

# Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club



# K6PV



*By Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ.*

The theme of the program will be disaster operations but there will be plenty of time for socializing.

As you have read here there is a major disaster exercise coming in mid-November. There will be an assumed break on the San Andreas fault, resulting in simulated loss of communications, electrical power, road and rail connections, aqueducts, and lots of buildings. Various emergency service managers will have to make many decisions, with a good number of simulated mistakes which may help avoid real mistakes in an actual disaster. Amateur radio operators will be involved.

We expect to have a very nice short video talking about what to expect when we get a quake on the Palos Verdes fault. Bill Pomeranz, our link with the Los Angeles County Disaster Communications System will let us know the latest information on what we will be called on to do during the incident (simulated damage assessment, emergency communications within the Peninsula and with the outside world). But since he'll be in New York, Denzel will be channeling him.



## The President Pontificates

*Ginger Clark, KG6TAU*



Not too much to talk about this month, so I won't talk much.

First I would like to thank Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, for so superbly managing the PVARC table at PVIC during the city's birthday party last Saturday. Seems lots of people had other things to do (I had to work) but as you can read in Denzel's column, he had some fine help. It was a great excuse to hang out in a beautiful spot. Thank you Denzel and all.

Back in 1995, Herb Clarkson, KM6DD, was one of a group who created the DCS liason with the Palos Verdes School System, setting the schools up with emergency-radio-communication capability. Now, each month that schools are in session, he's been overseeing the schools net.

Well, it looks like Herb's finally decided he needed a break. As announced at the last meeting, he has turned the job over to the capable Diana Feinberg, KI6EAM.

The Holiday Dinner will be on December 5th; early enough to not interfere with other holiday commitments. The caterer is the same one we had last year and the food was terrific. We had such success with last year's NASA/JPL speaker that we decided to have one again. Denzel went searching and found another fascinating speaker who will talk about our Deep Space Radio Network. Two good reasons to get your tickets early. Contact Bill Harper at the meeting or on the roster, and give him money. Which reminds me, the cost of a dinner ticket is less this year.

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, has been handling the VE sessions quite competently and totally unheralded ever since he created them during his presidency. But his work schedule precludes him from continuing. So I'm searching for someone who has a few minutes to do the paper-

work with ARRL. It can be a non-VE person because we have VEs Alan Soderberg and Jeff Wolf to sign off if need be. Anyway, since I haven't had time to look for Dave's replacement, we didn't have VE session at the end of Walt Ordways' class this month. I'm hoping by January, when he'll be scheduling some other classes, we'll be up and running.

Meanwhile, thank you very much Dave Scholler for your work establishing and maintaining the VE program.

At the club meeting next month, we will have a treat! Members Ann and Ernst Willert, DJ 0IX/N6GVP and DK3FF/N6IDN, will be visiting in the area and will be talking about, well, just about anything we have to ask them about ham operations in Europe.

Ann Willert was president of PVARC back in 1984 and they moved to Zeisigweg, Germany, a suburb of Bonn, not many years after that.

Hope to see you all at this meeting and the next and the holiday dinner.

73, KG6TAU



Looks like we have another member in the news this month. Matthew Cruise, N6MDC, was quoted in *The Beach Reporter* talking about his experiences using his hand held to call in emergencies when cell phones were unavailable. And he noted that these were just a few examples of why it's important to keep amateur radio use alive.



de the VP

Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ

First off, the Club had a table at the RPV Birthday celebration at the Interpretive Center, on Saturday, 11 October.

Many thanks to Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, and Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK, who sat with me at the table all morning. (Later Curtis's wife Debbie brought their three boys for awhile.) Thank you also to the ever-reliable Steve Nash, WB6ZJD, and to Bob Keefer, KO6UA, for covering the afternoon shift.

We put up a board full of photos of the PVARC member's events, created by Dave Scholler, and put two fliers I created on the table: *What Do Radio Amateurs Actually do?*, and *What Does the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club Do?*

The general idea was to make friends for amateur radio and PVARC, perhaps even get a few visitors interested to the point of getting their own licenses.

