

The PVRC Newsletter

Editor: Walt McGugan, W3FG, 1336 Burlington Drive, Odenton, MD 21113

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SECRETARY

Mike Colesante, KC8C
(703) 370-4261

TREASURER

Alfred A. Laun, III, K3ZO
(301) 899-1235

MEETING NOTICE

6

WHEN: Monday, January 13, 1986, at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: QTH of K3ZO, 5801 Huntland Road, Temple Hills, MD; see last page for directions.

WHAT: 1. Discussion on permanent meeting location(s);
2. Club plans for the ARRL DX contests;
3. Presentation by Pete Smith, N4ZR, of WINNER'S EDGE contest software for the Commodore 64 computer.

President's Korner

It was nice to see so many of you at the Christmas Dinner last month. Thirty-nine members and guests came out for a wonderful buffet meal at the Brooke Manor Country Club in Rockville. Thanks for making all the arrangements, Andy (W3XE).

Walt McGugan, W3FG, was presented with the annual PVRC clock award in recognition of his outstanding work over the years as club treasurer and newsletter editor in addition to his participation in other club activities.

I have also been happy to see so many members paying up their dues, including several who have been pretty quiet for the past several years. We are working on a system so that your mailing label will indicate the year your dues are paid through. This is in response to many comments by members that they just can't remember whether they have paid or not. Adding this to the mailing label, as all magazines and other publications do, will hopefully be a painless (except for Walt) and confidential manner of keeping all our members informed of their status.

If you weren't at the Christmas dinner, you missed an excellent presentation by John Johnston, W3BE, the former president of our rivals to the north, the Frankford Radio Club. Johnny spoke of the founding fathers of that club, and of contesting in general. He also related a few stories about the founding of our own PVRC.

It is time to prepare for the ARRL DX contests -- so please make sure that your antennas and rigs are in top working order now. CW weekend is February 15 - 16, 1986; Phone is March 1 - 2. So tell your boss you can't work those two weekends, and make plans to get on and show your stuff. Twenty still produces a lot of good DX work worldwide, and 40, 80, & 160 are at or close to the best they'll be for a number of years. Fifteen and ten pop open once in a while too -- I had 850 QSOs in December's Ten Meter contest, which wasn't bad for a "dead" band. ZM80Y was loud both days!

Hope to see you at the meeting. Pete's software is very helpful, and this is also a chance to tell him our ideas of what the computer should do for us to eliminate the drudgery of contest paperwork.

LETTERS TO PVRC

-- From Sherry Peruzzi: I would like to express my appreciation for the support and sympathy my husband Tom, W4BVV, and I received from PVRC members during the ten months of his illness, and after his death. Thanks to those who sent cards to brighten Tom's long, frequent, hospital stays; to those who took the time to visit him there; and particularly to those who have been giving the practical help so greatly needed. And to all of you who were present at Tom's memorial service, my heartfelt thanks - I gained much strength from your thoughtfulness and caring.

I had not had the opportunity in the past to do much contesting, but I have always enjoyed it, and Tom and I had been planing a "small" (to him!) contest station at our Maryland QTH. I was proud of Tom's sponsorship of the CQ trophy for so many years, and wanted it to continue to bear his call; so I am especially gratified that the PVRC will be sponsoring the "W4BVV Memorial." Many thanks to all of you. Sincerely, Sherry Peruzzi, N8COW.

-- From Dick Phelps, N4RP: I had enough adventures during the 1985 CQ WW CW test to write a short article for the newsletter - the adventures had more to do with hurricane KATE than the test! I had no rig on 160 so ZERO for that band - and no sunspots for 10 so the same. Other bands OK. Sure would like to borrow a 160 rig for ARRL. I'm not that keen on running a multi-op for ARRL but the rest of the winter my yacht KISKADEE is available for charter in the Bahamas at \$1200/week for up to four people - all inclusive, \$1100 the second week. Have rig. 73, Dick.

MEMBER ADS

--WANTED: A rig for 160 meters to borrow for the ARRL DX contests. Please contact Dick Phelps, N4RP, Box 030323, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33303.

--TOWER WORK: Safe, reasonable, reliable. Contact Wayne Hillenbrand, N2FB, 1008 Lee Jackson Dr, Lothian, MD 20711, phone (301) 627-1166.

CW SS DIARY 1985 de Mike Colesante, KC8C (thanks to N8II for the inspiration)

As has been the case for the past two years, I trekked back to my home state of West Virginia to operate the 1985 CW Sweepstakes from the QTH of N8II. 1983 and 1984 had been frustrating due to a varied set of problems. 1983 found me right with the leaders at sleeptime only to have a drunk driver take out a power pole one hour after I got on in the morning and leave us without power for three hours. 1984 found me with a blown front end coil in one of the TS-830s, which wasn't realized until the damage to the rate was done.

This year I was determined to go through without problems. I ventured up to Jeff's one weekend in October to help with some antenna work and to be sure everything was in shape. One of the things we did was to replace the 40 meter dipole with a quad loop. This didn't seem to do the trick, possibly due to the bottom being quite near the ground. A Delta loop was also tried with similarly disappointing results, so the dipole was put back up. It served quite well as will be seen. We also replaced Jeff's 80 meter wire vertical with one made of tubing, which went up on the third try looking like a piece of saturated vermicelli.

Friday before the contest arrives and I'm raring to go. I do my grocery shopping at lunchtime in order to have as much time as possible on Saturday to relax. I arrive at Jeff's about 6:30 and after pizza we spend the rest of the evening discussing the previous weekend's WW SSB test.

Saturday I sleep till about 10:30 AM and then I'm ready to subject Jeff's station to its annual rape for my SS setup. As in the past, the station consisted of two TS-830s (mine and Jeff's), SB220, SB200, CK2, stereo headphones, and my "high tech" SS box which allows

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(301) 899-1235

MEETING NOTICE

WHEN : Monday, February 10, 1986, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE : QTH of Fred Laun, K3ZO, see last page
for directions

AGENDA : Effective preparation for and operation
in the ARRL DX Contests

CW Contest : February 15-16, 1986.

SSB Contest: March 1-2, 1986.

Discussions on 147.00 repeater re ARRL CW test Monday evening,
February 17 at 8:00 p.m.; re ARRL phone test Monday, March 3 at 8:00 p.m.

President's Korner

It's time to get in gear for the annual ARRL DX contests. Sunspots are low, so the low bands should be at their best. Even if your station isn't stongest on the low bands, be assured that 20 meters and even 15 and 10 at times are in pretty good shape. Twenty especially is a good choice for a single band effort. It conveniently opens around 6 a.m. and closes at 8 p.m. many days. Some evenings it does stay open to the Pacific at night, however, so if you go all out be sure to check it later in the evening just in case.

If you need any assistance in preraring, or need a station to operate, have station that needs an operator, or whatever, please give me a call in the evening at 938-1495. The PVRC has a lot of resources that can help.

Also, it seems that collecting scores on the repeater right after the contest presents two problems : operators are tired, and many are listening to other scores on 75 meters. Therefore we'll try something new this year, and I hope that you all will check in : we'll meet at 8 p.m. Monday after each contest session. This will be an opportunity to report your score and category, hear what others did, get scores from around the country, boast about your score or good catch, cry the blues about the amplifier that went QRT, or whatever. I think there'll be something for everyone in the discussion, including some good ideas of things to do or not do for nest year. So let's DO IT!

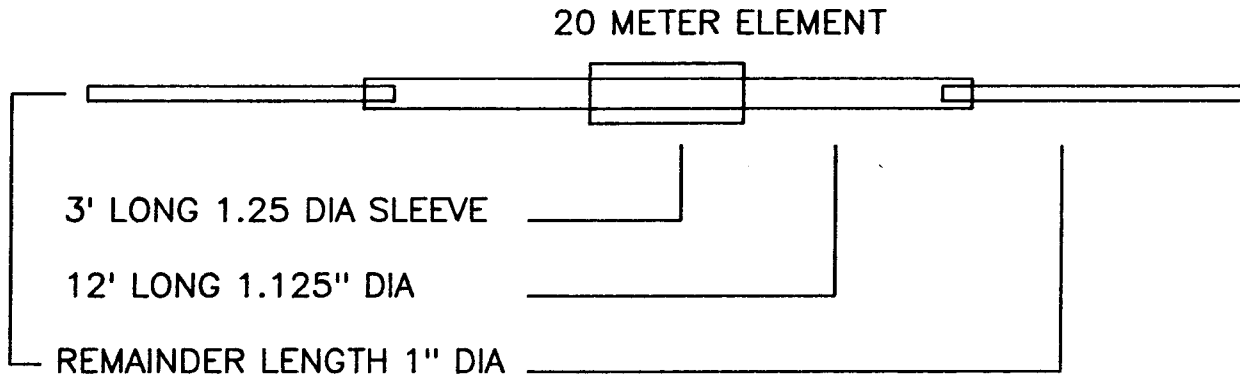
I am sorry to report that two PVRC members passed away in late January. Dick Young, W3PZW, joined PVRC in 1949, shortly after it was formed. He contributed many scores over the years and remained active right up to his last week. In fact, Dick was at our January meeting. He certainly will be missed.

