



CVCC Newsletter



Central Virginia Contest Club

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2007

Letter from the President



As I begin my year as President of our organization, I have reflected on the 30 years or so of its existence, talking to several of the Charter Members who have given me some insight into the changing face of the group over the years. As I have been a member for a short 13 years, it seemed to me to be prudent to look backwards as a way of looking forward to see what made this organization such a viable and vibrant entity in the

past and to learn from its extremely successful previous history.

Not to my surprise, the answer is simple.....it's people. People are the single, most important factor in the success of any organization and that's where you come in. If we are to grow and succeed as a first class, competitive force in the hobby, we have to have a strong base with you as the foundation and build upon that asset to excel in a very competitive environment. So, if you want to get back to the top of the heap, let's work together to make it happen. I'll do everything I can to lead us down the right path, but YOU are the resource from

which we gather and maintain our edge.

I am looking forward to working for you and I honestly solicit your valuable input as we travel this road together.

As our friend 'MYA says.....RUN 'EM!!!!

73 & GL DX

de Jonathan

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Propagation Report

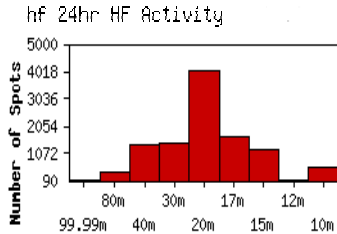
Solar Forecast:

Solar activity is expected to be very low to low with a slight chance for an isolated M-class flare.

Geomagnetic Forecast:

The geomagnetic field is expected to be predominantly quiet for the next three days

Propagation Forecast



IA. Analysis of Solar Active Regions and Activity from 29/2100Z to 30/2100Z: Solar activity increased to low levels today. Region 958 (S13E49) continues to show decay. A C2 x-ray flare occurred at 30/1349Z and it is believed to have had a source region just off the east limb near S09E90. No new regions were numbered today.

IB. Solar Activity Forecast: Solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels.

Geophysical Activity Forecast: The geomagnetic field is expected to be at predominantly quiet levels throughout the forecast period.

SUMMER IS HERE
AND 6 METERS IS
STARTING TO
COME ALIVE

Club Events



CVCC PICNIC A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

ON MAY 19TH, THE ANNUAL CVCC PICNIC WAS HELD AT THE HOME OF JAMES FRAME ON THE JAMES RIVER IN POWHATAN AGAIN THIS YEAR WITH 32 MEMBERS AND GUEST ATTENDING.

PERFECT WEATHER, A PLETHERA OF GREAT FOOD AND GREAT FRIENDS COMBINED TO MAKE THIS ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE GATHERINGS EVER AND, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF MANY, WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

AFTER A BRIEF BUSINESS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED, THE FESTIVI-

TIES BEGAN WITH GUSTO!

BURGERS AND DOGS WERE EXPERTLY PREPARED BY OUR RESIDENT HEAD CHEF AND HASH SLINGER, BOB/NK4H ASSISTED BY SEVERAL INTERESTED APPRENTICES AND, AGAIN THIS YEAR, WE WERE TREATED TO A VARIETY OF DELICIOUS SIDE DISHES PREPARED BY THOSE ATTENDING. NOW, HOW DO WE WORK OFF ALL THOSE CALORIES?

IT WAS NICE TO SEE SOME YOUNGER KIDS ATTENDING AS TOM/N4ZJ AND YL ELAINE BROUGHT THEIR DAUGHTER BECKY AND HER FRIEND SAMANTHA, AND JONATHAN/W4HZ AND NANCY/KA3CCE BROUGHT THEIR DAUGHTER SHERI AND GRANDAUGHTER VIVIAN. THE KIDS HAD A GREAT TIME. BARRY/KF4QQY AND YL MARINA BROUGHT THEIR FAMILY, INCLUDING ONE OF OUR NEWEST HAMS, SON BRADLEY, WHO ALL ENJOYED THE AFTERNOON.

ALL IN ALL, A GREAT TURNOUT WITH A GREAT GROUP OF PEOPLE.

THANKS GO OUT TO ALL WHO WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE IT THE SUCCESS IT WAS AND TO A.C./W4HJ AND JAMES FOR ALLOWING US TO USE THIS IDEAL FACILITY FOR OUR EVENT.

Tech Tip

One of the largest problems associated with hamming these days comes from running computers in the shack with networks that cause RFI.

