



QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NOVEMBER 2011

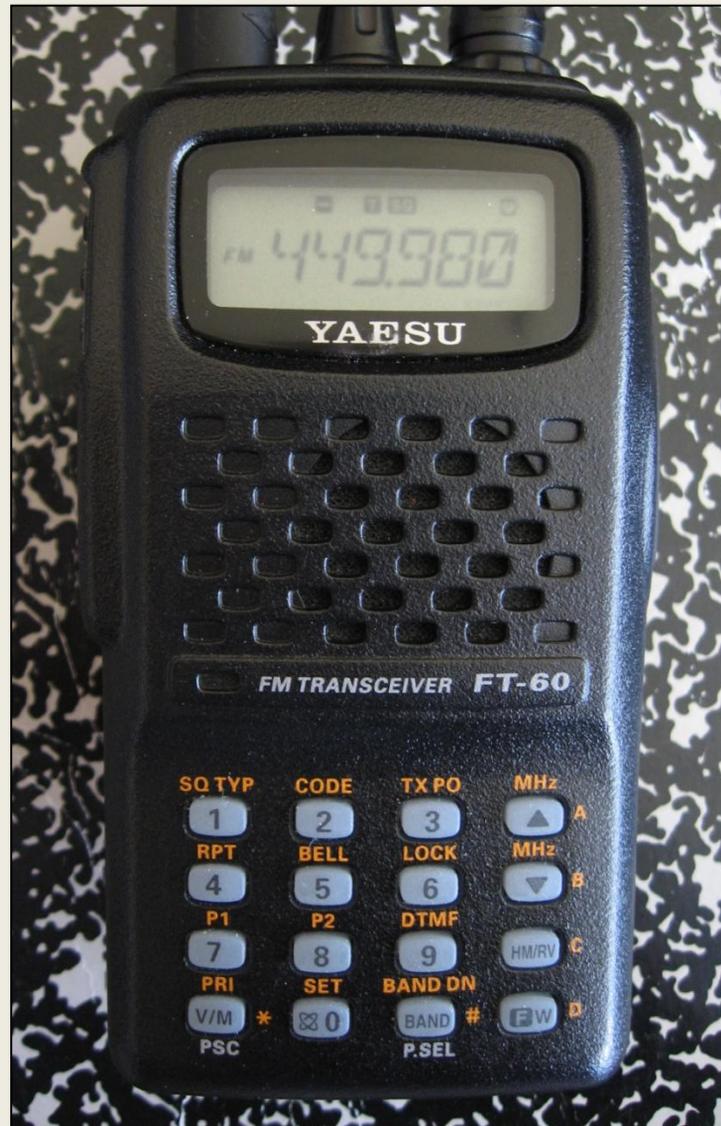
Care and feeding of your HT radio: Some useful advice for all ham operators (new or long-time), with a bonus...

Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, will present “Care and feeding of your HT radio” at PVARC’s November 16 meeting. Even long-time hams will learn something new about maintaining their HT radios.

Dennis will also have a short bonus presentation, “So I have my ham license, now what?” There are many avenues of amateur radio to explore—most of us have only experienced a few aspects and many new hams haven’t tried one yet.

Next PVARC Meeting:
November 16 (Wednesday)
Place: Fred Hesse Park,
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.,
Rancho Palos Verdes
Time: 7:30 pm

About our speaker: Dennis, W6DQ, was first licensed in 1969 and his engineering career has taken him into several related fields, including publishing, building concert sound systems, and systems that control spacecraft and air traffic. He resides in Fullerton and recently served as president of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach club. He has also been the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communication System. ■



Our President Speaks: A November Wrap-Up

By Jeff Wolf, K6JW
PVARC President

Band performance continues to be impressive, with lots of DX to work. One of our members, newer on the bands, worked 20 countries last weekend in the CQ WW SSB contest using 100 watts and an 8 foot vertical elevated 12 feet. So, what's YOUR excuse!!!

I, myself, have had one of those "no good deed goes unpunished" experiences. I agreed to Beta test a new version of my logging program. It turned out to be a mess, forcing me to go through multiple attempts at fixes before finally throwing in the towel after a week of diddling and going back to the last release. Now, in all fairness, the program is great. My experience was with an unreleased test version that will be spiffed and only released when it's ready. But going without a fully functional logging program for several days was not fun for this DXer.

