

# The PVRC Newsletter

EDITOR: Dave Siddall K3ZJ, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180

## PRESIDENT

David R. Siddall, K3ZJ  
(703) 938-1495

## VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas J. Abernathy, WA3TAI  
(301) 292-6263

## SECRETARY

Mike Colesante, KC8C  
(301) 630-5857

## TREASURER

Carl Andersen, W3XE  
(301) 384-7771

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 12, 1987**  
Paint Branch High School  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
(directions on page two)

Please pay 1987 dues of \$10 to me or W3XE  
(\$5 for out-of-area members)

## Contests:

Jan. 3-4, "73" 10 meter SSB  
Jan. 11, "73" 20 meter SSB  
Jan. 17-18, "73" 160 meter SSB  
Jan. 24-25, French CW  
Jan. 25, "73" 75 meter SSB  
Feb. 7-8, QCWA CW QSO party

Jan. 10, "73" 15 meter SSB  
Jan. 10-12, ARRL VHF Sweepstakes  
Jan. 23-25, CQ WW 160 meter CW  
Jan. 24, "73" 40 meter SSB  
Feb. 7-8, RSGB 7 MHz. SSB

It was good to see so many of you at the PVRC dinner. On the contest news front, as you may know, Scotty, KODQ operating W3GRF, may have won CQ WW CW for U.S. single op./all band. The duping will be decided between W3GRF and K1ZM. Although conditions for the CW weekend were not as good as for the SSB weekend, sometimes unsettled conditions favor this area over those to the North. KC8C also had around 2 million points for a tremendous effort, also single op./all band. The radiation levels in the Temple Hills, Maryland area were noticeably elevated that weekend, and I understand that the Environmental Protection Agency is investigating.

Also, Carl, K3RV, appears to have taken 15 meter CW single op./single band for the U.S.A. (he did the same on SSB). W3LPL closed the gap on N2AA, but not quite enough, 7.5 million to 7.2 million points. Pretty impressive, nevertheless, considering that the station still is operating with less than a full 'LPL' compliment of antennas.

Now is the time to begin planning for ARRL CW and SSB, CW to be held on February 14-15 and SSB March 7-8. There's a few good antenna days mixed in with the bad, so prepare if you have something that needs doing. If antenna work is done, why not sharpen your skills for a few hours in one of the many contests held before ARRL CW? I've listed the major ones above - "73" magazine's SSB contests dominate the month, and can be fun without using up an entire weekend.

See you on the 12th - I'll be fresh back from operating K3ZJ/6Y5.

**Christmas Dinner.** A recent record of 50 were in attendance at the Christmas Dinner at the Fort Myer Officers' Club on December 9th. Short remarks were made by Tom Warren, K3TW, who was temporarily in town after his recent operations at HSOA and 9N1MM; Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, ARRL Atlantic Division Director (and PVRC member); and Larry Price, W4RA, President of

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the ARRL. Also in attendance were ARRL Roanoke Division vice-director (and also PVRC member) John Kanode, N4MM; Perry Williams, W1UED, ARRL Secretary and Washington Representative; and Chris Imlay, N3AKD, ARRL legal counsel. John Johnston, Branch Chief in the Private Radio Bureau, and his wife Jean also were in attendance. Jim Talens, N3JT, was the feature speaker and gave a very interesting description of San Andres Island and his N3JT/HK0 operation. Other PVRC members and guests included: WA3TAI, K3SA, W3XE, KE9A, KC8C, W3LPL, WB4J, N4LSP, W3GN, W4GF, N8II, W3UJ, N2FB, N3AKD, W3BE, N4MM, W6AXX, WB3JRU, W2GHK, KM3T, W4RA, W9LT, K3UA, K3WS, K3ZJ, M3AM, K6ETM, AA4I, W4HU, and K3DI.

