



QRO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

APRIL 2013

RADIOSPORT--Why Would I Enter An Amateur Radio Contest? (“What’s Up With That? What’s In It For Me?”)

“Radiosport: aka Amateur Radio Contesting”

Ray Day, N6HE

When: PVARC Monthly Meeting
7:30 pm, Wednesday,
April 17, 2013
Visitors Welcome

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

Our April 17 meeting presentation by PVARC Board Member **Ray Day, N6HE**, will cover everything you’ve wanted to know about “Radiosport”, otherwise known as ham radio contesting.

Ray’s presentation, based on his extensive contesting experience, will explain the many reasons why the average ham would enjoy entering various operating events--from DX contests to Field Day to QSO parties and more.

Ray will discuss the benefits one potentially obtains by participating in amateur radio contests. The presentation will also provide many interesting tips on getting started--and on getting results.

Ray has really spent time developing this presentation and all members, regardless of their contesting experience, will find something of value. Join us on April 17 for this interesting program. ■

Programming Mobile and Handheld Ham Radios: Has A Software Cure Finally Broken the Software Curse?

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
PVARC President

Computer software can either be a blessing or a curse.

It's a blessing when everything works easily but a curse when the software has glitches, is too confusing, costs too much, or you are told to go "RTFM". We'll leave to your imagination the expletive embedded in the latter, if you don't already know.

But many hams are sure to have generated their own expletives while programming frequencies and settings into amateur radios. Programming manually using the radio's buttons and knobs can be very time-consuming and frustrating, although desirable to learn. Computer software has come to the rescue—and to the curse as well.

Some of it free--some not--ham radio programming software has been a mixed bag until recently. What's not to like?

- Most amateur radio programming software has only been available for Windows operating systems.
- The "free" software provided by radio manufacturers is "primitive", has no support, and generates plenty of cursing.
- The programming software for purchase at ham radio stores is from one vendor and requires a separate software package with proprietary cable for each radio model you own. This gets expensive.
- Using different software vendors for the various radios you own made it difficult (if not impossible) to "copy and paste" frequency data between radios.

Here's something to really like: A software cure to end most of this cursing is finally available.

Last week a new update to the free CHIRP programming software (version 0.3.1) fixed various bugs to an reasonably stable release and now this

one software source may be all you need for all your radios. Best of all: CHIRP works on Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems.

CHIRP has been around a while, but had its bugs trying to cover so many radio models. These problems are now largely behind it. Today, the free CHIRP software supports 76 different ham radios and is the best choice for someone owning numerous radio models across multiple manufacturers. (See comparison table on page 3 and list of radio models CHIRP supports on page 4.)

While CHIRP provides a standard software interface across the 76 radio models, you'll still need the proper programming cable for each radio, along with possibly a serial to USB software driver. Such cables typically cost \$15-30 each.

If you own one or two ham radios and don't intend to acquire more, there is still some value from buying the RT Systems programming software at ham radio stores for \$35-40 per radio model. Why is this a value? Because each comes with the correct cable for your radio—albeit with a proprietary USB software driver guaranteed to work straight from the box. I have two such software packages and they do operate easily.

Continued on next page ►

Did You Know?

Many programming cables for ham radios work with multiple radio models.

- The cable for Yaesu FT-60 and VX-5 also works for programming most Vertex-Standard commercial (FCC Part 90) radios.
- The Kenwood TH-F6A cable is also used by Wouxin handheld ham radios and many Kenwood Part 90 commercial radios.
- Within brands, many models use the same cable.

A Software Cure to a Software Curse for Programming Ham Radios...

► *Continued from previous page*

But once you acquire additional radio models, purchased software gets expensive. That's where CHIRP excels as free software harnessing the talents of multiple contributors to handle such a wide range of radios on multiple operating systems. Hopefully you will also have a collection of common radio cables as your radio fleet increases.

CHIRP won't program any commercial (FCC Part 90) radios used in Land Mobile Radio services, so the software curse continues for those models.