We had up a couple of battery-powered radios and portable antennas along with our hand-holds. Curtis was using Mel Hughes, K6SY, Hustler multi-band HF antenna and a 2M/440MHz J-pole antenna. We didn't really get much traffic.

Next up is the earthquake exercise "ShakeOut" starting 10 a.m. on Thursday, 13 November. The assumption is a 7.8 magnitude break in the southern San Andreas fault, from the Salton Sea up to northern Los Angeles County. In the minutes, hours and days after such a disaster, incident commanders from local neighborhoods up through Sacramento will have to make lots of decisions. Many of them will be wrong. Some of those will be in our operations.

Making and recognizing wrong decisions now, will hopefully help prevent making them in the future, and will save lives and property when a real disaster hits.

Remember that the southern San Andreas appears to be well overdue for a break, and that there are three known faults that are a lot closer and more dangerous. More information at the October 15<sup>th</sup> Club meeting; and check [www.shakeout.org](http://www.shakeout.org).

Don't forget the Christmas Party on the evening of 5 December! Not quite 8 weeks away. This is a good time to get your checks in to Treasurer Bill Harper.

Other programs: still pretty much as listed in last month's QRO.

Did you miss Dennis Kidder on grounding and lightning protection? You have another chance. He is presenting his talk at URAC, at the Maritime Museum (once the ferry building), San Pedro, Friday, 17 October, 7 PM.

Looking ahead:

Think about being a candidate as a Club officer or director. In particular, the Vice-Presidency will be open.

I expect that the Palos Verdes Marathon will be early to mid May next year. Unless someone would like to take over now, I'll be available to manage the radio communications once more. Anyone like to sit in, learn the business, and be a back-up this year?



# Opportunities

## October

**October 11, Saturday**--RPV City anniversary - Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center.--10-4

## November

**November 13, Thursday**--Great Shake-out begins at 10 a.m. If you're not involved in emergency ops, then join a few million L.A. residents under your table!



## December

**December 5, Friday**--Holiday Dinner--Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center. Happy Hour at 6 p.m., Dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets from Bill Harper, WA6ESC.



*Need a Club Badge?  
Contact  
Karen Freeman, KG6BNN  
310-541-6971*



*Need a Club Patch? or a Club Jacket?  
You can get either from  
Dave Scholler, KG6BPH  
310-373-166*



## Treasurer's Report

Bill Harper

### October 2008

PVARC Balance	\$2,067.84
John Alexander Fund:	\$ 803.00
Repeater Fund:	<u>\$ 967.66</u>
Total Bank Balance	<u>\$3,838.50</u>

Membership 2008	121
ARRL Members	77

## My Shack



Call the QRO editor to talk about your shack. Or send us an e-mail.

We'd sure like to hear what you're doing, what bands you're on, what kind of fun you're having.



## 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
Directors:	Mel Hughes,	K6SY
	(Open)	

## Appointed Offices

QRO Editor	Ginger Clark,	KG6TAU
Asst to Editor	Paige Omoto,	KI6MAH
Proofreader	Bryant Winchell,	W2RGG
Web Page Editor	John Freeman,	WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell,	W2RGG
VE Coordinator	(Open)	
VE Liason	Jeff Wolf	K6JW
	/Alan Soderberg	W8CU
LAACARC Rep	Joe Locascio,	K5KT

## Contacts

QRO Editor	310-378-7894
WebMaster	310-541-6971



This year marks my 50<sup>th</sup> year as an amateur radio operator. In celebration of this milestone (where did all the years go?), I decided to combine a visit to the ARRL with the trip Rowie and I took to Boston and points north on a Holland America cruise that had port stops in Bar Harbor (Maine), Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and then down the St. Lawrence to Quebec City and Montreal.

We arrived in Boston two days before sailing and, after a good night's sleep, set off for Newington and ARRL HQ on the morning of 29 August. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by very friendly staff and given a thorough tour of HQ. Highlights of this portion of our visit included seeing the original Wouff Hong and Rettysnitch (if you don't know what these are, ask any seasoned ham), visiting the production areas for QST and all the art and graphics for League publications, and chatting with Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. By the time we had done all this, it was lunchtime for the League staff and for us. Rowie and I took a short walk to little restaurant a few blocks away, shared a pizza, and then headed back for some real fun.

