

# *PVRC Newsletter*

## *July 2012*

### President's Letter – Rich NN3W

**H**appy Summer Solstice PVRC!

Welcome to mid-summer with heat, humidity, fireflies, mosquitoes, and fireworks. As you all know, PVRC gears down for the summer (as does the DC area as a whole) with many of the chapters on summer hiatus. However, while formal meetings in many corners of PVRC land have wrapped up until the fall, the club reminds active and vibrant.

First, many of us gathered on the air for our Annual OTA reunion. Thanks to all who put in time to work PVRCers around the world.

Second, probably close to 100 PVRCers and guest convened at W3LPL's for his 27<sup>th</sup> annual open house (the first open house was conducted before there was a house to open (but after some of the towers were up – naturally)). It was a wonderful time – tempered a bit by the fact that one of the club's great supporters, and indeed a great standard-bearer for contesting – Gene Zimmerman W3ZZ – departed the bounds

of Earth on June 3, 2012. Thanks to the efforts of K3ZO who stood in as master of ceremonies, numerous PVRCers and testers reminisced of days with Gene and remarked on the impact that he left on them, and on all of us. Gene will be tremendously missed. 73, OM!

Third, this past weekend, many of us in PVRC land made our ways up to Ellicott City, Maryland to take part in the joint PVRC/CARA Field Day. Preliminary reports are that we once again broke the 10,000 QSO mark and have an outstanding chance of having place #1 in the USA for any Field Day group. If you have never seen this gargantuan effort in person, you really should...

Fourth and finally, in August, we'll continue the annual late summer ritual known as Fowlfest. Jim Locke W3NRJ has continued to carry the torch that W3SO held for so many years. This is a terrific event and will this year return to Jim's Darnestown, Maryland home. Please mark your calendars for August 18, 2012.

That's it for the in-person activities...We now have to relay one piece of club business that is new. As was announced at W3LPL's open house, a change is being made to the 5M Award program. The latest iteration of this extremely popular award (resurrected in 1998) was recommended based on suggestions made by more than one member and considered by the Board and by the club Trustees early this year.

Basically, there has been concern that while the 5M Award is highly sought after and heightens participation in club competition contests (e.g., CQWW DX, Sweepstakes, ARRL VHF, etc.), the "milestone" steps inherent in the current award program (5,000,000 points, 10,000,000 points, 25,000,000 points, etc.), were so large in nature that many PVRCers could spend years without having received recognition for participation in the club competition above the 10,000,000 point level. As a consequence, there was some evidence that between, say, 10,000,000 points and 25,000,000 points, the incentive to get on the air and submit scores had diminished.

Therefore, effective on July 1, 2012 (July 1 being the kick-off for a new contesting cycle for 5M), we are revising the 5M program to introduce additional incremental merit awards for PVRCers who reach award milestones. PVRC will award endorsements t in the following increments:

- Through 50,000,000 points – an endorsement for each 5,000,000 point increment
- From 50,000,000 to 100,000,000 points – an endorsement for each 10,000,000 point increment

- Above 100,000,000 points – an endorsement for each 25,000,000 point increment

Awards and endorsements for the revised milestone structure will be awarded after the closure of the 2012-2013 contest season. We hope this program revision encourages additional activity and inspires additional efforts during the major club competition events.

Now, while we're pleased to announce this change, the Board must remind all the membership that these new incremental awards are NOT free to the club. Each year, the club expends close to \$1,000.00 on plaques, awards, endorsements, and mailing fees to mail out these plaques, and this is all but certain to increase. We **strongly** encourage the membership to contribute to the club treasury to cover these and other costs that we incur each year – especially given that the club **does not have mandatory dues**. And do remember that your contributions are apart and distinct from any fundraising that is being conducted for WRTC 2014 in New England. The WRTC Committee needs your support, but so does PVRC. So, please, open your wallets or checkbooks, grab a Jackson or a Grant or a Benjamin (or bank draft equivalent), and send it on in to our club treasurer Dave WR3L (good at his [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) address).

OK, I'm done. Good luck in the contest, OM, you're 59 5....

73, Rich NN3W

## Remembering Gene Zimmerman W3ZZ - SK



*Photo by W3GNQ@W3GNQ, enhancement by N3AM*

No one can remember why Gene was wearing a deviled egg costume at Dick Drevo's station, but this is a great picture of Gene.



