

# POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB

est. 1947

**President - Fred Laun K3ZO**

**Vice President - John Pescatore WB2EKK**

**Secretary - Roger Kaul K3TM**

**Vice President - Don Daso WA8MAZ**

**Treasurer - Bill Hider N3RR**

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 College Park and Temple Hills MD. Anyone on the 147.00 repeater can provide directions or other information.

PVRC members have established a packet radio based DX spotting system on 145.51 (WØYVA), .57 (N2FB), .59 (W3LPL), and .63.(K3NA). Try it out and contact KN3P to support the system.

## BULLETIN EDITOR

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Send me your comments  
articles, opinions, etc.

Deadline: 20th each month.

## October Bulletin

### **DIRECTIONS TO THE OCTOBER PVRC MEETING**

**Monday 8 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**

This is my final editorial as President of the Potomac Valley Radio Club. I want to thank the members for the confidence they have displayed in me, and to wish my successor, whoever he or she may be, well. I will not be around to pass the gavel to them, as my annual trek to Thailand coincides with the election meeting.

In summing up the past two years, I do not believe I did nearly as well as I should have at the helm of this organization. To do a really adequate job as PVRC President required more time than I was willing to give it. Unfortunately, the successors to this Board of Directors will find that most of the long-term problems have been saved for them, for which I apologize. I wish them well, and at the same time thank the rest of my team for their support.

To change the subject, how about those five days of solar flux values in excess of 300? Maybe this cycle isn't ready to give up yet. With the CQ WW coming up, it would be difficult to imagine better conditions than we had last year, but with the general level of solar activity still high, they should be good anyway. A single-operator all-band entrant like myself will still have a lot of choices to make which could be crucial to the score. A far cry from the solar-flux-of-66 days when sometimes it was hard to find any band open.

I am taking with me to Thailand a floppy with K1EA CT 6.14b on it, in order to try to coax more activity out of Zone 26. I will be back in time to crash the pileups from this end,

but word has it that K3TW may be passing through Thailand just about the time the CQ WW SSB is in progress. Look for HS0AC and HS0AIT. See you when I get back!

73 de Fred K3ZO

## SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

The Gaithersburg meeting was a roaring success, and will be an annual event from now on. PVRC had a table in Building 2, eliciting a lot of interest from prospective members and a meeting point for the largest group of PVRCers assembled in a long time, including: WA8MAZ, WB2EKK, WØYVA, K3RV, K3RT, WD3I, W3GG, K3NA, KN3T, N3GB, KA3UBJ, W3IDT, KD3IY, N3JT, KM4YY, AA4XU, W3ZN, KC3EK, AA4UJ, KA1GD, NB3A, WB3FSB, KC3D, W3ZZ, N4MM, NV3V, W3AZ, W4JVN, N4NW, KZ3H, K3DI, KT3Y, KX3Q, W4RW, KB3HH, K6IR, N3AM, W3IUU, K3YGU, KT4W, K3SKE, KE3Q, W3GNQ, N3RR, K3WX, W3GN, W3ABC, N3AOE, W6AXX, K7GPD, W3HWM, K8OQL, WB3JRU, K1DQV, W3LPL, W3EKT, and probably others that my scribbled notes missed. Also attending as a guest was AA5DX from the North Texas Contest Club.

The regular meeting the next day had a good turnout and an interesting program, as reported by N3RR. W9LT is back from his /IØ status and should be contributing to the Club's score this season. K3RV is also back and discussed his experiences living and contesting from the unstable EL environment. K1ZZI discussed his trip to the USSR (Ralph will present a video on his trip at the October meeting. We will also see K3NA's latest DXpedition, and the video "To Win The World". Don't miss it!).

