

POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB

President - Fred Laun K3ZO

Vice President - John Pescatore WB2EKK
Secretary - Roger Kaul K3TM

Vice President - Don Daso WA8MAZ
Treasurer - Carl Andersen W3XE

The Potomac Valley Radio Club meets the second Monday of each month, from September through May. All radio amateurs interested in contesting and HF operating are invited to attend and apply for membership. Meetings alternate between Colesville MD and Temple Hills MD. Anyone on the 147.00 repeater can provide directions.

PVRC members have established a packet radio based DX spotting system on 145.59. Try the system out and contact N2FB to support the system

BULLETIN EDITOR

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Packet - @N4QQ

Send me your comments,
articles, opinions, etc.
Deadline: 20th each month.

OCTOBER BULLETIN

DIRECTIONS TO THE OCTOBER PVRC MEETING

Monday 9 October 7:30 PM

**University of Maryland, College
Park, Tawes Building, Room 2154**

Take the Washington Beltway 495 to the Route 1 South, College Park exit. Go south for about two miles and exit Route 1 to the right onto Route 193 University Boulevard West. Go west until the second traffic light and turn left onto Stadium Drive. At the first stop sign, turn right. You are now traveling through a parking lot. At the next stop sign, to your left you will see a building with big white pillars and a sign for parking Lot 1. Park in lot 1, as close to the building to the right of the one with the big white pillars.

The building to the right of the one with the big white pillars is the Tawes building, where the meeting will be held. To the left of that building you will see a door (you will have to walk across a small service road). Go in that door and go up two flights of stairs. Look for room 2154.

If you can't find it, call Don Daso WA8MAZ at 0600Z, its all his fault. 147.00 will be the talk-in frequency.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Here it is October already and that means CQ WW time. With the sunspots at their current level, 10 meters is likely to be a big factor in this year's scores. Its a big band and there appears to be room for everybody. Those of you who read K3LR's article in the latest NCJ, analyzing his performance as compared with the performance of KC1F, will note that the winner, KC1F, had a 221 hour on 28600 at the beginning of the 10 meter European opening and then moved to 28800 plus where he proceeded to average well over 100 for the following four hours. So much for the theory that the best rates are obtained while fighting for 28401.5 or whatever. I have found in the past few years that somewhere between 14250 and 14290 was my most successful run frequency for Europe. Lots of the 10 watters with indoor dipoles across the pond fear to tread in the DX alley further down the band.

At the last meeting Frank W3LPL pointed out that if a station had worked everything put out on packet during last year's CQ WW, and worked nothing else, that station's score would have been 800K points, a fine contribution to the Club effort. So those of you who have packet and don't like to run stations, but would rather move around and call, might consider the category, Single Operator Unlimited. You might work a few new ones for the awards you are

chasing and help the Club in the process.

I'd like to add that the tribute to Len W3GRF in the October QST DX column, as well as in John Dorr's contest column in Q, is certainly well deserved. Len, incidentally, is doing just fine. The arm is already out of the sling and looking pretty normal to me. It looks like it could handle a bug in the contest a couple months from now.

The October is the election meeting, so come, make additional nominations, and vote.

73 and GL, Fred K3ZO

THEY'RE BACK!

Yes, its contest season again. The SSB Worldwide is the last weekend in October. Don't forget that there is a new category this year: Single Op, Unlimited. You can now use packet or other spotting help, and not have to compete with W3LPL or N5AU. This will be a big boon to club scores for those clubs with active packet systems. Of course, all the big clubs have comparable systems... Conditions may be the best ever for the coming contest season, don't miss out. W3LPL, W3GG, and N2FB are all looking for operators if you don't have a station. W3GG is available for any serious single op in the CQ WW SSB. PVRC really increased our total score and our average score per entry in 1988. We should be able to top that in 1989. We had a lot of winners and top tenners in 1989: W3LPL, K4FJ/8P9, N3JT/PZ, K3RV, K3ZO, etc. But it was all the part time and 1M point efforts that helped us increase our score so dramatically.

How did we do at the top of the last sunspot cycle? Well, in the 1978 contest we came in third, behind FRC and YCCC, the same as in 1989. Our total score was 81 million, compared to 90M in 1988. This was during the K1AR reign of terror (he won CW). Len W3GRF came in 6th. On SSB GRF came in 9th. N2AA won both multi-multi contests, with a relative newcomer to the unlimited class, W3LPL, taking 9th on CW and 7th on SSB. Frank WB3AVN, disdaining anything above 4 Mhz as being suitable only for moonbounce, won 80M CW single band. If you read K1AR's contest column in the October CQ Magazine, you saw that the the top winners of

CQ WW Single Op are current or former PVRCers: W4KFC, W3GRF, K1AR, and W3LPL between them have won over 30 percent of all CQ WW contests! PVRC has won almost half of the club competitions. If FRC and YCCC split future WWs, we can live on our past club laurels until the year 2005!

