



Potomac Valley Radio Club Newsletter

June 2009 Edition

Visit us on the web at www.pvrc.org
and www.pvrcnc.org

Congratulations on a Fabulous 2008-9 Contest Season!

***See you in the PVRC On-Air Reunion,
at W3LPL's Open House, and on ARRL Field Day***

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The summer is off to a rousing start! We learned of our Sweepstakes win and saw fantastic conditions for WPX CW! Next is the PVRC On-Air Reunion, followed by the ARRL June VHF contest and the W3LPL open house. I'm personally looking forward to the VHF contest now that I have my K3 and 5 element beam hooked up.

I've not operated 6 Meters from home before but had a good taste last night (June 1st) of what can happen when the band opens. It was filled with signals all the way out to California.

That's the beauty of Amateur Radio. There is always something new to explore. We are putting together the final details of our Webinar series with the first presentations tentatively scheduled for the end of the month. Details will be forthcoming soon. I'm very excited about the possibilities this offers the club.

Enjoy your summer and please join us this weekend for the PVRC Reunion.

73, Ken, K4ZW

W3LPL OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, JUNE 20

from Frank, W3LPL

"Last year (2008), 100 people signed my guest book, the largest number ever. Total attendance was well over 100. W3AZD and WB3ANE travelled the longest distance. Yours (W3DQ) is the last signature in my guest book!

"I started the guestbook in 1990, and it now has over 1000 signatures (many dupes).

[from W3DQ: Don't miss this fabulous event. It's a great time to see Frank's station and meet your fellow contesters, DXers, and PVRicers!!]

EDITORIAL MUSINGS

I trust you've all had a good spring, taking advantage of the break between the ARRL DX contests and the CQWPX CW contest. The turnout for the WPX contest seemed to be substantial. Those who were active were able to take advantage of the 15m and 10m openings. Were you one of them?

In last month's Newsletter, I suggested that now would be the time to begin planning upgrades and enhancements to your station and antenna system. To help you overcome your fears, I will be publishing an issue of the PVRC Newsletter describing the 2008-2009 contest season as seen through the eyes (and ears) of PVRC members. It's been a fascinating project, proving that you don't need a mega-station to enjoy this aspect of our hobby.

As always, I look forward to your comments, criticisms and contributions. With that, enjoy this issue of the Newsletter and the summer season. Send them to me at: [pvrc \[at\] his.com](mailto:pvrc@his.com)

See you in the PVRC On-Air Reunion, at W3LPL's Open House and in the summer pileups!
73, Eric W3DQ

**PVRC On-Air Reunion Rules and F_A_Q
are posted on the PVRC Website:**

<http://www.pvrc.org/reunion/reunion2009.htm>

Questions? Send them to Jim Nitzberg:
[WX3B \[at\] yahoo.com](mailto:WX3B@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7:
1300z-1500z & 1800z-2000z**

HOW DO YOU BEAT BOREDOM IN A CONTEST?

from Mark, N2QT

I've been trying to figure out how to keep myself interested enough in holding a run frequency when the rate drops off. Best I can tell that's a key to a better score in a contest like the 160 SSB where run frequencies are valuable and the whole band is full of CQers who've you have already worked.

As promised here is a summary of what I received. Comments were received from N4ZR, K4GMH, K2AV, NN3W, K4ZA, W4ZAR, along with other things I've picked up over the years.

As we all know the BIC (Butt in Chair) factor is key to improving contest scores. In addition in many contests 'If you're not running you're losing'. Many of us struggle at times to put these into practice. Here is what I've learned, heard, or used to help me.

Be Comfortable, or you'll start thinking about doing anything else.

1. Have a comfortable chair (Herman Miller Aerons are recommended but expensive)
2. Be warm/cool enough. Be sure to factor in the heat from linears.
3. If you use bifocals consider computer glasses to avoid stressing your neck
4. Noise can wear you down, use good headphones to reduce outside noise. DSP noise reduction can help, although it can hurt intelligibility. I find that I look forward to the quiet when transmitting so having TX MON off works for me.
5. Be sure your keyboard/mouse/rig seating is ergonomically correct. See <http://www.safecomputingtips.com/ergonomic-checklist.html> or other sites for details.
6. Use technology where possible, i.e. voice keying, ESM etc. Don't wear yourself out.

Stay Focused

1. Set goals, have a plan.
2. Some people find knowing how others are doing is motivating (getscores.org or serial numbers in SS or WPX). If allowed, watching packet spots is also helpful.
3. Be part of a team or work at a multi-op to cheer each other on.

