



# 599 VA ..... -.-. ...- .- June 2010

<http://www.c-v-c-c.us/>

Editor: W4PM

[hmmjr@comcast.net](mailto:hmmjr@comcast.net)

## News Letter of the Central Virginia Contest Club

---

### Meeting Notice

The June meeting of the CVCC will be held on Tuesday, June 1, 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.

### June Program

Marshall AI4CM has agreed to come up from Chesapeake and give a presentation on Tuned Feeders. A number of us use open wire or ladder line feed - a dandy way to easily get on a number of bands with one antenna. This should be very interesting and I hope you can all make the meeting. Please feel free to invite any of your friends who are not CVCC members to our meeting.

For those of you who do not know Marshall, he has operated from Jonathan's QTH for SSB contests. He also hosted Jonathan for a multi-single during the VAQP, which added to our club score. Hopefully he will consider joining CVCC and come up and operate more with us in selected contests. Next year we will enter the ARRL DX test on SSB so we can use his help manning one of your multi-single entries.

### Dues

For those of you who have not yet paid your dues and want to remain as active members of CVCC please do so soon either at the meeting or by sending a check to CVCC treasurer, Milt K4OSO. Due to an unanticipated expense for liability insurance this year the treasury is running low. In addition we can use your participation in club sponsored events and contests for the coming year.

### Field Day 2010

This year the Central Virginia Contest Club will again be participating in the ARRL Field Day under the "CVCC Banner". The dates are Saturday, June 26th, and Sunday, June 27th. Actual on the air operations will begin at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday and cease at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday. You and your guest(s) are cordially invited to participate with us. Our 2010 Field Day site will be located at the "Short Pump Park" on Pump Road, Western Henrico County as it was last year. We plan to enter the 2A category complete with GOTA and VHF stations.

As a contest club we treat this operating event as a contest and try to maximize points but we keep in mind the true purpose of Field Day which is as stated by the ARRL, "to demonstrate the communications ability of the amateur radio community in simulated emergency situations. First, and foremost, Field Day should be a fun activity. Field Day serves as one of the biggest introductory "drawing cards" we offer in trying to expand interest in the hobby."

While we will try to maximize QSO points we will also strive to maximize "bonus points" generated by informing the general populace and public officials about the capabilities of "ham" radio as well as getting generally inactive amateurs back on the air. If your forte is in these areas rather than operating we can use your help and support.

We especially need help at our GOTA (Get-on-the-Air) station. If you participated with us last year in this area and are still generally inactive, you can do so again this year. If you are a licensed operator who has not been active for a time this is your chance to revive your interest in amateur radio. If you have friends or family who are not licensed operators but who would like to see first hand what ham radio is all about by actually making a few contacts, our Control Operators and GOTA coaches will guide them along in this respect. We could use some

youth participation also. Youth is defined as a participant 18 years or younger. We will strive to make this one of our best Field Day events ever and have lots of fun doing it!

We will need volunteers to make this a successful effort.

Our scheduling for operators is by WA4PGM - Kyle

Our antenna crew is led by W4HZ – Jonathan with help from W4PM – Puck

Our equipment setup is led by W4MYA - Bob

Our power setup is led by KF4QQY - Barry with assistance from W1HZ- Jonathan

If you have the desire to help with these tasks and/or plan to operate, please contact these individuals.

We also need lots of help setting up the field day operation especially antenna erection. We do not have our antenna guru of past years Mike Baker, N4LSP, so we need as many of you as possible to help with this task. In addition the operator schedule is looking pretty slim. Please contact Kyle if you can operate to inform him of your preferences. We will be meeting on Saturday, June 26 at the Gaskins Road Cracker Barrel for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by the commencement of set up operations at Short Pump Park at 9:00 a.m. We can use all the help we can get.

## **RANDOM SKIP DE W4DR**

Let's say you are recently bitten by the DX bug. You have worked 75 or so "entities" with 100 watts and simple antennas. You are proficient at cw, like ssb and are not afraid of the digital modes. Now you want to go all out and shoot for the top. By that I mean #1 DXCC which means all of the 338 entities on the DXCC list. Your spouse and zoning regulations permit you to have a 60-foot tower with a tri-bander and some wire antennas and you recently purchased a KW amplifier. Where will you be relative to your goal by 2020?

As luck would have it you are starting at a very fortunate time in your quest. Almost every entity now permits amateur radio and most will actually license visitors. The remote islands and outposts which are on the lists are now visited by "mega-dxpeditions" every 5 to 10 years with the main hold back on this activity being the ecologists who seem to fear that we might tramp on a bird egg. We never do! This can usually be overcome by paying expenses for several of them to go along.