Also, Marvin Carter, W4ZMQ, has passed away. Marv temporarily lived in the D.C. area in the late seventies and joined our club at that time. He was an excellent CW operator.

PVRC-2

OOPS!

For all of those who looked at my 20 meter antenna data, you noticed a few errors. Here is the corrected data for the 20 meter beams.



6 ELEMENT 20 METER YAGI

| ELEMENT # | REMAINDER LENGTHS | SPACING |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| REF 1 | 138.97" | |
| DR 2 | 124.50" | 86.38" |
| D1 3 | 126.63" | 77.71" |
| D2 4 | 121.94" | 157.50" |
| D3 5 | 121.89" | 142.86" |
| D4 6 | 113.52" | 179.54" |

4 ELEMENT 20 METER YAGI

| ELEMENT # | REMAINDER LENGTH | SPACING |
|-----------|------------------|---------|
| REF 1 | 136.39" | |
| DR 2 | 126.89" | 122.88" |
| D1 3 | 116.67" | 88.75" |
| D2 4 | 112.65" | 95.63" |

It has been brought to my attention that the driven element appears to be very short, this is correct. The shorter driven element I think will provide a better SWR across the entire band. The length of the driven element will not change the pattern, but it will make a difference in SWR bandwidth. I think you

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NEXT MEETING : Monday March 10, 1986

QTH : Fred Laun, K3ZO; see directions
last page

AGENDA : 1. ARRL Contest Reports
2. New meeting QTH for '86-'87
3. Summer Meeting Plans

CONTESTS: Virginia QSO Party, March 8-9
CQ WPX Phone March 29-30

It was good to tune across the bands during the ARRL CW contest and hear so many PVRC calls. Scotty KØDQ at W3GRF, and Fred K3ZO, battled it out for top single operator/all band honors on the national level with ex-PVRCer John, KIAR. The final outcome won't be known for some time, but it looks like Scotty might have won it for the country, with John and Fred very close behind. Both Scotty and Fred had a QSO count up around 1700. John was around 1600, but seems to have enough multipliers to make up the difference.

How many times have two hams in the same small suburb (Temple Hills) come in the top three like this? Congratulations to all three of you for a superb job.

While the propagation seems to favor areas south of New England this time, apparently it wasn't far enough south to help the crew at W3LPL. They reported generally poor conditions, and several multi/multi's appear to have done a little better, led by N2ME (at the QTH of K3JLT).

There were several other multi-operator stations active during ARRL CW in various classes, such as those at K3ZZ and W3USS. And I'm sorry I don't have anything near a complete list of single operators so I won't even try to mention all of the efforts here. I hope you'll check into the PVRC net after each contest so that I'll know the extent of your activity. I know from our first net this week that we had as many people listening without checking in as actually checked in. Come on in and share your impressions of conditions and what you've picked up on scores.

On the subject of a new meeting site, I'm sorry to report that I have not been able to compile a list of proposed sites and a questionnaire in time for this mailing. As many of you know, a death in my family has kept me tied up quite a bit this last month, and preparation for the CW and phone contests has used up a significant amount of time. But I do expect to have the options ready for our March 10 meeting and want to thank those of you who have volunteered definite meeting places for us. We have at least three definite sites to propose that pretty well cover the entire D.C. Beltway area : Temple Hills , Reston, and Ashton (?). If you have another, call me now!

Dave, K3ZJ

MEMBER ADS

--TOWER WORK: Safe, reasonable, reliable. Contact Wayne Hillenbrand, N2FB, 1008 Lee Jackson Dr, Lothian, MD 20711, phone (301) 627-1166.

LOG DUPING ON THE APPLE COMPUTER AT W3FG, THE FIRST TWO YEARS de Walt McGugan, W3FG

(Alternate title: HOW TO AVOID TAKING OUT THE GARBAGE)

Not all that long ago, the "High Speed Dash" was an integral part of the goings-on at the W3LPL multi - multi station immediately following the end of a major DX contest. Being a new member of the W3LPL crew at the time, I figured everyone was in a hurry to pack up their rig and load their car so they could rush back in to hear the claimed scores starting to come in on both 2 meters and the HF gathering frequency. (In the words of APPLESOFT, Apple's name for it's BASIC Programming language, this is referred to as a LOGICAL ERROR). I soon learned from experience that the object of the "High Speed Dash" was to disappear before Frank could shove a stack of logs and a piece of paper at you and say "Dupe these!"

Being the proud owner of a new Apple //e system, I accepted the task. After all, this is the kind of thing home computers should be great at. A few lines of BASIC code, and the log could be duped in no time. No problem! (LOGICAL ERROR #2).

The way I looked at it, log duping should be a fairly straightforward process. The duping program I planned would let you type in callsigns from the keyboard. The program would then store the calls in a string array. (A string is computer talk for a variable that contains alpha-numeric data as opposed to numbers). Every so often, say every 100 QSOs or so, the program should check for dupes. I did this by comparing a callsign to each one typed in before it. This procedure turned out to be very inefficient, but easy to program. Besides, at the time I didn't know any better. If the program found a dupe, a plus sign (+) was added at the beginning of the callsign and a message was displayed on the monitor stating where in the log the dupe was found. The callsigns were written to disk every so often to prevent all of your work from being lost if the power failed. This also meant you didn't have to type in an entire band's worth of callsigns in one sitting. After typing in all the callsigns and identifying the dupes, the file containing the calls would be sorted. The callsigns with a plus sign in front of them (the dupes) would sort to the top. Then, using a few simple lines of code to format the output text, the file would be printed to the dot matrix printer stating with the first callsign that didn't have a plus sign in front of it. This print-out would be the dupesheet that is turned in with your contest logs.

The BASIC code for all of the above was fairly easy to write. Rather than re-invent the wheel, I searched through a few magazines looking for a sort routine. I found an article called "WONDER SORT". Sounded good to me! Before writing the full duping program, I typed in the "WONDER SORT" routine (which was written in BASIC) and tested it with 25 random callsigns. The routine sorted them in less than 2 seconds! I figured 1000 callsigns would therefore take no more than 80 seconds or so to sort. (LOGICAL ERROR #3).

After typing in my duping program, I started with the W3LPL 20 meter logs -- about 1000 or so QSOs. Things ran smoothly, and fairly quickly, for the first few hundred QSOs, but started to slow down after that. My

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NEXT MEETING : Monday, April 14, 1986
QTH : K3ZO home, directions last page
AGENDA : Vote on 1986-'87 meeting site
Continue discussion:
restructure of PVRC awards
financial status of club
presentation: BVOBG DXpedition

President's Notes

We had a great meeting in March. Before our normal discussion about the normal and the abnormal that each of us experienced during the ARRL DX tests we discussed needed reform of the PVRC contest (five million) awards program and began discussing a plan for long-term financial stability in view of our steadily diminishing treasury. We also continued our discussion on meeting site for 1986 - '87.

The ARRL SSB DX Contest

Bob Cox, K3EST, related some interesting tales of TVI and moving the entire PJOB station during the contest. Bob and the other two operators still averaged about 160 QSOs per hour despite the problems, of course.

The crew at Frank's M/M W3LPL ended up with 2397 QSOs, 428 mults, for about 3.1 million. This was the last operation from the "old" W3LPL. The new one, with more antennas and towers, is already well along and Frank promises that it will be finished by summer's end. See the news article included on another page. The article demonstrates that basically fair and balanced news can be presented - a credit to both the newspaper and to Frank's obviously successful discussion with the reporter. At last word all was calm in Howard County.

Other excellent ARRL SSB all-band scores from around the club include that of Fred, K3ZO, with about 1675/303 and a shot at second place nationally, behind K1KI up in New England; N2FB estimated at 1400/275; K3ZJ 1000/250; W3HHG 635/191; N3JT 603/160; Fifteen meter single band scores: K3RV perhaps on top nationally with 960/115; and N8II 690/98.

Quite a few others were on, and I hope that all of you sent your scores into the ARRL, and on a summary sheet that credited the "PVRC".

