



PVRC Newsletter

October

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 – Doug AA3S

The ARRL Sweepstakes has been an important must-win contest since PVRC's beginnings in 1947. It consists of a CW event followed 2 weeks later by the SSB event. There are presentations available for viewing that offer specific Sweepstakes contesting insights, see our website ("Reference" tab). Both legs of Sweepstakes are in November, it will be here before you can ask "QRZ?"

October has **three** 5M contests, two have no membership circle. Use our [5M Calendar](#) to start your planning for these:

1. Makrothen RTTY [PVRC Members Worldwide](#) SAT OCT 12 0000 UTC (**Friday 8pm EDT**) and Sunday 13th October 2024, *with three separate periods*: Saturday 00:00-08:00 UTC and 16:00-24:00 UTC and Sunday 08:00-16:00 UTC
2. Worked All Germany [PVRC Members Worldwide](#) OCT 19 1500 UTC **Saturday (11am EDT)** to 1459 UTC Sunday
3. CQWW SSB ARRL/CQ 250-Mile Circle SAT OCT 26 0000 UTC (**Friday 8pm EDT**) Ends: 2359 UTC Sunday

Some odds and ends: A big part of keeping in touch with PVRC news is the PVRC Reflector for members. If you know a PVRC member who is not signed up for the PVRC Reflector, please encourage them to do so!

A reminder that is important for *contest start and end times*: daylight saving time will end for the year at 2 a.m. local time on Sunday, Nov. 3, when we "fall back" and gain an extra hour of sleep.

GO PVRC!!

Club Competition October 2024 – Doug AA3S

Big Month for State QSO Parties that award the top Club outside of the sponsor’s state:

There are four in October that I know of:

1) 59th California QSO Party, 1600 UTC October 5, 2024 to 2200 UTC October 6, 2024, Club Competition results in a winning club receiving \$100, intended to be used to the benefit of its members! The club competition rules [here](#) and have provision for **bonus points** (think Field Day) for things like a YL station. The PVRC circle applies to fixed stations contributing points to PVRC, see specific rules for unusual situations you might have out of the circle that may allow you to contribute to PVRC. Contest rules [here](#)

2) Arizona QSO Party - 1500z Oct 12 to 0500z Oct 13, 2024 (UTC) 16th Running, rules at: <https://www.azqp.org/rules> *The Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) won in 2023.* The winning club may get a plaque. No membership circle is mentioned in the rules!

3) Pennsylvania QSO Party - Two sessions:

- a) Saturday, 12 October 2024 1600 - 0400 UTC = **Noon - Midnight EDT** and
- b) Sunday, 13 October 2024 1300 - 2200 UTC = **9:00AM - 6:00PM EDT**

Rules [here](#).

4) New York QSO Party Third Saturday in October: October 21, 2023 1400 UTC (10:00 AM Eastern)12 Hours only.

PVRC was the out of state winner in 2023! Rules are [here](#):

If you have scoring tips or operating hints for these QSO Parties (especially the bonus points of CA QSO) or any other State QSO Party sponsors who compute and publish club scores, let us know!

Individual performance in State QSO Parties is tracked on 3830 at <https://3830scores.com/sqpsummary.php> - do you see your callsign there?

Overall **Club** performance in State QSO Parties (47 of them) is tracked at https://stateqsoparty.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/sqpcc_062724web.pdf and PVRC is not at the top. Yet.

PVRC Officers:		Trustees:	
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<p>Newsletter Editor: John K3TN jpecatore@aol.com</p> <p>PVRC Website: http://www.pvrc.org</p> <p>PVRC Meeting Info: http://www.pvrc.org/chapters.htm</p> <p>PVRC on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/PotomacValleyRadioClub/</p>			

It's That Time Again! – PVRC Treasurer Ted WA3AER

The 4th quarter of the year is fast upon us. That's generally the time many of us consider our charitable contributions for the year. Most of you recall that PVRC provides two \$3000 scholarships annually via the ARRL Foundation. These scholarships benefit deserving Amateur Radio operators still pursuing their education. Donations to scholarships do not benefit any ARRL operations, only student Amateur Radio operators.

