



# QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2012

## QSL'ing 101: An Introduction to Confirming Contacts

Amateur radio operators have used QSL cards for nearly 100 years to confirm contacts with other hams. At our September 19 meeting PVARC member and long-time DXer Jeff Wolf, K6JW, will tell us how QSL'ing is done in all its modern forms.

From humble beginnings in 1916--when amateur station 8VX in Buffalo, NY, sent a card to ham operator 3TQ in Philadelphia--QSL'ing worldwide exploded into a cavalcade of colorful QSL cards, interesting postage stamps, and memories of contacts distant or nearby.

As postage costs increased in recent decades, several alternate means for QSLing evolved—including electronic methods. Come and learn more about all forms of the QSL at our September club meeting. ■



### PVARC MONTHLY MEETING "QSL'ing 101: An Introduction to Confirming Contacts"

When: 7:30 pm, Wednesday,  
September 19, 2012

Where: Fred Hesse Park  
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.  
Rancho Palos Verdes

## An Evening At The Lighthouse: No Night Owls This Year

Pt. Vicente Lighthouse at dusk.  
PHOTO: AI6DF



By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF  
PVARC President

Our club's 2012 International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse sure didn't follow the usual script. But it would have made for a great unscripted reality TV episode.

On Friday afternoon, we learned our usual wire dipole antenna could not be attached to the Lighthouse top deck for safety reasons. We were able to bring our club's tower trailer and Dale N6NNW's tri-band Yagi to the Lighthouse, but that only provided coverage on 20, 15, and 10-meters.

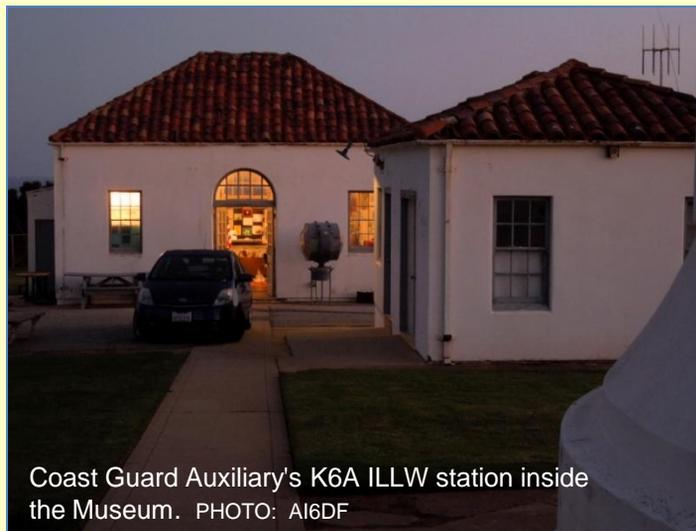
On Saturday afternoon, the Sheriff's Department mounted a major recovery operation from the Lighthouse grounds for the body of a missing diver. All amateur operators went out to take a look.

Saturday night at the Lighthouse should have been a respite from adversity. But it proved an operating challenge with no 80- or 40-meter band capability after dark and 20-meter conflicts with the Coast Guard Auxiliary amateur station operating nearby.

I operated K6PV with Dan, W6DC, inside the Lighthouse Saturday night with only the 20-meter band at our disposal and a lot of solitude. The Lighthouse grounds are so quiet after dark you would not sense they are part of America's second-largest metropolitan area. ***Continued on next page*** ►



PVARC's K6PV ILLW station inside the Lighthouse.  
PHOTO: AI6DF



Coast Guard Auxiliary's K6A ILLW station inside the Museum. PHOTO: AI6DF

## An Evening At The Lighthouse...

► *Continued from previous page*

We greatly missed night-time calling on 80 and 40 meters, but noticed something else was missing this year: our nocturnal ILLW companions "Screeching Owl" and "Hooting Owl" weren't calling from their usual palm trees either.

Both owl species make the Lighthouse palms their homes, undoubtedly enjoying the solitude and serenity of Pt. Vicente. Perhaps they couldn't sleep during the day with all the helicopter commotion or simply went elsewhere. "Screeching Owl" and "Hooting Owl" made their calls for hours when I operated K6PV overnight during past ILLW's.

