



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

Volume 1, Issue 14
 December 17, 2007



COMMENTARY: GOOD EATS & CHEER

Editor's Note: The following article is a commentary and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the ARRL or the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

The annual BVARA Christmas Party was held this Friday, December 14 at Fire Mountain in Chipewewa Township. Before I begin my commentary, I would like to pay special recognition to the following:

PHYLLIS S PANDER, N3KUG, for the excellent job she did in putting the party together; and WESLEY J MORAR, N3ALS who, although was unable to attend, was awarded the BVARA 2007 Ham of the Year Award! (Wes will be presented the award at the January club meeting).

Phyllis did a fantastic job of decorating the tables and was especially considerate by making sure sugar free candy was available for those of us

that require such special attention.

With over 35 people in attendance, good cheer



and conversation dominated the evening.

George, N3HOJ, Dave, KA3SMF as well as "No Call Yet" Norm were amazed how I managed to secure over one pound of steak on my plate! In fact, George commented that, "you sure can't get food like this at Ponderosa!"

The highlight of the evening was the grab bag gift exchange. Many interesting gifts were exchanged with "No Call Yet" Norm winding up with a bottle of Amish County Table Red Wine from my private reserve collection.

Gary, KA3TYK and his son (especially his son) were thrilled with their grab bag gift of an assortment of chocolate confections.

Dave, KA3SMF was the grab bag winner of a Radio Shack clock, while George, N3HOJ was the recipient of fine tea and jams which I am sure, by the time of this writing,



have found the way into his belly.

Due to space limitations, I can't cover all the gifts that were exchanged; however, I assure our readers that this annual BVARA event was nothing short of, ..."an evening to be remembered."

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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. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SATURDAY MORNING LUNCH WILL RETURN TO KING'S FAMILY RESTURANT ONCE THEY COMPLETE RENOVATIONS. The Saturday Dinner group will be meeting at Applebee's in Monaca on Saturday, December 22 at 6:30 PM. All area amateurs are invited and encouraged to attend these outings. I noted in a recent Nittany ARA Newsletter that they encourage calls on their local repeater for anyone that needs a ride to their outings. This may be a practice we can adopt

FEBRUARY 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@arrrl.net.

2008 BVARA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- President:** Gary Hutchinson, KA3TYK
- First Vice President:** Robert DeMarco, WA3ZRM
- Second Vice President:** Debbie Mehutes, KB3EAQ
- Acting Secretary:** Phyliss Pander, N3KUG
- Secretary Elect:** Norm Trunick (Call Sign Pending)
- Treasurer:** Shawn Hastwell, KB8UDE
- Director:** Chris Moratis, W3OUF
- Director:** Jack Spencer, WB1BSU
- Trustee:** Tony Petrucci, KE3ED/W3SGJ
- Chief Engineer:** David Heim, KA3SMF

CLUB NOTES

- **SPOTLIGHT 88 HAMFEST**
A few months back, Keith Wright, KB3DAW, President of the Ellwood City ARA mentioned that some interest has been generated over having a multi-club hamfest this summer at the Spotlight 88 Flea Market in Beaver Falls. I think this is a fantastic idea and know that several members of the BVARA are ready to join up with their committee and help in planning this event. More on this in future issues of the eQRM.
- **ARRL VISIT**
Yes folks, ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR and WPA Section Manager John Rodgers, N3MSE will be making their way to our area for a multi-club visit. You'll be hearing more about this visit in upcoming issues of the eQRM after the holiday rush comes to a close. Stay tuned...



COMMENTARY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In addition to the Christmas Party, the Saturday Night Dinner bunch braved a winter ice storm to attend a gathering a Panera Bread in Monaca. This was my first visit to that eatery, and needless to say, I was very impressed!

In attendance were Pam, W3PMS (no, I am not making that up), her husband Jack, KZ3Z (no, I'm not making that one up either), George, N3HOJ, Dave, KA3SMF, Shawn, KB8UDE and yours truly, WA3ZRM. On a sad note, "The Bread Man" Rich Springer, "No Call Yet" Norm, Gary, KA3TYK, and Thom, KF3V were unable to attend.