**Safety First.** During the CQ WW CW contest Bernie, WB3JRU, came into contact with high voltage feeding a linear amplifier. Bernie was hospitalized for several days, but appears to have suffered no lasting ill effects -- perhaps due more to luck than any other factor. It certainly was good to see him at the Christmas dinner. The event should serve as a reminder to all of us to make sure our shacks are as safe and foolproof as possible. Remember, after a few hours of intense contesting even the most careful and prudent are somewhat less than 100% careful and alert, so please take this opportunity to look around your own shack and eliminate anything that could possibly cause harm to you if you accidentally came in contact with it. And if you have guest operators, be doubly careful.

ARTICLES, ads, etc. for the February notice should be mailed to K3ZJ, address on the first page, no later than January 16. A number of members are always mailing something but it never seems to arrive. Let's go!

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Directions to the January Meeting: Paint Branch High Schhol, Rm. A115.

1. D.C. Beltway, counter-clockwise: Exit onto New Hampshire Avenue North (MD 650). Right on US 29 at White Oak. Left on Briggs-Chaney Road at 5th stoplight (Montgomery Auto Park is on right). Right onto Columbia Pike, look for Paint Branch High School on right side, about 1/2 mile after turn.
2. D.C. Beltway, clockwise: Exit onto US 29 North (to Columbia). Left on Briggs-Chaney Road (Montgomery Auto Park is on right). Right onto Columbia Pike, Paint Branch High School is on right, about 1/2 mile after turn.
3. Baltimore and points north: South on US 29 or I 95 or US 1 or Baltimore-Washington Parkway, to Maryland Route 198. Right onto 198, pass intersection with US 29, to "Y". Bear left on the "Y", Paint Branch High School is about 1 mile on left.
4. Olney and points northwest: MD 108 to New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650). Right on New Hampshire, to MD 198. Left on MD 198 to Old Columbia Pike (Sandy Springs Bank on right at corner), right on Old Columbia Pike. Paint Branch High School is on left, about 1 mile after turn.

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 9, 1987, at 7:30 p.m.

QTH: Church of the Nativity, Temple Hills, MD (directions last p.)

AGENDA: Report on Sprint Contest, & discussion led by Bob Cox, K3EST, on operating hints for the ARRL DX contests. Also, K4YT, most recently /4D9 in the CQ WW SSB test, is expected and will give a little rundown on contesting from that area of the world.

CONTESTS: CW Sprint Sat. eve., Feb. 7 (EST) (Feb. 8 GMT date)

SSB Sprint Sat.eve., Feb. 14 (EST) (Feb. 15 GMT date)

ARRL DX CW, Feb. 21-22

(Meet on 147.00 Monday Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. to discuss)

ARRL DX SSB, Mar. 7-8

(Meet on 147.00 Monday March 9 at 8 p.m. to discuss)

Silent Key. PVRCer Don Riebhoff, K7ZZ/CT4AT, ex-XV5AC, XU1DX, 1S1A, FM5FC. One of the world's best contest operators of the 70's and a memorable personality, Don had big plans and had rebuilt CT4AT over the past year to include a 2 element rotary for 80/75. He died suddenly in a head-on automobile crash near Libson, Portugal, on Sunday January 18. PVRCers may pay their respects at a Memorial Service Wed., Feb. 4 at 11 a.m., Foundry United Methodist Church, 16 & T Streets Northwest, Washington D.C.

Multiplier-Spotting : A Better Way. A number of Washington-area contesters and DXers have expressed interest in establishing a Washington-area packet radio digipeater to support exchange of DX spotting information. Use of packet radio permits storage of the information if the operator is out of the shack. It also eliminates the need for a busy operator to interrupt his QSO, remove his headphones, etc. Instead, the operator need merely read the screen at his leisure. It is envisioned that this digipeater would be exclusively used to efficiently communicate DX information and, on contest weekends, multipliers, to multiple points (members' shacks). It would not support transfers of computer programs or other large files that would slow down transmission of the desired information to participants. There are technical reasons why use of a normal digipeater is not desirable for performing these functions in a timely manner. DXers and contesters in New England already have established successfully a system such as we propose. In order to get this system up and running we need an IBM-type computer, VHF radio, coax, antenna, and a site. Wayne, N2FB, has volunteered to head up this effort and Frank, W3LPL, has volunteered the coax, antenna, and site. It will take approximately \$2,000 to buy a radio and computer that will be

dedicated exclusively to these functions and reside at the site. At the last PVRC meeting nine members committed \$100 each. We need eleven more to make an initial system practical and affordable. It can be expanded later if interest warrants. If you want to join, or would like further information, call Wayne N2FB at home, 627-1166 (area code 301).

