



PVRC Newsletter

June 2019

Newsletter Editor: John K3TN jpescatore@aol.com

Website: <http://www.pvrc.org>

Meeting Info: <http://www.pvrc.org/chapters.htm>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PotomacValleyRadioClub/>

President's Letter – Tom K3AJ

Updates, Odds and Ends...

In February, we talked about our priorities for the immediate future. Here is where we are on some of those things:

- **By-Laws Amendments** – Last month's President's Letter outlined the plan for assembling the team under the leadership of Mark, KD4D. That is progressing. The officers have recruited three outstanding members and Mark is in the process of recruiting three more. The full team will be announced when the recruitment is complete - then the work begins.
- **Improving New Member Recruitment** – Doug, AA3S is keeping an eye on how the chapters are doing and helping as much as possible. Each new member is being welcomed individually both at the chapter level and from the officer team. We have had a steady stream of new members and applicants so far this year.
- **Strengthening Chapters** – The long dormant Eastern Shore Chapter has re-started under the leadership of new Chapter Chair Jim, W3FA. They had a good turnout at the first meeting and have three new members in process.

In the category of targets of opportunity, here are a few more interesting things underway:

- We were approached by National Contest Journal editor Scott, K0MD asking us to submit an article for the NCJ about how PVRC manages to keep the club fresh and active. Past president Ken, KE3X has taken the lead and produced a great article along with his team of contributors and reviewers. Look for it to appear this year in the NCJ.
- PVRC nominated a revered friend and contesting giant, the late Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ for the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. PVRC VP Jay, W3MMM did the research and handled the nomination with a lot of help from some long time PVRC stalwarts. Unfortunately, W3ZZ was not selected this year, but we learned a lot and have some definite ideas about how to strengthen the case when we try again next year.
- In early May, it came to the officer's attention that the call of Vic Clark, W4KFC would come available as a vanity call on May 27, 2019. Vic was a contesting legend, a founder of PVRC and a past president of the ARRL. We wanted to

preserve the call as a memorial to Vic and to see it used periodically in contests in a manner befitting his legacy. Since PVRC already has a club vanity call, W3GRF, in memory of PVRC founding member Lenny Chertok, we could not apply for the call in the name of PVRC. Within a matter of weeks, a new club, the Clark Memorial Amateur Radio Club (CMARC) was formed, a sequential call club station license was obtained, and an application for the vanity call W4KFC was submitted on the first day it was available. The CMARC also memorializes Vic's son Kenneth, who held the W4KFC call until his passing two years ago. The president of CMARC is Mike, N4GU and the CMARC club station license trustee is Tim, N3QE. As of this writing, although the call has not yet been issued, it appears CMARC was the only applicant who filed for the call on the first day of its availability.

- Under the leadership of PVRC VP Mike, N4GU, PVRC manned a table at the RARSFEST in Raleigh, NC last month. Following the hamfest, a joint PVRC/North Carolina DX Association lunch was held with a nice attendance, providing another regional opportunity for face to face fellowship among our members.

Finally, PVRC was out in force at the Dayton Hamvention. Elsewhere in this issue is a picture of a meet-up we held at the Hamvention venue. I would venture to say that the 22 PVRC'ers in the photo are no more than half of all the PVRC members I saw in one place or another. Forum talks were given by W3LPL, K3TN, K4ZDH, WA2WDT and N9NB. The Contest Dinner was MC'd by John, K1AR. Dave, K3ZJ presented the CQ Contest Hall of Fame inductees. Ted, N9NB was the keynote speaker at the Contest Dinner who told his story in a moving and unforgettable way. I had the pleasure of spending time talking to quite a few PVRCers whom I had never met face to face before while at Dayton. If you have never been able to make it to the Dayton Hamvention, you owe it to yourself to make this ham radio pilgrimage at least once in your life. And when you do, be sure to come out a day early for Contest University – a learning and networking experience like no other in the contesting world.