As your Treasurer, I encourage you to consider making a contribution to the PVRC Scholarships. Note that your PVRC Scholarship contribution can be tax-deductible or tax-free. Complete information is available on the PVRC Web site under the **PVRC Scholarship** heading (https://www.pvrc.org/pvrc_scholarship.html). In brief, there are 4 ways to contribute:

1. Complete the ARRL online form and mail it with your check to ARRL Foundation;
2. Telephone the ARRL Fund Director and give him your credit card number;
3. Make your contribution via your IRA(s) RMD (Required Minimum Distribution);
4. Send your contribution via PayPal (preferred, [here](#)) or check made payable to PVRC, noting it is for the Scholarship fund.

The first two methods are tax-deductible.

The third method is tax-free and avoids the possibility that a taxable RMD might bump you into a higher income-based Medicare monthly premium or into a higher IRD tax bracket.

The fourth method will likely not qualify as a charitable tax deduction; consult your financial advisor.

If you have already contributed this year, Thank You. If you have not, please consider doing so. You might just be helping the next new PVRC contester and furthering our sport.

Buddy W4YE Celebrated as Longest Licensed PVRCer – Rick NN4RB

At the August meeting of QCWA Old Dominion Chapter 202 at the Roanoke Hamfest, Pip Sager (WB4FDT) the Historian of the Potomac Valley Radio Club and a member of QCWA chapter 91 presented a plaque to Buddy Smith (W4YE) for being the longest licensed ham in the Potomac Valley Radio Club. The plaque is one presented to the PVRC club station W3GRF for 75 years of ARRL affiliation. Buddy's accomplishment makes him an appropriate holder of the plaque.



NR4M Team Wins 2024 WPX CW Multi-Multi Category



PVRC DXCC Marathon Standings – Frank W3LPL

(Editor's note: The ARRL still hasn't recovered fully from the ransomware attack back in May and is not able to update online DXCC standings. When that data becomes available again, we will resume our normally scheduled programming – K3TN)

PVRC is competing in the DX Marathon. Please contribute your normal and contest QSOs to our effort - see dxmarathon.com. Thanks to Frank for the data each month to make this a regular feature. Please report any omissions or errors to [Frank](#).

CALL	DXCC	CALL	DXCC	CALL	DXCC	CALL	DXCC
K5EK	298	K3WA	241	KB3Z	209	N6DW	153
W3LPL	294	W4VIC	241	WD4ETU	209	NW3L	148
K3MM	285	K3TN	239	N3RTW	195	K2EJ	141
N2QT	282	KE4S	233	KK4ODQ	189	W3IDT	133
K1HTV	276	N1EK	230	N3QE	184	WC4J	95
KM3V	274	N3AM	221	N5HC	176		
K3STX	271	N4ZR	218	KA4RRU	169		
W3LL	254	K3AJ	216	N4IW	164		
W3ZQI	243	N1RM	214	N4CF	156		

Henry K4YCR Lighting a Future PVRC Flame – David N4IW



PVRC member Henry Wyatt (K4YCR) our Master GOTA Station Coach with the great granddaughter, Reni, of PVRC member Rick Brown (NN4RB).

Colonial Capitol Chapter at NR4M Galactic Pigfest – Jerome K8LF

From Left to right: Will K4MI, Wayne N1WR, Ed K1NUH, Jerome K8LF

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the WRTC 2026 Youth Tent donation bucket. Over \$75 dollars was raised to support the PVRC sponsored tent.



All PVRC 2024 Olympic Medals have been mailed. Remember to post a photo of you and your fellow members with the 2024 award medals.

Running WSJTX with N1MM, Log4OM and OmniRig – Alan WA3EKL

This approach worked for me to get FT8 contacts to log to both N1MM and Log4OM. (Note: while researching I found some people had these programs running on Windows 10, 32 bit and on Windows 7, 32- and 64-bit systems. However, I don't know if extra programming will be needed on older systems.

(When you create the below folders, **do not include the quote marks in the filename**)

Somewhere in your computer create a folder called "com0com". **Do not put it on your desktop.** (The character in the middle of com0com is not a capital letter "O." It is the number "Zero" and always will be the number "zero" in this setup.)

