



THE BEAVER VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
 WWW.W3SGJ.ORG
 BEAVER COUNTYS ONLY 75 YEAR ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB!

The eQRM Newsletter

Home of W3SGJ/R
 145.310- 100 Hz PL

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COMMENTARY: TECHNOLOGY LITERACY

(Editor's Note: The following article is a Commentary and does not reflect the opinions of the ARRL or the BVARA.)

What do you think of the picture? Is ham radio dead? Nope, I don't think so.

I swiped this picture off of QRZ.COM. Both QRZ and eHAM forums are filled with commentaries about the ARRL and the future of amateur radio. Needless to say, it's time for me to add my two cents.

I agree with the FCC's assessment that code is no longer a necessary component to the testing process. I do think, however, that both the FCC and ARRL are missing the boat by not revising test Elements 2, 3 and 4 to include what I term, "Technology Literacy."

Back in the late 1970's, I recall attending a Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society meeting at Duquesne University to learn about a new thing called Packet Radio. It involved the use of com-

puters and data! Wow, that was some really advanced stuff back then.



The reason I bring this up is because in my opinion, amateur's are more than just people that talk on the radio— they are technological innovators. Additionally, if you look at the articles of incorporation for almost any radio club, you will find the word "Scientific" as a descriptive adjective for the organizations purpose.

So, how do we maintain our status as technological innovators? Simple, redesign Elements 2, 3 and 4 to include the following:

Technology Standards for All Amateur Radio Operators

1. Basic operations and

concepts:

- Amateur's demonstrate a sound understanding of the nature and operation of technology systems.

- Amateur's are proficient in the use of technology.

2. Social, ethical, and human issues:

- Amateur's understand the ethical, cultural, and societal issues related to technology.

- Amateur's practice responsible use of technology systems, information, and software.

- Amateur's develop positive attitudes toward technology uses that support lifelong learning, collaboration, personal pursuits, and productivity.

3. Technology productivity tools:

- Amateur's use technology tools to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity.

- Amateur's use productivity tools to collaborate in constructing technology-

(Continued on Page 3)

Inside this issue:

BVARA News	2
Commentary	3
Ham's Horoscope	4
Membership Info	5
Propagation	7
DX News	8
Ham Radio Puzzler	9

Newsletter & Information Exchange

- Have your club's latest news and happenings printed here for FREE!
- Is your club having a VE session or classes? Let me know and I'll help spread the word!
- Planning a Hamfest? Drop me a line and get some FREE PR in the eQRM!
- Having an ARRL night, special speaker or program? The eQRM can help by spreading the news within our region!

DECEMBER 2007

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association meets at the Beaver County Emergency Operations Center located at 250 East End Avenue, Beaver, PA on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.

Don't forget to listen to the BVARA club nets every Wednesday Night! 2 Meter Net on 145.31MHz 100Hz PL at 8:30PM and the 10 Meter Net 28.370 QSY +/- 10 at 9:00PM. Also, don't forget the Rip Vanwinkle Net on 2 meters at 7:00AM daily.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						DINNER 1
2	3	4	NETS 5	LUNCH 6	7	DINNER 8
9	10	11	NETS 12	LUNCH 13	PARTY 14	DINNER 15
16	17	18	NETS 19	LUNCH 20	21	DINNER 22
23	24	25	NETS 26	LUNCH 27	28	DINNER 29
30	31					

The BVARA 10 Meter Net Lunch group will be meeting this Thursday at Eat & Park in Center Twp at 11:00 AM. The Saturday Dinner group will be meeting at BACKDOOR in Fallston on Saturday, December 1 at 6:30 PM. All area amateurs are invited. **DON'T FORGET THE BVARA CHRISTMAS PARTY TO BE HELD AT FIRE MOUNTAIN ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 14 AT 7:00 pm. THERE WILL BE A \$5.00 GRAB BAG! ANY CLUB MEMBER THAT WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAB BAG EXCHANGE IS ASKED TO BRING A WRAPPED GIFT WITH A VALUE OF \$5.00.**

DECEMBER VE TEST SESSION: The BVARA sponsors ARRL VE examinations at the Community College of Beaver County's Aviation Science building, 125 Cessna Drive, (Chippewa Twp.) Beaver Falls, PA. For more info on the test session, dates and times, contact Tony, KE3ED @ 724-774-4173 or by e-mail at KE3ED@arrl.net.