This year W6DC and I found making contacts slow-going on 20-meters after 8 pm Saturday. We had an arrangement with the Coast Guard Auxiliary where USCGA took priority on a band during even-numbered hours and PVARC would have band priority during odd-numbered hours. Propagation conditions were mediocre with the Solar Flux Index only in the upper 90's.

But we made a 5x9 20-meter QSO with a New Zealand amateur and ended in a long-winded contact with a really Southern ham in Dothan, AL



**No QSO with his relatives at Pt. Vicente this year:** A Western Screech Owl. PHOTO: JIM RORABAUGH, U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

(imagine "Larry the Cable Guy") who kept telling us about the big thunderstorms headin' his way.

20-meters shut for the night around 10:15 pm. Dan and I decided it was unwise to be K6PV night owls given the bands we had access to. We shut down the station, disconnected the antennas, and headed for our cars. Strangely missing were the calls of "Screeching Owl" and "Hooting Owl". There were truly no night owls at Pt. Vicente this year for ILLW. ■

## ...And An Unusual Saturday Afternoon At The Lighthouse

### ILLW QSOs interrupted by helicopter operations:

The Sheriff Department's large Air 5 rescue helicopter made multiple landings at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse on Saturday afternoon during this year's ILLW. Air 5 participated in the recovery of a missing diver offshore from the nearby Terranea Resort. Various Sheriff's vehicles also were staged on Lighthouse grounds. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC



## Our Vice President Discusses Club Events (...and More)

By Clay Davis, AB9A  
PVARC Vice President

### Lighthouse Weekend

For those of you that might have missed it, Lighthouse Weekend was a resounding success again this year. Although it did bring some new challenges. It once again proved that, when a group of intrepid hams are intent on getting on the air, you can't stop them.

When the set up crew arrived on Friday afternoon, to hoist up the now infamous Lighthouse Dipole antenna, we learned that lack of maintenance on the Lighthouse upper deck had caused the Coast Guard to declare it unsafe. So, we were banned from attaching the antenna to the upper railing, as we have done in the past. I recognized this as the opportunity I needed to set up and checkout my new N6BT Bravo 7K portable antenna. And, after a steep learning curve, K6PV was making contacts on 20 meters.

Concurrently a bigger plan was set in motion. Joe Pace, NZ6L, towed the club's tower trailer to the Lighthouse grounds and Dale Hanks, N6NNW trucked in the Field Day tri-band beam. When it all arrived a flurry of antenna assembly and tower deployment ensued. Bob Closson, W6HIP, Matt Orlich, WA6AJC, Dan Colburn, W6DC, Bill Harper, WA6ESC and others all pitched in. Soon the big gun was operational, the portable was decommissioned and K6PV, NA-033 was on the air.

Michelle, KJ6WZE (congratulations on her new license) and Joe Pace, NZ6L once again did an amazing job with the organization and setup of the Sunday picnic. Thank you to the Paces, for all that they do for the club.

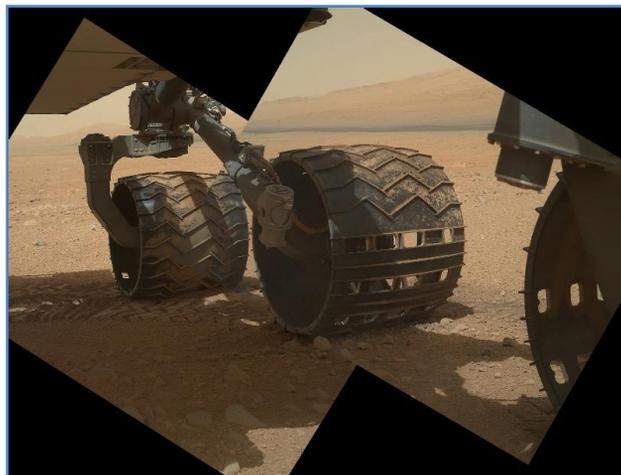
### Morse Code

Morse Code is still alive and on the cutting edge of space exploration. NASA has put hole patterns in every wheel, on their new Mars Curiosity Rover, that spell out JPL in Morse Code. The purpose of the pattern is to create features in the terrain that can be used to visually measure the precise distance



**Bright idea:** After unexpectedly learning the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse's upper deck was unsafe for attaching our usual wire antenna, Joe NZ6L and Dale N6NNW quickly got the club's tower trailer mated with Dale's Field Day Yagi. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC

between drives. NASA calls this visual odometry <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?release=2012-266>. It's shown in the photo below from: [http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/image\\_feature\\_2351.html](http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/image_feature_2351.html)



