



PVRC Newsletter

June 2015

President's Letter – Ethan K8GU

For many of us, summer is the “off season” for contesting, a time to review past efforts and perform maintenance and upgrades on our stations.

Here at K8GU, I'm looking to put up some higher dipoles and eventually wire beams in the big trees on my lot to supplement the low G3TXQ hexagonal beam that barely scrapes ½-wavelength high on 20 meters. This becomes especially important as the high bands are open less and more marginally in the coming years. And, I need to get back on 160. Of course, every year, the goal is also to become fully active on VHF as well. I hope to at least be on 6/2/432 for the ARRL June VHF.

What upgrades do you have planned? What questions do you have for the Club? Post them on the e-mail reflector! Talk about them at your chapter meetings!

Equally important, I also take a moment to review my past year as a PVRCer and how membership may have benefited me as an operator or perhaps even personally or professionally.

For example: Did the PVRC reflector provide any new ideas, tidbits, or other info I incorporated into my contest operation? What did I learn at my monthly chapter meetings in the past year? Did I have fun operating the various contests this past season, either as a single op, station host, or as an operator at a M/M or M/S station? Maybe I gave presentations from which others benefitted (and I benefitted as well by sharing my knowledge)? How, exactly did I benefit from my PVRC membership this year? I would wager that the answer to that is something like “a lot.”

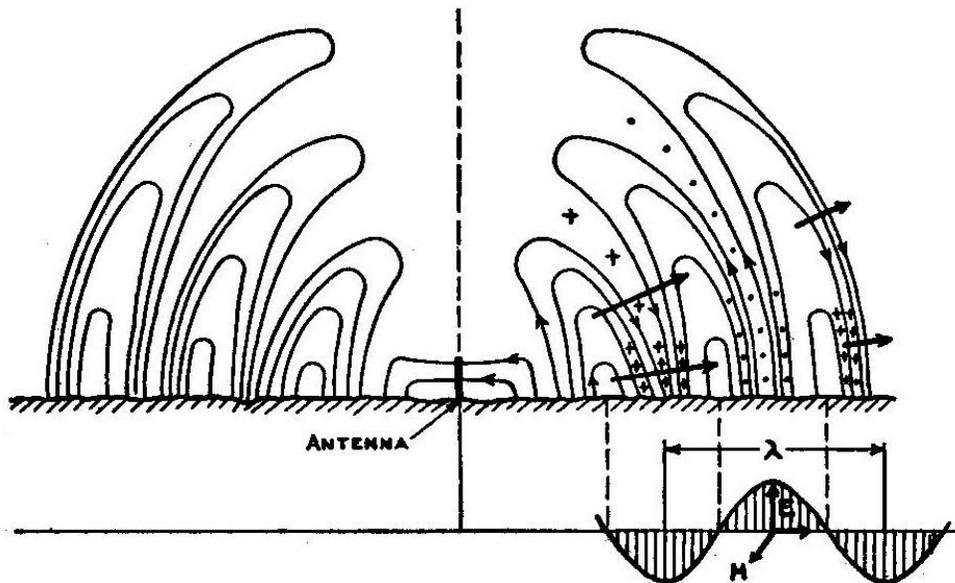
Those of you who have never been a member of another contest club may not realize this, but PVRC is a pretty great contest club. I've been a member of

several other contest clubs over the past few years. All of those are good clubs full of good people, but PVRC has a membership that's contesting-active, that's e-mail reflector-active, and that's meeting-active. It's very difficult to get all three in one club.

As many of you know, PVRC has intentionally chosen not to make dues a requirement of membership to make it

accessible to everyone. However, as a part of my assessment of my past year as a contester, I'm also assessing my financial contribution to the Club in light of the skills, knowledge, and experience I've gained as a PVRCer this past year. Please consider doing the same.

73, Ethan, K8GU



PVRC Officers:

President: K8GU Ethan Miller
Vice President: W3LL Bud Governale
Vice President: K3AJ Tom Valenti
Secretary: W4VIC Vic Culver
Treasurer: N3RR Bill Hider

Trustees:

K3MM, N3OC, WX3B, W4ZYT, N4NW, K2AV, KE3X, K4ZA, K3WRY

PVRC Charter Members (all SK):

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

PVRC Website: <http://www.pvrc.org>

W3LPL Open House

PVRC members, guests and family are welcome to attend the 30th annual W3LPL Open House on Saturday June 20th at noon, rain or shine. BBQ lunch from CJ's will be available from noon to 2 pm. Frank's QRZ.com [address](#) is good for mapping to get directions.

