



# Potomac Valley Radio Club Newsletter

November 2006

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and [www.pvrcnc.org](http://www.pvrcnc.org)

## GO PVRC—WIN SWEEPSTAKES

**PVRC Welcomes Frank Stein, WA3OFC, to the Central Chapter, and Patrick Benda, W3PO and Chuck Graham, KI4IEO to Northwest**

### Editor's Note

By **Pete Smith, N4ZR**

I am pleased to announce that Eric Rosenberg, W3DQ, will be taking over as Newsletter Editor with the February issue. I asked WX3B to find a replacement because I felt that after 3 1/2 years, the Newsletter would benefit from a fresh perspective. I'm proud of the improvements I made, but there is much more that can be done.

Happily, Eric volunteered to take on the job, and I couldn't imagine a better replacement—his enthusiasm and strong writing/editing skills will quickly take the Newsletter to new heights. I'm sure he'll be sharing his ideas with you over the next couple of months, and looking for your input. I'm also sure that you will give him the same strong support I've enjoyed. Keep those articles coming—your writing is the Newsletter's lifeblood!

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### From the President

By **Jim Nitzberg, WX3B**

It's Sunday evening, less than a week to go until the CQWW SSB competition begins. I truly hope the band conditions are on their way back up – just in time to PEAK for next weekend's competition.

I want to thank our chapter leaders and PVRC Sweepstakes email and telemarketing volunteers for reaching out and contacting our membership to promote the upcoming November Sweepstakes. Our responses have been excellent, and a majority of active members plan to make some effort for one or both modes. I will begin publishing a list of planned operators the week after the CQWW/SSB event – so everyone can see the size of the operation and PVRC members that expect to be active.

For those of you that haven't looked yet, there are some great sweepstakes pointers put together very nicely by the PVRC NC chapters at:

<http://pvrcnc.org/ss2006home.html>

Highlights of the page include: K3MM's tips & strategies, PVRC/NC Chairman's Challenge (usable by any group), historical scores, AA4NC's Sweepstakes Tune-Up, W9IOP on winning SS, K4QPL's SS for everyone, Contest Prep by N3BB, and more.

One last note of thanks goes to Ty, K3MM who has been our Sweepstakes visionary and motivator for the past

several years.

### **PVRC Nominations for Officers and Trustees Begins**

I am pleased to announce the current nominations for PVRC Officers and Trustees. PVRC holds elections each year for these positions, and I encourage the chapter leaders and membership to ask anyone they feel is qualified and might enjoy a leadership position a chance to run for office. Here is the current slate:

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. President:      | Jim Nitzberg, WX3B   |
| 2. Vice President: | Ken Claerbout, K4ZW  |
| 3. Vice President: | Mark Bailey, KD4D    |
| 4. Treasurer:      | Dave Baugher, WR3L   |
| 5. Secretary:      | Anthony Brooks, WM3T |

Board of Trustees:

K3MM, KE3Q, N3OC, N4ZR, W4MYA, W4ZYT, N4AF, ND3A, W3PP, K2AV

The floor is open for additional nominations.

Eric, W3DQ is retiring from PVRC leadership this year. Eric has been an excellent sounding board and voice of reason; the club has been fortunate to have his leadership and service for the past 3 years. Our newsletter readers have greatly benefited from Eric's review and re-write of my monthly President's column. Thank you for your many years of service, Eric!

A Holiday Reminder: please mark your calendar for the 2006 PVRC Holiday Dinner, which will be held at **P.J. Skidoos** in Fairfax, VA. on **Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Last year's our event was attended by 85 PVRC members and guests. More details to follow on the PVRC reflector. Thanks to Jack, K4VV and Dave, WR3L for agreeing to organize and handle the finances for this event. We hope to see you there.

Best wishes to everyone in the upcoming contests!

73,

Jim Nitzberg WX3B

### **PVRC Contest and Event Calendar — all dates and times are Zulu except as noted)**

**ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 4 to 0300Z, Nov 6**

**WAE DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Nov 11 to 2359Z, Nov 12**

**ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone 2100Z, Nov 18 to 0300Z, Nov 20**

**CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, November 25 to 2400Z, November 26**

**ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, December 1 to 1600Z, December 3**

**PVRC Holiday Dinner, P.J. Skidoos, Fairfax VA, December 4**

**ARRL 10-Meter Contest 0000Z, December 9 to 2400Z, December 10**

**Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Dec 30 to 1500Z, Dec 31**

## **Ammunition for Little Pistols**

By **Bill Axelrod K3WA**

Well, fellow little pistols, are you tired of being harangued about participating in this year's Sweepstakes yet? Enough emails? Enough badgering in this column? Well, too bad. Get over it! And get on with it.

This is a contest club. We're testers. The club has a chance to take the world title this year in the Sweepstakes. And it is up to US to make the difference. Yes, US. We little pistols are the ones who will make the difference for PVRC this year. Every single score counts, every QSO, every section, every log entered.

There's a lot of very good advice on strategy, tactics, concepts, and operating procedures out there. And especially on the PVRC web site. All good material to help us little pistols get mentally prepared. That's an important step. Hope you all get a chance to get on during the practice sessions. I'd love to participate in the practice sessions but, unfortunately they are on Thursday nights and I'm only home on weekends. But that shouldn't stop you.

The other important thing to do is to make sure your station is ready. Is it? As always, I'm the poster boy for what not to do. I've got a contractor finishing out my basement so I could have a comfortable ham shack with nice to have accessories like heating and air-conditioning, a soft carpet on the floor, a decent operating desk, etc. Those kind of things. And, of course a bathroom so I don't have to run outside in the rain and the cold to the nearest tree when nature calls in the middle of a contest. My dog likes doing that, I don't.

So I had this most wonderful plan. I took my station apart. The contractors were going to get the room all framed in, the wall board up, the bathroom working, and the heater in. Then they would go on to other jobs for a while so I could set up my station, get everything checked out, and get ready for Sweepstakes - which is only two weeks away. They'll come back to finish the space after the Sweepstakes.

Well, yep, you guessed it. The best laid plans usually go awry. And this one most certainly did. My contractors did about a 99% job. Everything I expected to have done by now is done. One minor problem, though. I got home around midnight last night after a long week of hoping the shack would be ready to be reassembled and went to check out the room. Every thing they promised to do looked done. I was real happy for about five minutes. Then I noticed that something was missing - the electrical power. The existing sockets were gone, awaiting the new ones to be mounted on the walls. No power for my radios! Oh no!

So, I spent this morning figuring out what to do, what to do. I got enough 115 VAC run temporarily to get most of my station set up. Now the question is, can I get the electrical guy back out here in time to get the 220 run for the amplifier in time? Or not. There's nothing like a little extra excitement in the last two weeks before the Sweepstakes to spice up a Little Pistol's life.

So this afternoon I'll set up the rig and computer and stuff. Hope I can get it all working at least at the low power level. So barring some other disaster, I'll be on the air for the CW Sweepstakes.

How about you. Little pistols one and all? Will you be there? I'm counting on it. We all are. Little Pistols, arise!

73 and CU in the 'tests.