In the com0com folder create a folder called "com0com setup files"
 In the com0com folder create a second folder called "hub4com 2.1.0.0 386.zip"
 In the com0com folder create a third folder called "hub4com 2.1.0.0.zip"

Create another folder somewhere in your computer and call it "OmniRig". Do not include the quote marks. **Do not put it on your desktop.** Under the OmniRig folder create a folder called "Newest INI Files". No quote marks.

Download the **com0com program**:

Goto [this webpage](#) and download the following file. com0com-3.0.0.0-i386-and-x64-signed.zip When you go to the web page the file should download automatically. If it does not download then go to <https://sourceforge.net/projects/com0com/> Then click the Green download bar which will download the com0com-3.0.0.0-i386-and-x64-signed.zip file to your computer to wherever your downloads go. Note: make sure you are downloading the -signed.zip file

Next go to [this web page](#) to download the **hub4com** program files.

Next click the 2.1.0.0 folder 12-06-18 which will bring you to a new page.

You absolutely need both files on this page. hub4com-2.1.0.0-386.zip and hub4com-2.1.0.0.zip Left click the hub4com-2.1.0.0-386.zip and it should automatically load to your computer Back up your browser and then click the hub4com-2.1.0.0.zip and it also should load to your computer.

Now go to [this web page](#) and download the OmniRig 1.2 program and the INI update file.

Scroll down the page and find OmniRig 1.2 and click it. It will download the OmniRig.zip file to your computer. This should be the OmniRig 1.2 file. Do not be tempted to download a higher number file. Next click INI files for OmniRig and it will download another file to your computer. Hint: you must download Omni-Rig 1.20. Do not be tempted to download OmniRig version 2.x. It will not work.

You now should have downloaded a total of 5 files. Now we are going to put the files in specific folders and unzip them.

Starting with com0com-3.0.0.0-i386-and-x64-signed.zip file, copy it and paste it into the com0com setup files folder which is under "your" com0com folder.

Copy the hub4com-2.1.0.0-386.zip file and paste it into the hub4com 2.1.0.0-386.zip folder which is under the com0com folder

Copy the hub4com-2.1.0.0.zip file and paste it into the hub4com 2.1.0.0.zip folder which is in the com0com folder.

Copy the OmniRig.zip file and paste it into the OmniRig folder.

Copy the RigIni.zip file and paste it into the Newest INI folder.

The reason we copied and pasted instead of moving the files is because if you have a problem you will still have the original files and you won't have to go looking for them again!

If possible, unzip each file into the same folder the zip file is sitting in. If the file unzips somewhere else, move all the unzipped files to the same folder the original zip file folder is in. Start by unzipping the OmniRig.zip file in the OmniRig folder.

Now we are just going to install the OmniRig program. We will set up the parameters in the OmniRig program later. In the OmniRig folder find the OmniRigSetup.exe file. Double click it. Follow the prompts to install. The OmniRig setup will place an Icon on your desktop and when you restart your computer the program will run in the background. There is no need to click the Icon on your desktop yet unless you just want to see what's in there. You cannot place any values in the boxes because we have not created any ports yet!

Then unzip the RigIni.zip file in the Newest INI folder under the OmniRig folder. Highlight all the files that have unzipped in the Newest INI folder. Copy those files and paste them into the C:\Program Files (x86)\Afreet\OmniRig\Rigs folder. You will be over writing the existing files.

Next unzip the com0com-3.0.0.0-i386-and-x64-signed.zip file first. It will create a new file in your com0com setup files folder called Setup-com0com_V3.0.0.0_W7x64_signed.exe. This is the 64 bit setup version and the one we want. X86 is the 32 bit version. Left double click the x64exe file and follow instructions. This will install the com0com program into your computer. It will not run the program permanently just install it. We will make it run automatically later.

During setup, when you get to a window with the three check boxes. The top box will be checked. You want to ONLY check the box that indicates something about CAC in it. DO NOT check all three boxes. You don't need that third function and it will not allow you to change port numbers. I learned the hard way. (I attempted to install these programs on a laptop about a year later following my own instructions and had a problem with the ports. I will explain in detail shortly so hopefully anyone installing this system will have less frustration than I did!)