2008 BVARA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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CLUB NOTES

- The next BVARA e-Board meeting date has yet to be announced. KA3TYK's e-mail has been down and I have been unable to touch-base with him.
- There are still some openings for ARRL SSC positions within the club. To learn more about these positions, click on the links below:
 - [Official Emergency Station](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oes.html)
 - [Official Relay Station](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/ors.html)
 - [Technical Specialist](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/ts.html)
 - [Public Information Officer](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/pio.html)
 - [Local Government Liaison](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/lgl.html)
 - [Official Observer](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html)



COMMENTARY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

enhanced models, prepare publications, and produce other creative works.

4. Technology communications tools:

- Amateur's use telecommunications to collaborate, publish, and interact with peers, experts, and other audiences.

- Amateur's use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.

5. Technology research tools:

- Amateur's use technology to locate, evaluate, and collect information from a variety of sources.

- Amateur's use technology tools to process data and report results.

- Amateur's evaluate and select new information resources and technological innovations based on the appropriateness for specific tasks.

6. Technology problem-solving and decision-making tools:

- Amateur's use technology resources for solving problems and making informed decisions.

- Amateur's employ technology in the development of strategies for solving problems in the real world.

Element 2 (Technician Class)

The following concepts and areas of knowledge should be included in the Element 2 Exam:

- Use input devices (e.g., mouse, keyboard, remote control) and output devices (e.g., monitor, printer) to successfully operate computers, dvd's, audiotapes, and other technologies efficiently and effectively.

- Use a variety of media and technology resources for directed and independent learning activities.

- Communicate about technology using developmentally appropriate and accurate terminology.

- Use developmentally appropriate multimedia resources (e.g., interactive books, educational software, multimedia encyclopedias) to support learning.

- Work cooperatively and collaboratively with peers, family members, and others when using technology as part of our hobby.

- Demonstrate positive social and ethical behaviors when using technology.

- Practice responsible use of technology systems and software.

- Understand developmentally appropriate multimedia products with support from the FCC, ARRL and amateur radio community in general..

- Use technology resources (e.g., writing tools, digital cameras, drawing tools) for problem solving, communication, and illustration of thoughts and ideas.

- Gather information and communicate with others using telecommunications, with support from other amateur's and the general public.

- Understand common uses of technology in daily life and the advantages and disadvantages those uses provide.

- Discuss basic issues related to responsible use of technology and information and describe personal consequences of inappropriate use.

- Use general purpose productivity tools and peripherals to support personal productivity, remediate skill deficits, and facilitate learning throughout the hobby.

- Use technology tools (e.g., multimedia authoring, presentation, web tools, digital cameras, scanners) for individual and collaborative writing, communication, and publishing activities to create knowledge products for the welfare of the amateur community and general public.

- Use telecommunications effi-

ciently and effectively to access remote information, communicate with others in support of direct and independent learning, and pursue personal interests.

- Use telecommunications and online resources (e.g., e-mail, online discussions, web environments) to participate in collaborative problem-solving activities for the purpose of developing solutions or products for the amateur community and public.

- Use technology resources (e.g., calculators, data collection probes, videos, educational software) for problem solving, self-directed learning, and extended learning activities.

- Determine when technology is useful and select the appropriate tool(s) and technology resources to address a variety of tasks and problems.

- Evaluate the accuracy, relevance, appropriateness, comprehensiveness, and bias of electronic information sources.

Element 3 (General Class)

The following concepts and areas of knowledge should be included in the Element 3 Exam:

- Apply strategies for identifying and solving routine hardware and software problems that occur during everyday use.

- Demonstrate knowledge of current changes in information technologies and the effect those changes have on the workplace and society.

- Exhibit legal and ethical behaviors when using information and technology, and discuss consequences of misuse.

- Use content-specific tools, software, and simulations (e.g., environmental probes, graphing calculators, exploratory environments, Web tools) to support learning and research.