73, Tom K3AJ

<u>PVRC Officers:</u>		<u>Trustees:</u>
President:	K3AJ Tom Valenti	K3MM, N3OC, WX3B, W4ZYT, N4NW, K2AV, K4ZA, W3TB, K3ZO, K2PLF, W3LPL, N4MM, N4ZR, W3MSH, N4NQY, W2RU, K3WRV
Vice President:	N4GU Mike Barts	
Vice President:	W3MMM Jay Horman	<u>PVRC Charter Members (all SK):</u> W3GRF, W4AAV, W4KFC, N0FFZ, W4LUE, W7YS, VP2VI/W0DX, W3IKN, W4KFT
Secretary:	N3QE Tim Shoppa	
Treasurer:	K2YWE Dan Zeitlin	

Newsletter Editor: John K3TN jpescatore@aol.com
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CW Weekend June 7-9 – Don W4ZYT

The North American CW Weekend
7-9 June 2019
Fairview Park Marriott
Falls Church Virginia

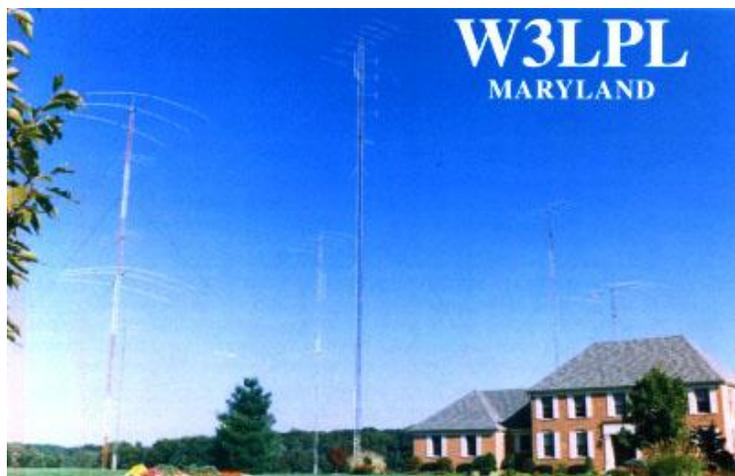
The 2019 CW Weekend will take place June 7-9 (first full weekend in June) at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church, Virginia. This event is open to all hams or others with an interest in CW or Morse code communication – FOC, CWOPS, SKCC, the Morse Operators Society, FISTS, and the American Telegraphy Society. It is predominantly a social event and provides a great opportunity to connect with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy those eyeball QSOs with folks you have worked on the bands for years.

As in years past, we'll kick off with an informal pizza dinner on Friday evening, followed by a brunch on Saturday morning hosted by Jim N3JT and Nina KE4PSV at their home in McLean. Dinner will follow that evening at the Blackfinn Ameripub in Vienna. There will be a hospitality suite with refreshments at the hotel on Friday and Saturday evenings. Sunday morning, many attendees meet informally at the hotel restaurant for breakfast before heading home or on to other activities. It is likely that Frank, W3LPL, will make a tour of his world class contest station available Sunday afternoon if there is interest. Further specifics about the hotel, restaurants and other activities will be forthcoming.

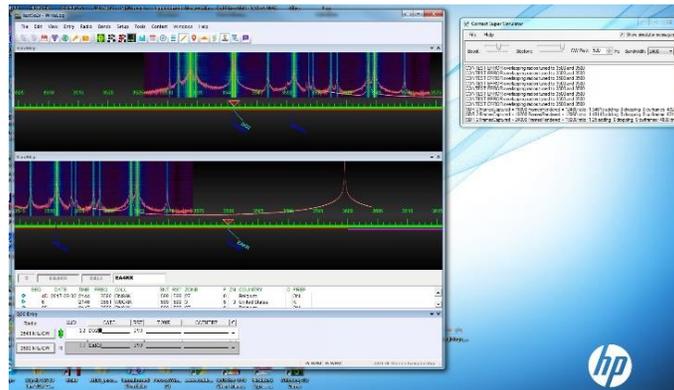
Details available [here](#) or contact Don W4ZYT [here](#).

