



# 599 VA .....-.-.-.-.- January 2012

Newsletter of the Central Virginia Contest Club

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

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## Meeting Notice

The January meeting of the CVCC will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 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.

## January Program

The January meeting will be a business meeting to discuss and plan for the following:

2012 Frost Fest participation by CVCC

2012 CVCC Contest plans

2012 - 2013 Officers (nominating committee)

2011 Contest Champion Announcement (Plaque to be awarded in February)

2012 Dues

2012 CVCC Field Day

CVCC Small Club Circle

Any other planning for the 2012 that may be required

## December Meeting

The December Meeting was our annual Holiday Dinner. A good time was had by all.



## New Member

At the December meeting Don Johnson, N4DJ, was elected to membership in the CVCC.

## Dues

Dues in the amount of \$20.00 are due January 1<sup>st</sup> to be paid not later than the March meeting. You may send a check to Milt our treasurer or bring a check to any of the meetings.



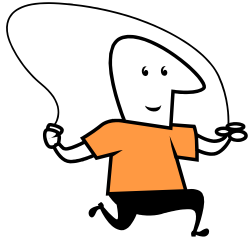
### **FROST FEST:**

The Frost Fest will be held this year on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Raceway Complex. Once again the CVCC will have a table at the event which will be set up on Friday by Jerry KJ4IT and Joe K3WRY. We will be promoting amateur radio and the contesting events that CVCC participates in during the year. It is requested that CVCC members volunteer to assist with manning the booth during the event on Saturday. Please e-mail [kj4it@arrl.net](mailto:kj4it@arrl.net) giving your name, call and time that you would like to assist so that you can be scheduled to assist. Remember that the FrostFest is a little under a month away so don't delay. Joe K3WRY also invites your used equipment for sale as he will have 2 tables this year.



### **FIELD DAY 2012**

Although This year the ARRL Field Day will be on the last full weekend in the month of June. Field Day is an important event as it puts a face on the hobby of Amateur Radio and introduces our hobby to the general public. Jerry Williams KJ4IT has again volunteered to be Chairman for Field Day and will be assisted by George Walkey KJ4IPF. Last year the club placed very well in standings for this event. There were certainly areas that we could improve in such as GOTA operations, but it is believed that we can overcome these small problems. Certainly there is a need for operators, we will also need persons to assist with erecting antennas, setting up stations, and preparing the evening meal to name a few. The FD committee will be contacting those who served in past years but would like to have more members come out and join in the fellowship of this event. We plan on having a schedule posted on the website where you can sign up. As time goes on, we will be making further announcements. As the date draws nearer. If you would like to sign up now please e-mail Jerry, KJ4IT at [kj4it@arrl.net](mailto:kj4it@arrl.net)



## **Random Skip by W4DR**

Recently the argument has been renewed whether sun spots affect the low bands, especially 160, or not. There is no question that 20 meters and up are greatly affected by the state of the sun. I believe recent log records of some of the best equipped and most active 160 DX'ers prove the point that the solar flux has a dramatic effect on the difficult polar paths on 160. My own experience seems to confirm their observations. We have just gone through one of the longest quiet sun periods in recent history and 2009 fell in the middle of this period. 2009 was a most unusual year. During the winter months I would hear Zone 17, 18 and 19 stations both morning and evening on a almost daily basis. Prior to this a good year may produce 3 or 4 such qsos and those only after I put up my 4 square array for 160. You may recall that it was finally the year when I made a Zone 23 qso on top band. Prior to or since the winter of 09 I have not even heard anyone in Zone 23. These qsos were all made via direct path over the north pole. Before and since 09 I notice that on the rare occasion that I can hear or work anyone in deep Asia on 160 it has been via long path as opposed to direct path. Of course the long path signals are much weaker than those via direct path. As the city and suburbia have moved ever closer to me those long path signals tend to be covered by man-made noise which leads me to:

The need for a new challenge. Maybe it is time to forget about 160. The ARRL has just announced a new program, the ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge. 2012 is the 75th anniversary of the beginning of the DXCC program. The new challenge is to see how many of the countries on the original list of 231 you can work during 2012. A list has been published that gives the present prefixes for the old DXCC countries. For example French Indochina credit can be obtained by working any one of XU, XV or XW. On the other hand Indonesia is once again four countries so you need to pay attention to the YB number suffixes. The beauty of this award is that it is not band, power or mode endorsed and no qsls are required. The ARRL does check the validity of the contacts you claim. The award is given for 100 countries and then endorsed in 25 increments up to 225. A Honor Roll will be published online showing who is making the most rapid progress and then in February 2013 QST with the final results. This sounds like great fun and I suspect will stimulate some DXpeditions to cities and territories which have separate status, but which aren't of special interest to the current DXCC program. For example Goa State in India is a country. On the other hand some of our super rare present entities like Navassa Island are not on the list. Perhaps we should make this a challenge within a challenge by seeing who in the CVCC can make the highest score. What do you think?

