



Potomac Valley Radio Club Newsletter

April 2005

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Report on the PVRC Contesting Seminar begins on Page 2

PVRC welcomes : Larry Harrison, K3JRR, from White Plains, MD; Todd Ruby, WB2ZAB, from Silver Spring, MD; Len Hook, KG6ZR, from Bristow, VA; Ray Johnson, K5RJ, from Vienna, VA; and Jerry Redding, KA8Q, from Fredericksburg, VA.

PVRC joins the contesting family worldwide in mourning the passing of contest great (and early PVRCer) Rush Drake, W7RM

Editor's Note

By [Pete Smith N4ZR](#)

This issue highlights the recently-completed and highly successful Contest Seminar. Also some good technical content (I think), and lots of news about the club. Enjoy, and don't forget, the Newsletter needs authors, so if you have the urge, get in touch and I'll help you turn your article idea into reality.

From the President

By [Jack Hammett, K4VV](#)

Hearty congratulations to N3OC, N3RR, and WX3B who organized and led the first PVRC Contest Seminar, and to the faculty leadership team including K3EST, K3ZO, K4ZW, N3RR, N3OC, W3LPL, KT4W, K4ZA, KD4D, K4GMH, W3ZZ, and W3IY. These thirteen PVRC members led the very successful effort to create and execute a winning and professional event! Our thanks go out to all of you.

Everyone I spoke to about the seminar was delighted with the quality and value of the event. Several people said they were going home with several new objectives of improvements in their station or operating activities. And what intensity we had in the social activity among serious contesters for two days. The event was more intense than Dayton for me. The newcomers were also drawn into the energy of the contesting themes. All five eligible joined PVRC. The event was a huge success, and the leaders deserve recognition.

PVRC members attending the some or all of the event in addition to the thirteen faculty and leadership team were the following 45 members: W2CDO, W8ZA, W3OU, K3WC, W4RIM, KB3LGS, W3SF, WS4NC, N3HBX, W9GE, N3VOP, KH6HHS, W3LL, K2PLF, K4VV, KB3KAQ, WN3R, N3FX, K3QX, N3UM, W8JVP, W3YOZ, W3ADC, W3ADX, K3CAV, K3DNE, W3EE, KI3O, NI1N, AJ3M, NW4V, K1KO, NC4S, W0UCE, W3DQ, K3PRN, WR3Z, NE3H, NQ2T, N3XL, N3HS, W3IDT, KA3UBJ, N4TX, and KG4NEP. The five visitors from outside the circle included three from Canton, OH: W8JT, KK8D, and N8PW; and K4HMB from Bryson City, NC, and N3SD from Aliquippa, PA, who operates at K3LR.

The shortest PVRC meeting ever (?) was conducted at the closing of the Seminar to vote in the all five visitors from inside our circle: Larry Harrison, K3JRR, from White Plains, MD; Todd Ruby, WB2ZAB, from Silver Spring, MD; Len Hook, KG6ZR, from Bristow, VA; Ray Johnson, K5RJ, from Vienna, VA; and Jerry Redding, KA8Q, from Fredericksburg, VA. Let's make them welcome.

In summary, the Seminar was a wonderful event that included sixty-three PVRC members and five visitors from outside our circle. We experienced an intense and professional delivery of useful and potentially inspiring information about contesting, as many of us came home with ideas and projects in mind, and we enjoyed non-stop fellowship with peers and mentors for two days.

We look forward to the potential project to create a DVD version of the Seminar from the professional recording captured by K4ZA. Achieving the DVD version will require some volunteer support and compensated professional services paid by PVRC. The objective would be to offer an affordable DVD for the attendees of the Seminar and other PVRC members whose voluntary contributions to the club made the event possible, and to other contesters around the world who may benefit from information. There will also be discussion among the leadership about the potential to produce another seminar next year. Member feedback will be helpful. After supporting the effort and paying the bills and depositing the receipts for the Seminar, our Treasurer Dave, WR3L, reported that we remain financially strong with \$4000 in the bank, so we are poised to take on further projects to strengthen PVRC.

Contest Seminar Wrap-Up

By [Brian Mcginness, N3OC](#), [Bill Hider, N3RR](#) and [Jim Nitzberg, WX3B](#)

The first PVRC Contest Seminar was held March 19-20, and was filled to capacity, with 56 participants and 13 speakers. The seminar was held at the Holiday Inn Fredericksburg North, just north of Fredericksburg, Virginia.



Frank Donovan, W3LPL addresses the Contest Seminar on Multi-Multi operation (photo courtesy Bob Finger, W9GE)

As expected, our speakers did an outstanding job in preparing for the seminar, and delivering their presentations. Without their support, there would have been no seminar. All of us are grateful for their willingness to share their knowledge and expertise with us. The banquet staff at the Holiday Inn did an outstanding job. The facility was as expected, better in fact, and they did a nice job on the Saturday evening dinner. I had several comments that the food was better than expected.

We had a good time with the Saturday evening activities, and were able to demonstrate logging software and pileup simulators to those that stopped by in the evening. Ed, K3DNE, was #1 on the SSB pileup simulator, with Bob, KG4NEP as the runner-up. Tom, NI1N was the CW winner, with Joe, NE3H the runner-up. Our thanks to The Daily DX for sponsoring the pileup competition.

The sessions were video recorded by K4ZA, and we hope in the future to be able to produce a DVD of all the speaker presentations. Don has a number of other projects ahead of us, so QRX on requests for the video, and

we will let everyone know when/if it becomes available.

We are in the process of reviewing the evaluations that were turned in by the participants, and your input will be used to guide us in any future seminars we may host. We really appreciate your support, participation, and input into our first contest seminar! [For photos and more, click here.](#)

2005 Contest Seminar Schedule

[For the 600 of us who couldn't make it, to whet appetites for next year—Ed.]

DAY 1 Saturday 3/19/2005

8:00 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:15 Welcome (K4VV)
9:15 – 10:00 Contest Basics (K3EST)
10:00 – 10:15 Break
10:15 – 12:00 Contest Operating (25 minutes each topic)
Single Op (K3ZO & K4ZW)
Single Op Assisted (N3RR)
Multi-Single & Multi-2 (N3OC)
Multi-Multi (W3LPL)
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch
13:00 – 13:45 Station Design & Equipment (KT4W)
13:45 – 14:30 Towers (K4ZA)
14:30 – 15:00 Grounding (N3RR)
15:00 – 15:15 Break
15:15 – 16:45 Antennas
Takeoff Angle (W3LPL)
Antenna Modeling (W3LPL)
Stacks (W3LPL)
Terrain Modeling (N3OC)
16:45 – 17:30 Propagation (K3ZO)
19:00 – 20:30 Dinner (optional, admission ticket provided at registration – cash bar)
21:00 – 23:00 Logging software demonstrations, slideshows, pileup contests, bar time