Bill

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## **The Toolbox**

By **Don Daso, K4ZA**

*'Tis Better To Feel Good, Than To Look Good.."*

Despite Fernando's dictum to the contrary, for tower workers and climbers and plain old out-of-doors workers in general, it's better to feel good (warm and comfortable, along with being safe), instead of worrying or wondering about appearances.

Most of these thoughts have been prompted by a recent working trip where I encountered the ever-falling temperatures signaling winter's approach. Shoes, gloves, jackets, and hats were the topics of conversation more than

once during this trip.

I wear Carolina linemen's boots to climb. The 10-inch, high top, variety. I chose them years ago to be compatible with my climbing gaffs, but the heavy leather uppers and steel insoles have allowed me to spend literal hours up various towers. (Despite their ruggedness, they don't do a thing for X-braced towers—the HBX variety, or AB-105 installed sans steps, and the like.) They've been worth every penny. I wear Sock Liners underneath hightop (over the calf) socks. Again, they're worth every penny.

Gloves remain a sore subject with me. I started wearing gloves about four years ago—on every climb/job, despite the weather. (Mostly, I got tired of the cuts and scrapes. [Duluth Trading Company](#) often has good information and good deals on not only gloves, but also other construction-suited clothing, by the way.) And, while I continue to seek out the “best” glove for this type of work, I'm currently partial to the mechanic's style—where the index, middle finger and thumb tips are removed, providing the needed level of dexterity when dealing with small screws and the like. Price ranges from a few dollars ([Northern Tool](#) recently cleared out a line for \$1.00/pair), to \$25/pair. I've tried them all. And found few winners. The IRONCLAD brand is fairly good, but every pair seems different. I've worn some for months; others have come apart after a couple of jobs. The Mechanix brand FRAMER model gloves are pretty good, if you can get past the gigantic lettering emblazoned on the back of your hands. They're the coolest in the summer, and have not ripped at the seams, but the tips have disintegrated over time.

I sometimes get asked about “waterproof” gloves and sometimes suggest Playtex as the answer. This attempt at wit often fails to work, but folks ARE seemingly serious in asking this—thinking there IS such a thing. But guys, there's a big HOLE in one end of the glove, so no amount of space-age material or computer aided design is going to make any glove waterproof. Yes, if you're going to dip your hands in the sink, there are options, but working in the real world means you're going to get your hands wet. It's just that simple. I know, we're not “supposed” to be working in the rain or other compromising conditions, but sometimes Colonel Jack harkens back to his Army days, or Master Frank wants the radial field installed while it's raining, and you can find yourself so involved.

Perspiration can leave you chilled, no matter how well your outer shell fends off falling moisture. Of course, such language is part of the basic concept of layering clothing. Since cotton does a good job of retaining perspiration, it makes sense to wear underwear that transports it from your skin. You stay warmer even as you sweat. (Silk, wool and synthetic fabrics such as REI's MTS®, Patagonia® Capilene®, and Polartec® PowerDry® are some suitable brand names.) In putting together your “layering system,” remember:

What you want to do is create a system that effectively allows for breathability (wicking away sweat), rapid drying, insulation, durability, wind-resistance and water-repellence, while still being lightweight and allowing freedom of movement. What you choose on any particular day will depend on your intended workload and Mother Nature. Choose wisely and you'll fool her every time!

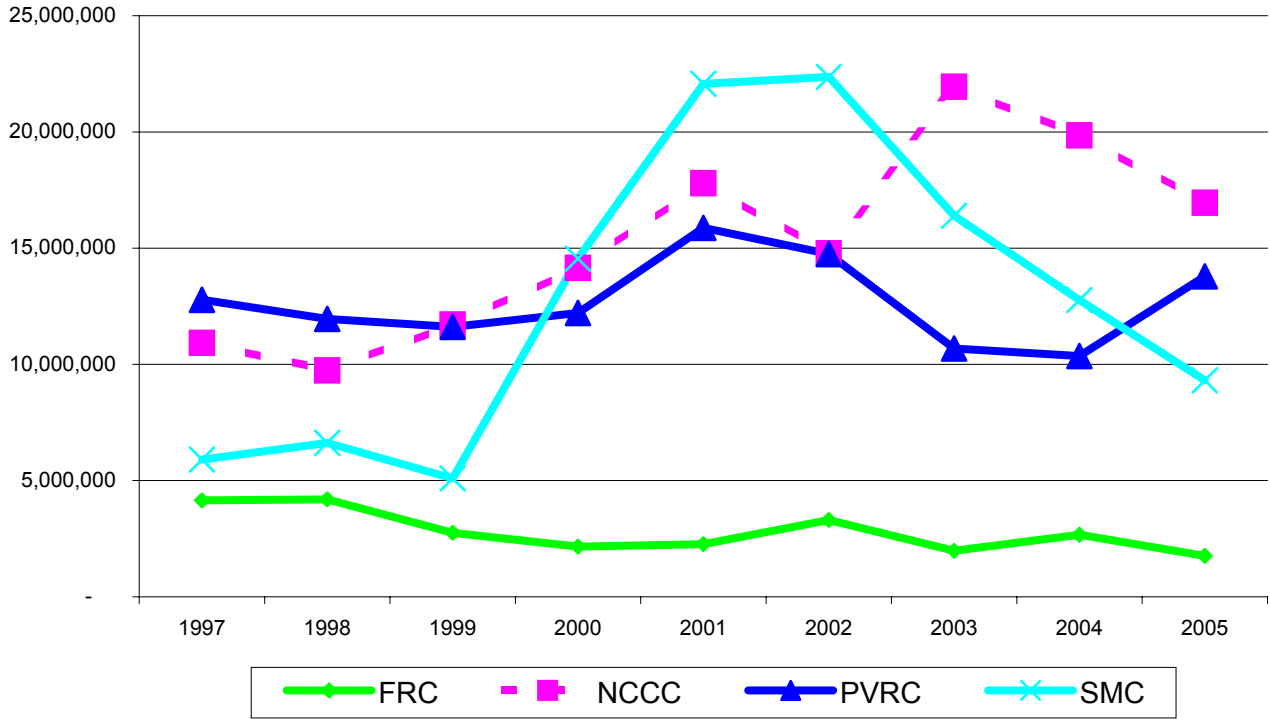
We've all heard or read that heat loss happens mostly through our head. Debate continues about the amount of heat lost that way, but it's undeniable that about 15% of the body's blood volume is in the head, and the brain (which regulates EVERYTHING our body does) needs not only the right amount of blood, but blood at the correct temperature. So, the *Merck Manual* tells us, 30% of our body temperature can be lost through the head and neck. For the tower worker, who's often wearing a hardhat, this can be a problem. But it's an issue worth resolving—typically, through an appropriate liner, which can prevent heat loss, but also aid with cooling in the summer.

What's in your Toolbox?

