



QRO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER 2017



Understanding the linked VHF/UHF repeater systems in So. California

It's almost enough to make one's head spin just hearing the acronyms of Southern California's linked VHF/UHF amateur radio repeater systems—and all their frequencies.

Our October 5 monthly meeting features your **QRO** Editor Diana, AI6DF, taking a spin through each of these repeater systems to provide an understanding of who they are, who they serve, the communications assets they provide, the requirements they have to join, and other pertinent facts.

In about an hour we'll compare and contrast such linked systems as: PAPA; DARN; Cactus Intertie; Condor; WIN; RABBIT; EARN; SCIRA; and more. Diana, AI6DF, previously served as President and later Coordination Board Secretary for the 220 MHz Spectrum Management Association of Southern California. Several of these linked systems use the 222-225 MHz amateur band. ■

“All About the Linked VHF and UHF Repeater Systems in Southern California”

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

**Fred Hesse Community Park
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes**

**Thursday, October 5, 2017
7:30 pm, visitors welcome.**

**New hams “What’s Next?”
gathering, 6:30-7:20 pm**

Optional no-host pre-meeting dinner
5:30-7:00 pm at Red Onion
Restaurant, 706 Silver Spur Road,
Rolling Hills Estates. (No reservation
required, order what you wish.)

Lessons from the 2017 hurricane season...when ham radio is needed it's really needed. Will you be ready?

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
QRO Editor

If you haven't joined a disaster amateur radio organization **now** is the time. Unlike hurricanes, earthquakes--Southern California's primary disaster threat--have no advance warning advising hams to test their equipment, recharge their radio batteries, study procedures, stock-up or get ready. When earthquakes strike you are either ready or you aren't.

Amateur operators have provided disaster radio communication since ham radio's beginnings just over 100 years ago. The PVARC has long encouraged its members to get involved with disaster-related public service groups, especially government-affiliated radio organizations, hospital-related radio groups, or mass-care groups such as the American Red Cross or Salvation Army amateur radio teams. A list of these organizations appears on page 4 for your consideration.

The 2017 hurricane season has provided worthwhile lessons for amateur radio. Most noteworthy is the following ARRL account of events in Puerto Rico (next page.) *Continued on next page ▶*

Below: Beyond the smiles in a "graduating Class photo" no one can predict how their fate will unfold. Exactly one year ago new ARRL Section Managers including Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF (center back row), gathered at ARRL headquarters for three days of orientation in this group photo taken October 8, 2016. None predicted that today Oscar has perhaps the toughest task in disaster amateur radio: when all else failed after Hurricane Maria decimated Puerto Rico's infrastructure amateur operators there were needed more than ever.



2016 NEW ARRL SECTION MANAGERS CLASS, PHOTO CREDIT: STEVE EWALD, WV1X (ARRL FIELD SERVICES MGR.) AND JOE SHUPIENIS, W3BC (WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION MGR.)

GRAPHIC OVERLAY: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

“Force of 50” Amateur Radio Volunteers Deploy Throughout Puerto Rico

From the ARRL web site

10/02/2017

More than 20 of the “Force of 50” Amateur Radio volunteers now are deployed in storm-ravaged Puerto Rico as American Red Cross volunteers and wasting no time getting down to business.

ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said the volunteers, in general, will provide communications for local law enforcement and utility managers; island-to-mainland health-and-welfare traffic, which has been ongoing, and contact with the more remote areas of Puerto Rico, cut off from the capital of San Juan and not heard from since the Hurricane Maria hit on September 20. Thanks to fire officials in Juncos, all Amateur Radio operators and Red Cross volunteers have been guaranteed safe passage, food, shelter, and water at any fire station on the island, if needed.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U, said volunteers initially gathered at the convention center in San Juan, which is serving as Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency (PREMA) headquarters. Their first night, a local church offered accommodations, and volunteers slept on pews that had been pushed together.

According to one FEMA official, the White House situation room is extremely pleased and enthusiastic about the service Amateur Radio volunteers are providing in Puerto Rico.

Since the storm struck Puerto Rico, ARRL Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, and other volunteers have staffed VHF and HF nets at the American Red Cross temporary headquarters, despite damage to their own homes. The net covers nearly two-thirds of the island and has been handling traffic to and from the power company, Autoridad de Energía Eléctrica (Electric Power Authority — AEE), and state and local authorities. The electric distribution infrastructure suffered extreme storm damage, and power has remained out over most of the island. Twelve team members will be assigned to provide communication for engineers getting ready to repair the island’s power distribution centers.

The Red Cross Headquarters net has shifted to 24-hour operation, to be ready to assist in any emergency involving the Guajataca hydroelectric dam. In the wake of heavy rain over the weekend that caused the aging structure to crumble further, residents in the districts of Quebradillas, Isabelita, and San Sebastián have been told to leave. A ham radio volunteer has been stationed in Quebradillas to provide emergency communication if needed and to maintain contact between AEE and its Monacillo control center.

An Amateur Radio station has been installed and an operator embedded at the Puerto Rico Emergency Operations Center (PREOC). Radio amateurs also have been asked to establish VHF communication capabilities at 51 hospitals throughout the island, so they can have direct contact with the PREOC. Local hams will staff that facility for now. The volunteer embedded at the PREOC is serving as liaison between the PREOC and the FEMA Emergency Support Function (ESF-2) task force, relaying information among the Red Cross, ARRL, FEMA, and the ESF-2 task force. An Amateur Radio team also is in Jacuo.

