

PVRC Newsletter January 2020

Newsletter Editor: John K3TN jpescatore@aol.com

Website: http://www.pvrc.org

Meeting Info: http://www.pvrc.org/chapters.htm

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President's Letter - Tom K3AJ

Taking a Position

From time to time, the officers of PVRC are approached (sometimes by members, sometimes by others outside of PVRC) to engage in advocacy by taking a position on some regulatory issue as an organization and filing comments in the related FCC proceedings. It is also conceivable that we could take an advocacy position with the ARRL or some other group. While there is nothing in the PVRC bylaws that would specifically prohibit us doing so, the current officer team has so far decided to refrain from that kind of action. We have spent a lot of time debating this matter and thought it would be appropriate to share some of the thinking behind this to the membership.

First and foremost, our mission and purpose are to promote excellence in radiosport through competition, helping our members improve their knowledge and skills and helping to develop new contesters - all while fostering camaraderie among our membership and just plain having fun! While as individuals, we all have (and as a club we encourage our members to have) diverse interests within amateur radio beyond contesting, contesting is the sole focus of PVRC as an organization. Since we are not a general interest amateur radio club, we believe that advocacy is, in most cases, beyond that scope.

Of course, we understand that regulatory actions that might seriously impact our ability to operate successfully during contests for some specific reason might warrant our involvement. Perhaps some action proposed by the ARRL or some other organization would directly impact contesting. But we have set a pretty high bar in terms of how direct that impact would have to be and so far, none of the matters brought to our attention have crossed that threshold.

A secondary consideration is that we believe we should only take an advocacy position if there is a very strong consensus on the part of the membership in support of that position. In some past cases where we have been approached to take a position, it became obvious that there was not such a consensus among the membership.

The current team of officers, therefore, will only consider engaging in advocacy when there is a clear and specific potential impact to contest operations and a strong

consensus among the membership exists. We would not take any advocacy position without consultation in advance with the Trustees. To be clear – these considerations reflect the thinking of your current offers and are not meant to imply that this creates policies which the future leadership of PVRC would be obliged to follow.

We strongly encourage our members to inform themselves regarding regulatory matters impacting any aspect of amateur radio and to take action as they see fit. We would suggest first taking the time to understand the position that the ARRL has taken as our national organization and advocate and consider working with your divisional director if you wish to influence ARRL's position. Of course, as a citizen you have the right to file your individual comments directly with the FCC as you see fit.

73 and Go PVRC! Tom K3AJ President, PVRC

PVRC Election Results – Tim N3QE

In the November-December 2019 PVRC Elections, 148 members took the effort to research and vote on a ballot listing 18 candidates for officers and trustees. They also voted on a bylaw amendment that changed the way trustees are elected.

Officers elected for 2020:

President: Tom Valenti K3AJ Vice President: Mike Barts N4GU Vice President: Jay Horman W3MMM

Secretary: Tim Shoppa N3QE **Treasurer**: Dan Zeitlin K2YWE

Trustees elected for 2020:

Trustee: Guy Olinger K2AV **Trustee**: Ty Stewart K3MM **Trustee**: Don Daso K4ZA

Trustee: Brian McGinness N3OC Trustee: John Kanode N4MM Trustee: Pete Smith N4ZR Trustee: Bud Hippisley W2RU Trustee: Bud Governale W3LL Trustee: Frank Donovan W3LPL

The bylaw amendment changing the way trustees are elected was approved with an 87% **FOR** vote by participating members.

Happy New Year, PVRC'ers!

TKOC CQ WW CW Operation Video Online - via CQ-CONTEST



The TK0C team has produced and posted a cool video of their multi-single operation in the recent CQ WW CW contest – look <u>here</u>.

PVRC 2020 Galactic Lunch at Frost Fest – Jerome K8LF

This is another reminder the 2020 PVRC Galactic Lunch which will be held February 1st at Roma's. I would like to create a list of those expecting to attend.

Please Email me <u>here</u>, Jerome K8LF by Jan 24th at if you expect to attend. I will send out a list of RSVP attendees on Jan 24th. The dining room at Roma's fits 53 people.