DAY 2 Sunday March 20, 2005

8:00 – 9:00 Continental breakfast
9:00 – 9:45 Using Technology in Contests
Computer Logging (KD4D)
Technology in Contest Stations (N3RR)
9:45 – 10:15 Contest DXpeditions (N3OC)
10:15 – 10:30 Break
10:30 – 11:00 RTTY Contests (K4GMH)
11:00 – 12:00 VHF Contests
VHF Contest Primer (W3ZZ)
Roving (W3IY)
12:00 – 12:30 WRTC (K3EST)
12:30 – 13:00 Contest Records (K3EST)
13:00 – 13:15 Wrap up & Pileup Competition Prizes (K4VV)
END 1:15 PM

PVRC Contest and Event Calendar

Courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)

Boldface indicates PVRC Events — all dates and times are Zulu

Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, 1600Z May 14 to 2400Z May 15, with a break 0400 - 1100Z Sunday

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 28 to 2359Z, May 29

West Virginia QSO Party 1600Z, Jun 18 to 0200Z, Jun 19

W3LPL Open House, Saturday, June 18, noon

ARRL Field Day 1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26

2005 Hamfest Schedule

By [Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ](#)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 2-3	Timonium, MD	July 10	Kimberton, PA
April 17	York, PA	July 17	Mountain Top, PA
May 1	Hagerstown, MD	July 24	Howard County, MD
	Warminster, PA	August 7	Berryville, VA
May 14	Fredericksburg, PA	August ?	Lewistown, PA
May 29	Howard County, MD	August 14	Westminster, MD
June 5	Manassas, VA	August ?	Hanover, PA
June 11	Bloomsburg, PA	September ?	East Stroudsburg, PA
June 19	Frederick, MD	September 10-11	Gaithersburg, MD
July 3	Wilkes-Barre, PA	September ?	Allentown, PA
July 4	Harrisburg, PA	September 25	Wrightstown, PA
		October ?	Lancaster, PA
		October 16	Sellersville, PA
		October 30	Westminster, MD

K4ZW Wins 2004 CQWW SSB

At the closing of the PVRC Contest Seminar Sunday, CQWW Contest Chairman K3EST announced that Ken, K4ZW, won the USA Single-Op All Band High Power category in the 2004 CQWW Phone contest last October. This is the first time in several years that this category was not won by a station in New England. Congratulations, Ken! [thanks K3ZO]

The Toolbox

By [Don Daso, K4ZA](#)

Recently, while on a job, I found myself in discussion with the station owner—about the nature of concrete. It occurred to me that others might be as vague as this owner was about the true nature and use of this most-used building material—his description was a bizarre confusion of rocket science and pyramid building tactics. Or maybe I'm just too much of a pedant, an under-utilized academic? In any case, this month, we present a brief treatise on concrete and its application to tower bases.

The basics

In its simplest form, concrete is a mixture of paste and certain aggregates (fine, or sand, and coarse, usually pea gravel or limestone). The paste, which is composed of Portland cement and water, coats the surface of the aggregates. Then, through a chemical reaction known as hydration, the paste hardens and gains strength, becoming what we know as concrete. This hydration process is the key or the real “magic” of concrete—it's pliable, plastic, and malleable when it's first mixed, but incredibly strong and durable once hardened. This simple, often-overlooked factor is why this material can be used to build anything from your sidewalk or patio, to bridges, dams, skyscrapers, or your tower base.

Having said this, it's probably obvious that the key to success in such a "mix" is the proportions and mixing process, and that's exactly right. A mixture without enough paste to fill in all the voids between aggregates will be hard to place correctly, and will be rough and porous when hardened. A mixture with too much paste will move easily and be exceedingly smooth, but will most likely shrink

Typically, the mix should be around 10-15 percent portland cement, 60-75 percent aggregate, and 15-20 percent water. Trapped air may make up 5 percent of the mix. Again, it's the Portland cement that's the critical ingredient. Why's it called that? Because Joseph Aspdin, an English mason, who patented the product in 1824, named it that, after the color of the natural limestone quarried on the Isle of Portland, in the English Channel. Portland cement is manufactured by heating a slurry of limestone or chalk with clay in a kiln, and then grinding the resultant clinker to a fine powder and adding gypsum.

Curing concrete

After your concrete is mixed and placed, a satisfactory moisture content and temperature should be maintained—when the concrete is "curing." Proper curing guarantees quality concrete, and the curing determines durability, strength, water and abrasion resistance, stability, along with the ability to withstand freezing and thawing and chemicals.

Curing aids the hydration process, obviously. Most freshly mixed concrete contains considerably more water than required for hydration, but evaporation (on those hot summer days, for instance, just when you're likely to be putting in a tower base) can delay hydration. The process is relatively rapid during the first few days, when it's most important to keep the curing concrete moist. (This is why you'll see burlap bags or sheeting or straw strewn across forms, or periodic spray applications of water, and so forth.) Good curing means you should try to prevent or reduce such evaporation. **And yes, curing takes time—the recommended waiting period to reach full strength is 28 days!**

Terminology

Aggregates

Materials such as sand, gravel, or crushed stone that, along with water and cement, are essential ingredients in concrete. Aggregates account for 60-75 percent of the total volume of concrete. They are divided into two categories—fine and coarse. Fine aggregates generally consist of natural sand or crushed stone with most particles that will pass through a 3/8-inch sieve. Coarse aggregates are any particles greater than 0.19 inch, but generally range between 3/8 and 1.5 inches in diameter.

Ready Mix

The mixture of cement, water, sand, and coarse material. Ready mix is placed in a plastic state and will begin to harden or cure within a few hours.

Reinforcement

Concrete is reinforced with either wire mesh, or steel bars placed in a grid pattern. In either case blocks should be used to keep the reinforcement in the center of the concrete. Note that reinforcement does not eliminate cracks—it simply holds them together.

Slump

A measurement describing the liquidity or viscosity of ready mix concrete. Low slump means the mix has low water content; high slump means high water content. Low slump concrete is usually stronger than high slump concrete but is less workable to place.

Concrete for Tower Bases

Here's what the Rohn catalog says:

Concrete materials shall conform to the appropriate state requirements for exposed structural concrete.

Proportions of concrete materials shall be suitable for the installation method utilized and shall result in durable concrete for resistance to local anticipated aggressive actions. The durability requirements of ACI 318 shall be satisfied based on the conditions expected at the site. As a minimum, concrete shall develop a minimum compressive strength of 3000 PSI in 28 days.

Maximum size of aggregate shall not exceed 3/4 inch; size suitable for installation utilized; or one-third clear distance behind or between reinforcing Minimum concrete cover for reinforcement shall be 3 inches unless otherwise noted.

Here's what you need to know, do, or follow to comply. First, you'll need to decide if you're going to use ready-mix concrete—recommended for 3 yards or more. You'll need to tell the supplier how many yards you require (concrete is measured in cubic yards).

Eg: {Length (ft) x Width (ft) x Depth (ft) = base cubic feet}

Say your base is: 4(ft) x 4(ft) x (6ft) = 96 cubic feet, and thus, $96 / 27 = 3.6$ cubic yards required.

