



## *PVRC Newsletter* *July 2011*

### Letter from the President – Mark KD4D

#### **T**he Joy of Field Day

Have you heard? The PVRC/CARA Field Day Team, operating as W3AO, is trying to break the all-time Field Day QSO record! This record was set by Murphy's Marauders in 1984 using eight kilowatt stations. W3AO will be on 160-10, CW, SSB, and Digital, 10 UHF/VHF/Microwave band modes, and satellite.

To encourage PVRC and CARA members to work W3AO this field day, and help us break the record, PVRC is sponsoring two plaques for the CARA and PVRC members who work W3AO this weekend on the most band modes. These will be awarded at the PVRC Christmas Dinner.

You can find W3AO from packet or skimmer spots and please ask us to be

passed to different bands and modes when you work us!

My first Field Day was in 1975 or 1976 – when was yours? That was my introduction to “contesting”, operating mostly CW with the North Augusta Amateur Radio Club in South Carolina.

How about writing up an interesting Field Day story about **your** 2011 Field Day for the newsletter? Our Editor-in-Chief would appreciate your material. Help us make this a **great** club newsletter.

I hope I worked you on 40 CW this weekend from W3AO!

73, Mark KD4D

## Controversy of the Month: ARRL Considering Radical Changes to ARRL DX Test Scoring

The ARRL Contest Advisory Committee is considering changing the scoring for the ARRL DX Test to a distance-based approach, like what is used in the Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge, and potentially adding operating time limits, as well. Details can be found [here](#) and a detailed discussion between Tim K3LR and CAC New England representative Dick WC1M can be found [here](#).

The scoring change obviously would have major impact on East Coast advantage in the DX test, as well as breaking connection to past scoring records. Send your comments to CAC Atlantic rep Mike [N2MG](#).

## PVRC On The Air Reunion Preliminary Results – Jim, WX3B

### 2011 PVRC Reunion scores

6/18/2011

Call	QSOs	Mults	Total	Power	Comment
K3TW/4	106	50	5300	Low	Mixed
N4AF	64	40	2560	High	CW
W0UCE	51	41	2091	Low	CW
W3TMZ	54	34	1836	Low	CW
W3GRF	55	31	1705	High	Op: W3MC
W4YE	52	29	1508	Low	
W3AU	33	22	726	Low	Op: N4KW
<b>W7YS</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Mixed - CHARTER MEMBER!</b>
W8OHT	27	23	621	High	CW
K3ZO	23	19	437	High	
N9CM	24	18	432	Low	
W2CDO	22	14	308	High	
W3IUU	18	15	270	Low	
K3TN	17	12	204	High	Mixed
N4ZR	15	10	150	High	
KM7DX	14	10	140	Low	
K4QPL	13	10	130	Low	CW
WB4FDT/3	21	6	126	High	
K3KU	15	8	120	Low	Mixed
W4AGI	13	8	104	Low	
DK5AD	12	8	96	High	
N3CW	11	7	77	Low	
WX3B	15	5	75	High	Mixed
EA5DFV	9	4	36	High	Mixed
N3JT	6	6	36	High	
K3RV	7	5	35	High	

## Antenna Forum Presentations from Dayton 2011 Online

Tim K3LR has made the below presentations from Dayton 2011 antenna forum available on line [here](#):

### **Waller Flag - low band low noise rotatable receiving antenna**

- Doug Waller, NX4D and Jose Carlos, N4IS

### **Multi-Element End-Fire Arrays of K9AY Loops**

- Richard C. Jaeger, K4IQJ

### **Cycle 23, Cycle 24 and Long Path on 15m/12m/10m**

- Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

## Cycle 25 May Be a Bummer for the High Bands, Bonanza for the Low Bands

The current wimpy activity in Solar Cycle 24 may seem like boom time compared to the next cycle, according to a recent study by the [National Solar Observatory](#):

"This is highly unusual and unexpected," Dr. Frank Hill, associate director of the NSO's Solar Synoptic Network, said of the results. "But the fact that three completely different views of the Sun point in the same direction is a powerful indicator that the sunspot cycle may be going into hibernation."