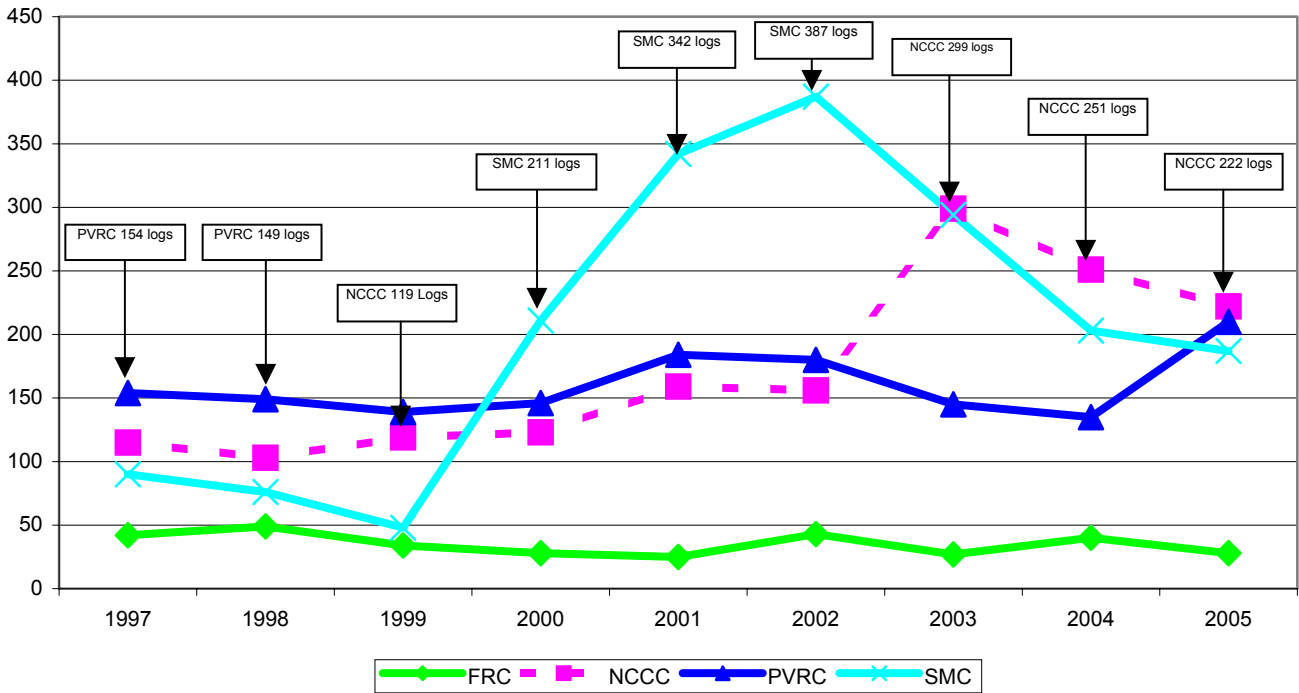
## **What It Takes** **Compiled by Rich DiDonna, NN3W**

The charts on the next page make it clear — more entries, even with very modest scores, is the key to winning the gavel. Since 1997, 1999 was the only year in which a club that didn't turn in the most logs won the club competition. SMC's wins were achieved with a much lower average score than anyone else—turnout made it happen.

### Comparison of Club Scores - 1997- 2005



### Analysis of Number of SS Entries - 1997 - 2005



**WE Can Do It—It's Up to You!**

## Alaska in October

By [Jim Talens, N3JT](#)

My telecom client has a cabin in Alaska, on an island called Prince of Wales, at Thorne Bay. It is the third largest island in the United States, behind Hawaii and Kodiak. It's even larger than Long Island. When the client asked me to join him as his guest for five days I had certain doubts for all the reasons one might imagine. But he insisted, plus we would be joined by another friend of his who is a physician. At the very least I knew I had to take a radio, if only to retreat if necessary should the going get rough socially.

Our route from Denver, where I met up with my companions, was to Seattle and then Ketchikan by air, to Hollis by ferry and to Thorne Bay by SUV. We had planned on taking the float plane from Ketchikan to Thorne Bay, where my host keeps a Jeep, but the cloud ceiling was too low so we took the longer route, renting a vehicle in Ketchikan and taking the ferry, which provided an opportunity to see amazingly beautiful scenery and take many digital photos.



The cabin is on a hilltop, though surrounded in one direction (north) by a higher hill, and is on stilts about 5 meters high (to improve the view of Thorne Bay). It is essentially octagonal in shape with lots of windows and a surrounding walkway with railing. It also has electricity, satellite TV and satellite Internet access, and bathroom facilities, but no telephone service. The electricity and roads were installed by the lumber industry that removed the old-growth cedars about fifty years ago, leaving mostly pines and other evergreens in their place.

It has been commonly heard from our KL7 neighbors that propagation is just awful most of the time. I tend to think that much of our complaining about bad conditions is because we spend far too much time on email and perhaps just listening rather than calling. The bands are often open but we just don't realize it. In any event, I have learned that this assessment is not correct when it comes to locations very far north (or presumably south), at least at this part of the sunspot cycle.

Because the southeast part of Alaska tends to have a lot of rain, it was no surprise that we had overcast and wet weather for much of our stay. There was also no outdoor activity at night, though on one evening the sky was so clear that the Milky Way appeared as a continuous cloud of stars, something I had not seen since last in Australia. Here in the Washington, DC area we get to see "clear skies" in winter and even then we see only brighter objects because of light pollution. There was even a major aurora easily visible where we were in Alaska but that night it was overcast so we saw nothing of it.

As it happens, the three of us had a lot of fun together. Still, I had assembled and brought with me a dual-band dipole for 40 and 20 and a FT-897 (battery powered) borrowed from KC3VO that I wanted to use. Given the trees were at least 20 meters distant and I had only 20 meters of coax, I taped the dipole insulator to the cabin's surrounding wood railing, attaching one end of the 40-meter section to a tree using about 10 meters of monofilament line. The 20-meter section was fairly straight along the railing. In effect, for radio purposes I was "facing" southeast and northwest though there was likely little effective directivity. The ground is very rocky and the terrain slopes away in the favored directions so the effective antenna height was probably much higher than five meters.

The evenings provided time to play radio. I also had opportunities over the course of the stay to listen through most of the daytime hours, sufficient to make a judgment about conditions overall. Both 20 and 40 seemed best at around 0800 local time, which is 1600 GMT. Around that time I worked JA1NUT and all the other stations strong enough to suggest they might be able to hear my 20 watts. The band essentially closed an hour later, and I never heard stations at any other time. During that one hour opening, by schedule I worked N3AM. Shorter skip south



worked out the best. I worked old friends K6RB and (surprisingly!) K4EWG on 20m, and N6XI, K6VVA and AC2K on 40m, and even K7NJ on both 40 and 20. Others were also worked on both bands, but always basically south of me. In one case, I seemed to have a pipeline to Santa Cruz, CA with 599+ both ways in a long QSO with K6XX.

So that was the ham radio effort. I left the antenna with my host for use with his shortwave radio. That left room in my carry-on bag for the KC3VO's FT-897. Enroute to Alaska, I had carefully packed the radio and keyer paddle in my suitcase surrounded by multiple layers of sweatshirts and jackets but TSA inspectors opened the bag on the Denver-Seattle leg of the trip and effectively just threw the radio and paddle on top of the packing materials. That led to a lovely dent in the radio and the paddle in pieces. With Crazy Glue I was able to reconstruct the paddle sufficient to use it. And yes, there is a claim filed with TSA for damages. If nothing else, all travelers should know that the only way to carry radio gear on flights these days is in a special protective case as checked luggage, or as carry-on. En route home the carry-on was carefully inspected at Ketchikan, Seattle and Denver! On one occasion the inspector himself was a ham so he at least appreciated what he saw.