The setup process will make a folder in your main directory usually C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com Go find the Program Files (x86)\com0com folder. You will be spending time in that folder copying files to it. Look for two files, in that folder; setupc.exe and setupg.exe. Now make short cuts on your desktop to both of those files. Look at the Icons you have just made. You will be using those Icons during this set up and later! If

you ran the com0com program at the end of it's set up then you saw the com0com set up window come up where the comports can be created, deleted or changed. The "setupg.exe shortcut Icon" will also bring up this same window. See Fig 1. The "setupc.exe Icon" brings up a limited CMD window where you type in commands to make changes in the com0com set up window. When we are finished setting up this system the com0com program will always be running in the background, your tray!

Next go to the hub4com 2.1.0.0-386.zip folder and unzip the hub4com-2.1.0.0-386.zip file into that folder. That will give you another folder and in that folder will be five files. The only file you want is the hub4com.exe. Copy the hub4com.exe file and paste it into the Program Files (x86)\com0com folder where we were just looking. {Note: placing the hub4com.exe file in the Program Files (x86)\com0com folder is what makes the hub4com program run.}

Next go to the hub4com 2.1.0.0.zip folder and unzip the hub4com 2.1.0.0.zip file into that folder. There will be three yellow folders created plus many other files. Copy all files that have unzipped EXCEPT the three yellow folders and paste them into the C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder. Over write the existing files.

Find your Windows CMD Icon, copy, and paste it to your desktop. You will be needing it for final setup. Bring up Notepad, not Wordpad and not Word. Notepad assures you of saving files correctly for this setup. Type the following Three lines into Notepad.

```
C:
cd\Program Files (x86)\com0com
setupg.exe
```

{note: there is a space between m and Files and s and (x86)}

Click File at top left in Notepad, click Save as, then in the window that comes up type com0com In the top window navigate to "your" C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder. Now click save. That should have put a file called com0com.txt into your C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder. Go there and see if it is there. Right click the com0com.txt file, click rename, then change the file name to com0com.bat and save. The computer may complain. Just click ok. Next Right click the com0com.bat file. On the next window near the bottom Left click Create Shortcut. Save and ok out of that. A new file will appear called com0com.bat – shortcut. This file will be used to start the com0com program in your computer startup folder later during final installation.

Next create a short cut on your desktop to only the com0com.bat file and call it Ports Cold Start. This Icon is used only for restarting the system if the computer throws a glitch or you shut the system down and want to restart it again.

Bring up Notepad again and type in the following Four lines if you are using a K3. Hint: see below if not using a K3

```
C:cd\Program Files (x86)\com0com
hub4com --baud=38400 --octs=off --bi-route=0:1,2 \\.COM1 \\.COM2 \\.COM4
cmd /k
```

{note: there is a spaces; before the (x86), before the three -- marks ,and before all [\\.](#)}

{note: the above lines make this system work. You must be accurate.}
{note: if you are using a radio other than a K3 enter the “baud rate” for your radio.
Everything else remains the same for now}
{note: this is the actual program}
{note: The third line starting with hub4com executes the hub4com program within the
Program Files (x86) com0com folder. You may be changing the COM1, COM2 or
COM4 numbers to different numbers depending on what port numbers you create later
on in this setup.} {Therefore you may be coming back to these lines later to edit the third
line}

{note: Here is where things can get interesting. The first port in line 3 is the real port on
“your” computer or the port “your” computer talks to on “your” transceiver. Therefore the
First COM number should be your transceivers comport number. My K3’s use COM1
and my Icom uses COM3 as you saw in diagrams 2 and 3. The next two ports are the
ports on the Right side of your diagram. These are the ports you assign your various
programs such as N1MM and the OmniRig program.}

Click file at top left in Notepad, click Save as, then in the window that comes up type
Open Ports

In the top window navigate to “your” C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder. Now click
save. That should have put the file called Open Ports.txt in your C:\Program Files
(x86)\com0com folder. Go there and see if it is there. Right click the file, click rename,
then change the file name to Open Ports.bat and save. The computer may complain.
Just click ok. Next Right click the Open Ports.bat file. On the next window near the
bottom Left click Create Shortcut. A new file will appear called Open Ports.bat –
shortcut. Now Right click the Open Ports.bat – Shortcut file. **(There is more to do to
this file than the one above)** In the next window Left click Properties. In the next
window Left click Advanced. In the final window put a check mark in Run as
Administrator. Ok out of all windows. Next and Very Important: Now create a Shortcut
Icon on your desktop to the Open Ports.bat – shortcut file; call it Open Ports. **You will
double click this icon on your desktop every time you start your computer to
activate this system.**

Final Desktop Icon:

Right click on your desktop, >New>Shortcut.

