

PVRC Newsletter

January 2013

President's Letter – Rich NN3W

Greetings to All in PVRC land!

2012 has been quite the year for your contesting club. While the year started on a somber note – the loss of our last charter member Bill Schuchman W7YS – the club has lived up to its reputation as an active, vibrant, and dynamic organization. PVRC took top honors in the Club competition category in several club competition events (including what appears to be a clear and decisive victory in the November Sweepstakes); PVRCers were active in many conventions including the Visalia DX convention, the Dayton Hamvention, and DXCC East; PVRCers were on the go to far flung hospitable (and some not so hospitable) locations including Afghanistan, Thailand, Taiwan, and Yemen. Finally, PVRCers were enjoying the company of each other and guests in the many chapter meetings, barbecues, open houses, and end of year parties. We are very much an active club.

While every PVRCer contributes to the overall “vibe” of the club, the leadership

often has a quiet, behind the scenes role in ensuring the continuity of the club and its continued vitality. At the December 3, 2012, dinner held at PJ Skidoos in Fairfax, Virginia, the new slate of officers and trustees for 2013 was announced. Absent from that list were two individuals who have volunteered their time and efforts to serve as trustees through 2012 and are passing the torch to new hands: Bob Finger W9GE and Ed Moore NW4V. Bob and Ed have helped guide the leadership through an amazing year, and I am extremely grateful for having served as elected leaders in the PVRC. Thank you both!

Looking forward to 2013, I'm pleased to announce two great efforts that will be of major interest to the club and to its membership:

First and foremost, as announced at the December 3 dinner, the Potomac Valley Radio Club has been honored with the privilege of serving not only as the “headquarters” station for the American Radio Relay League in the 2013 IARU HF

World Championship, but also serving as the “headquarters” station for the International Amateur Radio Union for the same contest. Yes, PVRC is going to be the HQ station for BOTH entities! Based on their abilities to manage large groups of hams (not unlike herding cats), their ability to engineer stations, and their devotion to radiosport in general, I have asked that Frank Donovan W3LPL and Steve Bookout NR4M serve as the two “captains” for this event.

In addition, if you were present at the December 3 dinner, you would have been witness to the “blind” call sign draw competition where – by sheer chance (or luck) – Steve drew W1AW as his team’s call sign. Thus, we will hear W1AW/4 QRV from July 13, 2013 – July 14, 2013, and NU1AW/3 QRV from July 13, 2013 – July 14, 2013. The details on the teams are still being worked out, but our goal is to have as many capable stations on the air serving as “headquarters” stations - potentially up to 11 or 12 different stations from W3 land and up to 11 or 12 different stations from W4 land. Even if you cannot serve as a host or as an operator at one of the headquarters stations, we would LOVE to have you work them!

Just to drop some red meat in your laps: the ARRL record for W1AW is held by the Florida Contest Group from 2000 with 10.7 million points and a total of 11,121 QSOs, while the NU1AW record is held by the Connecticut gang which rang up 9.3 million points and total of 8,545 QSOs.

Adopting an exchange from the famous film “LA Confidential”:

Bud White: Do you want to tear all that down?

Ed Exley: With a wrecking ball... You want to help me swing it?

Frank and Steve (i.e., Bud and Ed (in no particular order)), proceed without delay!

Changing gears, last month, Dean Wood N6DE, the Vice-President and Contest Chairman of the Northern California Contest Club, proposed that NCCC, SMC and PVRC engage in a friendly competition involving the North American QSO parties. After discussion with the officers and the trustees, we’ve decided to accept the invitation. The competition will work as follows:

The competition is a year-long event based on activity in the six North American QSO Party events (i.e., the Winter CW, RTTY and SSB events and then Summer CW, RTTY, and SSB events). The scoring is based on the total score contributed by all participating club members (i.e., the sum of all raw scores) times the number of members participating in the event. Where multi operator (multi-two) entrants are comprised of both club- members and non-club members, the raw score is apportioned based on the number of club members that are part of that multioperator entrant.

Unlike other events, there is no circle limitation. Thus, stations like W6MVW in California can contribute to the PVRC score, as can stations like W3SO who is just outside of the traditional PVRC HF circle. In order for your score to count though, you must actually submit a log to NCJ for scoring.

