

THE eQRM

AUGUST 2020

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo



ARRL
Sanctioned
Hamfest



**Coming to your laptop, tablet, and smartphone
August 8 and 9, 2020**

The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

Repeater 145.310 PL 131.8

On the Cover: This has got to be a first! An online virtual Hamfest with vendor booths. Things sure have changed since this Covid-19 has shown up. See page 13 for details. This promises to be very interesting. Could this be history in the making? Don't miss it!

Inside this edition

Who We Are	3	Hamfests & General Announcements	9
This Month	4	Bits and Pieces	10
Get a License or Upgrade	6	It's Your Dime	11
New License and Upgrades	7	Of interest to all	12
Membership	8		

Check into our nets

Wednesday 2 Meter

8:30PM on 145.310 MHz PL 131.8

Wednesday 10 Meter

9:00PM on 28.470 MHz

The eQRM is a publication of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association (BVARA) and is Copyright 2010 - 2020. All material presented in this publication is not necessarily the views of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), BVARA, or members of the said organizations. If you would like to contact the editor of the eQRM, please email David at kc3bxc.73@gmail.com. Please visit us online at www.W3SGJ.org. To subscribe to our newsletter, please visit W3SGJ.org/newsletter.php

Who We Are

2020 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Hanna, N4YKQ

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Director: Tony Pavilonis, W6PEF

Director: Bob Winkle, N3AZZ

Trustee: Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

MONTHLY MEETINGS

E-Board meetings are now held the Saturday before the monthly club meeting.

VE testing begins at 5:00 PM.

Regular meetings are at 6:30 PM

All meetings are held at the
Beaver County
Emergency Services Center
351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003
on the second Thursday of every month
(unless otherwise stated).

Club Meetings 2020

Aug 22 Club Picnic

Sep 10

Oct 08

Nov 12

Dec Club Christmas Party

Club Meetings 2021

Jan 14

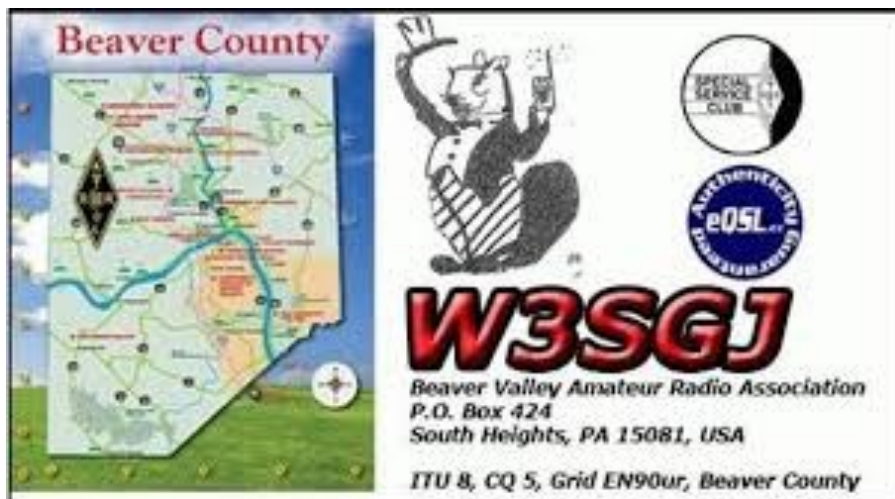
Feb 11

Mar 11

Apr 08

May 13

Jun 10



This Month

No Club Meeting this Month.

(We will resume in September.)

We will all be at our
August 2020 BVARA Club Picnic.

You are invited to attend too,
see page 12 for details.

More this Month

Weekly

The Freedom Square Diner in Monaca has a great wait staff. Come let them take your order.

Thursday Morning Breakfast
(or you can have lunch)



The BVARA meets every Thursday at the Freedom Square Diner in Center Township, just to the right of the Cinemark Center Township Marketplace at 09:30 AM. All radio amateurs and those interested in amateur radio are encouraged to come join us at our Thursday morning breakfast.

See you Thursday at



The eQRM urges all Beaver County licensed amateurs to participate in the County's RACES and ARES programs.

Any Beaver County Amateur that is interested in participating in the RACES/ARES programs can do so by checking into the Beaver County Public Service Net which meets every Monday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the WW3AAA 146.850 MHz repeater (131.8 PL)

RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



Get your License or Upgrade

If you are interested in getting your first FCC license or upgrading your current amateur radio license, the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association holds VE Test sessions (Volunteer Examinations) the second Thursday of each month at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge Pennsylvania prior to our BVARA Club meeting. If there is no meeting there is no test session. Please come take your test with us!