Be prepared—a yard of concrete weighs 4000 lbs! The dispatcher will ask you for the rating. “Normal” concrete (sidewalks, patios, etc.) is rated at 3000 lbs/PSI. For most normal bases, 4-5000 lbs/PSI concrete will suffice. The dispatcher will ask you what “slump” you require. Checking with the terminology chart above, you see that “slump” refers to a way of measuring the workability of the concrete mixture. The slump test is done to measure the consistency from truckload to truckload. Good concrete practice is to have around a 4-inch slump. The more water that's added to the concrete mixture, the higher the slump, then the lesser the concrete's strength and so on.

I always coat the tower legs where they exit the concrete with rubberized auto undercoat spray, and leave the center of the base higher than the legs or edges, to facilitate water runoff. The bottom of the hole is filled or covered with a gravel bed, again, to facilitate draining water from the round tower legs. I hope this brief overview helps you understand this terrific tool a little better.

What's in your toolbox?

From the Secretary – 5M Improvements and Reporting New Members

By [Anthony Brooks, WM3T](#)

I wanted to write a short article about a couple of upgrades I have done to the 5M Pages. The first item I would like to touch on is the availability of “real-time” scores that have been submitted by members. I have created a couple of scripts on the 5M pages that will allow you to not only view current contest scores (more on this shortly), but also add your results to the list. I use the online display to post the scores to the reflector. The page to add your results only has the necessary information used in the historical database. I did this to help speed the process of moving pending scores to 5M scores, which I have reduced from about ½ hour last year to about 4 minutes currently.

The online “real-time” display has a couple of components to it. The contest sponsor deadline is at the top of the page as a reminder, mostly to me, when the deadline is and when scores can be moved and 5M credit given to stations. The station listing is sorted by submitted score in descending order so you can see how you stacked up against your friends. I also, as a way of keeping up with your progress towards the 5M award/endorsement when you start getting close, I show current 5M points for that contest. The 5M points are not official and are not added to your total until the contest deadline has passed and the scores are added to the database. The 5M points are computed exactly the same way by the script that it is done for credit. The 5M points are recomputed when the script (only 188 lines of php code) runs to display the page, making sure that they are always computed against the current reference score, which is automatically determined. The results page also has last year's club score shown along with operators at the Multi-Op stations.

I would also like to touch on Membership Applications for new members. When I receive a membership application I add the applicant to the roster with a pending designation and notes about when the application was received. This is done so when the prospective member completes membership requirements, I only have to remove the pending status and add the year they joined and a Chapter Association. This information in the roster also helps to make sure we are not missing any opportunity to grow our membership.

Any Membership Application I receive is forwarded to the Chapter leader closest to the prospect so they can make contact and provide meeting information. What I would like to see is any prospective members who attend meetings be asked to fill out an Application so their membership status will not be held up when they achieve membership. When a member is not listed in the club roster, PVRC DOES NOT get any credit when the member submits scores for the PVRC to the ARRL. It is VERY IMPORTANT we get credit for these scores! I have to send a copy of the club roster to the League about every month. Also, if they are not listed in the roster, then they do not receive any 5M credit, since the Year-To-Date calculations uses the online roster to remove non-member scores. It is up to the Chapter Leadership to make sure new member information gets to me, and the easiest way is to have a Membership Application is completed via the PVRC Website.

There is another area in which I would like to make some improvements. Currently, Pete, N4ZR, our Newsletter Editor has to scour the meeting minutes to gather the new member information to display on the first page of the newsletter. Pete also collects the minutes of the local chapters to print in the newsletter. What I would like to see is a list of meeting attendees sent to me within a couple of days of the meeting. This will help to speed the New Member recognition process for Pete. I have set up the URL <<http://pvrc.org/meetingreport.htm>> for coordinators to enter meeting attendance. Please be sure to note new members and guests, and I will keep Pete informed. I don't need to get minutes, but I do need the above information so we can get new members included in the roster quickly. This will also help us to keep track of visitors to make sure that it is not missed when someone attends their second meeting.

If you wish to discuss any this month's topics, please drop me an email at wm3t@wm3t.com.

A Better Method for Adjusting Boom Support Cables

By [Bob Peterson, W3YY](#)

In years past, my usual method for adjusting the tension in boom support cables was to place a turnbuckle in line with each support cable and its connection point on the mast, usually 3 to 4 feet above the boom. This, of course, works wonderfully from a mechanical standpoint, but usually required standing on top of the tower or around the rotator to reach the turnbuckles. While I am more than comfortable climbing any tower, standing on TOP of a 120 ft tower holding on to a 2-inch diameter mast does not appeal to me. I KNOW the mast won't break, but my brain says YOU'RE ABOUT TO DIE.

I thought that it might be a good idea to just run those support cables through some kind of pulley or guide at the connection point to the mast and orient the turnbuckles at a lower point where they would be accessible without standing on top of the tower.



Rollers U-bolted to the top of the mast; truss cables pass up and over, then out to boom ends

I implemented this design last fall when erecting a Force 12 Magnum 240N 40-meter beam at 119ft. I actually made three mechanical modifications to the Force 12, some of which you might recognize in the pictures, but those modifications are not discussed in this article.

To implement my improved method to adjusting boom support cables, I first replaced the standard Force 12 boom support cable with HPTG-1200I Phillystran. Then, I used the Force 12 U-bolt boom support assembly not to simply crimp the support cable to the mast, but to hold two plastic guides for the Phillystran. These guides were made from two stainless-steel fender washers and a plastic (nylon?) spacer obtained from Fischer Hardware in Springfield. They are just mounted on the end of the U-bolt supplied by Force 12 with the antenna. Fischer has an amazing stock of

stainless, galvanized, and zinc-plated hardware that you should check out if you don't already have a local supply.

Two turnbuckles are then installed on the ends of the normal U-bolts available on the Force 12 boom-to-mast plates. Finally each Phillystran support cable is run from each turnbuckle, through the guide roller at the top of the mast, and finally to its connection point at the each end of the boom. The turnbuckles are conveniently located just about 2-feet above the top of the tower, in easy reach without literally standing on the boom.

RADIO TRANSMISSION DRAINS TOWN'S WATER TOWER

Thanks to Mike Lonneke, W0YR

(Showlow, AZ)—Police and sheriff's officers in this Arizona town are trying to piece together just how the town's three car washes were turned on by remote control and allowed to run on their highest settings for several hours, depleting a municipal water supply that was already dangerously low.

Investigators suspect that signals from a ham radio antenna mounted atop Showlow's city water tower triggered devices at the car wash locations. Officer Glenn Backstrom became suspicious last Sunday when, at 5:30 AM, he found the high-pressure wands in all four self-service bays at the DazzleKing car wash operating at full force with no customers in sight. Backstrom's report also indicated that the two full-service automatic car washes were also in operation without any cars or customers in sight.

"It was wild," Backstrom said. "I tried to turn them off, but they just kept running and I got soaked." Backstrom notified the police dispatcher who called the owner of the car wash. Half an hour later, the owner appeared and had to cut a master power breaker to reset the car wash bays.

Minutes after leaving the DazzleKing on South Medford, officer Backstrom decided to check another nearby car wash. At 6:29 AM, he found the Sparkle carwash with its six bays and single automatic machine in full operation. Suspecting that someone was vandalizing car washes, Backstrom asked the police dispatcher to send officers to the other two car washes in Showlow. Police reports show that the Spot Free carwash on Unger Circle and the Clown carwash on Sandy Avenue were also running full blast without any customers.