The weather was about 10C and damp most days but we had some beautiful hikes, visits to interesting small towns and fishing villages, and we saw any number of really lovely natural locations. We just missed the salmon runs, a disappointment for me though we had fresh salmon at a local restaurant (about 30 km from the cabin) our last night. The 3<sup>rd</sup> member of our team and I had planned on buying a pork chop for our host to carry around his neck just in case we were confronted with bears but we saw no bears, or moose for that matter. We did see lots of eagles, deer and probably some salmon or trout jumping in the open waters of Thorne Bay.

For a semi-work trip, this one worked out well. It also provides me with greater sympathy for our members in far-flung northern locations because their skip really is not the same as farther south. We who are farther south should really appreciate the conditions we do get!

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## **My Life Abroad in Ham Radio—Continued**

By **Fred Laun, K3ZO**

My Foreign Service career has provided a lot of grist for the rumor mill among both friends and family. After all, wasn't he in Santo Domingo for the revolution, in Vietnam during the war, kidnapped and shot by guerrillas in Argentina, in Colombia during the rise of the drug lords, and in Sandinista Nicaragua? What more proof is needed that he worked for the CIA?

I have just finished reading a relatively new book entitled "Blowing My Cover: My Life as a CIA Spy", by Lindsay Moran, and have reached the conclusion that the best "cover" may be someone who doesn't even know he or she needs any.

I joined the Foreign Service sort of by accident. When I applied for admittance to the University of Wisconsin I was asked what I wanted to major in. Not having given the subject any thought until then, my impeccable logic of the time said that since I'm a ham I guess I want to be an electrical engineer, right? So I put that down. Some three years later, having flunked out of the university for the third time, tripped up miserably by a combination of mechanical drawing ("It takes a real genius to flunk an exam like this," said the professor); higher mathematics and organic chemistry (adding the correct reagent to the brew when the lab assistant wasn't looking) the Dean of Engineering finally said: "Laun, if you're ever going to graduate from this University, it won't be in Engineering!" "Then what do you suggest?" I asked him. "Well you did pretty well in that elective Political Science course you took. Why don't you try that?"

Indeed politics was second nature to me. I had grown up listening to it discussed daily at the dinner table. My father was a Republican Party activist who eventually became a state senator in Wisconsin and Chairman of the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee. So I changed my major to Political Science and the Political Science faculty accepted me with open arms. In 2004 my old Political Science Faculty celebrated its centennial and I went back for the festivities, where I was able to shake the hand of my old faculty advisor and thank him for doing his part to set me on the straight and narrow road to (fleeting) fame and (moderate) fortune. Being able to shake a

hand in those circumstances is one of life's most precious rewards, I might add.

Of course the fact that I had spent more time by far operating from club station W9YT than doing my engineering homework might have had something to do with my troubles in that Faculty, but it provided a career orientation of sorts. In the Black Hole of Propagation which is the Upper Midwest I learned quickly that most of the DX I could work was found in countries for which Spanish was the lingua franca, and that if I could speak a little of it I could open up a whole new layer of DX in the form of operators who knew neither English nor CW but who were eager to work DX regardless. Thus my contesting lexicon grew to include the phrases "Say Coo Concurso" and "Cinco Nueve" plus a few others. My interest in Spanish having thus been piqued I took five semesters of it, the final semester of which we were not supposed to utter a word of English during class time.

Ham radio also brought its rewards in terms of my friendship with legendary Wisconsin DXer Ross Hansch, W9RBI -- later W9BG -- who got me a summer job at the radio station where he worked, WIBA. I enjoyed working in broadcast radio immensely which led me to take an elective course in the Speech Department entitled "Fundamentals of Radio Broadcasting". Finally I was taking a course where I could provide detailed, factual answers to the homework questions at the end of each chapter in the textbook without even looking. Was I in Heaven or what?!

The clincher came one day when the professor gave a lecture entitled: "Careers in Broadcasting". By golly I had finally made it to the exalted status of Senior, and though the Political Science and Journalism faculties (Journalism was my minor) were making noises about my perhaps doing grad work, I decided that after seven long years spent getting a Bachelor's Degree maybe it was time to get away from academia and see what the outside world had to offer. So the minute the professor finished I went by the placement office and saw that a recruiter from the Voice of America was due to visit the campus the following week. Naturally in my years as a ham and SWL I had run across the VOA time and again and I thought to myself, "Hey this might be interesting." The recruiter allowed as how, yes, they had jobs open in Washington, but with my fluency in Spanish perhaps I would be interested in joining the Foreign Service. He explained that the VOA was (at that time) a part of the U. S. Information Agency which operated overseas as the U. S. Information Service, maintaining a whole series of American Libraries in countries around the world, and also placing VOA programs on local radio stations, etc. I was sold! The idea of being rare DX, which hadn't crossed my mind earlier, suddenly became a tantalizing goal. I didn't go to see any other recruiter, and the rest is history.

Going abroad filled with youthful idealism, I really wanted to get to know the people in the countries in which I was assigned. Since our mission in USIS was to interact with foreign publics this goal was compatible with my professional duties. My Amateur Radio hobby really came in handy in this regard since it provided entree into a local fraternity where practically nobody was interested in getting anything in particular from the U.S. Government. I would gradually learn that most of my Embassy colleagues, whether by accident or design, led a rather insular existence, socializing chiefly amongst themselves where the main topic of conversation was what a lousy country this was that they had had the misfortune to be assigned to, and what a miserable bunch of people there were that populated the place. Where they did have local contacts those tended to be the kind of scum that typically hang around Embassy gates hoping to profit from the insanity which masquerades as our visa policy to this day, or the self-selected purveyors of (largely worthless) information for profit. Their contacts with these sorts tended to reinforce the negative opinions of my Foreign Service colleagues about the character of the local populace. Meanwhile the daily activities of the great majority of basically decent people that populate every country in the world go largely undetected and unappreciated by those whose job it is to cable accounts of local doings back to our leadership in Washington. The conversion of our embassies into fortresses in order to provide physical safety to those toiling within has only increased this insularity.

Ham radio turned out to be a wonderful if unintended way to learn about what was really happening in a country and how ordinary people felt about it. I should add here that my conversations with fellow hams in these countries were never aimed at uncovering specific information of intelligence value to the Embassy. The nature of my job seldom permitted me to be privy to what specific information there was that the Embassy wanted to know anyway, and the conversations that I had where I was an active participant were just about like the conversations I would have at a PVRC meeting or Over-the-Hill luncheon these days. I did try to extol the joys of contesting



every chance I got, and in Argentina I did push hard for them to mount a DXpedition to South Sandwich, which was among the most needed countries of the day when I was there. When the subject turned to local politics, which it often did just as it does in our country, I would listen but not try to steer the conversation in any particular direction. All this by way of saying that I do not believe my overseas ham friends were being disloyal to their country by including an employee of the U. S. Government in their routine conversations. I have always felt, and continue to feel today, that the more different nationalities know about each other, the less likely we are to engage in conflict as a result of misunderstandings about each others' intentions.