As with the IARU competition, the final details will be announced shortly.

With either event, we hope that you can get on the air, represent the club, and, above all, have fun!

So, on behalf of the Officers and Trustees, my best wishes to you and your family as we turn the page from 2012 and enter into 2013.

73, Rich NN3W

The Way We Were – Pictures enhanced by John N3AM



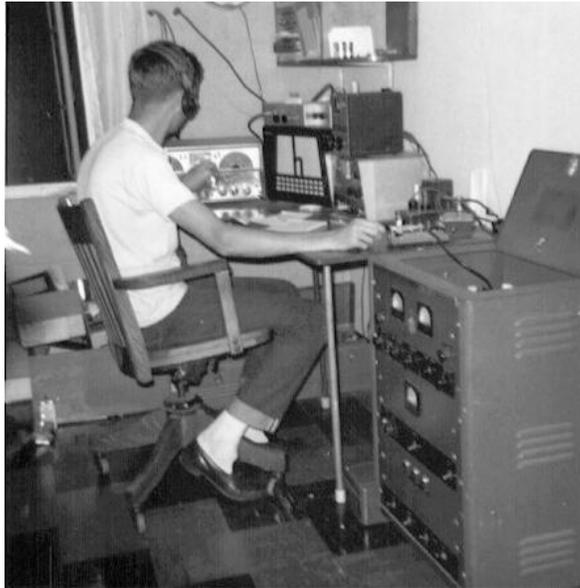
Howie K4PQL (N4AF)

This was back when I operated at K4CG Coast Guard outside Alexandria, VA. This was probably 40-50 yrs ago. Dallas (W3PP-SK) ran the station and then Chet (now N4FX). Almost looks like there was a microphone in front of me!



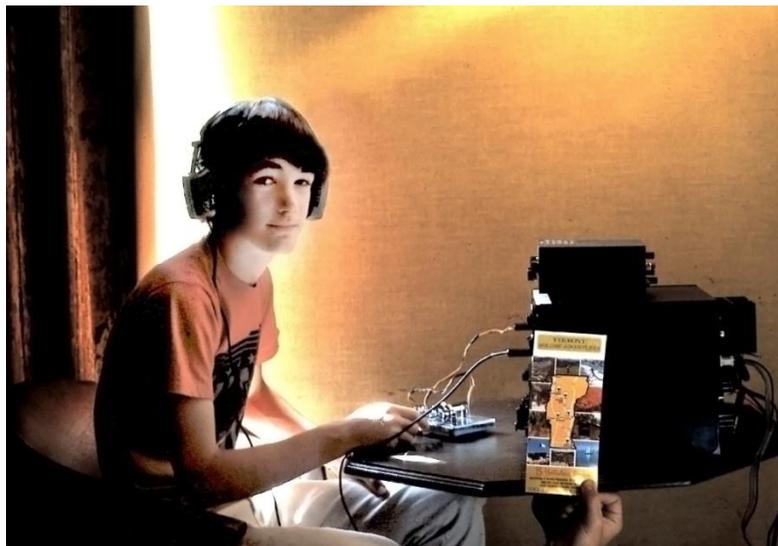
Art K3OAE (K3KU)

Here is me, K3OAE, probably operating 1969 July CD Party. I still have the log, and at the time shown on the Numechron I was working 40M. The bug in the photo had been rewired as a keyer paddle (I think the keyer is below the Davco DR-30). I have the bug and the hand key and the Millen Transmatch Jr. stored away. I use the same Numechron and the same shelf in my current station.