Owners of the car washes were contacted and by eight o'clock, all the car washes had been shut down and restarted. Police detective Henry Whitten began an investigation Monday morning, seeking information on how all four carwash facilities could have been turned on and run in full blast position for several hours without anyone around. "Normally, these things would have shut down, but something must have kept resetting the systems," Whitten said.

After interviewing all four carwash owners Whitten found that over the past year each carwash had installed a wireless control radio-control unit between the office and each bay. The system, developed by Aquatronics of Chicago is supposed to turn on and off car wash bays and machines in accordance with city ordinances that regulate hours of operation.

The break in the case of the mysterious car washes came when Brian Gray, a Showlow resident and ham radio enthusiast called police to report that the Spot Free car wash was cutting on and off every time he spoke into a ham radio set installed in his car. Gray had pulled up to a self-service bay early Saturday and was finishing a ham radio broadcast when he notice the car wash started by itself. When he broadcast again to tell other hams what was going on the car wash stopped, then started again.

Through investigation ham radio operators and police determined that an emergency radio transmission system with an antenna on the Showlow water tower was being picked up by the radio links controlling the car washes.

Detective Whitten said the car wash units were picking up radio waves from the ham radio emergency system. "We have called the company that made the units to come and fix them. Until then, the ham radio boys are us-

ing another system,” Whitten said. Public Works superintendent Ted Darmin said the free-running car washes had used all but about 2,000 gallons in the 27,000 gallon water tank. “If we had a fire then, it would have been bad news,” Darmin said.

Aquatronics did not return phone calls place to its Chicago headquarters by reporters.

**Ex-PVRCer W7RM (SK), then W4ESK, in
the 1950s**



**Around the Club
Meeting Minutes from the Regions**

The next PVRC **Central** meeting will be held on Monday evening, April 1. We'll be following our recent style of gathering over food by meeting at Anita's Restaurant, 521 E. Maple Ave. in Vienna, VA NN3W assures me that you can get there easily by Metro and bus! We start gathering at 6:30 pm or so, "officially" go around the room sometime thereafter. We need a head count for the restaurant, so please RSVP to me (W3DQ).

The PVRC **Central Region** met at Topolino's Restaurant on Monday, March 14th. We've taken the approach of the Northwest Group by meeting at the restaurant and not going off to another venue for the meeting. Although the group was small, the talk was fun and informative.

Aside from the general conversation and war stories, two items were discussed. ARRL MDC Section Manager Tom, W3TOM, talked about the various pieces of legislation in the Maryland Statehouse, where they stood and how we can participate in the legislative process. Tom also talked about BPL and upcoming BPL tests and potential roll-outs in PVRC-land.

Eric, W3DQ, has been working with a group in the Dallas, TX area on a BCB filter to get rid of, or at least minimize, the intermod he's been suffering with on 160m (WTOP runs 50 KW and is 5-1/2 miles from Eric's house). Eric brought an engineering model of the "AM Brickwall Filter" and an ICE 402X BCB filter to compare, using a service monitor provided by Ty, K3MM. The difference between the two filters was dramatic. Eric passed around screen shots of the spectrum from 0-2 MHz as seen at his house in NW DC. More details on the filter will be distributed when they are available.

Attending were Fred-K3ZO, Bill-W3AZ, Jim-W4EE, Ben-N3UM, Gene-W3ZZ, Frank-W3LPL, Tyler-K3MM, Eric-W3DQ, Jack-K4VV, Marty-W3YOZ, and Tom-W3TOM.

The next PVRC Central Region meeting will be held on Monday evening, April 11 at Anita's Restaurant, 521 E. Maple Ave. in Vienna, VA We start gathering at 6:30 pm or so, "officially" go around the room sometime thereafter.

PVRC/NC East met March 3 at the Golden Corral, Dillard Drive, Cary. Now before I go any further Guy (Carnac, whatever..) — the manager of the GC had a little discussion with the 6 count 'em 6 of us that were there tonight. Seems there are not enough of us going to the meetings to warrant having that room reserved. The usual tip for the room server is \$20-25 that means at least 10-12 people. So if you get a chance call the manager and explain your way out of this, or he says he can set a table in the corner and we can use that..I guess somewhat secluded...

Now for the attendees.... Since you massacred the minutes from the last meeting, I figure we would just leave it up to your discretionary pencil and let you have at it again this month. Attendees were : Jeff NX9T, Tom N4TL, Bill K4CIA, Jim K4QPL, Keith W4KAZ and Bob K4HA.

Mostly on the discussion was N1MM and how it is becoming the contest software of choice for most of us now. Another topic was the Murphy ridden contest at Howie's place , yet I say it...(AGAIN). The suggestion was made that Howie have a weekend sleepover for a bunch of his contesting guru's and do nothing but lay out the station and check over everything and make sure it's working. I know That's easier done than said, but that is what really needs to happen. Back on course now... Jeff did real good on the 160 SSB contest, Keith had a good time on the last contest, Tom is getting a new radio this week, PRO III to be exact> Jim did a stint at Howie s and said they did very well despite the numerous visits from Murphy, Bill ,well he is in a world all his own... too busy eating jumbo shrimp tonight to talk. And me, well I guess I can't say anything. But I do have the AR Cluster software running at my house now in place of the old DOS DX Cluster. Seems to be working great so far. Still have a problem with the RF side but this is a WIP. So if you have any questions there Carnac, lemme know.... 73 till next month Bob K4HA

The **Northwest** Region met at the City Buffet in Frederick, MD on March 15. In attendance were K2PLF, W3KHZ, K4VV, W2YE, N4MM, K2UOP, N8II, K8OQL, N4ZR, W8ZA, W6NRJ, W3ARS, W3ADC, W3ADX, N3VOP, NE3H, K3WC, W3CQH, W0YR, W3ZZ, N3YDT, K4FTO, WD3A, K3SX and W3LL.

Regrets: N3HBX, John is in Atlanta. Last month he was skiing in Steamboat with his daughter's family. John still operates from his old station. The new one has antennas on all towers, but much still remains to be done. Legal costs continue to climb (\$40k and counting) and may exceed the cost of the station when done! WN3R, Dick is in Palm Desert and expects to see everyone in Fredericksburg this weekend for the Contest Seminar.

Announcements: Bob has agreed to chair our April meeting while W3LL, Bud and Kayren are attending the Visalia DX Convention. N4MM, John notes that CQ magazine is offering a new award called the CQ DX Field Award. This award recognizes achievements in contacting at least 50 of the world's 324 10 x 20-degree grid fields for contacts made after January 1, 1980. All the rules will appear in the April issue of CQ magazine. John has the website which addresses the Swain Island issue for anyone interested. W2YE, Dick reminded us that the Virginia State QSO Party is this weekend. A 500 point bonus is provided for working the Sterling Park ARC club station, K4NVA.