Okay, real fun for me. Rowie parked herself outside on a comfortable chair to read while I went into the W1AW station building (see photo). Inside, I found three stations, all with Yaesu transceivers: one

## K6JW Operates W1AW

### Jeff Wolf

Mark-V FT-1000 and two FT-2000s, if I recall. I chose the Mark-V station since that what I operate at home, and I figured I should stay with what's familiar if I was going to generate a pileup. Even better, the Mark-V was paired with a brand new Alpha 9500 just like mine, so it was a piece of cake to get on the air feeding a 20 meter monobander on a 125 foot tower. Yes, indeed, I was suddenly a VERY big force to be reckoned with!

Just how big I soon found out. One CQ just after 1400 hrs EDT produced a solid wall of signals calling me. It sounded more like a wave of noise than anything else, and I quickly faced a dilemma: stay simplex or go split? By listening carefully, however, and with very subtle use of RIT, I was able to make out signals that could beat the general din, and with the beam pointed west I was able to give out many contacts to the deserving on the "left coast". Some

signals just boomed into Newington, including K5KT's. Joe was at least 10 over 9 and equal to some of the loudest eastern and southeastern US signals that I heard. Other PVARC members had signals from S3 to about S6 or S7, but in true pileup fashion, I gave most stations the customary 59 report. My special thanks to Joe, who was kind enough to tip me off to the weaker signals from PVARC members so I could ask the teeming multitude to QRX while I listened for friends.



*W1AW: The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL HQ*

(K6JW at W1AW continued)

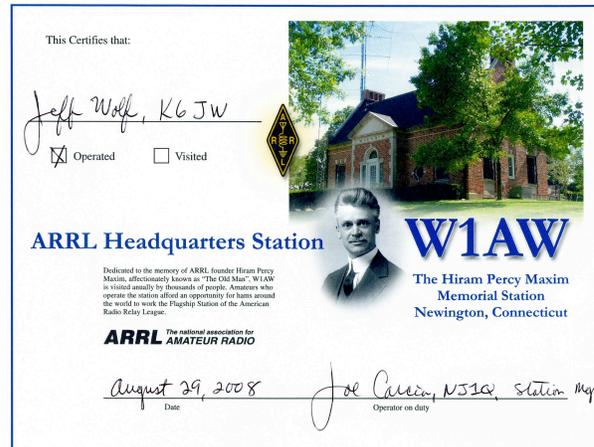


Some of the callers out there may have thought this unfair, but my primary goal was to make contacts available for the folks at home who might never have worked W1AW in the past. For those of you who got through, send your QSL card to the League and they'll send you a nice W1AW card confirming the contact, as all contacts were logged on their computer logging program. If, in the heat of dealing with the pileup, I inadvertently neglected to get you into the log, let me know and I'll contact the League to correct the problem.

Incidentally, for those of you who know a ham legend when you hear one on the air, I was flabbergasted when I was called by Frank Clement, W6KPC. Frank is a true gentleman and grand personage who always is most gracious and kind to everyone at the IDXC in Visalia each year. If you haven't seen his QSL card, Google his call-sign for a link that will show you an antenna array the likes of which you won't see anywhere in P.V. And, for the record, he has one hell of a great signal!

At around 1440 hrs EDT, I noticed another visitor to the ARRL whom I had met earlier in the day standing outside the glass window of "my" operating area. I announced on the air that I would be back shortly and went out to greet this ham, a visitor from Italy. He had a sked arranged with a friend back home, and so I relinquished the rig to him and was not able to extend my visit long enough to get back on the air. I did learn, however, that the Italian visitor succeeded in making the sked with his friend, which made me feel good that I had ceded the rig to him.

Before leaving, I was given a certificate certifying that I had operated W1AW,



*The proof that I operated W1AW*

and this will be framed and hung in a place of honor in my shack.

For those of you whom I contacted, I hope you had as much fun making the contact as I did in operating the League's fabulous station. For those of you who didn't get through the pileup, keep listening, as many visitors operate the station and, sooner or later, you'll get the contact. For those of you who didn't try, what are you waiting for? There is simply no thrill like the thrill of sending your voice (or CW, or PSK-31, RTTY, or...) into the ether and hearing a friendly signal come back to YOU, a signal from a person you probably have never met but who instantly becomes someone with whom you will have a special, enduring bond.