Browse to your C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder.

Find the file com0com.bat, left click once to highlight the file

Left click ok, Left click Next

In the final window type in the name Ports Cold Start

You can rename it later if you wish.

Then left click Finish

That should have placed an Icon on your main desktop called Ports Cold Start.

Com0com/hub4com Information:

The command line starting with hub4com is what makes this system function. It sets the
baud rate of all the ports, bi-route makes the port pairs bidirectional, 0:1,2 assigns the
order of the comports, 0 is always your computer’s hard wired port, in this case COM1.
The hub4com program always looks for a hardwired port first! However if your
computer has no hardwired comports and all USB ports then you can assign any
comport number in that first position as long as your transceiver is programmed for that

same port number, be it a USB port or a 9 Pin comport through a USB to RS232 converter cable.

The first number past the colon ":" is assign to the Left side Port of the first pair in com0com window.

The second number past the colon is assigned to the Left side port of the second pair in the com0com window. If you have a third pair then there will be a 3 and that would go to the third pair.

Most transceiver's use COM1 for control. com0com will pick the next available port and start assigning consecutive pairs if you let it assign ports on it's own. If you have already used comports 1 through 5 then com0com will start the first pair with COM6 to COM7 and the Even ports will be on the Left side but you can rename those ports to COM7 and COM8 if you wish or any number as long as that number port does not already exist. The line cmd /k in the above program keeps the window open so you can see if there are any error or shows you exactly what you have programmed.

When you first run com0com it will assign the Left side port as CNCA0 and the Right side port as CNCB0. By checking the right and left boxes called "use Port class" in the com0com setup window and then clicking "apply" com0com program will rename the Left hand port from CNCA0 to a real port number which will now appear in your Windows Device Manager.

{Hint: the "use Port class" boxes must be checked in order for the port numbers to appear in the Windows Device Manger which is necessary for your other programs to recognize these com0com virtual ports.

Creating ports with port numbers, or changing from a CAC port numbers to normal port number such as COM3 or COM6 and or changing a port number from COM7 to COM2 can be a very frustrating experience even an experienced keyboard junkie like me. Therefore I will add some detail here so you will have the best chance of creating the port numbers you want and not necessarily what the program puts in for you!

As stated above when com0com comes up the first time it creates the first virtual pair starting with the lowest unused port number it can find. Ex. If you have already used ports 1,2,3,4 com0com will create COM5. However if you have used ports 2,3,4, it will start most likely with COM1 which may not be what you want and you will have to change the number to another unused port number. The procedure for doing so is below. Next when you first check the "use Port class" boxes on both sides of the first virtual pair then hit apply sometimes the com0com program will give you real port numbers on both sides. If this happens, and you can live with those port numbers, then "x" out of the com0com window and bring it back up with the "setupg.exe Icon" you made earlier to see if your change remained. Always do this after every change to the com0com window.

Now you are ready to create the second virtual port pair. There are two ways to this. One is to use the Add Pair button in the bottom left corner of the com0com window. It will add CNCA1 and CNCB1.

Hint your first pair was CNCA0 and CNCB0. The third pair would be CNCA2, CNCB2 Now click Virtual Port Pair1 in the Left box of the com0com window and the right hand window resets. Now click the "use Port class" boxes, then apply and hope two new real com port numbers are created. If you can live with those numbers then you are ready to

go on. However I had very little luck getting this method to work either on a laptop or a desktop.

Big Hint: while you are working with your ports first look in your windows device manager under ports and see what ports you actually have in there and don't use a port number that is already there.

Hint Two: if your delete a port in com0com be absolutely sure you delete it in the windows device manager also.

Hint Three: make sure you look for hidden ports in Device Manager\Ports,View tab, Show Hidden Devices. {Caution; this can be done but be very careful you do not delete a hidden port that is in use by some other program. Deleting hidden ports in Windows can be a challenge some times and requires a special CMD window shown below)

The second method is to actually create the second port pair with the procedure below.

