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Newsletter of the Central Virginia Contest Club

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

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Meeting Notice

The March meeting of the CVCC will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 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.

Monthly Program

Henry, K4LMY, will make a presentation about his operation from the new band entity of SABA during October of 2010. Few of us get the chance to get on the air during the inaugural activation of a new band entity. For you who don't know Henry here is a brief "bio":

"First issued KN4LMY in 1959. Re-Licensed in 1967 as K4LMY after High school, Technical school, marriage and child. Advanced Class License plus 1st class Commercial. Two years with General Electric Mobile Radio, (Lynchburg and New York City), 15 years with City of Portsmouth communications maintenance, then 21 years with Virginia State Police, retiring in 2002. Operated as PJ8/K4LMY in 1998, PJ6/K4LMY in 2000 and 2002 from the Island of SABA. My Grandfather was born there. Again on 10/10/2010 to celebrate the new country status of the island - 5 sq. miles of rock, 1200 miles from Miami Florida." *Henry will be at the pre-meeting social and dinner prior to the meeting, so come join us.*

Random Skip by W4DR

Bob's column has been delayed until next month as he has a prior engagement with TI5N.

FrostFest 2011

Ron, W8VZM, did an outstanding job putting together our club display at the FrostFest. I hope you were able to stop by and see it. A big "ATTA-BOY" to Ron for pulling this together! For next year we need some pictures of 2011 events as well as some videos. The camera bugs among us should keep this in mind this year.

Field Day 2011

We've received the renewal notice for our liability insurance. Once that is sent in the Certificate of Insurance for Henrico County can be obtained and the forms sent to the county to firm up our FD location for 2011.

MONTHLY DX REPORT

FEBRUARY DX REPORT

Get ready for a **VU4** expedition beginning March 15-31. This will be an effort put on by the Amateur Radio Society of India from Andaman & Nicobar Island. Check out their website here:

<http://www.arsi.info/dxpeditions/vu4pb-mar-2011>

Western Kiribati **T30** will be activated by two Polish hams March 1-17. They plan some 160M operation and will be on Tarawa Island OC-017. Check them out here: <http://www.sp5drh.com/t30/>

Vietnam **3W** will be activated by JA2EZD March 1-7.

Cambodia **XU** will be active by three different operators during the month of March. JA1FMZ will be on holiday style from March 2-28. ON4AFU will be on March 5-15, and JA2EZD March 8-15.

African activity is planned from Lesotho **7P8** by two Texas hams from March 11-20. Website here:

<http://www.tdxc.net/lesotho2011.html>

Sierra Leone **9L** will be on from March 15-April 4. This another Mercy Ship's operation by several Dutch hams. Check it out here: http://www.sierraleone2011.com/sl_2011/home.php

For more complete DX listings go here: <http://www.his.com/~wfeidt/Misc/adxo.html>

Not a lot of reports were sent in this month by the membership. As the spring equinox approaches we can all, hopefully, look forward to some long haul DX contacts Here are your reports:

K2WK Walt reports some good activity including the following: SV5 new mode, 40M CW. VP8/O new entity & mode on, 160M, 30M, 20M CW. T30 new band & mode, 40M CW. S9 new band & mode, 40M CW. TJ new entity 160M CW, new mode 40M & 80M SSB. Congrats, Walt!

W4PM Puck had 23 new BE that includes the following: 160 - PJ6. 80 - TJ, S9, 4U1I, TG. 40 - S9, TJ, T30. 30 - TJ. 20 - VP8O, TJ. 17 - A3, TJ. 15 - TJ, T30. 12 - PZ, J5, J8, PJ2, CN. 10 - 5N, J5, OA. Nice job, Puck!

WD4LBR Bruce had a terrific month with 28 new Band Entities. This includes the VP8-O on 160 and ZS8M on 40M! Great job, Bruce!

K4WNW Sheila recorded 13 new band entities including the VP8-O on 160! It looks like our dynamic duo are off to a great start this year! Nice going, Sheila!

Good hunting!