(Continued on Page 4)

THE HAM'S HOROSCOPE

BY MADAM ZELDA, ST1ARS

That's Gold	I'm Happy	Can't Complain	Not Happy	Turn down the heat

Sign	Romance	Home & Family	Finances	Career	General
Aries					
Taurus					
Gemini					
Cancer					
Leo					
Virgo					
Libra					
Scorpio					
Sagittarius					
Capricorn					
Aquarius					
Pisces					

This week's moon phase brings a dynamic energy to play for the mutable signs, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces. This week can be difficult to negotiate for some. There can be delays and set backs and this can lead to emotional outbursts and frustration. It may not be easy to express yourself and you should take a few moments to gather your thoughts before speaking. Virgo, Sagittarius, Gemini and Pisces born early month can find some tension building in relationships. **LUCKY NUMBERS FOR ALL HAM'S THIS WEEK: 14, 3, 6, 8, 19 AND 22.**

COMMENTARY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

- Apply productivity/multimedia tools and peripherals to support personal productivity, group collaboration, and learning throughout the hobby.
- Design, develop, publish, and present products (e.g., web pages, videotapes) using technology resources that demonstrate and communicate technological concepts to audiences inside and outside the hobby.
- Collaborate with peers, experts, and others using telecommunications and collaborative tools to investigate hobby related problems, issues, and information, and to develop solutions or products for audiences inside and outside the hobby.
- Select and use appropriate tools and technology resources to accomplish a variety of tasks and solve problems.
- Demonstrate an understanding of concepts underlying hardware, software, and connectivity, and of practical applications to learning and problem solving.
- Research and evaluate the accuracy, relevance, appropriateness, comprehensiveness, and bias of electronic information sources concerning real-world problems.

(Continued on Page 5)

COMMENTARY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Element 4 (Extra Class)

The following concepts and areas of knowledge should be included in the Element 4 Exam:

- Identify capabilities and limitations of contemporary and emerging technology resources and assess the potential of these systems and services to address personal, lifelong learning, and workplace needs.
- Make informed choices among technology systems, resources, and services.
- Analyze advantages and disadvantages of widespread use and reliance on technology in the workplace and in society as a whole.
- Demonstrate and advocate for legal and ethical behaviors among peers, family, and community regarding the use of technology and information.
- Use technology tools and resources for managing and communicating personal/professional information (e.g., finances, schedules, addresses, purchases, correspondence).
- Evaluate technology-based options, including distance and distributed education, for lifelong learning.
- Routinely and efficiently use online information resources to meet needs for collaboration, research, publication, communication, and productivity.
- Select and apply technology tools for research, information analysis, problem solving, and decision making in content learning.
- Investigate and apply expert systems, intelligent agents, and simulations in real-world situations.
- Collaborate with peers, experts, and others to contribute to a content-related knowledge base by using technology to compile, synthesize, produce, and disseminate information, models, and other creative works.

Well, if you have read this far, I'm impressed.

With technological innovations such as cell phones and the Internet, amateur radio needs to keep pace with the real world. By establishing and incorporating Technology Standards into Elements 2, 3 and 4, this will assist us in keeping pace with our ever changing technological world.

Many ham's out there say that the Internet has killed our hobby. Others complain that today's radio's are nothing more than transceiver computers. Other's still complain that eliminating the code requirement was the final "death nail" to our hobby.

To those people, I must sound a big "NO!"

The standards that I just presented are a modified version of what is being taught in our K12 schools. If our hobby is not keeping pace with what our kids are being taught, what hope do we have for the future?

If you are interested in learning more about what is being taught to our kid in terms of technology, I suggest that you visit:

<http://www.iste.org/> There you will find the Technology Standards I utilized in this commentary.

In conclusion, unless our hobby keeps pace with what is being taught in our schools, it is destined to die!

BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE BVARA, YOU CAN HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN BEAVER COUNTY. ADDITIONALLY, THE BVARA RECEIVES A PORTION OF EACH ARRL OR WORLD RADIO SUBSCRIPTION YOU PURCHASE!