Continued on next page ►

## Our Vice President Discusses Club Events (...and More)

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### Our September Program

#### QSLing101: An introduction to contact confirmation

Are you new to the world of HF or DXing? Perhaps you have these questions:

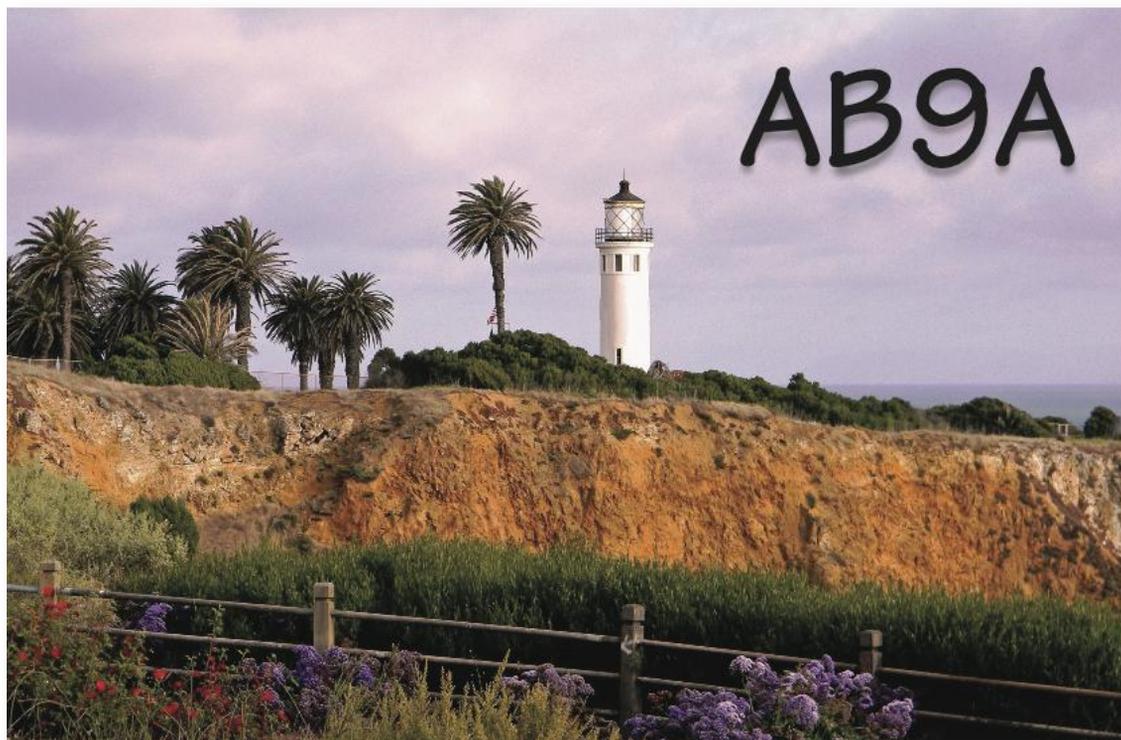
- Don't really know what QSL cards are?
- Where do you get them?
- How to find out where to send them?
- What's the best way to send them?
- What information needs to be on them?
- What is the postage in foreign countries?
- Don't know what a Bureau is?

Or, maybe you are an old timer that has always sent and received physical QSL cards and haven't explored the newer electronic logs like Log Book of the World (LOTW) and would like to know how to register, set up, and use it.

Our own intrepid DXer, Jeff Wolf, K6JW will be giving this month's program "QSLing101: an introduction to contact confirmation". Whether you are new to HF or an old timer, there is something in it for everyone.

Please bring your own QSL card (mine is shown below) or one you've received that you are most proud of to the September meeting and share a little about it with us. Look forward to seeing you there.