W3LPL Open House – Saturday 15 June

PVRC members, guests and family are welcome to attend the 34th annual W3LPL Open House on Saturday June 15th from noon to 4pm, rain or shine. Food is served from noon to 1:30 p.m. QRZ.com [address](#) is good for mapping to get directions.



Contest Super Simulator for WriteLog – John K3TN



If you are a WriteLog user, Wayne W5XD has written the Contest Super Simulator that integrates with WriteLog, much the way N1MM+ can integrate MorseRunner. It works for CW, SSB and RTTY, and supports SO2R mode.

Details [here](#).

Increasing Your Chances of Being Skimmed – Bob N6TV via ARRL Letter

From the ARRL Contest Update for 1 May 2019:

“Being spotted by CW skimmers is important if you're running during a contest, so it pays to understand how [Reverse Beacon Network \(RBN\)](#) stations determine a station is soliciting contacts. According to Bob, N6TV: "The skimmer software looks for certain patterns of symbols representing a call sign. It also looks for **CQ** or **TEST** to distinguish "runners" from "callers." Also, according to Bob, the call sign patterns are determined by a fixed set of patterns representing call signs like N6@ N6@@... N6@@@@@, where each @ "represents a number, letter, or slash." Note that each @ matches ONE number, letter, or slash. Probably more than you wanted to know, but here's the important part:

While operating mobile, roving, and other situations where you're including more than your call sign in a CQ message, make sure you call "CQ <YOURCALL> <YOURCALL> <OTHER INFORMATION>" specifically with SPACES around your call sign. In the specific case of putting your county in your CQ message, DO NOT attach it to your call sign with a slash, since the skimmers will not match it. A further example: In the upcoming 7QP Contest, if you were stopped on the [King \(WAKNG\) and Kittitas \(WAKTT\) county line](#), it would be good to use "CQ K7RU K7RU WAKNG/WAKTT" to get the attention of a skimmer.”



PVRC Sweepstakes Showdown Award Winners – Jay W3MMM

2018 was a terrific year for PVRC in Sweepstakes, with a total 281 entries generating 16,694,489 points. We more than doubled the score and turnout of any other club - an impressive win by any measure! 2018 was also the first year we quietly implemented our “PVRC Sweepstakes Showdown” which rewards PVRC chapters for their outstanding performance in Sweepstakes.

The Purcellville/Blue Ridge Chapter, under Rick N1RM's leadership, took the challenge and went for it, winning two of the three trophies available. The Purcellville members won:

- The “Bob Morris W4MYA Award for Improved Scores” trophy for the chapter with the greatest % increase in SS scores over the prior year
- The “David Collingham K3LP Award for Growth in Logs” trophy for the chapter with the greatest net increase in SS logs submitted over the prior year.

Bob W4MYA was of course known for many things, and we remember his “Run ‘Em!” cheers - an enthusiastic push to have us score more. So, we named the trophy in his honor for the chapter that adds the most percentage to their score from the prior year. The Purcellville chapter improved over their 2017 score by a whopping 90%! The Colonial Capital chapter was a close second with an 84% increase.

David K3LP was also known for many things. His legacy might ultimately be his ability to get new hams involved in our hobby, all over the world. And since we believe that a big part of PVRC's success is to encourage 'new blood,' this award honors David and goes to the chapter that adds the most net-new logs over the prior year. The Purcellville chapter added seven new logs (some in CW, some in SSB) and lands the trophy - they beat the bushes for a stellar turnout! The Rappahannock Valley chapter came in second with four net new logs.

Looking at the awards, you might think that the W4MYA trophy is more easily won by a smaller chapter, while the K3LP trophy is more likely to be won by larger chapter. And over time, that may be true - all the more reason that Purcellville's feat is so impressive! Before establishing the Sweepstakes Showdown, an analysis of the prior 5 years of data suggested that it would be very difficult for one chapter to either repeat as winner, or to win both trophies in the same year. The Purcellville / Blue Ridge members bucked the trend in our first year of the Sweepstakes Showdown and they take home both of these trophies!