Date: February 1st, 2020 at 12 Noon

Location: Roma's 7240 Bell Creek Road in Mechanicsville, VA

You can order any of the lunch specials for \$8.95 plus tax and tip. Each lunch item includes a non-alcoholic cold drink. You can also order off the regular full menu which includes Gluten Free, Seniors Menu, Pizza, Salads, Wraps, Subs, and more. Something for everybody. Everyone pays for their own meal, so there is no need for advanced menu choices or payment. There is also a bar for those who wish it.

IMPORTANT: Roma has two locations in Metro Richmond, so go to the correct one at **7240 Bell Creek Road in Mechanicsville** and not the location on East Williamsburg Road. The restaurant is about 5 miles from Frost Fest and is an easy connection to I-295 at Exit 37 for your trip home. If you have attended the Galactic Lunch in the past, this is the same location.

Amateur Radio club in North Pole - Jim W3FA

Trivia: Did you know there is an Amateur Radio club in North Pole, Alaska? Arctic Amateur Radio Club KL7KC

Currently, no country owns the North Pole. It sits in international waters. The closest land is Canadian territory Nunavut, followed by Greenland (part of the Kingdom of Denmark). However, Russia, Denmark and Canada have staked claims to the mountainous Lomonosov Ridge that runs under the pole. Details here and here.

H0H 0H0 - That's the Canadian postal code for the North Pole, a reference to the area's most famous mythical resident, Santa Claus.

No one actually lives at the North Pole. Inuit people, who live in the nearby Arctic regions of Canada, Greenland, and Russia, have never made homes at the North Pole. The ice is constantly moving, making it nearly impossible to establish a permanent community.

PVRC Officers:

President: K3AJ Tom Valenti Vice President: N4GU Mike Barts Vice President: W3MMM Jay Horman Secretary: N3QE Tim Shoppa Treasurer: K2YWE Dan Zeitlin

Trustees:

K3MM, N3OC, K2AV, K4ZA, W3LPL, N4MM, N4ZR, W2RU, W3LL

PVRC Charter Members (all SK):

W3GRF, W4AAV, W4KFC, N0FFZ, W4LUE, W7YS, VP2VI/W0DX, W3IKN, W4KFT

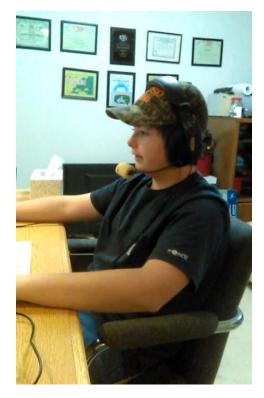
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Youth on the Air from W4RN in ARRL 10M - Mike W4RN



John N0JSD running 'em on phone at W4RN in the ARRL 10M test.

Laurel Chapter Recognizes Zory Glaser KB3VQC 5M Point Milestone



At the recent holiday luncheon jointly held by the PVRC Laurel Chapter, and the Laurel Amateur Radio Club (LARC), PVRC Chapter President, Doug Hart AA3S (R) presented Zory Glaser KB3VQC (L) with his PVRC 5M recognition plaque

DC Area Holiday Dinner Festivities – Dan K2YWE





Mechanically Accelerated Low Band Array – Hank K3YDX



CTRL-Click on the image to see a very clever way to accelerate launching those electrons from your lowband array.

Central VA Chapter 5M Medallion Award Winners – Ken K4XL



At a recent weekly meeting of the Central Virginia Chapter, 5M "upgrades" were awarded. Left to right in the photo, Ed Goss N3CW and Ken Grimm K4XL received their 10 Million and John Mann W4JAM received his 15 Million medallion. Sam Leslie, W4PK (not pictured) was awarded his 30 Million medallion.

NE3H@W3LL for CQ WW CW - Bud W3LL



Joe NE3H is a new add to the W3LL team. He drove 1-1/2 hours down from PA.