North American CW Weekend June 5-7, Falls Church VA – W4ZYT

From the ARRL Letter:

Don Lynch W4ZYT has issued an invitation to “all CW operators, Morse mavens, [and] code aficionados” to gather June 5-7 in the Washington, DC, area for the “annual North American CW Weekend.” This is a month later than previous events.

According to Lynch, the event “is primarily aimed at Amateur Radio operators with an interest in CW operation, but is open to any person with an interest in Morse code communication.”

Registration is \$25. He said that many members of the First Class CW Operator's Club (FOC), the CW Operators Club (CWOPS), FISTS, SKCC, and the Morse Telegraphy Society attend. A tour of the “world-famous W3LPL contest station” may be arranged. A group rate is in place at the Fairview Park Marriott, Falls Church, Virginia (enter “RIARIAA” in the group code field).

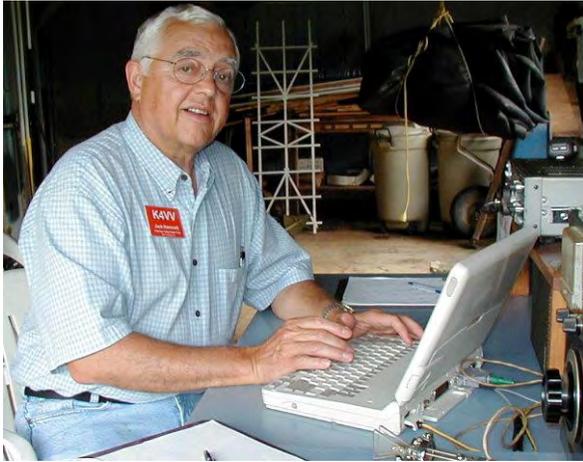
Go [here](#) or contact W4ZYT, W1RM or N3JT for more details

LZ1ARD Joins N3AM/4 Operation – John N3AM



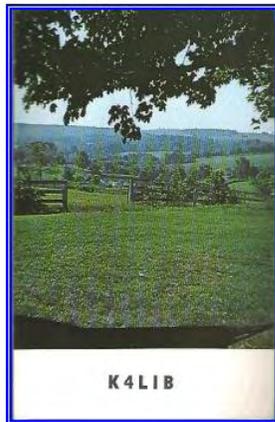
Here's what we have to contend with in Florida. The little critter is an Anole, native of Cuba that has invaded Southern FL. They are everywhere and normally about 5" long. This little guy was more blike 1.5"

K4VV Station Goes Silent



As many know, former PVRC President Jack Hammett K4VV's health has been declining and in early May his XYL Sharon made the decision that it was time to shut down the K4VV station and take down the antennas and towers. Mike WØYR has been handling the disposal of equipment and will be moving the remote operating capabilities to his home station.

Dave K3ZJ recently reminded everyone of the history behind Jack's station – the land was formerly owned by Arthur Godfrey, who was K4LIB. The K4VV station will be missed but the history will carry on.



K4LIB Precision Springs, Va.

To Radio: _____ Confirming our QSO

of _____ 196__ At _____ S.S.T.

On _____ AM Your Sign R. S. T

Collins 73A4 Receiver *Best Wishes*

Collins KW51 Transmitter *Arthur Godfrey*

Tri-Band Rotary Switch *Arthur Godfrey*

PVRCers at Dayton Photos

From K3YDX:



Brian N3OC

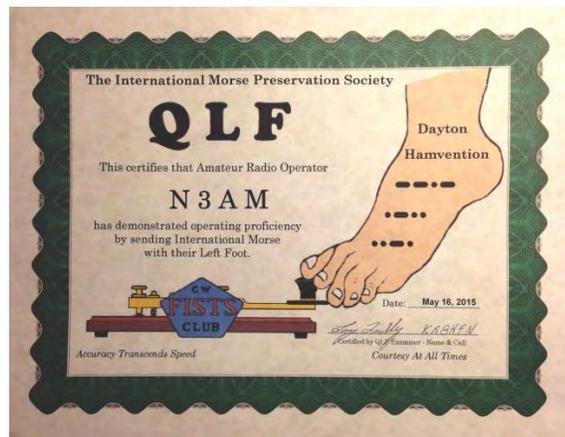


Frank W3LPL, Ray W3BFC, Roger K1DQV

From N3AM:



Jim N3JT going for his QLF certification, John N3AM's award



From N3JT:



Steve NR4M, Lar K7SV and Chip (Cheep) N2YO at the CW OPS booth

From Paul N4PD



John K3TN presents on the K4VV remote ARRL DX CW operation at the Contesting Forum

Upcoming Contests and Log Due Dates

Contests This Month

- June 6 – PVRC Reunion
- June 6 – SEANET
- June 13 – GACW WWSA CW
- June 20 – All Asian CW
- June 27 – Field Day

Logs Due This Month

- June 1 – EA CW
- June 10 – CQ-M

See WA7BNM's [Contest Calendar](#) for more detail and the latest information.