W3LPL suggested that the Club commemorate Samuel Morse's 100 birthday by setting up a special event station communicating from Washington to Baltimore. In good DC fashion, a committee of W3LPL, N3AOE, WB3JRU, and W6AXX was formed to look into the matter and report back with a plan. K3ZO explained how he uses CT to track member's attendance at meetings. Each meeting is a band, by doing a dupe check Fred can see if your call comes up at least twice, etc. Fred is now working on filing

his income taxes electronically using CT in the single-op, long term capital gains mode.

Jeff W12T was unanimously voted into PVRC membership at the September meeting, as well. The next meeting will be 8 October in College Park, featuring the aforementioned video programs, plus N3RR will bring a portable computer and latest versions of CT 6.14 and the CQWW .cty file will be available to those who bring disks. Bill can support both 5.25 and 3" disks.

## THEY'RE BACK!!

Yes, its contest season again. In the 1989/1990 DX contest season, PVRC came in third after FRC and YCCC in each contest. We had an excellent showing in the CQ WW contests, although our limited number of DXpeditions seriously hurt our totals. In the 1989 WW contests, we really had a lot of good 400K plus efforts to go along with the big scores like W3LPL, K3NA, K3ZO, etc. Guys like AA4UJ, K3SA, W3FG, put in efforts that really build the Club's total. W3UJ had a 1M+ effort. K4FPF, N4MO, K6ETM, and N3JT also had 100K+ efforts.

K3YGU, K3DI, and K3TM had big multi-single efforts, with KE3Q, WB3JRU, N3II, N3RR, W3AZ, W3YY, K1ZZI, and KX3Q all contributing in the new single-op assisted category. If you are a heavy packet-cluster

user, try out single-opping plus packet running the K1EA CT software. WB2EKK, WB3JRU, or N3RR can all help you get it running. Once you do, you'll find it addictive.

In the ARRL DX contest, we actually slipped down in entrants and score from 1989. Some of the score drop is due to CW weekend conditions, but there was a definite drop in people getting on and sending in logs. Interesting statistic, PVRC had someone in the top ten of every single op-category: K3ZO (single-op all band US, both CW and SSB), N3JT/HKØ (second, DX CW), K1DQV/KP2 (sixth, DX phone), K3SA (tenth, single-op assisted CW), W3USS (WB2EKK, ninth, single-op assisted SSB).

## CONTEST CALENDAR

October 6-7	California QSO Party
October 6-7	VK/ZL SSB
October 13-14	VK/ZL CW
October 14	RSGB 21/28 Mhz SSB
October 21	OMARC Midnite Spec.
October 21	RSGB 21 Mhz CW
<b>October 27-28</b>	<b>CQ WW SSB</b>
<b>November 3-5</b>	<b>Sweepstakes CW</b>

OLD CALL	NEW CALL		OLD CALL	NEW CALL
WA3HRV	N2FB		W4KXV	K3RA
WA3TOE	K3RV		W4ESK	KA1GD
W3BQV	N8II		W3MCG	N3II
KØDX	KT3Y		WA3DSD	N4RP
K1LPL	W3LPL		WB1ALW	W7RM
WA3KCY	W4BVV		WA2CAL	W3GG
WA2ROZ	N3GB		K3GJD	K3NA
WB4SGV	NW5E		W3FCF	KE3Q
WB8IJW	W3ZZ		W3CRE	W3FA

### Who the Heck Is Who?

Remember this quiz in QST when everyone was getting the strange new callsigns? How well can you match up these prominent PVRcers with their old callsigns? Thanks to Paul KS1G for the information.

#### FROM THE ARRL LETTER

An all-Finnish team will invade the Caribbean island of Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles for the 1990 CQ Worldwide DX Contest. 55 operators and 40 support personnel will occupy both the Coral Cliff Hotel (a long-time Amateur Radio haven) as well as clear out acres of brush adjacent to the hotel in order to set up additional stations in construction trailers.

Radio Team Finland will sign PJ9W on SSB for the phone contest the last weekend of October, and PJ9A on CW at the end of November. Towers and antennas are currently being assembled and tested in Finland by OH6RM before shipment to the island. They will include a wire beam on 160 meters, a 3-element Yagi on 80 and stacked Yagi arrays on 40-10 meters. Rigs will be 15 Yaesu FT-1000s, with amplifiers.