Annapolis Chapter November Meeting – Dan K2YWE



W2OK K3LU
N3HMW W2GPS
AE3D W3YOZ
K3NDM NA1DX
WK3A K3RA
KD4D KW2A

2018-2019 Chapter Awards Tally

Olympic Medals (G-S-B) 99

5M Progress Awards (1-4M) 27

5M Plaques 9

5M Endorsement Plates (5M-150M) 52

new Top Gun Perpetual Trophy (K3MM)

new SS Chapter Perpetual Trophies 3

President's Leadership Awards 5

CWops 10th Anniversary QSO Party

In January 2020 the CWops organization will be celebrating its 10th anniversary with a month long QSO party with CW activity on all the HF contest bands. Qualifying QSOs for non-members must be made with members, while members can work anyone. There will also be many special club and one-off celebratory calls active and these will also count.

Full rules and much more are to be found here.



Membership News - Tim N3QE

PVRC did not add any new members in the latest reporting period.

Chapter leaders please remember to complete the <u>Meeting Attendance Report</u>. Members can check and update their roster details via the <u>Roster Lookup</u>.

Upcoming Contests – from WA7BNM

January 2020	
■ ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 4 to 2400Z, Jan 5
■ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 11 to 0559Z, Jan 12
■ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 18 to 0559Z, Jan 19
⊕ CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 24 to 2200Z, Jan 26
■ REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 25 to 1800Z, Jan 26

Editor's Last Word - John K3TN

Thanks to for contributions to the first PVRC newsletter of the new decade to Jerome K8LF, Jim W3FA, Mike W4RN, Zory KB3VQC, Dan K2YWE, Hank K3YDX, Ken K4XL and Bud W3LL.

I held off on sending out the newsletter so we could get the election results in. I've got travel planned for January so may miss out on some of the NAQP action this time around. If I can get everything together in time, I may be able to sneak in the CW test – always one of my favorites.

Frank W3LPL has pointed out some Cycle 25 sunspots made their appearance in 2019, so 2020 could and should be the start of the new cycle. When will we see 10 meters with wall to wall DX signals most of the day??

The quality and usefulness of the PVRC newsletter depends on contributions from members. If you have photos from club meetings, screen shots of new contest software, or brief writeups on station improvements or contest war stories, send them in any format to jpescatore at aol dot com.

From the PVRC Treasurer - Dan K2YWE

PVRC has chosen not to implement an annual dues requirement. We depend on the generosity of all our club members to finance our annual budget. In addition, active PVRC members are expected to participate and submit logs for at least two PVRC Club Competition contests per year.

When contemplating your donation to PVRC, each member should consider the benefit you are receiving from PVRC and its many opportunities for your personal growth in our wonderful hobby, then donate accordingly.

Direct donations to PVRC via Credit Card or PayPal may be made by clicking this "Donate" button and clicking the next Donate button that appears on your screen:



Donations to PVRC are not tax deductible

Eyeball QSO Directions

The latest info on local club meetings and get togethers will always be sent out on the PVRC reflector and posted on the PVRC web site.





Now a Word From Our Sponsors

PVRC doesn't ask for dues, but the Club does have expenses. You can also support the Club by buying from the firms listed who advertise in the newsletter!





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DX Engineering is the exclusive North American retailer of RF-KIT's powerful new RF2K-S solid-state linear amplifier, featuring full legal limit capabilities across 160 through 6 meters. It comes with updated fast PIN diode switching, 1,500W RF power output, low-noise speed-controlled fans, internal antenna tuner, and dual LDMOS devices. Available as a kit. Fully assembled model has not been approved by the FCC and may not be offered for sale or lease, or be sold or leased, until approval of the FCC has been obtained. Enter "RF-KIT" at DXEngineering.com to learn more.





DSP Noise Eliminating Speaker

Give your base station a serious upgrade with the new bhi NES10-2MK4 DSP Noise Eliminating Speaker. This compact unit features noise cancelling capabilities from 8 to 40 dB, significantly improved signal to noise ratio, and eight levels for filtering QRM/QRN. Enter "bhi" at DXEngineering.com for their full lineup of speakers and DSP devices.





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Manual 160-10 m 2.5 kW

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OM4000A - OM4000HF OM2500A - OM2500HF

The A-series are automatic band change amplifiers.