Finances

At the last meeting we began thinking about a problem : we are paying out more to just mail the newsletter than we have received in 1986 dues. While we do have a little cushion, this is solely due to the fact that we have a little money still left over from the repeater. But that is

President's Notes (continued -- Page 2)

disappearing fast. At the present dues rate we need 72 paid members minimum just to cover the newsletter. Other recurring obligations include plaques and awards in our own program (the 5 million award), a massive mailing for the PVRC reunion, our annual clock award, and the Tom Peruzzi W4BVV and Vic Clark W4KFC contest awards.

Over the next couple of months we will be discussing this at meetings. The officers also solicit your ideas and suggestions, either at meetings or by mail or telephone. (My address is on the ballot, below.)

If you are interested in contesting, we hope that PVRC membership is worth the \$10 and that you will help us by sending in your dues even if you generally don't make the meetings. While I personally think the meetings are the best part of club membership, Walt and I have worked hard on improving this club newsletter so that it will be informative and helpful to our members. The improvement will continue, and I hope more of you will help by writing a small piece for us. Send these directly to Walt at the address on the first page of every newsletter.

I do want to clarify that thanks to Fred's hospitality this year the meetings are not a major expense. And the Christmas dinner was self-supporting. Our major expense is for printing and mailing this newsletter, and our other expenses are as noted above.

My purpose in bringing this to your attention is to inform all of you as to the club's status and solicit your suggestions, whether in person at our next meeting or by mail. My address is on noted on the ballot, below.

By next September we must have a plan by which to live within our means. Either some of the things we are doing must be cut, and close to 100% of club expenses are for what I have listed above, or we have to raise more money. Should we cut? Should we raise dues? Should we take up collections at meetings when we have spent more than planned for the previous quarter? Obtain tax-free status and see if a benefactor or two might contribute more than dues (which are not tax deductible in any event) to help PVRC? What are the other possibilities?

The time to work through this is now, while we still have an albeit diminishing cushion. I hope it doesn't come to no awards, no reunion, and 14-cent postcard meeting notices instead of this bulletin. What are your ideas?

President's Notes (continued -- Page 3)

Needed : PVRC Treasurer

Our current treasurer, Fred Laun K3ZO, will be taking up his new post in Managua a little earlier than originally planned. We need a volunteer to take over the books, and it would be helpful to do this in May while Fred is still here to explain it all. Please let me know if you are willing to help.

Meeting Site for 1986 - '87

We have had at least three discussions on meeting sites at our meetings this year. We have four possible sites. We will take a written vote at the April meeting on 1) whether to have two sites on opposite side of D.C. or one, and 2) which of the four we most want and which is our second choice. If for any reason you will not be at this meeting, please detach and mail the ballot reproduced below. They must be postmarked no later than April 15, because by April 21 I will contact our four volunteering members with the results and reserve the selected site. If we cannot get our first choice we will go to the second, but to the best of my belief all four are available.

I want especially to thank the four members who worked to find these sites: Eric Scace, K3NA; "Stew" Stewart, AA4I; Tom Abernethy, WA3TAI; and Bob Thames, K3RT. Due to their work we have four sites to propose in four distinct geographical areas. If you have any questions about any of these four, please contact the person responsible.

I suspect that after discussion one will emerge as the favorite at the meeting. But if the meeting vote is close your mail ballot may be crucial. The sites and information follow. I have noted the member proposing the site in case you wish to contact them for further information. If the vote is pretty well evenly divided we might try a second ballot between the two top choices, and if possible, a third new choice located between the two top ones, or something like that.

If do not attend April 14 meeting, mail no later than April 15 to:
DAVID SIDDALL, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180.

1. PVRC should have two meeting sites in two separate areas between which meetings will alternate. YES _____ NO _____

2. State order of preference, "1" being most favorable and "4" least.
___ Temple Hills, MD; ___ Annandale, VA; ___ Reston, VA; ___ New Hamp. Ave., MD

___ I enclose \$10. for 1986 PVRC dues.

President's Notes (continued -- Page 4)

Descriptions of possible meeting sites follow.

1. Temple Hills, Maryland. One block off beltway Exit 5 (Branch Avenue). Same exit as K3Z0's, but closer to the beltway. Church room with adequate facilities. This room "rents" for \$15. per meeting, several members propose sponsoring the cost and believe that enough other members could be found to do so to cover our eight regular monthly meetings (Sept.- Nov.; Jan.- May) that this will not be paid from our normal club treasury. (For further info contact WA3TAI.)
2. Annandale, Virginia. Three miles inside Virginia Beltway Exit 6, at 6507 Columbia Pike, a Fairfax County office building. Suitable room seats 50, has chalkboard. No charge. (For further information contact AA4I.)
3. Reston, Virginia. GTE Telenet complex, less than fifteen minutes from Beltway Exit right on Dulles Toll Road. (For further information contact K3NA.)
4. New Hamp. Ave., MD. School 10-15 minutes north of Beltway on New Hampshire Avenue. Similar to school room we met in before, but further north off beltway. (For further information contact K3RT.)

-- I believe that all of these of suitable facilities and nearby pizza or similar places can be located.

March 10, 1986 Meeting Attendance:

KC8C -- W3FG -- K3ZJ -- W3HHG -- K3Z0 --KM3T -- KX3Q -- K3EST -- W3Y0Z --
W3AZ -- W3LPL -- W3XE -- W3GN -- W6AXX --N3JT -- W3YY -- W3FA -- K3ZZ.

Thanks es 73, c u April 14 at K3Z0's.


Dave, K3ZJ

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MEETING NOTICE Monday, May 12, 1986 at 7:30 p.m.;
QTH of K3ZO, directions last page;
Election of Treasurer and brief
report on amateur radio in Thailand.

UPCOMING EVENTS: May 10, 2100 Z - May 11 2100 Z CQ-M Contest (Russian)
May 24 - 25, CQ WPX CW CONTEST
June 7 - 8, PVRC REUNION

Enclosed with this newsletter is the report of our 1985 PVRC Reunion and information about our 1986 Reunion. For local members, this year the reunion does not conflict with Manassas Hamfest for a change, thanks to the calendar! For those of you from out of town, this is our annual communication. Please mark your calendar and join us on the air. I have enjoyed meeting a number of our out-of-town inactive members at places such as Visalia and Dayton, and hope you will join us on the air.

The PVRC is smaller than in the recent past, but the spirit still burns strong and we've had a successful year. I am saddened to pass along the calls of our members who have passed away during the last year: K3TG, W4BVV, W4BV, W3PEW, & W4ZMQ.

I hope that you will join us on the air June 7 and 8, see attached information. We have included a complete member checksheet for all active members and those that reported PVRC reunion results last year. All others are receiving this note and last year's results, but not the complete membership list. Next year we will send the entire package to active members and Reunion participants from the last two years (1985 & 1986). All others will receive a postcard notice. This new policy will continue our tradition of contacting all PVRC members for the Reunion and perhaps encourage some of you to participate so that you'll get the entire package next year!

Members at April Meeting: KC8C, KM3T, W3IUU, K3ZJ, W3XE, W3HVM, W3GG, KZ3H, K3SA, W4RW, W6AXX, N3GB, K3TW, W3AZ, K3ZO, WA3TAI, WB4J, K3ZZ, N2FB, & W3FA.
Welcome to our two newest members, WB4J & KM3T.

Dues were increased from \$10 (1986) to \$15 for the year beginning January 1, 1987. Actually, our dues used to be \$15 a year, so this is just returning to the old amount. This amount is expected to result in a balanced 1987 budget.
1986-'87 meeting site vote (calculated at 100 pts 1st choice, 50 pts 2d choice): Temple Hills Md. 1150; New Hampshire Avenue, Md. 1150; Annandale, Va. 1000; Reston, Va. 450. Also voted to alternate meetings between 2 sites during year. If final arrangements can be made, meetings will be at Temple Hills and New Hampshire Avenue, as voted, with Annandale as a backup if any problem obtaining either of these two sites. **Election** meeting will be Monday, Sept. 8 at Temple Hills; next meeting Oct. 13 at New Hamp. Ave.

Summer meetings will be held at following QTH's: June, K3ZJ; July N2FB; August, the new W3LPL.

73 - Dave
K3ZJ

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING

From the Capitol Beltway (which is I-95 in this area), take exit 7 (Route 5 - Branch Ave). Exit south towards Waldorf. Go to FIRST stoplight (Manchester Dr) and turn right. Manchester is 1/2 block long and ends in a "T" at Old Branch Ave. Turn right on Old Branch Ave. Follow Old Branch Ave as it curves gently to the left. At that point, it becomes Henderson Rd. Follow Henderson for about 1 mile, until you come to a slight rise with a "Caution - Hidden Entrance" sign. As you come over the rise, you will see the K3Z0 antenna farm on the right. Turn right on Huntland Dr and you are there (house #5801). ** Please bring some refreshments with you. **

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Potomac Valley Radio Club meets on the second Monday of the month from September through May, except for December. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. The December meeting is held in a Washington area dining establishment. Summer meetings are typically held at various members' QTHs and generally consist of a social event and station tour.