For those of you that have yet to visit Panera Bread, I encourage you to make a trip. The laid back casual atmosphere, healthy food selections and FREE WiFi are just a few of the reasons that I for one, plan on many return visits.

97 Year Old British YL Still Active

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD COURIER
BRISTOL, Tenn. – At 97, Margaret Roberts is lucid and lively and the owner of a new pacemaker. "The doctor said they normally wouldn't give a pacemaker to someone her age," said her niece-in-law, Linda Bowers. "But he checked her out and said she was a good candidate."
Roberts has more than just her good health to surprise people. She has been a licensed amateur radio operator, a "ham," since 1947 and still broadcasts today. She first became interested in radio in 1931, during her fourth year of high school. Her late husband, Gerald, was a radio engineer and, living in Ohio, they did experimental work in radio together.

Topics of conversation during our dinner gathering included Pam and Jack's new call signs; the use of pen knife's vs. guns as dog attack deterrents; KB8UDE's video cell phone picture gallery; the slave receiver that Shawn & Jack are working on; and, some colorful commentary on N3HOJ's tour of duty in Vietnam.

Perhaps the two most important topics discussed were KB8UDE's roll as the club's "Point Man" for emergency communications and the need to hold club E-Board meetings in a casual and relaxed environment similar to what Panara Bread offered.

All in all, this past Friday and Saturday had plenty of good eats and Christmas Cheer.

Well folks, that's about it for now. See you next week. de WA3ZRM.

"It was quite a life to be at the beginning of radio," Roberts said. "Somebody had to get in there and work at it, and find out what could be done."

Her husband built the equipment – transmitters and receivers – while she handled things on the vocal end.

"He knew how to build the equipment and didn't have time to do both, so I did what I could do – the talking," she said. Their signals, however, began to interfere with the neighbors' television sets, so Margaret and Gerald started looking for a place in the country. They eventually traded homes with a family who wanted to live in the city, and II.



made a new home for themselves in a place called High Point in Summit County, Ohio. There, they built two radio towers out of scrap aluminum from World War II.

They were living 1,420 feet above sea level in rural Ohio, where interference was no longer an issue.

Roberts looks back on those times fondly.

"There were a lot of things that we found out," she said. "It was very interesting, and I spent a lot of time making contacts all over the world."

Her QSL code, by which other operators could identify her, was, and still is, W8BFQ. The 8 signifies that she got her license in Ohio.

People call her the "barefoot queen," because of the phrase "running barefoot," which means the transmitter is operating without much power.

By 1948, Roberts received a certificate stating that she had communicated with each of the six recognized continents – North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, Asia and Oceania. She has a box of QSL cards showing the codes of operators with whom she has communicated, and the dates and times

(Continued on Page 5)

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 again brings a dynamic energy to play for the mutable signs, **Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces**. This will be especially so for those born toward the end of the signs. This can be a very powerful lunation phase for those that are willing to step up to plate and take charge of the situation. There is quite a positive energy for the water signs, **Scorpio, Cancer and Pisces**. These same signs should find relationships easier this week, so by all means tell people what you think but maybe more importantly how you **feel!** Lucky numbers for all ham's this week: 2,7, 3, 19, 23 and 12.

Web Site Review de KQ3DX

A feature dreamt up by Steel City ARA Club Newsletter Editor, KQ3DX for their members is a review of websites related to Amateur Radio which he hopes you'll find interesting and useful. KQ3ED has no interest, either pecuniary or monetary in the website listed herein. All he wants to do is to make their newsletter more interesting to read. CUL, thanks/73 de KQ3DX.