Two team members penetrated to the westernmost end of the island. “Team Oeste (Mayagüez)” (Western Team Mayagüez), as they are designated, are at a Red Cross shelter in Mayagüez, providing the only emergency communication link from that city to San Juan since the storm on September 20. They’ve also been in contact with the mainland via the SATERN, where W1AW was checked in, reporting that they are doing well. At this stage, that team has been getting a handle on the conditions and needs of those living in and around Mayagüez. Primary among those needs was water.

“The city water system has failed over the past 24 hours, and water is a critical need and the first item mentioned,” the pair said in an October 1 status update. They said non-perishable food items, extended-life dry milk, blankets, baby formula, and dust masks also made the list. They met with the medical staff set up at the Palacio de Recreación y Deportes — a sports stadium in the París neighborhood of Mayagüez — and will confer with the mayor of Mayagüez today. The medical staff also provided the volunteers with an extensive list of needs to be passed on to the Red Cross as well as to FEMA and Puerto Rico’s Emergency Management Agency, as well as others who may be able to provide assistance.

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“Force of 50” Amateur Radio Volunteers Deploy Throughout Puerto Rico

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“We were told that they are seeing ulcers, spider bites, patients needing oxygen, congestion and coughs,” they said. “They have not had any patients presenting with fevers or other signs of illness/disease related to sanitation however; with the failure of the municipal water system, that is a concern.”

An HF station with *WinLink* capability and a VHF/UHF station have been set up in the FEMA disaster field office, and volunteers have been reporting in by radio from around the island to post situation reports. Radio operators also will be posted at four power-generation facilities, at the request of the power company. Superacueducto, the water utility, has asked for several radio amateurs to help in reestablishing water flow from Arecibo to San Juan. The volunteers also recruited another ham, a Red Cross volunteer.

Four ham radio volunteers have been positioned to accompany and provide VHF communication at Red Cross distribution centers on a daily basis. Two volunteers also were sent to Culebra Island to establish VHF and HF communication there, the first since the storm. ■

Lessons from the 2017 hurricane season...when ham radio is needed it's really needed. Will you be ready?

Here in California we expect some infrastructure damage after a major earthquake but not statewide total destruction. Our disaster amateur radio needs won't be as dire as Puerto Rico's current situation but our need for readiness is greater because we have no advance warnings before an earthquake.

Disaster amateur radio has three aspects for proficiency: knowing how to maintain and operate radio equipment; knowing the protocols for efficiently communicating with your organization via radio; and having situational awareness experiences to avoid becoming a physical or emotional victim of the disaster. Participating with a recognized disaster amateur radio organization can help achieve the proficiency that amateur operators need.

Take a look at some of our area's disaster amateur radio groups, depending on where you live, and get ready. Several offer extensive training opportunities.

City of Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART):

<http://www.pvestates.org/services/police-department/divisions/administration/disaster-preparedness>.

City of Rancho Palos Verdes and Rolling Hills Estates (PVAN): <http://www.n6rpv.net/pvan/>

L.A. County Disaster Communications Service at Sheriff Stations throughout L.A. County (DCS)

For all South Bay cities: www.qsl.net/lmtdcs

City of Torrance's Torrance Amateur Radio Association (TARA): <http://taranet.org/#>

City of Los Angeles Fire Department Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS):

<http://www.lafd.org/join/volunteer/lafd-acs>

American Red Cross amateur radio: <http://www.redcross.org/local/california/los-angeles/community-chapters/long-beach> ■

Powered speaker, the easy way (plus, an even easier way!)

By Jerry Kendrick, NG6R

Powered or amplified speakers are very handy when you can't get the sound volume you need from a regular speaker attached to a favorite audio device (maybe in lieu of ear buds or a tiny speaker on your MP3 player). But, another application is also useful. Let's say you are listening intently through headphones to a weak CW or SSB signal (maybe at Field Day when you don't want to be distracted by all the commotion going on around you). But, spectators would really like to hear the other side of the QSO. Removing the headphones plug from the radio, and thereby routing audio to the radio speaker, would allow everyone to hear. However, the advantage to the operator of using the headphones would be lost. What if you could have the advantages of both? A powered speaker has so much gain that it can significantly amplify even the small signal level that is normally used in headphones. So, you can use a "Y" splitter like the adapter in Figure 1 and enable both the headphones and the powered speaker to be plugged into the same headset audio jack. Now, the on-lookers can hear the QSO through the powered speaker. And the operator, still isolated under the headphones, can hear as well.



Figure 1. Audio "Y" splitter can enable both head-phones and powered speaker to be plugged into the same audio jack.

This DIY project, useful in almost any ham station and also for other applications, can be completed in one afternoon once the parts have been accumulated. It's based on a classic (and inexpensive) integrated circuit (IC) chip that is still being produced today, 34 years after it was first introduced. The LM386 audio amplifier is an 8-pin dual-inline package (DIP) operational amplifier IC that is mounted in a DIP8 socket, which in turn is mounted on a perforated board (perfboard). The other required components are probably in your parts junk box. But, if not, they can be found in abundance at the next ham radio swap meet. The LM386 chip itself can be purchased on eBay for as little as 99 cents for a quantity of ten (with free shipping)!

The simple circuit for the powered speaker amplifier is shown in Figure 2. This schematic diagram is one of many that can be located by doing an Internet search for typical LM386 audio amplifier circuits. This one was available from electroschematics.com. There are many variations of this circuit centered on this basic chip.