From Around the Table: K2PLF, Marty was in the 160M CW and Phone contests. He gathered 60K points on CW and 30K on phone. In the ARRL DX CW he had 1.6M points and 1.2M points in the Phone contest. He missed the first 14 hours of the phone contest missing the big run on Saturday morning. He was so enamored with the Writelog band map that both were entered in the assisted category. Marty will be going to the Contest Seminar this weekend then to Visalia and Dayton. He managed to retrieve all logs just prior to the computer permanently failing and is now in the market for a new Dell computer.

W3KHZ, Art while searching for RF gremlins found a bucket of water in a fully sealed trap. He also found a TNC which would not diddle - only buzz. After fixing it, next was a transmitter which didn't want to transmit but also fixed. Art is looking forward to going to Dayton again this year and will try to make it to Timonium. K4VV, Jack took the opportunity to acknowledge the great job Pete N4ZR is doing with the Newsletter - followed by a well deserved round of applause. It continues get better with more electronic content and provides a great service to the organization. Jack says we need to at least read the first page of the newsletter because

that's where the priorities that the leadership team has set for the year is listed. Our feedback is being solicited for these priorities. Tom, NIIN, scored very well during the ARRL CW contest, almost at the level of Fred, K3ZO. He expressed interest in PVRC and in some email exchanges provided a two page summary of his contest experiences and equipment. This young man came back into contesting after being out of it for some years. Appreciation was expressed to N3OC, WX3B and N3RR and many others who supported them in putting together the Contest Seminar. Jack put in part time efforts in various contests, doing very well with the C3E at fifty feet. He has been working on finishing out the interior of his cabin. Tower work will resume when the weather gets a little better. Jack will be at the Contest Seminar and at Dayton.

W2YE, Dick was in the CQ 160M and ARRL DX contests averaging about 300Q's in each. He returned from the Richmond hamfest with a throat tickle which made operating the SSB contest without a DVK difficult. N4MM, John announced the cancellation of the Shelbyville hamfest this year. Troubles with new administration in Cleveland County and a price increase of \$7k dollars or more for the fairgrounds spelled its death. At the Annandale hamfest, John took possession of an exotic QRP rig for donation to the League. The original owner was W3KJD. In sorting out his 3k QSL cards he found a 1946 notice from John Huntoon W1RVQ regarding a harmonic emission on 7.425 MHz. John made 300K points in the Phone contest, 41K in the 160M SSB and 10k points in the UBA CW contest. John has severe line noise problems. In the last four years, seven have been corrected with 4-5 remaining to be corrected. A month ago one of the 12KVA cross arms rotted off landing a foot from the ground wire. It was fixed a month later. John is having someone with good noise detection equipment coming to locate the remaining sources of noise. K2UOP, Tom has been in most of the contests except for the RTTY contest. He is happy to have gone over 25M points for the 5M awards. He discovered the people who own the property next to him took down that portion of his beverage which was on their property. That explained why he wasn't hearing well to Europe. These people had been away for the last thirteen years. Tom noted the passing of WA2PBE, Tom Cook which appeared in W3ZZ's column. Both Toms lived three blocks apart in New York. K2UOP got Tom started in ham radio and eventually WA2PBE became a big gun on 6M. Tom is sponsoring a plaque for WA2PBE in the June contest for 5th place, high power.

N8II, Jeff has been in all the CW and phone contests since the first of the year which count toward club credit. While making a simple adjustment prior to the ARRL CW contest his 80M dipole broke at the feedpoint. Since it couldn't be fixed prior to the contest, Jeff decided to enter the 20M single band category. This turned out to be a blessing in disguise, doing better than ever in a single band with 1720 Q's. The band was in excellent daytime shape. He had 141 Q's on the 1200Z hour on Saturday and didn't slow down until 2100Z. In the CQWW 160M SSB contest he had 60 Q's 13 minutes into the contest and worked Bud W3LL at the end of the hour for 196Q's. Jeff was neck and neck with W4MYA at the four hour mark but ended with 100K points. In ARRL Phone, Jeff managed 90Q's in the hour he sat on 14.1515 MHz with KC1XX 1KHz above him. He beat out W4MYA a few times during the contest. A call by SU9NC and a GD3 were new mults that called in while sitting on the bottom edge of the band. He ended the contest with 1.76M points.

K8OQL, Jerry had a nice time at Bob's W8ZA during the ARRL SSB contest. They did well considering the near quiet sun conditions. N4ZR, Pete thanks all for the kind words about the newsletter. However, this month he needs material - now is the time to write. This is a good time for April Fool's contributions - similar to that of W0YR's contribution last year. Mike volunteered to do it again! A write-up on the Seminar will also appear in the newsletter. Pete made 2.1M points in the ARRL CW contest in unassisted high power category. However, he finished the contest surrounded by a pile of smoking electronic equipment. Fortunately, the only failures were the relays in the amplifier and the PIEXX microprocessor in the TS930 radio (fixed by PIEXX at no charge because Pete was a beta tester). Pete has contacts at Allegheny Power who are good at RFI detection work. He will pass this info to John N4MM after the meeting.

W8ZA, Bob notes that at 19 to 20 pages, the newsletter is doing quite well. The ARRL CW DX contest was entered in Multi-2 with Jerry K8OQL and Paul, K3STX. This was Paul's first time operating at a multi station. He had a good time and being a good CW operator he made a lot of contacts. Four hours prior to the start of the contest, the computer needed emergency repairs. Tom WD3A drove out and made the fixes. Did not break 100 countries on any band but did make 380 band countries, 1547 Q's and 1.535M points. Discovered that the

160M keying interrupted the 40M keying due to the proximity of both antennas. The ARRL DX SSB contest was entered in Multi-Multi category with two new ops, Bob W3IDT and Daughter Miriam KA3UBJ. They had a good time and Miriam did an admirable job on 15M. Roy, W3TEF operated 20M for the better part of 48 hrs getting 114 countries on that band. Using his French language skills, Roy brought in a few extra multipliers. There were 90 countries on 15M and 48 on 160M. This compares with 64 Q's and 40 countries on 160M in the CW contest. Packet was down for four hours during the SSB contest. The score for the SSB contest was 1.986M points.

W6NRJ, Jim is caught up on the last 12 years of QSL requests. Now he is looking for the best source of QSL managers in preparation for sending out needed QSLS. The GOLIST, PATHFINDER and QRZ.COM were suggested. He now needs to get his paper logs into electronic format. Jim tried N1MM but found the 300 page manual laborious reading. He also found he could not interface to his TS440 radio due to a faulty chip. Someone volunteered to provide the chip at the next meeting. Jim is reading G6XN's antenna book and is asking for input on a vertical beam for 40M consisting of two driven elements with a reflector, director and elevated radials. Anyone have any experience with this? Jim's trees are aligned at 130 degrees so he can get anywhere with his bobtail curtain and loop at 45 feet except long path to the far east. Jim will be going to C6 (Freeport) in December with a friend and operating from a condo with an inverted V near the ocean. Jim will be going to Dayton this year.