Many of you know what I am referring to, you have “birdies” up and down the band or have heard weird buzzing sounds or have just a high noise floor or all 3!

I fall into the last category because I run a satellite modem to a router and then distribute it to all 6 of my computers. My radio was

almost worthless if the network was up which I needed up to get spots.

What I found was that if I unplugged different sections of my RJ-45 cables I would see a decrease in noises.

I started to replace my cables and found that one cable I had installed had virtually eliminated all my noises.

So what is different with this cable? I said to myself I need more like this one.

Examination of the cable

revealed it had a metal shield at the end around the connector and said “shielded” on the wire itself.

I now only buy shielded RJ-45 cables and enjoy an S-0 noise floor.

You can find them online at quality cable stores, a good source is

<http://cablestogo.com>

Submitted by KF7NN



My station was almost worthless without these cables.

Contesting

East Coast vs. the West Coast: A tale of two Contesting Clubs in The 2006 ARRL Sweepstakes

What happens When Two Top Notch Contest Clubs Wage a Fair Fight?

More QSOs – More Activity, More FUN – for EVERYONE.

For several years, the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) has been fairly dormant in the ARRL Sweepstakes competition. Although we have prevailed in many prior SS competitions, we were caught by the SURPRISE by Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) effort in the early 2000's and succumbed to (first place) NCCC by a wide margin after passing SMC's effort in 2005.

This year – 2006 – we decided to give it our best effort, using SMC's strategy of maximizing the number of operators – in any way, shape or form we could motivate them to operate. We had PowerPoint presentations of SS strategies created by our experts. There were many motivational speeches given by PVRC chapter leaders. There were some bold statements made by PVRC Officers about the run for the Gavel in 2006. There were the PVRC telemarketing and Email recruitment efforts. All hands were on deck for the great Sweepstakes Challenge of 2006!

In the end, PVRC had exceptional turnout and participation...AND...were in awe of the number of NCCC stations that turned out for the event. We also noticed that our best “cheerleaders”...(the folks spotting us)...were from NCCC – our competition! The entire playing field was raised by NCCC: now that's GREAT sportsmanship!

The results of the competition are extremely close, and ultimately it will be determined by log checking. Both teams deserve praise for the amazing turnout and performance by our respective members. And...at the end of the day, one club will win, one of us will be #2, for a season...until November 2007 when we the process starts all over again!

Update: PVRC forfeited the gavel due to too many submissions being out of the 175 mile circle.

THERE WERE
SOME BOLD
STATEMENTS
MADE BY PVRC
OFFICERS ABOUT
THE RUN FOR THE
GAVEL IN 2006



The W4MYA mega station hard at work



CVCC Newsletter

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE!!!!!!

Our June Meeting will be held on June 12, 2007 at Henrico Doctor's Hospital Parham Road campus in the Cafeteria/Dining Room at 7:00PM. The major topics to be discussed are related to the revitalization of the club, propositions for the Members to consider for contest participation, recruitment & potential opportunities for the Membership. Ralph/W4FEG will give us the latest update on Field Day preparation,

awards for the VA QSO Party will be distributed, Bob/W4MYA will give a synopsis of the WPX CW Contest during the Memorial Day weekend & we'll discuss plans for the next three months.

Please don't miss this one!!!!

Don't forget the social gathering prior to the meeting at **Golden Corral**

on **Broad St. at Gaskins Road** at 5:30PM, if you are hungry.

June 23 & 24 is Field Day



Ralph Fetty has agreed to coordinate the site for Field Day, the location is at Company 5 in Goochland at the corner of 522 and fairgrounds road.

We will have the use of a 100 foot tower and tribander with 40 m add-on and dipoles on 160-80, so we will be heard. We have radios, computers and generators covered. Duke W1ZA is handling the scheduling of operators but I am sure that there will be enough time for everyone to operate. It is still undecided to pay to eat (company 5 will cook) or bring our own, maybe we should have a poll on this.

Bring your chairs, suntan lotion and operating skills!