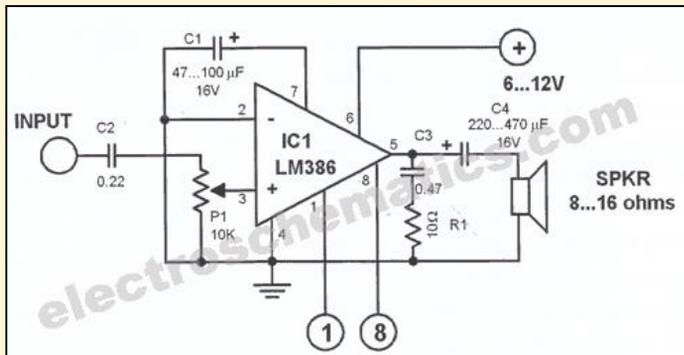


Figure 2. Simple audio amplifier circuit based on classic LM386 audio amplifier 8-pin DIP IC

Powered speaker, the easy way (plus, an even easier way!)

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In addition to the components shown in the schematic, a 100 μ F electrolytic capacitor was added between the B+ voltage (labeled 6...12V in the diagram) and ground, thus assuring increased stability of the DC voltage from the power supply. By the way, the DC supply voltage value isn't very critical but the circuit won't work if voltage is less than about 4 or 5 volts; and it shouldn't exceed 15 volts. For our application, a standard 12V source (actually 13.8V) is available. The component(s) placed between pins 1 and 8 determine the gain of the amplifier. A 10 μ F electrolytic capacitor was placed between these pins (positive to pin 1), thus enabling an amplifier max voltage gain of about 200, i.e., 46dB. An LED lamp (in series with a 270-ohm voltage-dropping resistor) was installed on top of the speaker cabinet as a power-on indicator. Finally, a power on/off switch (located on the volume control potentiometer) turns off the powered speaker when not in use.

The speaker chosen for amplification is a 4" communications type in a plastic enclosure—the kind often found at ham radio swap meets, but which also can be purchased new on eBay for about \$10 - \$15.

Using the schematic diagram as a guide, the seven components (one IC, 5 capacitors and one fixed resistor) were assembled on a small perfboard, as shown in Figure 3.

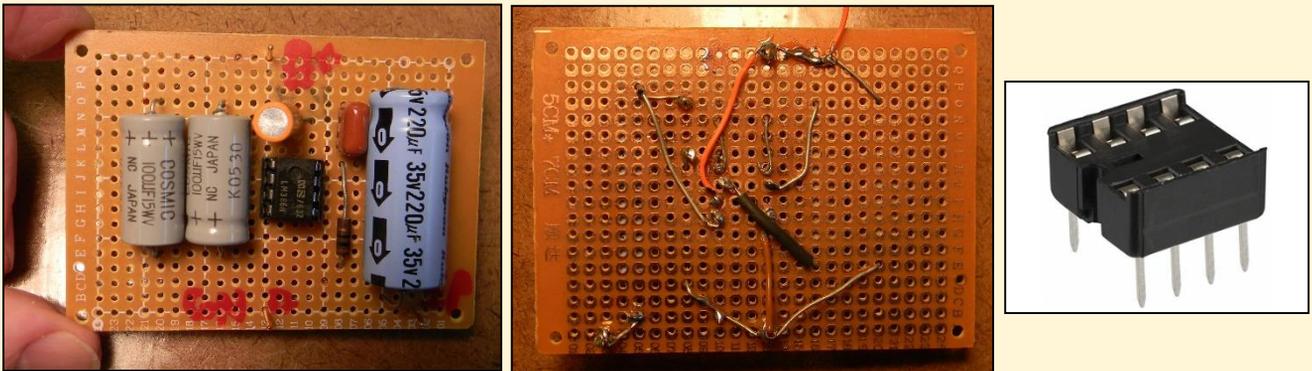


Figure 3. Audio amplifier circuit assembled on the top side of a small perfboard (*left*); components are soldered together in point-to-point fashion on the reverse side of the board (*center*). Placement isn't critical, but crossing wires must not touch; heat shrink wrap tubing is quite useful for this purpose. The LM386 IC is mounted in a socket (of the type shown at the right) whose 8 pins have the same spacing as perforations in the board. Use of a socket obviates the need to apply soldering heat directly to the pins of the IC itself and also enables quick chip replacement if ever needed.

Figure 4 shows the components placed inside the speaker enclosure. Note that the component perfboard assembly has been placed along the side of the cabinet on short standoffs so that it will not interfere with the cone-shaped speaker structure when it is replaced into the enclosure. Placement of the volume control potentiometer and on/off switch can be seen on the rear of the enclosure near the top. Also visible is the green LED lamp pushed up through a drilled hole in the cabinet top and its companion voltage-dropping resistor. *Continued on next page* ►

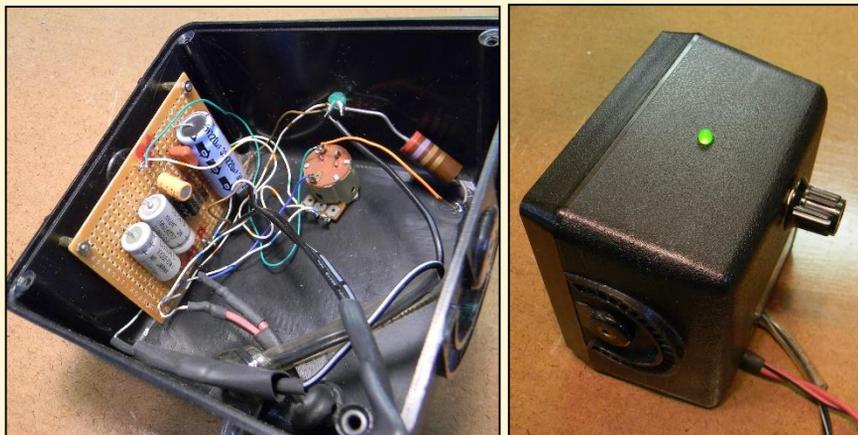


Figure 4. Audio amplifier components assembled inside the 4" speaker cabinet. DC power is brought in near the same hole in the bottom rear of the enclosure as the original speaker cable. The finished result is shown on the right.