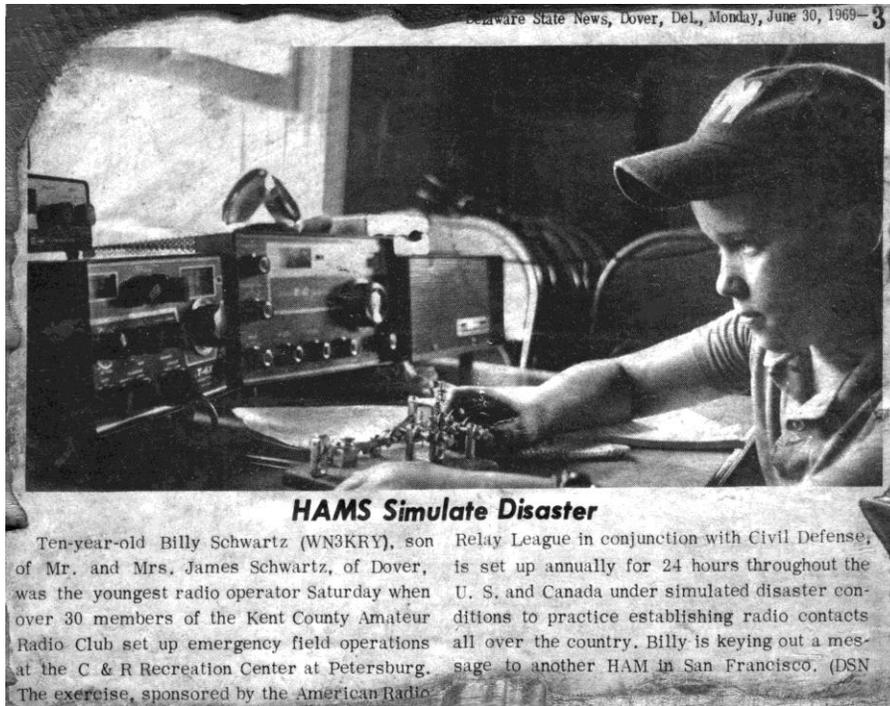
Jim K4QPL

Probably 1961-62. Rig: Receiver SX-100, Low power Tx was Globe Scout 680A. QRO was a Globe King 400. VFO was Johnson 122 for both. Keying with Vibroplex bug. Yeah, that skinny college kid is me!



Bernie W3UR

This is Bernie (WB3JRU at the time) on his first "DX-Pedition" operating from a motel room in Vermont circa 1979. (from Dad Tony N3ME)



Bill K3WI – me at 10!



Tom K3AJ

On left with my first SW radio - a Hallicrafters S-119 Sky Buddy I. On right as WN3HKF just after receiving my novice ticket in 1967 (age 15 in this photo). Rig was an Eico 720 with a Lafayette HA-230 (a dreadful RX, soon to be replaced by a **much** better HQ-110).



1979



2009

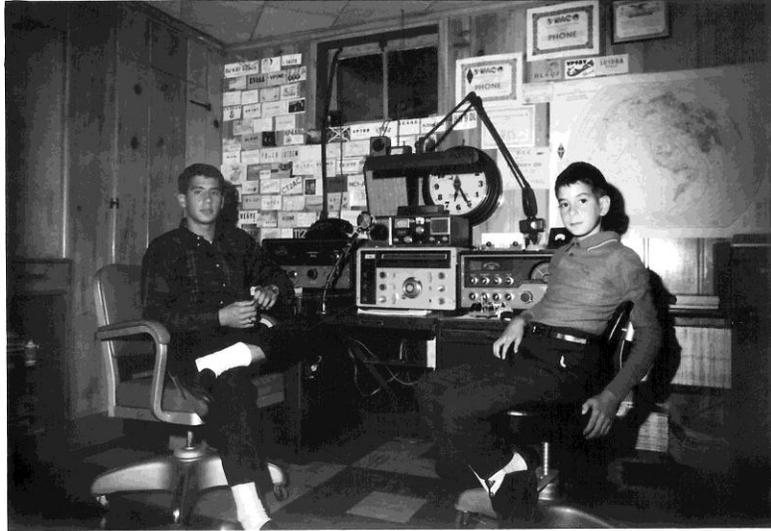
Paul K3STX

ex KA3BOD: different hair and call, same TS-520



Ron W8RJL

W8RJL at 16 and a new "General" in 1955 in south central Ohio. Hallicrafters S-76 receiver, Heath VFO with modified ARC-5 TX, homebrew PS and modulator, homebrew grounded grid 6 meter converter and modified GE Studio to Station transmitter with 3E29 tube on 6 meters