Upcoming Contests

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 1
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 1
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Jun 2 and 0430Z-0459Z, Jun 2 and 0500Z-0529Z, Jun 2 and 0530Z-0600Z, Jun 2
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 2 to 1200Z, Jun 3
UKSMG Summer Contest	1200Z, Jun 2 to 1200Z, Jun 3
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1500Z, Jun 3
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1459Z, Jun 3
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 2 to 0400Z, Jun 3
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 8
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 8
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Jun 9 to 2400Z, Jun 10
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 9
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 9
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 9 to 1500Z, Jun 10
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 9 to 1600Z, Jun 10
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 9 to 0300Z, Jun 11
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 13
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 13
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 13
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 15
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 15
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 16 to 2400Z, Jun 17
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 16 to 2400Z, Jun 17
SARL Youth for Amateur Radio	0700Z-1100Z, Jun 16
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 16 to 0200Z, Jun 17
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jun 16 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jun 16 (432)
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jun 16
DIE Contest	0600Z-1200Z, Jun 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 18
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 21
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 22
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 22
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 23 to 1200Z, Jun 24
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 23 to 1200Z, Jun 24
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 23 to 1400Z, Jun 24
Quebec QSO Party	1700Z, Jun 23 to 0300Z, Jun 24
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 23 to 2100Z, Jun 24
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 23 to 2100Z, Jun 24
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 24
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 29
Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 29
WLOTA Contest	0600Z, Jun 30 to 1200Z, Jul 1

Meeting Minutes

THE CVCC MEETING FOR MAY, 2007 CONVIENED AT THE HOME OF JAMES FRAME ON THE JAMES RIVER IN POWHATAN FOR OUR ANNUAL PICNIC ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AND GUESTS TOTALING 32 PEOPLE.

JONATHAN/W4HZ GAVE A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE ACTIVITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND UPDATED THE STATUS OF ONGOING PROJECTS AND POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS.

THE READING OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING WERE WAIVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

BOB/NK4H PRESENTED THE TREASURE'S REPORT THAT WAS ACCEPTED WITHOUT DISCUSSION BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

RALPH/W4FEG BROUGHT US UP TO DATE ON THE STATUS OF THE FIELD DAY PROJECT ALONG WITH DUKE/W1ZA WHO IS COORDINATING THE OPERATORS AND CLUB MEMBERS ASSIGNMENTS.

BOB/W4MYA STATED HE WAS GOING TO TRY TO RUN A MULTI/MULTI DURING THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT HIS SUPER STATION AND SOLICITED OPS FOR IT.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE INFORMAL DINNER PRECEEDING THE JUNE 12TH MEETING WOULD BE HELD AT THE GOLDEN CORAL AT GASKINS & BROAD INSTEAD OF SHONEYS FOR THIS ONE MEETING TO TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO ALLOCATE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO PROCURE QSL CARDS FOR THE SPECIAL EVENT CALL THAT WE HAVE USED IN SEVERAL CONTESTS.

JONATHAN/W4HZ MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT FOR OUR FRIENDS BOB/W4DR AND ROSALIE/N4CFL IN MEMORY OF THEIR LATE SON, LEE AFTEWHICH A MOMENT OF SILENCE & PRAYER FOR THEM WAS OBSERVED.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AND OUR CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER, DUKE/W1ZA, GATHERED THE GROUP TOGETHER FOR A PICTURE FOLLOWED BY THE CONSUMTION OF A PLEATHERA OF DELICIOUS FOOD AND GENERAL SOCIALIZATION. PLEASE NOTE THAT BOB/NK4H ACTED A HEAD CHEF/HASH SLINGER AGAIN THIS YEAR AND PERFORMED HIS DUTIES TO PERFECTION. THANKS GO OUT TO A.C./W4HJ AND YL JO FOR THEIR EFFORTS AND TO ALL WHO PROVIDED GREAT FOOD AND SUPPORT HELP-ING MAKE THIS YEARS PICNIC A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JONATHAN PAYNE, PRESIDENT
ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



DX News



DU - PHILIPPINES, OC-129

Kaoru,JA7QVK/DU7, is staying on Cebu Island (OC-129) now for one year. He is on a business trip and will stay there until August 2007. Kaoru is working mainly in SSB on 40-6m and skeds can be arranged via e-mail: kaoru12506@globelines.com.ph

Unfortunately QSLs only direct, when he is back in Japan. This is his address: Kaoru Ono, Unit 1204, Park Tower 2, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City, Philippines 6000.

EA8 - CANARY ISLANDS, AF-004

Franky,ON7RU, will be active as EA8/OQ7R in CW/SSB/RTTY on 80-10m using a FT-990 and wires from Jun 4-13. QSL via ON7RU, bureau or direct.