Powered speaker, the easy way (plus, an even easier way!)

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Now, if you don't happen to have a stash of miscellaneous electronic parts amassed over several decades, as do some of our seasoned club members, there is still a convenient way to create this powered speaker. An LM386 audio amplifier kit can be purchased from eBay for less than \$2 that can be assembled even more quickly than the "homemade" version described above.



Figure 5. LM386 audio amplifier kit as ordered from eBay for less than \$2. This kit is very simple to solder together and the assembled amplifier works very well.

The assembled audio amplifier kit is shown nestled inside another 4" comm. speaker enclosure in Figure 6. Note that the potentiometer, which was supplied with the kit (and was anticipated being soldered onto the supplied printed circuit board), was actually installed on the side of the speaker cabinet as convenient access for volume control. Also note the two switches on the top of the cabinet. The right switch selects between two gain settings: low-gain and high-gain, as described later. The left switch is a three-pole-double-throw (3PDT) type switch that enables toggling between powered and unpowered speaker operation, as illustrated in Figure 7.

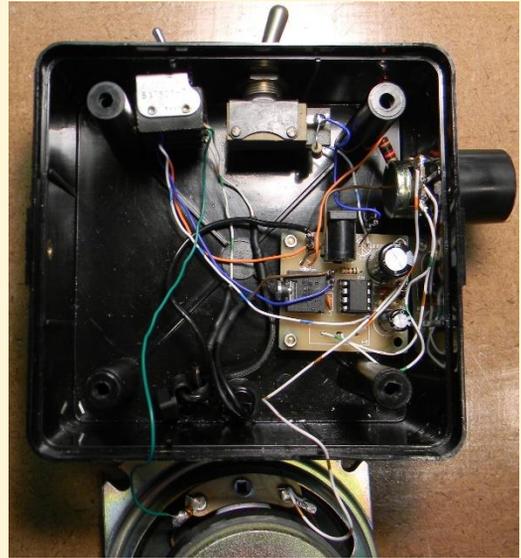


Figure 6. Audio amplifier kit assembled and installed inside another 4" comm. speaker cabinet. Also shown are the potentiometer for volume control and two external switches that control DC power on/off, powered vs. unpowered operation and amplifier hi/lo gain settings.

You can see in the workbench notebook sketch of Figure 7 that the switch's three poles and two throws are enclosed within the lightly-penciled rectangular box. The two switch positions (or "throws") represent powered and unpowered operation, as indicated toward the right in the figure. [The switch is drawn in the "powered" position.] All three of the poles switch simultaneously whenever the switch is moved between its two positions, i.e., they are "ganged," as indicated by the dashed line between the poles. A stock photo of a similar 3PDT switch is shown to the right in Figure 7.

Looking at the schematic diagram, note that with the switch placed in the unpowered position (i.e., the three arrows pivoted about the center to point down), the audio input is passed directly to the speaker, by virtue of the direct connection between the first two poles. And, the B+ voltage is not connected ("N/C") to the amplifier. In this switch position, the audio bypasses the amplifier so the unit acts just like any normal unpowered speaker.

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Powered speaker, the easy way (plus, an even easier way!)

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Then, when the switch is moved as shown to the “powered” position, note that the audio input is routed to the input of the amplifier; the output of the amplifier is routed to the speaker; the B+ supply voltage is routed to power the amplifier; and, finally, the red LED power-on lamp is activated to indicate that the amplifier power is on.

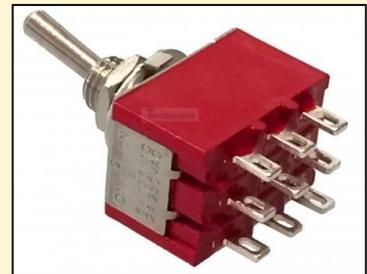
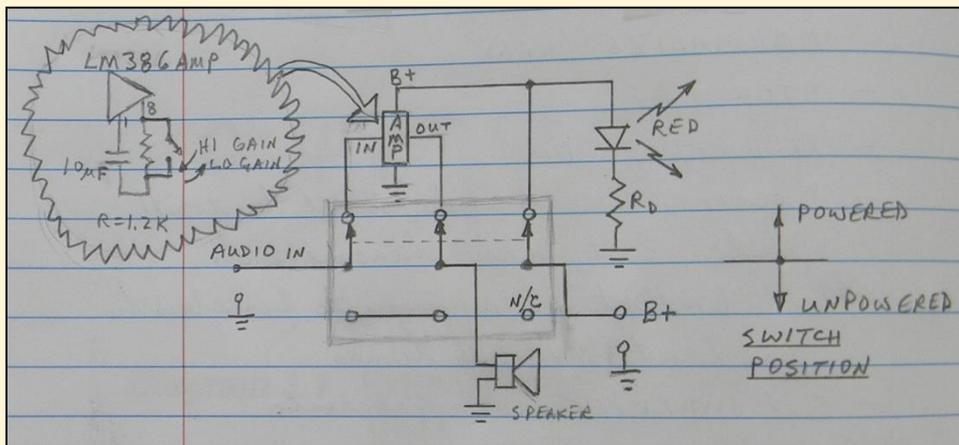


Figure 7. Workbench schematic sketch of the audio amplifier kit connected to the 3PDT switch for selecting powered or unpowered operation; also illustrated (in the inset) is the simple gain selection option on the feedback leg between pins 1 and 8 of the LM386. On the right is an inexpensive 3PDT switch similar to that used in this project.