Join the BVARA, ARRL and World Radio

Sign up for:	Price	Quantity
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA FULL MEMBERSHIP	20.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	15.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA SPOUSE/CHILD MEMBERSHIP	5.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR ARRL MEMBERSHIP	39.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> WORLD RADIO SUBSCRIPTION	21.00	

Subtotal: _____
 Donation: _____
 Total: _____

ARRL MEMBER? YES No

Your License Class (if any):

- Novice
- Technician
- General
- Advanced
- Extra

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Your Call Sign: _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

**Make Check or Money order payable to:
 The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association
 P.O. Box 424
 South Heights, PA. 15081**

Demographics of Amateur Radio Operators

(Editors Note: The following information is taken from:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_radio_operator)

Few governments maintain detailed demographic statistics of their amateur radio operator populations, aside from recording the total number of licensed operators. The majority of amateur radio operators worldwide reside in Japan, the United States, Thailand, South Korea, and the nations of Europe. Only the governments of Yemen and North Korea currently prohibit their citizens from becoming amateur radio operators. In some countries, acquiring an amateur radio license is difficult because of the bureaucratic processes or fees that place access to a license out of reach for most citizens. Most nations permit foreign nationals to earn an amateur radio license, but very few amateur radio operators are licensed in multiple countries.

Gender

In the vast majority of countries, the population of amateur radio operators is overwhelmingly male. In the United States, approximately 15% of amateur radio operators are women. In China, only 12% of amateur radio operators are women. Some amateur radio activities have a more balanced male/female ratio, such as Amateur Radio Direction Finding: 33% of the competitors at the 2004 World ARDF Championship were women. The Young Ladies Radio League is an international organization of female amateur radio operators.

A male amateur radio operator can be referred to as an OM, an abbreviation used in Morse code telegraphy for "old man", regardless of the operator's age. A female amateur radio operator can be referred to as a YL, from the abbreviation used for "young lady," regardless of the operator's age. XYL was once used by amateur radio operators to refer to an unlicensed woman, usually the wife of a male amateur

radio operator; today, the term has come to mean any female spouse of an amateur radio operator, licensed or not. Although these codes are derived from English language abbreviations, their use is common among amateur radio operators worldwide.

Age

In most countries there is no minimum age requirement to earn an amateur radio license and become an amateur radio operator. Although the number of amateur radio operators in many countries increases from year to year, the average age of amateur radio operators is quite high. In some countries, the average age is over 60 years old, with most amateur radio operators earning their license in their 40s or 50s.

Some national radio societies have responded to this by developing programs specifically to encourage youth participation in amateur radio, such as the American Radio Relay League's Amateur Radio Education and Technology Program. The World Wide Young Contesters organization promotes youth involvement, particularly amongst Europeans, in competitive radio contesting.

Country	Number of Amateur Radio Operators	Year of Report
Japan	1,296,059	1999
USA	722,330	2007
Thailand	141,241	1999
South Korea	141,000	2000
Germany	79,666	2000
Taiwan	68,692	1999
Canada	63,547	2007
Spain	58,700	1999
UK	58,426	2000
Russia	38,000	1993
Brazil	32,053	1997
Italy	30,000	1993
Indonesia	27,815	1997
France	18,500	1997
Ukraine	17,265	2000
Argentina	16,889	1999
India	10,679	2000
South Africa	6,000	1994
Norway	5,302	2000
Malaysia	2,730	2006
China	800	2000

DX NEWS VIA THE ARRL

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, PA4JJ, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

ROTUMA ISLAND, 3D2. Tony, 3D2AG expects to be QRV from December 3 to January 20. QSL to home call.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Remco, PG0A is QRV as 5R8NL until December 7. He is active on the HF bands holiday style. QSL via PA7FM.

ANDORRA, C3. Salvador is QRV as C31CT and has been active on 40 meters around 2330z. QSL via EA3QS.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Jan, PA4JJ will be QRV as C56JJ from December 1 to 10. Activity may be on 160 to 6 meters. QSL to home call.

BAHAMAS, C6. Bob, N4BP will be QRV as C6AKQ from Freeport during the ARRL 160 Meter contest.