Stay Busy. If you don't have enough to stay occupied even waxing the car sounds better!.

1. SO2R is great as you can S&P while still CQing. SO2V is also practical for single band contests or if you're not setup for SO2R. Watch TV (sports seem popular) with the volume off or low.
2. Read something (newspaper, magazines are better than tech references). If you surf the web, be aware of the shifting keyboard focus as the computer CQs for you.
3. Be loud (or at least act like you're loud). Being a rare mult is also good!

Learn From Every Contest

1. Make notes for each contest.
2. Read the comments from others.
3. If you can't operate the whole contest time period be sure to know when the peak times are.

SKIMMER IN THE CQ WPX CW Contest

from Pete, N4ZR

I only spent a couple of hours in the contest (around 200 Qs), all but two or three S&P using CW Skimmer. It's amazing how fast you can go, but I truly miss the serendipity of tuning a band yourself. After the initial rush, I think Skimmer may become a Sweepstakes Sunday toy, for me anyway. Still, seeing the last 10 QSO ratemeter hit 250 while doing S&P is a real rush.

Skimmer provides three huge advantages over traditional cluster spots:

- roughly 10X as many spots - important in a rate contest
- if your Skimmer hears them, you will too
- all the spotted signals will be within a few tens of Hz from each other, which makes it easy to tell who's who.

I was really surprised when Skimmer started telling me about 15M Europeans coming in, but sure enough...

Mark Your Calendar

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| June 6-7 | PVRC On-Air Reunion |
| June 13-14 | ARRL June VHF QSO Party |
| June 20 (Saturday) | W3LPL Open House |
| June 20 | Kids Day |
| June 27-28 | ARRL Field Day |
| July 11-12 | IARU HF Contest |

IMPRESSIONS OF THE 2009 DAYTON HAMVENTION

from Steve, WM3Ohmyimissedtheexit

I'll get this out of the way early..

I-75 is a mess. it's not going to be pretty tomorrow on Needmore either - single lane for about 1/2 mile. Obama needs to drop some cement here.

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from Jim, WX3B

Good Crowd, great weather this year. Surprised how busy it felt - even indoors at the arena, etc. had the normal crowd.

More motor-scooters than I ever remember.

SteppIR continues their innovations/new product announcements and always had a HUGE line at their door.

So did DX Engineering, Bob Heil, etc.

Hospitality Suites by SMC and the Crowne Plaza Miami room super-suite were the best parts of the event as always.

The most interesting new product announcement I heard about was Green Heron's WIRELESS rotor control box that uses RF to make the connection. Unbelievable nobody thought about that before, what a GREAT idea.

Most relevant presentation to WX3B: forget big stacked arrays of antennas, buy the right QTH and let terrain do the work for you. N6NL (of HC8N vintage) showed some interesting models of HF performance and a broad array of arrival angle coverage with a single yagi, and sloped terrain.

Other noteworthy PVRC speakers during the antenna forum: Don Daso K4ZA presents on tower installations, making sure we all know what we're doing, and avoiding common (huge) mistakes with poor hardware. Don happens to be an excellent public speaker, held a crowd of over 300's attention!

Eric Scace, K3NA, talked about his design for using 3 small receive loops and combining their signals to reduce the size needed and increase performance of low band receive arrays.

Although I did not attend, I understand Frank Donovan, W3LPL was giving presentations at the K3LR-led Contest University.

Kudos to the Society of Midwest contesters for running their very successful Thursday night dinner, as well as the infamous "Suite 425" at the Crowne Plaza.

from Ron, W8RJL

My first visit to Dayton was 1954 when I took my novice test when the fest was in the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Dayton. This year I hosted Laslo, HA5EA, from Budapest and had the pleasure of introducing him to several PVRC hams in Tidewater Virginia, the central Ohio countryside and the Dayton Hamvention. He enjoyed the Contesting and DX dinners and all the fine hams he met there. He also said it compares with the hamfest "Friedrichshafen HamRadio" in Germany.

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from Hank, K3YDX

Well, I attended and met up with a number of the "elite" of the PVRC crew. Here are my impressions but I have to add they are biased after 3 years in Hawaii with virtually no hamfests available.

It was great! I suspect attendance was up over last year due to reduced gas prices from 2008. There was seemingly more ham gear in the flea market area than in years past.

The weather was cooperative with Friday being sunny and bright and Saturday being overcast with brief periods of rain. Not enough rain to disrupt anything however. All in all it was well attended and fun.