73,  
Clay, AB9A ■



## Some Scenes from our 2012 Lighthouse Weekend Picnic

Please visit the  
PVARC website at  
[http://www.palosverdes.com/  
pvarc/2012Lighthouse.htm](http://www.palosverdes.com/pvarc/2012Lighthouse.htm)  
to  
see the complete gallery of  
photos from Lighthouse  
Weekend 2012

**Left:** Master Chefs Joe Pace, NZ6L; Bob Sylvest, AB6SY; and Rick Braitsch.  
PHOTO: JOHN FREEMAN, WW6WW

**Center:** Views of our picnic tables.  
LEFT PHOTO: HERB EPP, W6RBW;  
RIGHT PHOTO: JOE FIERSTEIN, KJ6IRE



**Above:** Future amateur operator begins exploring grounding.  
PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC

**Left:** Picnic dining beneath Old Glory. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH,  
WA6AJC

## PVARC Assists Soleado Elementary School's Project to Contact International Space Station in 2013

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration last month selected Soleado Elementary School in Rancho Palos Verdes as one of the K-12 schools in the United States for a scheduled amateur radio contact with the International Space Station during the 2012-2013 academic year. PVARC members Bryant Winchell, W2RGG; Bob Sylvest, AB6SY; and Peter Landon, KE6JPM, worked closely with Soleado to submit its 44-page proposal to NASA in July.

Bryant, Bob, and Peter continue assisting Soleado to have all the necessary equipment in place and already have had several phone conversations with NASA. Bryant previously worked with Palos Verdes High School on a satellite amateur radio station there and is leading PVARC's efforts at Soleado.

"NASA is very specific as to what ham equipment is required to ensure, as much as possible, a successful contact," Bryant reports. "We have recovered a 14-element 2-meter Yagi and I'm donating the use of a radio and software. We still need a pre-amp, power amp, power supply, etc., which will cost about \$2,000." Soleado's principal would like the radio station to be permanent so future classes can also be exposed to ham radio.

A permanent radio station would require purchasing all the equipment components. A parent group is advancing funds for buying all equipment but hopes to apply for a Peninsula Education Foundation reimbursement grant. The PVARC's John Alexander Fund will also make a contribution towards this project. It's expected our club's donation will cover the cost of extensive coaxial cable that is needed.

Soleado's ISS contact date hasn't been scheduled but is expected to be in the first half of 2013. ■

Soleado Elementary School, located in RPV's Longhill neighborhood between Hawthorne and Crenshaw north of the Peninsula Center shopping district, has excellent views of the skies. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF



# PVARC Communication Supports Public Service Events

## By Walt Ordway, K1DFO

This Labor Day was the 4th annual Conquer the Bridge 5.3 mile run. There were over 2,900 registered runners and walkers for the event. The race started at Harbor Blvd. and 5<sup>th</sup> Street, near the Maritime Museum in San Pedro. It then goes North on Harbor Blvd. to the Vincent Thomas bridge and then goes east over the bridge, turns around at Navy Way on Terminal Island and then comes back over the bridge and back down Harbor Blvd. to the Finish line.

The event went very well. The good news is that there were no injuries during the event. It is also very likely that the race director may have this event again next Labor Day.

We had many very good operators at various locations along the course. The operators this year were: Matthew N6MDC, Scotty K6NZL, Steve KI6TEQ, Diana AI6DF, Denzel KG6QWJ, Bob KI6BUK, Cynthia AG6NW, Joe NZ6L, Michelle KJ6WZE, Jack K6JWR, Tom KJ6JPZ, and Walt K1DFO.

## The Hills Are Alive 10K/5K

On Saturday, 11 August, many operators provided radio communications for the Rolling Hills Estates 10K & 5K event. It all went well. There were around 300 runners for the two events.

The radio folks that supported this year's event were: Denzel KG6QWJ, Mike N6DBS, Chris KA6WNK, Herb KM6DD, Fran KF6QFQ, Sid KF6QFH, Joe NZ6L, Matthew N6MDC, Robin KI6VSH, Curtis KI6KUK, Karen KG6BNN, John WW6WW, Jay KI6Vfy, Melody KI6SPA, Richard KJ6CBA, Mickey KJ6CAW, and the net control Herb KO6RC. If it sounds like fun, join the group next year on Saturday 10 August 2013. ■



**They Conquered the Bridge:** A few of the 2,900 runners and walkers in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Conquer the Bridge event on Labor Day, shown at the Terminal Island turnaround point. PVARC operators noticed quite a few runners wearing festive attire such as horns or capes while traversing the Vincent Thomas Bridge. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

*And now, these words from the Northern California Contest Club...*

# California QSO Party



## CQP & improving your operating skills

Quick! Mark the weekend of October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and start planning for a weekend of radio fun! The first full weekend of October marks the annual running of the California QSO Party (CQP) – the most fun you can have with a radio if you live in the Golden State! This year marks the 46<sup>th</sup> running of CQP sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club.

