



# 599 VA ..... -.-. ...- .- August 2010

<http://www.c-v-c-c.us/>  
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## News Letter of the Central Virginia Contest Club

### Meeting Notice

The August meeting of the CVCC will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at St Martin's Episcopal Church, 9000 St. Martin Lane, Richmond, Va. 23294. The pre-meeting social and dinner will be at 5:30 P.M. at the Golden Corral, Gaskins Road and West Broad Street. W4PM will be there and hopes others will show up too.

### August Program

MIDWAY ISLAND 2009



The August program will feature a DVD on the 2009 DXpedition to Midway Island. A multi national team of 19 operators activated Midway Island in October 2009. The US Fish & Wildlife Service authorized amateur operation from this rare US entity for only a 10 day period, its first radio activity in almost 10 years.

### ATTABOY!



Master Chef



Eagle Eye Strait Shooter

What would this club do without Bob Ladd, NK4H? He has tirelessly served the club as Treasurer for many years, just retiring this year. He is always there at the Picnic and Field Day obtaining, preparing and serving up the chow. This year he also headed up the antenna erection crew and shot the lines over the poles with deadly accuracy. The giant coolers of water and soft drinks kept us from drying up like summer grass in the hot weather. He can run'em on SSB too and did a great job during his time at the FD rig. We are fortunate to have a member like Bob. When you see him at the meeting, give him a big smile, a handshake and say THANK YOU!

# Field Day 2010 Results

## W4ML /W4PM (gota) 2A VA

	Band	CW QSO	SSB QSO	CW Points	SSB Points
	80	279	273	558	273
	40	434	611	868	611
	20	292	337	584	337
	15	11	2	22	2
	15 GOTA	0	299	0	299
	10	22	0	44	0
	6	10	96	20	96
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total		<u>1,048</u>	<u>1,618</u>	<u>2,096</u>	<u>1,618</u>
Totals QSOs and Points power multiplier for 100w			<u>2,666</u>	2,096	3,714
					2
					-----
Total QSO Points					7,428
Bonus Points					
100% Emergency power				200	
Media Publicity				100	
Set-up in Public Place				100	
Information Booth				100	
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC				100	
W1AW Field Day Message				100	
Site Visit by invited served agency official				100	
Youth participation 2				40	
GOTA Bonus				560	
Submitted via the Web				50	
Educational activity				100	
Total Bonus Points					1,550
					-----
Total Score					<u>8,978</u>

Field Day was a rousing success. I want to express the club's appreciation to all involved. A special thanks to the FD committee; to Bob (MYA), Kyle, Joe, and Barry for providing and setting up the rigs; to Kyle for scheduling the operators; to Barry and Bradley for providing, setting up and keeping the generator going; to Bob (NK4H) for the coolers of water and soft drinks and the outstanding Saturday evening Dinner; to AC for helping Bob with dinner, bringing a six meter antenna and for trying to keep the rowdy bunch straight; to Bradley for the Saturday lunch and Sunday morning breakfast runs; to Ed (NW4V) for the Sunday morning designer coffee; to the whole antenna erection crew headed by Bob NK4H (Mr. eagle-eyed straight shooter); to Milt for copying the FD message and taking care of the outgoing FD message as well preparing the sign in log; and to all the operators who came out to keep the rigs hot the entire time. Listening to Jonathan run'em on SSB is a treat you have to hear to really appreciate. Also watching the CW masters W4MYA, WA4PGM, N3UA, K4OSO (did I miss anyone) run'em on CW is also a treat.

We had a couple of new guys help us out both with set up and operating. Eric KI4UDF was elected to membership having met his two CVCC event requirement. George KJ4IPF, who we hope will consider joining us, did a great job cranking out his 100 GOTA QSO's in his two-hour time slot. We also had a couple of Jr. ops, Trey (Milt's son) and Isaiah, give us some bonus points by making contacts for us. If anyone has the information on Isaiah let me know. I don't have the sign-in log here. We also had visitors from some of the other local clubs and were especially glad to welcome them.

The N4LSP loop antennas worked great! Mike came by to visit and later came back to help with the antenna take down. Considering the fact that it was well over 100 degrees Sunday afternoon that was no small chore. In spite of the heat the guys did well and we all had a fine time. There were no casualties this year! If you missed it - shame on you - you missed a good one!

I must say I enjoyed this event more than I can express in words. Just being with such a fine group and swapping stories as well as lies made my weekend. It sure is nice of ARRL to sponsor this event every year on my birthday. You guys made it special.

73,

Puck W4PM

Proud to be President of CVCC



This picture of Milt's son Trey after he has just made a 15 SSB contact on our GOTA station pretty much sums up what I think Field Day is all about!