When it came to conversations with my officially-approved "contacts", local citizens that it was my job to get to know -- at one time or another we were even required to fill out file cards about them which were stored in our Embassy offices, though the policy changed several times over the years of my Foreign Service career -- I was expected to discuss matters of interest to the Embassy with them. In my case these included journalists, broadcasters, university professors, artists, and my fellow press attaches from other embassies. We would usually meet for lunch or dinner or at cocktail parties. But by and large my job when talking to them was to explain U. S. policy on issues of importance to our bilateral relations and to try to get them to support such policies publicly in their editorials or their classrooms, not to get information from them. In other words, my official duties involved the dissemination of information and not the receipt of information. Occasionally in my conversations with these people I would find out something of interest to the Embassy, which I duly reported, but that was not the purpose of my contacts.

Ham radio sometimes helped with these contacts too. In Colombia the rector of a major technical college turned out to be a ham and he invited me so often to deliver evening lectures (in Spanish) to his student body that my immediate boss became jealous and asked to go in my place once. He was never invited back because during the question-and-answer session, which was usually much longer than the lecture itself, my boss stuck narrowly to U. S. policy, whereas I tried to be completely honest and expansive in answering the students' questions, which were frequently hostile to U. S. policy, without revealing any government secrets of course. In other words, "my country, warts and all." I always felt that by being open and matter-of-fact rather than defensive about such policies I was actually exhibiting more confidence in the essential rightness of our actions than by responding to the students' questions with hostility and quibbling. Anyway the lectures were popular and the audience was generally standing-room-only; I had a ready and attentive audience for my message.

Most of my bosses (known formally as the Director of the U. S. Information Service and/or Counselor of Embassy for Press and Cultural Affairs -- titles which finally accrued to myself in my final overseas posting in Nicaragua) were delighted to have the tidbits I would occasionally pick up so that they had something to say at the weekly Heads of Section meetings held by the Ambassador.

Except for one, a fellow named Jim McGinley who was my big boss in Bangkok for most of my second tour in Thailand. I had gotten to know Kitti Snitwong, HS1BD, at that time one of very few native Thais who had the courage and status to openly practice ham radio, which was still formally illegal. Kitti was a prominent banker who proudly showed off his stable of 15 cars to me on one of the visits I made to his home. What a quandary! Kitti's dilemma each day as he went off to the office was: "Let's see, should I take the '76 Caddy today? Or maybe the '77 Beamer? Or how about the '75 Mercedes?"

Anyway Kitti enjoyed having an excuse to get away for lunch at the in-house restaurant of Thailand's biggest department store of the day which was known for the youth and beauty of its vast number of salesgirls. Inviting an American Embassy official there for lunch was a good excuse for Kitti to explain to his XYL why he went there. Naturally he assumed that I would be interested in the behind-the-scenes goings-on of the members of Thai High Society, and his position in the world of business and as a member of good standing of the Thai elite gave him a clear window of observation of these foibles. Based on my experience with earlier bosses, the minute I got back to my office I went in to see Jim and began to download for him the mass of intelligence I had stored in my cranium during my lunch with Kitti. Jim held up his hand and said: "I don't want to hear it. People will get the idea you're working for somebody else. The next time you have lunch with Kitti and he starts to bring stuff like this up, change the subject."

[continued in next month's Newsletter]

## **Around the Club Meeting Minutes from the Chapters**

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The PVRC **Rappahannock Chapter** met on Saturday, 30 Sept, at the NR4M "Goat Farm" with the following present: NR4M, K4GMH, K4GM, K4ZW, K4HR, K4FJ, W3BP, K4IA and K4EU. K7SV called in from North Dakota.

We discussed the upcoming contest season and encouraged everyone to participate and submit scores to bolster the club score. K4ZW advised that the club's primary goal is to win the Sweepstakes Gavel this year and encouraged maximum participation from individual members. K4GMH polled members who require assistance in getting their antenna systems ready for the contest season. K4GMH, in his role as CQ's RTTY plaque program chairman, also requested members to take under advisement the possibility of sponsoring a plaque for the CQ RTTY contests. Most categories have sponsors but there are still some sponsorships available. We also discussed setting a date for our annual Christmas party now instead of putting it off until later in the year.

Around the room:

Steve/NR4M: Steve described some aluminum element metal fatigue that has been experienced with his OWA stacks. The plan is to take the existing OWA's down and to rebuild stronger. A new 120' tower is up and ready for antennas. Others will be going up. Six new computers have been put in service but some problems have occurred with these computers interfacing with the Orion. Interface to the OMNI-6 appears to be fine. Steve operated the CQ WW RTTY contest with K4GM.

Mike/K4GMH: Mike continues to help club members in need with antenna, tower and electronic issues. He operated the CQ WW RTTY contest and turned in a fine score, albeit down from last year. Mike mentioned he has a new LP100 wattmeter which he likes very much.

Ken/K4ZW: Ken plans to operate the CQ WW CW Contest SO2R from N3HBX's QTH.

Lew/K4HR: Lew advised that antenna work continues at his QTH. He's completing a second tower and more antennas will be going up soon. SO2R wiring has been completed, and he will be active in the fall contests on the SSB side of the ledger.

Steve/K4FJ: Steve advised he's also slowly doing antenna work and is currently involved in a Tic Ring replacement. He will be active in some of the upcoming contests.

Bruce/W3BP: Bruce talked about his new Harris military amplifier. The fan is so loud that he's remoted it to his front porch. That comment drew some humor from the gathered clan. Bruce countered that his XYL had made a nice cover for the amp to help it blend in to its new surroundings on the porch and to reduce the bugs it might suck in via the air intake.

Buck/K4IA: Buck operated the CQ WW RTTY contest from a beach location in SC last weekend with a 20 watt rig and an Outbacker antenna --shades of KI3O.... And, he reported that he worked everything that he heard and had a fun time of it. Buck also drew the admiration of the assembled group when he described his exercise routine in the mornings in his HAM shack. While on a stationary bike, Buck has mounted in front of him a keyboard and monitor and, while exercising, works PSK DX!!!! Who says exercising has to be boring or a waste of time??? More of us should adopt Buck's idea.

George/K4GM: George reports that while licensed since 1964, he's never operated RTTY until this summer. He and NR4M teamed up for the CQ WW RTTY last weekend and he's having a blast learning this new mode. George is also a convert to N1MM contesting software.

Steve/K4EU: Steve reported that with the help of K4GMH and K4ZW his new 8 element LP antenna is up on the tower and he's having fun working DX and looking forward to the upcoming contests. He also has switched to N1MM contest software and is learning how to operate it. Steve also discussed his recent trip to Ten-Tec and how

impressed he was with the folks there and the tour of the facility provided by Scott/W4PA.

After the meeting we discussed more lighthearted subjects and enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers provided by Steve/NR4M and XYL Carolyn. Thanks to Steve and Carolyn for their outstanding hospitality and believe all the attendees enjoyed excellent eyeball QSOs with each other.

73, Steve K4EU

The **NW Region** met at the City Buffet in Frederick, MD on 19 September 2006.

In attendance were: N3HBX, K3WC, NE3H, N3VOP, K3OQ, KA3UBJ, W3IDT, WA3OFF, K3NCO, N3UM, K4ZA, K4VV, W0YR, W3EKT, KI4IEO, WF1L, W3CQH, WA3KYY, W3PO, K3MM, W8ZA, WN3R, W8LRL and W3LL.