October QST will announce new awards for November Sweepstakes participants. Make 100 or more contacts on either CW or phone, send two dollars and an SASE along

with your SS entry, and you'll get a special pin in return. The pins will be dated each year, making them unique. The SS announcement also will contain new specified band segments for slow speed CW (up to 13 wpm).

On July 26 the U.S. Department of State announced that the United States government has recognized the Republic of Yemen, formed by the union of the former Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The names to be used for this nation are Yemen (short form) and Republic of Yemen (long). ARRL's DXCC branch has asked that NO QSLs be submitted for either the former or current Yemen(s) until DXCC status of the new country is determined.

## **ANNOUNCING THE OMARC 25TH ANNIVERSARY MIDNIGHT SPECIAL**

**SPONSORED BY:** OVERLOOK MOUNTAIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
(OMARC) - KINGSTON, NEW YORK

**DATE:** OCTOBER 21, 1990 (UTC)

**TIME:** 0300 TO 0500 (UTC)

**BANDS:** 40 METER CW (0300 TO 0400 UTC)  
75 METER SSB (0400 TO 0500 UTC)

**EXCHANGE:** OMARC MEMBERS PAST AND PRESENT SEND THEIR  
NAME AND "OMARC". ALL OTHERS SEND THEIR  
NAME AND COUNTY.

**EXAMPLE:** W2XI. WOULD SEND: "BOB OMARC".  
K6LL. WOULD SEND: "DAVE YUMA".

**VALID QSO:** ANY OTHER AMATEUR RADIO STATION AS LONG  
AS HE GIVES YOU THE REQUESTED INFORMATION.  
ONLY ONE QSO PER STATION PER BAND/MODE IS  
ALLOWED. PLEASE REMOVE YOUR DUPLICATE  
CONTACTS.

**SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:** 7030 TO 7050 KHZ ON CW  
7130 TO 7150 KHZ (NOVICE)  
3830 TO 3880 KHZ ON SSB

**CLUB COMPETITION:** WRITE THE NAME OF THE RADIO CLUB YOU BE-  
LONG TO ON THE SUMMARY SHEET FOR A CLUB  
TOTAL LISTING. YOU MUST ACTUALLY BE A  
MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THIS CLUB.

**SPECIAL AWARDS:** SINCE THIS IS THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF  
OMARC, WE WILL AWARD AN OMARC T-SHIRT TO  
EACH OF THE TOP THREE MIXED MODE FINISHERS.  
A FOURTH T-SHIRT WILL BE AWARDED TO A STA-  
TION OUTSIDE THE TOP THREE THAT WORKS THE  
MOST DIFFERENT OMARC STATIONS. PAST AND  
PRESENT OMARC MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO  
WIN A T-SHIRT.

**REPORTING:** DEADLINE FOR REPORTING IS DECEMBER 1, 1990.  
SEND LOGS, DUPE SHEETS, BAND/MODE TOTALS,  
AND A STATEMENT OF HONORABLE AND FAIR  
COMPETITION TO W2XI. WHO IS OK IN ANY  
CALLBOOK OR:

BOB SCHIWENK - W2XI  
133 CLIFTON AVENUE  
KINGSTON, NY, 12401

**RESULTS:** THE RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NA-  
TIONAL CONTEST JOURNAL (NCJ).

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:** K5NA, PO BOX 88, COTTEKILL, NY, 12419  
TELEPHONE: 914-687-9700 (HOME NUMBER)