If you are receiving this Newsletter for the first time in ages. . . . .

Welcome! We want to encourage you to rejoin the active membership of PVRC by joining in the contests, paying dues, coming to our meetings, or whatever you desire.

-- For active members, your mailing label now indicates your membership status for accounting purposes: just a year indicates the year through which you have paid dues, i.e., 1986 indicates you have paid for 1986 but not 1987.

-- A "C" before the year, i.e., C1985, indicates that recently you have not paid dues, but continue to receive the Newsletter due to the generosity of dues-paying members who have voted to pay higher dues to keep you on the mailing list. We hope that you will continue to participate in contests, and one day again become active in other PVRC activities. Your continued listing is due to having participated in one of six contest weekends in the last several years : CQ WW SSB or CW, SS SSB or CW, or ARRL DX SSB or CW. This information is obtained from the published accounts of contest activity, so the latest available is the 1986 ARRL DX contest.

-- \*1947 indicates that you are a charter member of the PVRC. At the January, 1987 meeting we voted to continue you on our mailing list without regard to whether you remain a dues-paying member or continue to contribute to contests, although we hope that you want to do both.

-- PROSPECT indicates that you have attended one of our meetings or otherwise expressed interest in contesting and the PVRC. We mail the Newsletter for you for a reasonable period of time so that you will be informed of club activities and meetings, and hopefully will want to join the club.

-- If there is none of the above on your label, our records indicate that you have been a PVRC member but have not paid dues or reported participation in the CQ WW, ARRL SS, or ARRL DX contests in the last three years. This Newsletter is an invitation to rejoin us.

-- W3XE is due thanks from all of us for diligently researching and updating our records and putting this system together. Of course, there may be errors, so please keep ANDy informed of any change in address or status that does not concur with what your label indicates. His phone number is above.

Dues are \$10. for 1987 for in-area members; \$5 for 1987 for out-of-area members wishing to continue receiving the Newsletter. Send to Andy, address below.

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**NEXT MEETING:** Saturday, August 15, 1987, 2:00 p.m. - ? ?

**QTH:** Mike Colesante and Dave Pascoe's (directions last p.)

**AGENDA:** All drinks and food, featuring chicken, provided  
Social Event (no business meeting)

**Contests:** Aug. 8-9: DARC European CW  
(All Dates GMT) Aug. 22-23: JARL All-Asian CW  
Sept. 5 & 6: 73 Magazine National CW & SSB  
Sept. 12-13: DARC European SSB  
Sept. 12-14: ARRL VHF  
Sept. 13: Contest Journal N.A. CW Sprint

**Election Meeting:** September 14, Paint Branch High School, Silver Spring, MD

**PVRC Fowlfest** will be held on Saturday, August 15, beginning at 2 p.m. All food and drinks (chicken, salad, beer & soft drinks) will be provided for the single low price of \$7. per person. Spouses and friends particularly are welcome at this social event. Please bring chairs! Members of the National Capitol DX Association also will attend.

**Volunteers** are sought to help with the grilling. Also, for loan of a grill. If you can help, please call Mike (KC8C) at 630-5857 or Dave (KM3T) at 899-1235. The QTH is the same as last year, the K3ZO estate, currently inhabited by Mike KC8C and Dave KM3T. Directions are on the last page.

A tremendous round of thanks is due Mike and Dave. A lot of work goes into preparing and hosting the Fowlfest. Come, have a good time, and please extend a little help if you can.

**Don, W3AZD** and Hope, WB3ANE, will be at the Fowlfest. You may bring your completed applications and cards for DXCC or DXCC additional credit. Time permitting, Don has volunteered to check your cards and application, return the cards to you, and take your application back to Newington for processing. Also, Don is willing to take your outgoing DX QSLs for the Bureau. Follow standard outgoing Bureau procedures: be sure to securely package the cards, include \$1.00 per pound or fraction thereof, and your recent QST label.