Sweepstakes is also just around the corner. Note that the ARRL will now accept logs on disk for the SS. There is also a new section: WWA Western Washington.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The nominating committee presented its recommendation for officers for 1990. N3RR was nominated as treasurer to replace the retiring W3XE. The committee recommended that all other officers remain the same: K3ZO President, WA8MAZ Vice President, WB2EKK Vice President, and K3TM Secretary. Additional nominations will be accepted at the October election meeting. Thanks to W3XE for many years of exemplary service at the often thankless job of Treasurer.

Fred discussed his attendance at the IARU Region 2 conference, including preparations for the next WARC conference. There may be a recommendation for an expanded 40 meter phone segment, with a band plan for the digital modes currently dominating the 7050 - 7100 segment. Fred will be editing the IARU Region 2 newsletter and will also be part of the CQ WW contest committee, translating rules and announcements into Spanish.

The primary topic at the September meeting was expansion of the Packetcluster system. While the packet system was started by PVRCers, it is now heavily used and funded by DXers. Frank W3LPL and Wayne N2FB have solicited user's opinions on how the system should be enhanced and expanded. There is general agreement on maintaining the system's reliability and stability but there seems to be a significant division between contesters and DXers on whether to try and connect to the FRC cluster.

Since it is mainly PVRCers that are interested (mainly because we know a lot of the Frankforders), Frank has suggested that PVRC provide a one time donation to the Packet system to fund the hardware necessary to connect to FRC. There is some opposition to this, since

many of the people paying PVRC dues will never use the packet system and would potentially be helping to fund it against their wishes. The PVRC two meter repeater controversy of a few years back was used as an example of the divisive effects of such an approach. PVRC's financial commitments to CQ WW and ARRL DX contest plaques also limit the amount of money the club can provide and still put out a bulletin, have a Christmas party, etc.

What do you think? If you are for or against it, let K3ZO, WB2EKK, WA8MAZ, or W3LPL know. We will vote on this at an upcoming meeting. Packet has probably been the biggest factor in the increase in the club's recent DX contest scores (solar flux levels haven't hurt, either!) and has attracted a number of new members. Let us know how you feel or, even better, come to the next meeting!

Jim Talens N3JT talked loquaciously about The DXpedition Foundation, which has been formed as a legal tax exempt entity for the purpose of fostering DXpeditions and radio education. The DXpedition Foundation was formed by N3JT, K3ZO, and W0YVA to provide grants of equipment and funds to DXpeditions. The DXpedition Foundation will raise money for grants by accepting tax deductible donations of equipment or cash. Equipment will be sold by auction if it is not usable for a DXpedition. Jim has asked if auctions could be held periodically at PVRC meetings. This will also be voted upon at an upcoming PVRC meeting. Any feelings out there in radio land? Let Jim or Fred or me know how you feel.

The meeting was attended by K3ZO, WB2EKK, WA8MAZ, WB3JRU, W3LPL, N3RR, N3JT, W3GN, W6AXX, W3XE, K1ZZI, and a bunch of other guys, plus NV3V, KO7V, and K6TMB attended as guests.

CALLSIGN TRIVIA - K3ZO

As I've said in comments elsewhere, it helps me immensely in DX contests to know which callsign combinations are likely to be correct and which are not. Of course, at the rapid pace amateur radio is growing in some areas, those rules of thumb change constantly, and it helps to be active on the bands to become aware of changes. Here by first letter, are rules of thumb that I use when operating contests. I don't have a little sheet with these rules on it, they are just files "upstairs" for future reference. If I omit a first letter in my review, its because the rules of thumb have occasion to be too seldom used (because of lack of activity in the affected areas) to be worth keeping in mind as an operating aid. Here, then, are these rules of thumb. They apply to HF operations only, since we are not taking up VHF operations in this review. Some countries use special callsigns for their VHF licenses.