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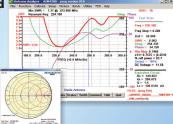


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IC-7700 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

The Contester's Rig • HF + 6m operation • +40dBm ultra high intercept point • IF DSP, user defined filters • 200W output power full duty cycle • Digital voice recorder



IC-7610 | HF/50 MHz All Mode Transceiver

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IC-7300 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

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IC-718 | HF Transceiver

• 160-10M** • 100W • 12V operation • Simple to use • CW Keyer Built-in • One touch band switching • Direct frequency input • VOX Built-in • Band stacking register • IF shift • 101 memories



IC-R8600 | Wideband Software Defined Receiver

• 10 kHz to 3 GHz Super Wideband Coverage • P25, NXDN™, dPMR™, D-STAR Mode • Large Dot Matrix LCD Display w/ Quick Spectrum Scope • SD Card Slot • Remote Control Function



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

• HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



IC-2730A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

VHF/VHF, UHF/UHF simultaneous receive • 50 watts of output on VHF and UHF • Optional VS-3 Bluetooth® headset • Easy-to-See large white backlight LCD • Controller attachment to the main Unit



IC-2300H | VHF FM Transceiver

• 65W RF Output Power • 4.5W Audio Output • MIL-STD 810 G Specifications • 207 alphanumeric Memory Channels • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS Encode/Decode • DMS



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FT-857D | Ultra Compact HF/VHF/UHF

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FTM-400XD | 2M/440 Mobile

Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS
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- System Fusion Compatible Large Front Speaker delivers 700 mW of Loud Audio Output • Automatic Mode Select detects C4FM or Fm
- Analog and Switches Accordingly Huge 1,105
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 for DC Supply and Battery Charging

FT-3DR C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Xcvr

 High Res Full-Color Touch Screen TFT LCD Display • Easy Hands-Free Operation w/Built-In Bluetooth Unit • Built-In High Precision GPS Antenna • 1200/9600bps APRS Data Communications • Simultaneous C4FM/C4FM Standby • Micro SD Card Slot



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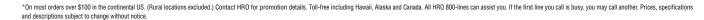
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· Receive performance on a whole other level from narrow bandwidth roofing filters that only full down conversion can provide • CW Morse code decode/encode possible with stand-alone unit • 150dB Blocking dynamic range (BDR) • Expanded touch operation scope • Kenwood Sky Command® II Support • Remote operation achieved without host PC Direct remote-control function (KNS)



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

• Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function • Improved 1st mixer • New PFB key with multi-function knob . New split function enabling guick setting • LED backlight with selectable color tone



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

• V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors · Latest APRS firmware w/new features · Sky Command II remote functions

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TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

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TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

• 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

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TS-480SAT/HX | HF + 6M Transceiver

• 480HX 200W HF & 100W 6M (no tuner) • 480SAT 100W HF & 6M w/AT • Remotable w/front panel/speaker • DSP built-in

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TH-D72A

2M/440 HT w/extended RX

• 5W TX, RX 118-524 MHz, VxU, VxV, UxU • APRS w/built-in 1200/9600 TNC • Built-in GPS, Built-in USB, digipeater . Echolink® compatible, • Mil-Spec STD810

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TH-D74A 2M/220/440 HT w/D-STAR!

• D-STAR compatible • APRS ready w/built in GPS • Color weather station information • Built-in KISS mode TNC • High-performance DSP voice processing . Standard compatibility for Bluetooth

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TH-K20A | 2M Handheld

 2M 5.5W • VOX • CTCSS/DCS/1750 Burst built-in . Weather alert

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ZUMRadio

ZUMspot is an advanced radio module kit. When paired with a Raspberry Pi and the MMDVM software it becomes a small and efficient multi-mode digital hotspot.

- Supports D-STAR, DMR, System Fusion, P-25 and NXDN Open source software (MMDVM) and hardware design
- Onboard LEDs to show status (Tx, Rx, Mode)
- Mounts cleanly on all current Raspberry Pi's including Pi Zero

The ZUMspot Kit Package Includes:

- ZUMspot RPi UHF board and antenna fully assembled and tested
- Pi Zero WH (Wireless With Header Installed)
- Nylon standoffs
 - Pre-imaged 16 GB MicroSD card with Pi-Star software

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