Next PVRC Business Meeting will be Monday, September 14th at Paint Branch High School. We have several membership applications to vote on (K6IR + KA3PGL), will elect new officers, and plan for a winning contest season. You are encouraged volunteer to be an officer. Contact K3ZJ.

**CQ Club Scores.** At the May meeting there was discussion about PVRC's club score for the WPX contest obviously not reflecting some of its member's scores. Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, responded to my inquiry by checking the logs, and states that the three high PVRC scorers failed to note club competition for PVRC on their cover sheets! Please, don't forget! If you didn't this year, please write to Steve immediately to correct it. This year we have some real good scores, including three of the top four nationally for CW single op./all band (KT3Y, KC8C/3, & KM3T). Let's have all scores attributed to PVRC.

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CQ WPX SSB 1987 High Claimed Scores/Positions include the following nationally-ranked PVRCers.

Single Operator, All Band: 4th USA KC8C/3 (2,437,000)  
" " " " 9th USA AI2C/4 (1,200,480)  
" " 14 MHz.: 3rd USA W3USS (K3ZJ, op.) (1,957,725)  
" " 3.5 MHz.: 6th USA W6AXX/3 (18,020)

Multi Operator, Multi Band : 3rd USA KC3EK (3,119,637)

(Also, doesn't count for PVRC, but in the DX single operator, all band category, out-of-area member Karl, K4YT/4F, ranked 9th.)

CQ 160 CW 1987: High Claimed Scores/Positions show only WB3JRU, operating W3LPL, placing from PVRC-land: 8th USA single operator (203,980). Good job, Bernie! No PVRCer placed in the SSB portion, perhaps because it was held the same weekend as the ARRL DX CW contest.

Letter has been received from K4FGO:

The Newsletter recently received quoting the letter written by Norton Richardson, W4KFT, brought back many memories. Norton, myself, his wife Sarah and my wife Ada were great friends during the war years and thereafter. I can remember Norton's effort to establish the PVRC. I also was one of the original members of the club. I remember Vic Clark, W4KFC, and Leonard Chertok, W3GRF, very well but there were other early members whom I do not recall. One of our early goals was to defeat the Frankford Club in contests. If I remember correctly, we did [just that] in the first one we entered.

It would be great to [hear] from the original members . . . for old times sake. I have not been too active in the past six years. However, I do have the equipment and all I need to do is to throw the switch.

Thank you so much for keeping me on the mailing list.

(Mel can be contacted at 505 Millbrook Rd., Raleigh, NC 27609)

Don Riebhoff Scholarship and book. The DX Bulletin reports that the ARRL Foundation has established the Don Riebhoff Memorial Fund to honor the memory of PVRCer K7ZZ/CT4AT. Reportedly more than \$2000 already has been donated. The fund will be used to award an annual scholarship when it reaches \$10,000. Tom Frenaye, K1KI, recently donated the proceeds (?) from his ZF2KI operation. Donations may be sent to the ARRL Foundation (tax-deductible), c/o ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT 06111. Also, Chod Harris, VP2ML, editor of the DX Bulletin, has announced that he is writing a book about "Don's life" and will donate the proceeds to the memorial fund. He solicits "photos, anecdotes, stories, exploits, etc." of Don, or any of Don's operations. It's not known at this time whether the book will be X-rated. If you wish to help, contact Chod at 816 Fourth Street, Suite 1001, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

Congratulations to Jim Talens, N3JT, the newly-elected president of the Greater Washington Chaverim Radio Club.

FOR SALE. Alpha 374 amplifier. 10-80 meters, complete with NO TUNING feature. Carton still sealed from recent factory servicing and installation of latest updates. Runs full legal power (three 8874's), and has tuned input for use with the new solid state transmitters. The most dependable amplifier available for sustained heavy use, as in contests. Reason for selling: just bought an Alpha 78 to have full power QSK CW. Price: \$1200.