CONTEST CALENDAR

Oct 7-8	Radio Sport HF
Oct 7-8	Calif QSO Party
Oct 7-8	VK/ZL SSB
Oct 8	RSGB 21/28 MHz
Oct 14-15	Penn QSO Party
Oct 28-29	CQ WW SSB
Nov 5-6	CW Sweepstakes

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "B":

Only BT, BV, BY, and BZ prefixes are possible.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "D": DA, DF, DJ, and DK will almost always have two letter suffixes. The main exceptions are DJ0 and DK0, which frequently have three letter suffixes. The exception that proves the rule is DF1IAF. Don't ask me how he got his call! DH calls will be

found only on 28 Mhz and 3.5 Mhz CW.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "F": Stations operating in France (F, FB, FD, FE, and FF) do not use the numbers 4 or 7 in their calls. Such stations with a 1 or a 6 in their calls will always have three letter suffixes. Such stations with a 2, 3, 5, 8, or 9 in their calls will almost always have two letter suffixes.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "G": The numbers 1, 7, and 9 are not used on HF in prefixes beginning with G, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, and GW stations with a 0 in their calls will always have three letter suffixes, while those with a 5, 6, or 8 in their calls will almost always have two letter suffixes. Don't forget that in the CQ WW contests, GM-Shetlands counts as an additional multiplier.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "H": The HJ (Colombia) prefix will be found only on CW and on 3.5 and 7 Mhz SSB. Except on 28 Mhz, almost all stations using the HG (Hungary) prefix will have a single letter suffix.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "I": Almost all Italian stations are limited to the I, IK, or IO prefixes. The biggest are IN3 and IV3 prefixes, and of course we all know about IT9 and IS0, but the latter doesn't count for Italy anyway in the contests (IT9 counts as a separate multiplier in the CQ WW). Stations with the IK prefix have three letter suffixes only.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "J": The prefixes JB and JC are not used. The Japanese began with the JA prefix, then jumped to JH, and then to JR, before coming back to JE and starting up the line alphabetically from there. Thus, in the less populated call areas, you will not find prefixes near the end of the Japanese allocation block (JA through JS) except for JR. JS6 is the exception, designating newer stations on Okinawa. At this time, I am not aware of any assignments of the following prefixes: JN-JS2, JQ3, JS3, JJ-JQ4, JF5, JG5, JI-JQ5, JS5, JK-JQ6, JJ-JQ7, JS7, JI-JQ8, JS8, JE-JI9, JJ-JQ9, JS9, JF0, JI-JQ0, and JS0. Incidentally, if you ever have a JA pile-up that is so bad that you just can't pull anybody through, the best thing is to say "The JA5, go ahead" or "The JA9, go ahead". These are the two least populated JA call areas, so chances are, given the JAs' noted discipline, you will get only one or two callers if you do that.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "L": All LA three letter suffixes end with A. Only LX1 and LX2 prefixes exist except for occasionally special stations., and LX1 and LX2 stations all have two letter suffixes. The same thing exactly can be said for LZ stations, except that suffixes beginning with K almost always have three letters. In LZ, the standards exceptions to the 1 or 2 in the prefix are LZ5 a, LZ7A, and LZ9A. Other special event stations may exist from time to time.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "O": All OH stations with three letter suffixes have suffixes beginning with M or N, except in OH2 where most of the three letter suffixes begin with B. OF is often used by the OHs in contests. Czech prefixes are normally limited to OK1, OK2, and OK3, with a few OK5 club stations, and special stations OK6DX, OK7AA, and OK7MM being the exceptions. The OL prefix will be found only on 1.8 Mhz generally, but every now and then. the OKs use OL in a contest, generally with a single letter suffix. In Belgium, there are no

assignments of ON1, ON2, ON3, or ON0 prefixes. All ON5, ON6, ON7, and ON8 calls have two letter suffixes, while only ON4 suffixes beginning with A or K have three letters. The only ON9 call is ON9CDX.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "P": Only PA2, PA3, and PA) are assigned. All PA2, and PA3 calls have three letter suffixes. PB prefixes (PB0 only) will be found on 28 Mhz only.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "Q": Definitely a busted call.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "R": The rules of thumb are rapidly disappearing here as the Soviets seem to be imitating us in trying to use all possible prefixes, but you still will not find an RA5 or an RA7 on the air. The RE, RK, RN, RS, and RX prefixes are not normally used. Beyond that, anything beginning with R seems possible these days.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "S": There are no SM8 or SM9 calls. The Swedes do not assign the same suffix to two different hams even if they are in two different call areas. Thus far, they have reached the letter S in their three letter suffix assignments, so you will not find the three letter suffixes beginning with T or above at this time. Exactly the same can be said about the SPs. except that SP8s and SP9s exist, but SP0s are rare. It is an interesting coincidence that the Swedes and the Poles are just about at the same place in assigning three letter suffixes.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "U": Same editorial comments as in "R". No UA5s or UA&s are known to exist, and UE, US, and UX prefixes are not normally used (US0SU and US4P being the rare exceptions). Remember UA9S and UA9W are in CQ Zone 16.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "X": There are only XE1, XE2, and XE3 prefixes in the XE block.