Why contest? From an operating point of view, most aspects of Ham Radio from Public Service, chasing DX to working contests have one thing in common – accurate and timely copying of information often under stress.

Entering a contest either casually to give some points or as a serious effort, is a great exercise in operating “under fire”.

The first full weekend of October (October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> this year) sees the annual running of the California QSO Party – a great opportunity for stations in California because everyone else HAS TO WORK US!

We are the DX!

Whether you’re a “Big gun” or “Little pistol”, CQP is a great opportunity for you to be on the receiving end of a pileup or to search and pounce for other states and countries. You can easily Work All States in a single weekend especially with everyone looking for you. And there’s DX to be worked: it’s possible to work all continents during CQP.

For California stations the object of the contest is to work as many stations as possible on SSB and CW. You can work the same station on each band and each mode for score credit. Every US state and Canadian province you work counts as a multiplier – 58 total for us just like the number of counties in California.

Want to be on the end of a really big pile up? Plan a County Expedition to one of the rarer California counties--the rest of the world will beat a path to You. Check out the counties activation planning map on the CQP web site at [www.cqp.org](http://www.cqp.org) - you may be surprised that some of the rarest counties often lie on your doorstep.

Low Power, High Power? CW or SSB? CQP is a fun contest for all.

## Boy Scout “Jamboree on the Air” Seeks Help from Hams: Now Aboard the USS Iowa

This year’s Boy Scout “Jamboree on the Air” is still looking for volunteers to operate and explain ham radio on Saturday-Sunday, October 20-21 aboard the battleship USS Iowa in San Pedro. This is a change of venue from the Scouts’ L.A. area headquarters that was previously announced. However the USS Iowa’s hours of operation now restrict the Scouts’ Jamboree to daytime hours.

Contact PVARC member Curtis Watanabe, KI6KUK, at [curtisw0007@gmail.com](mailto:curtisw0007@gmail.com) if you are interested in this Boy Scout-sponsored event. (Note: This is not a PVARC event.)

The stated objectives for this year’s Boy Scout Jamboree are:

- Contacting other Scouts throughout the U.S.;
- Contacting Scouts in DX locations;
- Get as many Scouts as possible on the radio;
- Helping Scouts earn the Radio Merit Badge;
- Educating Scouts about radio, frequencies, electronics, and emergency communication.

Last year’s Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air was also held in Los Angeles Harbor on board the SS Lane Victory, then anchored near the USS Iowa’s current site. ■

## Ham Radio License Notes

We congratulate PVARC member Bob King, KI6EAI, who passed the Extra Class license exam in late August. Way to go, Bob!

Walt Ordway, K1DFO, has now set dates for his 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2012 and 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 ham license classes.

Walt will be teaching both Technician and General classes on Saturdays, Nov. 10 and 17, with a PVARC VE session on Dec. 1 due to the Thanksgiving weekend. His first classes in 2013 will be Feb. 23 and March 2, with our VE session on March 9. ■

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2012

**Robert Hanel, KJ6RAA**

**Gary Parsons, KJ6NIY**

**Steve Mandich, K6NT**

**Gina Mandich, KF6MYQ**

**Robert King, KI6EAI**

**Jack Reeves, K6JWR**

**Ken Carr, K6HRN**

**Dick McKay, K6VGP**

**Barbara Alexander, KJ6OVW**

**Brian Okamoto, KJ6RVX**

**David King, KI6EAI**

**Warren King, KJ6TLG**

**Wayne Barnhart, N6QCU**

**Harlan Rector, N9XZL**

**Brad Perranoski, KJ6UML**

**Leroy Radcliffe, KI6EAO**

**John Boccaccio, KJ6VVG**

**Alan LeFever, KF6BTO**

**Chris Storey, KA6WNK**

**Tom Bell, KJ6YCM**

**Mary Ann Bell, N6ZHR**

**Norm Thorn, K6UU**

**Denise Thorn, KF6VTN**

**Kees Steeneken, KJ6YUT**

## PVARC Public Service Events Need Radio Operators

Our club's final public service events for 2012 are rapidly approaching. We can still use additional radio operators.