Regrets: W3KHZ, Art reports his tower is up and topped off with a 6M beam. K2PLF, Marty is at the Midwest W9DXCC convention followed by vacation. W3ZZ, Gene had a commitment to give a speech to a local club tonight. W3LJ, Bruce is working at a software house in PG County

NW Business: KI4IEO, Chuck was voted into PVRC tonight. He has a Tech license and is working toward General. He lives in an antenna restricted community but hopes to have a 6M antenna up soon. His prior meeting was at NW. Bud, W3LL nominated Chuck who was then voted unanimously into PVRC. Welcome aboard Chuck!

W3PO, Patrick was also voted into PVRC tonight. His first meeting was at W3LPL. Patrick used to live in Annapolis but has since moved to this area. His other calls are F6DWI and VQ9PO where he ran lots of pileups from Diego Garcia. When he's home in Hyattsville he's a big fan of VHF. He's up on 6M, 2M, 442 MHz and 1296 MHz. He'll be on HF as soon as another antenna goes up. Patrick is a merchant seaman and his next trip is to Antarctica. Frank told him to join PVRC 23 years ago. He got a call to go back to sea, but he's here now 23 years later. Bud, W3LL nominated Patrick who was then voted unanimously into PVRC. Welcome aboard Patrick!

Announcements: W3LL, Bud announced the first running of the CQWW RTTY DX contest with club competition will be held this weekend. This is the largest RTTY contest of the year. PVRC is sponsoring a plaque to be awarded to the winning club. Mike K4GMH says we better win it. K4VV, Jack presented the 5M award plaque to Mike W0YR.

From Around the Table: N3HBX, John's Poolesville station was used two weekends ago in the WAE contest. John's team consisted of KD4D, K4OW, NI1N and NN3W. With 1.6M points, they think they won it. No posted scores come close to this in the Multi-Single category. This kept John out of the VHF contest and a visit to FAR-FEST in Gaithersburg. K3WC, Dusty thanks Marty, K2PLF for the loan of his MP during the last couple of months while Dusty's MK-V was being repaired. WB3DNA of Harrisburg PA recently became an SK. Dusty is selling WB3DNA's Omni Six Plus, Version 1 for \$800. Dusty's tower is still on the ground.

NE3H, Joe was convinced early this year that he had to replace his aging 40M 2 EL beam. So he replaced it with an XM-240. Joe was impressed with the physical construction of this antenna. However, it's up but doesn't work. Apparently the issue is with one of the loading coils. A number of them had been shipped without having removed the enamel from the wire. This weekend will be tower work weekend with no time for contesting in one of his favorite contests.

N3VOP, Mike hasn't been doing much contesting. His time is spent going and getting ready for hamfests. He went to Shelby for the first time and enjoyed it. He stayed for three days at his brothers house within 10 mi of Shelby. Farfest was a major disappointment. A \$5.00 parking fee in addition to the \$6.00 entrance fee caused many to turn around and go home. Attendance was estimated to be down by at least 50%. K3OQ, Jeff played around in one of the QRP Sprints on the beach while on vacation in Rehoboth. When he got home he fried the transmit module in his 432 MHz rig. He got two Q's before it died. Jeff got his ATS-3A fully assembled. First time with surface mount assembly. It plays on 40M. Next is to assemble the other three band modules and have more fun.

KA3UBJ, Miriam had a great time in Field Day. She's been studying and hopes to upgrade sometime during this contest season. W3IDT, Bob says Miriam and her sister, along with the XYL, are leaving in two weeks. They're going to Spain and Morocco for three weeks vacation. Bob joined the W3SO operation two weeks ago. Bob used to have a moderately big 6M station. This is his first venture into VHF since then. It's a lot different than HF contesting but still a lot of fun. Jack, K4VV trained Bob in the quarterback position on 2M. That's the position that runs the contacts thru the other 3 bands within a 3 minute window.

WA3OFF, Dave was in the two QRP contests that he regularly enters. In the Spartan Sprint he entered in the minimum weight category using a two cell battery pack and 2W output. The lower weight produces a higher multiplier score but the loss of about 2 q's due to the lower power may have netted a lower gross score. Next month he'll be going back to the bigger battery pack. In the Run For The Bacon contest he had the same number of Q's as last time but fewer multipliers. Dave's learning how to get his QRP scores higher.

K3NCO, Mark got three times the Q's as Dave in the Spartan Sprint but was in 12th place compared to Dave's 4th place finish. The reason is Mark's rig was nine ounces compared to under two ounces for Dave. The score is Q's divided by weight. Mark got a certificate from the Flying Pigs for having placed third in the Run for the Bacon contest.

W8LRL, Wal from WV has been in the CQWW and ARRL contests. Last January he was joined by guest operator K3BU for the 160M contest, setting a record with 800K points. 160M is the only band Wal operates. Anyone is welcome to see the station. It has phased Beverages including phased endfire and broadside. Montenegro and Swains Island added two new ones to his 160 country total of 320. N3UM, Ben operated in the September VHF contest. Just prior to the contest he found high SWR on both 6M and 2M. The 6M issue was traced to a short in an MFJ lightning arrester. The 2M issue may have been with a 140' piece of Heliac. He put the 6M Heliac on 2M and used coax for 6M. This resulted in the loss of about a db on each band. Ben found participation to be very low with half to two thirds the number of Q's in 11 hours instead of eight hours and one more grid square on each band - using better antennas than last year. Yesterday Ben got a certificate for 1st place MDC, HP, CW Only class in the 2005 ARRL 10M contest. However there were only two entries in this category. N3AM was the other. He was first of seven in the Atlantic Division and second of six in PVRC, which is a tougher league, and 25th of 87 in the country. Ben recently traded in his Orion for an Orion II. The controls are faster and crisper in operation. The CW response and spectrum display work better.

WN3R, Dick says between grandchildren, weddings, the beach, golf and repeater work, he has not been on the air. The station is still under construction. He can now switch between antennas. K4ZA, Don's real career is in film and TV production. Some years ago Don started traveling around the country interviewing contesters. He wanted to find out why contesters did what they do. With a grant from the YASME foundation he got this documentary finished and rolled it out this year at Dayton. It's a compilation of interviews with fifty of the top contesters and old contesters. It's 2 hours and 49 minutes long. It comes in a two DVD boxed set - not to be confused with the PVRC video. The sale price is \$40 for a boxed set of two DVD's. This won't allow Don to retire to the Cayman Islands anytime soon or break even, as the XYL was fond of pointing out to him. Marketing them is difficult because the paid ads are too costly. Don was thanked for his Tool Box

K4VV, Jack has been the recipient of Don's engineering work including tower & antenna installation experience. Jack was recently at Marty Johnson's W3SO station in Altoona PA. It was fun having people there who didn't know the regime and weird system of passing. It's divided into two sets of people. The old timers are passing notes which worked when everyone was in one room. VHF/UHF contesting is quite different with its own rewards. There were no serious openings this time, such as aurora or wide open 6M activity. There was some ducting. The score was down but given the conditions they did pretty well and remain in claimed first place. At Jack's station, some of the antennas are up. The first tower is populated with 8 antennas. Six that are two stacks on 10M-15M-20M with a 6M and 30M antenna. This week Don is helping with the preparation of the next 8 antennas to go up on the next tower. The heavy ones that came from K4JA's station with 48' OWA booms.