N3VOP, Mike was in the ARRL DX contest. He had an OK time at the Richmond Hamfest followed by this past weekend at Annandale and looking forward to Timonium and WPX coming up. W3ADX, Nathan upgraded to General in January - applause & congratulations! W3ARS, Clint has been doing some VHF contesting. He also had the opportunity to activate a couple of islands - St Lucia and Barbados with an invite back to Barbados to operate in the October DX contest. Clint notices that PVRicers activate islands during contests but PVRicers are not spotting these folks on the cluster. It'd be nice to see more spotting each time one works remote located member in or out of a contest. It costs a lot of money to operate from an island and we should reciprocate by spotting them at every opportunity.

W3ADC, John also upgraded to General in December along with his son Nathan - applause & congratulations! His first tower will be going up the weekend after the Timonium Hamfest. NE3H, Joe received his Orion yesterday. He'll be spending the next week rearranging the shack. Joe was a little upset seeing a stock Astron 30A switching supply shipped with the Orion and not a TenTec supply. He sent the Astron back along with his opinion. Joe was enjoying himself in the ARRL DX contest on CW Sunday morning at 130 Q's/hr for three hours until he learned others were working at higher rates. He repeats the callsign of the station worked at the conclusion of each contact prior to saying QRZ and asked if this is right. The consensus was this practice is holding his rate down unnecessarily.

K3WC, Dusty reports the tower is still on the ground. Dusty so far has had no contact with Fluid Motion regarding delivery of his SteppIR MonstrIR other than being number fourteen on the list. He notes the second one was reportedly shipped to Florida last week. Last night he worked a 9Y4/OM3TZZ for country number ninety on 160M. His 66' X 100' yard can't support beverages. W3CQH, Howard lives in Kensington and is getting ready to move to Frederick county in May/June. He has an R7000 vertical with 80M kit still up in the air and a 60' Rohn 25G on the ground for sale along with some aluminum. He will be operating on Bear Mountain NY on 6-10 Gigs in the June contest along with two or three other ops. This beats 15 hours in a car with 5 guys going to Mount Washington.

W0YR, Mike says that Mike Winters who lives in Charlestown and worked for Norm Jeweler does reputable tower work. He's a good guy who can use the money. See Mike for his phone number. Mike has a word to the wise for Jim regarding C6 licensing. In 1972, Mike found himself on the C6 eternal license renewal list with automatic renewals each year with an attached escalating fee. It took an act of God to get off the list. W3ZZ, Gene worked both ends of the ARRL DX contest from Frank Donovan's. Frank completed a fine season winning three of the four contests. He won the ARRL CW contest but not the phone contest. K3LR is hard to beat mainly because of location geometry and having K1AR on 20M. The conditions on the second day were dread-

fully bad. Gene did most of his operating on 20M during the morning run on Saturday and all night Saturday when there was a very good VK opening. He worked about 100 VK's and ZL's during that Saturday night including some Africans such as Botswana signing with an unpronounceable A prefix. He also worked KH8SI who wouldn't give his power. There was a good crew including Bob Cox, K3EST. Gene will be at the Contest Seminar and then to a few Vhf conferences in New England and Charlotte. He will be at Visalia but not at Dayton for the first time in about twenty years. His back can't take standing in line for three hours waiting for the buses that never come on Friday. The HC8 operation has been called off so Gene won't be there.

N3YDT, Jim reports he's had a bad winter with nothing happening. K4FTO, Art was in thirteen contests last year gathering 1400 Q's and 220K points. Art is mainly active in VHF contesting. Art reports that Bob, K9OYD lost all his towers and antennas in one of the tornadoes that came thru Manassas last year. WD3A, Tom hasn't been doing much contesting this year. His excitement has been the distress phone call from Bob, W8ZA regarding the inoperative computer a few hours before the start of the contest. After an unsuccessful rescue over the phone he drove the 40 minutes to Bob's. After blowing all the dust out of the computer he found the CPU fan turning at 2 RPM. Swapping in a replacement got everything going again.

K3SX, Sid, after being inactive for the last few years, got back on 160M. He got two new ones this season to bring the total to 226 countries on 160M. He is also active with the Grid Pirates and will be with them on Spruce Knob in June for the VHF contest. Sid's son got his no code tech ticket on his own. His callsign is KB3LJJ. W3LL, Bud's last submittal for DXCC was in 1968 so he thought it time to do something about it. At our last meeting John, N4MM graciously agreed to check the cards. Bud naively thought the submittal would be a no brainer. After spending more than 40 hours putting everything in proper order he thought otherwise. Bud presented John with cards for 249 countries, 7 band DXCC and 1049 band modes for the Challenge. All contacts are on SSB using a dipole and ICOM 706 and nearly all obtained within the last 3-1/2 years. Also included was a submittal for CQ DXCC with 3.5/7 MHz and 28 MHz endorsements. Bud was in the CQ 160M SSB and ARRL DX SSB contests SOAB LP making about 550 Q's in each. The mailman delivered a certificate for the IARU 2004 HF contest. This was for 1st place, single op, Phone only, low power MDC section and 9th place US and Canada. Also received was a certificate of merit from the ARRL for 40 years of continuous membership.

Following the roundtable was a discussion on points four and eleven of PVRC 2005 goals. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next NW Region meeting is Tuesday, 19 April 2005. 73, Bud W3LL NW Region Chairman PVRC

Downtown Group—Five hungry PVRCers (AJ3M, NN3W, W3DQ, W3ICM and W3OU) met for lunch on Thursday March 17at Malaysia Kopitiam for a relaxing lunch and conversation. K3ZJ sent us his regrets.

Masa, AJ3M, described operation from the World Bank station, 4U1WB. Masa will be attending the PVRC Contest Seminar. Rich, NN3W, talked about his (phenomenal) ARRL DX contest outing from W9GE, and described in great detail the electrical damage to his house this past week. In addition to smoke abatement, Rich's house will need to be completely rewired, and much, if not most, of the appliances, computers, and other electronic equipment (including ham radio equipment) needing to be replaced. Rich may be out of his house for an extended period of time while the work is done. Time for a trip to Dayton? Maybe!

Eric, W3DQ, had a great 160 season, thanks to the antennas put up with the help of N3OC and KE3Q. Work still needs to be done on the RX antennas. Eric will be at the PVRC Contest Seminar. Fred, W3ICM, talked about his experience in Iraq, where -- in addition to operating as YI3DX (and making DXCC) -- he was the licensing officer for amateur radio. Fred passed around some very interesting QSL cards from that operation. Steve, W3OU, hasn't replaced the antennas that blew down this past fall, but hopes to have them up before too long. We all agreed to meet again next month, most likely the week of April 25th, location TBA.

The regular meeting of CVCC was called to order at 6:58 p.m. on February 8 by President Ed, NW4V. Members introduced themselves. Those present: Ralph N4EHJ, Ralph's xyl Reba, Bob NK4H, Roy WK4Y, Bob W4DR, Bruce WD4LBR, Shelia K4WNW, Phil KD4BMQ, Dennis N4DEN, Marie K4KML, Jerry K4KJL, Ron WU4G, Dave N4DWK, Sejo N3UA, Ed NW4V

Sheila, K4WNW has achieved DXCC. Congratulations, Sheila.

