world.

For more information, go on-line to their site at www.dxconvention.org. Or, talk with Mel, K6SY, at the next meeting.

Either way, be sure to save the week-end of April 25-27th.

Bob Heil and Chip Margella will be speaking at the URAC meeting. Friday, April 18, 1900, at the LA Maritime Museum in San Pedro. PVARC members have been invited and it should be a terrific program. Thanks to Homer, K6HKT, for this reminder.

Need a Club Badge?

Contact Karen Freeman,
KG6BNN
310-541-6971



Need a Club Patch? \$5

Or How About a Club Jacket?

To order one, check with Joe Locascio.



Field Day !!!

Time to think about participating in this year's Field Day. We will be running three stations: SSB, CW, and GOTA (the station for guests who wander in to see what's going on.)

PVARC will again be stationed at Peninsula High for a 24-hour run to see how well our club can perform. Think about what station you'd like to run and what hours you'd like to be responsible for--either to operate or to log.

Signups will be soon!

Amateur Radio Course

Dates have Changed!

FCC “Technician” course (entrée level)

The course is 2 sessions

The 2 sessions are on June 14 & 21

**2:00 PM to 5:30 PM on June 14
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on June 21**

**The location is Hesse Park
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes**

- No pre-registration required -**
- No fee for either course -**
- Taking the FCC Test is \$14 -**
- The FCC test will be June 28**

Optional Material

- Study book with FCC test questions, \$15 -**
- Copy of my Power Point charts, \$10 -**

**Students (thru grade 12) who take this course and get their license
will be reimbursed up to \$40 by
The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club**

**For more information contact
Walt, K1DFO, at walt.ordway@yahoo.com**



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.