The Spoils of Victory

Purcellville's wins, and the overall PVRC win in Sweepstakes are now a part of our 24/7 online trophy room as seen [here](#).

The members of the Blue Ridge/Purcellville chapter will get to keep the trophies until late in 2019, at which point they will give them back to be awarded to the 2019 winners. Like the hockey Stanley Cup, each year the winning chapters will have their names added to the trophies and then they get to enjoy the trophies for a while before giving them back.

The third trophy for the Battle of the Potomac is being presented to the NC East chapter. They added the most points to their side in the “Battle of the Potomac” and they also get to keep the trophy until later this year. The PVRC members on the south side of the Potomac accounted for a little over 1/2 the overall PVRC score and increased their score over 2017 by over 1 million points, earning them the trophy.

How YOU Can Win in 2019

The assumption here is that your local chapter is where you’ll be most likely to fire up the troops. A few simple tips on how your chapter could win a trophy next year:

- Look for opportunities for new logs to be entered from your chapter members. Encourage new members, get members involved who weren’t before, explore the notion of ‘highly motivated ops’.
- Ensure that everyone from your chapter who enters the ARRL contest is credited in the 5M system. The ARRL has about 20 more logs than we captured - which is great for PVRC but means that some chapters might have been undercounted.
- Push each other for better scores. Maybe you have chapter folks ‘pledge’ scores ahead of time, have members compare notes on the online scoreboards, create one-on-one challenges and such. Ask WX3B and K3MM for their Sweepstakes slideshow and consider presenting it to your chapter. If you want your 2018 reference scores, contact W3MMM.

Congratulations to the members of the Purcellville/Blue Ridge chapter and good luck to everyone in 2019!



Rick, N1RM (R), PVRC Purcellville chapter chairman, receives two Sweepstakes Showdown trophies from Jay, W3MMM, PVRC Vice President, as were earned by the Purcellville chapter members for their efforts in the 2018 ARRL Sweepstakes.

Dayton/Xenia Hamvention Photos



On May 27th, a week after the Hamvention in Xenia, an EF3 tornado hit Dayton and finished the process that years of neglect had wreaked on the old Hara Arena.



An aerial shot of the Xenia Hamvention site by Ed N8EME



PVRCers at the Xenia meeting, photo by Lee N2LEE

See You in the PVRC 2019 Reunion! – Tim N3QE



The PVRC 2019 Reunion will be in two two-hour sessions with activity centered "on the 47's" to celebrate the founding of PVRC in 1947. PVRC's motto of "Once a member, always a member" shines through and this is an excellent opportunity to meet and greet on the air with members who are now living out of circle.

Times and Dates: This year there are **two** two-hour sessions throughout the weekend:

- Friday May 31, 8PM-10PM EDT (that's June 1 0000Z-0159Z)
- Saturday June 1, 8PM-10PM EDT (that's June 2 0000Z-0159Z)

Suggested CW frequencies: 1817, 3547, 7047, 14047, 21047 and 28047 kHz.
Try to emphasize CW Activity on the **even** UTC hours

Suggested SSB frequencies: 1847, 3847, 7247, 14247, 21247 and 28447 kHz.
Try to emphasize SSB Activity on the **odd** UTC hours

Moves between bands and modes are **highly encouraged**.

Full details [here](#).

CQ WPX Activity at W3LL – Bud W3LL



Gary WR3R operating @W3LL in CQ WPX CW along with Pip WB4FDT and Bob ND3D

Membership News – Tim N3QE

From February to May 2019, PVRC added 9 new members. Please welcome:

- Bob K4RLC and Niles KS4S in the North Carolina East Chapter.
- Phil N4KEZ, Ross W2OK, and Seab W4SEH in the Annapolis Chapter.
- David K1BZ in the Laurel Chapter.
- Riley K4ZDH and Pat KK3F in the Northwest Chapter.
- Bette N1BAS in the SW Virginia Chapter.

Chapter leaders please remember to complete the [Meeting Attendance Report](#). Members can check and update their roster details via the [Roster Lookup](#).