The Editor's Last Word – John K3TN

Ugh, the solar flux is back down to double digits and I ran over my 160M coax mowing with the lawn tractor mowing the lawn last night – we are definitely going into the post-Dayton doldrums. Maybe there will be some movement in the right direction for the IARU HF this year.

Thanks to K3YDX, N3JT, NR4M, K3ZO and N4PD for submissions this month, and some I'll use next month. Still looking for articles, photos and any other form of submission from the PVRC hordes. Send whatever you have to [jpescatore at aol dot com](mailto:jpescatore@aol.com).

From the PVRC Treasurer – Bill N3RR

PVRC has chosen not to implement an annual Dues requirement. We depend on the generosity of all of 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:



Eyeball QSO Directions

The latest info on local club meetings and get together will always be sent out on the [PVRC reflector](#) and posted on the PVRC [web site](#).

NW Region: Meetings are generally held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Golden Corral Frederick, MD
5621 Spectrum Dr.
Frederick, MD 21703
PVRC Meets in the BANQUET ROOM
(301) 662-5922

From Interstate 270 south of Frederick, MD
take MD Route 85, "Buckeystown Road" NORTH.
First right on Spectrum Drive.
Restaurant is in a couple of blocks. Most arrive about 6 PM for dinner and informal discussions. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM.

Contact: Jim [WX3B](#)

Central Region: Meets monthly the second Monday of each month, except June, July & August). The location alternates between the below MD and VA locations. Pre-meeting dinners start at 6:00 pm and meetings start at 7:30 pm.

VA LOCATION: Anita's, 521 E. Maple Ave, Vienna, VA. Tel: 703-255-1001. Meets at this location during the months of February, April and October.

Contact: Rich [NN3W](#)

MD LOCATION: Max's Café. 2319 University Blvd W, Wheaton MD 20902. Tel: 301-949-6297 People usually begin arriving at the restaurant around 6:30. Meets at this location during the months of January, March, May, September and November. Contact: Art [K3KU](#)

The Laurel, MD Region: Bill N3XL The PVRC get-together is held at the first [LARC](#) meeting each quarter at the clubhouse.

The Annapolis Crew: Dan K2YWE Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Broadneck Grill in Annapolis. We gather at about 5:30 PM and order dinner about 6. We break up usually before 8 PM. E-Mail [K2YWE](#) to be put on the e-mail reminder list.

PVRC-NC: The PVRC NC-East chapter meetings are held at [Manchester's Bar and Grill](#) on the 9100 block of Leesville Rd. in North Raleigh, with "QRM" beginning at 6:00pm and the dinner meeting following shortly thereafter. The meeting is held monthly on the 1st Thursday of most months, cancellations or changes usually announced on the [PVRC-NC website](#). [The PVRC NC-West Chapter](#) holds its meetings on the 4th Monday of each month at [the Mellow Mushroom](#), 314 W. 4th St., Winston-Salem, NC. Ragchew at 7:00pm, dinner meeting starts at 7:30pm. All contesters and interested guests are invited!

Over the Hill Bunch: The group meets for lunch at noon alternately in Maryland at the College Park Holiday Hotel Route 1 and the Beltway or in Virginia at the Parkview Marriot near route 50 and the Beltway. Meetings generally are held on the last Wednesday of the month and are subject to change. Meetings are announced by E-Mail. All PVRC members, non-members interested in membership and guests are welcome. For information contact Roger Stephens, K5VRX, 703-658-3991 for Virginia meetings; or Cliff Bedore [W3CB](#) or get on 147.00 for Maryland meetings.

Downtown Lunch Group: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday or Thursday of the month in the downtown area of Washington, DC. Locations occasionally change, but are always Metro accessible. Details are sent out on the PVRC reflector. Feel free to contact Eric W3DQ or Brian WV4V for details and directions.