On Saturday, September 22, PVARC will provide radio communication for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual RAT Beach Bike Tour, now being staged from Redondo Beach's King Harbor to coincide with the Lobster Festival there.

We need several additional operators aboard roving vans for three-hour shifts (choice of 6:00-9:00 am or 9:00 am to Noon). Also, a PVARC operator is needed at the Western Museum of Flight at Torrance's Zamperini Field where a bike tour SAG stop will be situated.

Finally, our club will provide operators at the Mary's Promenade on the Peninsula 5K Walk/Run, being held this year on Sunday, October 14, at 8:30 am through the Peninsula shopping area. Contact Walt, K1DFO, if you can operate on that date. ■

## Dates Set for PVARC's 2013 IOTA DXpedition to Catalina

Twenty-six miles across the sea is where we will be on February 20-24, 2013. The PVARC will again operate from Two Harbors on Catalina Island's isthmus for our annual Islands on the Air DXpedition.

Ray Day, N6HE, will again serve as DXpedition leader bringing his extensive array of ham radio gear, tools, antenna materials, and good spirit. Last year our participants brought nearly 1,000 pounds of equipment, food, and supplies altogether.

We'll be staying at the same campground in Two Harbors whose staff has been very accommodating to us. If you want to experience handling a DX pileup without going halfway around the world it doesn't get better than this. ■



The Traditional Suggestion Box

### The Electronic Suggestion Box

## What Would You Like to See?

The PVARC currently has 151 members with various interests and experience in amateur radio. Our hobby is wide-ranging, with many operating and technical facets to explore. Some of us can devote a lot of time to ham radio, others much less.

Our question is: What would **you** like to see for a future PVARC program, operating event, QRO issue, or other club activity? How could we enhance the value of your club membership?

Please provide your suggestions at:

[ai6df@arrl.net](mailto:ai6df@arrl.net) (Diana) and [ab9a@arrl.net](mailto:ab9a@arrl.net) (Clay)

We are open to any suggestions for best serving our members' amateur radio needs. ■

## CERT Classes Coming to RPV Eastside Location

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be teaching free Community Emergency Response Team classes at Marymount College on three Saturdays, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, and Nov. 10. See the notice on page 16.

This is an unusual opportunity to take CEERT training on RPV's Eastside. ■

## PVARC's 2012 Holiday Dinner Starts Taking Reservations Oct. 1

As mentioned in previous QRO issues, PVARC will hold its December 12<sup>th</sup> holiday dinner at the Il Toscano Italian Restaurant in the Hillside Village complex in Torrance's WALTERIA neighborhood.

We'll start taking reservations on October 1 through our Treasurer, Bob AB6SY, for what should be an excellent dinner. Our five-course served dinner will consist of :

### Antipasto (before the meal)-

Mozzarella and other cheeses, herbs, fresh and marinated vegetables, and grilled peppers arranged around a fresh salad. (Your server will take your choice of main meal during this antipasto course.)

### Two Pasta Courses

- Ravioli in light cream sauce
- Penne Pasta with tomato sauce

### Piatto Principale (main meal), your choice of:

- New York Steak/Roast carved  
Or
- Chicken Marsala – sautéed chicken in Marsala wine reduction-based cream sauce  
Or
- Fresh Salmon

Each main plate selection is accompanied by vegetables. A vegetarian main meal (though not vegan) is also available upon advance request.

### Dessert

- Tiramisu (*Il Toscano is well known for this*)

### Coffee and Tea

A cash bar will also be available for wine and beer.

The total price per person is \$42 including free tickets for our drawing of ham radio prizes. By comparison, our 2009 and 2010 catered dinners at the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center cost \$40 and \$39 respectively but ran short of food; last year's dinner at Ports O'Call in San Pedro was priced at \$39 per person but would have been substantially higher this year. ■

◆ PVARC's financial report is available upon request to any member.

## Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

*An American Radio Relay League Affiliated-Club*

### Board of Directors:

President	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Vice President	Clay Davis, AB9A
Treasurer	Bob Sylvest, AB6SY
Secretary	Peter Landon, KE6JPM
Past President	Jeff Wolf, K6JW
Directors:	Ray Day, N6HE
	Joe Pace, NZ6L

### 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

### Contacts:

Interim QRO Editor: 310-544-2917, [ai6df@arrrl.net](mailto:ai6df@arrrl.net)  
Webmaster: 310-541-6971, [jfree@cox.net](mailto:jfree@cox.net)

Email us: [k6pv@arrrl.net](mailto:k6pv@arrrl.net)

Website: [www.palosverdes.com/pvarc](http://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: The last rays of sunlight on an August evening mark the end of a day and beginning of work for the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse. PHOTO: AI6DF.*

# Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club 2012 Calendar

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October						
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28	29	30	31			

February						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

May						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

March						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June						
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					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September						
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

 Club Activity  Club Public Service

## 2012 Major Contest Dates

 ARRL  CQ Magazine and Other

- Jan. 7-8: ARRL RTTY Roundup
- Jan. 21-23: ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- Jan. 28-29: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (CW)
- Feb. 11-12: CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX
- Feb. 18-19: ARRL DX (CW)
- Feb. 25: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Feb. 25-26: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (SSB)
- Mar. 3-4: ARRL DX (SSB)
- Mar. 24-25: CQ Worldwide SSB WPX
- May 26-27: CQ Worldwide CW WPX
- Jun. 9-10: ARRL VHF QSO Party
- Jun. 23-24: ARRL Field Day 
- Jul. 14-15: IARU HF Championship
- Jul. 21-22: CQ Worldwide VHF
- Aug. 4-5: ARRL UHF Contest
- Sept. 29-30: CQ Worldwide RTTY DX
- Oct. 6-7: California QSO Party
- Oct. 27-28: CQ Worldwide SSB DX
- Nov. 3-4: ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
- Nov. 17-18: ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
- Nov. 24-25: CQ Worldwide CW DX
- Dec. 1-2: ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- Dec. 8-9: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

## PVARC Nets

Join in every **Tuesday** at 7:30 pm on K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0. All members and guests are invited to check in and share information.

## PVARC Meetings

7:30 pm on **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday** of every month, except August and December, at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes. Guests always welcome. Optional no-host dinner at 5:30 pm before club meetings at the Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates.

**August 19:** Annual family picnic at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse in conjunction with International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend.

**December 12:** Holiday dinner, Il Toscano Restaurant in Torrance.

## PVARC Public Service Events

- April 21:** Habitat for Humanity's "Palos Verdes Ride for Habitat" Bike-A-Thon
- May 19:** Palos Verdes Half Marathon & 5K
- August 11:** Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive" 5K/10K
- Sept. 3:** L.A. Harbor "Conquer the Bridge" Race
- Sept. 22:** RAT Beach Bike Tour
- Oct. 14:** Mary's Promenade 5K/10K
- October 13 & 18:** Great California ShakeOut

## PVARC's Islands on the Air Annual DXpedition

**Feb. 22-26:** Two Harbors, Catalina Island.



**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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 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:** \_\_\_\_\_



Whether for emergency communication, communicating around the world, or learning a bit about electronics, there's nothing else like amateur radio (also known as "ham radio"). Amateur radio operators have long provided the communication "when all else fails" during disasters. Please tell your friends and relatives that with a short course, they can join the over 700,000 men, women, and children in the United States from all walks of life who are licensed to operate ham radios.

## Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

FCC "Technician" course (entry level)

FCC "General" course (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions are on 22 & 29 September 2012

Technician 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM both Saturdays

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

FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to Noon on 6 October 2012

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will make a brief presentation at 9:30 AM at the start of the 22 September Technician class on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The location is Fred 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 (sold at cost)

- Gordon West book with all the FCC test questions,  
\$22 for the Technician, \$26 for the General;
- Copy of PowerPoint charts: \$18 for the Technician, \$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](mailto:walt.ordway@yahoo.com)



## Community Emergency Response Training

Training Classes starting  
Saturday, October 27, 2012

C.E.R.T. TRAINING IS COMING TO PALOS VERDES  
SIGN UP NOW!  
**FREE!**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is proud to present this training to the public.

Following a major disaster, police, fire, and medical personnel may not be able to fully meet the demand. People will have to rely on each other to meet immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.

Developed through FEMA, the L.A. County Fire Department's **Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)** program provides basic training in safety and life saving skills for the public.