For more FD pictures follow this link:

[http://www.c-v-c-c.us/Field\\_Day/2010/photos/](http://www.c-v-c-c.us/Field_Day/2010/photos/)

## DX News by DX Dr

Ed is on a trip so I am filling in this month. The summer has been unusually quiet on my favorite band and from my point of view it has been the worst summer for E skip on 6 meters in a long time. I realize that judgment is colored by one's personal success or lack thereof. In my case it was lack of success, but as you can see from the few reports which I got this month most of the new ones reported were on 6 meters. I used to think that there was a correlation between very hot weather and the formation of E clouds. If this were true it should have been a great summer.

When does  $1 + 1 = 0$ ? In the sad case of T31 DXpeditions it does. Two European groups planned operations from this rare spot. When the second group learned of the smaller group's plans to get there first, group two canceled their trip with the loss of 300K deposit on a charter. The first group was close to the island when they learned that their engine, which was needed to maneuver into safe waters, could not be fixed so they sailed back to Samoa. In a more recent case  $1 + 1 = 2$  or maybe I should say 1.5. The well planned K4VAC Tangier Island operation by our sister club the DDXG were all set up and on the air at 8 AM. At 11 AM another group arrived and set up operation only 300 yards from K4VAC. With their 1500 watts they make 40 unusable and their second harmonic wiped out the bottom half of twenty meters. Fortunately they left at dark and in spite of this setback the DDXG gang improved their previous best score by 30%. They wound up with 1003 Q's in 66 countries for a score of 596,403. Congratulations! Can I go along in 2012?

Individual reports:

**W4TNX:** Back from a 2 week cruise in the British Isles found CT and several Caribbean stations on 6.

**W4MYA:** Bob had a great summer on 6 with E4X a E7 and two JA's.

**W4PM:** Puck reports 1450 Q's. E4X was new on 20 and 30 in June and July produced FS, 9Y4, FG5 and J39 all on 6 and without a beam. He is going to replace his feedline with a 600 ohm open wire feeder which will improve performance when it rains, "if it ever does again" he says.

**WD4LBR:** Bruce found J8, J6, XE and OX on 6 and 4J3M on 30.

**K4WNW:** Sheila scored with J8, J6 and OX on 6 plus XE and 4J3 on 30 and V4 on 17.

**W4DR:** 5 new grids on 6- 2 in the USA, 1 in Cuba, 1 in CU4 and one in VO2. The last one was also in a new field, GO.

One last sad note. I just learned that G3NOH became a silent key on July 25. He was an officer in the FOC and a well-known DXer and CW op. He will be missed. RIP  
Bob W4DR

Another sad piece of news was received today. Fergus YV1NX a long time DXer, Cw operator and FOC member passed away suddenly and unexpectedly last Monday. For those of us who have enjoyed his company both on the air and in person this was quite a blow. RIP my dear friend Fergus.  
Puck W4PM

## **DX Cluster**

As you know we lost the whole DX cluster (RF and computer) earlier this year. The below e-mail dated June 20<sup>th</sup> from Dennis:

W4ML is now back in service for telnet @ dxc.w4ml.net and on RF on 145.090 MHz..the crossover link to W4FEG has been retired.  
Thanks to Tom N4ZJ for providing a replacement P4 PC and Ronnie WU4G to get the node back on the air!  
Also, thanks to Dave W9ZRX (AR-Cluster Expert) for configuring the system and working out all the issues.  
If anyone has an old 2 meter rig they could donate to the club for the RF port let me know...  
Also, any ideas on lightening protection for the power feed into the shack where the equipment is, send me a note.  
73,  
Dennis N4DEN  
W4ML Sysop?

Then on July 8<sup>th</sup> this e-mail from Dennis entitled “W4ML Hit again!”:

I finally got over to check on the node and found no power...walked down to the house that had power and found that the breaker feeding the shack had tripped. I reset it.  
Now with power the PC boots up o.k., the fiber optic link is good but, the 2m rig, TNC and power supply are toast. I have notified the club leadership and will wait for their instructions on replacement of the RF station.  
dxc.w4ml.net is up and running for telnet logins..  
FYI..  
Dennis N4DEN

There has been some discussion between Dennis and your Executive committee about NOT restoring the RF link. We recommend that the RF link be discontinued considering the cost to the club and the fact that Dennis reports only two users of this link. The final decision on this is a matter for club approval and a vote will be taken on this at the August meeting.

## **June Meeting**

Marshall AI4CM came up from Chesapeake and give a presentation on Tuned Feeders. He even presented a novel way to tune your antenna with your feed line! This was especially interesting to those of use who use multi-band tuned antennas. Our thanks to Marshall for an outstanding presentation!

## **July Meeting**

There was no July meeting. It was decided by majority vote at Field Day to forgo the July meeting this year.

## **VA QSO Party Awards**

These were presented to members at Field Day. For those who did not attend FD, the remaining awards will be given out at the August meeting.