CALLS BEGINNING WITH "Y": Only Indonesian first class hams are allowed twenty meters. They are assigned the YB prefix, with YE as the overflow prefix. Thus, won't find any YCs or YDs on 14 Mhz. The YO0 prefix is not normally assigned, nor are the YU9 or YU0 prefixes. [Remember, East Germans don't seem to use anything above the letter O for the last letter of their suffixes. - EKK]

There are many more rules than these, but these should cover 99% of the cases found in contests.

How I Set The Record Art Boyars K3KU

Its official. According to the September/October 1988 issue of the National Contest Journal, I hold a real contest record. In the Sweepstakes CW - my favorite contest - I hold the record for multi-op in the MDC section, set in 1979. Now, that may not be much, but there is a story that goes with it, and I believe the story teaches some lessons. So, dusting off my memory and my old logs, here goes.

First, a little background because nobody has heard me in a contest for several years. I was never a star, just a good second rank CW contestant. I wasn't going to beat K3EST or W3LPL, but I was good enough to be a regular at the DX multi-ops and to get invited to a pretty good station for SS CW. Which is how I wound up operating the station of the late Dick Price K3RS in November 1979. I used Dick's amplifier and antennas, beams and slopers on a not outlandishly tall tower. I elected to use my old Drake pair instead of Dick's ICOM because I hardly knew how to use a transceiver on CW, and I was comfortable with the Drakes. My T-4X is set up for footswitch spotting which makes it easy to zero beat (What's that, Grandpa?). Besides, I'm the kind of old time CW op who has to hear what he is sending, instead of just a side tone.

Dick got me set up in the shack. He showed me a portable transistorized shortwave radio which had a BFO and could get some of the ham bands. Did I want any help spotting? No, thank you; I'm going to try single op.

I started off pretty good, which means I was making QSOs and I hadn't broken the rotator or fried the amplifier (my big phobia as a guest op). Afternoon rolled on into evening and into night. Dick may have stuck his head in a few times, but eventually he was asleep and I was on my own. Which meant: if you fry the amp now, maybe you can bail out and head for Brazil before the smoke wakes him up. Sometime in the wee hours of the morning, the T-4X began to show signs of its one fatal weakness: the T-R relay began hanging up in transmit. This usually meant that the relay driver tube was going bad, something that always seemed to happen suddenly.

You sure do lose a lot of QSOs when you can't listen to the other guy send. At first, I could get the relay to drop out by whacking the trans-

mitter, but after a while the only way was to switch the power off, wait a moment for the relay to drop out, and switch the power back on. What to do, what to do?

Using the ICOM was out, because I had no idea how to hook it up and I wouldn't wake Dick. Aha! Home QTH neighbor Ken Wagner K3IU (remember the biggest multi-multi in Olney, MD with its maximum points per linear foot of tower?) was sort of operating in the contest, too and he had a spare T-4XB. If I could only hold out until a reasonable hour of the morning, I could telephone Ken and borrow his spare. Well, the log shows that I stopped operating at 0215 local time. I don't remember if I caught Ken on the air (unlikely) or called him at 4 AM (not quite unbelievable), but I drove 20 or 30 minutes to his house, grabbed the spare transmitter, drove back to Dick's, and got going again about 0500, hoping that I could somehow squeeze enough QSOs out of Sunday to keep my score respectable.

I was plugging along Sunday afternoon with about 800 QSOs and 73 sections (there were only 74, then). At 2215Z Dick's vice boomed out of the house intercom box behind me: "VE6ASI on twenty one zero ..." Man, oh man, did I want that VE6. I had never made a clean sweep, except the year I copied the KL7's call wrong and had it deleted. But I was a single op. What to do, what to do?

I could zip up to 15 meters and work him, maybe make one or two other QSOs first so it would look like a natural band change. Or I could try not to be influenced, and just hope I found a VE6 later on by myself. But, I wasn't going only for my own glory. I was also participating for PVRC. It took just a few seconds to make the first decision. Up to 15 meters, work the VE6. But the moral dilemma remained. What to do, what to do?

Children, there was no moral dilemma. Unlike a lot of real life, the contest rules are clear, and you are a voluntary participant. I continued to work as hard as I could so the Club's score would be maximized. I finished up with 906 QSOs and a sweep for 134,088 points, not even my personal best. I filled out the summary sheet as "Multioperator Station: K3KU plus spotter", knowing that the intercom is the same as an extra op sitting next to me is the same as an extra op on the other end of my two meter box. When the rules are clear there is no

point in trying to stretch them. That's my first lesson.