Other than the fact that he isn't talking in this picture, this is how Gene will be remembered by the many contesters and VHFers he touched.

## PVRC Reunion On the Air 2012 – Jack W3TMZ and Howie N4AF

The 2012 PVRC reunion is now history. This marked the 48<sup>th</sup> ROTA, with the first occurring in [1964](#). Thanks to Jack/W3TMZ for heading up the effort this year! Charter member W7YS (SK) was sorely missed this year, but W2RS stepped in to hand out AZ.

Twenty eight PVRC calls were noted to be active:

[EA5DFV](#), [K2AV](#), [K3RV](#), [K8OZ](#), [KC3VO](#), [KE3X](#), [KM7DX](#), [N3CW](#), [N3RR](#), [N4AF](#), [N4CW](#), [N4YDU](#), [N8II](#), [W0UCE](#), [W2CDO](#), [W2RS](#), [W3GRF](#), [W3IKE](#), [W3KC](#), [W3TMZ](#), [W3YY](#), [W4MYA](#), [W4NRS](#), [W4YE](#), [W6UM](#), [W8OHT](#), [WB4FDT](#), [WB4FDT/4](#),

Some of the sections represented were: [Spain](#), [DC](#), [MD](#), [MD](#), [VA](#), [NC](#), [CA](#), [FL](#), [WV](#), [AZ](#), [NM](#), and [UT](#). The award for Highly Motivated Operator (HMO) goes to WB4FDT. Pip not only activated his home station but also operated from Chris/N4YE's station as WB4FDT/4 in the reunion.

We decided to score simply based on QSOs this year. Typically multipliers correlate anyway but those using NA Sprint logging do not get multipliers by band/mode identified and it is difficult without the logging.

The final results show W3TMZ with the top QSO count:

CALL	QSOS
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<a href="#">W3TMZ</a>	64
<a href="#">N4AF</a>	51
<a href="#">W4YE</a>	40
<a href="#">K3RV</a>	27
<a href="#">WB4FDT</a>	25
<a href="#">N3JT</a>	22
<a href="#">KE3X</a>	20
<a href="#">W3GRF (W3MC)</a>	20
<a href="#">W4MYA</a>	19
<a href="#">N3AM</a>	18
<a href="#">W2RS</a>	16
<a href="#">WB4FDT/4</a>	16
<a href="#">WX3B</a>	15
<a href="#">EA5DFV</a>	14
<a href="#">N3RR</a>	14
<a href="#">W2CDO</a>	13
<a href="#">W4AGI</a>	10
<a href="#">W8OHT</a>	10
<a href="#">W3YY</a>	9
<a href="#">N4YDU</a>	8
<a href="#">K3DI</a>	5
<a href="#">N8II</a>	5
<a href="#">K2AV</a>	2
<a href="#">KM7DX</a>	2
<a href="#">K8OZ</a>	1

## SOAPBOX:

*Not many PVRcers for me in the bands. The conditions on Sunday early were excellent on any band. Jim WX3B and me can do the QSO on 8 band/mode 10-40m with huge signals and... yes! the last contact on 10m CW at 00:54z (six minutes to 03:00 in the morning here!).*

*Few QSO more: W3TMZ, K3RV and Howie N4AF. And a lot of /P and submarines :-)*

*-EA5DFV*

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*I did manage to get on a couple of times for the reunion, and was delighted to sweep the bands 10 - 40, both modes with Jose, EA5DFV. I also worked Ray, a "2" station (ed- W2RS in AZ). I hadn't worked in the reunion before....and a few others. I remember working Buddy, W4YE and Peter W2CDO as well. Also fished up Norm, W4NRS on 20m SSB Saturday.*

*It was fun hearing W3GRF calling for EA5DFV, hopefully they made the QSO.*

*-WX3B*

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*\*\*Reunion score for K3DI 100w all CW. Worked were WB4FDT, K3RV, W3TMZ, and WOUCE.*

*5 QSO x 4 states = 20*

*73, Dick*

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*Not much activity, but then the weather was just so great this past weekend. Saw you spotted on 40 and 20 but never heard you.*

*73, Peter W2CDO*

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*Conditions and lack of time combined to limit my participation this year. I only heard/worked N4AF and W3TMZ on 20 meter CW. Hope for better times next year.*

*73*

*Mark KM7DX*

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*Glad we could work on 20 and 15, but no copy on 10. Here's my report:*

*Low power (Orion II, 100 W), CW: 6 mults, 16 Qs*

*Sorry to hear about Gene. RIP.*

*73 Ray W2RS*

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99 watts, All CW except 1 SSB, 22 QSOs, 7 multipliers

Next year I think a more concerted marketing campaign might be in order to create more activity, though I recognize folks are distracted by the weather that is typically lovely that weekend and by the need to avoid contesting after WPX the weekend before (and the upcoming VHF contest)! I called a lot of unanswered CQs, as did you!