First pick an unused port number for the left side of com0com and create a port in com0com with the create procedure below. Then restart com0com. You should get the first pair plus a second pair with the left side port being the com port number you assigned to it. Click the pair you just created in the Left window of the com0com window. The right side will say CACB1. This is the first place I went wrong because I created two real ports one for the left side and one for the right side. Don't do that. You must change the name of the Right side CACB1 to whatever number you want that port to be. Now the frustration may begin. Click the "use Port class" boxes on both sides, then apply and hope two new real port numbers remain. They may change to COMx. Don't panic. Restart com0com, click in the left hand box again on the port pair you are working on, (I forgot this and wiped out the first pair; some of your are laughing!) and the port numbers you made may be there. If so great. If they come up COMx, COMx again just make sure the "use Port class" boxes are checked and click apply button again and this time the "X's" should change to the correct port numbers. They did for me.

When I attempted to setup this system up on a laptop, I had to delete the original virtual port pair that com0com had created and create and change the port numbers using the two procedures below in order to get the ports working and for windows to see the ports. I also had to remove the deleted numbers from the device manager before recreating the ports again. Remember the "use Port class" boxes must be checked in each pair in order for windows to see the virtual pairs.

If you allowed com0com to create all your ports and port numbers for you then check boxes "emulate baud rate" and "enable buffer overrun" on both sides of both port pairs, then "apply" again on both port pairs. If the port numbers go to "X" again restart com0com and see if they come back. If not leave the "X" and apply again. If when you first loaded the com0com program and you only had two boxes checked in that special window I told you about earlier then you may not encounter the X problem.

There are two commands that you will issue in the com0com **Special CMD box brought up by the setupc.exe shortcut on your desktop** while you have the com0com set up window open.

Creating a Port:

To create the first port pair starting with say COM5 type the below command followed by Enter on your keyboard. All commands are executed by the enter key in this window.

```
install 1 PortName=COM5 – {hint small letter i in install}
{hint: make sure you put the capitals in PortName and a space before the “–“ dash at the end}
```

This will create COM5 on the left side of the com0com box and CNCB0 on the Right side of the box for it's port number.

In the Setup for com0com window put a check mark in “use Port class” on both sides then click apply. Next check “emulate baud rate” box and “enable buffer overrun” box on both sides. Do this for both port pairs when created clicking apply after each change.

Changing a Port Name:

Now we want to change the name of the Right hand side Port which should still be CNCB0. In the Special CMD box again type the following command.

```
change CNCB0 PortName=COM6 {hint small letter c in change and that is CNCB zero}
Click the Apply box again in the com0com setup box and you should see COM6
```

To create the second pair type the following command

```
install 2 PortName=COM7 –
```

Then change the name of the Left side. Type change CNCB1 PortName=COM8

Don't forget to check the “emulate baud rate” and “enable buffer overrun” boxes.

Note the left side; CNCB0 is the first pair. CNCB1 is the second pair, CNCB2 would be a third pair. {Hint: all these ports are still CNCA0 – CNCB0, CNCA1 – CNCB1, etc. We have just changed their names for our convenience and windows to recognize.}

If you try to create a port that already exists or change the name of a port to one that already exists, you will get an error. The install and change commands are the only commands I used in the setupc.exe window.

If you bring up the com0com setup window with all port numbers you want the “use Port class”, “emulate baud rate” and “enable buffer overrun” boxes are checked on both sides, do not click the apply button again! It only leads to trouble!

This is how to permanently remove a comport in Windows 10 that has been grayed out. Bring up your windows CMD window and **run as administrator**. When the CMD box comes up type each of the below lines followed by the enter key. These lines will bring up a special Device Manager Window where you can delete hidden comports that were previously grayed out. Be careful.

```
set devmgr_show_nonpresent_devices=1
```

```
start devmgmt.msc
```

{Hint: In the first line those are under-line marks not dashes}

When the Device Manager comes up Left click View, Left click Show Hidden devices.