My second lesson is that contesting is fun. You can enjoy it even if you don't have the "I wouldn't enter if I didn't think I could win" personality. Each of us has to understand what it is we want out of the things we do. That's the only way we can maintain some balance in our lives. Remember, this is a hobby. Contesting has less and less to do with real life as station hardware and contest expeditions escalate.

My kids are now six years old. My only progress toward QRV has been getting a messenger line over the tree in the small back yard. By next year I may have an antenna up, and we'll see how much the old Drake pair smokes when they get turned on for the first time in seven years. I'm gonna get on in some contests. I'll play by the rules. I'm not gonna beat anybody who tries halfway hard, but I'm gonna have fun.

73 ES CU IN TEST - ART

PVRC DUES

If your mailing label has "1988" highlighted on it, you are currently behind in your dues. N3RR will be by shortly to repossess your memory keyer. PVRC dues are \$5.00 for members out of the PVRC local area, and \$10.00 for local members. The dues go towards producing the bulletin, sponsoring CQ WW and ARRL DX plaques, the Christmas party, and PVRC plaques. Send your dues to N3RR.

Year



World Wide DX Contest

Last Full Weekend of October (Phone) & November (CW)



Call Sign

Country

Mode:

☐ Phone☐ Single Op., All Band☐ Multi-Op. Single Transmitter☐ QRPp [5W or Less]☐ CW☐ Single Op. ____ MHz☐ Multi-Op. Multi-Transmitter☐ ____ Single Op, Unlimited

QSO's (minus duplicates)		QSO Points	Zone Multiplier	Country Multiplier	Score	
1.8 MHz	→		X	+	=	1.8 MHz
3.5 MHz	→		X	+	=	3.5 MHz
7.0 MHz	→		X	+	=	7.0 MHz
14 MHz	→		X	+	=	14 MHz
21 MHz	→		X	+	=	21 MHz
28 MHz	→		X	+	=	28 MHz
All Bands	→		X	+	=	All Bands

How to score: QSO Points X (Zones + Countries) = FINAL SCORE

EXAMPLE: 1000 QSO Points X (30 Zones + 70 Countries) = 100,000 points

Station Description: _____

Antenna(s) _____

Operators _____

Remarks (Biggest thrill in Contest, funniest story, comments, etc.) _____

Club Competition / Minimum 3 logs Potomac Valley Radio Club

This is to certify that in this contest I have operated my transmitter within the limitations of my license and have observed fully the rules and regulations of the contest.

TYPE or PRINT

Signature _____

Name _____

Call _____

Address _____

City _____

State or Country _____

Zip _____

Logs must be postmarked no later than December 1st for PHONE and January 15th for CW. Indicate PHONE or CW on envelope.

Mail all logs to the appropriate addresses indicated in the current contest rules. Do not mail logs to CQ Headquarters.

Note: Duplicate QSO's can mean disqualification!