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from John, N3HBX

Just back from Dayton. I would guess that the attendance was down ~20% from a year ago. The event continues to be well supported by the major manufacturers (Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood, TenTec, Palstar, MFJ etc) as well as the large vendors (AES, HRO, RF Parts...), but the flea market seems poorer with each passing year. There appear to be fewer and fewer vendors attending that have much worthwhile to sell in the way of new parts that would not be found, for example, at Radio Shack. I have in mind such things as you would want in order to build say an antenna tuner - coils, air variable capacitors, wafer switches. Perhaps less than 50% of the vendor spaces were filled compared to almost 100 % when I first attended about 10 years ago. (Moreover, some of the ones that were filled were merely occupied by a vehicle - as this provides a way of securing convenient parking.)

On Saturday, rain stopped play in the flea market several times, but by then some vendors had already left.

DAYTON IMPRESSIONS (cont.,)

Among the new things on display was the Icom 7600 which replaces the 756 Pro III. It has a claimed 3rd. order intermod intercept point of +30dBm, versus +40dBm for the larger and more expensive IC-7700 and IC-7800. Palstar has acquired the Commander line of amplifiers and completely re-engineered both the HF-2500 and the 6-meter amplifier, making many improvements. These are probably now on a par with the Emtron amplifiers we use at Poolesville. DX Engineering continues to expand its product line and had on display a new 43-foot Multi-band Vertical Antenna complete with remote (MFJ sourced) tuner. Also new was their 75/80 plus 40-meter, 55-foot high, vertical antenna. This employs a trap at a height of about 30 feet to cover the two bands, and can be ordered attached to a pivot with a hand winch to bring it to vertical from horizontal.

Among the overseas suppliers was a Spanish company called Falcon Radio that offers a series of 500-watt VHF and UHF amplifiers that cover 50, 144, 432 and 1296 MHz as well as a variety of other components (dummy loads, diplexers etc.) Together with Bengali (keys) these seemed to be the only companies attending from abroad.

I attended the contest dinner which attracted a record crowd that included many PVRers. The food was reasonably good for a banquet, and the event began and ended close to schedule (despite a long, meandering "thank you" speech from the latest inductee to the Contesting Hall of Fame!).

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from Dick, W2YE

On the Subject of Dayton Dinners:

This was my seventh trip to Hamvention. If memory serves correctly, I have made the DX dinner all seven Fridays and the Contesting dinner three times. When transportation is shared among folks that I am travelling with, some compromises must be made, and often on Saturday folks want to go different ways. While both the DX and Contesting dinners are held at the Crowne Plaza, and so the food is equally good, there are some operational differences.

One thing I have disliked about the Contesting dinner (which I must admit I haven't been to in my last two trips) is the madhouse that prevails when the doors are opened and all heck breaks loose as folks run in and try to claim good tables and save seats for their buddies.

Consequently, I have usually wound up near the back sitting with some strangers, but finding good camaraderie. On the other hand, for the DX dinner, seating is pre-assigned as tickets are issued, although folks that order together may be seated together. While you may not know the folks you are sitting with initially, by the end of the program you have made some new friends. I have been fortunate at my tables in the past to have had the chance to sit with W1JR, and N4XP, among other notables. At my table this year there were some guys from New England, and some guys from Louisiana., and one initially empty seat. Finally a young guy with an accent and a blue and white shirt filled the last seat. He began chatting about OH8X, and their 160 meter yagi, etc. He was fascinating. When I got home and glanced at the cover of the Radio Arcala calendar that Bernie, W3UR, had passed out, I saw the picture of Toni, OH2UA, the guy one seat away from me – with the same white and blue shirt and he had on at the DX dinner. Long live assigned seating.

GERMAN MICKEY MOUSE RADIO SNOOPS ON COPS

by Lester Haines (Bootnotes, March 2009)

The German powers that be are investigating a kids' miniature Mickey Mouse radio which apparently entertains nippers with police radio traffic.

The Chinese-made novelty came with issue 12 of Mickey Maus magazine, which hit newsstands last week. Parents reported the eavesdropping to cops, who picked up a few copies to check out the device.

Hamburg police spokesperson Ulrike Sweden confirmed to the Hamburger Morgenpost: "We've received reports and detectives are finding out whether it's in violation of telecommunications law."

A representative of publisher Ehapla Verlag insisted the radio had been "scrupulously tested at an institute for toy safety" and "should only be able to tune into normal radio stations". According to the German branch of The Local, a further statement posted last Friday on the Mickey Maus website assured concerned parents that the cases were "isolated".