W0YR, Mike hasn't been to a NW meeting in some time and is glad to see some faces that are new to him. K3WC has been Mike's idol for many years and he wants to do everything as he does. Mike was recently given a 70'

crank-up tower by W0CW's wife. So Mike drove out there and got a bunch of drunken KS City hams to help him load it. Mike brought the tower back. Dusty would be proud because the tower is still on the ground. Mike's excited about the RTTY contest. It's a lot of fun. He asked Dusty for some advice as Mike hasn't had much success as a single operator. Dusty's advice was to enter as married, single band, on 40M.

W3EKT, Ed's summer has been consumed with yard work, travel and vacation. Marty, W3YOZ dropped off a couple of transverters, interface boxes, a pile of cables and a TS-850, all to be sorted out.

It was KI4IEO, Chuck's second meeting. He thanks everyone for voting him into PVRC and looks forward to a lot of success in contesting. WF1L, Bill was in the September VHF contest with minimal results. He worked W3SO but could not be heard on 6M and 432 MHz. That was the furthest Q. Everything else was within 40-50 miles from the house. The loop antennas apparently need some work. A 70CM 8 el Quagi on a 20' plastic mast worked OK using 5W, working as many people as on 6M and 2M. Bill will be in the RTTY contest this weekend.

W3CQH, Howard is becoming infamous this last month. The picture of his truck is on the web. The truck has 11 el on 432 MHz, a 4 el quad on 6M and a pair of stacked halo's for 6M. This was used for the VHF contest in September making 50 Q's and 10 grids. For the 2M sprint last night, Howard went on top of Gambrills and worked from Dick's WN3R driveway. He made 15 Q's and 6 grids including K1WHS in Maine. He swings the beam around by driving the truck in a circle. The HOA says there are too many antennas on the truck and consider it commercial because of the Skywarn and the two FD signs. Howard has been in contact with a volunteer ham counsel.

WA3KYY, Mike hopes to be in the RTTY contest this weekend. This past weekend Mike operated portable at Fort Story. That's near the Cape Henry Light at the mouth of the Chesapeake bay. He used a 100' doublet set up as an inverted vee. He worked the west coast on 75M with 100W. Proximity to the ocean helped. Mike's looking forward to the upcoming DX contests.

W3PO, Patrick was in utter despair in the last VHF contest with 5W and antennas in the attic. He worked some PVRC members and W3SO. During poor conditions it's interesting to see what the operators at the big stations are doing. You call a big station 12 times on CW and he doesn't answer but on SSB he answers on the first call. VHF was one of Patrick's early loves in ham radio and he stuck with it. HF DXing is fun but VHF is top notch. Patrick is going to work on his HF station, putting up new antennas. He plans to buy a FT1000D which he believes to be the best radio ever made. If you have one for sale contact Patrick.

K3MM, Ty didn't do much ham radio this month. Time was spent mostly car racing. He just came back from Ohio at the SCCA Nationals. He didn't win it but was firmly in the mid-pack. It was a fun four days on the track. He'll be back next year and hopefully do a little better. Ty has at least one SS tips article coming out in the next newsletter. It'll be a lot of what he discussed here two months ago with some updates. This weekend he'll be at John's N3HBX Poolesville station for the CQWW RTTY contest. He'll also be putting his SS station back together to use in November's SS contest.

W8ZA, Bob received two certificates for CQ WW. One for SSB, 1st place, 8th call area. Miriam KA3UBS, Bob W3IDT, Ed K3IXD, Ed K3DNE, Jerry K8OQL and Tom WD3A were part of that crew. The other was for CW, Multi-2, 6th place US, 1st place 8th call area. Jeff N8II, Tom WD3A, Jerry K8OQL and Bob W8ZA were the operators. W8ZA won't be a Multi-Multi this year. The antennas are in disarray. He'll be lucky to get on as a single op with limited activity this year. The 80M antenna is disconnected. This past weekend Bob took down one of the 40M beams. The tribander is disconnected and taken apart. It had loose connections. He's going to redesign the station to be more maintainable by himself. He's looking to replace the 80' Rohn 45 with a hinged section. The station will likely revert to a Multi-2.

W3LL, Bud received certificates for CQWW DX SSB, single op, all band, low power, 2005, 6th US and 1st in 3rd call area. Also a certificate for CQWW WPX SSB, single op, all band, low power, tribander and wires, 1st in 3rd call area. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM. The next NW Region meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 17 October 2006.

73, Bud W3LL NW Region Chairman PVRC

Once again the **PVRCNC-East** crew turned out in strong numbers and enjoyed an excellent program/gathering in October. The 13 in attendance were: K4QPL, Jim; W0UCE, Jack; K2AV, Guy; KA1ARB, Rob; K4CIA, Bill; NX9T, Jeff; N4TL, Tom; K4CZ, Barry; W4KAZ, Keith; N4YDU, Nate; KE4GY, Frank; N1LN, Bruce; and N1YXU, Laurie.

K4QPL welcomed the group and outlined the evening's agenda. A reminder that next month's meeting (November) will be our 10th anniversary special meeting. We hope that everyone can come! Let's pack out our meeting space. If anyone has any personal stories, "reflections," etc. to share, please contact Jack.

The California QSO Party was announced as a great "warm up" for SS. Jim provided encouragement for us ALL to get on and operate during SS. We were reminded how PVRC moved up one "spot" last year in the unlimited category and we need to build on that momentum. We need all members to get in on the action and operate at least some in both modes if at all possible. W4KAZ has put in considerable work on the web page and has added a special SS page. Please check it out (thanks Keith)! Jim, K4QPL and Henry, W2DZO, have established the "Chairman's Challenge" for NC members. Check out the web page for more details!!! All active members are encouraged to reach out to a less active member and encourage him/her to join in with us during SS. More information about a plan to do this is forthcoming. Also, if you want to operate but have no station, please contact K4QPL, NX9T, or W0UCE.

W0UCE conducted the regular "Paper Contest." This month's contest required members to be familiar with contest rules. The specific contest for which we were "tested" involved the Worked All Great Britain contest. Most everyone found the questions quite challenging. Winning this month's prize (hole saw set) was new web master, W4KAZ. K2AV and K4CZ were close behind and nipping at Keith's ankles.

Jim, K4QPL, presented a very interesting and educational program focused on his recent trip to England. Jim operated for a few hours from the Lizard Wireless Station (GB2LD) which was a Marconi Centenary Station back in its glory days. Jim had plenty of great photos which he shared via a power point presentation with the group. He also handed out a few QSL cards to the lucky ones who had worked Jim while at GB2LD.

The program schedule for the next month is as follows: November: 10th Anniversary Special Meeting!

Member Reports: KA1ARB: Rob is glad to be back with us after a few months away. Big news is that he recently purchased a 72' tower. It was probably be next sprint before it goes up. He and long-time friend, Lee, WB1ADR, placed in the top ten as a Multi-Op entry in the ARRL DX SSB contest. He is getting ready for SS and plans to do another multi-op outing! K4CIA: Bill has been on the air just a tad lately. He recently traveled to Bermuda on vacation and had a delightful time. Plans to be on for SS, possibly QRP. Bill continues to work on 30m antennas.