But for now—at last—there's a software cure for nearly all your ham radio curses. Enjoy. ■

Software Source & Website	Radio Models Supported, April 2013	Cost	PC Operating System	Proprietary USB Cable Needed?
CHIRP http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home	76	Free	Windows, Mac, & Linux	No
KC8UNJ Software http://www.kc8unj.com/	9	Free	Windows	No
G4HFQ Software http://g4hfg.co.uk/index.html	25	\$15 per radio model	Windows	No
Manufacturers (certain brands/models only, esp. Icom, Alinco, Kenwood, Wouxun, Baofeng) <i>--see manufacturer websites</i>	1 or 2 per software package	Free	Windows	No
RT Systems (individual software and USB cable for each radio model) http://www.rtsystemsinc.com/	110	\$35-40 per radio model	Windows	Yes
DogPark Software MacMemoriesManager (support no longer provided) http://www.dogparksoftware.com/MacMemoriesManager.html	19 (mostly HF rigs)	Free	Mac	No

Table Data: Information compiled by AI6DF from software source websites

The CHIRP software uniquely programs these radios using either Windows, Mac, or Linux operating systems

CHIRP is a free, open-source tool for programming your amateur radio. It supports a large number of manufacturers and models, as well as provides a way to interface with multiple data sources and formats.



To get started:

1. Download CHIRP for your platform
2. Check out the Documentation
3. Join the [mailing list!](#)

Supported Radio Models

AnyTone

- AT-5888UV (*in daily builds*)

Alinco

- DR-03T
- DR-06T
- DR135T
- DR235T
- DR435T
- DJ596T
- DJ175T

Baofeng

- F-11 (*in daily builds*)
- UV-3R
- UV-5R
- UV-B5 (*in daily builds*)

Icom

- IC-80AD
- IC-2820H
- ID-800H
- ID-880H
- IC-208H
- IC-2200H
- IC-91/92AD
- IC-V/U82
- ID-RPx000V/RP2x
- IC-2100H
- IC-2720H
- IC-T70
- IC-T7H
- IC-T8A
- IC-Q7A
- IC-W32A
- IC-746
- IC-7200
- IC-7000
- ID-31A
- ID-51A (*in daily builds*)

Jetstream

- JT220M

Kenwood

- TH-D7A/G
- TH-D72
- TH-F6A
- TH-F7E
- TH-K2
- TK-7102/8102/7108/8108 (*in daily builds*)
- TM-271A/281A
- TM-D700
- TM-D710
- TM-G707
- TM-V7A
- TM-V71A

Puxing

- PX-2R (UHF)
- PX-777

TYT

- TH-UV3R
- TH-UVF1

Yaesu

- FT-60R
- FT-817/ND
- FT-857/D
- FT-897
- FT-1802M
- FT-2800M
- FT-7800R
- FT-7900R
- FT-8800R
- FT-8900R
- FTM-350R (*in daily builds*)
- VX-3R
- VX-5R
- VX-6R
- VX-7R
- VX-8R

Wouxun

- KG-UVD1P/UV2D/UV3D
- KG-UV6D/UV6X

The material at left is a screen-shot from CHIRP's website at: <http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home>

...But these significant models are not supported yet in CHIRP:

Alinco HT's:

- DJ V-17 (2-meter)
- DJ V-27 (1.25-meter)
- DJ V-47 (70-cm)
- DJ V-57 (2-meter & 70 cm)
- DJ G-29 (1.25 meter & 33 cm)
- DJ G-7 (2-meter, 70 cm, & 1.2 GHz)