Still, always fun to hear guys I haven't talked to in a while. Just that I will miss W3ZZ going forward.  
Jim, N3JT

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Here's my PVRC Reunion score. Amazing to work several guys who joined PVRC before I was born! 73,

Low Power, CW only, 20 QSOs, 6 sections

I used 'SPRINTSSB' mode in N1MM Logger to log it, which only counts multipliers once, regardless of band.

Ken KE3X

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WB4FDT MARYLAND CW 100 WATTS

25 QSO'S X 6 MULTS (MD, CA, VA, NC, DC, FL) = 150 points

I WORKED THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENT STATIONS: N3RR, W4YE, W6UM, N4CW, N3AM, KE3X, W3TMZ, W3GRF (5 BANDS), K3RV, N4AF, N3JT, W3KC. QSO'S ON BANDS: 10M-2Q'S, 15M-1, 20M-4, 40M-9, 80M-9

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WB4FDT/4 VIRGINIA CW 100 WATTS

16 QSO'S X 6 MULTS (MD CA VA NC FL WVA) = 96 POINTS

I WORKED THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENT STATIONS: K3DI, W3TMZ(4 BANDS), W6UM, K3RV, N4AF, W3YY, N3AM, W8OHT, K3DI, W4AGI, W3KC. I OPERATED FOR ABOUT 75 MINUTES FROM N4YE'S QTH IN FAIRFAX. QSO'S ON BANDS: 160M-2 Q'S, 80M-8, 40M-3, 20M-2, 15M-1, ACTIVITY VERY LOW. PIP

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Hi, Howie -

Well, I was surprised at how little I heard from PVRC members this weekend. I was only able to get on for about 4 hrs, total, (sometimes, in only 15 or 20 minute "spurts") but expected more activity than what I heard. I tried 15 meters (dead) - through 80 meters, using mostly SSB, but tried RTTY on 40 and 80 meters, too.

I had 30 contacts, but only ONE PVRC QSO. It was with Ike, W3IKE, {W2EOS, 1995, MD} on 20 meters SSB. I was running 500 Watts with a 3-element quad at ~47 feet, so my signal should have been strong enough to be heard back there. On 40 and 80 meters, I was using a base-loaded 45 foot vertical.

*I had calls from all over the east coast - from NY to FL - with several calls from MD. And, even though, propagation seemed fairly good, Ike was the only PVRC station I heard. I couldn't spend much time on the air, so I tried sticking to the suggested frequencies and the "high activity" periods, but sometimes had to deviate slightly in frequency (+/- 5kHz) due to QRM.*

*I had hoped that the flooding in Montgomery County, and the high winds in the general area, hadn't impacted the PVRC area too much, but maybe the storms caused more trouble than reported by the local news stations, here in Albuquerque. I'll try again next year, and will try to set aside more time so I have a better chance of working more PVRC members.*

*Hope you did well and had a good time!*

*73, Jim, K8OZ*

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*Reunion Results - K3RV (Virginia)*

*High Power, CW Only, 27 QSOs x 8 mults*

*Stations worked: N3AM, N4AF, W3TMZ, WB4FDT, EA5DFV, W3GRF, W4YE, W2CDO, W4MYA, WOUCE, WB4FDT/4, W6UM, K3DI, W3KC, W8OHT.*

*Operated sporadically CW only. Activity was very low; it seems to get worse every year. Nevertheless, I have always enjoyed this event and hope it can be revived in future years.*

*73, Carl K3RV*

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*9 QSO's - 3 States*

*Worked N4AF, WB4FDT/4, N3AM, W3KC, W4AGI, and N3JT.*

*Totally exhausted, I had to take Monday off at work.*

*--W3YY*

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*I was in there but made less than a dozen contacts...and most of those were from NON-PVRC'ers who just wanted to give me a Q!*