FO/C - CLIPPERTON ISLAND, NA-011

During the "Dayton DX Dinner Banquet" an upcoming activation of Clipperton was announced for March 2008. The team leader will be Bob Grimmick,N6OX. More information will be released at a later date.

HI - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, NA-096

IW2NEF/HI7 will be QRV from Bayahibe (NA-096) from Jun 3-9. He will work on 40-10m and 6m using a Yaesu FT-857D with 100 watts and vertical but only for one or two hours a day. QSLs via his homecall.

KH8/S - SWAINS ISLAND, OC-200

The first N8S QSLs of the Swains Island DXpedition will be sent on Jun 5. Meanwhile more than 6.000 letters arrived directly at YT1AD. The call N8S has been issued to Dale,K9TTT, in June 2006 and was used by the "Michigan DX Association" before. Dale promised to forward all errant QSLs to YT1AD.

TA - TURKEY

Mill,LX1CC, will spend his holidays in Turkey from Jun 7-21. His QTH will be the city of Selcuk and he got the special callsign YM3CC. Activities will take place in SSB on 80-10m (including the WARC bands). QSL cards via bureau to his homecall, direct or via eQSL.

VP6/D - DUCIE ISLAND, OC-182

First information was released about an upcoming DXpedition to Ducie Island (OC-182) lasting for two weeks around Feb 10, 2008. Licence and landing permission have been guaranteed already. The first top DXers joining the team were: Carsten,DL6LAU (team leader), Eric,K3NA (co-leader), Dietmar,DL3DXX, Andy,DL8LAS, Martti,OH2BH, Robin,WA6CDR, and Krassimir,K1LZ. More info will be released at: <http://www.vp6dx.com>

3A - MONACO

The special event station 3A7JO will be QRV in all modes on all bands from Jun 2-10. All QSOs will be confirmed via bureau automatically. If you can't wait that long send your direct QSLs to: ARM (Association des Radioamateurs de Monaco) QSL Bureau, B.P. 2, MC 98001, Monaco Cedex. More information can be found on the website: <http://www.monaco2007.mc>



3B6 - AGALEGA ISLAND, AF-001

3B6SP will be the callsign of the Polish DXpedition which will show up for 12 days starting on Jun 6. For health reasons Wojtek,SP9PT, had to leave the team which now consists of: SP9MRO (team leader), SP5BFX, SP3MGM, SP6EQZ, SP3RBR, YL SP9SX and SP5XVY. Danuta,SP9SX, will take care of the QSLs. The team left Poland for Mauritius on May 28 and their flight back goes on Jun 18. These QRGs were announced for 3B6SP:

band	CW	SSB	RTTY	PSK	(QRGs in MHz)
160m	1.821,5	1.845	-	-	
80m	3.521	3.780	3.590	-	
40m	7.021	7.070	7.040	7.038	
30m	10.121	-	10.140	10.142	
20m	14.021	14.185	14.084	14.072	
17m	18.081	18.136	18.104	18.102	
15m	21.021	21.290	21.084	21.072	
12m	24.901	24.930	24.924	24.922	
10m	28.021	28.490	28.084	28.122	

Updated information is released on their website: <http://3b6.godx.eu>

5B - CYPRUS, AS-004

5B/G3RWF will be QRV in SSB/RTTY/PSK during his holidays from Jun 2-30.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m		
ON60HRT	3.790	2120Z via ON4HRT (B)
30m		
PJ2/WI9WI	10.102	2218Z via WI9WI (B)
TF/G4EDG/p	10.105	0741Z EU-168, via G4ELZ
20m		
P40L	14.033	1802Z via K5WW (B)
TF/G4EDG/p	14.040	1116Z EU-168, via G4ELZ
9Q1D	14.218	0632Z via SM5BFJ (d)
17m		
F/DJ3RZ	18.075	0759Z EU-070
ZD8RH	18.073	1847Z via G4DBW (B)
15m		
P40L	21.016	1815Z via K5WW (B)
PJ2/WI9WI	21.005	1850Z via WI9WI (B)
9U0VB	21.005	0757Z via UA4WHX (B)
12m		
9U0VB	24.895	0927Z via UA4WHX (B)
10m		
HV0A	28.515	1620Z via IK0FVC (d/L)
6m		
A71EM	50.103	1725Z via EA7FTR (B)

(d) = only direct