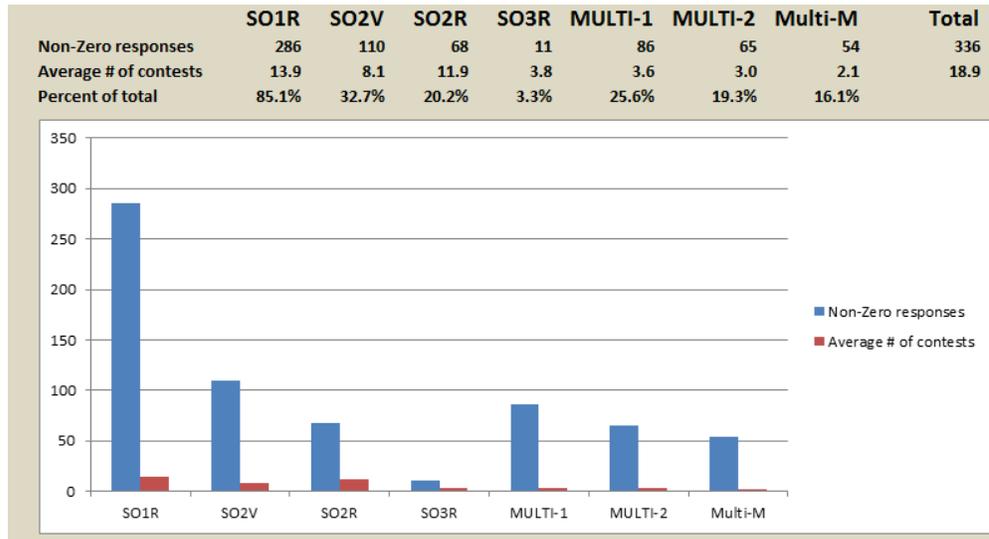
Hill is the lead author on one of three papers on these results being presented this week. Using data from the Global Oscillation Network Group (GONG) of six observing stations around the world, the team translates surface pulsations caused by sound reverberating through the Sun into models of the internal structure. One of their discoveries is an east-west zonal wind flow inside the Sun, called the torsional oscillation, which starts at mid-latitudes and migrates towards the equator. The latitude of this wind stream matches the new spot formation in each cycle, and successfully predicted the late onset of the current Cycle 24.

"We expected to see the start of the zonal flow for Cycle 25 by now," Hill explained, "but we see no sign of it. This indicates that the start of Cycle 25 may be delayed to 2021 or 2022, or may not happen at all."

In the second paper, Matt Penn and William Livingston see a long-term weakening trend in the strength of sunspots, and predict that by Cycle 25 magnetic fields erupting on the Sun will be so weak that few if any sunspots will be formed. Spots are formed when intense magnetic flux tubes erupt from the interior and keep cooled gas from circulating back to the interior. For typical sunspots this magnetism has a strength of 2,500 to 3,500 gauss (Earth's magnetic field is less than 1 gauss at the surface); the field must reach at least 1,500 gauss to form a dark spot. "

## Lies, Damn Lies, Statistics – Survey of N1MM User Operating Modes

An informal, online survey by the N1MM contesting logging software folks showed a bit over 20% of N1MM users do some level of SO2R operating – higher than they expected.



Speaking of SO2R, Howie N4AF points out that YCCC is putting together orders for the YCCC SO2R box kits. More information about this box is at [www.k1xm.org](http://www.k1xm.org). The price to participate in the batch will be somewhere between \$150 and \$200 depending on whether you want the 2- or 4-channel configuration and also on the number of people in the batch. If you are interested, drop Dennis W1UE an email at [SO2RBox@verizon.net](mailto:SO2RBox@verizon.net).

## Welcome New Members – W3LL

Your Membership Director has been busy with the help of the Chapters. We've added 15 new members in the first 5 months of the new year.

Call Sign	Date Voted Into PVRC
K3GEN	05-17-2011
N4OC	05-12-2011
KV3SPA	04/27/2011
N3WD	04/19/2011
N8HM	04/12/2011
N4DB	03/09/2011
KJ4GHC	03/09/2011
W4WWQ	03/09/2011
K4YCR	03/09/2011
K4TOJ	02/17/2011
KF7ADB	03/05/2011
N4DJ	01/18/2011
W4MPS	11/06/2011
WA3AER	01/18/2011
WM2Z	01/06/2011

## Member News

### N3JT:

Jim N3JT won the [QST Cover Plaque Award](#) for May for his article “An Emergency Backup Solar Power System.”