Go down and Left click the arrow > next to Ports to find out what Ports you have and which ones you need to delete. {Hint: Be careful what ports you delete. Some ports are

hidden or grayed out for good reason. This procedure will allow you to remove any comport.}

When finished creating the port pairs close the com0com window you have been typing in.

End of com0com/hub4com information.

Now double click your **setupg.exe** Icon to bring up the com0com set up window. Make sure your radio is turned on and there is a connection between your radio's comport and the computer.

Next double click your Open Ports Icon and see if you get any errors. If so correct any typing errors or Port designation errors and try again. Fig 2 is a screen shot of my K3 setup and screen Fig 3 is a screen shot for the Icom 9700 setup. In Fig 2 note COM1 is talking to COM4 and COM6 but in order for the ports to be bidirectional both of 4 and 6 must talk to COM1 also which is accomplished in the next two lines. Everything is created by and below the first line which starts C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com>hub4. Everything you typed in those four lines above and saved in Note pad makes this program work or not work! Don't stop until you get a screen with no errors!

OmniRig Program set up:

Double click your OmniRig Icon. Click Rig 1. On the Rig Type click the arrow and pick your transceiver. In my case I picked the Icom 9700 or the K3. Then set the appropriate baud rate, stop bit and parity. Then pick which ever right side port numbering com0com you want OmniRig to talk to. For an Icom 9700 and I believe the Icom 7300 the baud rate is 19200 and the RTS and DTR are set "**High**." The K3 baud rate is 38400 and the RTS and DTR must be set "**Low**." Ok out of OmniRig.

Final Setup

Once OmniRig is setup it runs in the back ground all the time and you will never see it. We now are going to put the com0com.bat - shortcut file into your startup folder of Windows 10. From Google you will find the following way to do that.

Run a batch file at loading of Windows 8 and 10

2. The com0com.bat –shortcut file is in C:\Program Files (x86)\com0com folder.
3. Once the shortcut is created, [right-click](#) the shortcut file and select **Copy**, not Cut!
4. Click [Start](#), type **Run**, and press Enter.
5. In the *Run* window, type **shell:startup** to open the *Startup* folder.
6. Once the *Startup* folder is opened, click the **Home** tab at the top of the folder. Then, select **Paste** to [paste](#) the shortcut file into the *Startup* folder.
7. Or Right click the Right hand panel and left click **Paste**

Putting it all together

When you restart your computer the OmniRig program will be running in the background, but no icon will be visible in your tray. The com0com setup window will pop up on your desktop indicating the com0com program is running; wait for it to come up. There will also appear a black CMD window in your tray that is associated with the com0com program. You want to keep the com0com program running by reducing the

com0com window on your desktop into your tray by Left clicking the “-“ minus sign in the com0com window. Now double Left click the Open Ports Icon which will open a CMD window on your desktop and an additional CMD window will appear next to the CMD window in your tray that the com0com program created. If there are no errors in the Open Ports CMD window on your desktop reduce that window into the tray with its minus sign so it remains running. Now the system is activated, running and ready for use.

You may now set up WSJTx and Log4OM with OmniRig1 as its transceiver. Then setup N1MM talking to the new right side port you created for it plus N1MM’s normal parameters then begin enjoying all programs working together. However there is one last annoying issue with WSJTx and OmniRig that I have solved.

WSJTx and OmniRig have had a long-standing issue. I am using OmniRig ver 1.2 which is working fine with this one annoying issue which continues into versions 2.x. When you start WSJTx with OmniRig running in the background WSJTx adds 55 Hz to the VFO frequency. This issue is easily fixed by modifying the WSJTx Frequency List. On every band you normally use change the last “0” in the frequency to “1”. You accomplish this by editing the list and making a new entry then delete the original entry ending in “0”. This hack even fixes the “fake it” mode and other modes where WSJTx changes frequencies. One Hz off frequency amounts to nothing. Example: 30 Meters FT8 frequency is 10.136000. Change it to 10.136001 and the issue has disappeared for this band.

After you have this system working with both WSJTx, N1MM and Log4OM running correctly and your computer throws a glitch which causes this program to stop working it is easily restarted. Close the com0com icon in your tray and the two CMD windows icons in your tray. Then double click the Ports Cold Start Icon. This will bring up the com0com setup window which you will reduce then click your Open ports Icon, which you will also reduce and you will be ready to have fun again.