(Continued on Page 8)

Propagation de K7RA

Sunspots appeared over several days in the past week. November 24-27 had daily sunspot numbers of 15, 12 and 11. Otherwise, the Sun has been blank. In the previous reporting period, November 15-21, there were only two days with sunspots, and the daily sunspot numbers on both days were 13. The result is the average daily sunspot number from the previous reporting period to the current (November 22-28) reporting period rose from 3.7 to 5.4.

There were no days with geomagnetic storms, and geomagnetic conditions should be quiet over the near term. The next recurring solar wind stream is expected December 17. Expect more weeks of no sunspots, with occasional appearances for a few days at a time. The U.S. Air Force predicts a planetary A index of 5 for the next ten days. For the week, Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet geomagnetic conditions for today, November 30, quiet to unsettled December 1, and back to quiet conditions for December 2-6.

This weekend is the ARRL 160 Meter Contest, which begins today at 2200z. This is a CW only contest, and you can study the rules at,

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/160-meters.html>.

Check out a resource for 160 meter propagation in the Northern Hemisphere at, <http://solar.spacew.com/www/160pred.html>. This is from the same folks who publish the Proplab-Pro HF Radio Propagation Laboratory software. They say version 3.0 is radically updated, and will be released this week, on Monday, December 3. Unlike W6ELprop and some other propagation software, this one is not free, and in fact is likely the most expensive propagation software that hams will run across. But it looks like a powerful program.

Another one that is quite powerful is

ACE-HF, with info at, <http://acehf.com/>. ACE stands for "Animated Communications

Effectiveness," and it was originally developed for the military by a non-ham, who was able to obtain licensing for it upon retirement. Tomas Hood, NW7US, who writes the monthly propagation column for CQ Magazine has a page devoted to it on his personal web site at, <http://hfradio.org/ace-hf>.

There were more reports of interesting 10 meter propagation. In the CQ World Wide DX Contest on November 25, Doug Charette, W5GA of Wagoner, Oklahoma reported that he worked V51AS in Namibia around 1700z. Doug uses a very modest commercial multiband vertical antenna, and heard the African station at S-5. He was surprised that he didn't hear many South American stations on 10 meters in the contest.

Also in the contest, Phil Finkle, K6EID of Marietta, Georgia worked 6W1RW (Senegal) on 10 meters at 1409z on Saturday. On the same band on Sunday around 1630z he worked V51AS, D4C (Cape Verde) and 3X5A (Guinea). Walt Knodle, W7TTE of Bend, Oregon heard V51AS very clearly on Sunday morning on 10 meters (he didn't say what time), but the opening only lasted about three minutes. Around the same time he heard LW5EE in Argentina, which also disappeared shortly.

Fabrizio Valdirosa, an Italian short-wave listener in Rome, reports he also observed the 12 meter opening on November 21 reported in our extra post-Thanksgiving Propagation Forecast Bulletin ARLP049. Fabrizio reported that this was the first time he's heard Mozambique on 12 meters, and could hear C91R working North American stations. He wrote, "This opening happened just at the onset of some

geomagnetic activity, as I have seen other times. When the Kp index starts to go up, we have good openings on the higher bands, usually from Europe to Africa and South America."

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at,

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

For a detailed explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin see, <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/k9la-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at, <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>. Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at, <http://www.arrl.org/qst/propcharts/>.

Sunspot numbers for November 22 through 28 were 0, 0, 15, 12, 11, 0 and 0 with a mean of 5.4. 10.7 cm flux was 69.7, 70, 71.3, 70.7, 71.5, 71.4, and 71.2 with a mean of 70.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 13, 10, 12, 11, 8, 4 and 3 with a mean of 8.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 8, 8, 8, 6, 5 and 3, with a mean of 6.3.



DX NEWS VIA THE ARRL

(Continued from Page 6)

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. George, E51MMM and Ron, E51NNN have been QRV on 160 meters using CW around 0500z. They will be active in the ARRL 160 Meter contest during the first night of the contest. QSL both calls via K5KG.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Jean, ON5JV and Georgette, ON6AK will be QRV as EA8/homecalls from Tenerife, IOTA AF-004, from December 1 to January 31. Activity will be mainly on 40 and 20 meters during their evenings. QSL to home calls.

MAYOTTE, FH. Alan, F4RPW is QRV as FH1LE and has been active on

PJ2T in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL PJ2/K8ND to home call and PJ2T via N9AG.