*73 from Maine, Bert N4CW*

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*My poorest results in any reunion over the years. I had little time on Saturday and Sunday was slim pickins...*

*For once however I tied N4AF in a contest for SSB and RTTY Q Count.*

*WOUC Single Op Low Power:  
Total Qs 25  
Total Mults 4 (NC, MD, VA, FL)*

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*Tnx to Howie, N4AF for a sixer! Bob W4MYA fiver & Jack W3TMZ fiver. How do we get more PVRCers to participate?*

*Tnx to Howie and Jack for their promotion of the Reunion and keeping it alive. I believe the first one was (1972) in celebration of our 25th anniversary of the PVRC founding (1947). In the early years it was a much more popular and active event with a number of PVRCers in DX areas on the air as well as the MD-VA-DC PVRC core group. There were no out of the metro area clubs in the early years.*

*My late father W4YE joined PVRC in 1952 and hardly ever missed a reunion until his passing in 2004. He signed W5KL in his late years in Arkansas (a good multiplier!)*

*73, Buddy, W4YE*

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Thanks to all who took the time to get on !

Vy 73,

Jack W3TMZ and Howie N4AF

## My Linear “Problem”, Part II – John K3MD

This is a sequel to “My Linear Problem,” published in *NCJ*. My original rig was an Ameco AC-1T, which on a good day put out 4 watts from a 6V6GT. The following rig was a Viking Ranger, with a single 6146 in the output, with an output power of about 50 watts. Having been crushed in the pileups for around 14 years, I finally obtained a Hallicrafters HT-41 linear with a pair of 572B’s in 1977. This was remarkably effective when driven by an HT-37 exciter. This was prior to the major contesting innovation, the transceiver, which allowed you to stop having to zero the transmitting station before working them. We did have an SB-220 at my college station, W1VPY (Brown University).

Any ham who has tried to break a pileup with 100 watts or 5 watts knows the value of a linear. There are “Texas-sized” linears with three 3-500Z’s, or homebrew linears with a 4CX3000, etc., but the large majority of hams have an Ameritron AL-811 or AL-811H or the like. Most contesters have an AL-1200, AL-1500, old Alpha 76CA or PA, new Alpha, or in some instances, one of the instant-tune up solid state or tube type Alpha, Icom, Acom, Yaesu, Ameritron, Tokyo Hy Power.

Over the years, as far as my perspective, there is a definite difference between a linear running a single 3-500Z, or three to four 811A’s or two 572B’s, and a full power linear. However, I think the advantage is mainly psychological from the calling station. In practice, from the other end, the loudest station always wins the pileup. The loudest station is usually louder by at least 10 dB, and that would not be attributable to a linear, but to propagation and antennas.



*John K3MD with a few of his amps visible.*

It is impossible to choose a favorite linear. The Harris shipboard linear running 3 KV on the plate with a single 3-1000Z, 2 to 30 MHz, might have been my favorite. This weighed 246 pounds. When tuned up, this would shake the entire building, and easily put out 1500 watts. My original SB-220 was fantastic, and was very easily modified to 6 meters, where it put out well over 500 watts. Just re-tap the plate inductor, redesign the 10 meter

input pi network for 50 MHz, and rewind the VHF parasitic oscillation suppressors with fewer turns and larger diameter wire.

Modifying an SB-200 for 6 meters is a little more difficult, involving putting in microwave relays, taking plates off of the tuning cap, getting the coil tap just right, taking out the SWR bridge, etc. See "Using the Heath SB-200 Linear on Six Meters," January 1969 QST. My original Alpha 76PA, which I got when it was 10 years old, lasted 18 years until sold, in continuous service.

All contesters have a favorite story of their most spectacular linear failure. Mine was a Commander linear, which shorted the blower and did not blow the line fuse for 10 seconds, putting 240 volts across  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the primary. This did not pop the caps or diodes, but did smoke the power transformer. If you have ever had a linear running Svetlana 4CX800 (GU-74B)'s, you might have experienced tube failure in one of these units. In my instance, I was running a QRO HF-2500DX, when the tube got a cathode-to-grid short, allowing 1.5A to flow at 3000 volts, which is totally spectacular. For some reason the fast-blow primary fuses did not blow. The tube socket was too hot to touch for 30 minutes after this failure. My least spectacular linear failure was a Ten Tec Titan, which blew the vacuum relay, then the 20 meter HV cap, then the SWR bridge.