Upcoming Contests and Log Due Dates

Contests This Month

- **June 1,2 – PVRC Reunion**
- **June 1 – SEANET**
- **June 8 – ARRL VHF**
- **June 15 – All Asian CW**
- **June 22 – Field Day**

Logs Due This Month

- **June 3 – EA CW**
- **June 16 – PVRC Reunion**

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

N6TV's Contest University Presentations Available Online – via CQ-CONTEST

Bob N6TV has uploaded PDF versions of his recent Dayton Contest University (CTU) and Visalia Contest Academy PowerPoint Presentations to the web:

- [Everything You Need to Know About USB and Serial Interfaces](#)
- [The Advantages of Waterfall Displays for Contesting and DXing](#)
- [How to Record an Entire Contest and Learn From Your Mistakes](#)

These same links are also listed at the bottom of his QRZ.COM [page](#).

From the PVRC Treasurer – Dan K2YWE

PVRC has chosen not to implement an annual dues requirement. We depend on the generosity of all our club members to finance our annual budget. In addition, active PVRC members are expected to participate and submit logs for at least two PVRC Club Competition contests per year.

When contemplating your donation to PVRC, each member should consider the benefit you are receiving from PVRC and its many opportunities for your personal growth in our wonderful hobby, then donate accordingly.

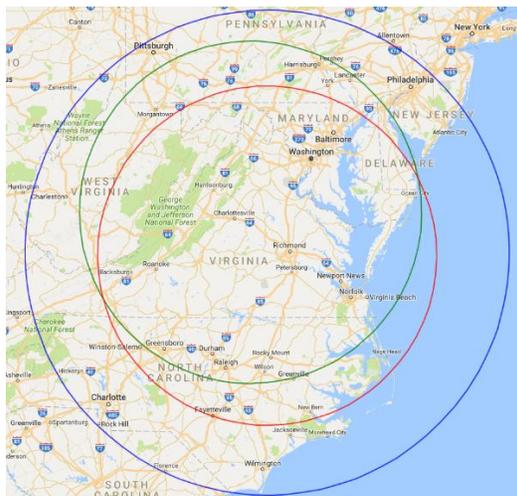
Direct donations to PVRC via Credit Card or PayPal may be made by clicking this "Donate" button and clicking the next Donate button that appears on your screen:



Donations to PVRC are not tax deductible

Eyeball QSO Directions

The latest info on local club meetings and get togethers will always be sent out on the [PVRC reflector](#) and posted on the PVRC [web site](#).



Green: ARRL VHF Circle
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Around 38.075N,
78.171W

Red: ARRL HF Circle
175 mile radius
Around 37.43168N,
77.858482W

Blue: CQ HF Circle
250 mile radius
Around 37.43168N,
77.858482W



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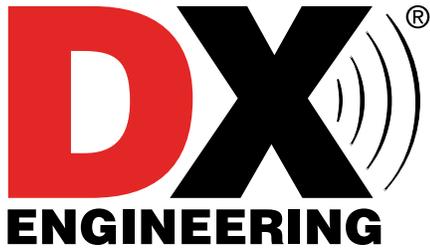


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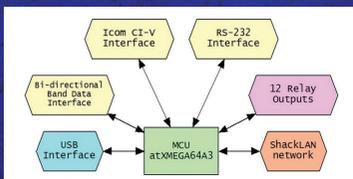
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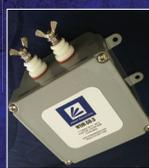
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- Large 7-inch color display with high resolution real-time spectrum scope and waterfall • Independent direct sampling receivers capable of receiving two bands/two modes simultaneously



IC-2300H | VHF FM Transceiver

- 65W RF Output Power • 4.5W Audio Output • MIL-STD 810 G Specifications • 207 alphanumeric Memory Channels • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS Encode/Decode • DMS



IC-R30 | Digital/Analog Wideband Xcvr

- 100 kHz to 3.3 GHz Super Wideband Coverage • P25 (Phase 1), NXDN™, dPMR™, D-STAR Mode • 2.3" Large LCD Display & Intuitive User Interface • MicroSD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • USB Charging & PC Connection