Bob W4DR



## **MONTHLY DX REPORT**

### **DECEMBER DX REPORT**

December, 2011

Good sunspot numbers are still with us. Hope everyone is having a great Holiday Season!

#### **Upcoming Dxpeditions of interest:**

Malpelo Island is scheduled for the end of Jan. 2012 – this one is all bands/modes, so should provide fills for the deserving.

#### **Online DX and propagation resources :**

<http://dx-world.net/>

<http://ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

<http://www.vhfdx.info/spots/map.php>

<http://aprs.mountainlake.k12.mn.us/>

#### **Here are the reports:**

*The Blackleys continue to rack up the DX with Macquarie Island an all time new one for both.*

#### **WD4LBR — Bruce**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Callsign</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Band</b>	<b>Mode</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	GJ6UW	12/6/2011	80m	CW	Jersey
2	VK0TH	12/16/2011	40m	SSB	Macquarie Island
3	A71CM	12/21/2011	17m	CW	Qatar
4	VK0TH	12/25/2011	17m	PSK31	Macquarie Island
5	9G5SI	12/24/2011	12m	CW	Ghana
6	E44PM	12/19/2011	12m	CW	Palestine
7	ET3AA	12/12/2011	12m	SSB	Ethiopia
8	HV5PUL	12/3/2011	12m	SSB	Vatican City
9	GJ6UW	12/6/2011	10m	CW	Jersey

10	T88IK	12/5/2011	10m	SSB	Palau
11	VR2XMT	12/5/2011	10m	SSB	Hong Kong

K4WNW - Sheila

Number	Callsign	Date	Band	Mode	Country
1	GJ6UW	12/6/2011	80m	CW	Jersey
2	VK0TH	12/16/2011	40m	SSB	Macquarie Island
3	A71CM	12/21/2011	17m	CW	Qatar
4	VK0TH	12/25/2011	17m	PSK31	Macquarie Island
5	9G5SI	12/24/2011	12m	CW	Ghana
6	FS/DM2XO	12/7/2011	12m	CW	Saint Martin
7	GD6IA	12/22/2011	12m	SSB	Isle of Man
8	HV5PUL	12/3/2011	12m	SSB	Vatican City
9	JA4DND	12/5/2011	12m	SSB	Japan
10	GJ6UW	12/6/2011	10m	CW	Jersey
11	T88IK	12/5/2011	10m	SSB	Palau
12	VR2XMT	12/5/2011	10m	SSB	Hong Kong

**W4DR** – Bob

*Bob's report:*

December produced only one new Band Entity for me, T2T on 60 meters. But this did not prevent me from enjoying DX'ing as much as ever. I was especially thrilled to make long path qsos with China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Indonesia on 10 and 12 meters and often before my amplifier warmed up. It really seems that the "good ole days" are here again

**KG4W** – Ed

*Welcome back Ed! The "W" report:*

Hi John, from Ed KG4W. First ever report. I was a Dx Hound 1977-1996>qrt till 2006. Dr Bobs (W4DR) posting has re-kindled my dx juices.

With the help of the other Bob (W4MYA) I now have a new logging program (DX4WIN) and was able to retrieve my old records from a dos based program ie (DXBASE), so now I'm on my way !! I am way behind the curve regarding countries worked on the WARC bands, so that's where my emphasis is at present. Here's some of my Dec 23 thru 29 Dx. I am playing "catch-up" so I am not in any award competition for 2011, but I will be for 2012, if there is a end to that year !!