For those wondering about why we haven't yet seen the monetary proceeds from Hamcon, Diana reports that closeout of the Hamcon books won't be until about four months from the event in order to be sure all the bills are paid. So, we'll probably see our check sometime after the first of next year. We expect to recoup more than our initial investment, so things are looking good.

Next month, 14 December to be exact, is the date of our holiday party. PLEASE sign up and send in your checks ASAP. The restaurant needs an attendance count by 1 December, so we need to hear from you (and see the money!) now. This is going to be a great banquet, with lots of great food in a beautiful setting at the Ports O'Call restaurant. You'll be VERY upset if you miss it.

Saturday and Sunday of the Thanksgiving weekend will see the next big DX contest: the CQ WW CW contest. Brush up your Morse and plan to join the fray. It's fun and you'll build your entity totals quickly with all the DX stations who'll

want to work you for points. Even if you don't formally enter the contest as a competitor, those who work you will be able to count the contacts, so you've got nothing to lose and you can be doing those contesters a big favor by getting your call sign into their logs.

I also had a catastrophic hardware failure on my non-amateur radio computer about a week and a half ago, so it's a good thing I didn't plan on sending a Weekly Bulletin last week, while I was out of town. I replaced the entire computer and got back up and running fairly quickly, but have you ever noticed that this sort of thing can eat up a whole lot of time while software is reloading, updates are being downloaded and installed, and you're fighting with Windows every time it burps? It's truly amazing how these things have taken over our lives in such a short time. My kids (now 30 and 33) have never even used a typewriter.

This month's meeting program on Nov. 16th is entitled "The Care and Feeding of Your HT". If you're a new operator or just plain confused about how to operate and maintain your HT, you should definitely plan to attend. Our presenter will be Dennis Kidder, W6DQ. See you all at the meeting.

73 es gud DX,

Jeff, K6JW ■

ARRL 2011 Field Day results were released just as this **QRO** issue was finalized.

In the LAX section we were again the #1 station in the 2A category (see table on page 8) and #4 overall.

We'll have further details on our results nationally and regionally at our November 16th meeting.

Monthly Program Notes From Our Vice President

By Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
PVARC Vice President

It was “everything you ever wanted to know about DX, but were afraid to ask,” at last month’s PVARC meeting. Mel Hughes gave a superb review of both the technology and the practice of communications with another “entity.” Special thanks to Mel, K6SY, for an entertaining and informative review of DX, from A to Z.

In November we move from the long distance realm to essentially line-of-sight communications, as our program this month will focus on the UHF/VHF bands and the handheld radios that are most prevalent at these frequencies.

Unlike radio enthusiasts of days past, who often built their own first equipment and worked in the MF and HF ranges, today’s newly-minted hams often purchase their first radios and the first ones bought are, more often than not, for VHF and UHF communications.

This turnaround is based on two key facts. First, with a Technician license, communication band rights include a lot more bandwidth and possibility in the UHF/VHF regions than on HF. In fact, for a Technician (with one exception) HF operation is limited to CW (code) over the following ranges: 28.0-28.3 MHz on 10 meters, 21.025-21.5 MHz on 15 meters, 7.025-7.125 MHz on 40 meters, and 3.525-3.6 MHz on 80 meters. Technicians may use HF SSB only on 28.3-28.5 MHz in the 10-meter band. With the elimination of code as a license requirement in 2007, many Technicians opt for a phone only approach—at least at first.

On the other hand, all modes and all amateur frequencies are open in the 6 meter, 2 meter, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, 900 MHz and 1200 MHz bands. CW and weak signal transmissions are indeed allowed, and certain parts of the spectrum are “devoted” to these modes.

But at these higher frequencies, FM, SSB, Satellite, TV and digital modes all are included. Even with all these options to choose from, most hams opt first for what they can do easiest and quickest: FM phone with a handheld radio. They can get on the air right away and start to use their radios for friendly or emergency communications. For \$200 or even less, a licensee is “into the hobby”. The “handy-talkie” radio, with its short, flexible, “rubber duck” antenna, has become an almost universal first radio for new hams today. And that’s the reason we are devoting the November program to this family of radios.