NX9T: Jeff recently traveled to "9-land" to visit some old friends and caught up with several ham buddies. He hasn't been on the air much lately and even missed the September Sprint which normally doesn't happen. Jeff plans to get on for SS. K4QPL: Jim spent part of last month in England and operated from GB2LD (see meeting presentation notes). He played some in the Texas QSO Party. Jim's big news is that he "treated himself" to a new Orion II for his birthday. He is planning to give it a real run during the upcoming SS contests. N4YDU: Nate hasn't been on much lately but is working on some wire beam designs. Will be on for CQWW. He has been busy as the announcer at his high school football games this season. N4TL: Tom brought in pictures of an antique radio which he has restored. It's a beauty. While he hasn't been on the air much the last few weeks, Tom does expect to be on some during the CQP and SS events.

K4CZ: Barry recently purchased a new key (Begali) and is loving it! While on a recent trip to Italy, he had to pleasure to meet Mr. Begalli and spend several hours with him. Barry set a new personal best (508 q's) in the CQWW RTTY contest. Also, he has worked 50 states and has confirmed 49 thus far via LOTW. Barry is still wrestling with his tower project and has discovered the real multi-faceted cost of putting up a tower. W4KAZ: Keith reported that the planets were aligned properly the other day as it seemed he was blessed with a "golden day" for shooting lines over trees. Each shot was perfectly placed, returned to earth without a snag, and allowed ropes to be pulled up effortlessly. He is very excited about putting some antennas up in "them thar trees" soon.



W0UCE: Jack "bragged" about how he has found "\$12 per hour-will do anything" laborers in the area. He hired them to finish pounding in his ground rods. Highly recommends them for similar type work. Jack provided a moving editorial on the necessity to avoid "chiggers" when working in the woods. K2AV: Guy has been working on mostly indoor projects lately. He continues his quest to wire the shack to the outside elements of his station and has tested some small diameter teflon type coax for use in tight quarters. Initial testing reveals the coax CAN handle QRO without heating up! Guy is preparing for SS.

KE4GY: Frank has been playing with a terrain analysis program. He reports it is great for antenna planning and has helped filling the time when the bands are dead. N1LN: Bruce operated in the CW Sprint and the Texas QSO Party. He is waiting on final landscape work to be completed so that he can begin installing multiple towers on his property. Hopes to get in the CQP. N1YXU: Laurie advised that she "listened" to her OM N1LN operate in the TQP, but that most of her time has been setting up their new home in NC and working in the shack.

We look forward to a very special meeting in November! Don't miss out...mark your calendars now! You won't want to miss this one. Please try to join us and let's set an all time high "record" for attendance.

73, jeff nx9t

## 5M Contest Scores By Anthony Brooks, WM3T

### ARRL September VHF Contest

| Call  | Class | Status | Time | QSO's | Mults | Score   |
|-------|-------|--------|------|-------|-------|---------|
| W3SO  | MM    |        |      | 1027  | 210   | 279,510 |
| W4RX  | SOHP  |        |      | 656   | 222   | 260,184 |
| W1RT  | MM    | ROVER  | 33   | 574   | 99    | 112,464 |
| W3ZZ  | SOHP  |        |      |       |       | 73,753  |
| W4XP  | SOLP  |        |      | 324   | 78    | 34,710  |
| K2PLF | SOLP  |        |      | 175   | 44    | 8,140   |
| K3JT  | M2    |        |      | 105   | 51    | 6,528   |
| N3UM  | SOLP  |        | 11   | 121   | 39    | 4,719   |
| K4FTO | SOLP  |        |      | 95    | 34    | 4,488   |
| N3II  | SOLP  | 6M     |      | 105   | 23    | 2,415   |
| N4MM  | SOHP  |        |      | 49    | 29    | 1,711   |
| W2YE  | SOHP  |        |      | 48    | 18    | 900     |
| KI3O  | SOLP  |        |      | 30    | 19    | 570     |
| N4VA  | SOLP  |        | 1:12 | 31    | 15    | 495     |
| W3ADC | SOHP  |        |      |       |       | 429     |
| WF1L  | SOLP  |        | 3.5  | 28    | 10    | 280     |
| W2CDO | SOLP  |        |      | 20    | 10    | 200     |

Total Logs: 17  
Total Club Score: 791,496

2005 17 logs  
2,900,725

#### MultiOp Operators

W3SO K4VV, W3BTX, K3RUQ, K8JW, W3IDT, W2GPS  
AI3M, W3YOZ  
W1RT W1RT, ON4IY  
K3JT K3JT, KB3LNF

### WAE DX SSB Contest

| Call   | Class        | Time | QSO's | Mults | Score     |
|--------|--------------|------|-------|-------|-----------|
| KD4D   | M1 @N3HBX    | 48   | 1979  | 442   | 1,585,896 |
| WX3B   | SOHP         | 24   | 1132  | 291   | 630,015   |
| N8II   | SOHP         | 20   | 986   | 124   | 607,950   |
| K3DI   | MS           |      | 776   | 115   | 408,660   |
| W3BP   | SOHP as KM4M |      | 202   | 165   | 66,330    |
| AJ1M   | SOLP         |      | 135   | 58    | 36,315    |
| WB4MSG | SOHP 20      | 4.5  | 405   | 74    | 29,970    |
| W3ADC  | M1           | 20   |       |       | 29,928    |
| K4CZ   | SOHP         |      | 150   | 107   | 27,178    |
| W8OHT  | SOHP         |      | 111   | 50    | 26,962    |
| N4MM   | SOHP         |      | 111   | 122   | 26,962    |
| W2YE   | SOHP         |      | 95    | 49    | 19,610    |
| N3UA   | SOLP         | 2    | 45    | 27    | 4,950     |
| K3QX   | SOHP         |      | 48    |       | 2,068     |
| W4TMN  | SOLP         | 4    | 27    | 17    | 875       |
| AJ3M   | SOLP         |      | 8     | 19    | 152       |

Total Logs: 16  
Total Club Score: 3,503,821

#### Multi-Op Operators

K3DI W3UL, K3DI  
W3ADC W3ADC, W3ADX  
KD4D K4ZW, KD4D, N3HBX, NI1N, NN3W

## The Reference Page Has Moved

Because it changes so little from month to month, we've decided to move the reference page to [www.pvrc.org/refe.htm](http://www.pvrc.org/refe.htm). That should be more convenient for most readers because there are many links in that page pointing to e-mail addresses, etc.

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- 2M @ 7W • Optional D-STAR format digital operation features include callsign calling, up to 20 character text message, & position exchange\*\* • CTCSS/DTCS encode/decode w/tones scan • Also available in a sport version and a 70CM version (IC-U82)



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\*Except 60M Band \*\*Cellular blocked, unblocked OK to FCC approved users. † Limited time only. Check with HRO for details or restrictions on any offers or promotions. \*\* For shock & vibration. †† When connected to an external GPS  
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Phone Hours: 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
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Toll free, incl. Hawaii, Alaska, Canada; call routed to nearest store; all HRO 800-lines can assist you, if the first line you call is busy, you may call another.

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