

# POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB

est. 1947

## DECEMBER 1991 NEWSLETTER

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - WA8MAZ DON DASO (301) 702-2059  
VICE PRESIDENT - N3JT JIM TALENS (301) 241-1144  
SECRETARY - AA4XU BEN SHAVER (703) 534-4740  
TREASURER - N3RR BILL HIDER (301) 424-2707

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The Potomac Valley Radio Club meets the second Monday of each month, from September through May. Regular business meetings alternate between Northern Virginia and Temple Hills, MD. For directions to the next meeting, see below. Or call any club officer.

**PVRC CHARTER MEMBERS:** W3GRF, W3IKN, W4AAV (SK), W4KFC (SK), W4KFT, N0FFZ, W4LUE, W7YS, VP2VI (W0DX).

Charter Members are not required to pay dues.

**VHF Repeater (K3WX):** Output 147.00 MHz., Input 146.40 MHz.

**UHF Repeater (K3WX):** Output 443.15 MHz., Input 448.15 MHz.

### Packet Cluster Contest/DX System:

145.51 MHz. Connect to W0YVA  
145.57 MHz. Connect to N2FB  
145.59 MHz. Connect to W3LPL  
145.63 MHz. Connect to K3NA  
147.525 MHz. Connect to N4SR

### Next Meeting:

Date: 13 January 1992  
Place: Dolley Madison Library  
1244 Oak Ridge Avenue  
McLean VA 22101  
Tel: (703) 356-0770  
Time: 1930 Hours EST

OVER-THE-HILL Division  
(Contact W3GRF for details)

Check with the packet cluster or the repeater for last minute changes, if any.

### DIRECTIONS TO MCLEAN MEETING:

Take the Capital Beltway to Route 123 North (head inside the Beltway). Go two miles, cross Old Dominion Drive, and make the first left onto Ingleside Avenue. Go two blocks to Oak Ridge and make the left into the library parking lot. The meeting room has a separate entrance from the main part of the library.

Many thanks to Tony Faiola, K3WX, for use of his copier for publishing this Newsletter.

Editor: Fred Laun, K3ZO (301) 899-1235

Production and Circulation Manager: Howard Leake, W6AXX (410) 465-7008

Club Historian: Lawrence T. Fadner, W3GN (301) 725-1624

News Deadline: 20th each month.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

This marks the end of my term as PVRC President, and the end of things is always a time for reflection and looking back. I believe we've accomplished a great deal. There's been steady growth in membership, in contest activity, and even in meeting attendance. All bode well for PVRC's continued "success" as a major contest organization. (Please support the newly elected officers!)

Personally, I've enjoyed this term. I've had fun, learned some things, met some interesting folks, ran some pretty fair meetings, and operated not-nearly-enough from W3LPL. In each and every instance, I've been conscious of representing our club, and have found the respect and general perception of the group to be among the highest I've encountered in nearly 30 years of hamming. That means a lot, especially when I think back to those old QSTs with the W4KFC/W3GRF stories about contesting.

So...the typo from last month's editorial notwithstanding, 1991 has been a pretty interesting year for me. As I look toward the resolutions I'll probably be making within the next few weeks, I'll try to remember some of the success alluded to earlier, as well as those old QST stories. In other words--toward PVRC tradition.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, we carry the story of one of the founders of such tradition--W3GRF's election to CQ's "Contest Hall of Fame." August company, indeed! Kudos to Lenny, again.

To all who said kind words about "Grips, Gaffers, and Best Boys," I thank you. To all...best wishes for the holidays, and the remainder of the contest season...vy 73 de Don WA8MAZ.

## MUSINGS OF THE EDITOR

Howard and I decided we could let the deadline for this December issue slip a little since the Christmas Dinner was the subject of a special mailing.

Apologies to those who didn't get the Christmas Dinner mailing due to the use of an outdated mailing list. Please note that, under instructions from the incoming President, Bill Hider, N3RR, the January issue of this Newsletter will carry a complete membership list, coded to indicate who has paid up for 1992 and who has not. Those who then do not pay up by the time the February issue comes out will not get it. And for those who have paid up, this gives you a chance to correct anything in your listing that is wrong.