Current club officers are listed on the first page of the newsletter. Please call any officer for info on the club. Please call Tom, W3TAI, to arrange for a program for a club meeting. W3FG is the current newsletter editor. Articles and ads from members are welcome and should be sent to Walt McGugan, W3FG, PO Box 7, Odenton, MD 21113-0007.

1985 PVRC ON-THE-AIR REUNION

The 23rd annual PVRC Reunion will be held the weekend of June 7-8, 1986. It is an "on-the-air" gathering for all PVRC members, past and present. Regardless of your whereabouts this weekend, please find a way via amateur radio to contact your fellow PVRC members. Please note the slight change in contest periods from previous years - this reflects comments received from several of last year's participants as well as declining band conditions.

ELIGIBILITY - Past and Present PVRC members.

DATE AND TIME - 3 periods: 1400-1800Z 7 June; 0000-0600Z 8 June; 2200Z 8 June - 0200Z 9 June. (14 hours total).

FREQUENCIES - 3547, 7047, 14047, 21047, 14247 KHz.

SCORING - Only completed 2-way contacts count and are worth 2 points. Stations may be worked once on each rallying frequency. Multiplier is the sum of STATES (plus DC), VE provinces, and DXCC countries worked. The US and CANADA do not count as countries. Hawaii and Alaska may be counted as either states or countries, but not both. The District of Columbia counts as a multiplier. Multipliers count only once, NOT band by band. FINAL SCORE is QSO points times state-province-country multiplier.

EXCHANGE - Serial number, your call, state/province/country, your call when you joined PVRC, and the last two digits of your first year in PVRC. Example - NR 1 N3GB MD WA3TOE

REUNION CALL - CQ PVRC.

Following the reunion and not later than September 1, 1986, please forward your scoring summary, a list of stations contacted, and your comments to: Walt McGugan, W3FG, PO Box 7, Odenton, MD 21113-0007, or bring them to any summer meeting. Be sure to send any call, QTH, or nickname changes in with your entry.

The PVRC Newsletter

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Mike Colesante, KC8C
(703) 370-4261

TREASURER

Alfred A. Laun, III, K3ZO
(301) 899-1235

MEETING NOTICE: Monday, June 9, 1986, 7:30 p.m.

QTH of K3ZJ, see below

GUEST: Ray Kowalski, Chief of the FCC's Private Radio Bureau, Special Services Division

UPCOMING EVENTS: June 7-8, PVRC Reunion (June 7 1400-1800 Z; June 8 0000-0600 & 2200 - 0200 Z; freqs.: 3.547, 7.047, 14.047, 14.247 (ssb) & 21.047 MHz.

July 14, next summer meeting at QTH of N2FB.

Directions to QTH of K3ZJ inside. I especially hope to see many of the Northern Virginia contingent. QTH is near the Vienna metro stop. Beer and soft drinks will be available.

Ray Kowalski will briefly bring us up to date on FCC actions. Ray is Chief of the Special Services Division of the FCC's Private Radio Bureau. In English, that translates to "where the decisions are made" on most amateur regulatory matters.

At least two recent FCC actions are of direct interest to contesters and DXers. 1) Recently the FCC, at ARRL's request, proposed to grant novices voice (ssb) privileges on the low end of 10 meters, i.e., 28.300 - 28.500 MHz. 2) Also, although not within Ray's responsibility, the FCC recently denied an ARRL petition to implement the Goldwater RFI law by requiring RFI susceptibility labels on consumer electronic equipment. If you have any questions or comments about any FCC regulatory or enforcement actions, here's your chance to learn the latest status of pending items and politely tell him what's right, or wrong, as you see it.

Last meeting was held at K3ZO's QTH. Andy, W3XE, will take over from Fred, K3ZO, as treasurer. June meeting will be Fred's last before he QSY's to his new post in Managua.

The last meeting was really a party to extend our best wishes to Fred and his new bride. Highlight of the meeting was toasting the newly-married couple with champagne.

Fred then led a discussion on the current situation with amateur radio licensing in Thailand, from which he had just returned, and in other Southeast Asia countries. ~~HS/A~~ will be active in all contests, and soon many more HS stations should be on the air if all goes well.

At this meeting we also said farewell to Tom, K3TW/VU2TJW (?). This was Tom's last meeting. He has now left for his assignment in New Delhi, India.

Enclosed is a questionnaire being distributed by members of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee. Please let me know of your thoughts and ideas to improve any of the ARRL contest activities, and return this questionnaire to me either at the June meeting or by mail (9763 Oleander Ave., Vienna, VA 22180).

Congratulations to Steve Affens, K3SA, who received the cameraman of the year award, Tape/Film Division, at the White House Photographers annual dinner on May 15. President Reagan presented the award to Steve.

K3ZJ, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, Virginia phone 938-1495.

Directions: 1. **From North, South, & East:** Beltway to I-66 West; Right at first exit, Nutley Road/Route 243; on exit, bear right for 243 North to Vienna; Turn left at first stop light (may be blinking orange), into the Vienna Metro Station (station on left); continue through stoplight, to stopsign. Turn right onto Sutton Road; Turn left first road on left, which is Oleander Avenue. House second on left, at 9763 Oleander.


2. **METRO:** Take metro to Vienna station, which is end of the line; as come out of station turn LEFT, following sign to the North Access Road. bear left, following sidewalk past bus stops, turn left at road and follow through lights to stopsign at Sutton Road. Cross Sutton at crosswalk, turn right and follow to first left, which is Oleander, Second house on left is 9763 Oleander. Walking time 12 - 15 mins., and there is a sidewalk the entire way. If you have talkie, upon arrival call on 147.42 SIMPLEX and I'll come pick you up at station.

3. **From West:** I-66 East to Route 123 North Exit. Follow 123 past Oakton shopping Center (Giant & Peoples) on left, watch for graveyard on right. Just after graveyard turn right onto Courthouse Road; at stopsign turn right onto Sutton Road, take first right onto Oleander, 9763 is second house on left.

4. **From EEB:** Mill St. to left onto Route 123; Left on Nutley Road - signs say Route 243 and to Route I-66. Take right at first set of traffic lights, onto Courthouse Road; at stopsign turn left onto Sutton Road, first right onto Oleander, to second house of left, 9763 Oleander Ave.

Hope to see you in the PVRC reunion next weekend, and at the meeting the next day. Watch for K3ZJ - I may be on from a different multiplier each of the three time periods.

73,



K3ZJ

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TREASURER

Carl Andersen, W3XE
(301) 384-7771

MEETING NOTICE: Monday, July 14, 1986

QTH of N2FB, directions below

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Video Show: The K6UA Story

Contests: July 12 - 13, IARU HF Championship
July 19 - 20, CQ WW VHF WPX
July 19 - 20, Colombian, Phone & CW
July 19 - 20 SEANET (Asian)
July 26 - 27 Amadillo Run/County Hunters, CW

August meeting will be at the QTH of the new W3LPL on Monday evening, August 11, in Howard County. Complete directions will be included in next month's notice.

September meeting will be the annual election meeting and will be held in Temple Hills, Maryland.

It was nice to see so many members at the June meeting, including some who we rarely see at meetings. Dick Klein, K4GKD, was there to announce that he is moving to Florida. And last week Tom, K3TW, was worked from both Bombay, India on Sunday and from Kathmandu, Nepal the following Saturday. Twenty in the evenings has been pretty respectable for over-the-pole work.

We are still in the market for ideas for a new PVRC awards program, and also for ideas for stimulating club activity in the contests this fall. If you have any ideas on either subject, or are willing to serve on a committee to make a proposal to the club on each of these topics, please let me know as soon as possible. September is just around the corner!

I was out of town on PVRC reunion weekend, but I understand that many of you were on. Don't forget to mail your logs, or bring them to the next meeting.

Your comments on the questionnaire included with the last Bulletin concerning ARRL contests are being submitted directly to the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee. Thank-you for returning them. If you still have not done so, and wish to register your opinion or comments, it's not too late: send them to me at 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180, or bring to the next meeting and I will forward them to the committee.

73



DIRECTIONS TO JULY MEETING AT QTH OF N2FB

Meeting location: 1008 Lee Jackson Dr, Lothian, MD 20711, phone 627-1166.