Also: ICOM PS-55, 13.8 volt, 20 amp. power supply, as new with original packing and documentation. New cost \$180. at discount, Price: \$125.

Contact Dave K3ZJ (703) 938-1495 eves/weekends.

CQ WW PVRC DXPEDITIONS. Jim has announced that he will be returning to HK0/N3JT, San Andres, for an all-band, single operator effort the CW weekend of CQ WW. Also, PVRicers N4TX and K4FJ are members of a group that will operate 8P9HR, multi-single, on CQ WW phone weekend. Any others?

Radiosporting's next issue will be "September", due out shortly. The last one was "May". Yuri reports problems with the changeover to a laser printer and his extra busy schedule as the reasons for the delay.

Propagation has been excellent as the sunspot cycle begins in climb upward. KH6BZF reports a daily sunspot peak of 119 on July 23 with quiet geomagnetic conditions. This resulted in excellent DX conditions. Solar Flux levels broke the 100 level on July 22 (106), peaked on July 23 (112), then slipped below 100 on July 28. By early August levels were back to the mid-to-high 70's, but as the new cycle strengthens, there will be continuing periods of increased activity, especially this autumn. Fifteen meters likely will provide good propagation beginning in September, and even some ten meter openings to Europe and JA are expected by the time of CQ WW.

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The PVRC Newsletter is the monthly meeting notice of the Potomac Valley Radio Club. Unless otherwise noted, the PVRC Newsletter is written by K3ZJ, and may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means, provided that credit is accorded "The PVRC Newsletter" and any identified author, or K3ZJ if not identified. Member contributions are solicited, and must reach the Editor's address on the first page no later than the 20th of the month preceding publication. Members and subscribers also may list amateur-related products for sale without charge.

The Potomac Valley Radio Club meets on the second Monday of every month, September through May (except December), alternating between the south and north sides of the D.C. Beltway. The December meeting is a Christmas dinner held at a Washington-area restaurant. The June, July, and August meetings are informal social occasions held at a member's home.

N2FB/PVRC Packet Radio Controller for DX and Contest spotting operates on 145.59 MHz. Contact Wayne Hillenbrand at (301) 627-1166 for information. Many PVRicers also can be found on the K3WX 2-meter repeater, 147.00 (-).

Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year. Members of the same family receiving only one newsletter are free, after a one-time initiation fee of \$5.00. Members no longer living in the Washington - Baltimore PVRC contest area may pay an annual \$5.00 subscription fee to receive the newsletter. Non-members may purchase yearly subscriptions for \$10.00. All checks should be made payable to "PVRC" and mailed to the treasurer, Carl "Andy" Anderson, W3XE, at 14601 Claude Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904. Membership or subscription status is on the mailing label each month. Questions should be directed to Andy at the above address, or at (301) 384-7771.

PVRC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). For information concerning contesting and Washington - Baltimore area Potomac Valley Radio Club, contact any of the officers listed on the first page of this newsletter, or write K3ZJ at 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180.

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Articles Wanted. Have some tips for contesting, propagation, or other related subjects ? Interested in VHF contesting? This is your Newsletter -- please share your knowledge with other PVRCers. Just jot down a couple of paragraphs - or more if you want - and mail them to the Editor.

Bill Leonard, W2SKE, back in 1958 described contesting to the general audience of Sports Illustrated. Bill, later Vice-President of the news division for CBS, (and now retired in the D.C. area) worked with Buzz Reeves in creating the first multi-multi station, an event that led to establishment of this as a separate category in contests. Every contester will recognize some of the people and calls in this article, even almost 30 years later! This article, reproduced below, is the best overall general article on contesting that I have seen.

DIRECTIONS TO FOWLFEST

In case of inclement weather, check the PVRC/N2FB packet node on 145.59, 147.00 K3WX repeater, or 147.420 NCDXA simplex frequency; or, call (301) 630-5857 or 899-1235.

Capital Beltway to Exit 7 SOUTH (Route 5, Branch Avenue, to Waldorf).