Perhaps the best value for a linear amplifier on the market today is a used AL-811. I obtained one of these for \$325 and ran it on many DXpeditions until it was totally beaten to heck, then donated it to Skyview Radio Society in Pittsburgh. The linear is nearly indestructible. Mine had the plate tuning shaft broken off... I tuned it with the pointer on the dial-reduction drive. I always transport tube-type linears by putting several pairs of undershorts around the tubes before transport, and packing 1 additional tube. This is a tip from John AD8J, and is foolproof. Make certain to remove the clothing when you get to your destination, or you will have burning rubber and cotton!

A used working SB-220 will run \$600 to \$900. This will output 700 to 1100 watts on CW in the SSB position, and is an excellent bargain. These units are very easy to repair. Circuit diagrams are readily available. They can be modified for 160 meter operation, but with difficulty. King conversions will convert the SB-220 to 6 meters, very nice-looking units, will put out 1000 W PEP.

Alpha amplifiers are fantastic. The current lineup of 9500, 8410, and 8406 are excellent linears. I have seen 87A's that are 15 years old and still running very well. Alpha service is excellent, I had one linear that was struck by lightning and was still repaired by Alpha. I currently run a vintage 76CA with three 3CX400A7's in it, it will put out 1500 watts easily on all bands. The "normal" RF amplifier tube runs has a CCS rating of 2000 hours. The Eimac 3CX400A7 hour rating is more than this, as long as you run it into an antenna and not an open circuit. Doing so will blow the control grid, which has a dissipation of only 5 watts. Working 3CX400A7's are becoming very difficult to find. The Alpha 76CA can be modified to run a pair of 3CX800's. Acom linears are fantastic.

I am no expert on VHF linears. I have run a Henry 2002 (pair 3CX400) on 2 meter moonbounce, 2002A( 3CX800), 2006A(3CX800), and currently have a lineup of AM-6154/55s (old FAA amps rated 50 watts, will put out 300 watts, available on the used market or from Fair Radio Sales. They are easy to modify for amateur use, documentation easily available for this application). These units use military grade

4CX250B's (3930) specially modified for low blower pressure, but direct substitution with a conventional 4CX250 is possible by shimming the anode with brass shims. By far the nicest VHF amplifiers are the Lunar Links, running a pair of 3CX800 pulse tubes, but these are expensive.

I have seen water-cooled 125 watt linears for 1296 at W3CCX and N3NGE, but these are very much beyond the scope of the "normal" contest operator. 120 watt bricks for 1296 are now available from Down East Microwave. I have seen a single 4CX250 on 432 putting out 1000 watts with a 100 CFM blower, but this is not recommended procedure. I got my hands on an old K2RIW 432 dual 4CX250 amp, but the tubes kept arcing over, so I gave up trying to resurrect it. The old Swan 6 meter kilowatt running two 3-400's is nice, also. I have seen the old Viking 6 and 2 linear. These are extremely rare in operating condition. M2 currently markets a 1200 watt sold state VHF amplifier.

VHF bricks are currently available in an endless variety. I recently obtained a Mirage 160 watt output 2 meter brick used and working on EBay for \$80. Quite a bargain!!

Old VHF commercial transmitting 50 or 100 watt modules at 50 volts collector voltage can be run in parallel with combiners for 6, 2, or 1.25 meter amplifiers by the technically proficient ham.

Another class of linear is those designed to boost QRP to 100 watts. The list of these is endless. There are kits from Ramsey for 20 meter or 40 meters, the old linear for the K2 for Elecraft, the Ten Tec 80 to 10 meter linear, many homebrew designs running a 572B or 4CX250, etc.

One technical point brought out in my original article is that an 811A can be replaced directly with a 572B. The plate dissipation of the 572B is much higher than the 811A at a minimally increased cost. Linears running three tubes should have two 572B's placed in them, and those running four 811A's should have three 572B's placed in them. The additional plate cap and VHF parasitic suppressor should be clipped off and taped to the outside of the linear case. The reason for the reduction in the number of tubes is to avoid destroying the originally supplied HV power supply with additional current demands.