From the Capitol Beltway, exit at Rt 4 (Penn. Ave.) south/east towards Upper Marlboro. Go for 9 miles and you will cross over Rt 3/301. Go 2 more miles and exit left at Rt 408 north towards Wayson's Corner/Annapolis. At the traffic light go straight, not right. Proceed 1 mile past the light and on the right is Lee Jackson Drive. The house is on the left.

From Rt 3/Baltimore, take Rt 3 south to Rt 4, follow directions as above.

JUNE MEETING de KC8C

Members present: K3ZJ, KC8C, WA3TAI, W3HHG, N3JT, N2FB, WB3JRU, N3GB, WD4AXM, W3XE, K3ZO, W6AXX, K3RV, K4GKD, W3LPL N4MM, W4GF, W3FG, and guest WP4J. The June meeting was held at the QTH of K3ZJ. The meeting started at 7:47 PM with introductions of those present. N4MM circulated a CAC questionnaire. WP4J, a prospective new PVRC member who has recently moved into our area, gave a description of the NP4A and KP4B2 contest stations. W3LPL gave a status report on the towers at his new QTH. (As of June 28, 2 towers are at 190', 1 is at 140', 1 is at 120', and 3 are at 45'.) Ray Kowalaki, Chief of the FCC's Private Radio Bureau, Special Service's Division, gave a very interesting talk on numerous recent FCC actions. One of the items discussed was a proposal for the ARRL handling the assignment of amateur call signs. An informal poll of those present showed the club 75/25 in favor of the idea. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM.

LETTER TO PVRC FROM W2GD

The following was received from John Crovelli, W2GD, who, operating as VP2MGD, won the Single Operator, North America CW plaque sponsored by the PVRC in the 1985 ARRL DX CW contest.

I just received the Single Operator, North America CW plaque for the 1985 ARRL DX Contest during which I operated from the island of Montserrat as VP2MGD. It is truly a beautiful award and it will find a good home on the wall of my new ham shack.

A little background on the trip. It was a family vacation planned just after the 1984 CQWW CW contest. I originally rented a house owned by Chod Harris, VP2ML, but local problems with the caretaker necessitated finding alternate lodgings upon arrival on Montserrat. Bobby and Mae Martin, VP2MO and VP2MN, were extremely helpful and we eventually took residence at a home on the western side of the island owned by VE1YX. The house came with an A-3 tribander at 30 feet. I managed to put up a 38 foot mast from which inverted vees for 160, 80 and 40 were mounted. A 600 foot listening wire was strung out down the road. The location offered a panoramic view of the Caribbean, the house being 450 feet above the sea and one half mile inland. Equipment consisted of a TS830S and an MLA2500 linear. I also had an FT757 and SB200 available for backup.

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(301) 384-7771

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, Sept. 13 (raindate Sept. 14)

F O W L F E S T

Hosts: KC8C & KM3T, directions below

Agenda: Short PVRC meeting for election of officers,
voting on prospective members;
NCDXA meets at approx. 5 p.m.
Principally a SOCIAL OCCASION

Contests:

Sept. 13 N.A. Sprint CW (Sat. eve EDT) (see below)
Sept. 13-14 D.A.R.C. European DX Phone
Sept. 13-15 ARRL VHF QSO Party
Sept. 20 N.A. Sprint Phone (see below)
Sept. 20-21 Scandinavian CW
Sept. 20-21 CRRL Can-Am Phone Sat., CW Sun.
Sept. 27-28 Scandinavian Phone
Sept. 27-28 California QSO Party (free bottle wine top 20)
Oct. 4-5 IRSA World Radio Championship Phone Sat., CW Sun.
Oct. 4-5 VK/ZL/Oceania DX Phone

F O W L F E S T

Last call for the KC8C/KM3T F O W L F E S T at the Laun Estate (which they now inhabit). Chicken, salad, drinks, and more will be served under the 80 meter beam and other aluminum arrays. Spouses, friends especially welcome. We are pleased to welcome members of the National Capital DX Association. Many contesters are interested in DX, and vice versa, and a significant number of PVRC members also are members of NCDXA. This is an opportunity for NCDXA members not members of PVRC, and PVRC members not members of NCDXA, to get to know the others, and maybe both clubs do a little recruiting.

If you haven't already reserved your F O W L F E S T ticket, please do so immediately, to Mike Colesante, coupon below. Directions are at the end of the newsletter. If the weather on Saturday is questionable, call Mike's tape machine at (301) 630-5857 to determine if postponed to Sunday the 14th (raindate). PLEASE come, and let Mike know so he and Dave can plan!

Mail to: Mike Colesante, 5803 Huntland Road, Temple Hills, MD 20748

_____ reservations at \$7.00 each for FOWLFEST Sept. 13
Name, call, address, phone:

PVRC-2

PVRC Contests

September traditionally is the beginning of the contest season. I have been noting the major contests at the beginning of the newsletter so that you might try some "little ones" in preparation for the "big ones" : CQ WW SSB is the first of the PVRC club competition contests, and this year will be held October 25-26. Sweepstakes CW is November 1-2, Sweepstakes phone November 15-16, and CQ WW CW is November 29-30. This is the heart of PVRC's club competitions -- only the ARRL DX contests in Feb./Mar. remain. (We do encourage participation in the N.A. Sprints, see below, and the CQ WPX contests, but traditionally we make our maximum efforts in CQ WW, SS, & ARRL DX.)

This year we are organizing to get PVRC members on the air. All members are requested to fill out and return the short questionnaire included with this newsletter. If we don't hear from you, you'll hear from us. We hope you'll join in our club contest activities for as many weekends as possible. After the contests we'll be collecting scores on the 147.00 repeater. Also, on the Monday nights following the four DX contest weekends we will have a roundtable discussion at 8 p.m. to compare notes and collect more scores. For all three contests (six weekends) PVRC will submit logs directly to the sponsors, so you are requested to bring your log to the meeting immediately following the contest, or to mail it to me. The logs will be transferred directly to the sponsor. While you don't have to take advantage of this service, we do have the means to ensure prompt receipt and acknowledgement of the logs beyond merely mailing it to a general address.

PVRC is first and foremost a contest club. Please join us on the air for our operating weekends.

PVRC Awards

In addition to the PVRC 5-million award, we want to initiate new club awards for each of the six contests. This will be on the agenda for the October meeting, in addition to a panel discussion on preparing for and operating in the CQ WW SSB and sweepstakes contests.

Election

The call for candidates went out in the last newsletter. Proposed for 1986-'87 are : President K3ZJ; Vice-president WA3TAI; Secretary KC8C; and Treasurer W3XE. This is a rerun of last year's officers, except for Andy.

PVRC-3

North American Sprint Contests
by Bob Peterson, W3YY

The next CW Sprint contest is Saturday, September 13, and the next SSB Sprint Saturday, September 20. Please volunteer to join the PVRC team(s). These contests, held twice a year, in September and February, are sponsored by the National Contest Journal (NCJ). Separate SSB and CW contests are held during each of these months. The contests are unique in several aspects which make them particularly interesting. If you're not familiar with this contest, check out the rules (enclosed) and you'll see what I mean.

First, the contests are short. Each contest is only four hours long. Anyone can put in a full effort without sacrificing an entire weekend or even a day. The contests run from 0000 through 0359 UTC, so you don't even lose any sleep.

Second, the contests have a unique "QSY rule" to keep stations moving and prevent them from just sitting on a frequency and running stations. You have to experience this aspect of the contest firsthand to really appreciate the excitement it adds to the event.

Third, the contest has a regular following of hardcore contest types and great operators. While the contest is for everyone, there's no doubt that the "cream of the crop" tend to be represented in these events. If you want to operate in a small contest with some of the best operators around, this is the contest for you.

From the standpoint of the PVRC, these contests give the club a chance for some important recognition. Our club used to enter teams in these events, but not recently. I think the time has come to change. Judging from recent Sprint results, and our known capabilities, PVRC could regularly place among the top four teams if we made a reasonable effort. This would be notable, considering the fact that Midwest and West Coast stations seem to enjoy an advantage over the East Coast in this contest.

The September CW Sprint will be held at 0000 through 0359 UTC on September 14 (Saturday night, Sept. 13, 8:00 - 11:59 p.m. local time). The SSB Sprint is the following weekend at the same time. I will be organizing and registering PVRC teams for each of these contests. If we get more than ten entrants, additional teams will be formed. I think it would be great if PVRC could regularly enter 2 or 3 teams, with team #1 comprised of those members who provided the 10 best scores in the previous Sprint.

Let me know if you'd like to participate. If you're interested in operating only one mode, that's fine, since the SSB and CW contests are entirely separate events. Please contact me at (703) 830-1480 (home) or (202) 376-7447 or 485-1766 (work). I'm looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you in my Sprint log this September.