For those who did make it, the Christmas Dinner was a fitting tribute to a man who might almost be called "Mr. PVRC" for the continuous impact he has had on this club right from the beginning. I am speaking, of course, of Len Chertok, W3GRF, now CQ Contest Hall-of-

Fame Member #6. Our old friend and club colleague "Little Charlie," W6UM, was able to join us and in a very moving way read the fine letter from CQ's new Hall-of-Fame Coordinator Bob Cox, K3EST (also an old PVRC'er), produced elsewhere in this issue. Then Dr. Zimmerman, W3ZZ, made one of his rare appearances in order to pass along some of his personal anecdotes about Len over the years. Finally, the presentation to Len of the CQ plaque.

As those of us who know Len well expected, Len received the award with all the emotion of someone who just stepped into the room to look for a wrench he had forgotten to take up the tower with him. His acceptance speech was about as long as the time it took him to get from the table to the podium. His many friends who made a special effort to show up at this event were, outwardly at least, far more moved than he was. And I'm sure that if someone the next day asked him what had happened at the dinner the night before, he

would have said something like, "Oh, nothing much. I got an award."

The broken hip of a couple years ago was just a nuisance. Those who visited Len in the Hospital at that time found exactly the same person they had always known Len to be, and wondering what all the excitement was about. Two bouts with cancer, conquered both times with the help of W4RX and N5EV and other of his friends who knew something about fighting it, were met with the same "no big deal" attitude on Len's part. One has the feeling that, when at long last he knocks on St. Peter's door and St. Peter opens it, Len will ask, "Who the hell are you, anyway?" But that's our Len, and we wouldn't have him any other way. And there wasn't anyone there on Dec. 11 who felt that CQ could have done a better job in finding a suitable candidate for plaque #6. Heartiest congrats, Len!

The record should also show that Len was nominated for the award by Lew Gordon, K4VX, who knows a little something about contesting and contest stations himself.

One story not told by Bob Cox, incidentally, was how Len was responsible for Bob's finally breaking down and getting his Extra Class license. Bob always had an excuse: "I don't want to memorize the stuff; I want to really understand what I am doing when I answer those questions." Finally, Len had heard

enough of this: "From here on out, nobody who doesn't have an Extra Class ticket will operate my station!" It didn't take long for Bob to get it after that.

Congrats also to venerable Frankford contester Gerry Mathis, W3GM (ex-W3BES), who over the years has played about the same role for the FRC that Len has played for the PVRC. He got Contest Hall of Fame plaque #7.

Just above you have already read the valedictory of outgoing President Don Daso. Personally speaking, as the person who held the job just before Don, I have to say that he cleaned up a lot of the mess that I left him. He tackled the by-laws business which people like myself were afraid to touch when we had the chance to do something about it. And in my opinion the liability matter was handled efficiently and effectively. Congrats, Don, for a job well done! Let's hope 1992 treats you better than 1990 -- oops, 1991 did. (Sorry about that last issue.)

There's more to talk about, but not enough space to talk about it in. Thanks to Bernie, WR3E, for compiling the contest scores appearing in this issue. Thailand and comments about the fall contests will have to QRX until the next issue, which will be along in a couple of weeks. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year de Fred.

## THE SECRETARY'S PAGE

by Ben Shaver, AA4XU

### OVER-THE-HILL DIVISION 9 OCTOBER 1991

The Over-the-Hill Division of the POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB met for lunch and discussion at the Marriott Hotel in Greenbelt MD. Andy Anderson, W3XE, was host.

Attending: W3UJ, VK3ENJ/K3LYW, W3XE, W6AXX, K3WX, KC3AG, W3AZ, W4GF, W3GRF, AA4XU.

### MINUTES - 14 OCTOBER 1991

The meeting of the Potomac Valley Radio Club was called to order by President WA8MAZ at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Guests: N3HIH (Elected member at this meeting.)

Members: W3EKT K3YDX KX3Q N3RR AA4XU K3SO K1DQV ND3A W6AXX KE3Q WF3J KE9A WR3E WI2T K3ZO NH6T N4ZR W3HVQ

KM4YY W3LPL W3GNQ W3ABC

Secretary AA4XU read the minutes which were accepted as read.

Treasurer N3RR reported that the Treasury is unchanged from the previous meeting, and that dues (\$10) for the coming year are now due.

#### OLD BUSINESS - ELECTIONS

The following were elected to assume their offices in January 1992: President: Bill Hider, N3RR; Vice President: Rob Shapiro, ND3A; Secretary: Ben Shaver, AA4XU; Treasurer: Roger Miner, K1DQV; Historian: Larry Fadner, W3GN; Publisher of Newsletter: Howard Leake, W6AXX; Editor of Newsletter: Fred Laun, K3ZO.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The new operating award donated by KM4YY to encourage new members to participate in contests was discussed. The members voted to extend the award to cover the CQ WW CW as well as the CQ WW Phone Contest. Lee will solidify the details and reports to Members via the Packet Cluster.