Membership News – Tim N3QE

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

Upcoming Contests – from [WA7BNM](#)

October 2024

± URC DX RTTY Contest	0000Z to 2400Z, Oct 4
± Collegiate QSO Party	0000Z, Oct 5 to 2359Z, Oct 6
± Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	0600Z, Oct 5 to 0559Z, Oct 6
± Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0600Z, Oct 5 to 0600Z, Oct 6
± California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 5 to 2200Z, Oct 6
± Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Oct 12 and 1600Z-2400Z, Oct 12 and 0800Z-1600Z, Oct 13
± Oceania DX Contest, CW	0600Z, Oct 12 to 0600Z, Oct 13
± Arizona QSO Party	1500Z, Oct 12 to 0500Z, Oct 13
± Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 0400Z, Oct 13 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 13
± New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 19 to 0200Z, Oct 20
± Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Oct 19 to 1500Z, Oct 20
± Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 19 to 1459Z, Oct 20
± CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 26 to 2359Z, Oct 27

RED – scores count towards PVRC 5M Awards or Challenge Program

Editor's Last Word – John K3TN

Thanks to WA3AER, NN4RB, WA3EKL, K8LF, N4IW and W3LPL for contributions to this issue of the PVRC newsletter.

This month we welcome a new advertiser supporting PVRC, LZ3HI's LZ QSL Printing Services. Check their PVRC offerings [here](#).

The quality and usefulness of the PVRC newsletter depends on contributions from members. If you have photos from club meetings, screenshots of new contest software, or writeups on station improvements or contest war stories, send them in any format to [jpescatore at aol dot com](mailto:jpescatore@aol.com).

From the PVRC Treasurer – Ted WA3AER

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.

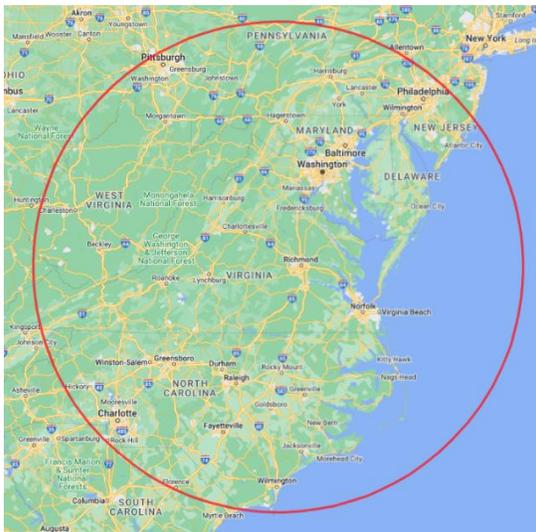
Direct donations to PVRC via Credit Card or PayPal may be made by clicking this "Donate" button and clicking the next Donate button that appears on your screen:



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](#).



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A direct-sampling SDR you'll love to use

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Modular, hybrid architecture adapts to your needs

The basic K4 covers 160-6 m, with dual receive on the same or different bands. The K4D adds diversity receive, with a full set of band-pass filters for the second receiver. (Thanks to direct RF sampling, there's no need for crystal filters in either the K4 or K4D.) The K4HD adds a dual superhet module for extreme-signal environments. Any K4 model can be upgraded to the next level, and future enhancements—such as a planned internal VHF/UHF module—can be added as needed.

Single or dual panadapter, plus a high-resolution tuning aid

The main panadapter can be set up as single or dual. Separate from the main panadapter is our per-receiver *mini-pan* tuning aid, with a resampled bandwidth as narrow as +/- 1 kHz. You can turn it on by tapping either receiver's S-meter or by tapping on a signal of interest, then easily auto-spot or fine tune to the signal.

Comprehensive I/O, plus full remote control

The K4's rear panel includes all the analog and digital I/O you'll ever need. All K-line accessories are supported, including amps, ATUs, and our K-Pod controller. The USB display output supports its own user-specified format. Via Ethernet, the K4 can be 100% remote controlled from a PC, notebook, tablet, or even another K4, with panadapter data included in all remote displays. Work the world from anywhere—in style!

K4 KEY FEATURES

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Full remote control via Ethernet



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