The statement further offered a typically Teutonic solution to inadvertent Polizei-snooping, ordering the magazine's readers: "The radio is exclusively designed for listening to music. Everything else is not allowed."

ANNOUNCING THE CONTESTING COMPENDIUM

from Pete, N4ZR

The Contesting Compendium is up and running, at <http://wiki.contesting.com> . Our objective is to make this into a one-stop source for information on contesting, and to ensure that all the good stuff that is now scattered across the Internet doesn't succumb to the ravages of time, hard drive failures, or other accidents of history.

So now it's up to us. I want to start by emphasizing the "us" element. I'm committed to making this work, but it will fail unless it becomes a true community project. I'm going to suggest the broadest organizational outlines, but from that point forward it is up to you, contesters around the world, who have information to contribute. Don't feel that what you know or want to say is not of broad enough interest - there is room in the Compendium for articles that are as broad as "antenna design for contesting" and as narrow as "contestng in Iraq in 2005."

We (KM3T, K5TR, K5ZD, N5KO and I) have created a start to a Table of Contents. It might best be described as a rough outline or starting point for ideas on content and structure. You should feel free to edit or add to the Table of Contents and also to add actual content. There is already some content linked from the table of contents.

Please check out the How to Read/Browse and How To Contribute pages, for the nuts and bolts. You'll need to create an account to join in, but we pledge that none of your data will be shared outside the Compendium team

Nothing is cast in concrete - if you want to suggest other ideas, edit away - everyone who signs up to become a contributor or editor and edit any page except those - typically articles from other sources reused in their entirety with permission of their authors - that are locked. My hope is that eventually we'll have hundreds of authors contributing material and keeping it up to date. If you don't want to edit other people's work, feel free to use the Discussion tab at the top of each page to give us your suggestions. And also please feel free to drop me (N4ZR) a note if I can help you become a contributor.

Pete Smith N4ZR

Managing Editor and Chief Compendium Lackey
Dave Pascoe, KM3T

George Fremin III, K5TR

Randy Thompson, K5ZD

Trey Garlough, N5KO

FIELD DAY LOGISTICSS

from Rol, K3RA

Last year, Zack Goldstein, WA2DRY, a new ham, asked me about the W3AO Field Day effort, and when I told him our results, he remarked that this appeared to be a huge logistics effort. I thought others might be interested in my response to him:

As you observe, the main problem is logistics. First you need a place with a clear 1000 ft north/south straight line along which you can erect towers--preferably a high location in a nearby area that is open to the public. Then you need a dozen or so easily erectable 50-foot towers to hold beams and wire antennas. Oh yes, antennas: it would be nice to have 2 2-element 40 meter yagis, 3 3-el 20 meters yagis, 3 3-el 15 meter yagis, 2 3-el 10 meter yagis, and a tribander (for GOTA). You also need at least 3 dipoles for 80m, 3 dipoles 40 meters, and 1 for 160 meters. All these antennas need to be for FD only, since you don't want to have to take them down from someone's station and return them afterwards.

To connect to these antennas you need a person with approximately 1 mile of 50 ohm coax already cut and connected into appropriate lengths. Then you need a vhf/uhf/microwave station with all the antennas, tower, rotators, rigs, etc. (a contest rover or two would serve this purpose nicely).

An easily erectable tent big enough for all the stations is needed, as well as a source of a 8 or 10 large tables with chairs for the gear and operators. And you need dependable power: a 45 KVA diesel generator on a trailer would be nice. Dependable power distribution cables with circuit breakers are a must. You need the donation of a dozen fairly good computers with networking cards--preferably all identical and with contesting software installed. For the digital modes, line up the loan of two or three laptops with digital software, radio interfaces, and suitable HF radios. All of this gear is useless without transportation to get it to the site: in addition to a few pickups and vans, you need someone with a large flatbed trailer who is willing to transport the "big stuff" to and from the FD location, and who has a safe place to store it until next year!

Ahead of time, someone needs to write and distribute the advanced press release. State and local officials need to be "schmoozed" ahead of time to get them to attend.

continued on the next page

FIELD DAY LOGISTICS (cont.,)

Now, get someone to plan, purchase supplies for, and cook meals for 25-30 people on Friday night, Saturday lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and dinner. It is handy to have a food tent to house the feeding activity. Then sign up an experienced and safety-conscious person to plan for and mark the location of all the antennas and tents, line up and supervise tower and antenna erection crews starting at 2 pm on Friday, and arrange for and supervise take down on Sunday. Nothing is more important than reliable logging—so line up a "guru" to install and setup all the software and to checkout the network of computers well before FD weekend.