Right now 275 to 290 entities have been active every year and are workable every year from the USA. With increased sunspots this number will probably climb to 300 and which you should have in the first 3-4 years. For the next 6 years you collect about 4 to 6 per year mainly via DXpeditions to places like Ducie Island, Heard Island, etc. So I predict that you, by now an experienced, hard core DX'er will have 334 of your needed entities. This does not include added entities of which you will have worked all.

What will you still need in 2020 from today's list? Here is my prediction:

#1 P5, North Korea. These guys are crazy as loons and extremely paranoid.

#2 BS7 Scarborough Reef. Expensive to reach, dangerous to operate from, involves consent of several nations who claim it and recently visited after years of prep work

#3 VP8 South Sandwich. Most distant of the VP8 Islands, No buildings present since the Brits destroyed the Argentine Base structures during the Falklands war, no safe landing and the islands are covered with bird "do-do", ecology concerns plus a fairly recent DXpeditions.

#4 7O1 Yemen. The newest hot bed for Islamic terrorists, A fragile government with no provisions for amateur activity. Regular kidnapping of foreigners for ransom

Let's check out my predictions in 2020 if I can remember what they were.

## April DX Report by NW4V

The month of May brings us another (YI9 last month) exciting large Middle East DXpedition. A mainly Spanish and French team will activate Palestine May 28 – June 6. The group has a fine website here:

<http://www.dxfriends.com/e4x/index.php>

They should have at least three stations on the air simultaneously with directional antennas for the high bands and verticals and wires for the low bands. A group of Ukrainian DXpeditioners will activate several Pacific Islands beginning with American Samoa May 18-19, Central Kiribati May 22- June 1, and Tokelau June 2 – June 6. Their main focus will be to activate IOTA's in the T31 Central Kiribati, Kanton Island, Phoenix Islands Group. All the details can be found here:

<http://www.uz1hz.com/pacificodyssey.html>

The Central African Republic will be activated by a two man team beginning May 13-26 with their main concentration on 40-6M. They might get on 80 and 160 but no definite plans as of now.

More information on DX operations in May can be found here: <http://ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html> and here:

<http://dx-world.net/> Don't forget the WPX CW contest is May 29-30 <http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>

If you are looking for some enjoyable radio related reading check out Bob Locher's, W9KNI, new book A Year of DX. Bob is also the author of the acclaimed book; The Complete DX'er. Bob is a wonderful writer and great DX'er. Order his new book here: <http://www.idiompress.com/yearofdx.php>

Have fun and good luck on the bands!

Here are your activity reports for April:

WD4LBR Laments the diminished band conditions with a score of only 16 new band countries!

K4WNW Shelia edges out Bruce this month with 20 new band countries. Congratulations to you both!

N4DEN Yes, this is not a misprint N4DEN worked Pakistan and Hong Kong on 20M SSB for 2 new band countries this month. Well done, Dennis! Keep it going!!

K2WK Walt worked the YI9 operation on 80, 40, 20 SSB and was thrilled to get them on 160M CW! Walt's back on the Honor Roll. Congratulations, Walt!

W4PM Puck reports slightly more than 300 Q's for the month mainly in QSO Parties and the Rookie Roundup. New band countries are 8Q7QX 30, YI9PSE 80, FW5X 20, P29VKJ 30. The P29 was an all time new one for Puck. Way to go Prez!

W4HJ A.C. worked 4 new BC on 17M and 1 on 20M. He found some time to play on RTTY this month as well.

W4TNX John managed a few garden variety EU QSO's on 40 CW.

W4DR Nothing new for Bob this month. He did have fun working the S79 on 160 as well as the YI9. Bob is happy to report receiving a long overdue QSL card from TF8GX to confirm a new grid on 6M. Bob has his fingers crossed for new RTTY entities, T31, TL0 and maybe even a ZS8. He is looking forward to going to Dayton in May and catching up with some old DX friends.

NW4V Nothing for me this month! Hoping the E4 operation produces needed BE's.

Thanks to everyone for sending in their reports.