And a large and diverse family it is. By a recent count, there are over 40 HT radios for the ham bands currently on the market, ranging from simple single band FM units to multiband, multimode, GPS, D-Star equipped ones with terminal node controllers and on and on. The one(s) you are drawn to depends on a combination of interest, intended uses and pocketbook.

A ham that has kept abreast of HT developments for many years will share his knowledge with us at our November meeting. We are pleased to welcome Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, to speak with us at the November 16th meeting on the subject of “Care and Feeding of Your HT.” A native of Rolling Hills Estates, now residing in Fullerton, Dennis is an Extra Class holder whose enthusiasm for ham radio is contagious.

Dennis has promised to include a sub-element to this HT presentation along the subject line of, “So I have my license, now what?” It promises to be a worthwhile review for the long-timer, and a timely introduction and “what’s next” look for the new ham. ■

Commentary

Where is the “perfect” HT radio?

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

While working in Chicago during 1980 my fortune cookie one day at a Chinese restaurant held a strange message at the end of lunch. My fortune read, “Stop searching forever; happiness is just beside you.” My adjacent male colleagues thought it was most amazing fortune cookie they had ever seen.

Nearly 32 years later I wish this fortune had been shipped with at least one of my HT ham radios. I now own eight HTs from three manufacturers, yet am still searching for HT happiness after participating in extensive public service activities. My radio needs may be different from yours and I use these radios in many environments—I also know my radios quite well.

So why have HT makers yet to make the “perfect” HT? Probably it’s the union of Frugality and Hope.

Score one for Frugality: Ham radio makers spend little on consumer research, leaving their engineers to design imperfect (and smaller) HT radios without much input from users. Among other things, this has resulted in:

- **Buttons and labels almost impossible to read at night or in low light** (worst example: Yaesu VX-7R black model, with dark gray alternate function labels on black background.)
- **Inconsistent function abbreviations and terms across models** (even within a manufacturer’s own line).
- **Function “F” key on radio’s side next to the PTT** (Alinco, are you listening? At the PV schools, I’ve dubbed the Function key above the small PTT on their Alinco HT’s as the “DANGER” button—too easy to push and hold when talking, operators then accidentally muck up other settings.)
- **Speaker-mike jacks that do not securely hold their four-wire plug** (Yaesu FT-60, FT-250, and VX-5 users find their speaker-mike plugs will slide out and, when they do, trip the PTT circuit to create an open mike. Users need rubber band to hold plug in place during public service events.)
- **Non-standard wiring** (Kenwood reverses wiring for external speaker and mike from rest of industry. Need separate earpiece/mike for Kenwood.)
- **Battery indicators far from accurate** (and no audible warning on most HTs when battery is dangerously low until too late.)
- **Re-chargeable battery life too short, especially in compact HTs**; Ni-Mh batteries also have high self-discharge rates. Larger batteries are definitely worth the added bulk.
- **Yaesu “WIRES” internet access too-easily activated**, hard to notice (first two seconds of speech clipped, perhaps it’s your call sign you were trying to say?)
- **Batteries and accessories multiply across a manufacturer’s HT line**; not good for users operating in the field with multiple radio models. Thankfully, four Yaesu HT models now share the same battery and certain accessories. (...List goes on.)

“Hope” as a reason? Revlon cosmetics founder Charles Revson famously said in the 1950’s: “In the factory we make cosmetics; in the drugstore we sell hope.” Yes, hope sells products with such implicit messages as: “Buy these sporting goods or apparel (with all their features) and improve your game”; “Buy this high-end ham radio (with its features) and improve your DXing”, etc.

But wait—no one has been selling “hope” with my HTs. Come to think of it, actually it’s the other way: I am “hoping” radio designers strive toward perfection by considering user operating environments. In turn, radio manufacturers must be “hoping” their imperfections in HT design stimulate demand for their next imperfect model. Regrettably, my 1980 fortune cookie verse won’t be included with my next HT anytime soon. ■

PVARC's 2012 Catalina Island DXpedition: Feb. 22-26

PVARC members are invited to operate at our club's fifth annual "Islands on the Air" DXpedition at Two Harbors on Catalina Island during February 22-26, 2012.

Nearby Catalina Island carries IOTA's ID of NA-066. But IOTA's database actually lists 10 islands around the world whose name includes the word "Catalina".