Peter I has been cancelled until next year. We will leave our donation for their use next year.

Ronnie, WU4G, has new countries list that he will distribute by next meeting.

The club picnic is May 14 at the river where we have met in previous years. The club will supply hamburgers and hot dogs. Members should bring a dish to share, a drink, and lawn chairs. Bob Ladd, NK4H has graciously agreed to coordinate the food, and cook too!

The Virginia QSO Party is next weekend. Bob, W4MYA will host a multi-multi. Bob will also host a multi-multi for the WPX SSB the weekend of March 26. Let him know if you can work.

Kyle will be 6Y6Y in the WPX contest.

We need an updated club roster.

There were questions and discussion about the website and reflector/listservers. Concern was raised that placing an email list on the website would generate spam. The roster on the website should include only name and call sign. We could create a group on Yahoo. Dennis, N4DEN, agreed to handle

The slate of officers for next year remains unchanged from last month. A motion was made by Roy, WK4Y, to have the current officers nominated for re-election. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously yes.

Treasurer's Report:

Bob, NK4H, has collected \$100.00 in dues.

Bob, W4DR, recapped the recent club plaque winners before announcing the winners for this year.

Roy, WK4Y, won 2 years in a row, one year winning both.

W4PK and W4HZ

Bruce, W3BP won both in 2002

Ed, NW4V won both in 2003

And this year Ed, NW4V again won both awards – greatest number of new entities worked, and largest percentage of needed entities worked.

Because of construction at the hospital, Ralph, N4EHJ, asked that members drive around by the emergency entrance and come in the door by the cafeteria.

The presentation was a video of the ARRL headquarters in 1935 narrated by W1NJM, and of the transatlantic tests in 1921.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Long, K4KML, secretary

5M Award Results

By Anthony Brooks, WM3T

January ARRL VHF Contest

Call	Class	Bands	QSO's	Mults	Score
K1RZ	SOHP	10	611	143	191,334
W3SO	MM		769	172	174,064
N3OC	SOHP		334	87	51,765
N3HBX	SOLP		435	86	46,870
W3ZZ	SOHP		183	51	14,892
K2UOP	SOHP		133	57	11,799
W3EKT	SOLP	2	165	38	6,170
K4FTO	SOLP		130	35	5,985
N4MM	SOHP		138	29	4,495
W3ARS	SOLP	4	127	23	3,726
K2PLF	SOLP	3	118	26	3,406
N3UM	SOLP		104	25	2,600
W6AXX	SOLP		115	20	2,300
N8II	SOLP		108	18	1,944
W3CB	SOLP		91	15	1,590
N3AM	SOLP		77	15	1,230
K3ZO	SOLP		63	16	1,008
KB3KAQ	SOLP		63	11	693
N4TL	SOLP		40	12	480
KI3O	SOLP	3	47	9	477
W3ADX	M1	3	46	7	357
N3NFE	SOLP	1	22	6	132
K3KO	SOLP		16	6	96
Total Logs:		23			
Total Club Score:		527,413			
2004 Results:					
Logs Score					
Total		23			
Score:		539,099			
MultiOp Operators					
Multis listed below with no operators were SO Assisted.					
W3SO	K4VV, WR3Z, AI3M, W3BTX, W3TEF, W3SF, W3YOZ, KB3LGS				
W3ADX	W3ADX, W3ADC				

CQ 160 CW Contest

Call	Class	QSO's	Mults	Mults	Score
W4MYA	SOHP	1377	58	57	560,280
KT3Y	M1	1196	59	54	441,378
W4ZV	SOHP	1154	59	56	438,265
NR4M	M1	1180	59	51	421,520
W0UCE	M1	1000	56	39	264,860
W3BP	SOHP	925	58	29	220,806
W4RX	SOHP	772	57	35	214,452
K4HA	M1	753	96		209,760
K3ZO	SOHP	673	59	38	203,991
N4XD	SOHP	784	91		202,748
N4RV	M1	661	59	37	193,248
K3DI	M1	799	59	26	178,500
WK4Y	SOHP	768	59	28	171,825
N3OC	SOHP	554	57	31	147,576
N3UM	SOHP	623	56	23	125,294

W3SO	M1	528	56	26	120,540
K8OQL	M1	606	58	13	104,583
K4QPL	SOHP	459	53	22	90,450
N3AM	SOHP	553	58	7	84,370
K1KO	SOHP	534	53	12	80,600
N4AF	SOHP	446	68		77,316
N8II	SOLP	461	53	14	77,251
K3SWZ	SOLP	384	53	15	65,892
K2UOP	SOHP	283	49	22	63,048
W4YE	SOHP	362	68		63,036
WA4PGM	SOQ	454	53	6	61,124
W3AZ	SOHP	300	51	19	60,900
K2PLF	SOHP	356	47	17	60,800
W3DQ	SOHP	404	51	7	56,666
W2YE	SOHP	291	50	18	53,380
WB4MSG	SOLP	391	53		47,753
K3KO	SOHP	350	55		45,870
W3YY	M1	174	31	30	43,432
K3SV	M1	260	57		40,869
N3HUV	SOHP	293	56	3	9,592
W3EKT	SOLP	206	48	16	38,016
K4EU	SOHP	243	45	13	37,990
WA8WV	SOHP	290	45	5	34,150
N3FX	SOHP	213	47	11	31,552
K3STX	SOLP	259	47	4	30,753
N4YDU	SOLP	202	40	6	21,436
W9GE	SOA				17,719
W4RM	SOHP	136	31	12	17,716
K1SE	SOLP	142	41	4	15,300
K4GM	SOLP	161	39	2	14,678
N4ZR	SOLP	121	37	5	13,230
WF3J	SOLP				12,528
NN3W	SOLP	149	33	0	11,616
K3TW	SOQ	145	35		11,515
N4TL	SOHP	135	35	2	11,507
W4HJ	SOLP	107	42	2	11,176
W2GG	SOLP	130	30	2	10,016
N4MM	SOHP	90	37	3	8,600
W3UL	M1	112	32		8,384
NT4D	SOHP	75	38	4	7,854
NX9T	SOLP	111	32	0	7,712
W4DR	SOHP	51	24	11	6,720
K4VV	SOHP	88	28		5,432
N4JED	SOLP	62	23		3,128
WD4LBR	SOLP				2,541
4U1WB	M1	31	14		868

Total Logs: 61
Total Club Score: 5,724,112

2004 Results:

Logs	Score
CW	52 6,946,081
SSB	45 2,182,519
Total	97 9,128,600

MultiOp Operators (Stations listed as Multi-1, not listed below, were SO Assisted)
K4HA K4HA, W2XL
W3SO W3YOZ, W3BTX
K3DI K3DI, K2YWE, W3UL

KT3Y KT3Y, K3EST
W0UCE W0UCE, N4CW
NR4M NR4M, WA4JUK, K4EC, K7SV
4U1WB AJ3M

Ham Classified Ads (non-commercial, ham-related, free)

ICOM IC-707, Mint Condx., \$375
Pete DeVolpi, K3PD k3pdpete@aol.com 717-938-8249

Kenwood TS-140S, S/N 0020203, No mic
Used Mobile, but good condx.
RF Output Power cannot be adjusted -- always 100%
When last use, it worked fine. \$200
Don Inscho, N3OSO dinscho@epix.net 717-938-1041

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Warrenton, Virginia

PVRC REFERENCE PAGE Please send corrections to the editor. April 2005

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PVRC Dues PVRC has no annual dues. Donations are gratefully accepted by the Treasurer, Dave Baugher WR3L, 615 Rockaway Beach Ave., Baltimore MD 21221. Please make your checks payable to PVRC.