IC-7300 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- RF Direct Sampling System • New "IP+" Function • Class Leading RMDR and Phase Noise Characteristics • 15 Discrete Band-Pass Filters • Built-In Automatic Antenna Tuner



IC-2730A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- VHF/VHF, UHF/UHF simultaneous receive • 50 watts of output on VHF and UHF • Optional VS-3 Bluetooth® headset • Easy-to-See large white backlight LCD • Controller attachment to the main Unit

ID-51A PLUS2

VHF/UHF D-STAR Portable

- RS-MS1A, free download Android™ application
- New modes for extended D-STAR coverage • Terminal Mode & Access Point Mode allow D-STAR operation through Internet • DV & FM repeater search function • Dplus reflector link commands



- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- FAX – All store locations
- MAIL – All store locations



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Except 60M Band. *Frequency coverage may vary. Refer to owner's manual for exact specs. *1 Optional UX-9100 required. QST April 2019. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom Inc. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.

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NOBODY BEATS AN HRO DEAL!



FTDX5000MP Limited | 200W HF + 6M Xcvr

- Internal Power Supply • Two Totally Independent Receivers
- Super Sharp "Roofing" Filters • High Performance Yaesu Custom- designed 32-bit Floating Point DSP • True Analog Meter Precision



FTDX3000 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100 Watt HF/6 Meters • Large and wide color LCD display • High Speed Spectrum Scope built-in • 32 bit high speed DSP /Down Conversion 1st IF



FT-991A | HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver

- Real-time Spectrum Scope with Automatic Scope Control • Multi-color waterfall display • State of the art 32-bit Digital Signal Processing System • 3kHz Roofing Filter for enhanced performance • 3.5 Inch Full Color TFT USB Capable • Internal Automatic Antenna Tuner • High Accuracy TCXO



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-891 | HF+50 MHz All Mode Mobile Transceiver

- Rugged Construction in an Ultra Compact Body • Stable 100 Watt Output with Efficient Dual Internal Fans • 32-Bit IF DSP Provides Effective and Optimized QRM Rejection • Large Dot Matrix LCD Display with Quick Spectrum Scope • USB Port Allows Connection to a PC with a Single Cable • CAT Control, PTT/RTTY Control



FT-857D | Ultra Compact HF/VHF/UHF

- 100w HF/6M, 50W 2M, 20W UHF • DSP included • 32 color display • 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)



FT-2980R | Heavy-Duty 80W 2M FM Transceiver

- Massive heatsink guarantees 80 watts of solid RF power • Loud 3 watts of audio output for noisy environments • Large 6 digit backlit LCD display for excellent visibility • 200 memory channels for serious users



FTM-100DR | C4FM FDMA/FM 144/430 MHz Xcvr

- Power Packed System Fusion Transceiver • High Audio Output Power • Rugged Powerful Transmitter • Integrated 66ch High Sensitivity GPS • 1200/9600 APRS Data Communications



FTM-400XD | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band



FT-70DR C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Xcvr

- System Fusion Compatible • Large Front Speaker delivers 700 mW of Loud Audio Output • Automatic Mode Select detects C4FM or Fm Analog and Switches Accordingly • Huge 1,105 Channel Memory Capacity • External DC Jack for DC Supply and Battery Charging

FT-2DR C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Xcvr

- Analog/C4FM Dual Monitor (V+V/U+U/V+U) • System Fusion compatible • 1200/9600 APRS Data Communications • Integrated 66ch High Sensitivity GPS • Wide Band Receiver • Snapshot Picture Taking Capability With Optional MH-85A11U



FT-65R | 144/430 MHz Transceiver

- Compact Commercial Grade Rugged Design • Large Front Speaker Delivers 1W of Powerful Clear Audio • 5 Watts of Reliable RF Power Within a compact Body • 3.5-Hour Rapid Charger Included • Large White LED Flash-light, Alarm and Quick Home Channel Access

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



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