NA-066 has still only been contacted by 32% of IOTA participants worldwide despite our annual presence. Amazingly, many of the other "Catalina" islands have higher QSO rates: 40% of IOTA participants have contacted Santa Catalina Island in the western Caribbean near Nicaragua's east coast, for example.

PVARC member Ray Day, N6HE, is again leading our DXpedition to NA-066. Contact him at: rayday@cox.net if you would like to join our 2012 DXpedition. Stay for a couple of days or the entire time. This year's DXpedition will again coincide with the North American RTTY QSO Party and CQ Magazine's Worldwide 160-Meter contest—many QSO's guaranteed. ■

What are "Islands on the Air"?

In 2014 the Radio Society of Great Britain will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its "Islands on the Air" (IOTA) program. The RSGB is Britain's equivalent of our ARRL.

Operated as an RSGB committee, Islands on the Air has created an identifying number for every island in the world and encourages amateurs to make contacts with as many as possible.

As a lead-in to IOTA's 50th anniversary, IOTA "chasers" during 2012-2013 are encouraged to contact as many different IOTA groups as possible, and IOTA "activators" to operate from as many island groups as possible, with special emphasis on less-frequently activated ones.

A points system will reward "activators" with higher scores for activating the rarer IOTA groups. Certificates and awards will be available to both Chasers and Activators.

PVARC will briefly "activate" Catalina Island in February 2012 and hopefully in 2013 as well. ■

So distant, so close: The Palos Verdes Peninsula, seen in background, from Two Harbors on Catalina Island during last year's IOTA DXpedition. We traveled using Catalina Express ships, not the kayaks shown. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF



...And now, for a completely different IOTA DXpedition: area Boy Scouts operate HF from Santa Cruz Island

By Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK

This past weekend (November 5-6, 2011) on Santa Cruz Island our Boy Scout group worked mostly 10-meters and a bit on 20-meters. We had a lot of fun contacting many stations nationwide and many DX from our site near Scorpion Anchorage.

We used a 3-element Hy-Gain TH-3JR tri-band antenna given by Joe Pace, NZ6L, atop a 20' mast. Two 17Ah/20hr. batteries from Ray Day, N6HE, powered a Yaesu FT-897 (100 watts) by lantern light.

I carried the whole antenna and mast in a 6" x 8' ABS plastic pipe. My radio, coax and batteries fit into a backpack. We used a rope to rotate the Yagi antenna.

Next IOTA??? . . . After Catalina 2012, Santa Cruz Island NA-144?? ■

All photos by Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK



Top: The rugged northern coastline of Santa Cruz Island seen from Potato Harbor, with the island's west end in background.



Center: Several Scouts operating KI6KUK's Yaesu FT-897 using batteries and lantern light.