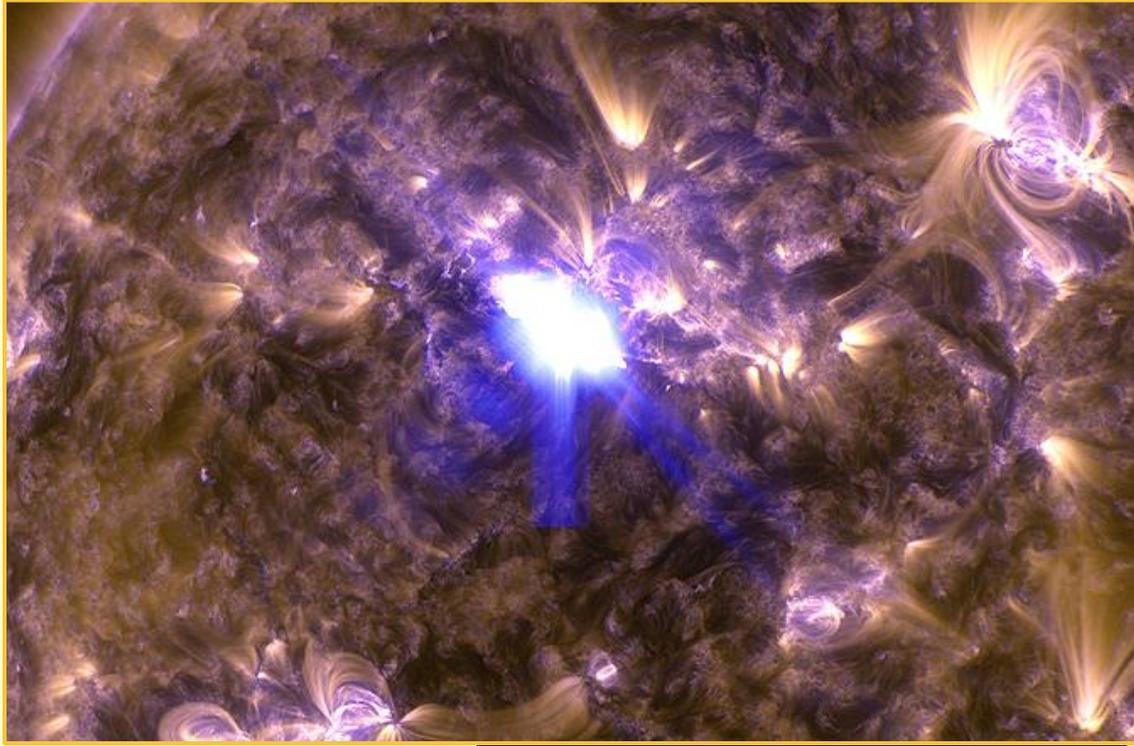
Yaesu monoband HT's:

- FT-170 (2-meter)
- FT-177 (70 cm)
- FT-250 (2-meter)
- FT-270 (2-meter)
- FT-277 (70cm)

Icom mobile radio

- IC-V8000 (2-meter)

Top and Middle Right photos:
NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured this image of an M6.5 class flare at 3:16 EDT on April 11, 2013. This image shows a combination of light in wavelengths of 131 and 171 Angstroms. The Middle Right photo shows the region of the Sun where this flare occurred.
CREDIT: NASA/SDO

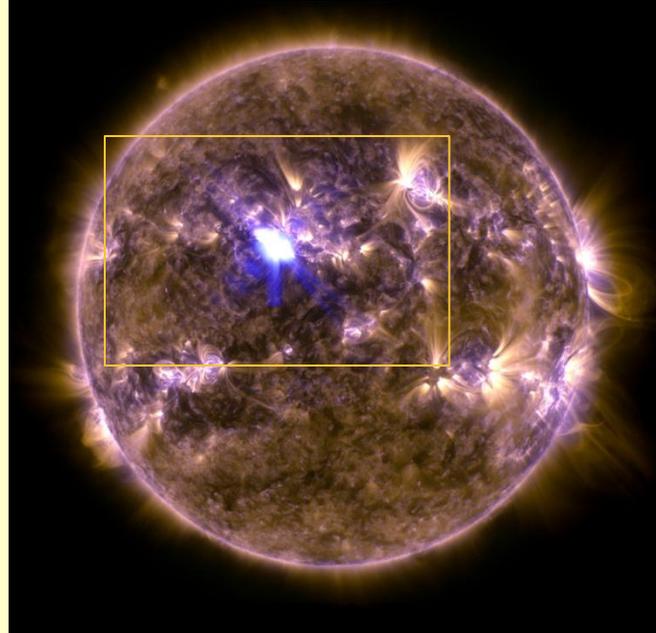


As The Sun Goes, So Goes Radio Communication...

▪ *Strongest Solar Flare in 2013 Erupts on April 11*

It's been an exciting time to witness solar activity as the current sunspot cycle nears its peak. Sunspots, of course, are areas of strong magnetic activity on the Sun's surface that greatly assist (or can really hinder) HF radio communication on Earth.