## August Contest Calendar

SARL HF Phone Contest

ARS Spartan Sprint

**QRP Fox Hunt**

NCCC Sprint Ladder

TARA Grid Dip Shindig

10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB

European HF Championship

**North American QSO Party, CW**

**ARRL UHF Contest**

SKCC Weekend Sprint

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

**QRP Fox Hunt**

**CWops Mini-CWT Test**

MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint

NCCC Sprint Ladder

**WAE DX Contest, CW**

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest

Maryland-DC QSO Party

Feld Hell Sprint

**ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB**

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

**QRP Fox Hunt**

NCCC Sprint Ladder

SARTG WW RTTY Contest

**ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest**

Russian District Award Contest

ARCI Silent Key Memorial Sprint

**North American QSO Party, SSB**

New Jersey QSO Party

SKCC Sprint

**QRP Fox Hunt**

NCCC Sprint Ladder

ALARA Contest

Hawaii QSO Party

**YO DX HF Contest**

SCC RTTY Championship

Kansas QSO Party

Ohio QSO Party

SARL HF CW Contest

1300Z-1630Z, Aug 1

0100Z-0300Z, Aug 3

**0100Z-0230Z, Aug 4**

0230Z-0300Z, Aug 6

0000Z-2400Z, Aug 7

0001Z, Aug 7 to 2359Z, Aug 8

1200Z-2359Z, Aug 7

**1800Z, Aug 7 to 0600Z, Aug 8**

**1800Z, Aug 7 to 1800Z, Aug 8**

0000Z-2400Z, Aug 8

0030Z-0230Z, Aug 11

**0100Z-0230Z, Aug 11**

**1100Z-1200Z, Aug 11 and**

**1900Z-2000Z, Aug 11 and**

**0300Z-0400Z, Aug 12**

1200Z, Aug 12 to 1200Z, Aug 13

0230Z-0300Z, Aug 13

**0000Z, Aug 14 to 2359Z, Aug 15**

1200Z, Aug 14 to 1200Z, Aug 15

1600Z, Aug 14 to 0400Z, Aug 15 and

1600Z-2400Z, Aug 15

2000Z-2200Z, Aug 14

**1800Z-2359Z, Aug 15**

0100Z-0300Z, Aug 16

**0100Z-0230Z, Aug 18**

0230Z-0300Z, Aug 20

0000Z-0800Z, Aug 21 and

1600Z-2400Z, Aug 21 and

0800Z-1600Z, Aug 22

**0600 local, Aug 21 to 2400 local, Aug 22**

0800Z, Aug 21 to 0800Z, Aug 22

1500Z-1800Z, Aug 21

**1800Z, Aug 21 to 0600Z, Aug 22**

2000Z, Aug 21 to 0700Z, Aug 22 and

1300Z, Aug 22 to 0200Z, Aug 23

0000Z-0200Z, Aug 25

**0100Z-0230Z, Aug 25**

0230Z-0300Z, Aug 27

0400Z-1359Z, Aug 28 and

0400Z-1359Z, Aug 29

0700Z, Aug 28 to 2200Z, Aug 29

**1200Z, Aug 28 to 1200Z, Aug 29**

1200Z, Aug 28 to 1159Z, Aug 29

1400Z, Aug 28 to 0200Z, Aug 29 and

1400Z-2000Z, Aug 29

1600Z, Aug 28 to 0400Z, Aug 29

1400Z-1600Z, Aug 29

*Send comments and corrections about this page to Bruce Horn, [WA7BNM](mailto:WA7BNM)*

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Permission was received from Bruce Horn to use his contest calendar. It can be found by following links on [www.contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com).

The ones in bold are ones I've enjoyed in the past. The two NAQPs's are great practice to hone your contesting skills. You can easily run'em big time in these contests. The Rookie Roundup is the replacement for the old Novice Round up. Let's give the rookies some stations to work. I invite you to try the CWOps Mini-CWT tests. They are only 1 hour in duration and open to all. See how many you can work in that hour! If you like QRP the QRP foxhunts are lots of fun. Don't forget the WAE and YO DX contests. Perhaps you can find some new B/E's. Also there's a number of state QSO parties. You could get a certificate in one of them. Just recently I received a certificate for the 2010 Idaho QSO party, "Winner Virginia SOAB HP MX". I made just 10 QSO's!

Puck W4PM

## Newest Member



Having participated in the VA QSO Party Multi-multi at W4MYA and also at Field Day Eric, KI4UDF, was elected to membership at Field Day. Eric has held a Technician license since 2007 and has been living in WV until June 2010. He operated our FD GOTA station and VHF station at Field day. He also helped out with set up, antenna erection and station break down. We are pleased to welcome Eric to the CVCC.

## Potential Member



George KJ4IPF attended his first Field Day with us this year. He did an admirable job on the GOTA station getting his 100 Qs in his two-hour time slot. He was a big help in all facets of FD and we were very pleased to have him with us. We hope he will join us.

## Item Wanted

**KJ4IPF, George:**

Looking for a Switching PS.

25Amps or better.

I hate buying new if someone has one he wants to sell.

Thanks

George [bytehd@us.net](mailto:bytehd@us.net)

## JULY 599 VA

There was no July issue of the News Letter. Good intentions were trumped by home renovations.