Vy 73,

Ed NW4V

## JUNE CONTEST CALENDAR

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 4
DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 5 and 2000Z, Jun 5 to 0400Z, Jun 6 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Jun 5 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 5 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 5 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 5
UKSMG Summer Contest	1200Z, Jun 5 to 1200Z, Jun 6
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 5 to 1200Z, Jun 6
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 5 to 1459Z, Jun 6
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 5 to 1500Z, Jun 6
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 5 to 0400Z, Jun 6
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Jun 6

ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 9
<b>CWops Mini-CWT Test</b>	<b>1100Z-1200Z, Jun 9 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 9 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 10</b>
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 11
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 12
<b>Bill Windle QSO Party</b>	<b>0000Z-2359Z, Jun 12</b>
VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 12 to 0600Z, Jun 13
DRCG Long Dist, Contest, RTTY	0800Z-1559Z, Jun 12 and 0000Z-0759Z, Jun 13 and 1600Z-2359Z, Jun 13
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 12
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 12 to 1500Z, Jun 13
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 12 to 1600Z, Jun 13
<b>ARRL June VHF QSO Party</b>	<b>1800Z, Jun 12 to 0300Z, Jun 14</b>
BARTG Sprint 75	2000Z-2359Z, Jun 12
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 13
WAB 50 MHz Phone	0900Z-1500Z, Jun 13
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0900Z-1000Z, Jun 16
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 18
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 19 to 2400Z, Jun 20
<b>All Asian DX Contest, CW</b>	<b>0000Z, Jun 19 to 2400Z, Jun 20</b>
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Jun 19 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Jun 19 (432)
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 19 to 0200Z, Jun 20
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jun 19
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Jun 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 23
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 26 to 1400Z, Jun 27
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 26 to 2100Z, Jun 27
<b>ARRL Field Day</b>	<b>1800Z, Jun 26 to 2100Z, Jun 27</b>
SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Jun 27

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

*Revision Date: March 14, 2010*

*© 1998-2010 Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, All Rights Reserved*

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).

It's not on the June calendar but don't forget the CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 29 to 2359Z, May 30 this weekend. With multipliers being prefixes a lot of U.S. stations can be worked. You can "run 'em" with low power and wire antennas – good practice for Field Day. The ARRL June VHF QSO party is this month. Let's hope for some decent band openings! The Mini-CWT tests, each one-hour in duration, sponsored by the CW Ops Club can be fun. The Bill Windle QSO Party is a CW event sponsored by FOC and is open to all. W4PM goes all out in this one and is hoping for some local support! Some other interesting DX contests and state QSO parties are also on the calendar. If you have the time, jump into one or two of these.

## CVCC Wins Another Gavel

Lead by N3UA @ W4DR the CVCC won the Local Club competition in the 2009 ARRL 160 contest with 9 entries and 1,405,088 points. The second place finisher was the Kansas City DX Club with 441,335 points. Needless to say we had a pretty good margin over the 2nd place entry! Below is a tabulation of the CVCC scores taken from the ARRL website. Congratulations to the CVCC members who participated and made this happen. GO CVCC!

# Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class
1 N3UA (@ W4DR)	387,000	1,251	125	D
2 WK4Y (@ W4HZ)	263,628	1,179	108	D (+ W4PM & W4HZ)
3 KG4W	194,670	891	105	D
4 WA4PGM	173,901	933	91	B
5 W1ZA	164,566	719	107	D (+ NW4V)
6 W4PM	126,063	702	87	D
7 K4OSO	74,304	573	64	B
8 N4DWK	13,216	103	56	D
9 WU4G	7,740	104	36	B
Totals	1,405,088	6,455	779	

## CVCC 2010 PICNIC

Thanks to the efforts of Bob NK4H and his XYL Faye who did another outstanding job in pulling it all together, the 2010 picnic was a great success in spite of the weather. Also our appreciation goes to A.C. W4HJ for his efforts in getting permission and to James Frame and family for allowing us to use his excellent site again.

A very special thanks to all the ladies for providing the special dishes which made the picnic a real feast! We had potato salad, green bean salad, egg salad, tossed salad and dressings, baked beans, marinated chicken, all sorts of munchies and dip, Rosie's fruit salad, brownies, cookies and other goodies, as well as BIG hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixin's expertly cooked by Chef Bob and assistant Chef A.C. I may have missed a few but try as I might I just couldn't eat everything! It was feast fit for a king, which still makes my mouth water and my lips smack together when I think about it!

In addition to the food there was lots of great conversations going on. I heard of Bruce and Sheila's trip to Dayton and the new Alpha amplifier they brought home as well as Sejo telling me how much fun it was to operate W4DR's world class 160-meter station during the 160 contest. The points from Sejo's operation lead our successful effort in winning the 160 local club gavel again! I enjoyed hearing of Dennis and Vicki's horses and their plans for a mini-horse farm in the future. Lots of other conversations going on and fun was had by all. It was great to socialize with friends who share a common interest. That makes life sweet!

If you did not make the picnic you missed a real good time. I mentioned that the weather was not the best but that light rain did not dampen our spirits. The excellent location with that nice picnic shelter did the trick.

73,  
Puck W4PM

See pictures on page 6 courtesy of N3UA and N4DEN.