FINLAND, OH. Operators OH3BHL, OH9KL, OH9MDV, OH9MM, and OH9RJ are

QRV using special event station OH9SCL until the end of December. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via OH9UV.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2. Alan, WQ5W is QRV as V25W from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, until December 2. QSL direct to home call.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Chris is QRV as VP8CXV and has been active on 30 meters using RTTY between



20 meters using RTTY around 1640z. QSL via F6BFH.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL. Lee, DS4NMJ is QRV from Chung Island, IOTA AS-060, until December 1. QSL direct.

THAILAND, HS. Look for HS80A to be QRV on December 1 to celebrate the 80th birthday of Thailand's King, King Bhumibol Adulyadej, HS1A. QSL via operator's instructions.

OGASAWARA, JD1. Masa is QRV as JD1AHC and has been active on the low bands at various times. QSL via JA1BVA.

ARGENTINA, LU. Members of the Radio Club Ushuaia are QRV as AY7X from Isla Grande, Tierra del Fuego until December 2. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via WD9EWK.

ARUBA, P4. K6TA is QRV as P40TA until December 18. This includes an entry in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL via WM6A.

BONAIRE, CURACAO, PJ2. Jeff, K8ND is QRV as PJ2/K8ND until December 4. He will also be active as

2230 and 2330z. QSL via GM0TQJ.

INDIA, VU. Special event stations AU1JCB, AU2JCB, AU4JCB, AU7JCB, AU8JCB, AU9JCB and AT0JCB are QRV until December 2 to commemorate the 149th birthday of the Indian Physicist Jagadish Chandra Bose. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL all calls direct via VU2SMN.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Michael, F11QH will be QRV as XT2WC from Bobo Dioulasso from December 5 through early January 2008. QSL to home call.

INDONESIA, YB. Juergen, DJ3KR is QRV as YB1AQB until December 15. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL 160-Meter Contest, NCCC CW Sprint, TARA RTTY Melee, Bruce Kelley Memorial 1929 CW QSO Party, Wake-Up! QRP CW Sprint and the TOPS Activity CW Contest are all scheduled for this weekend. The ARS Spartan CW Sprint is scheduled for December 4. Please see December QST, page 78, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.

The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

While you're keeping an eye on the football game or trying to crack that big contest pileup, here are some condensed conundra to consume cranial craftiness. The theme is non-amateur radio services and such. It's best to just assume that the answers are abbreviations or acronyms or prosigns. If you're skilled with GNATs (Garish Name Assignment Techniques), you'll do just fine.

BONUS - embedded in the puzzle are four answers that solve the following riddle:

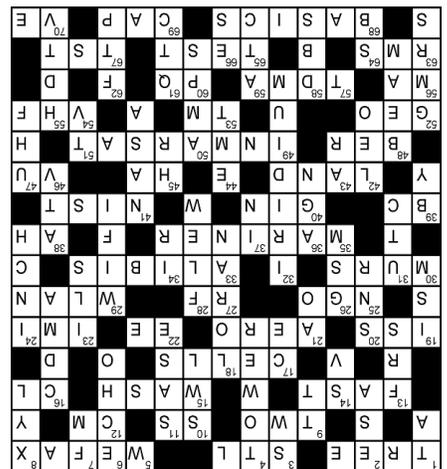
What international catastrophe occurred when the cook dropped Thanksgiving dinner?

The answers are in the form of call sign prefixes that tell you how to fill in the solution:

The downfall of _____, the ruination of _____, the destruction of _____, and the domination of _____.

The solution follows the set of Down clues. See next page:

Bonus Riddle solution - What international catastrophe occurred when the cook dropped Thanksgiving dinner? The downfall of Turkey (TA), the ruination of Greece (SV), the destruction of China (BY), and the domination of Hungary (HA).