Then this person needs to put all this in place on Saturday morning and check it out. Others need to volunteer to provide handouts and staffing for the visitors' booth, and a volunteer or two would come in handy with skill and ability to do an APRS demo, an SSTV demo, an internet/ham demo, and to generate and handle the FD traffic. A capable CW operator needs to agree to copy the W1AW FD message during the FD weekend.

And you need operators, of course. Start with a dozen or so top notch HF contest operators willing to be band captains for each band/mode and to bring their radios, computer keying, voice keying, etc. You also need a world class contest operator who is willing to be the GOTA coach and who is good with kids and new hams. Don't forget to line up Techs and generally inactive ops, as well as non-hams and kids to operate GOTA. A team is needed with gear and experience to make the satellite QSO's. You will also need a small team of experienced and skilled VHF/UHF contest operators. Several digital contest ops will also come in handy. Another half-dozen skilled back-up and fill-in ops to support the band captains is essential.

After Field Day, someone needs to volunteer to merge all the computer log data and to provide it to a person who will formally submit the score. It is nice to have people to collect the photos and stories, to post something on the FD Soapbox on ARRL.ORG, and to write articles for the club newsletters/websites.

Finally you need a couple of people to plan and supervise all these activities.

NOTHING TO IT!

A NEW CROP OF ANTENNA AND STATION CONSTRUCTION BOOKS

This year seems to be the year of Wikis, books and articles on station and antenna construction.

Here are two books worth noting:

From Dave Robbins, K1TTT

"The 25th anniversary edition of my book is now available at <http://www.lulu.com/k1ttt>.

Not only has the book been updated for the last 4 years since the first one came out, but now there is also a DVD available with almost 2GB of extra stuff, including the book in 3 formats, the old book, all my ham software archives, snapshots of my web site including all the tech reference stuff, movies of many contest operations (some of which never made it to the web site), and a bunch of other stuff.

The book itself is available in full color printed edition or as a PDF download."

From Steve Morris, K7LXC

UP THE TOWER: The Complete Guide To Tower Construction

"With professional tower experience on over 200 amateur stations and dozens of commercial radio sites, Steve Morris, K7LXC, has taken all of his hard-earned lessons and put them all in one comprehensive book. It's over 220 pages of facts, techniques, hardware and lots of answers to your tower construction questions. The anticipated publishing date is June, 2009."

The book starts with the question "Do You Really Need A Tower?" and takes the reader from the initial planning process to installing the structure, and finally, taking it all down. In between, there are extensive discussions on a wide range of subjects including tools and parts, safety, ropes and knots, guy wires, ground crews, and maintenance.

For detailed information, go to Steve's website:

<http://www.championradio.com/>

FUSSY ANTENNAS !!

forwarded by Mike, WOYR

In case you think your 160 M ant is fussy about adjustments resulting in feedpoint impedance changes, read THIS!

The time and frequency station that synchronizes radio-controlled clocks and wristwatches across the U.S. is WWVB, 60 kHz, near Fort Collins, Colorado. The station broadcasts with two antennas and two transmitters for reliability but still drops off the air on occasion. That was the case on December 11, 2008 from 11:36 AM to 12:17 PM PST and we asked what happened.

It turns out that winds of about 50 MPH or more physically move WWVB's wire antennas enough to upset the impedance match to the transmitters. Even though an automated tuning system is in place, it can't keep up with rapid reactance shifts caused by big winds according to the facility manager.

The best solution for WWVB in the presence of high winds is to assign an operator (when possible) to manually correct the antenna reactance, just the way a board operator "rides gain" on audio from a live stage production. An operator can react faster than the present automated impedance controller.

During normal operation, WWVB transmits 24 hours per day, seven days a week, providing the nation with reliable time and frequency information. CGC uses WWVB to synchronize its master oscillator which is then used in CGC's frequency measuring service. (GPS is not authorized for this purpose, see FCC Rule 73.1540(c).)

Written by Robert Gonsett, W6VR, December 15, 2008 and referenced in *The CGC Communicator* newsletter #872

NEW FIELD DAY LOG ANALYZER AVAILABLE

from Bob, KORC

Many clubs are busy making plans for their 2009 Field Day activities. I created a new Log Analyzer that will process Cabrillo files for Field Day. You can download a copy from:

<http://tinyurl.com/8juedc>

and import your logs from previous years to see graphical results of your club activities.