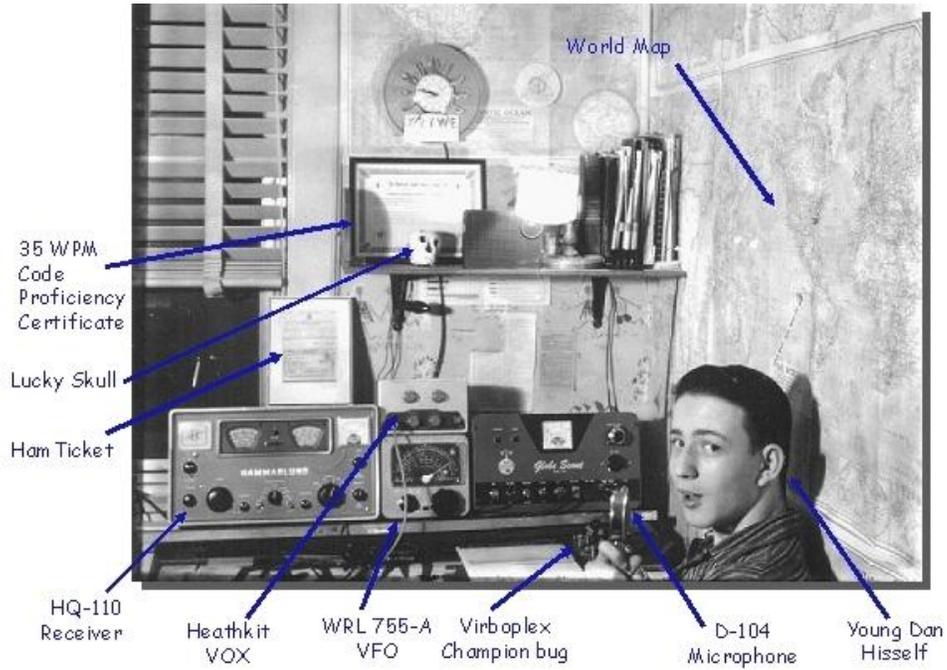
Dick WN3R

My brother, Alan, and me (K3DML). I was a high school senior in '62. I took the SBE 33 to Cornell and was a member of their club.



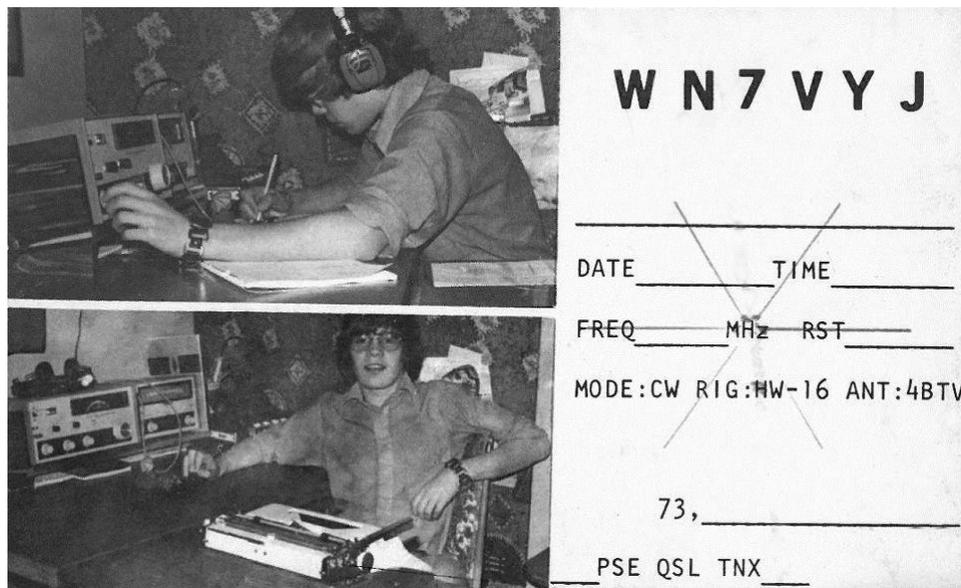
Ed W3EKT

The printers are gone but I still use that same table. I couldn't bring myself to sell the Drake C Line so it's boxed up in my basement. W3EKT also operated RTTY from Delaware; we got a lot B4s in contests.



Dan K2YWE

Circa 1958, when I was 15. Club photographer insisted on me posing with the microphone.



Scott K7LU

K7LU as WN7VYJ circa 1974.