And, if you're a League member and can visit Newington, be sure to call ahead and let them know that you want to operate W1AW. They'll be happy to see you. When you go, remember to bring along a copy of your license. You'll be allowed to operate within the scope of your privileges, and you'll have a ball operating the business end of the pileup!

73 es CUL,  
Jeff, K6JW



# Saturday, Oct 11

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club booth at the Palos Verdes Interpretive Center celebrating the anniversary of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes.



Denzel Dyer, KG6QWJ, and Dave Scholler, KG6BPH at the table. Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK, behind the camera.



*Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club  
Annual Christmas Holiday Dinner*

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

*Friday, December 5th, 2008  
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~~ \$37.00 per person.

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



Catered by "Entertaining Friends" of Manhattan Beach



October 2008

## ARRL Summary Report

October 2008

Compiled by Bryant Winchell, W2RGG



**ARRL PRESENTS NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT** With just a mouse click or two, ARRL members can now access the online QST magazine archive <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qgnsearch.html>>.

This new benefit -- a service of the ARRL Technical Information Service (TIS)

<<http://www.arrl.org/tis/>> -- provides PDF copies of all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2004, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 36* [emphasis added- W2RGG]

**2008 FIELD DAY LOGS RECEIVED, POSTED ONLINE** All 2008 Field Day logs that have been received have been posted to the Claimed Scores page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/claimed>> on the ARRL Web site. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 36*

**SOLAR UPDATE** Tad "Close bosom-friend of the maturing Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: A new sunspot -- number 1001 -- emerged on Thursday, September 11. It is actually a single group with two small magnetic disturbances; we hope it is not another like the last sunspot, a weak one that barely emerged on August 21-22. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 36*

**THIRD ANNUAL ARRL ON-LINE AUCTION SET FOR OCTOBER** The Third Annual ARRL On-Line Auction kicks off October 23, running until November 1 on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/auction>>. This is your chance to pick up one-of-a-kind Amateur Radio items. To see what the Auction will offer this year, be sure to check out the Auction preview that begins October 16. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 37*

### **MONTANA HAM ASSISTS IN RESCUE OF FELLOW AMATEUR 600 MILES AWAY**

On Sunday, September 21, Bob Williams, N7ODM, of Bozeman, Montana, was just tuning around on 40 meters, giving his rig a test just before a scheduled QSO with his brother Rich, K7URU, in Spokane, when he heard a faint CW signal around 1 PM (MDT): Glenn Russell Ruby Jr, W7AU, of Corvallis, Oregon had broken his leg and was using a portable radio and Morse code to send out a call for help. Williams said he was able to understand the injured man's code even when his signal became very weak. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 38*

### **RICHARD GARRIOTT, W5KWQ, FOLLOWS DAD OWEN, W5LFL, INTO SPACE**

Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, a well-known programmer and designer in the video game world, will soon be a household name to those who follow space flights. He's the next private citizen to be flown to the International Space Station (ISS) by the Russian Federal Space Agency (RKA), and is taking ham radio into space just as his dad Owen Garriott, W5LFL -- the first ham to make QSOs from space -- did in 1983. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 38*

### **SOLAR UPDATE**

Tad "From the Sun that 'round me roll'd in its autumn tint of gold" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: This week saw the appearance of another sunspot -- a new Solar Cycle 24 spot -- larger and lasting a little longer than last week's Solar Cycle 23 sunspot. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 38*

**ANOTHER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEDAL FOR ARDF TEAM USA** Ten years ago, only a few hams in North America knew that on-foot hidden transmitter hunting is an international sport with many names such as foxtailing, foxhunting, radio-orienting and Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) <<http://www.homingin.com/index.html>>. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 39*

**2009 ARRL HANDBOOK (EIGHTY-SIXTH EDITION) NOW AVAILABLE** "The 2009 ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications" uniquely serves both amateur experimenters and industry practitioners, emphasizing connections between basic theory and application. It is simply the standard in applied electronics and communications. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 389*