PVRC-4

PVRC Notes

Help! Mike, KC8C, would like a schematic, manual, or other information on a military receiver, R392/URR.

N3JT DXpedition to San Andres for CQ WW SSB. Watch for Jim Talens operating N3JT/HKO from San Andres Island on all bands during the CQ WW SSB contest. Any other PVRCers venturing forth ?

N3RI Moving. Bob Landis, N3RL, is leaving the D.C. area for Dallas/Fort Worth in the near future. His home, custom built on a number of acres at the highest point in Howard County, is for sale. Good luck in your new job, Bob!

August Meeting. The following members and guests were present at the August meeting, held at the QTH-to-be of W3LPL: W3LPL, KC8C, W3FG, W3YY, K5VRX, W3HHG, W3FA, W3XE, WB3AVN, WA3VUG, N8II, KM3T, WB3JRU, AA4Z, K2NA, WP4J, W9LT/4, W6AXX, K3WX, K3KU, N3JT, KE9A/4, W3EKT, W3GN, N8RC, N3GB, WA3EKL, WG4Q, KE3Q, KX3Q, N3AM, & K3TM. Good show!

Directions to F O W L F E S T

Capital Beltway to Maryland Exit 7 (Route 5, Branch Avenue). Exit South towards Waldorf. At first stop light, turn Right onto Manchester, which is only 1 block long and ends in a "T" at Old Branch Avenue. Turn Right onto Old Branch Avenue, which gently curves to the left and becomes Henderson Road. Continue on Henderson for about 1 mile, to slight rise and hidden CAUTION sign on the rise. Part way down hill turn Right onto Huntland Road and park - 5803 and 5801 Huntland are in first block on left.

1986 - 1987 PVRC Questionnaire.

Return at meeting or mail to PVRC, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180

I plan (hope) to operate in the following contests this season:

___ CQ WW SSB, October 25-26, 1986 ___ CQ WW CW, November 29-30, 1986
___ SS CW, November 1-2, 1986 ___ SS SSB, November 15-16, 1986
___ ARRL DX CW, February 21-22, 1987 ___ ARRL DX SSB, March 7-8, 1987

___ I need a station to operate for the following contests:
___ I have a station available for a PVRC guest op. these contests:
___ I would join in a (multi/multi) (multi/single) effort for the following:

Comments:

Name, call, address, phone :

DXPO 86

OCTOBER 11 - 12, 1986

Falls Church (VA) Best Western Inn

DXPO-86, sponsored by the National Capitol DX Association promises to be one of the World's greatest DX events of the year. If you attended one of the past DXPO's sponsored by NCDXA, YOU will receive a timely mailing with full details. If you have moved since the last DXPO or have never attended a DXPO, please send your name, call and mailing address to:

Stuart Meyer, W2GHK/Forever
2417 Newton Street
Vienna, Virginia 22180
(703) 281 3806

Once again, the National Capitol DX Association is going "all out" to put on a great show for YOU. If you have attended a previous DXPO, you know what we mean. If you have not attended a previous DXPO, try it, we think that you will enjoy total immersion in DX with something for everyone.

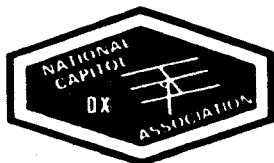
Program starts at 1:00 PM Saturday with an attitude adjustment party at 5:30PM. Banquet starts at 7:00 PM followed by a special presentation by the Mighty NCDXA Artplayers entitled "The Story of a DXer". NCDXA Hospitality Suite opens one minute after the close of the banquet.

Sunday morning at 9:00, the phase II of DXPO starts and concludes about 1:00 PM.

Our broad program includes; DXAC & DXCC forum with Don Search, W3AZD from ARRL Headquarters and Roanoke Division Vice Director John Kanode, N4MM. Frank Donovan, W3LPL promises an audio-visual presentation on his new set-up explaining what he did and why he did what he did. Other presentations will tell how to get started in DXing with dipoles and barefoot stations and how to show up some of the big guns by developing street smarts. We will also talk about the various antennas that can be used on all bands including the HF delta loops.

The 1986 Clipperton FOØXX slide show is a must as well as the Barry Goldwater BV DXpedition.

Be sure to send for the full details and plan your life to attend the best NCDXA DXPO ever.



SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL CAPITOL DX ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.

QTH: Paint Branch High School
Silver Spring, MD
(directions at p.4)

**AGENDA: New Member Applications
awards + CQ (SSB) & SS (CW)**

Oct. 25-26: CQ Worldwide SSB; discussion Monday Oct. 27 8 p.m. 147.00

Nov. 1-2 ARRL Sweepstakes CW

PVRC Meeting Schedule: Monday, November 10 at Temple Hills, MD; Tuesday, December 9, annual Christmas Dinner at Fort Meyer Officer's Club, Arlington.

Contest season is upon us. Enclosed are forms for the CQ Worldwide DX and ARRL sweepstakes contests. Also within is a brief recap of PVRC members' activity in the CQ WW SSB and SS CW contests last year. The low sunspot count did not prevent PVRC members from turning in excellent performances. Please make a point to be on this year, and either bring your logs to the PVRC meeting or mail direct, but let us know your score!

Digital Voice Announcement System: Several issues back we reprinted information about the "digital voice keyer" from K1LH. There are already a dozen in operation by Frankford Radio Club members! They are available and work very well according to all reports from up North. The cost is \$349., but there is a significant club discount. I have enough orders now to obtain the \$314. price, and a couple more would lower that to \$297. If interested, call me this weekend or see me at the meeting, as I will be sending in the order within the next ten days. Although still not inexpensive, contesters like W3BGN and K3WW swear that it is well worth the price, and this is a chance to get it cheaper than buying only a single one.

The repeater will be available for all multi-ops and casual operators during the contest, so please use it! In addition to the 48-hour and after contest chatter, we'll have a club meeting on the repeater on Monday Oct. 27 at 8 p.m., to discuss the contest, collect scores, trade anecdotes, etc.

Our questionnaire is again reproduced -- please fill it in and bring to the October meeting, or mail, so we have some idea of activity and interests. If you already have mailed it in or given it to me, thanks!

PVRC's annual Christmas dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 9 at the Officer's Club at Fort Meyer, Virginia. This is as close to the center of PVRC territory as exists, so make plans to attend! Reservation form and more information will be in next month's newsletter.

PVRC-2

The Fowlfest was a great success. A big round of applause is due Mike KC8C and Dave KM3T. It was good to see all of you, and also many of the NCDXA members. Special guests included Mr. Chen Chang-I, who is in charge all amateur regulation and licensing in for BV. We were happy to show him a "real" ham station, extend an opportunity to meet some enthusiastic U.S. amateurs, and discuss contesting and DXing from Taiwan.

Also in attendance was Dave Novoa, KP4AM, whom we all work in almost every contest! Rana, WB4NFO, was present and discussed his plans to activate 9N1NFO in a serious effort from Nepal for CQ WW SSB. And Jim, N3JT, was discussing his CQ WW SSB DXpedition to San Andres, where his call will be N3JT/HK0 on 160-10 meters. (Another "DXpedition" to watch out for in the contest: K4YT/DU9 from the QTH of DU9RG.)

Other PVRC members in attendance included Don, W3AZD and John, N4MM, with all the latest ARRL news. And more: PVRcers W3UJ, KM3T, KC3EK, N3US, W6AXX, K6ETM, K3ZJ, W2GHK, W3AZ, W3LPL, K3HPG, KC8C, N8II, K3NA, & K3TM. Non-PVRcers included W9LT, W4PBC, K1DQV, KZ3H, KA3R, KE9A, K3HVG, K6IR, WB3ANE, N3TO, & KN3T.

The Officers were unanimously re-elected for the 1986-'87 contest year. I am publishing Andy's treasurer's report so that everyone can see exactly where the dues go. I hope all of you will continue to support the PVRC during the next year, as there is nothing we want to cut down on -- we're already operating a barebones operation, yet we are still negative on the cash flow and this can only continue for a limited period.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 01 OCT 85 to 01 OCT 86

| INCOME | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| DUES | 52 MEMBERS & 3 OUT AREA Members | \$545.00 |
| CHRISTMAS PARTY | 37 ATTENDEES | \$666.00 |
| | TOTAL INCOME..... | \$1,211.00 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| NEWS LETTER | | \$783.80 |
| AWARDS | CLOCK AWARD | \$38.24 |
| | CQ for W4BVV MEMORIAL | \$45.00 |
| | CQ for PVRC AWARD | \$90.00 |
| | ARRL for PVRC AWARD | \$30.00 |
| MISC | BANK SERVICE CHARGE | \$12.00 |
| | MEETING PLACE | \$32.00 |
| | TREAS OFFICE | \$16.08 |
| | CHRISTMAS DINNER | \$663.00 |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES..... | \$1,710.12 |
| LOSS FOR 1985-1986 | | (\$499.12) |
| 85-10-01 | Opening Bank Balance | \$1,220.56 |
| 86-10-01 | Closing Bank Balance | \$721.44 |

PVRC-3

NCJ Sprints in September saw the entry of PVRC teams for the first time in several years. Many thanks to cw operators W3YY, K3NA, KE3Q, & K4PQL. Phone ops included W3YY, K3NA, W3HHG, & N3GB. Last minute rig problems kept K3TM off on the phone portion, but he promises to try again in February. Special thanks to Bob W3YY for initiating and coordinating the PVRC teams. If you are interested in participating under the PVRC banner in February, call Bob.