The DXZone <<http://www.dxzone.com>>

No, it isn't a site for DX'ers only. This one is full of information on antennas, rigs, contesting, SWL'ing, propagation, and many more topics of interest to Amateurs. It also has a classified section where you can buy and sell radio-related merchandise. I perused this one and found all sorts of info on just about everything you could think of. There is also a section for the scanner buffs out there too. There you'll find info on monitoring aeronautical, maritime, military, police and railroad traffic, plus many more. Did you lose your copy of your owners manual?? Chances are that you'll be able to find it here. Are you an antique radio collector?? They've got a section for you too. It's also a good site for the DX'ers, as it has links to DX Clusters, Clubs, places where you can rent a shack (hopefully on a tropical island now that winter has arrived here), plus links for all the different digital modes available. Not only that, but there are lots of links available for downloading software for the digital modes, too. This is a pretty intense website. Lots and lots of stuff available for sale, and a great source for software and reference material pertaining to radios, antennas, etc, etc, ad infinitum. There's way too many items/links on this website to describe here in detail. So, check it out yourself and be sure to bookmark it. I think you'll find that it is one that you'll visit often.

97 Year Old Ham

of those communications, to prove it.

"I just had a wonderful time talking," she says.

Roberts has received various certificates of recognition during her time as an amateur radio operator, including one from the U.S. Air Force, which recognizes her for: "PARTICIPATING IN THE CO-OPERATIVE NETWORK OF RADIO AMATEUR OPERATIONS ... OBTAINING SPORADIC E DATA DURING THE PERIOD 20 NOVEMBER 1950 TO 31 OCTOBER 1951."

Margaret acknowledges that amateur radio can be useful during times of crisis and wishes it were a more utilized tool.

Charlie Stuchell, a member of the Bristol Amateur Radio Club and Roberts' friend, says she brings up a good point.

In an age when countries in turmoil are cutting communications outside of their borders and major weather happenings are crippling communications systems, ham radio - amateur radio - is an excellent source of information.

"You can't turn off amateur radio," Stuchell said.

Stuchell, who has been an operator since 1963, says amateur radio remains very much a man's world.

"Women are very rare," he said. Licensed since 1947, Roberts has been a fixture in this man's world for 60 years and is anxious to get back on the air after getting a new pacemaker.

Fellow ham radio buffers are "asking about me every night," she said.



ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

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!

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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	
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<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

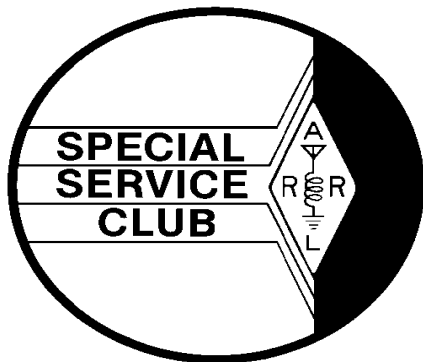
Name _____

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**

DX NEWS VIA THE ARRL

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, 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.

MAURITIUS, 3B8. Jacques, F1BCS is QRV as 3B8/F1BCS until December 24. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and JT65. This includes lighthouse activity from ARLHS MAT-004. QSL to home call.

ROTUMA ISLAND, 3D2. Tony will be QRV as 3D2AG/R while working on his biodiversity study. He plans to be active beginning December 15.

SIERRA LEONE, 9L. Zbig, SP7BTB is QRV as 9L1BTB while on a UN mission here. QSL to home call.

JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLAND, CE0. Members of the Radio Club Provincial Valparaiso are QRV as CE0ZAA until December 17. Activity is on the HF bands, including 6 and 2 meters, using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

PALESTINE, E4. Steve, OM3JW, Mike, OM2DX, Rudi, OM3PC and Miro, OM5RW are QRV as E4/OM2DX until December 22. They are active with two stations operating simultaneously on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via OM3JW.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Chris, SM0DXT is QRV as EA8/8S8L from Gran Canaria Island, IOTA AF-004, until December 15. He also plans lighthouse activity from ARLHS CAI-055. QSL to home call.

ENGLAND, G. Operators John, G7HIA and Robert, G8ATE are QRV with special call sign GB000 until December 16 to celebrate the launch of Amateur Radio's first satellite, Oscar-1. Activity is only on the various analog satellites.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Masa, JA6GXX is QRV as JD1BMM from Marcus Island, IOTA OC-073, until December 27. Activity is mostly on 160, 80 and 40 meters. He is on work assignment here, but is active as time permits. QSL via bureau.