### W3ZZ:

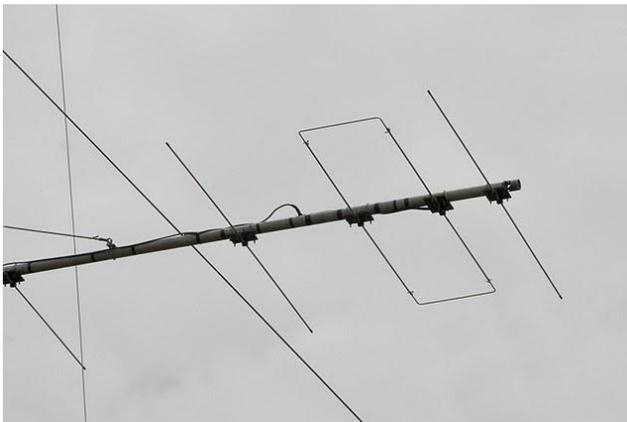
After nine years, Gene W3ZZ is [stepping down](#) from his popular QST “World Above 50 Mhz” column. Jon N0JK will take over the column with the August issue.

### W3LPL:

Frank’s open house was well attended. Franks new toy is a stack of 8 element 6 meter beams, each with a 54’ boom. The beams have full wave loop feed and give Frank a narrow enough beam width to aim around a neighbor to the NE who has a plasma TV that trashes 6 meters.



The people aren’t giants, the beam is low for display...  
N3ALN Photo



N3AM close up of the full wave loop feed.

**N4AF:**

The storms that went through North Carolina in April turned Howie's 10M tower into a 135' beverage antenna.



N4AF 10M Tower after the storm – 2 feet high



Howie's 10M tower (on the left) now, a bit higher but still 50' shorter than before.

**Historic PVRC Field Day QSL Cards – Eric W3DQ**

Anyone out there remember who won, the PVRC W3 team or the PVRC W4 team? Or why no 15m or 6m??

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**POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB**  
A. R. R. L. FIELD DAY, 1951

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**W3EIS\3**  
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND  
(QSL to Beltsville, Md.)

**PVRC "W 3" TEAM**  
W3AEL Charles    W3KDP Ren  
W3EIS Don        W3MCG Karl  
W3FQB Monty     W3MFJ Bill  
W3FQZ Art        W3MSK Ed  
W3GRF Lenny     W3PWR John  
W3JKO Charles   W3RJS John  
                          W3VES Phil

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Radio..... This confirms our Field Day QSO on June 23 24,  
1951, on 144, 28, 14, 7, 3.9, 3.5, 1.8 mc. phone c. w.

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**POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB**  
A. R. R. L. FIELD DAY, 1951

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**W4KFC\4**  
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA  
(QSL to Box 73, Annandale, Va.)

**PVRC "W 4" TEAM**  
W1MV/4 Leo    W4LAP Bill  
W4CC Jack     W4 LIM John  
W4EMJ Ed      W4LRI Van  
W4ESK Rush   W4NTZ Milt  
W4IA Ev        W4NQV Roger I  
W4KFC Vic     W4PNK Roger II  
W4KFT Nort    W9ERU/4 Gene

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Radio..... This confirms our Field Day QSO on June 23 24,  
1951, on 144, 28, 14, 7, 3.9, 3.5, 1.8 mc. phone c. w.

## Upcoming Contests and Log Due Dates

### Contests This Month

- July 1 – RAC Canada Day
- July 2 – DL RTTY
- July 2 – YV Independence
- July 9 – IARU HF

### Logs Due This Month

- June 30 – Volta RTTY
- July 1 – Baltic Contest

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

## The Editor's Last Word – John K3TN

Thanks to Howie N4AF and Eric W3DQ for their submissions this month. It was nice to see many of you at Frank's Open House and I hope we work on FD. Send me inputs, thoughts complaints, whatever you have.

The newsletter will take the month of August off, and come back in September – along with some sunspots, I hope!