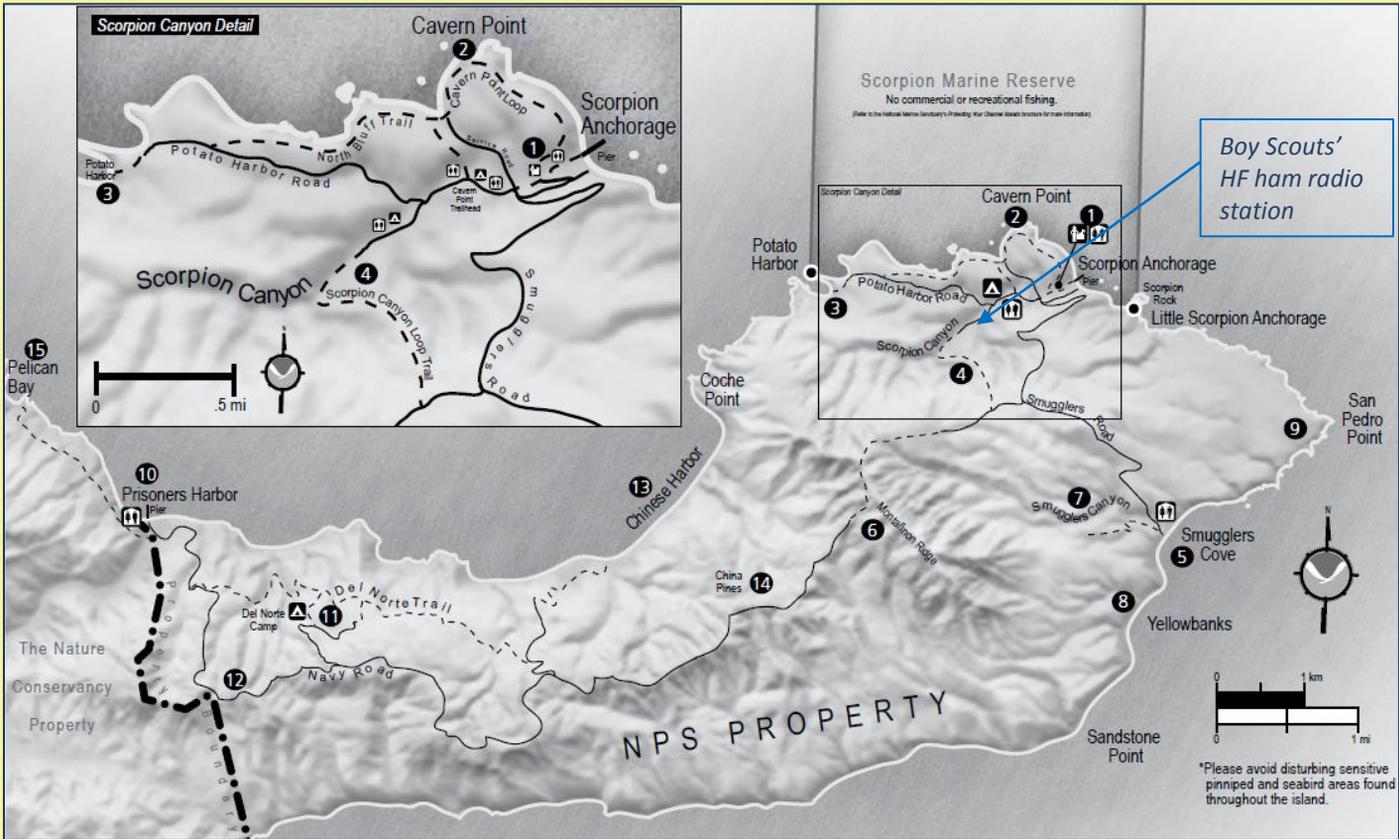
Editor's Note about Santa Cruz Island:

Santa Cruz Island was the largest privately-owned island in the United States, but today is 76% owned by The Nature Conservancy and 24% by the U.S. National Park Service.

Quite a few groups have had accredited IOTA DXpeditions to the several Channel Islands, NA-144, of which Santa Cruz Island is a part. But only 24% of IOTA "chasers" have worked any of the Channel Islands.



Bottom: The 3-element tri-band Yagi antenna and 20-foot mast setup PVARC member Curtis Watanabe brought to Santa Cruz Island with the Boy Scout DXpedition during November 5-6, 2011. This station was situated at the Scorpion Ranch/Anchorage (see map, next page.)



Map Credit: U.S. National Park Service
<http://www.nps.gov/chis/planyourvisit/upload/scihiking2011website.pdf>

Some larger views of Santa Cruz Island, NA-144, where KI6KUK and the Boy Scouts operated on 20- and 10-meters, Nov. 5-6, 2011

Satellite View of Santa Cruz Island, IOTA NA-144
 Photo credit: NASA, <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=3162>

The island is 22 miles long from west to east.



▲ Mt. Diablo, 2,450 ft., is highest point in Channel Islands and site of the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club's 223.920 MHz open repeater, K6TZ, PL 131.8—easily reached from Palos Verdes area.

Santa Cruz Island Fault splits island from west to east: Volcanic rock on north side of fault, sedimentary rock on south side.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE
PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
IN 2011**