Note in the Figure 7 inset that there are two gain positions for the amplifier. The high-gain switch position with just a 10µF electrolytic capacitor in the LM386 feedback path (between pins 1 and 8) will provide a voltage gain of about 200, whereas the low-gain position that adds a series 1.2k-ohm resistor will provide about a factor of 50 in audio voltage gain. The amplifier volume control knob will further adjust gain to the level desired by the user.

Either of these powered speaker projects can be built, tested and put into operation in just a matter of hours—or with no prior hands-on building experience, perhaps a day. An amplified speaker has a specific but frequently occurring application—anytime the audio signal of interest has too-low power level to adequately drive a standard (unpowered) speaker. The second project, illustrating the concept of toggling between unpowered and powered speaker operation, provides a particularly flexible option for our ham stations’ myriad audio needs. ■

Next PVARC HF Enthusiasts Meeting is October 14

The PVARC’s next HF Enthusiasts Group meeting is Saturday, October 14, from 10:00 am to Noon at the Rancho Palos Verdes home of Malin Dollinger, KO6MD. Those who often attend these meetings are notified by email asking for an RSVP. But all club members interested in HF operating or HF equipment are welcome to attend. To ensure seating for all please notify Malin at malind@cox.net if you plan to attend. ■

PVARC operators provide radio communication at Conquer the Bridge race

Labor Day was the 9th annual Conquer the Bridge race with nearly 3,300 registered runners and walkers for this 5.3 mile event. The PVARC was again there providing radio communication along the route.

The 7:00 am start time was delayed until 7:43 am because of rain earlier in the morning and some mats needed to be set up on the bridge. The race otherwise went well and there were no participant injuries. The fastest runner finished in 28 minutes, 30 seconds

Communications through the 445.72 MHz repeater had problems so 20 minutes before the race started our operators all went simplex on 445.72 MHz.

We had many very good operators at various locations along the course. The operators this year were Herb KO6RC, Bob W6HIP, Bob KE6JI, Matthew N6MDC, Glenn KJ6ATN, Herb KM6DD, Dave WA6PHS, Ralph AI6GP, Dave K9DBA, Cynthia AG6NW and Walt K1DFO.

The race started on Harbor Blvd. near the Maritime Museum and went across the Vincent Thomas Bridge before turning back at Navy Way on Terminal Island. ■

2017 RAT Beach Bike Tour cancelled--no event on Oct. 14

Since its September 2009 inauguration the annual 62-mile RAT Beach Bike Tour has utilized PVARC members for radio communication from many points throughout the South Bay. We learned this year's Bike Tour scheduled for October 14 was cancelled about three weeks before the ride due to unexpected circumstances. ■

The South Bay Sunrise Rotary Club organizes the RAT Beach Bike Tour and expects to resume the ride next year with the PVARC again providing radio communication from Culver City through San Pedro.

◆ 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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Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274-8316

Monthly Meetings:

1st Thursday (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:

Gary Lopes, WA6MEM, gary@wa6mem.com

To order a Club jacket or patch:

Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, 310-373-8166

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Front page photo —*A different view...Pt. Vicente Lighthouse catches its first rays of light after sunrise on the first day of Fall, September 22, 2017.* PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

HAMCON 2017 recap—and thanks

At HAMCON 2017 during Sept. 15-17 in the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach Hotel the PVARC had 41 members known to be attending (and undoubtedly more)—the largest presence of any amateur radio club.

Also designated as the 2017 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, HAMCON 2017 drew about the same number of overall registrants as HAMCON 2015 but with many new attendees.

During HAMCON's Saturday night banquet our fellow member Walt Ordway, K1DFO, was named recipient of the 2017 ARRL Southwestern Division Meritorious Service Award for his many years teaching amateur radio license classes and leading ham radio public service events.

Feedback from convention attendees has been very positive and the HAMCON committee is meeting soon to discuss when and where to stage the next Los Angeles-area convention.

The 2018 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention will tie-in with the 2018 Arizona State Convention at the 2018 Yuma Hamfest (Feb. 16-17.)

The major issues facing future HAMCON conventions in the L.A. area are rising hotel costs which corporate and trade-association events gladly pay but are getting beyond amateur radio's affordability. There are few alternate venues around L.A. with affordable costs and space for a large Vendor/Exhibitor Room over three days plus six Tech Talks and other concurrent aspects.

Move info to follow on the next HAMCON...but thanks to all our members for attending HAMCON 2017 and helping at the PVARC's Information Desk. ■



Above: Behind the scenes in a conference room at the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach Hotel members of the HAMCON 2017 committee (including Jeff, K6JW, right foreground) start assembling attendee registration packets the day before HAMCON opened. Our official photographer (from another HAMCON club) wasn't able to send us his convention photos in time for this **QRO** issue. PHOTO: DIANA FEINBERG, AI6DF

Thanks to our PVARC members known to have staffed the convention Information Desk during HAMCON 2017 (and appreciation to other members who assisted):

Bob, AB6SY
 Bob, W6HIP
 Dan, K6DPY
 Gary, WA6MEM
 Hugo, KM6DQU
 Jeff, K6JW
 Jerry, NG6R
 Malin, KO6MD
 Matt, N6MDC
 Matt, WA6AJC
 Pat, W6PBH
 Ralph, AI6GP
 Ray, N6HE
 Rick, KM6GXZ
 Steve, KI6TEQ
 Taffy, WA6LKV
 Walt, K1DFO

A hands-on solution for a hands-on device: a low-cost fix for a Yaesu mobile transceiver microphone

By Ray Day, N6HE

I've had my Yaesu FT-8800R mobile VHF/UHF radio for years – actually, one in the shack and another one in the car – and I love the rig.