**SOLAR UPDATE** Tad "When all the birds are faint with the hot Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The sunspot appearance reported last week seems to follow the pattern emerging for most of 2008. A spot will appear for one or two days and then suddenly it is gone. Last week's report mentioned the solar wind being at an all time low. This week, NASA announced that so far, 2008 is the "blankest year of the space age," with more than 200 spotless days *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 39*

**ARRL AUCTION: GETTING DOWN TO THE WIRE** Excitement continues to build as the ARRL gets ready to preview items for the Third Annual On-Line Auction on Thursday, October 16 <<http://www.arrl.org/auction>>. With almost 140 items up for bid – with more being added every day -- this event promises to have something for just about everyone. The auction kicks off October 23 and runs until October 31 on the ARRL Web site. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 40*

**SPECTRUM DEFENSE: "MORE WORK TO DO"** Defending and enhancing access to the Amateur Radio spectrum is the primary mission of the ARRL. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, the League has not only protected the bands, but has also added several new ones, despite exponential growth in the variety and number of radio frequency devices in the hands of consumers and businesses. "Even our most disappointing defeat -- the loss of the bottom 40 percent of the 220 MHz band some two decades ago -- gave us upgraded status, from shared to exclusive, in the remaining 60 percent of the band," he said.

Sumner said that amateurs will soon have cause to celebrate: March 29, 2009 marks the date that high-powered international broadcasting stations will be removed from the heart of the 40 meter band. [emphasis added-W2RGG] *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 40*

**PENNSYLVANIA BECOMES 27TH STATE WITH PRB-1 LAW ON BOOKS** On Wednesday, October 8, Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell (D) signed into law a bill that guarantees radio amateurs the right to erect antenna support structures up to 65 feet without the need for a Special Use Permit. The bill passed in the House with a vote of 196-1 and in the Senate with a vote of 49-1. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 40*

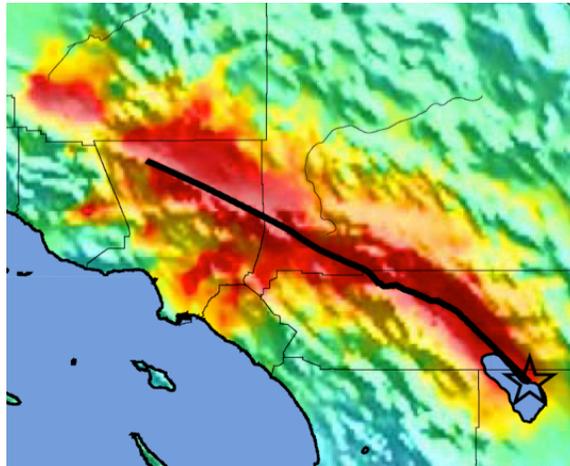
**AMERICAN HAMS TO LEAD 2009 DXPEDITION TO DESECHEO ISLAND** The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has selected a group of hams led by veteran DXpeditioners Bob Allphin, K4UEE, and Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, to lead a DXpedition to Desecheo Island, KP5 (IOTA NA-095), in early 2009 <<http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/Refuges/Desecheo/default.htm>>. Desecheo currently sits at number 7 on DX Magazine's Most Wanted list <<http://hamgallery.com/countries/>>. *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 40*

**SOLAR UPDATE** Tad "When clear October suns unfold" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: A familiar sight appeared this week, as a sunspot emerged for one day, then was gone. Based on its magnetic polarity and high position in our Sun's southern hemisphere, sunspot 1003 was a new Solar Cycle 24 sunspot; like all the other recent sunspots, *Ref.: The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 4035*





# Why should you be involved in some aspect of The Great Southern California Shake Out on November 14?



## Because

See you with DCS or  
your city emergency center or  
ducking under a table  
on Friday, November 14 at 10 a.m.



**K6PV**

**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) New Member Information: or **Member Renewal: same as Last Year? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

License Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member (?) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only: Month - Day)

Member of: (DCS, RACES, ARES, PVAN, NART) \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Unit ID # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only: Month - Day)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only: Month - Day)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Only: Month - Day)

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 (PVARC)

NOTE: Dues are based on January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year.