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS. Raul, LU1ZA is usually QRV from this club station on 40 meters during the weekends around 2200 to 2300z.

DENMARK, OZ. Jakob, OZ7AEI and possibly another operator plan to be QRV from four lighthouses on Vendsyssel/Thy Island, IOTA EU-171, on December 15. Activity may be 40 and 20 meters. QSL to home call.

BONAIRE, CURACAO, PJ2. Jerry, WB9Z is QRV as PJ2/WB9Z from Signal Point, Curacao, IOTA SA-006, until December 25. He may also be active from lighthouse WLOTA LH-0942. Activity is holi-

day style on all bands. QSL to home call.

PALAU, T8. Yutaka, JQ2GYU, Mihoko, JJ2VLY and Koki, JE1PGS will be QRV as T88YU, T88LY and T88GS, respectively, from December 17 to 22. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW and SSB during their morning and evening hours. QSL to home calls.

ICELAND, TF. Siggis is QRV as TF3CW and is generally active on 160 meters CW around 2000 to 0000z daily. QSL via LX1NO.

NAMIBIA, V5. V55SRT has been active on 17 meters using RTTY around 2035z. QSL via IZ8EDJ.

CANADA, VE. Hisato, JA1DOT will be QRV as VY0/JA1DOT from Resolute Island, IOTA NA-009, in Nunavut Territory from December 18 to 27. Activity will be mainly on the low bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. Jim, ND9M is QRV as VQ9JC and may be here for four months. He is generally active after 1200z on 80 to 10 meters using mostly CW, with some SSB and digital modes. QSL to home call.



BURKINA FASO, XT. Michael is QRV as XT2WC and is here until January 5. He is generally active on 20 meters between 0800 to 1000z. QSL via F1IQH. **(Continued on Page 8.)**

Propagation de K7RA

Sunspot 978 made a strong showing this week, and daily sunspot numbers are up as a result. The average daily sunspot number for this week rose over 25 points to 36.7, and average daily solar flux rose over 14 points to 87.2. The sunspot numbers on December 9-11 were 42, 43 and 44. Sunspot numbers haven't been nearly this high since July 14-15 of 2007, when it was 41 both days. The daily sunspot number hasn't been higher since June 2 to June 8 of this year, when it was 45, 58, 58, 63, 47, 59 and 51.

You can make your own animation of the emergence and movement of sunspot 978 with photos on <http://www.spaceweather.com/>. Just click on <http://snurl.com/ss978> and in the URL field change /06dec07/ to /07dec07/, hit the Enter key, then change it to /08dec07/, hit Enter, and repeat until you reach /13dec07/ (14dec07 will probably also work by the time you read this bulletin). Now you can use your browser's forward and back keys to animate the sunspot and watch it move. It is a big sunspot.

Geomagnetic activity was very low, although it was slightly unsettled around December 11-12 at northern latitudes. But take a look at the table at <http://snurl.com/geokna>. Note the absence of any geomagnetic activity in the far north, represented by the strings of zeros for Alaska's College A and K index from November 30 to December 9. The K index is measured every three hours, or eight times per day. Notice in the 64 readings from 1200z December 1 to 0900z December 9, the College K index rose from 0 to 1 only twice.

Tim Goeppinger, K6GEP of Orange, California wondered why, with the higher sunspot numbers, he didn't see better propagation last

weekend in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. Recently this bulletin mentioned unexpected 10 meter propagation when there were no sunspots. This may be a case where this week's sunspot activity wasn't enough to support F layer propagation at 28 MHz, but perhaps recent 10 meter DX was actually supported by sporadic E propagation.

The US Air Force and the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast solar flux at 95 for December 14-16, and 90 on December 17-19. This suggests a possible continuation of recent sunspot activity, because sunspot numbers this week were 39-44 while solar flux was 89-94.

They also predict a planetary A index for December 14-20 at 5, 5, 10, 20, 15, 15 and 10, so expect unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions on Monday, December 17. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions December 14-16, active December 17, and unsettled December 18-20.