## Member Classified Ads

### FOR SALE by K3DI:

We are selling our home, a split foyer, located on almost an acre at 913 Shore Acres Road in Arnold, which is just north of Annapolis. Because of its 3 towers with antennas and specially constructed ham shack, we are offering it to hams before it goes on the open market. The asking price now is \$315,000 (includes towers & antennas listed below) for amateur radio operators. The house has been appraised for \$350,000.

The upper level consists of a living/dining room area, kitchen, sun room with a cathedral ceiling, 3 bedrooms, a full bath, and deck. On the lower level there is a large family room with a fireplace, full bath, office, utility and storage rooms, and a ham station designed for multiple operating.

The two car attached garage is 24 x 24 feet with radio controlled overhead doors. There is sufficient space in it to store 2 cars, a tractor, and shelving units.

A new hybrid oil/heat pump/air conditioning unit was installed last year and well as thermal pane windows. The large lot has extensive landscaping and gardens and is in a water-privileged community. Children attend the award-winning Broadneck Elementary School and High School.

The ham station has both residential code wiring and a separate 80 amp subpanel. From this panel there are four 240v breakers each feeding a receptacle. There are four 120v breakers each feeding a 12 connector outlet strip that are mounted on the wall behind the 16 foot operating table. Along the wall behind the table there is a one-inch copper pipe that runs the length of the table. Copper strap ties the pipe to three six foot ground rods and into mesh screen in the floor concrete.

There are wire antennas for 80 and 160 meters, and the following antennas are on separate towers. 100' has G-28000DXA rotator, each 80' has a Yaesu G-1000DXA rotator:

Bencher Skyhawk	80' Rohn 25	4/3/3 elements on 10/15/20 meters,
Force12 C-31XR	100' Rohn 45	7/4/3 " "
Cushcraft 40CD2	80' Rohn 25	2 el 40 meters,

73, Dick Wilder, [K3DI](mailto:K3DI), 913 Shore Acres Road, Arnold, MD 21012-1724



## **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 City Buffet, 1306 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD. (301) 360-9666. It's in a small shopping center. Most arrive about 6 PM for dinner and informal discussions. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM.

From W. Patrick Street, turn up McCain Dr. (the Mountain View Diner is on the corner), then turn right into the shopping center, then turn left and search for a parking place. The City Buffet is tucked back in the left corner of the shopping center behind the Mountain View Diner. You can't see the City Buffet from W. Patrick Street.

Contact: Bud W3LL

### **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: Topolino's, 6320 Old Branch Avenue, Temple Hills, MD. Tel: 301-449-6160. Meets at this location during the months of January, March, May, September and November.

Contact: Mark [KD4D](#)

### **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 : Bob W9GE**

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 W9GE 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!

**Central Virginia Contest Club: Ed NW4V**

Meets the first Tuesday of the month at St. Martins Church, 9000 St. Martin Lane, Richmond VA, (between W. Broad St. and N. Parham Road). Our meeting begins at 7PM.

**Over the Hill Bunch: Bill W3AZ**

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 Bill Leavitt, W3AZ 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.

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

**PVRC Officer, Trustees and Charter Members**

**PVRC Officers:**

- President: [KD4D](#) Mark Bailey
- Vice President: [W9GE](#) Bob Finger
- Vice President: [NN3W](#) Rich Didonna
- Secretary: [N3KS](#) Kam Sirageldin
- Treasurer: [WR3L](#) Dave Baugher
- Membership: [W3LL](#) Bud Governale

**Trustees:**

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**PVRC Charter Members (\* denotes SK):**

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

## Now a Word From Our Sponsors

PVRC doesn't ask for dues, but the Club does have expenses. Please send PayPal donations via [DAVE@WR3L.NET](mailto:DAVE@WR3L.NET) or by snail mail to Dave's address at [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com). 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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sunnyvale@hamradio.com

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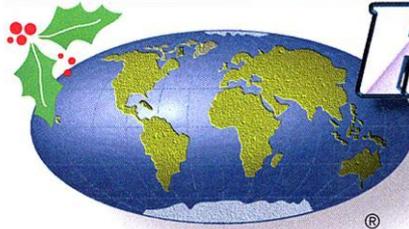
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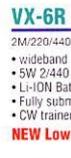
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