WB2EKK will edit the Contest Cookbook to be published by early November. Articles profiling each band for the CQ WW and SS contests are needed.

K3ZO: Arrangements for the Holiday Dinner have been made by W3GRF at the Andrews AFB Officers' Club and it will be held Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

W3EKT: The multi-multi team at W3LPL for the CQ WW RTTY contest made a new record this year with 2 million points, 1700 Q's, 600 mults.

W3ABC reported on ARRL/FCC/political issues regarding a new assault on the amateur bands by commercial interests. A bill has been introduced into Congress which would exempt Amateurs from user fees and authorize issuance of special call signs for club stations.

In discussion concerning the desirability of the FRC Packet interconnection, N3RR and KM4YY said that the system was slowed down by the interconnection. Most of the members felt that the slowdown was acceptable considering the input of new putouts.

N4ZR proposed a Northern VA meeting site. WA8MAZ said that this will be the last meeting that we can hold at the U. of MD. Alternative MD meeting sites were discussed.

KM4YY asked for a round of applause for K3ZO for his outstanding work as the new editor of the PVRC Bulletin.

N3HIH was elected a new Member and welcomed into the Club.

Program by N3RR: "Problems with Antenna Traps."

#### MINUTES - 11 NOVEMBER 1991

The meeting of the Potomac Valley Radio Club was called to order by Vice President N3JT in Temple Hills, MD

Guests: WD4IEH, WD3P, WR3L\*, N3IWM/OD5RH\* (\*elected member at this meeting.)

Members: W3HHG W3GNQ W3CPB WR3E W3AZ W3EKT W3LPL K1DQV KE3Q W3HVQ WG3J KO7V NH6T KM4YY W3GN ND3A W6AXX N3JT AA4XU N3IW

#### OLD BUSINESS

The following Members, nominated at the October meeting, were elected to the Board of Trustees for 1991: W3GRF, K3ZO, W3LPL and WR3E.

Packet Report by W3LPL. Because of data overload slowing the system, input from the FRC cluster has been limited. In the new software there is a "Home Node" designation that should be set by the user using "SET/HOMENODE." Unless set, every time a node change is made, all mail is retransmitted, further overloading the system.

The Holiday Banquet will be held at the Andrews AFB Officers' Club at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11. W6AXX will send individual invitations to Members shortly.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Since the Club has lost the use of the College Park MD meeting site, meetings beginning January 1992 will alternate between Virginia and Temple Hills. ND3A has located and secured the following meeting sites in Virginia: 13 Jan: Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean; 9 Mar. and 11 May: Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Fallas Church. Meetings on 10 Feb. and 13 April will be held at the church in Temple Hills. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

WR3E is collecting CONTEST SCORES of all Members. Send scores to Bernie by packet, phone, or mail. These scores for Club Members must be sent collectively to CQ in order for the Club to receive credit for Members' points.

Elections: N3IWM sponsored by K3ZO and WR3L sponsored by N3JT were elected Members and welcomed into the Club.

The next meeting will be the Holiday Banquet on December 11, 7:30 p.m. at the Andrews AFB Officers' Club. The January 13 meeting will be held at the Dolley Madison Library, McLean, VA.

#### OVER-THE-HILL DIVISION 20 NOVEMBER 1991

The OVER-THE-HILL division of the POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB met for lunch and discussion at Tom Weston's Restaurant in Annandale, VA. Bill Grenfell, W4GF, was Host.

Attending: W3GN K3WX AA4XU W3XE AA4I W4GF W3GRF W3AZ W3CPB K6ETM KC3AG.

The next OTH meeting will be held in December in Oxon Hill MD, Len Cherotk, W3GRF, host. Call Len at 1-301-297-4888 for a confirmed reservation. All are welcome.

#### MINUTES - 11 DECEMBER 1991

The meeting of the Potomac Valley Radio Club was held after dinner at the Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club on the occasion of the annual Christmas Banquet. President Don Daso, WA8MAZ, opened the meeting and introduced the honoree of the evening, Leonard Chertok, W3GRF, who has been elected to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. This honor has been extended to only 6 other Operators in the history of this Award.

The President introduced Charles Weir, W6UM. Dr. Weir read a letter from Robert Cox, K3EST, Director of the CQ Magazine Hall of Fame, and presented a folio of this and other testimonial and congratulatory letters (editor's note: These came from K4VX, W2SKE, W4KFT, W6AXX and W7RM.) He also gave a number of personal observations and reminiscences concerning Len's many and diverse contributions to amateur radio operating, DXing, contesting, and station construction.