Southwest VA Chapter: The Southwest VA group meets each Wednesday at about 8:30 AM at Hardees at 20265 Timberlake Road in Lynchburg, VA. This is an informal gathering, but normally has about 10-12 attendees. Contact Mark Sihlanick N2QT, Tel: 434-525-2921

Southern Maryland Chapter: We meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Nicolletti's Pizza located at: 22741 Three Notch Road, California, MD 20619 Phone: 301-863-2233. Check out their menu [here](#).

Talk-in on 145.350 (-) PL-156.7

Meet and Eat 6:30 – 7:30, PVRC meeting afterwards.

Contact the Chapter Chair, Tom Shelton, ND3N at GL1800Winger<at>Verizon<dot>net or (240) 434-3811 with any questions

The Tidewater Chapter meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Frankie's Place for Ribs located in the Fairfield Shopping Center on the corner of Kempsville Rd and Providence Rd in Virginia Beach. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Contact either Chapter Chair: Don Lynch, W4YZT, viaw4yzt.don@gmail.com or Ron Young, W8RJL, via w8rjl@arrl.net All Amateurs are invited.

If you'd like to add or correct a listing, contact K3TN for inclusion in the Newsletter!

Now a Word From Our Sponsors

PVRC doesn't ask for dues, but the Club does have expenses. Please donate online [here](#). You can also support the Club by buying from the firms listed who advertise in the newsletter, or by getting your company to sponsor the newsletter!

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- SW TX (300mw 220Mhz)
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- Built-in CTCSS/DCS
- Internet WIRES compatible

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- wideband RX - 900 memories
- SW 2/440, 1.5W 220 MHz TX
- Li-ION Battery • EMI system
- Fully submersible to 3 ft.
- CW trainer built-in

NEW Low Price!

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- 2M Handheld
- Direct Keypad Entry
- 5w output
- 200 memories
- Ultra Rugged

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- Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
- DSP included • 32 color display
- 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

Call for Low Price!



FT-7800R 2M/440 Mobile

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- Weather Alert
- 1000+ Mems
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FT-2000 HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner • built-in Power supply
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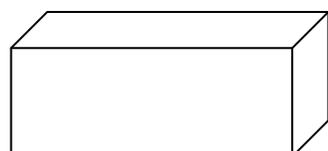
Attention: Contesters

7 Big Problems that are Probably Affecting Your Scores Right Now!

and

How The RF Connection's Mike-Link and
Shure® Legendary Performance™ Broadcast Headsets

Solve them ALL!



Your Radio

← Mic/PTT cable
RX Audio: L/R cable
From Footswitch →



The RF Connection's
Mike-Link

← Headset cable →



Shure BRH440M
Broadcast Headset

Problem #1: Foot Not Near Footswitch, QSO Missed

Solution #1

Use Your Finger Instead!

- Mike-Link finger-touch PTT
- Momentary SPST switch
- Positive tactile feel



Problem #5: Operating CW, you have a "pain in the head" after "Y" hours on-air

Solution #5 - Use Mike-Link

Periodically, Flip the Reverse/Inphase Audio Switch

- Reverses mono audio source for greater listening pleasure



Problem #2: You wear eyeglasses and you have a "pain in the temple" after "X" hours on-air

Problem #3: Brand 'Z' comfortable headset solves problem #2, BUT increases external background noise

Solutions #2 & #3

Use Shure BRH440M
Broadcast Headset

- External background noise isolating
- Closed back—noise isolating
- Gamer-style, circumaural (over-the-ear) ear cup pads



Problem #6: Special microphone is needed for your ICOM radio

Problem #7: External batteries needed when your ICOM-specific headset is used with other radio brands

Solutions #6 & #7

Use Mike-Link & Shure BRH440M

- Built-in, user-selectable, Active ICOM pre-amp
- External power/battery NOT required
- Built-in, user-selectable mic input impedance 2.5K or 10k

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Problem #4: "RF in your mic audio OM!"