Autocall Column Editor is K3DI 410-757-6706

PVDXSN Packet Network

W3LPL	Glenwood MD	145.590, 441.250	w3lpl.net	W3IP	Crownsville MD	145.570	
WR3L	Baltimore MD	145.610, 440.950	wr3l.net	N3RR	Rockville MD	145.510, 441.325	
K3SKE	Frederick MD	144.930, 441.125	12.173.48.67 port 23	W3YOZ	West River MD	144.910	
W3TOM	Acokeek MD	145.770		N1WR	Lusby MD	145.690	
N4OHE	Mt. Weather VA	145.710, 446.025		NE3H*	Harrisburg PA	144.970	
W3BD	S. Mountain PA	145.630		N4SR*	Woodbridge VA	145.630	
W4XP	Bull Run Mtn. VA	144.990		K3NC*	Fredericksburg, VA	144.930	dxc.k3nc.net
				W4ML	Goochland, VA	145.09	dxc.w4ml.net

Most of the system is sponsored by the Potomac Valley DX Spotting Network. Nodes with * are independently funded by each SYSOP., The W4ML node is funded by CVCC.

PVRC Meetings

ANNAPOLIS: Dick Wilder, K3DI 410-757-6706

BWI: Weekly breakfast Wed at 7:00 AM at Basil's Deli Port on Elkridge Landing Rd 1/4 mile South of Winterson Road 410-850-4333. Director: Ike Lawton, W3IKE, 410-263-2830. Sec: Howard Leake, W6AXX, 410-465-7008, w6axx1@starpower.net

CENTRAL VA: Pres: Ed Moore - NW4V - nw4v@comcast.net, Secy: Marie Long - K4KML - long2624@netzero.net, Treas: Robert (Bob) Ladd - NK4H - rladd@comcast.net. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Henrico Doctor's Hospital, 7700 Paraham Rd., Richmond, VA. To the right of the main entrance is a second entrance. Go through that door, turn left through that door and the cafeteria is the first room on the right. There will be some who meet at Nick's Roman Terrace, Westlands Shopping Center, West Broad Street starting at 5:50 PM for dinner before the meeting. Talk-in available on 145.430

CENTRAL: The Central Meeting is always the second Monday (except June, July, and August) at 7:30 pm. The central meeting generally alternates between MD and VA locations. A pre-meeting dinner is usually held between 5:00 and 6:30 pm. Check via 147.000- repeater. VA LOCATION: The Patrick Henry (Public) Library, Route 123, Vienna, VA. MD LOCATION: Church of the Nativity (Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD. Pre-MD meeting dinner at Topoleno's Restaurant about 6:00 or 6:30 pm.

EASTERN-SHORE (DEL-MAR-VA): Dallas Carter, W3PP 302-875-0550 ludal@dmv.com

LAUREL: Bill Smith, N3XL (n3xl@arrl.net) 301-935-4873 Laurel Region meets concurrently with the Laurel Amateur Radio Club at the first LARC meeting of each quarter.

NORTH CAROLINA -- EAST: Chair: Guy Olinger, K2AV, k2av@contesting.com; Sec: Jim Price WW4M. POC's are K2AV and WW4M (h:919-362-4635, w:919-460-2991). PVRC/NC meets at 6 pm the first Thurs of each month, plus an additional meeting in April at the Raleigh Hamfest. For details see <http://pvrcnc.org>

NORTH CAROLINA -- WEST (TRIAD): Meets the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at Cobalt's Elemental Eats and Drinks on Deacon Blvd. in Winston Salem. Ragchew at 6:30. Directions are available upon request. The chairman for the new PVRC/NC West chapter is Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, henry@summitschool.com and the secretary is Robert Whitaker KG4NEP, kg4nep@yahoo.com.

NORTHEAST: WR3L Dave Baugher 410-DX1-WR3L dave@wr3l.net

NORTHWEST: Chair: Bud Governale, W3LL, 410-666-9189. W3LL@arrl.net. Meets monthly the 3rd Tuesday. Informal dinner about 6pm; meeting at 7pm at the City Buffet, 1306 W Partick St, Frederick, MD 301-360-9666. Rear of shopping center, behind Mountain View Diner.

OCOQUAN: Jack O'Mara W4NF, H:703-791-3302 W:703-739-7636 w4nf@comcast.net and Cliff Deel W4CE, w4ce@aol.com 703-491-0841

OVER-THE-HILL LUNCH BUNCH (VA DC MD): Meetings are held monthly at two locations: Falls Church, VA (Parkview Marriot) and Beltsville, MD. Meetings are announced by E-mail. All members, their guests and non-members interested in membership are welcome. For information contact Roger Stephens K5VRX, rogerergo@netzero.net, 703-658-3991 for the VA meetings; or, Bill Leavitt W3AZ, 301-292-5797 for MD meetings.

PENNSYLVANIA: Steve Cutshall, K3TZV, k3tzv@paonline.com, 717-763-0462.

RAPPAHANNOCK: Steve Bookout, NR4M (ex-NJ4F) NJ4F@erols.com. Also, Larry Schimelpfenig, K7SV, k7sv@va.prestige.net

SHENANDOAH: Bill Hinkle KV3R kb3aug@juno.com 304-567-3138

CARROLL COUNTY: Jim Nitzberg, WX3B.410-374-9233 nitz@selectsa.com

SOUTHERN MD: Chair: Wayne Rogers N1WR E-Mail: n1wr@chesapeake.net Phone: (H) (410) 394-0313 Meetings held at the home of N1WR.

SOUTHWEST VA: Coordinator: David Jones, N4JED, Vinton, VA 540-890-2034, N4JED@AOL.COM. Meetings begin at 6 pm at the Roanoker Restaurant, Roanoke, Virginia in a private room (ask at the desk if you have not joined us before).

TIDEWATER COLONY OF PVRC: This group now meets in conjunction with the Virginia DX Century Club at Ryan's Steak House, which is on Battlefield Blvd in Chesapeake, at the Battlefield Blvd South (VA 168) exit off I-64. The meeting is still the third Tuesday of every month. We gather for dinner around 1815-1830, with the meeting around 1915-1930. Contact W4ZYT at 757-457- 5181 or w4zyt@exis.net for additional info.

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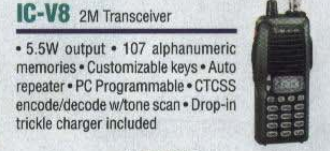
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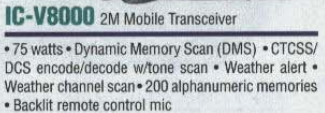
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