\*\*This information is courtesy of NASA/MSF report of September 1990

\*\* RECENT MONTHLY MEAN SOLAR ACTIVITY INDICES

		Ottawa Observed Solar Flux $F_{10.7}$	Geomagnetic Index $A_p$
1988	January	108.0	13
	February	105.0	15
	March	114.9	14
	April	122.7	16
	May	115.2	12
	June	139.4	11
	July	152.7	10
	August	154.2	10
	September	152.5	12
	October	169.8	13
	November	156.2	12
	December	199.8	13
1989	January	235.4	19
	February	222.4	15
	March	205.1	41
	April	189.6	23
	May	190.1	16
	June	239.6	17
	July	181.9	8
	August	217.1	20
	September	225.9	17
	October	208.7	21
	November	235.1	19
	December	213.0	16
1990	January	210.1	14
	February	178.3	23
	March	188.8	23
	April	185.3	27
	May	189.7	16
	June	170.9	16
	July	180.7	15*
	August	221.6*	19*

Flux in units of  $10^4$  JANSKY (where one JANSKY equals  $10^{-26}$  watts  $M^{-2} Hz^{-1}$  Bandwidth)

\* Provisional

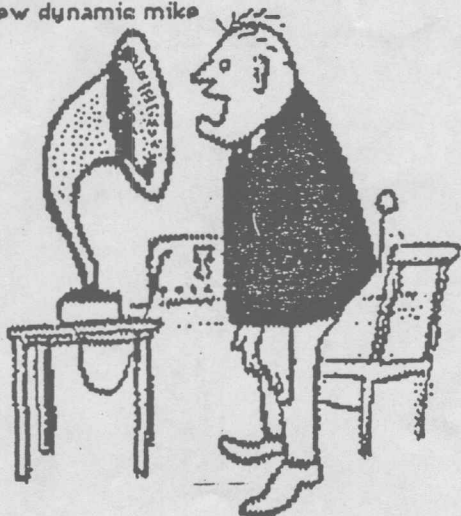
\*\*\* This information is courtesy of NBS/NIST Time & Frequency Div., Sept '90

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FALL 1990 ECLIPSE OPERATIONS FOR GOES/EAST:

Due to the current use of an older satellite, GOES-2, as GOES/East, the GOES/East time code will have to be shifted from GOES-2 to GOES-7 temporarily for two hours each day during the Eclipse season. Beginning on 7 August, the GOES/East time code will be shifted to GOES-7 at 98° West longitude from 0300-0500 UTC each day until 29 September. Satellite position data transmitted from GOES/East during these periods will be approximately correct for GOES-7 and should not cause large errors in receivers that correct for satellite position. Some users may experience loss of signal during these periods, however, unless antennas are repointed appropriately.

New dynamic mike



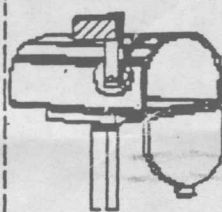
### Service turnaround minimal

Our service department has caught up with demand and is presently taking only one or two days to get to your radio. If we have to order parts, it could be longer, but generally one or

two days from the date you drop it off, you can expect to hear from us.

Effective immediatly.....

We cannot do estimates for repairs which are less than \$60.00. It is just too time consuming to do an estimate because we have to diagnose the problem just as if we were going to repair it. If the repair is less than \$60.00 we will fix it without an estimate.

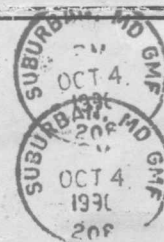


Sure.. Put a copy of this sucker in my mailbox each month. Here's five bucks for a years' subscription.

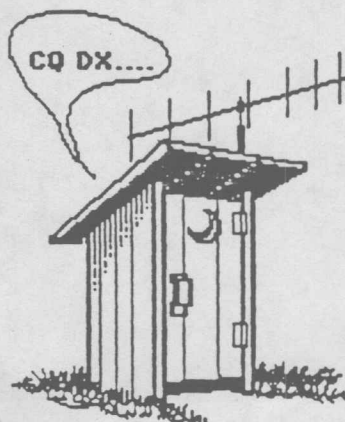
I'm \_\_\_\_\_

And my address is \_\_\_\_\_

John Pescatore WB2EKK  
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Silver Spring, MD 20905



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