Stay in right lane on exit, at 1st stoplight turn RIGHT onto Manchester.

Go one block, to end of road, turn RIGHT onto Old Branch Avenue.

Follow Old Branch Avenue around bend, at which point it becomes Henderson Road.

Continue on Henderson. After about one mile, road rises slightly, and bears to the right.

Halfway down the ensuing hill, take 1st RIGHT onto Huntland Road. QTH is 5803 Huntland Road, several houses up on the left. The towers are visible.

Assistance : try 147.00 (K3WX) repeater or 147.420 (NCDXA) simplex.

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FOWLFEST '87

SEND TO: Mike Colesante KC8C  
5803 Huntland Road  
Temple Hills, MD 20748

Send \$7.00 per person, ASAP, to Mike at the above address.

Make checks out directly to Mike Colesante.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations

\_\_\_\_\_ I volunteer to help cook the chicken

Name \_\_\_\_\_ call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_



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**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, September 14, 1987, 7:30 p.m.

**QTH:** Paint Branch High School (directions last p.)

- AGENDA:** 1) Vote on New Member Applications  
2) Elect New Officers for 1987-'88  
3) Discuss HOW TO BECOME A WINNING CONTEST CLUB

**Contests:** Sept. 12-13: DARC European SSB  
(All Dates GMT) Sept. 12-14: ARRL VHF QSO Party  
Sept. 13: Contest Journal N.A. CW Sprint  
Sept. 20: " " " Phone Sprint

**NOTE: MEMBERS ARE SOLICITED TO SERVE ON THE PVRC SPRINT TEAMS, BOTH CW AND PHONE. CALL BOB PETERSON, W3YY, AT (703) 830-1480 (EVES) OR (202) 485-9579 (DAYS) NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY SEPT. 9 FOR CW, MONDAY SEPT. 14 FOR PHONE.**

Sept. 19-20: Scandinavian Activity, CW

Sept. 19-20: CRRL CAN-AM, Phone

Sept. 26-27: Scandinavian Activity, Phone

Sept. 26-27: CRRL CAN-AM, CW

Sept. 26-27: Italian YLRC, Phone & CW (!)

Oct. 3-4: Middle of the World (Work Ecuador only)

Oct. 3-4: California QSO Party (many awards)

**Next Meeting:** Monday, October 12, Church of the Nativity, Temple Hills, MD

## THANKS

Thanks for all the help many of you have extended to me and our other officers over the last two years. The PVRC is on the move, with a steadily increasing number of members, more potential members expressing interest, and veterans renewing their interest and enthusiasm. This is a great club because of its members who actively participate and work to make it great, both on and off the airwaves that are our competitive field. As those who actively participate know, generally what one gets out of PVRC is directly related to what one contributes.

Day-to-day functions are running smoothly, in large measure due to significant contributions made by W3XE, W3GN, W3FG, & N2FB. This will permit the new administration to devote increased attention to other aspects of the club related to our principle purpose of fostering knowledge of, and participation in, contesting.

The PVRC is so large, and spread out over such a large area, that it is a difficult task to form committees for various activities and to document the club's score in the contests. For this reason, I am recommending that we have two vice-presidents to share with the president the work of planning club programs, encouraging contest participation, and documenting that participation so that we don't unwittingly get short-changed as a club participant (see related note below on CQ Worldwide club participation requirements).

One of my most important duties is to recommend a slate of officers that I believe will carry on the club's activities, improving and building upon that which exists. In a club the size of PVRC it is relatively easy

to fill officer slots, but not nearly as easy to find those most likely to do an outstanding job. Fortunately, we have many members fully capable of contributing in this field, and from among those, I am confident that the 1987-'88 slate of officers will rank with the best that we have ever had.

I will remain active in club affairs, and hope that more of you will join me to support the new officers. I will continue to keep the ether warm from the U.S. Senate station during ARRL's 10 meter and DX contests, and as in the past, will welcome some of the PVRC members' help. Also, I hope finally to have the time and and continue to have the health to put K3ZJ/8 on the air with a big signal, emanating from "Wild, Wonderful, West Virginia." - - - Dave Siddall, K3ZJ - - -

**Slate of Officers for 1987-'88.** The floor will be open for additional nominations. All nominees must be present or have communicated a willingness to serve. Only members with dues paid through 1987 are eligible to vote.