9K2/SP4R	KUWAIT	12M
E44PM	PALESTINE	40M
CN8KD	MOROCCO	30M
A71CM	QATAR	30M
JY5HX	JORDAN	30M
5N6/YL2SW	NIGERIA	30M
OR4TN	ANTARCTICA	30M
A61Q	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	30M
VU2PTT	INDIA	17M
CT3	MADEIRA	30M,12M,17M
3D2AG/P	ROTUMA	17M
UN7LZ	KAZAKHSTAN	30M
EX8MLE	KYRGYZSTAN	30M
UK8OM	UZBEKISTAN	30M
VK2GWK	AUSTRALIA	12M
SV5BYR/5	DODECANESE	17M,12M
V2	ANTIGUA	17M, 30M,
4Z	ISRAEL	12M, 30M
404A	MONTENEGRO	12M
MU0FAL	GUERNSEY	12M
ZC4LI	SOV BASES	12M
UA2FCB	KALININGRAD	12M
LX1NJ	LUXEMBOURG	12M
GM4YLN	SCOTLAND	30M, 17M
LU6EF	ARGENTINA	12M
SV2BOH	GREECE	30M, 12M
WH6ASV	HAWAII	12M
PZ5RA	SURINAME	17M, 12M
EI	IRELAND	12M, 17M

EW7EW	BELARUS	30M
SC0XMAS	SWEDEN	17M
ER1DA	MOLDOVA	17M

**W4ZA** - Duke

Duke enjoyed the FB conditions for the ARRL 10 meter contest and managed 115 CW and 752 SSB Qs for 351K SO unassisted.

Duke has a sched on 15 meters with a G in the mornings and for the past month he has been hearing a strong echo tail on his signal. He has also worked several in the far east on 10, 12 and 15 long path.

**NW4V** – Ed

HZ 17 CW  
E44PM 12 CW

**W4TNX** – John

Worked a 4T100MP on 10m CW out of a good size pile-up and thought I had something special as he was using cut numbers and sending 4T1TTMP. Turns out it's just a fancy OA call. Oh well, as they say WFWL!

73s and tnx for the submittals,

John W4TNX



## **January Contest Calendar by W4PM**

Original QRP Contest

ARRL RTTY Roundup

EUCW 160m Contest

10-Meter Contest

North American QSO Party, CW

LZ Open Contest

Hungarian DX Contest

North American QSO Party, SSB

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW

REF Contest, CW

UBA DX Contest, SSB

1500Z, Jan 7 to 1500Z, Jan 8

1800Z, Jan 7 to 2400Z, Jan 8

2000Z-2300Z, Jan 7 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 8 DARC

0900Z-1059Z, Jan 8

1800Z, Jan 14 to 0600Z, Jan 15

0000Z-0400Z, Jan 21

1200Z, Jan 21 to 1159Z, Jan 22

1800Z, Jan 21 to 0600Z, Jan 22

1900Z, Jan 21 to 0359Z, Jan 23

2200Z, Jan 27 to 2200Z, Jan 29

0600Z, Jan 28 to 1800Z, Jan 29

1300Z, Jan 28 to 1300Z, Jan 29

There's something for everyone this month from QRP to RTTY, from low band to VHF and from domestic to DX. Give some of them a go.



## December Contests - CVCC Claimed Scores

### ARRL 160 Meter:

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>QSO's</u>	<u>S/C</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Ops</u>
N3UA@ W4DR	MSHP	1,289	78/41	363,188	N3UA
W4HZ	MSHP	1,005	75/21	200,736	W4HZ, W4PM
KG4W	SOHP	469	62/9	68,728	
WA4PGM	SOLP	407	51/6	47,424	
WD4LBR	MSHP	373	56	42,784	
WU4G	SOLP	204	46/5	21,573	
K4OSO	SO QRP	175	40	14,000	
N4DWK	SO?	62	38	5,168	
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Total Club Score				<b>763,601</b>	

N4DJ	MSHP	264	45/10	30,525
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### ARRL 10 Meter:

<u>Station</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>CW/PH</u>	<u>CW/PH</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Ops</u>
W4HZ	MSHP	678/715	94/125	907,098	(See below)
KI4UDF@W4MYA	MSHP	790/168	166/72	832,048	KI4UDF, W4MYA
N4DJ@W4DR	MSHP	591/425	120/126	790,644	W4DR, N4DJ
N3UA	MSHP	696/209	136/104	768,480	
KG4W	MSHP	815/130	194	692,880	
W1ZA	SOHP	115/752	48/131	351,556	
WD4LBR	MSHP	160/267	54/90	169,056	
WS4WW	SOHP	0/358	0/105	75,180	
NW4V	?	112/0	58/0	25,984	
K4OSO	SOLP	115/0	44/0	20,240	
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				<b>4,633,166</b>	

W4HZ ops -W4HZ, W4PM. WK4Y, KJ4IT, KG4QIV, KJ4IPF, N4DEN

We had good participation for the 10 meter contest. 160 being CW only did not generate as much interest but we still had some nice scores. Hopefully we will be at the top or near the top of the Small Club competition. Thanks to all CVCC members who participated.

AND