Jerry Shaw, KI6RRD

Barbara Shaw, KI6STY

Jeremy Shaw, KI6SUA

Malin Dollinger, KJ6HUB

Stephen Barlock, KC6EID

Sheldon Lawrence, KI6ATA

Dennis Bales, KJ6PLM

Robert Grotz, KJ6OQU

Eric Siess, W6EWS

Mike Caulfield, AF6VT

Vickie Ruch, N6SKY

Rhon Williams, KJ6IRJ

Robert Hanel, KJ6RAA

2011 Field Day Flash Results from ARRL: **K6PV**
#4 of 39 LAX entrants; #1 in 2A

Displaying entries for **Section=LAX**

Entries 1 to 25 of 39 listed

Prev · Next

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#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	Gr	Ca
1	N6GA	9,275	4AB	905	5		
2	K6AA	9,194	4A	2,941	2		
3	W6TRW	5,248	6A	2,092	2		
4	K6PV	4,492	2A	1,156	2		
5	WA6P	4,430	2A	1,246	2		
6	K6OX	3,834	4A	950	2		K6
7	K6TI	3,432	4A	795	2		K6
8	K6CCR	2,870	3F	555	2		K6
9	W6KA	2,760	4A	565	2		
10	AA6DP	2,414	1C	555	2		
11	W6SBA	2,408	3A	590	2		W
12	W6QET	2,016	2A	454	2		
13	KI6J	2,016	1A	720	2		

“The Radio Link—A Tutorial”: Several free chapters of merit

The *EETimes.com* website recently published an interesting series of free excerpts from a new book, *Introduction to Wireless Systems*. This book “brings together the theoretical and practical knowledge readers need to participate in the planning, design, or implementation of virtually any wireless system”. (Thanks to PVARC member Steve Barryte, KI6GUY, for mentioning these excerpts.)

These chapters may be viewed at:

<http://www.eetimes.com/design/industrial-control/4229086/The-Radio-Link-A-tutorial>

<http://www.eetimes.com/design/industrial-control/4229475/The-Radio-Link-A-tutorial-Part-II>

<http://www.eetimes.com/design/industrial-control/4229869/The-Radio-Link->

Food for Thought

Screen shot of recent ad on www.ocregister.com, website of the *Orange County Register* newspaper:

ocregister.com
deal of the day

TODAY'S DEAL

DX Peruvian Restaurant
50% off! \$15 for \$30 Worth of Authentic Peruvian Food at DX Peruvian Restaurant!

MORE DETAILS Like

Say again? Will they also give you \$15 for exchanging \$30 of authentic Peruvian food? No mention whether a QSL card comes after dessert.

QST, QST: Reservation Deadline Nearing for PVARC's Holiday Dinner

We have a really festive venue for our club's annual holiday dinner on Wednesday, December 14, and a wonderful new menu too—but we need your reservation by December 1 for our headcount in the Ports O'Call Restaurant's Harborview Room.

After a great buffet dinner (see menu and RSVP instructions on next page) we'll have an interesting presentation by Professor Jay Jones, WB9FPM, of University of La Verne on the history of amateur radio and famous people who have been ham radio operators. Professor Jones gave this presentation during the Saturday dinner at HAMCON in Torrance and his talk was extremely well-received.

We've also kept our cost per person the same as last year, \$39 (it was \$40 in 2009). And we'll have our raffle for some great ham radio prizes (even some non-radio rewards too). Hope to see you there! ■



The Vincent Thomas Bridge at night is seen from the Harborview Room at Ports O'Call Restaurant. Fear not: The chair linens shown in this photo were for a wedding, not a ham radio banquet. PHOTO CREDIT: Ports O'Call Dining website

PVARC Treasurer's Report, 11-02-11

PVARC General Fund	\$3,016.22
John Alexander Fund	\$997.00
Repeater Fund	\$1,276.86
Total Bank Balance	\$5,290.08

2011 Membership to-date 143

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

An American Radio Relay League Affiliated-Club

Board of Directors:

President	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
Vice President	Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
Treasurer	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Secretary	Chuck McCown, K6CTM
Past President	Joe Pace, NZ6L
Directors:	Clay Davis, AB9A Mel Hughes, K6SY

Appointed Offices:

Interim QRO Editor	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Asst. to Editor	Paige Omoto, KI6MAH
Webmaster	John Freeman, WW6WW
Club Librarian	Bryant Winchell, W2RGG
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liaison	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
LAACARC Rep	Joe Pace, NZ6L
Yahoo PVARC Group Moderator	Daniel Yang, K6DPY

Contacts:

Interim QRO Editor: 310-544-2917, ai6df@arrrl.net
 Webmaster: 310-541-6971, jfree@cox.net

Email us: k6pv@arrrl.net

Website: www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

Mailing Address:

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
 PO Box 2316
 Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274-8316

Monthly Meetings:

Third Wednesday (except August and December) at 7:30 pm at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Visitors always welcome.