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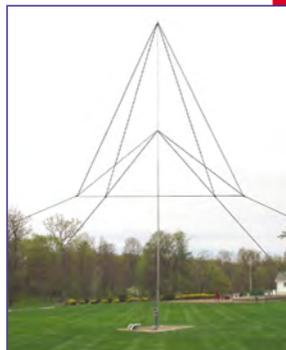
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W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club 43rd Annual

Saturday JULY 4th 2015



Eastern Pennsylvania Section

Convention

&

FIRECRACKER

Electronics Expo and Hamfest

“The Harrisburg PA Electronics Expo and Hamfest”

Harrisburg Area Community College

Fire Training Grounds

3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA

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- ◆ **DXCC & WAS** cards checked on site until **10:00 am**
- ◆ **VE Testing on site at 11:00 am (Pre-registration required. Check www.w3uu.org for details)**

W3UU
146.16/76 MHz
PL 100 Hz

Map on Reverse side
of this flyer

**Special Event
Station
In operation at the
Convention**

General Admission: \$5.00 (Non ham XYL & kids under 12 free)

Tail Gating: \$5.00 per space

Tables: \$12.00 each before June 1
\$15.00 on or after June 1

General Admission: 8:00 AM

Dealer Setup: Hamfest Day 6:00 AM

Prior Day 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (Strictly enforced)

For further information contact:
Web Site: www.w3uu.org

Table Sales
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717-329-1906

General info
Tim Lehman (KB3OZA)
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KB3OZA@arrl.net 717-461-3398

Directions to the Hamfest from rt. 81 (watch for signs):

Located just north of Harrisburg, Pa.

Rt. I-81 to Exit 67 (Follow signs to Farm Show Rt. 22 East)

Follow Rt. 22 about 3000 ft, Turn **RIGHT** at light

Continue on Wildwood Park Drive and road will become Industrial Road. Hamfest / Convention is 3/4 mile on **RIGHT**

3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, Pa 17110

40.303645,-76.888379 (Gate 5)

Represented on this map and picture by the Green B and arrow the "A" is Exit 67



From Rt 83 and points south:

Exit 43 (Second Street, Harrisburg)

Follow ramp to light at Paxton St. and turn **RIGHT**

At next light (Cameron Street) turn **LEFT**

Follow Cameron street to Wildwood Park Drive, at Farm Show, Turn **Left**

Continue and road becomes Industrial Road, Hamfest is $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on **Right**

Mapping/APRS Coordinates

Hamfest: **40.303645,-76.888379**

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S LARGEST

Manassas Hamfest



AMATEUR RADIO & MAKER TECHNOLOGY SHOW

An ARRL-Approved HAMFEST Presented By:

The OLE VIRGINIA HAMS Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

(Featuring Youth Lounge Activities for the Youngsters Attending!)



Sunday, June 14, 2015

Prince William County Fairgrounds

Large Outdoor and Covered Pavillion flea market areas, two indoor air-conditioned buildings, several covered buildings and ample parking

10624 Dumfries Road - Route 234 - Manassas, Virginia -- Talk-In Repeaters on 146.97- and 442.200+

<p>INDOOR EXHIBITOR SPACE 8-foot tables: \$30* each with chairs & electricity (\$25 if reserved by May 1st) <i>Setup 2-10 PM Saturday</i></p>	<p>GENERAL ADMISSION \$10* per person at gate (Age 18 and younger: no charge) (*See web sites for prepayment discounts before 5/31/2015) Gates open at 7 AM</p>	<p>TAILGATING (admission is extra) Outdoor Spaces: \$10* per space Covered Pavillion: \$15 per space (*See web sites for details about online prepayment discounts before 5/31/2015) Gates open at 6 AM</p>
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* Online ticket sales and vendor registration at <http://manassashamfest.org>

For our Most Current Vendor List and Ticket Sales Visit our Web Pages:

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

PRIZES

- Door prizes hourly 9 AM to 1 PM (be present to win)
- Major & Tailgate prizes awarded at 2 PM

INFORMATION

- ARRL Roanoke Division Officers attending
- Virginia Section Manager Forum & other Forums
- 4th Call Area QSL Bureau Representatives
- DXCC QSL Card Checking will be available
- Virginia QSO Party Awards Ceremony
- Check our web pages (below) for the most up-to-date information

ACTIVITIES

- Flea Market & Vendors - all day
- VEC License Exams: 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- "Maker" group technology demonstrations
- ARRL style Youth Lounge programs all day for youngsters - by the OVHARC and 4-H
- D-STAR Operating and Q&A Forum
- Amateur Radio Satellite Forum
- BroadBand Ham Networks ("BBHN") Forum
- Virginia QSO Party Awards and Forum
- More Forums to be announced, check web sites

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

Dealer Info from Ron / N4RDZ: vendors@manassashamfest.org
General Info from Terry / KC4DV: chairman@manassashamfest.org
VE Testing / Exam Information: vetesting@manassashamfest.org