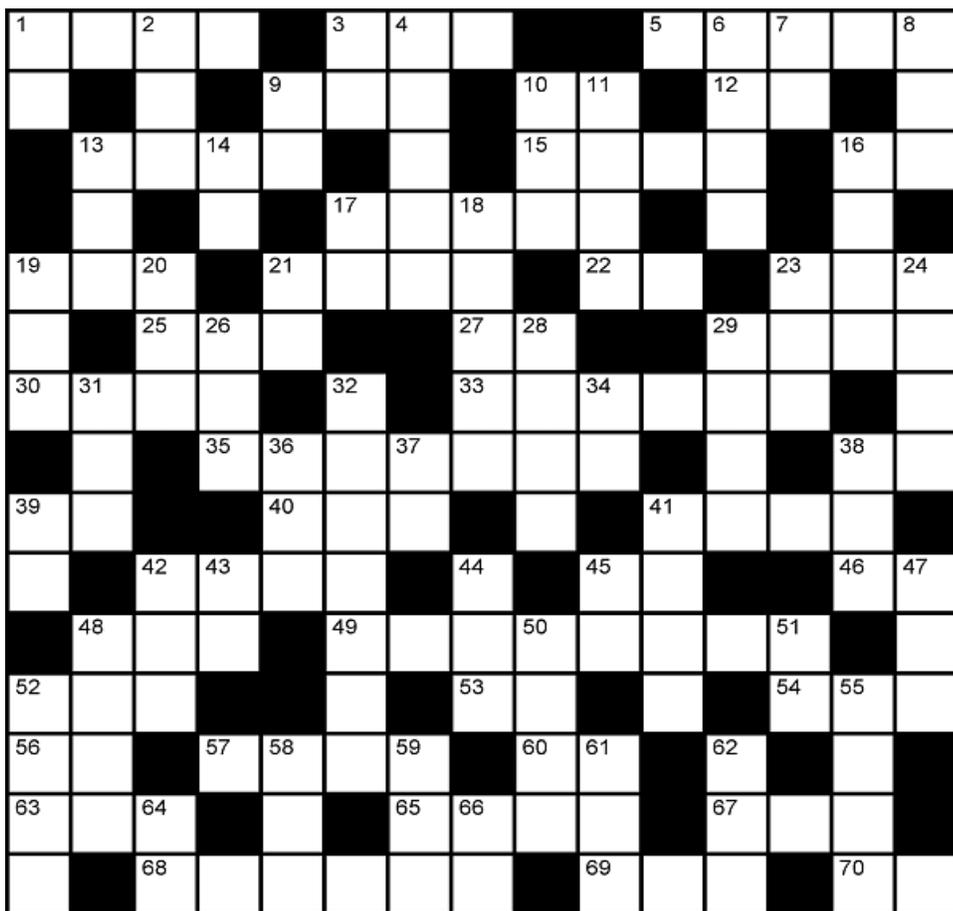
At Your Services

Across

1. Organic Free antenna support
3. Link between transmitter and studio
5. Pictures of weather
9. Most popular VHF band
10. Won't rust
12. Current on all conductors
13. High bandwidth data
15. Clean
16. Closing the station
17. Mobile phone regions
19. Orbiting lab
21. Prefix meaning "of the air"
22. Electronic designer
23. Question mark prosign
25. Official but not governmental organization
27. Higher than AF
29. Network with wires
30. Unlicensed VHF service
33. Excuses
35. Who uses Channel 16 as a calling frequency
38. Battery energy rating
39. Broadcast
40. Pole used for tower work
41. National timekeepers
42. Largest mobile service
45. See the introduction
46. Units of audio level
48. Error measurement over comm links
49. Satellite service for ships
52. Type of synchronous satellite
53. Registered brand or logo
54. Between HF and UHF
56. A pico giga-amp
57. Access divided in time
60. RAC section abbreviation for Quebec
63. AC voltage equivalent to dc
65. Measure an ability or quality
67. Abbreviation for 65 Across
68. Fundamentals
69. Limit
70. Administrator of amateur exams

Down

1. See the introduction
2. European launcher of satellites
3. International broadcaster
4. Holds up the antennas
6. Signal bounced back