The photo above shows the strongest solar flare in 2013, which occurred on April 11 when one sunspot's turbulence burst into brilliant light.

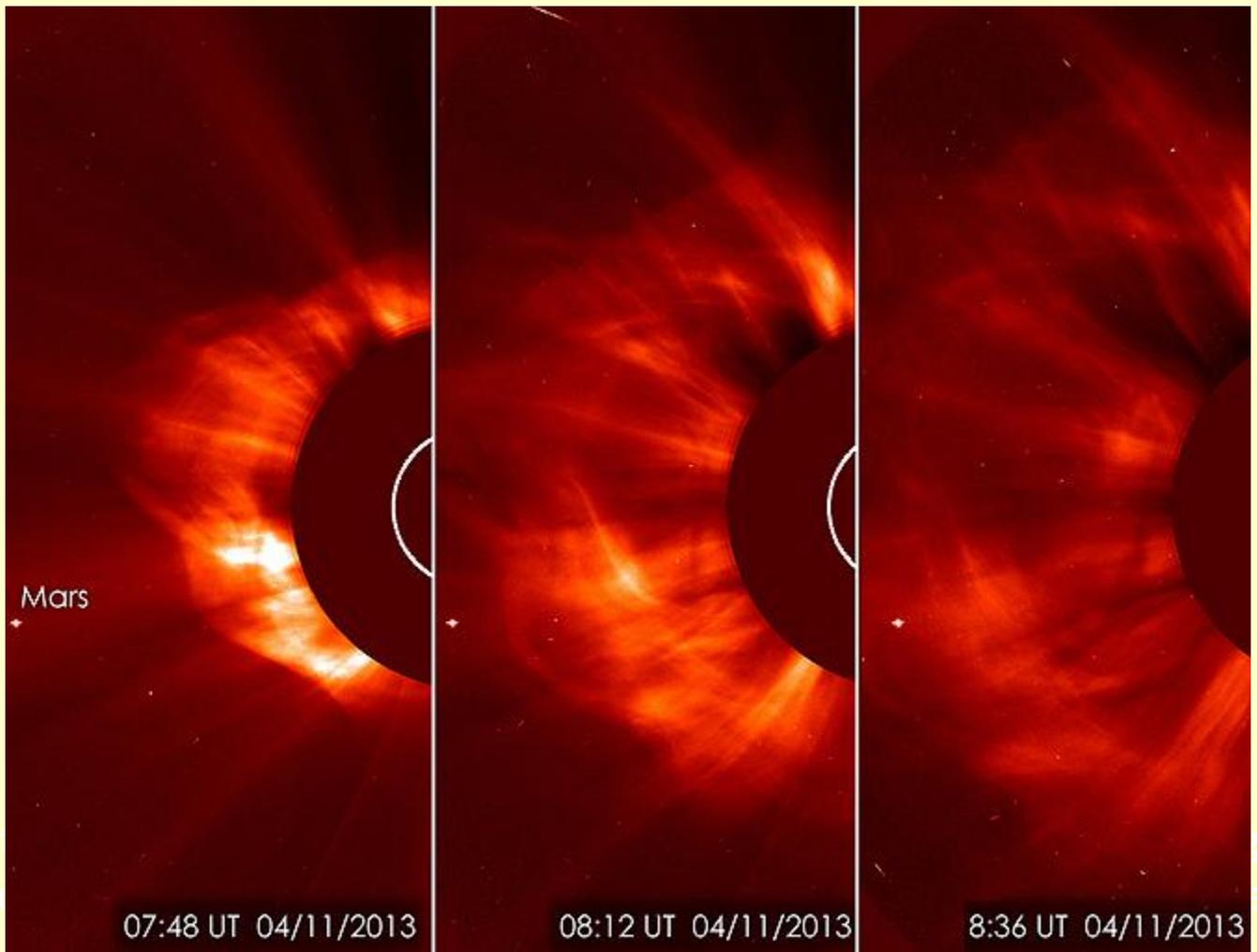


While solar flares display the light discharged from sunspot, it is only half the story. The other part is the stream of charged particles ejected from the Sun's surface, known as coronal mass ejections, or CME. (The CME associated with the massive April 11 solar flare is pictured on the next page.)