Repeaters (Open, though often listed as "Closed"):

Club: K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0, CTCSS
 "PV-West": K6IUM, 449.980 MHz (-), PL 173.8, CTCSS

To order a Club badge:

Karen Freeman, KG6BNN, 310-541-6971

To order a Club jacket or patch:

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, 310-373-8166

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Front page photo of Pt. Vicente Lighthouse, November 4, 2011: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF



*Please Join Us for the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club's
Annual Holiday Dinner*

Ports O'Call Restaurant

1199 Nagoya Way (Berth 76), San Pedro, CA

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

Meet and Greet beginning at 6:30 pm,

Dinner at 7:00 pm, followed by program and prize raffle

Buffet Menu

California Greens with Sliced Apples and Raspberry Vinaigrette

Oriental Chicken Salad

Grilled Asparagus Salad with Lemon Dressing

Seafood Pasta Salad

Roasted Vegetables with Vinaigrette

Almond-Crusted Chicken

Sliced Top Sirloin with Mushroom au Jus

King Salmon with Dill Butter and Caramelized Onions

Fresh Steamed Vegetables

Roasted Baby Red Potatoes

Warm Rolls and Butter

A Tempting Array of Desserts

Coffee and Tea

\$39.00 per person, in advance (same price as 2010 dinner)

Reservation Deadline: December 1 (due to restaurant commitment)

*Please send your payment to:
(use the RSVP card sent to
your postal mailbox or bring
to our next meeting.)*

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



Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2316
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
www.palosverdes.com/pvarc

**NEW MEMBER &
 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

NEW: _____ **or RENEWAL:** _____ **MEMBERSHIP** **DATE:** _____

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 Mo./Day:** _____

Other amateur radio groups you belong to: _____

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

Name _____ **Call** _____ **Class** _____ **ARRL** _____ **Birth Mo./Day:** _____

Name _____ **Call** _____ **Class** _____ **ARRL** _____ **Birth Mo./Day:** _____

Name _____ **Call** _____ **Class** _____ **ARRL** _____ **Birth Mo./Day:** _____

Individual membership (\$15.00) \$ _____

Household and/or Family membership (\$17.00) \$ _____

Donation to the John Alexander Fund \$ _____

Donation to the Repeater Fund \$ _____

Other Donation to PVARC \$ _____

Cash: _____ **or Check #:** _____ **Date** _____ **TOTAL \$** _____

Please make checks payable to: Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club; Dues based on January 1st to December 31st year.
All New and Renewal Member applications must be signed below.

I am applying for a new or renewal membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club and understand that by accepting membership I agree to abide by the Club's constitution and by-laws (available on-line at: <http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/constitution.htm> or upon request.)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Family Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Family Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PVARC's next amateur radio license course taught by Walt Ordway, K1DFO, starts on November 12th. Please tell your friends, neighbors, and family members.

Two Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "**Technician**" course (entry level)

FCC "**General**" course (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The 2 sessions are on 12 & 19 November 2011

Technician 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM both Saturdays

General 2:15 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

FCC tests will be 10 AM to noon on 3 December 2011

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 \$15 -

Optional Material

- Gordon West book with all the FCC test questions,
\$22 for the Technician and \$26 for the General -
- Copy of my Power Point charts,
\$18 for the Technician and \$18 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 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.

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

**ARES® Southwest District
Presents**



**The Radio Amateur's
NTS "Traffic School"**

**By: Kate Hutton K6HTN,
LAX Section Traffic Manager**



- What:** Training and exercise in message handling skills
When: Sat., November 19, 2011, 9:45 am*-1:00pm
Where: Providence Little Co. of Mary Hospital, 1300 W. 7th St., San Pedro. Go to: East entrance, 1st Floor, DeMucci Room
RSVP/Cost: Not required / \$0.00
Speaker: Kate Hutton K6HTN, ARRL/LAX Section Traffic Manager
Questions: Mercedes Prado K6MMP, SW DEC 310.422.0881

You'll learn to:

- Relay messages ("radiograms") around the US & Canada
- Apply CW, SSB, FM & digital modes
- Participate in the NTS system and other valuable public service volunteer opportunities
- Explain the independence from an infrastructure, such as the telephones, cell towers, or internet
- Use this mode as a vital message in a disaster

What to bring:

Pen/pencil and pad, glasses (if needed), and lunch (snacks, brown bag, water, as we'll work through lunch, etc.). **Radio not required.** Novice to experienced welcome.