N4RP (ex-W4KXV) says that he expects to be on /C6A for CQ WW CW and the ARRL contests. Dick hopes to be at the October meeting. Many of you weren't around, but Dick ran one of the very first multi-multi operations in the DC area, preceding Ed Bissell, W3AU. Many PVRCers, including K3EST, were first introduced to multi/multi operation at his QTH. Dick will be tied up in Annapolis through about Oct. 15 and is trying to meet PVRCers on 147.00, and also monitors .705/.105. If anyone has a rig that covers 160 meters, preferably that runs on 12 v.d.c., Dick would like to borrow it to get on that band during the contests. His TS520 does not cover 160. Messages for Dick can be passed via Gus, W4JBD, at (301) 263-1923.

PVRC in the 1985 CQ Worldwide SSB Contest

World: 1st place multi-single: P44B, by K3EST + N3ED, WA3LRO, & N7ZZ
2nd place QRPP (5 watts): K3WS (1st place U.S.A.)
6th place single op./single band 14 MHz. K3RV/4 (2nd place U.S.A.)

U.S.A. Multi-Multi: 2nd W3LPL (+ AI3M, KA1GD, K1RZ, K3DI, KF3P, KM3T, KX3Q & KC8C)
also K3ZZ (+ WA3EKL, N3AOE, & KC3EK)
Single Operator - All Band: 6th W3GRF (K0DQ)
7th K3ZO
8th N2FB/3
Also W3UJ, N3RL, N4MM.
Single Operator - 1.8 MHz. W3GG
14 MHz. 2nd K3RV/4
7th K3ZJ/4
Also K4OD
21 MHz. 2nd N8II

PVRC in the 1985 ARRL CW Sweepstakes

In order of score: 1.W3LPL; 2.N8II(KC8C); 3.K3ZO; 4.W3GNQ(KF3P); 5.K3ZZ; 6.N3CW; 7.W3YY; 8.K3HPG; 9.K3SA; 10.W3GN; 11.W3AZ; 12.W3UJ; 13.W3FA; 14.W4YE; 15.W3FG; 16.K3TM/3; 17.K4OD; 18.AA4HZ; 19.N3JT; 20.K3KU.

Congratulations, and thanks to all participants. Will your call be listed for 1986?

PVRC-4

Remember DXPO-'86 the weekend of October 11-12, featuring, among others, W3LPL and K3ZJ. Call Stu Meyer W2CHK for details, 281-3806.

HOW TO GET TO THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 13, 1986

If you are coming from the Washington, D.C. beltway:

Counter-Clock-Wise

Off on New Hampshire. North towards White Oak. Right on US 29 at White Oak. Left on Briggs-Chaney Rd. (Montgomery Auto Park on right) (5th traffic light). Right on Old Columbia Pike. Look for Paint Branch High School on right side. About 1/2 mile. Room A115

Clock-Wise

Off on US 29 north (to Columbia). Left on Briggs-Chaney Rd. (Montgomery Auto Park on right). Right on Old Columbia Pike. Look for Paint Branch High School on right side. About 1/2 mile. Room A115.

From Baltimore or points north.

Down US 29 or I 95 or US 1 or BW Parkway to Maryland 198. Right on Md 198 to US 29 crossing. Continue on Md 198 to "Y". Take left side of the "Y". About 1 mile to Paint Branch High School on left side. Room A115.

From Olney and points Northwest

Md 108 to New Hampshire Ave (Md 650). Right on New Hampshire Ave to Md 198. Left on Md 198 to Old Columbia Pike (Sandy Springs Bank on right at corner). Right on Old Columbia Pike. About 1 mile to Paint Branch High School on left side. Room A115

If all else fails help will be available on the repeater 146.40 in 147.00 out

Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. See you all there.

1986 - 1987 PVRC Questionnaire.

Return at meeting or mail to PVRC, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180

I plan (hope) to operate in the following contests this season:

___ CQ WW SSB, October 25-26, 1986 ___ CQ WW CW, November 29-30, 1986
___ SS CW, November 1-2, 1986 ___ SS SSB, November 15-16, 1986
___ ARRL DX CW, February 21-22, 1987 ___ ARRL DX SSB, March 7-8, 1987

___ I need a station to operate for the following contests:

___ I have a station available for a PVRC guest op. these contests:

___ I would join in a (multi/multi) (multi/single) effort for the following:

Comments:

Name, call, address, phone :

Snagging Extra Multipliers Via Grayline Propagation

Dave Pascoe KM3T

One of the most frequently overlooked modes of propagation during the DX contests is grayline propagation. The reasons vary from operator to operator, but usually include:

- . Incorrectly oriented antennas
- . Lack of knowledge of a possible path
- . Lack of faith in one's antenna system
- . Getting on the band at the wrong time
- . Lack of belief that stations will be active.

The purpose of this short article is to provide information on the paths that may be workable during the CQ WW DX Contests. One could obtain information for other dates by using such devices as The Dx Edge or simply by computing sunrise and sunset times for locations thought to have a path between them.

Experience has shown that most contacts are made by using long-path great circle bearings. The frequency bands of interest in this part of the sunspot cycle are generally 1.8 MHz, 3.5 MHz, 7 MHz and occasionally 14 MHz. Most stations are not equipped to take full advantage of the openings on 1.8 MHz and 3.5 MHz, but many are equipped for 7 MHz. Because of the high activity on this band, most of the

juicy multipliers will be found here.

The CQ WW DX CW contest during the last full weekend of November provides the best long-path openings. These usually occur around our local sunset. Any station with a directional antenna on 40m has the potential to get in on these openings because signals are usually strong. The reason for this is that most of the long-path to Asia and the Far East is over salt water. During short-path openings in the morning to those areas we have to work through the polar absorption and much rougher terrain, which tends to weaken signals.

Openings are possible during our sunrise period to various areas but the stateside activity is usually higher at that time. This increased activity sometimes makes it difficult to get through the pileups. There is another side to that coin, however.

Increased activity can tend to attract rare DX stations who may be casually tuning a band. CQs by a well-equipped stateside station can yield interesting contacts. Operating 40m from N3RS, a multi-multi operation in the 1986 ARRL DX CW Contest, I can remember having JA5BJC and YB5ASO answer a series of CQs with the 2 el 40m beam pointed SE. Their signals did not have the polar flutter

usually noticed when working them on the short-path.

A problem that discourages many operators from trying to use the grayline is the low number of DX stations actually capable of putting out a good signal in the required direction. This is a problem that could be countered by making on-the-air skeds with active stations prior to the contest. This is difficult, though, since the bands are crowded during the contests.

There isn't really too much more that a contest operator needs to know in order to use grayline propagation. The biggest problem, at least with single-op entrants, is that one can spend too much time hunting for DX on the long path when another band might be yielding high QSO rates. This is always a tradeoff anyway, though.

The following is a list of countries with known active stations that should be possible to work on 40m/80m during the CQ WW DX Contests in October and November.....

CQ WW DX Phone
October 25-26, 1986

Sunrise (~1132Z)

A5 Bhutan
 S2 Bangladesh
 VU India
 UL7 Kazakh
 9N Nepal
 KC4 Antarctica
 UM8 Kirghiz

Sunset (~2211Z)

DU Philippines
 HL Korea
 9M6 E. Malaysia
 BV Taiwan
 V85 Brunei
 9M8 E. Malaysia
 VS6 Hong Kong
 YB Indonesia
 BY China

CQ WW DX CW Contest
November 29-30, 1986

Sunrise (~1209Z)

VU India
 UJ8 Tadzh
 UI8 Uzbek
 4S Sri Lanka
 UA4 EUR USSR
 AP Pakistan

Sunset (~2143Z)

JA Japan
 DU Philippines
 9M6 E. Malaysia

See you in the pileups!



do not write above this line

ARRL November Sweepstakes

CALL USED..... C.W. ARRL SECTION (P. 6 QST).....
PHONE

NOTE: Separate logs must be submitted, with separate summaries, for each mode.