This week there are a slew of new articles from various sources on solar science and Hinode. Rather than give you a multiple links, let's try something new. Copy and paste or just type <http://snurl.com/sunmem1> to your web browser's URL field and hit the Enter key to read the first article. For the second, paste again, but change sunmem1 to sunmem2. Keep up that process through sunmem7 to read all seven articles.

Next week is Winter Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, on Saturday, December 22. After that the hours of daylight will gradually grow longer,

and the increased sunlight will improve propagation on the higher bands. Three months away is the Spring Equinox, and if we have more sunspots by then, so much the better.

In the interim, we can take advantage of the long nights and low geomagnetic activity to enjoy the low bands, 160 and 80 meters.

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

(Continued on Page 8)

Ham's Love to Eat



Bûche de Noël

Here is a Christmas Yule Log treat that you'll just love to eat...

Ingredients:

1/3 cup/80 mL all-purpose flour
1/4 cup/60 mL **Baking Cocoa**
1 tsp/5 mL **Purest Ground Cinnamon 6 oz.**
3/4 tsp/4 mL **Ginger**
1/4 tsp/1.2 mL baking soda
Pinch of **Cloves (Ground)**
Pinch of freshly-ground **Sea Salt**
4 large egg whites (save two of the yolks)
1/2 cup/125 mL sugar, divided
3 tbsp/45 mL buttermilk
Powdered sugar

Coconut Filling

1/3 cup/80 mL evaporated milk
1/3 cup/80 mL sugar
1 tbsp/15 mL butter
1 egg, slightly beaten
Dash freshly-ground **Sea Salt**
1/2 tsp/2.5 mL **Original Double-Strength Vanilla**
1/3 cup/80 mL flaked coconut
1/4 cup/60 mL chopped pecans

Chocolate Frosting

3 tbsp/45 mL **Baking Cocoa**

(Continued on Page 10)

DX NEWS

INDONESIA, YB. Special event station YE9FCCC is active from Bali until December 14 during the United Nations Climate Change Conference. Activity is on the HF and VHF bands. QSL via YB1GJS.

VENEZUELA, YV. A group of five operators are QRV as YW6YL from Chimana Grande Island, IOTA SA-090, until December 16. This includes lighthouse activity from ARLHS VEN-030. QSL via IT9DAA.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The Croatian CW Contest, North American High Speed Meteor Scatter Winter Rally, NCCC CW Sprint, Russian 160-Meter Contest, MDXA PSK DeathMatch, OK DX RTTY Contest, Feld-Hell Sprint, ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew CW Sprint and the International Naval Contest are all scheduled for this weekend.

The Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party runs from December 15 to January 1. The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for December 17. Please see December QST, page 78, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.

Propagation de K7RA

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/k91a-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 December 6 through 12 were 29, 24, 36, 42, 43, 44 and 39 with a mean of 36.7. 10.7 cm flux was 78.2, 82.2, 86.9, 88.9, 86.9, 93.4, and 93.9 with a mean of 87.2. Estimated planetary A indices were 1, 1, 0, 2, 8, 12 and 7 with a mean of 4.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 0, 1, 1, 5, 9 and 7, with a mean of 3.4.



The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

On The Road Again

Isn't it fun to go for a drive with your trusty mobile rig? I love heading out with a book of maps and the logbook trying to find those elusive "magic" spots. This week's puzzle is all about mobile operation and its ins and outs. See you from that rare grid, maybe? (See Page 9)



I can't wait 'till N3HOJ sees what I am bringing to Field Day this year!