Charged CME particles enter the solar system and three days later have the potential to disrupt radio communication and other electrical equipment on Earth. The greatest risks are to spacecraft and satellites: these are not well-protected by the Earth's magnetic field that deflects most CME activity.

As many know, it's these charged CME particles engaging the Earth's magnetic field that also create auroras ("Northern Lights")—themselves another opportunity for radio wave bouncing.

Continued on next page ►



Above: The joint ESA/NASA Solar Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) captured this series of images of a coronal mass ejection (CME) on the morning of April 11, 2013 over the course of 3:48 EDT to 4:36 EDT. Mars can be seen on the left. PHOTO CREDIT: ESA & NASA/SOHO/GSFC

As The Sun Goes, So Goes Radio Communication...

► *Continued from previous page*

Hams into DXing carefully watch the daily Solar Flux Index recorded at noon each day since 1947 by an observatory in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada. Two space telescopes there on 2800 MHz with a 100 MHz bandwidth measure the magnetic fields reaching Earth's atmosphere. While higher SFI values generally benefit HF propagation, higher noise levels also result.

Unfortunately, Mr. Sol doesn't coordinate his sunspot activity with major ham events when higher SFI values would have been welcomed. During the recent CQ Worldwide SSB DX contest in late March, for example, the Solar Flux Index hovered around 100. A week later it was in the 130-140 range. One can only hope... ■



One of the two 10.7cm solar flux monitoring telescopes at the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory in Penticton, BC. These telescopes provide the daily Solar Flux Index. PHOTO: JASON NISHIYAMA

We Need Your Help For 2013 ARRL Field Day, June 22-23

Save the date: this year's ARRL Field Day is the 24-hour period from 11:00 am PDT June 22 until 11:00 am PDT June 23 (Saturday and Sunday) when we operate entirely on emergency power from a field location on the Palos Verdes Peninsula....and we have fun doing it as well.

If you would like to experience a ham radio contest for the first time, look no further than Field Day. We'll have HF radios and computers ready for club members to operate. If you don't want to be on the air, we need loggers to enter contacts in our computers too. Technician class amateurs are welcome to participate.



Whether you like on-air operating, logging, helping with setup, or just watching—there's an opportunity for everyone. Loaning equipment is also important, as we need several tents and generators too.

We expect to again operate in the 2-A classification, with one SSB transmitter, one CW station, and a VHF/UHF operation. We might also have a Get On The Air station if there's enough support. Anyone willing to be our VHF/UHF station chief or GOTA chief during daytime hours?

More details to follow. ■



Ham Radio Towers Provide Lasting Memories – Part II

Do you have an amusing or interesting anecdote about a ham radio antenna or tower at your home? Jeff Wolf, K6JW, recently sent this to [QRO](#):

“Amazing--After I put up my first SteppIR Yagi at our current house, all was well.

“I had made it through a truly nit-picky permit process and, as many will remember from my two PVARC presentations about it, spent a bundle doing so. Anyway, a while after the antenna went in, I found myself in a driveway conversation with my neighbor. As we chatted, I noticed that he kept looking up at the antenna, it being gloriously supported atop my 55-foot tower. I got ready for the hostility, was mentally calculating how to deal with his expected wrath, when he suddenly said, ‘Jeez, that thing is really terrific!’

“Two new neighbors moved in shortly after that episode. One immediately next door and one directly across the street. Neither noticed the tower or antenna before buying in, and neither has voiced any problem with it.

“A third family recently bought the house on the other side of us -- used to be owned by tennis player Tracy Austin's parents. The guy noticed the antenna and was really interested in it. No annoyance, no problems.

“One can draw one's own conclusions but, in my experience, most folks either don't notice the antenna (who looks up, anyway?) or, if they do notice it, really don't much care.” ■

“World Amateur Radio Day” is April 18 on the International Amateur Radio Union’s 88th Anniversary

Article from the ARRL’s weekly Letter, April 4, 2013

This year marks the 88th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)). To mark this occasion, the IARU and its more than 160 Member Societies will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18.