242-1002 279 5/11
CQ Form 1057B 1980

Prefix - Zone - Continent - Beam Heading from Washington DC - PVRC

A2.. 38 af 183	FR.. 39 af 080	K**.. 03-05 na	S2.. 22 as 013	V2.. 08 na 145	Y2.. 14 eu 045	5A.. 34 af 064
A3.. 32 oc 256	FR/G 39 af 077	all around	S7.. 39 af 064	V3.. 07 na 208	YA.. 21 as 028	5B.. 20 as 051
A4.. 21 as 042	FR/J 39 af 085	KC4.. Antarctica	69.. 36 af 094	V4.. 08 na 147	YB.. 28 oc 354	5H.. 37 af 079
A5.. 22 as 014	FR/T 39 af 076	KC6.. E Caroline	SM.. 14 eu 036	V8.. 28 oc 343	YI.. 21 as 046	5N.. 35 af 091
A6.. 21 as 045	FS.. 08 na 147	27 oc 305	SP.. 15 eu 042	VE** 01-05 na	YJ.. 32 oc 271	5R.. 39 af 084
A7.. 21 as 046	FW.. 32 oc 265	KC6.. W Caroline	ST.. 34 af 066	302-055	YK.. 20 as 050	5T.. 35 af 094
A9.. 21 as 046	FY.. 09 sa 141	27 oc 321	ST0.. 34 af 074	VK.. 30 oc 261	YN.. 07 na 200	5U.. 35 af 086
AP.. 21 as 032		KG4.. 08 na 176	SU.. 34 af 056	6,8 29 oc 301	YO.. 20 eu 047	5V.. 35 af 093
	G... 14 eu 050	KH1.. 31 oc 276	SV.. 20 eu 054	VK9.. Lord Howe	YS.. 07 na 207	5W.. 32 oc 262
BV.. 24 as 342	GD.. 14 eu 047	KH2.. 27 oc 315	SV5.. 20 eu 053	30 oc 262	YU.. 15 eu 049	5X.. 37 af 077
BY.. 24 as 350	GI.. 14 eu 047	KH3.. 31 oc 285	SV9.. 20 eu 055	VK9M Mellish	YV.. 09 sa 160	5Z.. 37 af 076
23 as 007	GJ.. 14 eu 053	KH4.. 31 oc 298	SV/A Mt Athos	30 oc 280	YV0.. 08 na 150	
	GM.. 14 eu 045	KH5.. 31 oc 272	20 eu 052	VK9N 32 oc 260		6W.. 35 af 098
C2.. 31 oc 285	GM** Shetlands	KH5K 31 oc 273		VK9X 30 oc 356	Z2.. 38 af 093	6Y.. 08 na 180
C3.. 14 eu 059	14 eu 039	KH6.. 31 oc 282	T2.. 31 oc 272	VK9Y 29 oc 014	ZA.. 15 eu 053	
C5.. 35 af 098	GU.. 14 eu 053	KH7.. 31 oc 300	T30.. 31 oc 284	VK9Z 30 oc 286	ZB.. 14 eu 069	7D.. 21 as 059
C6.. 08 na 183	GW.. 14 eu 050	KH8.. 32 oc 261	T31.. 31 oc 269	VK0.. Antarctica	ZD7.. 36 af 114	7P.. 38 af 106
C9.. 37 af 100		KH9.. 31 oc 302	T32.. 31 oc 266	VK0.. Heard Isl	ZD8.. 36 af 114	7Q.. 37 af 088
CE.. 12 sa 175	HA.. 28 oc 285	KH0.. 27 oc 315	T5.. 37 af 067	39 af 136	ZD9.. 38 af 134	7X.. 33 af 065
CE9AA-AM Antarc	HA.. 15 eu 048	KL7.. 01 na 322	T7.. 15 eu 054	VK0.. Macquarie	ZF.. 08 na 193	
CE9AN-AZ SoShet	HB.. 14 eu 052	KP1.. 08 na 176	TA.. 20 eu 049	30 oc 226	ZK1.. No Cook	8J.. 39 Antarc
CE0A 12 sa 210	HB0.. 14 eu 051	KP2.. 08 na 150	(TA2=asia)	VP2E 08 na 147	32 oc 258	8P.. 08 na 145
CE0X 12 sa 183	HC.. 10 sa 183	KP4.. 08 na 154	TF.. 40 eu 033	VP2M 08 na 146	ZK1.. So Cook	8Q.. 22 as 039
CE0Z 12 sa 183	HC8.. 10 sa 201	KP5.. 08 na 156	TG.. 07 na 210	VP2V 08 na 150	32 oc 249	8R.. 09 sa 148
CN.. 33 af 072	HH.. 08 na 168	KX6.. 31 oc 293	TI.. 07 na 195	VP5.. 08 na 164	ZK2.. 32 oc 257	
CO.. 08 na 199	HI.. 08 na 162		TI9.. 07 na 198	VP8.. Antarctica	ZK3.. 31 oc 266	9G.. 35 af 094
CP.. 10 sa 170	HK.. 09 sa 175	LA.. 14 eu 037	TJ.. 36 af 088	VP8.. Falklands	ZL.. 32 oc 243	9H.. 15 eu 060
CT.. 14 eu 068	HK0.. 07 na 191	LU.. 13 sa 165	TK.. 15 eu 057	13 sa 168	ZL5.. 30 Antarc	9J.. 36 af 093
CT2.. 14 eu 075	HK0.. Malpelo	LU#ZA So Orkney	TL.. 36 af 083	VP8.. So Georgia	ZL7.. 32 oc 237	9K.. 21 as 046