7. Commercial high-fidelity broadcast mode
8. Spouse of an OM
9. Tones on a phone
10. One who listens to 3 Down
11. Send one for your return QSL
13. Unlicensed UHF service
14. See the introduction
16. Access shared by using different codes
17. Mark certifying products for Europe
18. Low frequency radionavigation service
19. Unlicensed bands
20. Measures strength of signal compared to noise
21. Amateur satellite designator
23. Guides planes to the ground
24. Imperial unit of length
26. International mobile phone standard
28. Did fly
29. Popular wireless networking standard
31. GMT
32. Satellite comm service named for element
34. Beyond red
36. CW for "and"

37. Not out
38. Amateur fast-scan
39. See the introduction
41. American space agency
42. Lowest satellites
43. End of message
44. Electrical conduit
45. 3600 seconds
47. Above VHF
48. Directional antenna
50. Analog cell system
51. Broadcast video
52. Licensed parent of 13 Down
55. What's coming to 51 Down
58. Use a dish to receive
59. Keeps the planes organized
61. Traffic
62. File exchange protocol
64. California ARRL section
66. CW for "and"



Hams Love to Eat! So Why Not Profit From It?

What would you think if I told you that, "The BVARA can utilize a simple, powerful, risk-free way to generate a steady stream of year-round income that could easily exceed all of our present fundraising activities!"

Sound easy? Well it's better than easy—nonprofit organizations such as the BVARA can sign up to receive a FREE Web site where supporters can visit, read about our goals, and support those goals by placing an order for Watkins quality products. (Visit <http://www.watkinsonline.com> for product details.) And, because all set-up and start-up fees are waived for the club, there is absolutely no-risk—only benefits as the BVARA can earn from 17.5 % - 31.5% from all resulting sales!



The Watkins online Nonprofit Fundraising Opportunity is truly a win-win situation for everyone involved. Watkins quality products will enhance our supporters' lives, and the income generated by those supporters will in turn enhance the efforts of the BVARA. As eQRM readers are introduced or re-introduced to Watkins quality products, increased supporter/customer orders will translate into increased income for the BVARA.



Look at the benefits a BVARA/Watkins Fundraising Program can offer the club:

- A steady revenue stream to the BVARA without the hassles and time commitments of traditional fundraisers. (nonprofit organizations such as the BVARA receive between 17.5 % and 31.5% of sales.)
- A free, user-friendly e-commerce Web site where the BVARA can place information about their projects, goals, and fundraising efforts.
- Access to a diverse product line of more than 350 unique high-quality/high-value consumable essentials and gift assortments consisting of many consumables that people are probably already purchasing from somewhere else.
- Easy ordering for supporters of the BVARA. They can order by Web, by mail, or by phone.
- An easy start-up without having to purchase anything!

If the membership approves, the BVARA can begin a Watkins fundraising campaign within 15 minutes! As a longtime Watkins Associate myself, I can sign-up the club in a snap! All I will need is the club's permission and our 501-C3/RR charitable number.

This Will Cause a Stir!

from Brenda Koth, MS, RD
Watkins Health and Nutrition Advisor

Looking for a way to warm someone's heart and soul this holiday season? A cup of hot cocoa will not only warm the soul, it's frothing with health benefits for the heart! Researchers at Cornell University found that cocoa contains an abundance of antioxidants that seek and destroy cancer-causing agents and help to eliminate compounds in the body that contribute to heart disease and other ailments. Watkins has a variety of cocoas to choose from, including limited edition Peppermint Stick, Cinnamon and White Chocolate Almond Cocoas—available only through the holidays—as well as French Vanilla Cocoa that taste as good as homemade but require only the addition of hot water.



For Sale

MFJ -949C Deluxe Versa Tuner II



It is designed to match virtually any transmitter to almost any antenna, including dipoles, inverted vees, verticals, mobiles antennas, beams, random wires, and others fed by coax lines, balanced lines, or a single wire. It has a 4:1 balun built in for connection to balanced lines. A built in dummy load for easy transmitter tuning or checking. It will handle up to 300 watts of RF power from a transmitter from 160 through 10 meters. It has a cross needle meter so forward power, reflected power, and SWR may be read simultaneously.

Jack, WB1BSU will donate the proceeds from the sale of his old antenna tuner to the BVARA. It works fine. He just replaced it with an LDG auto tuner. For more information on the tuner, contact Jack on the .31 repeater or by e-mail at:

ajs322@comcast.net