For many years, the IARU Administrative Council has declared a theme for each World Amateur Radio Day. The theme for 2013 is *Amateur Radio: Entering Its Second Century of Disaster Communications*.

Honoring the Theme of Disaster Communications-

The theme commemorates the first known use of Amateur Radio in a disaster situation: Herbert V. Akerberg -- a 15-year-old from Hilltop, Ohio -- is believed to be the first person to use Amateur Radio to call for help during a disaster. In late March 1913, the Scioto River in downtown Columbus, Ohio flooded its banks, killing more than 100 people. According to a [November 2012 article in The Columbus Dispatch](#), Akerberg used his home radio transmitter to send SOS calls via Morse code for nearly 72 hours.

According to the *Dispatch*, Akerberg’s services were “highly commended by the city authorities, and his achievement widely heralded over the country as a new contribution to the comparatively new science of radio.” Herbert Akerberg passed away in Scottsdale, Arizona on November 6, 1964.

Stations On the Air for World Amateur Radio Day-

Several IARU Member Societies -- and clubs related to them -- will have special event stations on the air in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. As of April 4, these stations include:

- **4A8DMR:** FMRE -- Mexico’s IARU Member Society -- with the help of Grupo DXXE, will activate 4A8DMR, a unique prefix, for the first time. DMR stands for Día Mundial del Radioaficionado, or World Amateur Radio Day. This station will be active from April 18-21 on all bands from 160-6

meters in all modes, including EME, as well as on Amateur Radio satellites from different grid squares throughout Mexico. QSL via N7RO and LoTW.

- **CR5IARU:** REP -- Portugal’s IARU Member Society -- will be on the air April 13-19 on all bands. QSL via CT1REP (bureau or direct).
- **KP4FD:** To echo the theme for this year, the Puerto Rico Field Day Group will be active on April 18 from the Emergency Management Agency of the city of Cataño, Puerto Rico. QSL via LoTW. ■

This list was complete as of April 4, 2013. To view updates, please visit the [IARU Region 2 website](#).



Some PVARC Antennas Need T.L.C. and Repair: Can You Help?

The PVARC occasionally acquires donated ham equipment from the estates of Silent Keys or from members who can't use gear at their QTH.

Our largest item in storage is a Mosley C-33 kilowatt tri-band Yagi antenna with an 18' boom, but it needs refurbishment. Is there a volunteer willing to take on this project for PVARC?

This antenna's N-connector and feedpoint fitting are in bad shape and need replacement. The dielectric internal insulated wire for the capacitance feed is doubtful. All antenna elements are present, though corroded from marine air. The internal conditions of the traps and hardware are unknown.

The Mosley CL-33 tri-band beam looks like this.



Can you help refurbish ours?

We also have an 11-element 2-meter beam that needs refurbishment. This antenna has extensive corrosion, several of its elements are missing, and the gamma match will need some work. The manufacturer is unknown; consequently there's no manual for this antenna.

Please contact Ray Day, N6HE, if you can graciously work on either of these antennas at your QTH. The PVARC will provide some expense reimbursement. ■

Check In to PVARC Tuesday Night Nets, Check Out the K6PV Century Award

Our Tuesday night nets at 7:30 pm on the K6PV repeater are looking for more members to check in. Please use K6PV for amassing additional contacts to qualify for our K6PV Century Club Award—just achieve at least 100 points (3 points for each contact with a PVARC member) . ■

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

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club

An American Radio Relay League Affiliated-Club

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Vice President	Clay Davis, AB9A
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Secretary	Malin Dollinger, KJ6HUB
Directors:	Ray Day, N6HE
	Joe Pace, NZ6L

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K6PV Repeater	
Trustee	Mel Hughes, K6SY
VE Coordinator	Dave Scholler, KG6BPH
VE Liaison	Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

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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: The Pt. Vicente Lighthouse on an early-Spring late afternoon, March 23, 2013.

PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

PVARC's Lighthouse Weekend Activity OK'ed by Coast Guard

We just received word the U.S. Coast Guard has approved the PVARC's request to use the Pt. Vicente Lighthouse grounds for International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on Aug. 16-18. Thanks go to PVARC member Bob Closson, W6HIP, for interfacing with the Coast Guard on this and again heading our Lighthouse Weekend effort.