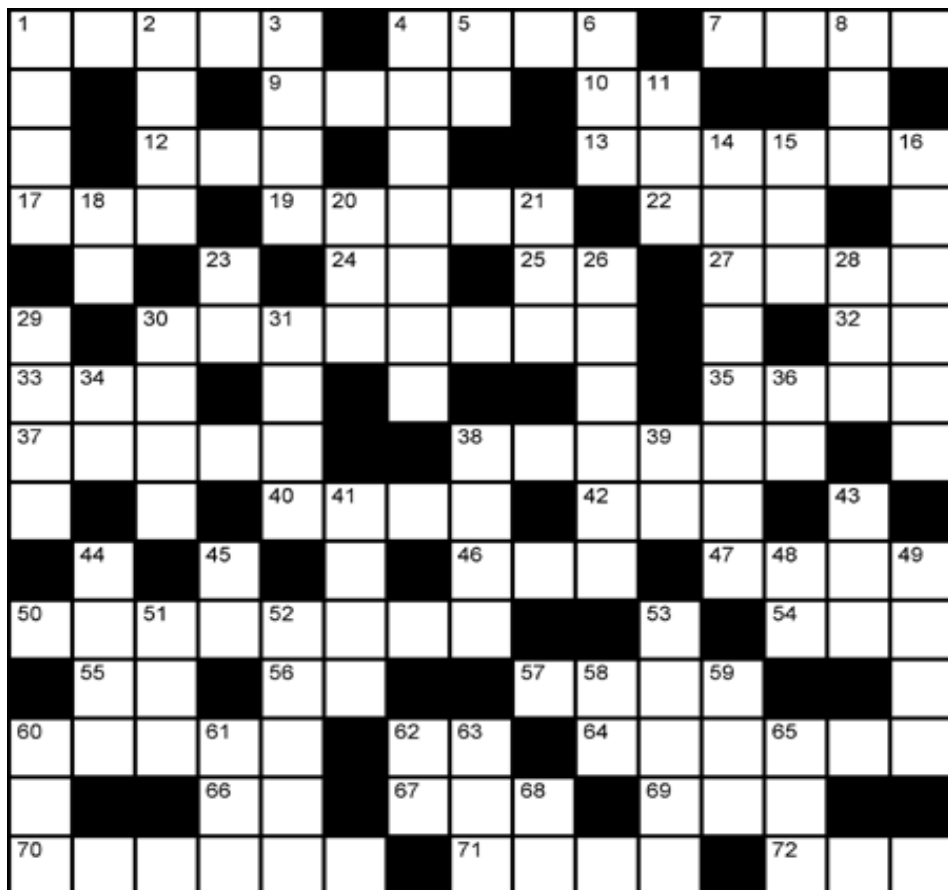
On the Road Again

Across

1. An antenna driver
4. Mishandle or mess up
7. Used to fill the tank
9. A poor spot for radio
10. Stalling for time
12. A French friend
13. Where the vehicle stays
17. An attenuator
19. Repair
22. Slang for a million
24. Light (abbr.)
25. Coax connector prefix
27. Positive
30. Combines two bands
32. Assists the teacher (abbr.)
33. Assigns prefixes
35. Account (abbr.)
37. Insulating material
38. Desirable lines
40. Round antenna
42. Add to Viking and get a tuner
46. Independent (abbr.)
47. Best spot for a mobile antenna
50. Separates the passenger and engine compartments
54. Impedance matcher (abbr.)
55. ARES team leader (abbr.)
56. Gain antenna manufacturer
57. Runs the alternator
60. Causes interference from paths
62. Computer (abbr.)
64. Hit a bump
66. Powered
67. On the floor of the vehicle
69. Grow older
70. At each end of the vehicle
71. Oxidization of steel
72. No meters like these meters

Down

1. Propagation hop
2. Where mobiles operate
3. Long, flexible antenna
4. Rapid volume or strength variation
5. Add these two letters to change "crack" into a noise
6. On the windshield
8. Type of mount



11. What we are
14. Signal relay
15. Height in the air
16. Fake or substitute
18. While or in the manner of
20. Every bit
21. Color
23. Original country of S5, 9A, T9, and Z3 (prefix)
26. Common
28. World time (abbr.)
29. Opposite of 9 Across, best spot for radio
30. Two-band antenna
31. If the engine won't run
34. Central African Republic (prefix)
36. Small Canadian DX entity prefix
38. Loads the antenna
39. Abbreviation for both city and state
41. To leave or go
43. Energized
44. In the absence of
45. From (CW abbr.)
48. Country of Macchu Piccu

- (prefix)
49. Protective component
51. Three basic types of components (abbr.)
52. Caused by the alternator
53. Charge to maintain voltage
58. Separated by San Francisco Bay from SF section
59. Pull
60. Large unruly group
61. The peak
62. Afternoon (abbr.)
63. Passenger vehicle
65. Organized on-the-air group
68. Thanks! (CW abbr.)