CT3.. 33 af 078	09 sa 188	LU#ZC 13 Antarc	TM.. 36 af 092	13 sa 158	ZL8.. 32 oc 252	9L.. 35 af 100
CX.. 13 sa 163	HL.. 25 as 341	LU#ZS So Shet	TR.. 36 af 092	VP8.. So Orkney	ZL9.. 32 oc 230	9M2.. 28 as 003
CY9.. 05 na 063	HP.. 07 na 186	LU#ZY So Sand	TT.. 36 af 079	VP8.. So Sand	ZP.. 11 sa 161	9M6,9M8
CY0.. 05 na 051	HR.. 07 na 203	LX.. 14 eu 050	TU.. 35 af 097	VP8.. So Shet	ZS.. 38 af 115	28 oc 346
	HS.. 26 as 003	LZ.. 20 eu 050	TY.. 35 af 092	VP9.. 05 na 121	ZS1A 38 Antarc	9N.. 22 as 017
D2.. 36 af 097	HV.. 15 eu 056		TZ.. 35 af 093	VQ9.. 39 af 050	ZS2M139 af 122	9Q.. 36 af 092
D4.. 35 af 101	HZ.. 21 as 050	OA.. 10 sa 180		VR6.. 32 oc 227	ZS3.. 38 af 106	9U.. 36 af 082
D6.. 39 af 080		OD.. 20 as 051	UA1,3,4,6,9S,9W	VSG.. 24 as 349		9V.. 28 as 359
DL.. 14 eu 048	I... 15 eu 056	OE.. 15 eu 048	16 eu 033	VU.. 22 as 024	1A.. 15 eu 056	9X.. 36 af 081
DJ.. 27 oc 339	(33 IG, IH)	OH.. 15 eu 033	UA10 Franz Josef	VU7.. Andamans	1S.. 26 oc 349	9Y.. 09 sa 150
	IM, IS15 eu 059	OJ0.. 15 eu 035	40 eu 009	26 as 013		
EA.. 14 eu 064	IT** 15 eu 059	OK.. 15 eu 047	UA2.. 15 eu 040	VU7.. Laccadives	3A.. 14 eu 056	/A.. Abu Ail
EAG.. 14 eu 062		ON.. 14 eu 049	UA8,9,0 except	22 as 036	3B6.. 39 af 069	21 as 060
EAB.. 33 af 083	J2.. 37 af 062	OR.. Antarctica	9S,9W		3B8.. 39 af 078	
EAG.. 33 af 069	J3.. 08 na 150	OX.. 40 na 030	17 as 021	XE.. 06 na 231	3B9.. 39 af 072	Antarctica 180
EI.. 14 eu 049	J5.. 35 af 099	OY.. 14 eu 037	18 as 008	XF4.. 06 na 247	3C.. 36 af 090	zones 12,13,29
EL.. 35 af 101	J6.. 08 na 145	OZ.. 14 eu 042	19 as 340	XT.. 35 af 090	3C0.. 36 af 096	30,32,38,39
EP.. 21 as 040	J7.. 08 na 146		23 as 005	XU.. 26 as 358	3D2.. 32 oc 265	
ET.. 37 af 066	J8.. 08 na 148		UB.. 16 eu 040	XV.. 26 as 357	3D6.. 38 af 102	So Orkney
	JA.. 25 as 331	P2.. 28 oc 295	UC.. 16 eu 038	XW.. 26 as 001	3V.. 33 af 061	13 sa 165
F... 14 eu 052	JD.. Minami Tor	PA.. 14 eu 047	UD.. 21 as 038	XX.. 24 as 349	3X.. 35 af 100	So Sand
FB0W 39 af 118	27 oc 314	PJ1-4,9	UF.. 21 as 040	XZ.. 26 as 008	3Y.. 38 af 141	13 sa 155
FB0X 39 af 125	JD.. Ogasawara	09 sa 164	UG.. 21 as 041		3Y.. Antarctica	So Shet
FB0Y 30 Antarc	27 as 324	PJ5-8	UH.. 17 as 035	ua8 zone 18		13 sa 170
FB0Z 39 af 095	JT.. 23 as 358	08 na 147	UI.. 17 as 025		4K1.. Antarctica	
FG.. 08 na 146	JW.. 40 eu 015	PY.. 11 sa 147	UJ.. 17 as 026	ua9a-g,j-n,q,r,x	4K1.. So Shet	*****
FH.. 39 af 080	JW** Bear Isl.	PY0.. Fernando	UL.. 17 as 019	zone 17	4S.. 22 as 031	* POTOMAC *
FK.. 32 oc 268	40 eu 019	11 sa 126	UM.. 17 as 021		4U#ITU ITU Geneva	* VALLEY *
FM.. 08 na 146	JX.. 40 eu 025	PY0.. St Paul	UN** 16 eu 029	ua9h,o,p,u,v,y,z,	14 eu 054	* RADIO *
FO.. 32 oc 246	JY.. 20 as 052	11 sa 119	UO.. 16 eu 044	ua0a,b,o,p,s-w	4U#UN New York	* CLUB *
FO.. Clipperton		PY0.. Trindade	UP.. 15 eu 039	zone 18	05 na 049	*****
07 na 234		11 sa 134	UQ.. 15 eu 037		4U#VIC** Vienna	
FP.. 05 na 055	** Counts as a	PZ.. 09 sa 144	UR.. 15 eu 034	ua0c-n,q,r,x,z	15 eu 048	(C) Copyright 1985
	multiplier in	R(all) see U	ut,uy ub	zone 19	4W.. 21 as 058	
	CQ contests		uv,uw,uz ua	ua0y zone 23	4X.. 20 as 052	W McGugan W3FG