Homework(Optional):

Write down one (1) short message (25 words or less) that you might want to send to a friend or relative via amateur radio. Include their name, address and telephone number. **BRING IT TO CLASS.**

Class Description:

The three-hour training will focus on how to compose and handle formal radio messages ("radiograms"). Examples and class exercises will focus on the format and methods used by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) National Traffic System (NTS), whose best practices have been optimized over 95 years for high efficiency and accuracy. The ARES and CERT message forms are based on the NTS format because it works! In the age of cell phones and Internet, the NTS still exists for basically three reasons: 1) to respond when disaster strikes and normal communication is unavailable, 2) to train emergency communicators in accurate and efficient message handling, and 3) because many hams enjoy honing their basic operating skills. **Operating on the NTS traffic nets is an excellent way to prepare emcomm volunteers to pass messages accurately & efficiently in a disaster.**

About the Speaker:

Dr. Kate Hutton K6HTN is ARRL's Los Angeles Section Traffic Manager and in charge of the NTS amateur radio nets that move traffic in and out of Los Angeles. Affectionately known as "Earthquake Kate," she is also a world-renowned seismologist frequently interviewed by the media for her professional commentary. Kate holds a BA/MS/PhD in Astronomy and an Extra Amateur Radio License. K6HTN@arrl.net.

(*Our ARES SW regular meetings are held at 9:00am on 3rd Wednesday of every month. Presentations follow 45min-1 hr later.. For this and other presentation ideas, contact Mercedes K6MMP, SW District Emergency Coordinator at K6mmp@arrl.net or visit our website at WWW.ARRLLAX.org

Captions to photographs and other illustrations in this month's **QRO**.

*Certain software programs that convert the text of PDF files into spoken words reportedly have difficulty converting short stand-alone text items such as photo captions and text boxes. The following combines all short text items in this month's **QRO** into a larger body of text to facilitate conversion into speech.*

Page 1: The photograph at the top shows the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse on a rainy day. A photograph on the right side shows a Yaesu FT-60 HT radio.

Page 2: A text box at bottom right says: "ARRL 2011 Field Day results were released just as this QRO issue was finalized. In the LAX section we were again the #1 station in the 2A category (see table on page 8) and #4 overall. We'll have further details on our results nationally and regionally at our November 16th meeting."

Page 5: The photo caption at the bottom of the page says, "So distant, so close: The Palos Verdes Peninsula, seen in background, from Two Harbors on Catalina Island during last year's IOTA DXpedition. We traveled using Catalina Express ships, not the kayaks shown. PHOTO: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF"

Page 6: The caption of the top photo says, "Top: The rugged northern coastline of Santa Cruz Island seen from Potato Harbor, with the island's west end in background." The caption of the center photo says, "Center: Several Scouts operating KI6KUK's Yaesu FT-897 using batteries and lantern light." The caption of the bottom photo says, "Bottom: The 3-element tri-band Yagi antenna and 20-foot mast setup PVARC member Curtis Watanabe brought to Santa Cruz Island with the Boy Scout DXpedition during November 5-6, 2011. This station was situated at the Scorpion Ranch/Anchorage (see map, next page.) All photos by Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK."

Page 7: A National Park Service map of Santa Cruz Island's eastern end is shown at the top; a satellite photo from NASA of the entire Santa Cruz Island is shown at the bottom, indicating where the Boy Scouts set up their station and where the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club maintains a 223 MHz open repeater.

Page 8: A text box at upper left lists new PVARC members in 2011. A table at upper right shows PVARC's results for ARRL's 2011 Field Day in the LAX section. PVARC placed 4th overall, and first in the 2A category. A text box at right bottom contains an advertisement for an Orange County restaurant called "DX Peruvian Restaurant".

Page 9: The caption underneath a photo of PVARC's room for the holiday dinner says, "The Vincent Thomas Bridge at night is seen from the Harborview Room at Ports O'Call Restaurant. Fear not: The chair linens shown in this photo were for a wedding, not a ham radio banquet. PHOTO CREDIT: Ports O'Call Dining website". A text box at the bottom contains the latest Treasurer's report.

Page 10: Contains the club's holiday dinner menu.