One of my favorite series of amplifiers is the Ameritron AL-82, AL-1200, and AL-1500 series. These have identical output and HV power supply circuits. The AL-82 has a specially designed bias circuit that enables the two 3-500Z's to put out 1800 watts. The AL-1200 is also instant on, but replacement tubes can be expensive. Chinese-made 3-500Z's can be obtained for \$190 to \$250 each. Used AL-1200's are around \$1700 in good condition at the current time. A brand-new AL-82 is under \$3000, a bargain by any measure.

Personally I have only used solid-state HF linears by Ameritron. I obtained a used 600 watt unit on EBay, but had to send it back due to power supply problems. I have had an AL-800S for 8 years, and it gives excellent performance with the Ameritron 75 ampere switching supply for DXpedition use - fifteen pounds for the entire combination. Also, for DXpedition use, I have an old Amp Supply LA-1000, which will put out 400 watts in a 24 pound package, with very cheap (\$20) used sweep tubes available on EBay. Icom solid

state 1000 watt amplifiers are used by many members of the FRC. There are excellent solid state units available from Yaesu, Icom, Tokyo Hy Power, and Elecraft.

No discussion of amplifiers would be complete without mentioning the Henry line of amplifiers. Most of these units are floor mounted, although the company did make desktop units. The dual 3-500Z floor model was the “standard” linear of the FRC for many years. They are still available working, but getting them transported without damage can be costly. Use caution with these units... the VHF series had no HV interlock!

See you in the contests! Enjoy your linear!

### Membership News – Bud W3LL

PVRC added one new member since the last newsletter: Dan AK4SQ in the Southwest Virginia Chapter. Chapter leaders please remember to complete the [Meeting Attendance Report](#).

### SWVA Chapter Lunch Picture – Mark N2QT



*Phil K4SKA, Bill KC4D, Pete W4WWQ, Mark N2QT, and Gary W4GDG, photo by Henry, K4YCR*

Notice how there is no one sitting near us! QST and an old Drake LP Filter on the table so you can tell we're hams.

## Another Tower Begins to Sprout – Dave N4DB



I have 20' of Rohn 25G now planted in a hole 5 feet deep with 3+ yards of 4000 lb psi concrete. I will wait a few weeks and then would like to add a couple more sections to the first guy point with EHS. *(from Mark N2QT)*

## Upcoming Contests and Log Due Dates

### Contests This Month

- July 1 – RAC Canada Day
- July 7 – DL DX RTTY
- July 14 – IARU HF
- July 21 – NAQP RTTY
- July 21 – CQ WW VHF

### Logs Due This Month

- July 1 – Baltic Contest
- July 11 – ARRL VHF
- July 31 – All Asian CW

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

## The Editor's Last Word – John K3TN

Thanks to N4AF, W3TMZ, K3MD, N2QT and N4DB for submissions this month. The value of the newsletter is based on the contributions from the members – if you have anything, send it to me here. If you don't like to, or don't have the time to write, send in a photo or a link of anything you've found interesting.

I had a blast operating as KP2/K3TN from the FB KP2M station aka the [RadioReef](#). That was my first experience on the DX end of a pileup – it was nice to be learning and be loud at the same time. Phil KT3Y rents the station and a very nice apartment for very reasonable rates. I'll include a writeup in the next newsletter.

The newsletter will be taking the month of August off – see you in September

73 John K3TN

### PVRC Officers:

President: NN3W Rich Didonna  
Vice President: W9GE Bob Finger  
Vice President: K8GU Ethan Miller  
Secretary: W3LL Bud Governale  
Treasurer: WR3L Dave Baugher

### Trustees:

K3MM, N3OC, N4ZR, W4ZYT, NW4V, K2AV, K4ZA

### PVRC Charter Members (all SK):

W3GRF, W4AAV, W4KFC, N0FFZ, W4LUE, W7YS,  
VP2VI/W0DX, W3IKN, W4KFT

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

## **Eyeball QSO Directions**

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

### **NW Region:**

Meetings are generally held on the third Tuesday of each month at the City Buffet, 1306 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD. (301) 360-9666. It's in a small shopping center. Most arrive about 6 PM for dinner and informal discussions. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM.

From W. Patrick Street, turn up McCain Dr. (the Mountain View Diner is on the corner), then turn right into the shopping center, then turn left and search for a parking place. The City Buffet is tucked back in the left corner of the shopping center behind the Mountain View Diner. You can't see the City Buffet from W. Patrick Street.