Continued from page 6

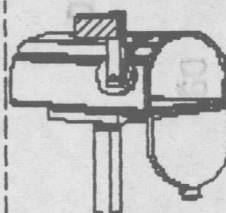
66 156.375 160.925
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79A 156.975 156.975
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80A 157.025 157.025
81 157.075 161.675
81A 157.075 157.025

82 157.125 161.725
83 157.175 156.175 OR 161.775
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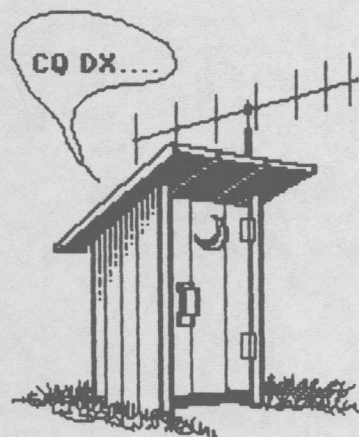
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Newsletter - October, 1989

MRC TO HOST MINI-FEST

On Sunday, October 8th, we will host a mini-fest on the parking lot in the rear of our store. There will be lots of tailgating space available, and the store will be open from 9 AM to 4 PM for your convenience. We will provide the parking lot, you bring whatever else you need to show your treasures. There is no charge for tailgating and no charge to attend. Come one, come all. If the results of this mini-fest dictate, we may make it a monthly affair. Please help keep the area neat, pick up your trash...

Callsigns issued as of Sep 1st.

Extra - AB4QF - NW3C

Advanced - KM4X1 - KD3OS

Tech/Gen - N4WTV - N3HLK

Novice - KC4MFK - KA3VCY

HELP WANTED

MRC has both full and part time positions available in sales and service. See Jerry for more details.

QSLing: METHODS, MYTHS, ECONOMICS AND EXPERIENCES
By Chris Smith NR3O

I "read the mail" and the ham rags about QSLing all the time--"Use greenstamps... Go through the bureau.. Send an SASE..." But, which methods are most effective? What receipt rate can you really expect? How much does it really cost to get that award? There are many opinions, suggestions, and ideas around, but little "hard" data. I recently hit 1000 cards sent since I began tracking such things with my homebrew database programs, I began wondering if any conclusions could be drawn from this sample. After some simple math, I found the analysis interesting and worth sharing.

But before my moot conclusions, a few words on how I QSL. I hunt states, counties, countries, continents, oblasts, prefixes, and X-10 numbers. For me, getting a card is all important. My database programs allow me to sort my log and dump standings for each award. Basically, when I work one I need the print-outs show it, and I send a card. The methods I have used, and kept records on, include: the [ARRL outgoing QSL] bureau, "greenstamps", IRC's, direct mail, and SASE's. I need and recommend all the good advice around on QSLing. Among which is:

1. Try to use a card design that:
 - is distinctive, yet not confusing or insulting (to foreigners)
 - has all data on one side (cheaper to print and preferred by managers)
 - is lightweight but meets postal standards.
 - is standard size (some foreign PO's trash the non-standard ones).
2. Fill the card out neatly and do not mark-over errors (use a new card)
3. Use UTC time and date with Roman numeral for the month (ever try to read a month in Russian?).
4. Ask for, then record, and use the method/route your contact tells you (QSL info is also available in the ham rags, newsletters, and on nets).
5. Record all incoming and outgoing cards to avoid future mix-ups.
6. Send the card as soon as possible after the contact.
7. Be patient.

Number 4 is, by far, the toughest. Ever try to get QSL info from a contester or a 40 WPM CW station in a pile-up? (I've found tape recording works well in the latter case.) Luckily, really rare ones advertise QSL info both on- and off-the-air. But most of my contacts are not rare, and I'm often either too excited, lazy, tired, or QRM'd to ask for the info during the contact. If you don't have the info, knowing the likely success rates of various methods should help you decide how to go. My numbers are interesting, though their interpretation may be somewhat subjective.