But a similar problem developed on both radios – the strain relief rubber grommet thingy on the mic cable at the mic side basically fell apart, leaving me with exposed wires, etc. My quick-and-dirty temporary (OK, OK, permanent) fix was to tape it and see how long that would last. Worked OK but every time I looked at it, I thought, “This looks like crap – what would NG6R do (Jerry always repairs things to better-than-new...)?”

I didn't want to buy a complete new mic (*Ed. Note: a new Yaesu MH-48A6JA replacement microphone currently sells for \$60*), so I opened up the mic (three almost-Phillips screws). Good news – the internal cable wires were not soldered at the mic end, but there was a small connector inside the mic case for the cable wires....that meant that I could buy a replacement cable at a fraction of the price for a new mic. Life is good again! It did occur to me to try to cut the cable and re-solder the itsy-bitsy wires to the equally tiny existing connector, but....(well, you know ...).

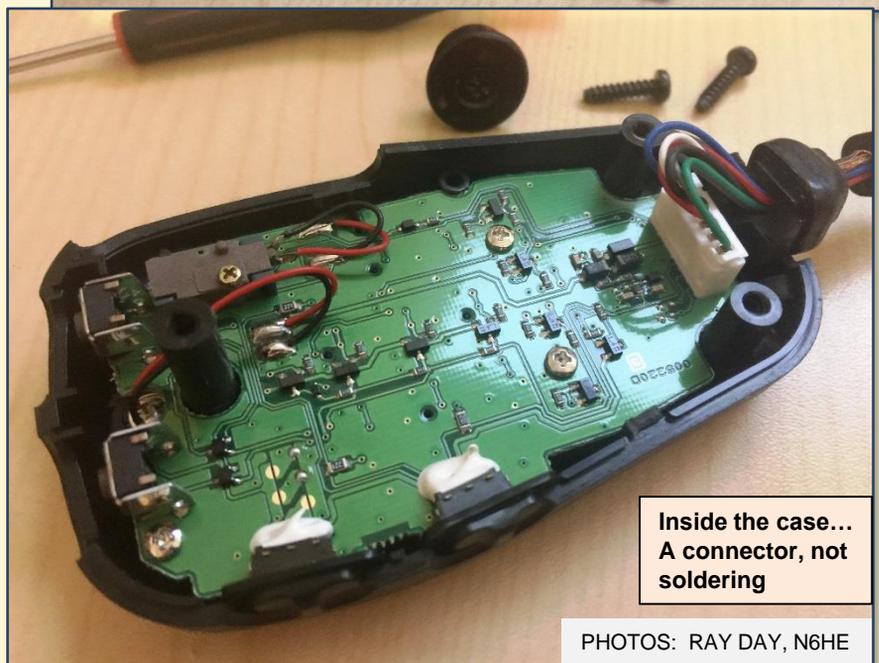
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Temporary fix using electrical tape: Ugly!



After removing four screws...and that tape



Inside the case...
A connector, not soldering

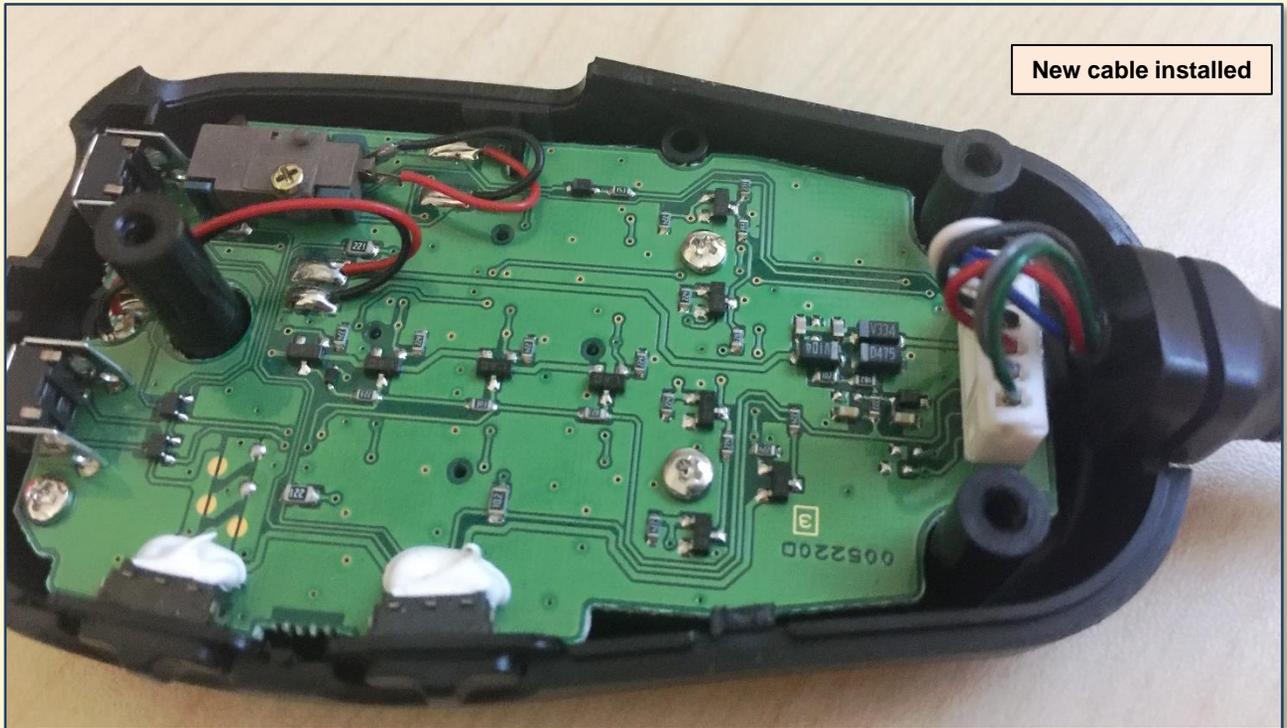
PHOTOS: RAY DAY, N6HE

Your hands-on solution for a hands-on device: a low-cost fix for a Yaesu mobile transceiver microphone

► *Continued from previous page*

My journey is chronicled in the accompanying photos on this and the preceding page. You might have the same problem with one of your mics sometime..... ■

PHOTOS: RAY DAY, N6HE



PVARC Short News Items

The PVARC's upcoming meeting topics...