Contact: Jim [WX3B](#)

### **Central Region**

Meets monthly the second Monday of each month, except June, July & August). The location alternates between the below MD and VA locations. Pre-meeting dinners start at 6:00 pm and meetings start at 7:30 pm.

VA LOCATION: Anita's, 521 E. Maple Ave, Vienna, VA. Tel: 703-255-1001. Meets at this location during the months of February, April and October.

Contact: Rich [NN3W](#)

MD LOCATION: Max's Café. 2319 University Blvd W, Wheaton MD 20902. Tel: 301-949-6297 People usually begin arriving at the restaurant around 6:30. Meets at this location during the months of January, March, May, September and November.

Contact: Art [K3KU](#)

### **The Laurel, MD Region: Bill N3XL**

The PVRC get together is held at the first LARC meeting each quarter at the clubhouse.

### **The Annapolis Crew : Dan K2YWE**

Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Broadneck Grill in Annapolis. We gather at about 5:30 PM and order dinner about 6. We break up usually before 8 PM. E-Mail [K2YWE](#) to be put on the e-mail reminder list.

### **PVRC-NC**

The PVRC NC-East chapter meetings are held at [Manchester's Bar and Grill](#) on the 9100 block of Leesville Rd. in North Raleigh, with "QRM" beginning at 6:00pm and the dinner meeting following shortly thereafter. The meeting is held monthly on the 1st Thursday of most months, cancellations or changes usually announced on the [PVRC-NC website](#).

[The PVRC NC-West Chapter](#) holds its meetings on the 4th Monday of each month at [the Mellow Mushroom](#), 314 W. 4th St., Winston-Salem, NC. Ragchew at 7:00pm, dinner meeting starts at 7:30pm. All contesters and interested guests are invited!

### **Central Virginia Contest Club: Ed NW4V**

Meets the first Tuesday of the month at St. Martins Church, 9000 St. Martin Lane, Richmond VA, (between W. Broad St. and N. Parham Road). Our meeting begins at 7PM.

### **Over the Hill Bunch:**

The group meets for lunch at noon alternately in Maryland at the College PARK Holiday Hotel Route 1 and the Beltway or in Virginia at the Parkview Marriot near route 50 and the Beltway. Meetings generally are held on the last Wednesday of the month and are subject to change. Meetings are announced by E-Mail.

All PVRC members, non-members interested in membership and guests are welcome. For information contact Roger Stephens, K5VRX, 703-658-3991 for Virginia meetings; or Cliff Bedore [W3CB](mailto:W3CB) or get on 147.00 for Maryland meetings.

### **Downtown Lunch Group**

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday or Thursday of the month in the downtown area of Washington, DC. Locations occasionally change, but are always Metro accessible. Details are sent out on the PVRC reflector. Feel free to contact Eric W3DQ or Brian WV4V for details and directions.

### **Southwest VA Chapter:**

The Southwest VA group meets each Wednesday at about 8:30 AM at Hardees at 20265 Timberlake Road in Lynchburg, VA. This is an informal gathering, but normally about 10-12 attendees. Contact Mark Sihlanick N2QT, Tel: 434-525-2921

### **SOMD Region Kickoff Meeting:**

The Southern Maryland PVRC Chapter is starting (or re-starting, as you please) meetings in St. Mary's county. At this initial meeting we'll be discussing future meeting dates, times, and locations. A short presentation about PVRC for potential members will also be made.

This Chapter primarily serves the needs of the Hams in St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles counties. Of course, meetings are open to all PVRC members.

**When:** Tuesday, April 3rd, 2012. From 6:30PM until 8:00 PM.  
(We have the meeting room starting at 5:30 if you'd like to drop in earlier for an eyeball ragchew)

**Where:** St. Mary's County - Charlotte Hall Library - 37600 New Market Road,  
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 (NW Corner of Rt. 6 and Rt. 5/235)  
GPS: 38.473358, -76.777733

Wayne Rogers (N1WR) will be the chapter chair. For more information contact Wayne ([n1wr@chesapeake.net](mailto:n1wr@chesapeake.net)) or Tom, AB3IC ([GL1800Winger@verizon.net](mailto:GL1800Winger@verizon.net)).

If you'd like to add or correct a listing, contact K3TN for inclusion in the Newsletter!

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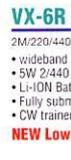
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