Then Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, gave the results of his research into the world records that Len has set in contesting. Dr. Zimmerman also listed the calls of many top contesters, active in today's contests, who have been directly and positively influenced by Len in their contest careers. Many of this country's great super-stations of the post-war years could not have been built without Len's generous contributions of materials, time and technical expertise. Then Gene presented Len with the Award, an engraved plaque.

President Don Daso, WA8MAZ, presented a talk entitled "Grips, Gaffers and Best Boys," giving the Members an insider's view of what goes on behind the scenes in motion picture production companies.

The menu was a choice of Stuffed Flounder or Filet Mignon.

Members attending: AA4XU K3DI K3WS K3WX K3ZO K4FJ K6ETM K8OQL KA4S KC3AG KC3D KE3Q N3FZB N3RR N4RV N8II ND3A W3AZ W3CPB W3EKT W3GNQ W3HHG W3HVQ W3LPL W3UJ W3XE W3ZZ W4NL W6AXX W6UM WA8MAZ WB3FSB WF3J WI2T WR3E WR3Z WR4S

# SCORES...SCORES...SCORES

by Bernie (Dit) McClenny, WR3E

## CQ WW SSB

CALL	QSO	Z	C	POINTS	CAT
KT4W	840	34	134	380,000	10M
W6AXX	450	31	130	150,000	10M
K3WS	350	30	105	134,595	10M
W3CPB	86	18	14	12,935	10M
N4MO	574	31	127	247,902	15M
NV3V	200	22	76	52,332	15M
K4FPF	139	23	73	35,328	15M
KO7V				7,650	80M
W3LPL	5243	182	702	12,460,000	MM
K3ZZ					MM
K3DI	547	103	295	588,642	MS
K3ZO	2242	134	416	3,285,150	SO
K3ZJ/8				1,617,984	SO
W9LT/4	796	103	296	821,142	SO
W4JVN	563	96	259	507,150	SO
W3GRF	419	81	200	307,976	SO
AA4XU	364	80	196	252,816	SO
W3AZ	345	72	184	234,752	SO
K3SKE	210	81	158	126,192	SO
N4KW	234	46	130	105,072	SO
N4MM				10,140	SO
W3GN	10	7	9	448	SO
NH6T	2658	92	155	1,934,998	SO/LP
W3UJ	633	93	260	603,630	SO/LP
N3RR	912	141	469	1,489,010	SOA
W3HHG				1,243,410	SOA
KZ3H	708	126	361	908,255	SOA
N3II	702	106	327	814,473	SOA
N3UN	1130	100	241	385,330	SOA
KE3Q	319	85	221	250,000	SOA
KX3Q				220,100	SOA
N3HIH	313	64	156	173,800	SOA
TOTAL				29,487,404	

OPERATORS:

K3DI (MS): WG3J, W3ICM, K3DI  
 K3ZZ (MM): K3ZZ, WA3EKL  
 W3LPL (MM): WI2T WR3Z WR3E W3LPL  
 W3ZZ W3IDT KA3UBJ N8II KA3VYN KA1GD  
 KF3P WA8MAZ K3RA N3GB KC3EK KD9J  
 W1GUU K1DQV ND3A

## CQ WW CW

HK5/N3JT	640	23	49	137,808	10M
W3CPB	125	19	63	28,700	10M
N4MO	505	33	104	198,376	15M
W3LPL	4962	187	665	12,000,000	MM
W3GG	1207	134	389	1,784,999	MS
K3DI	647	108	306	753,480	MS
K3ZO	2020	153	457	3,500,790	SO
W4RX	1750			2,500,000	SO
W3ZA	602	99	246	615,285	SO
W3UJ	617	93	250	601,965	SO
W9LT/4	589	97	241	549,250	SO
KO7V	387	77	179	277,760	SO
K4FPF	305	78	184	221,914	SO
NV3V	131	35	79	42,522	SO
WR3E	1592	159	512	3,024,197	SOA
KZ3H	1128	152	446	1,900,444	SOA
K8OQL	864	132	345	1,169,127	SOA
N3II	613	103	292	673,475	SOA
KX3Q				204,765	SOA
W3GN	265	55	150	154,365	SOA
K3SA	202	63	140	116,725	SOA
KE3Q	218	57	134	115,364	SOA
N3UN	176	75	138	104,796	SOA
TOTAL				30,676,107	