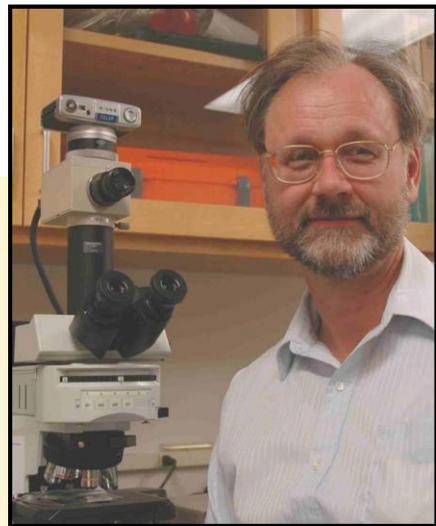
The PVARC's November 2nd monthly PVARC meeting topic is....a surprise. We are working to confirm an out of area speaker for the November 2 meeting and will announce details when confirmed.

Elsewhere.... our club Vice President Ray Day, N6HE, spoke at the Western Amateur Radio Association's monthly meeting in Fullerton on October 2 about the PVARC's 2017 Catalina Island DXpedition. In addition, Ray, N6HE, and Clay Davis AB9A, are giving their Direct Sampling Radio presentation featuring the Icom IC-7300 (from our July meeting) at the United Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting in San Pedro on November 17.

Additionally your **QRO** editor Diana, AI6DF, is speaking at the W6TRW Radio Club's holiday dinner on November 14 and at the Tri-County Amateur Radio Association's December 13th holiday dinner in Montclair on "Seasoned Greetings: The Lighter Side of Amateur Radio for Today and Tomorrow." ■

...plus on December 14

Our 2017 Holiday Dinner is at Ports O'Call Restaurant on San Pedro's waterfront Thursday, December 14, 2017, in the upstairs "Breakwater Room." Returning for an encore guest speaking engagement is Dr. Jay Jones, WB9FPM and Professor of Biology at University of La Verne (photo at right). Jay spoke at our December 2011 Holiday Dinner and his presentation then was very well received. Reservations are now being taken for this year's Holiday Dinner...see the menu and reservations form on the next page. ■



Need a PVARC patch?

If you want a PVARC logo patch for a hat, shirt, jacket, soft-side bag or whatever we have a new batch with higher-resolution stitching.

New patches are available for \$4 each at all our meetings or by contacting Dave Scholler, KG6BPH, at 310-373-8166 (or email him at: jdavidscholler@hotmail.com .) If you order a PVARC club jacket one patch is sewn onto the jacket's left front and included in the cost. These jackets may also be ordered through Dave Scholler. ■



*Please Join Us for the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club's
2017 Holiday Dinner*

Ports O'Call Restaurant

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

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Meet and Greet beginning at 6:30 pm,

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

Dinner Buffet:

*California Greens with Sliced Apples,
Candied Walnuts, Bleu Cheese
Crumbles and Raspberry Vinaigrette;
Classic Tossed Caesar Salad;
Seafood Pasta Salad;
Fresh Fruit Platter with Yogurt Dip;*

*Sliced Top Sirloin, Au Jus;
Grilled Swordfish Saffron;*

*Steamed Vegetables Melange
Roasted Baby Red Potatoes
Warm Rolls and Butter*

*A Tempting Array of Desserts:
New York Cheesecake, Chocolate Cake,
and Tiramisu;
Lavazza® Coffee and Decaf, Tazo® Hot
Tea, Iced Tea, and Water*

*\$44.00 per person, in advance
(same price as 2016 Holiday Dinner... but more Desserts)*

**PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2017 HOLIDAY DINNER**

Ports O'Call Restaurant, San Pedro;
Thursday, December 14, 2017

Price per person: \$44
Number of people attending: _____

I would like to also donate:
\$5 ___ \$10 ___ \$15 ___ Other amount _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check payable to the
Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club
(All donations are applied towards club
expenses for the evening.)

Name _____

Call Sign _____

Please pay at our monthly meetings or by
mailing to: PVARC, PO Box 2316,
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

Short News Items

Something new...

“What’s Next?”– no-stress, no-pressure help for our newer hams

Did you recently obtain your amateur radio license and wonder what to do next? Or you’ve had your license for several years and want to know more about avenues in amateur radio? Come to the PVARC’s “What’s Next?” gatherings at Hesse Park anytime from 6:30-7:20 pm just prior to our regular monthly meetings and ask for help with any question. We’re here to assist in a cordial, no-stress manner—and no ham radio-related question is considered “dumb” to ask.

Led by our Vice President Ray Day, N6HE, we can help hams better understand how to operate their radios (and/or help purchase the best one for their budget.) We can also provide help on other ham radio subjects, whether for VHF/UHF bands or HF bands; public service or DXing/contesting, or ???

Among the most frequently asked questions by new hams are “Which radio to buy?” and “How do I program my radio?” You might have others and we’re glad to help with those too. Look for Ray Day and Ron Wagner, AC6RW, off to one side of the McTaggart Hall room at Hesse Park while setup is underway for our main meeting. ■

Helpful guidelines when submitting QRO articles

Our **QRO** newsletter welcomes articles about technical subjects and PVARC member activities.