1 tbsp/15 mL butter
 1/2 tsp/2.5 mL **Watkins Original Double-Strength Vanilla**
 Dash freshly-ground **Watkins Sea Salt**
 2 tbsp/30 mL very hot water
 1-1/2 cups/375 mL powdered sugar
Marshmallow Mushrooms
 6 large marshmallows
 Chocolate Frosting (above)
Watkins Pure Cocoa



Preheat oven to 375°F/190°C. Coat a 15x10-inch/38x28-cm jellyroll pan with Watkins Cooking Spray. Line with waxed paper; spray waxed paper with cooking spray; dust with flour. In small bowl, combine flour, cocoa, cinnamon, ginger, baking soda, cloves and salt. In small mixing bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Increase speed to high and gradually sprinkle in 1/4 cup/60 mL of sugar, beating until sugar dissolves and whites stand in stiff peaks. In large bowl, using same beaters, beat the 2 egg yolks and remaining 1/4 cup sugar until very thick and lemon-colored; beat in buttermilk. With rubber spatula or wire whisk, gently fold beaten egg whites into egg yolks, one third at a time. Gently fold flour mixture into egg mixture, one third at a time. Spread batter evenly in pan. Bake 10 minutes or until top of cake springs back lightly when touched. Sprinkle clean cloth lightly with powdered sugar. When cake is done, immediately invert hot cake onto towel. Peel off waxed paper and discard. Starting from long side, roll cake with towel in jelly-roll fashion. Cool cake roll, seam side down, on wire rack until completely cool, about 1 hour.

To assemble cake: Gently unroll cooled cake. With metal spatula, spread with Coconut Filling (recipe below) almost to edges. Starting from same long side, roll cake without towel. With sharp knife, cut a 1-1/2-inch/37-mm-thick diagonal slice from each end of roll; set aside. Place rolled cake, seam side down, on long platter. Spread some of the Chocolate Frosting (recipe below) over roll but not on cut edges. Place one end piece on side of roll to resemble branch. Place remaining end piece on top of roll to resemble another branch. Spread remaining frosting over roll and branches, but not cut ends. With tines of fork, make strokes in frosting to resemble bark of tree. Refrigerate cake at least 2 hours before serving. Place Marshmallow Mushrooms (recipe below) around log. Makes 10 servings.

Coconut Filling

In saucepan, combine milk, sugar, butter, egg and salt. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture thickens and bubbles. Add vanilla, coconut and pecans. Cool.

Chocolate Frosting

Combine cocoa, butter, vanilla and salt; mix well. Add hot water and stir until cocoa and butter are dissolved. Add powdered sugar and mix with electric mixer for about 2 minutes. Add more powdered sugar or water as needed until frosting is of spreading consistency.

Ground-Breaking News

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



In recent articles I've mentioned that cinnamon helps to balance blood sugar levels and kill bacteria. New research shows that ground cinnamon may also reduce the bad LDL-cholesterol, total cholesterol and triglycerides in type 2 diabetics. Along with lowering blood sugar, that's a home run when it comes to scoring benefits for diabetics—and it's as easy as adding about a half teaspoon a day to foods such as oatmeal, fruit or toast. In studies, blood sugar levels started rising as soon as cinnamon was stopped, emphasizing the importance of daily consumption. Watkins world famous ground Cinnamon contains a higher amount of essential oils—the component that contributes to more flavor, aroma and health benefits—than others on the market, and Watkins Traditional Cider Brew, with cinnamon and other spices, adds a burst of flavor and aroma to hot cider, mulled wine, spiced tea or wassail.

Marshmallow Mushrooms

Cut each marshmallow in half crosswise. Flatten half of each marshmallow for cap of mushroom. Roll other half between palms for stems. Attach caps to stems with chocolate frosting. Dust tops of mushrooms with cocoa.

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