OPERATORS:

K3DI (MS): K3DI, WD4IEH  
 W3GG (MS): W3GG, WD3I  
 W3LPL (MM): W3LPL N8II KE9A ND3A K3NA  
 WA8MAZ N3GB K3RA KF3P KT3Y KA1GD  
 K3SO WR3Z KD9J K1DQV WB2EKK W3EKT  
 (CLAIMED SS SCORES IN JANUARY ISSUE)



The Radio Amateur's Journal 76 North Broadway / Hicksville, N.Y. 11801 / 516-681-2922

Bob Cox, K3EST  
1816 Poplar Lane  
Davis, CA 95616

Leonard Chertok, W3GRF  
PVRC Christmas Dinner  
December 11, 1991

Dear Lenny,

It is with a great deal of personal pleasure that I congratulate you on your entrance into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. Since its inception in 1986 by Dick Ross, the publisher of CQ magazine, the CQ Contest Hall of Fame has inducted five previous members: K2GL, KH6IJ, OH2BH, G3FXB and W8IMZ. This is an honor reserved for those few persons who have contributed their time and skills to contesting in such a way that the hobby is significantly enhanced. Enhancement means not just hardware development but also the touching of the lives of persons who in turn influenced the hobby. You certainly qualify on both accounts. The 60's and 70's were the formative years of modern contesting, and the Washington, D.C. area was the "Harvard of contesting". Through your generosity and hard work stations like W3MSK(W3AU), W4BVV, K4VX, W7RM, W3FA and others grew and became successful. The number of high level contesters who received their early training at these stations was unbelievable: K1AR, KC1F, K3LR, W3ZZ, K3EST, N4RV, KT4W, KT3Y, K4PQL, K2SS, N4KG, W6UM, N4RP, N4IN, W3TMZ, W3AZD, K3ZO, K3RV, K7SS, K7LXC, K7JA to name just a few. To a very large extent you made it possible for this time to exist.

You were there when the PVRC was just getting started. Through your friendship and contest rivalry with Vic Clark, W4KFC you raised the excellence of others in the PVRC and elsewhere seeking to emulate your efforts. I know that I remember your "can do" attitude about just about everything. You made it possible for many of us to remember growing up as contesters in the DC area as a golden time. Most people do not realize that in the early 1950's the CQ WW contest was in danger of floundering. You were part of the PVRC's rescue of the contest by checking the logs until the contest found a home with Frank, W1WY.

You have won the CQWW CW test for the world. A feat not likely to be repeated soon. Your station has provided the opportunity to perfect the skills of many operators such as W7RM, K0DQ, W3ZZ, K3ZO, and myself. For many years W3GRF has been AIR during the armed forces day celebration. I still remember taking a shift at your place during the May event. As a member of the CQ Contest Committee, you have contributed to the betterment of contesting. Your ideas as a committee member influenced the direction of the CQ WW contest.



I know you are honored to be a member of the Hall of Fame, but I think I can hear you say "thanks, but lets put up some more towers and get on with it". Your modesty and own personal vision of Ham radio serves as an example for others to emulate. Take a close look at W3GRF, fellow amateurs, because here is one of the pioneers and great influences in amateur radio contesting.

Congratulations to you Lenny, you are a most worthy member of the CQ Contest Hall Fame.

With the Highest Regard,

Bob Cox, K3EST  
Director of the CQ Hall of Fame  
Director of the CQ WW Contest



GENE, W3ZZ

LENNY, W3GRF

CHARLIE, W6UM



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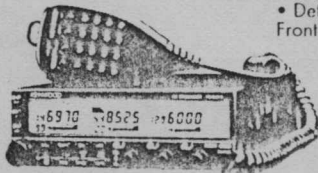
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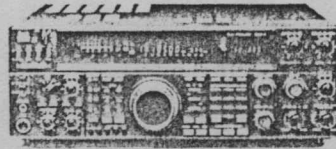
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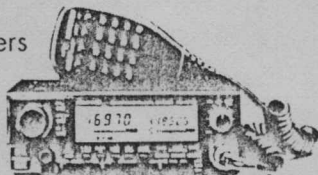
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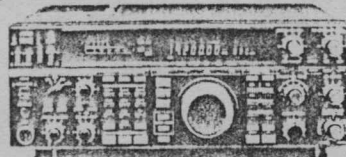
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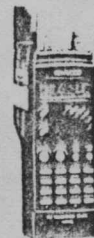
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PVRC NEWSLETTER



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