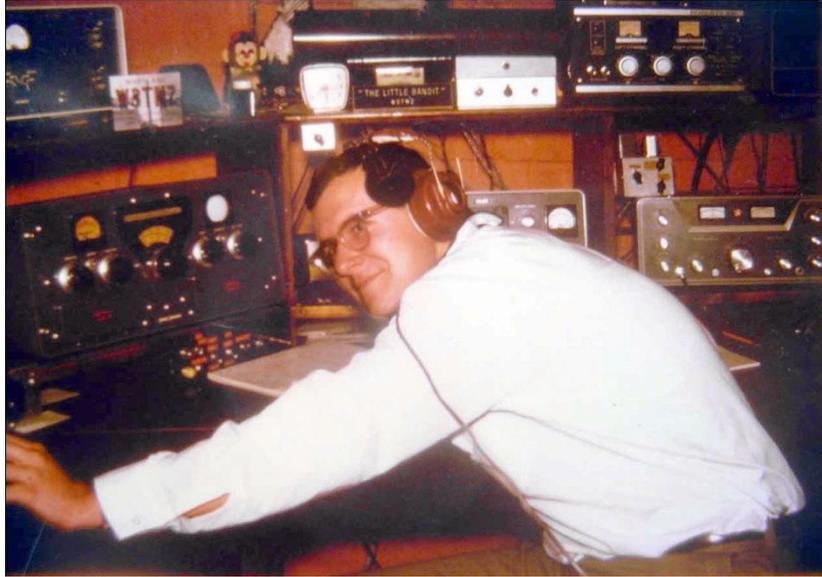
Barry K5VIP

This was my first ham station, from back in August 1960, and it was financed with the meager earning from my paper route. I was first licensed in June 1959, and I have held the same call continuously for over 53 years.



Jack W3TMZ

This is from maybe 1963 @ W3TMZ. In the foreground is myself and on the right is Fred Laun (then W9SZR). On the far left is YV3JA (sk) and in the back behind Fred is HC1KA



Fred K3ZO (via W3TMZ)

Jack and I did M/S (probably 1964 ARRL DX) from his folks' place in Silver Spring where he had his station set up at the time. The radio on the right is my old SR-150 which resided in my car most of the time in those days, and which I took with me to HI8XAL where it did yeoman service during the 1965 revolution there. (*Notice Fred wearing two sets of headphones. What an operator! – W3TMZ*)



Jim K3MNJ (center, now N3JT) – circa 1970

With Steve (W5VHJ ex K3WJQ), Chuck (ex K3LOU), N3JT, Dick (WA2?, no longer a ham), Val (KC0EM ex WA3WVT), Russ (WA3FRP)



John N3AM, Bob K3RT, Bert W3GG - at W3GG, circa 1978



Frank W3LPL at one of the best SO2R stations of the 1970s

Membership News – Bud W3LL

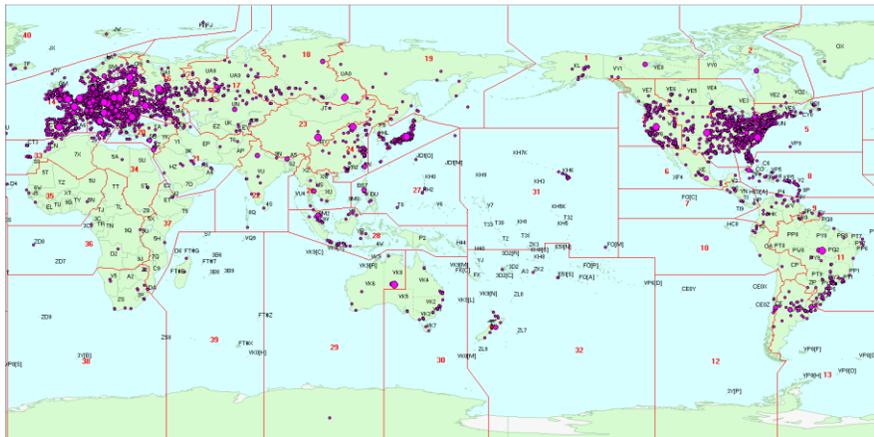
PVRC added several new members since the last newsletter. Please welcome:

- Kenny K2KW in the Southwest VA Chapter.
- Al KZ3AB and Aaron KB3WNE in the Laurel region

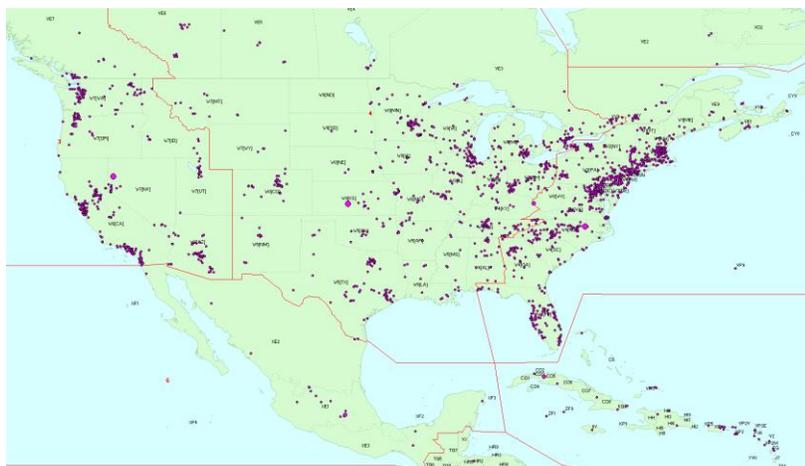
Chapter leaders please remember to complete the [Meeting Attendance Report](#).

PVRC Is Visible From Outer Space – From [CQ WW Contest Blog](#)

Rick, ZL2HAM, created the maps below of the log submissions for CQ WW Phone 2011. In the USA version, you can see the PVRC footprint very clearly, joining with FRC and YCCC to form the East Coast Contest Megalopolis.



World Density of Logs Submitted to 2011 CQ WW SSB



US Density of Logs Submitted to 2011 CQ WW SS

Upcoming Contests and Log Due Dates

Contests This Month

Jan 1 - SARTG RTTY
Jan 5 - ARRL RTTY Roundup
Jan 12 – NAQP CW
Jan 19 – NAQP SSB
Jan 25 – CQ WW 160 CW
Jan 26 – REF CW

Logs Due This Month

Jan 1 – ARRL 160
Jan 8 – ARRL 10M
Jan 15 – 9A CW

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

The Editor's Last Word – John K3TN

If you are reading this, the Mayans were wrong and the world did not end. Though, perhaps you are squinting by the dim glow of a street light from a cardboard box, your new home after we went flying off the fiscal cliff. Or maybe the New Year has brought new clarity and sanity to the world.

Nah – but maybe it will bring us at least one more year of 10m and 15m being open at the same time, without bringing that giant EMP burst that proves the Mayans were right after all.

Thanks to all who sent in photos, and thanks to John N3AM for a lot of Photoshop wizardry enhancing them. A new year brings another 11 issues of our newsletter to fill - whatever ya got, send to [jpescatore at aol dot com](mailto:jpescatore@aol.com).

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](#) 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 has about 10-12 attendees..Contact Mark Sihlanick N2QT, Tel: 434-525-2921

SOMD Region Meeting: The Southern Maryland Chapter meets at 6:30PM on the first Tuesday of even numbered months. We meet in the vicinity of Charlotte Hall, MD, with the specific location (usually a local restaurant) to be announced several weeks prior to the meeting (keep an eye on the reflector). These meetings are open to all PVRCers, guests, and those interested in joining PVRC. Contact Tom AB3IC for information: e-mail: GL1800Winger@verizon.net - cell: 240-434-3811

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

Now a Word From Our Sponsors

PVRC doesn't ask for dues, but the Club does have expenses. Please send PayPal donations via DAVE@WR3L.NET or by snail mail to Dave's address at QRZ.com. You can also support the Club by buying from the firms listed who advertise in the newsletter, or by getting your company to sponsor the newsletter!

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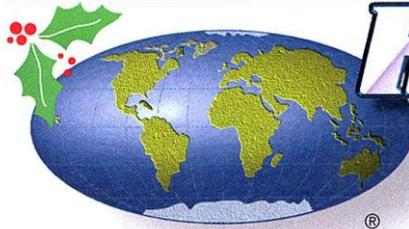
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