We'll continue operating an HF station inside the lighthouse, but will use our club's tower trailer for supporting several antennas. The Coast Guard no longer allows our wire antennas to be hung from the lighthouse's top due to corrosion there.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's radio amateurs will again concurrently operate from Pt. Vicente during Lighthouse Weekend. This year we plan to have band pass filters for mitigating interference.

Our annual picnic at the base of the lighthouse will be on Sunday, August 18, for PVARC members, their families, and guests. As usual, our club furnishes all the meats, condiments, and supplies while members are asked to bring a pot-luck dish. ■

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2013

Alan LaFever, KF6BTO

Chris Storey, KA6WNK

Tom Bell, KJ6YCM

Mary Ann Bell, N6ZHR

Norm Thorn, K6UU

Denise Thorn, KF6VTN

Kees Steeneken, KJ6YUT

Ron Anderson, KK6AAZ

Laura Behenna, KK6BFI

Anthony Bressickello, W6GEZ

Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Peter Martinez, KK6CLI

Robert Kollar, KI6YMD

Can You Be An Elmer To a New Ham (Even in A Small Way)?

We say again: Our club has assembled a list of PVARC members who offered to assist new hams (or longer-timers) on any amateur radio issue.

Many newer members may need assistance with programming radios (HT or mobile). Hopefully the article on radio programming software in this QRO issue will help many, but we would still like a list of members having the software and cable needed for programming various radio models.

We'll make the list available to club members who ask for assistance. How about adding your name to our list of those who can help other members with radio programming?

Contact our VP, Clay AB9A at: ab9a@arrl.net ■



The night shift starts at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse during 2012 International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend.
PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club 2013 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						
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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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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31			

October						
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27	28	29	30	31		

February						
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24	25	26	27	28		

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

August						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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31						

June						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

September						
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15	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

2013 Major Contest Dates

 ARRL  CQ Magazine and Other

- Jan. 5-6: ARRL RTTY Roundup
- Jan. 19-21: ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- Jan. 26-27: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (CW)
- Feb. 9-10: CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX
- Feb. 16-17: ARRL DX (CW)
- Feb. 23: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Feb. 23-24: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (SSB)
- Mar. 2-3: ARRL DX (SSB)
- Mar. 30-31: CQ Worldwide SSB WPX
- May 25-26: CQ Worldwide CW WPX
- Jun. 8-9: ARRL June VHF Contest
- Jun. 22-23: ARRL Field Day 
- Jul. 13-14: IARU HF Championship
- Jul. 20-21: CQ Worldwide VHF
- Aug. 3-4: ARRL UHF Contest
- Sept. 14-16: ARRL September VHF Contest
- Sept. 28-29: CQ Worldwide RTTY DX
- Oct. 5-6: California QSO Party
- Oct. 26-27: CQ Worldwide SSB DX
- Nov. 2-3: ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
- Nov. 16-17: ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
- Nov. 23-24: CQ Worldwide CW DX
- Dec. 6-8: ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- Dec. 14-15: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

PVARC Nets

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

PVARC Meetings

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

August 18: Annual family picnic at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse in conjunction with International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend.

December 11: Holiday dinner (location to be announced).

PVARC Public Service Events

- August 10:** Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive" 5K/10K
- Sept. 2:** L.A. Harbor "Conquer the Bridge" Race
- Sept. 21:** RAT Beach Bike Tour
- Oct. 13:** Mary's Promenade 5K/10K
- Nov. 16:** Palos Verdes Half Marathon & 5K

PVARC's Islands on the Air Annual DXpedition

Feb. 20-24: Two Harbors, Catalina Island. (We'll be back in 2014—bad weather canceled our boat transportation this year.)



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

**NEW MEMBER &
 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

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

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Spouse:** _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: Home _____ [] **Work** _____ [] **Cell** _____ []
 (please indicate [x] which number(s) [limited to two] you would like included in the PVARC roster)

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.**

In applying for or renewing my membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club, 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:** _____



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 (2nd level)

Each course is 2 sessions

The next sessions are on 4 May & 11 May 2013

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:45 PM both Saturdays

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

FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to Noon on 18 May 2013

The Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will make a brief presentation at 9:30 AM at the start of the 4 May 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: \$20 for the Technician, \$20 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 waltordway@juno.com

Not CERT-trained yet? Here's a nearby opportunity to be prepared for disaster situations.