SCORING: _____ QSO points X _____ sections = _____ claimed score

Count 2 points per complete QSO. Cross out sections worked on the list below.

| | | | | |
|---------------|------|----------|-------------|---------------|
| Claimed Score | QSOs | Sections | D. C. Power | Hrs. of Oper. |
|---------------|------|----------|-------------|---------------|

CHECK ONE: Single Operator Station Multioperator Station

If multioperator, show calls of all operators, loggers.....

Club participation? Yes No If yes, print the name of your ARRL

Affiliated Club: **POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB**

Equipment Description:

Transmitter..... Receiver.....

Antennas.....

Full mailing address (please print):

Name..... Number and street.....

City, state/province, zip.....

"I have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations established for amateur radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee."

Date..... Signature..... Call.....

Note your soapbox and other comments. Enclose your photos, as well as your SS logs and check sheets, and mail promptly to: ARRL Communications Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

| MULTIPLIER CHECK-OFF LIST | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0 | VE |
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| EMass | NLI | EPa | Ga | La | LA | Ida | Ohio | Ind | Iowa | Que |
| Me | NNJ | MDC | Ky | Miss | Org | Mont | WVa | Wis | Kans | Ont |
| NH | SNJ | WPa | NC | NMex | SBar | Nev | | | Minn | Man |
| RI | WNY | | NFla | NTex | SCV | Oreg | | | Mo | Sask |
| Vt | | | SC | Okla | SDgo | Utah | | | Nebr | Alta |
| WMass | | | SFla | STex | SF | Wash | | | NDak | BC |
| | | | Tenn | | SJV | Wyo | | | SDak | VE8 |
| | | | Va | | SV | KL7 | | | | |
| | | | WI | | KH6 | | | | | |

(CROSS OFF EACH NEW SECTION AS WORKED.)

ARRL Sweepstakes

CALL USED.....

ARRL SECTION.....



C.W.

PHONE

| | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|
| PREC | CALL | CK | SEC |
|------|------|----|-----|

SENT (1 POINT) ▼

RECEIVED (1 POINT)

Separate logs and summary sheets required for each mode.

| BAND | DATE | TIME ON/OFF | TIME | NR | NR | PREC | STATION WORKED | CK | *SECTION | POINTS |
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The PVRC Newsletter

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, Nov. 10

QTH: Temple Hills, MD Church
(directions on last page)

AGENDA:-1987 dues

-Results CQ WW SSB & SS CW contests

-Demonstration and discussion of
packet radio: the future for
contest spotting nets?

BRING CQ & SS LOGS

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Tuesday, Dec. 9, Fort Myer Officers'
Club

CONTESTS

Nov. 15-17 ARRL Sweepstakes SSB

Nov. 29-30 CQ Worldwide CW

Dec. 1, 8 pm, discussion of CQ WW CW on 147.00 repeater

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our annual Christmas dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 9th at the Officers' Club at Fort Myer (Arlington), Virginia. This is a location close to D.C. and fairly equidistant for members residing on the north or south edges of our club territory. A cash bar will open at 6:30, to be followed by a roast beef dinner at 7:30. Cost is \$16. per person. Please reserve as soon as possible by sending the below form to Andy, W3XE. Your reservation will facilitate our arrangements.

Our speaker will be Jim Talens, N3JT, who will describe his recent trek to San Andres Island for a CQ WW SSB operation from the QTH of HK0BKX as N3JT/HK0. Jim's tales will interest non-hams as well as contesters, so please bring your spouse or friend to this yearly gathering. Jim increasingly has been making big noises on the bands, winning Virginia in the 1985 SS phone contest and making over 4800 QSOs during the 1986 CQ WW phone contest from San Andres. In real life Jim, who is both a communications attorney and engineer, is Chief of the Domestic Services Branch of the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau.

1986 CQ WORLDWIDE SSB CONTEST

A lot of RF radiation was observed being emitted from PVRC member stations during the annual CQ Worldwide SSB contest. Despite predictions for poor conditions, propagation once again was excellent. The solar flux stayed in the 90's, the geomagnetic activity remained low, and even ten meters opened to Europe while 15 and 20 meters were end-to-end bedlam with all the contest activity.

All PVRC members' activity has not reached me, but it is clear that we were well represented on the bands. On the DXpedition scene we were ably represented by Jim, N3JT, operating N3JT/HKD to the tune of 4800 QSOs single op. despite problems with the 40/80/160 antenna on San Andres Island. And Jack, N4RV, was heard with a group signing PJ1B from Bonaire.

Locally, multi/multi W3LPL was inaugurated, to the tune of 7.8 million points. In the single band/single op. categories, Carl, K3RV, may have won 15 meters for the U.S., with in the neighborhood of an incredible 1900 QSOs. On 20 meters, K3ZJ racked up about 1275 QSOs using a single 204BA.

Three top scores were made in the single op./all band category. Wayne, N2FB, beat out KM3T & K3NA for the PVRC championship in this tough category. A great job by Wayne, Dave, and Eric. Larry, W3HHC also made about 780 QSOs in a good effort, and W3MR reports around 638K points. In the QRP category, K3WS will rank near if not at the top worldwide, completing 450 QSOs using only an Argonaut (less than 5 watts). Also heard on the bands: K4YF, W3IUU, KE9A, K3WUW, W3GNQ, and W3YY.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

VOTED in as members were KE9A, WP4J, and W9LT. Welcome!

A discussion concerning membership criteria was held. This discussion was totally unrelated to the particular membership applications presented at the meeting. During the discussion it was noted that applicants require a sponsor, so in any questionable case a potential sponsor should endeavor to ascertain the applicant's qualifications and overall intent to comply with FCC regulations, particularly those related to permissible output power, before agreeing to sponsorship. It was emphasized that PVRC members do not condone use of power that exceeds the legal limits during contests. Such use is both illegal and unsportsmanlike.

An extensive discussion concerning the amount of 1987 dues followed, ending with a consensus to a) check out the Maryland Radio Center offer to pay newsletter postage costs in return for including a 1-page advertisement, and b) decide issue at November meeting so that 1) all interested members will have notice of the subject, & 2) a decision will be reached in time to begin collection in December, as is customary.

NOVEMBER MEETING

PACKET RADIO. A number of members have noted the use of packet radio in New England for a contest spotting net, and have suggested that PVRC members may want to explore this, as with packet it is not necessary to have an operator dedicated to a two meter net, or operators interrupted to hear each report. Instead, each report is silently displayed on the CRT (or TV) screen, where it will remain until moved by later reports or by the

receiving operator. Of course, permanent hardcopy also can be obtained.

Believing that many of our members have not seen a packet system work, or are not aware of the increasingly reasonable costs of such stations, Tom WA3TAI and Lee KF3T will set up a packet station at the meeting site, demonstrate its operation, and answer questions.

DUES. At the October meeting there was substantial discussion about 1987 dues. Anticipating a substantial deficit for 1985-'86, in April we voted to establish dues at \$15. for 1987 forward. In October the treasurer's report for 1985-'86 showed a deficit of \$500, and this was only operating costs and external contest awards -- we did not have any costs for the PVRC five million award or any extraordinary expenses. With the same expenses projected for 1986-'87, the new dues would cut the deficit in half (which is being covered from a balance left over from the repeater fund).

Andy suggested that we rescind the dues increase returning to \$10. In discussion, Andy disclosed that the new Maryland Radio Center was willing to pay our newsletter postage costs in return for including a 1-page advertisement in each issue, which they would reproduce and supply. Walt is to contact the radio store to work out the details. If this can be arranged, it would result in a \$345 reduction in our 1986-'87 budget expenses, leaving us with a \$155 projected deficit at \$10./year, and a \$95./projected surplus at \$15./year. Since we normally begin collecting dues in December, it is imperative that all members with an interest in this subject be at this meeting to discuss and decide this issue. We expect to know whether the radio store will commit to the newsletter arrangement by the meeting.

Directions to Meeting

Capital Beltway to Maryland Exit No. 7 (Route 5, Branch Avenue). Exit **SOUTH** towards Waldorf. At first stoplight, turn **RIGHT** onto Manchester. Turn into first driveway on the left, follow to church. (Manchester is only one block long, so the appropriate driveway on the left should be apparent.) If need assistance, call in on the 147.00 repeater.

1986 PVRC Christmas Dinner Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 6:30p - ??
Fort Myer Officers' Club, Arlington, Virginia

Send check payable to "PVRC" and this slip to :
Carl Anderson W3XE, 14601 Claude Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904

___ reservations, at \$16.00 each, \$___ TOTAL ENCLOSED

FROM: _____ call _____

address _____