Vy 73,

Ed NW4V

March Contest Calendar

QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 2
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 4
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 5 to 2400Z, Mar 6
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 9
Cwops Mini-CWT Test	1100Z-1200Z, Mar 9 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 9 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 10
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 11
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 12 to 1900Z, Mar 13
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 13 to 0100Z, Mar 14
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 16
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 19 to 1200Z, Mar 20
Oklahoma QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 19 to 0200Z, Mar 20 and 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 20
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 19 to 0100Z, Mar 21
North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 19 to 1800Z, Mar 20
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 26 to 2400Z, Mar 27

Send comments and corrections about this page to Bruce Horn, 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

The big ones this month are the ARRL DX SSB and the Virginia QSO Party. Both of these count for the CVCC Contest Champion Award for 2011. For the ARRL DX test we will have two Multi-single stations in operation – W4HZ and WD4LBR. Bruce mentioned he has very few volunteers to man his station. Please help us out by volunteering your time to play with us at one of these stations. For those who cannot do this please get on the air from home and do your best.

The Virginia QSO party will most likely not have W4MYA's big multi-multi entry this year so we need to look at the possibility of running a couple of multi-single stations if we will have any chance of repeating in the High Club score category. This will be discussed at the meeting.

Another big contest of interest this month is the CQWW WPX SSB contest. This can be a lot of fun and the chance to run'em big time is there even for the most modest stations.

The CWOps events are one-hour quickies run three times during the scheduled day. We have some CWOps members in this club and the event is open to all. Give them a go.

The QRP Fox Hunts are 1½ hour events in which the object is to find and work the 2 foxes during that time period. This can be challenging, not only to hear them but to have them hear you. How well does your antenna do when fed with 5 watts or less?

FEBRUARY CVCC CONTESTING

During the ARRL DX CW contest band conditions were outstanding especially on the lower bands (160-40). 15 meters was better than it has been in a quite while but 10 meters still has a long way to go.

We need more sun spots! CVCC members participating of whom I am aware were:

W4PM	1,244 Q's	- 409 Mults	- 1,526,388 points
KG4W	804 Q's	- 364 Mults	- 877,968 points
K4OSO	244 Q's	- 128 Mults	- 93,696 points
NW4V	174 Q's	- 131 Mults	- 68,382 points

In addition K2WK and N3UA participated with the guys at NR4M which posted an outstanding Multi-Multi score of over 12,000,000 points! I'll bet it was a hoot operating from there!

NR4M 6,742 Q's – 605 Mults – 12,158,685 points!

Here are some reflections by Walt K2WK after his time at NR4M:

“Ken's observations of the 5-pack pileups that have to be handled expeditiously and giving the weak, part timers, priority and the effective use of TU. In another life, I strived for such efficiency, for me that is history. I fondly remember the days when stacking and working 2 or 3 in succession was the norm and was a part of my bag of tricks. But, alas advanced CRS has taken its toll.

As a “newbie” who has added little to building the underlying infrastructure of Steve's remarkable station, I'm terribly grateful for all the dedication and unwavering efforts on the part of the team to build one of the best M/M stations in the world! I am truly humbled by what you guys have created and am so lucky to be associated with such a great team of world class operators.

My personal areas of needed improvement are asking for fewer fills - better ears and more practice. In the past, several 30-minute sessions using “Rufz” in the week prior to the main event has helped a lot; and, of course, more BIC. Congrats on another fabulous score.”

I can certainly relate to his “CRS” comment. I'm at the point that if I don't write down the call immediately I forget it! Here, I found 40 meters to be just outstanding. I had runs going which sounded almost like rare DXpedition pileups – one continuous tone with just one or two letters obvious on each call. Even so I managed to work over 2 stations per minute in one hour and a half stint. I guess I'm getting old because after that hour and a half I had to quit for a while to rest my brain and my ears. There is a line from a Toby Keith song, which sort of applies here, “I'm not as good as I once was but I'm as good once as I ever was”. In my case that once is about an hour and a half of running a pile-up!

Bruce may have participated in the WPX RTTY contest but I could not find his score on 3830. I'm sure he did well as he has put together a very fine station and RTTY is his thing.

In the future please post your scores for any contests you enter to 3830 and copy me. If you don't want to do the 3830 thing just send your scores to me. We are, after all, a "Contest Club" and I'd like to report what we are doing in that respect!

73,
Puck W4PM

Editors Note:

If you haven't already seen the website, the new blog look greatly enhances the look and makes it easier and faster to add content. New or easier-to-find features include DX news, Space weather and Solar flux data, a quick link to the cluster, and of course, our DX Totals! Check it out. <http://www.c-v-c-c.us>