Community Emergency Response Training

Training Classes starting
Saturday, May 11 2013

**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:

May 11, 2013	May 18, 2013	June 1, 2013
1. Disaster Preparedness 3. Disaster Medical Ops 1 4. Disaster Medical Ops 2	2. Disaster Fire Suppression 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:
May 11, May 18 and June 1, 2013 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

at Palos Verdes PENINSULA High School
27118 Silver Spur Road,
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274
C.E.R.T. training is free

E-mail Cheryl Dawson: cheryldawson@cox.net
Phone: 310 377-8716

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.

The 2013 International DX Convention in Visalia takes place during April 19-21. Visit their website at:

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



Visalia, CA

IDXC

64th International DX Convention
April 19-21, 2013
Visalia, California



The Convention Begins In: 69 Days, 14 Hr, 44 Min, 26 Sec

			 Sign
Register	Pre-Registration Open	Hotel Rooms Available	Reservations
	Early Banquet Seating	Exhibitors	
Register	DX Academy	Contest Academy	Register
	Program Schedule	Major Prizes Announced	

Grand Prize - Saturday Night Banquet



Elecraft K-Line

(click photo for more information)

Other Major Prizes From FlexRadio, ICOM, Yaesu, Kenwood, Alpha, SteppIR, US Towers, and more!

Content on this page requires a newer version of Adobe Flash Player.



So far, seven PVARC members have signed up to attend this year's IDXC.

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 or explains 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 Pt. Vicente Lighthouse during late afternoon in early spring. Two text boxes announce the program at PVARC's April 17 monthly meeting, Ray N6HE speaking on Radiosport (also known as amateur radio contesting).

Page 3: A large table of data compare the various software packages available for programming handheld and mobile radios. The free CHIRP software is highlighted because unlike all the others it works on Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems.

Page 4: The illustration shows the models of amateur radios supported by the CHIRP software; a text box on the right lists current and recent radio models that still cannot be programmed by the CHIRP software.

Page 5: Two photos have the caption, "Top and Middle Right photos: NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured this image of an M6.5 class flare at 3:16 EDT on April 11, 2013. This image shows a combination of light in wavelengths of 131 and 171 Angstroms. The Middle Right photo shows the region of the Sun where this flare occurred. CREDIT: NASA/SDO "

Page 6: A series of three photos at the top of the page has the caption, "Above: The joint ESA/NASA Solar Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) captured this series of images of a coronal mass ejection (CME) on the morning of April 11, 2013 over the course of 3:48 EDT to 4:36 EDT. Mars can be seen on the left. PHOTO CREDIT: ESA & NASA/SOHO/GSFC " A photo at the bottom right shows a space telescope with the caption, "One of the two 10.7cm solar flux monitoring telescopes at the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory in Penticon, BC. These telescopes provide the daily Solar Flux Index. PHOTO: JASON NISHIYAMA "

Page 7: The photo at upper right is the ARRL's 2013 Field Day logo.

Page 8: The illustration at lower right shows logos of the International Amateur Radio Union and its three regions.

Page 9: The photo at left center shows a Mosley CT-33 tri-band Yagi antenna, identical to the club's antenna that needs refurbishing.

Page 10: The text box at upper right lists new members of the PVARC. The photograph at the bottom left of the page in the column about 2013 Lighthouse Weekend has the caption, "The night shift starts at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse during 2012 International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF"

Page 11: The entire page shows the PVARC's 2013 calendar of events.

Captions to photographs and other illustrations in this month's **QRO** (continued)

Page 12: The entire page is the club's membership form.

Page 13: The entire page is the announcement for Walt Ordway's upcoming ham radio license classes on May 4 and 11. The photo at upper left shows a Kenwood handheld radio.

Page 14: The entire page is an announcement of the upcoming Community Emergency Response Team training offered at Peninsula High School on Saturdays, May 11 and 18, plus June 1.

Page 15: The entire page shows a portion of the website for the International DX Convention in Visalia, CA, on April 19-21.