President : Bob Peterson, W3YY  
 V. President: Bernie McClenny, WB3JRU  
 V. President: LaMar Ray, W9LT/4  
 Secretary : Walt McGugan, W3FG  
 Treasurer : Carl Andersen, W3XE

**PVRC Fowlfest** was a resounding success. Again, thanks to Mike KC8C and Dave KM3T for hosting this event, both for the PVRC and the NCDXA. Also, thanks to all of you who also helped throughout the afternoon/evening affair. PVRCers in attendance included: K3ZJ, W2GHK, N4TX, LU3YL/W4, WB3AVN, N2FB, WB3JRU, K3NA, KN3T, K3DI, WB3ANE, N3JT, N3GB, N4MM, KM3T, W3ZZ, N8II, W3LPL, W3XE, W3AZ, W3UJ, W6AXX, W3YOZ, KC3EK, K3RT, W9LT/4, N3II & KC8C. Prospective members attending included W0YVA, G4MZF, K1DQV, WB2EKK, N3FBN, W3FYH, K6IR, W3HXI & K3YGU. NCDXA members not also PVRC members attending included: K3CHP, WB4NFO, KE3A, W3LMZ, KZ3H, NK4U, WC4B, K3SKE, N3EHD. Also attending: N6VF & K1CTK.

### **CQ Worldwide Club Participation**

Bob Cox, K3EST, co-chairman of the CQ Worldwide Contest Committee, has clarified the club participation rule applicable to CQ Worldwide contests. It seems that rule X of the CQ Worldwide Contests is not as explicit as it might be on some points. Bob clarifies that under the rule, if you reside in the PVRC Club area, your participation in the contest, whether inside or outside the country, is creditable to the PVRC. You may not credit it to another club outside the area in which you presently live, whether or not you once were or now are a bona fide member of that club. One obvious purpose of this rule is to prevent war between clubs over members' scores. We've lost some big scores when members moved out of the area, and picked up some big scores when other clubs' members have moved into this area, so it seems to cut both ways fairly. Note that resident members temporarily in another part of the country for the contest can participate and their score is creditable to PVRC, not to the contest club in the area from which they operate (even if they also are a member of that area's club).

Bob's letter reads as follows: "Rule X.2 states that participation for club competition must draw on a pool of operators within a 275 Km radius from the club center (except for DXpeditions especially organized for operation during the contest). The rule is meant to express our desire to encourage DXpeditions for the contest. So that members operating per the club participation rule, can leave the club area and travel anywhere e.g. DX or domestic i.e., K3ZJ operating N5AU. If the club member lives outside

that 275 Km radius, then his score cannot count as part of the club score. For example if you were asked by the SEDXA to help them out at VS6DO's, your score would count for PVRC and their score for SEDXA. If this were not the case, then people from all over the world could help out the SEDXA. In many clubs, there are honorary members, such as OH2BH in the NCDXC, who then could be called on to contribute to the club effort. Rule X.1 states that the club must be a local group. The example you cited of Don, W3AZD operating a few years ago at PJ is correct. His score could not be counted for PVRC. If K3EST operates from PJ1B this year, my score will go to the NCCC and not PVRC. Another example is what about a member who lives in DC, but attends several meetings in SEDXA during the year. He is a member of both groups. Since he lives in DC and that is considerably farther than 275 Km from GA, he can only submit a score for the PVRC."

By the way, Rule X.3, concerning club competition, states that in order for a club to be listed, "a minimum of 3 logs must be received from a club and an officer of the club must submit a list of participating members and their scores, both on phone and c.w." If this rule means what it states, PVRC must initiate efforts to collect member scores, and send these to CQ. We have not done this before, and it could be quite an undertaking.