The course curriculum covers the following modules:

October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012	November 10, 2012
1. Disaster Preparedness 2. Disaster Fire Suppression 3. Disaster Medical Ops 1	4. Disaster Medical Ops 2 5. Light Search & Rescue 6. Disaster Psychology	7. CERT Organization 8. Terrorism 9. Course Review & Disaster Simulation Exercise

The training course will be a series of three classes on:  
**October 27, November 3 & 10, 2012, from 8:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

**at Marymount College in Lower Cecilia Hall**  
**30800 Palos Verdes Drive East,**  
**Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**  
C.E.R.T. training is free

E-mail Laurie Slawson: [rhenw90274@gmail.com](mailto:rhenw90274@gmail.com)  
 Phone: 310 375-8747

Please include your name, phone number, and email address.

Class size is limited. Sign up today to reserve your seat.

CERT Class information is also posted on the Fire Department website: <http://fire.lacounty.gov>

\*Students must complete all 20 hours of the course to receive a certificate of completion. If you must miss any units, you can make them up anywhere CERT is taught to receive your certificate.

## 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 photo at the top shows the last rays of daylight on an August evening illuminating the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse. PHOTO: AI6DF. The photo at lower center right shows a wall of QSL cards at a typical ham shack. A text box at bottom right announces the topic, time, and place of our meeting.

Page 2: The top photo shows the Lighthouse beam flashing and has the caption, "Pt. Vicente Lighthouse at dusk. PHOTO: AI6DF". The center photo has the caption, "PVARC's K6PV ILLW station inside the Lighthouse. PHOTO: AI6DF." The bottom right photo has the caption, "Coast Guard Auxiliary's K6A ILLW station inside the Museum. PHOTO: AI6DF "

Page 3: The photo at top right has the caption, "No QSO with his relatives at Pt. Vicente this year: A Western Screech Owl. PHOTO: JIM RORABAUGH, U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE". The photo at the bottom shows ham operators next to a helicopter and has the caption, "ILLW QSOs interrupted by helicopter operations: The Sheriff Department's large Air 5 rescue helicopter made multiple landings at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse on Saturday afternoon during this year's ILLW. Air 5 participated in the recovery of a missing diver offshore from the nearby Terranea Resort. Various Sheriff's vehicles also were staged on Lighthouse grounds. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC"

Page 4: The top right photo has the caption, "Bright idea: After unexpectedly learning the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse's upper deck was unsafe for attaching our usual wire antenna, Joe NZ6L and Dale N6NNW quickly got the club's tower trailer mated with Dale's Field Day Yagi. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC". The lower right photo from NASA shows the wheels of NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover with Morse code embedded in the wheel tracks.

Page 5: The photo at the bottom shows the QSL card of Clay, AB9A.

Page 6: Views from PVARC's Lighthouse picnic are shown. The top left photo has the caption, "Left: Master Chefs Joe Pace, NZ6L; Bob Sylvest, AB6SY; and Rick Braitsch. PHOTO: JOHN FREEMAN, WW6WW". The two center photos have the captions, "Center: Views of our picnic tables. LEFT PHOTO: HERB EPP, W6RBW; RIGHT PHOTO: JOE FIERSTEIN, KJ6IRE ". The two photo photos have the captions, "Above: Future amateur operator begins exploring grounding. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC. Left: Picnic dining beneath Old Glory. PHOTO: MATT ORLICH, WA6AJC"

Page 7: The photo at the bottom has the caption, "Soleado Elementary School, located in RPV's Longhill neighborhood between Hawthorne and Crenshaw north of the Peninsula Center shopping district, has excellent views of the skies. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF"

Page 8: The photo accompanying the article about public service events has the caption, "They Conquered the Bridge: A few of the 2,900 runners and walkers in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Conquer the Bridge event on Labor Day, shown at the Terminal Island turnaround point. PVARC operators noticed quite a few runners wearing festive attire such as horns or capes while traversing the Vincent Thomas Bridge. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF"

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

Page 11: The illustration at top right shows a typical Suggestion Box.

Page 13: This page shows the club's calendar of events for 2012.

Page 14: The illustration at top left is the club's logo on its membership application form.

Page 15: The illustration at top left is a Kenwood 2-meter HT radio in the flyer for PVARC's upcoming ham radio license classes.

Page 16: This page is a flyer announcing the upcoming Palos Verdes Peninsula Community Emergency Response Team training in late October at Marymount College in Rancho Palos Verdes.