To facilitate layout and editing please send your article as two separate files: 1) all the text as a straight Microsoft Word file and 2) any photos, illustrations, or diagrams in a second file or as separate JPEG files. If possible please keep the text portion to not exceed 800 words. Thanks! ■

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF THE PALOS VERDES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN 2016-2017

HUGO DOMINGUEZ, JR., KM6DQU,

JARED BOCKOFF, KM6DQV

STEVE WRAY, KM6DQW

THEODORE LEY, KM6DRC

JOE BARGER, N6KK

DENISE ANN HUGHES-MURPHY, K6DAH

STEFAN FERRIER, KM6GXW

CINDY SNYDER, KM6GYG

MICHAEL LYNCH, KM6GYA

STUART MASTROIANNA, WX6ST

THOMAS ESSENPREIS, KB9ENS

MARK GREENBERG, KM6GYC

LORI TANIMURA, KM6GXY

CHERI TANIMURA, KM6GXX

HEIDI STROMBURG, KG0GGY

MIKE SEMOS, N6DBS (RETURNING MEMBER)

RICK HEASTON, KM6GXZ

LARRY FADDEN, KK6TXN

STEVE SHERIDAN, KM6IQO

PAMELA GAUME, KM6MMJ

VINCENT REHER, KM6LGT

BERNADETTE SABATH, KM6SAB

FRED COOK, KE6AZB

GEORGE NESTOJKO, WA6YBR

Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club Calendar 2017

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

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

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

2017 Major Contest Dates

- Jan. 21: North American SSB QSO Party
- Jan. 27-29: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (CW)
- Feb. 10-12: CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX
- Feb. 17-19: ARRL DX (CW)
- Feb. 25: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Feb. 24-26: CQ Worldwide 160-Meter (SSB)
- Mar. 3-5: ARRL DX (SSB)
- Mar. 24-26: CQ Worldwide SSB WPX
- May 26-28: CQ Worldwide CW WPX
- Jun. 10-11: ARRL June VHF Contest
- Jun. 24-25: ARRL Field Day

- July 8-9: IARU World Championships
- July 15-16: CQ Worldwide VHF
- July 15: North American RTTY QSO Party
- Aug. 19: North American SSB QSO Party
- Sept. 9-10: ARRL September VHF Contest
- Sept. 22-24: CQ Worldwide RTTY DX
- Oct. 7-8: California QSO Party
- Oct. 27-29: CQ Worldwide SSB DX
- Nov. 4-5: ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
- Nov. 18-19: ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
- Nov. 24-26: CQ Worldwide CW DX
- Dec. 8-10: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

PVARC Nets

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm on K6PV, 447.120 MHz (-), PL 100.0, and 144.910 MHz, Tone Squelch, PL 156.7

PVARC Meetings & Meals

Meetings 7:30 pm **1st Thursdays (eff. 6/1)** except August and December at Fred Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes. Guests welcome.

No-host dinner at 5:30 pm before club meetings at Red Onion Restaurant, 736 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates.

2nd Saturday each month: PVARC "HF Enthusiasts Group", 10:00 am

3rd Sunday in August: Annual family picnic at Pt. Vicente Lighthouse.

December 14: Holiday Dinner, Ports O'Call Restaurant, San Pedro.

PVARC Public Service Events

- Apr. 23:** Ridgecrest Int. School 5K
- Aug. 12:** Rolling Hills Estates "Hills Are Alive" 5K/10K
- Sept. 4:** "Conquer the Bridge" Race
- Oct. 14:** RAT Beach Bike Tour (cancelled)

Major Ham Radio Conventions

- Feb. 4:** Palm Springs Hamfest
- Feb. 17-18:** Yuma Hamfest, Yuma, AZ
- Apr. 21-23:** International DX Convention, Visalia, CA
- May 19-21:** Hamvention, Xenia OH
- Sep. 15-17:** **HAMCON 2017, Torrance**
- Oct. 20-22:** Pacificon, Santa Clara, CA

PVARC HF Operating Events

- Feb. 22-26:** Islands On The Air DXpedition, Catalina Island;
- June 24-25:** ARRL Field Day;
- Aug. 18-20:** Intl. Lighthouse Weekend, Pt. Vicente Lighthouse

PVARC Ham License Classes

Fred Hesse Park (Fireside Room), 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho P.V.

Feb. 4 & 11; May 27 & June 3; August 5 & 19; Nov. 4 & 11.



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

www.n6rpv.net/pvarc or www.k6pv.org

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 (\$20.00) \$ _____

Additional donation to support PVARC activities \$ _____

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.n6rpv.net/pvarc/constitution.htm or upon request.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Family Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Family Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Tell your friends and relatives about the PVARC's next Technician and General license classes at Hesse Park on November 4th and 11th

Two Free Amateur Radio Courses

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

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

Each course is 2 sessions

The sessions will be on 4 and 11 November 2017

Technician 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM both Saturdays (bring your lunch)

General 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM both Saturdays

The FCC tests will be 10:00 AM to noon on 18 November 2017

At the start of the 4 November Technician course, the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club will give a 30 minute presentation on how to get further involved with amateur radio.

The class location is at Fred Hesse Community Park,
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes.

Confirm your attendance to Walt, K1DFO at waltordway@juno.com

There is no fee for either course.

Taking the FCC test is \$15.

Optional Material (sold at cost)

Gordon West books with all the FCC test questions,

\$22 for the Technician and \$26 for the General

Paper copy of Walt's Power Point charts,

\$22 for the Technician and \$22 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 test 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.

Everyone who obtains their first ham radio license through a PVARC VE test session, regardless of age, will receive a free membership in the Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club for the remainder of the current calendar year.