Local Political Awareness. John Buchanan, KW3X, sent a note emphasizing that in most states it is at the local government level that restrictive legislation and ordinances are passed affecting the Amateur Radio Service, including those that deal with antennas and towers. For this reason, he suggests that we as radio amateurs become involved by being aware of the actions being taken at the County and local levels and report those related to amateur radio to the ARRL section manager. He suggests becoming acquainted with members of the local governing body - particularly those involved in planning - in order to be kept informed on all matters that might affect amateurs. Many counties, towns and cities have a regular bulletin covering their activities and getting on the mailing list makes it easier to assist with legislation prior to its introduction than to cope with it after it is law. John further suggests that inviting members of the local government to speak at club meetings would assist amateur understanding of the government's problems, and also make them aware of the things amateur radio is doing for society and the local community. John also notes that in addition to towers and antennas, government actions in other areas, such as amateur license plates and cable television, also affect us as amateurs.

PVRC Foundation for Amateur Radio Board of Trustees' representative Henry Herman, W3UJ, has resigned that position. Many thanks, Henry, for years of service. I have appointed treasurer W3XE and myself as the new representatives. Since I already sit on the Board of Trustees as a representative of the Capitol Hill Amateur Radio Society, I will be glad to relinquish the PVRC position to another - contact your new president.

QST for September featured a picture of Toni, KN3T, on its cover. She is shown putting up a Butternut vertical on Lord Howe Island. Congratulations, Toni! It was odd, however, that the issue had no related article, either about the VK9L operation or the ARRL CW contest.

FREE, two "pole pig" transformers, in new condition, have both 115 and 230 volt inputs. Contact Bill, W3AZ, (301) 292-5797.

Directions to September 14 Meeting

Paint Branch High School, Room All5.

1. D.C. Beltway, counter-clockwise: Exit onto New Hampshire Avenue North (MD 650). Right onto US 29 at White Oak. Left onto Briggs-Chaney Road at 5th stoplight (Montgomery Auto Park is on right). Right onto Columbia Pike, look for Paint Branch High School on right side, about 1/2 mile after turn.

2. D.C. Beltway, clockwise: Exit onto US 29 North (to Columbia). Left on Briggs-Chaney Road (Montgomery Auto Park is on right). Right onto Columbia Pike, Paint Branch High School is on right, about 1/2 mile after turn.

3. Baltimore and points north: South on US 29 or I 95 or US 1 or Baltimore to Washington Parkway, to Maryland Route 198. Right onto 198, pass intersection with US 29, to "Y". Bear left on the "Y", Paint Branch High School is about 1 mile on left.

4. Olney and points northwest: MD 108 to New Hampshire Ave (MD 650). Right on New Hampshire, to MD 198. Left on MD 198 to Old Columbia Pike (Sandy Springs Bank on right at corner), right on Old Columbia Pike. Paint Branch High School is on left, about 1 mile after turn.

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The Potomac Valley Radio Club meets on the second Monday of every month, September through May (except December), alternating between the south and north sides of the D.C. Beltway. The December meeting is a Christmas dinner held at a Washington-area establishment. The June, July, and August meetings are informal social occasions held at a member's home.

N2FB/PVRC Packet Radio Controller for DX and Contest spotting operates on 145.59 MHz. Contact Wayne Hillenbrand at (301) 627-1166 for information. Many PVRCers also can be found on the K3WX 2-meter repeater, 147.00 (-).

Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year. Members of the same family receiving only one newsletter are free, after a one-time initiation fee of \$5.00. Members no longer living in the Washington - Baltimore PVRC contest area may pay an annual \$5.00 subscription fee to receive the newsletter. Non-members may purchase yearly subscriptions for \$10.00. All checks should be made payable to "PVRC" and mailed to the treasurer, Carl "Andy" Anderson, W3XE, at 14601 Claude Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904. Membership or subscription status is on the mailing label each month. Questions should be directed to Andy at the above address, or at (301) 384-7771.

PVRC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). For information concerning contesting and Washington - Baltimore area Potomac Valley Radio Club, contact any of the officers listed on the first page of this newsletter, or write K3ZJ at 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180.

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