Feedback is welcome to k0rc [at] citilink.net

NEW BOOK FROM JEFF, K1NSS

For some time now, I've been publishing DASHTOON cartoons, the creation of Jeff, K1NSS.

Jeff follows in the tradition of Gil Gildersleeve, W1CJD, and Bob Beasley, K6BJH, chronicling the trials and tribulations of we ham radio operators. Jeff recently published a collection of DASH-TOONS. To quote from WA1LOU's *Surfin'* column on the ARRL website:

"I just read a radio-related graphic biography that has lots of similarities to my own biography. It is probably similar to the biographies of many of you who got your radio start between the time that rock was starting to roll, to about the time that the fab lads from Liverpool became four solo acts. *Lid, Kid, Space Cadet* is the name of the biography and it is written by one of our very own, Jeff Murray, K1NSS. Last June, I featured Jeff's Ham Radio Cartoon Web site here, but that was in the pre- *Lid, Kid, Space Cadet* era. I am featuring his Web site here again after reading his book, which reminded me of the time I cracked open the pages of Jean Shepherd's, K2ORS, *In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash* many years ago when I was a kid, lid and space cadet. If you were also a kid, lid and/or space cadet, I think you will enjoy K1NSS's book as much as I did."



They were the sort of dreams you couldn't take lying down.

So you stayed up late listening to voices. You practiced Morse code and read radio catalogs until you could recite both by heart. All because you made up your mind to get on the air.

And nothing could stop you.

Lid, Kid, Space Cadet is the graphic memoir of someone very like you, with ears just a tad more floppy.

Rest assured, this *First Book of Dash! The Dog-Faced Ham* is not sugar-coated nostalgia. There's just enough gunplay, smokes and broken dreams to keep it real.

Real radio. Remember?

Sometimes it was so funny you forgot to laugh. For fifty years. Until something brought it back like a Long Delayed Echo.

Lid, Kid, Space Cadet.

Sound familiar? You have our deepest sympathies.

BSJ7 COMICS PRESENTS
lid, kid, space cadet
by jeff k1nss



NOW ON SALE AT Amazon, eBay and Lulu.com

WHERE CAN YOU FIND PVRC MEMBERS?

(as of 1 June 2009)

The PVRC NW Region: [Bud W3LL](#)

Meetings are 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.

The Annapolis Crew : [Bob W9GE](#)

Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at West End Grill in Annapolis. We gather at about 5:30 PM and order dinner about 6. We break up usually before 8 PM. E-Mail [W9GE](#) to be put on the e-mail reminder list.

PVRCNC-East : [Rob, KA1ARB](#)

Meets on the first Thursday of each month. Details are always available on the web site:

<http://www.pvrcnc.org>

PVRC-NC/West: [Tom N4IOZ](#)

"The Winston-Salem Courteous Operators Club" (W4WS) meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the "Pure Chrome" establishment, 505 Deacon Blvd. Winston-Salem, NC 27105. It's now a biker bar (we came with the building), so feel free to roar in on your Harley. Info at <http://www.w4ws.org>

Gaithersburg Area: [Jeff K3OQ](#)

Several of us get together, much like the downtown lunch group, about every 4 to 6 weeks and visit various restaurants in the Gaithersburg area.

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: [Bill W3AZ](#)

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 [Bill Leavitt, W3AZ](#) 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.

If you have a group that meets regularly or occasionally, please send details and contact information to [W3DQ](#) for inclusion in the Newsletter!

PVRC Spotting Network

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| N2QT | telnet://n2qt.no-ip.com |
| K3SKE: | telnet://dxc.k3ske.net |
| NE3H | telnet://dxc.ne3h.net |
| N3ME: | telnet://dxc/n3me.net |
| WC3J: | telnet://dxc.wc4j.net |
| WR3L: | telnet://dxc.wr3l.net |
| W3LPL: | telnet://dxc.w3lpl.net |
| W4ML: | telnet://dxc.w4ml.net |
| N2QT Lynchburg, VA | 144.97, 446.075 |

Information regarding the PVRC reflector can be found on the PVRC website:

<http://pvrc.org/pvrcfaq.htm>

Note that this is simply the REFLECTOR FAQ pull down under main-page
REFERENCE

THE R. F. CONNECTION
"Specialists in RF
Connectors and Coax"

Tech Support:
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24-hour Fax:
301-869-3680

Order line:
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Please visit us at:
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