*** Because of our Club Picnic no testing this month ***

For more information, contact :
Rich Soltesz, K3SOM
(724) 847-0610
k3som@arrl.net



VE TEST SESSIONS

Beaver County Emergency Services Center 351 14th Street Ambridge, PA 15003.
Tests begin promptly at 5 pm on the same day as BVARA Club Meetings
(the second Thursday of the month).
All classes of amateur radio license tests are administered.

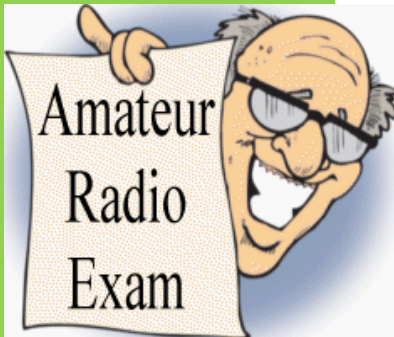


ALL candidates MUST bring ALL of the following:

1. 2 forms of I.D. - one MUST be a photo I.D.
2. A pencil AND a pen with blue or black ink.
3. The original AND a photocopy of any valid ham license.
4. The original AND a photocopy of any C.S.C.E.
5. The test fee of \$15 - cash, check, or money order.

New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing



Testing this month :

* Because of our Club Picnic no testing for August *

You're invited, come test with us in September!

July VE Test Session Results

Our July VE Test Session had only one candidate, but he achieved his goal of not only passing his Technician exam, but also his General exam, and finally his Extra exam **all in the same test session!**

Because of the rollback of some of the restrictions that were caused by the Corona virus, our testing was able to be conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA.

Congratulations to:

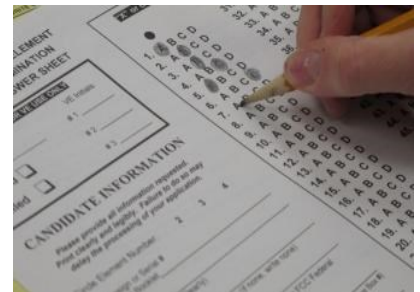
Steve Bradford – AC3GG, McMurray, PA, Extra

All of this testing would not have been possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

Reg Genola – W3REG,
Tony Pavilonis - K3AHP,
Bart Stack - KB3NFM, and
Bob Winkle - N3AZZ

73 from:

Rich Soltesz - K3SOM, VE Liaison



Membership Information

By becoming a BVARA member you help secure the future of Amateur Radio in Beaver County. Additionally, the BVARA receives a portion of each ARRL membership you purchase!

Join the BVARA and ARRL

Sign up for:	Price	
<input type="radio"/> BVARA full membership	25.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA student membership	15.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA associate membership	10.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA Child under 21 at home membership	5.00	_____
One year ARRL membership	49.00	_____
A Club Donation		_____
ARRL Member? Yes No	Total Enclosed	_____

Your License Class (If you have one.)

<input type="radio"/> Technician	Name _____
<input type="radio"/> General	Address _____
<input type="radio"/> Advanced	_____
<input type="radio"/> Extra Class	Email _____
	Phone _____
	Your Call sign _____
	Your Signature _____

Make check or money order payable to:

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 424
South Heights, Pa 15081

Hamfests & General Announcements

**2020 SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY
SWAP N SHOP!**

SUNDAY AUGUST 30, 2020

LOCATED AT OUR CLUB GROUNDS NEAR NEW KENSINGTON PA

This Hamfest has been Cancelled

FYI - The Skyview Swap & Shop (Aug 30 2020) has been Cancelled.

Jody - K3JZD



Bits and Pieces

Hello all,

Covid-19 has had an ill effect on most of life as I know it. There have been some things that changed for the better too. Now let me qualify that. I would not have learned how to use Zoom (and related types of software online meetings). I have been invited to Zoom some really interesting things. The Skyview Club meetings have been very interesting and I feel honored to be a guest at their meetings. A big thank you to the Skyview Group from me! I have also been invited to virtual tours of a few “Big Gun stations”.



Just recently the ARRL sent me a link to an online Hamfest that will take place this month (More on page 13). The point here being that in the midst of a bad time I could have gotten upset and not enjoyed life or my Radio hobby. Instead, with the help of fellow Hams, things have been okay... maybe even fine. I have learned a lot about technology and radio related subjects from the chair in my radio room (the Zoom thing). Thanks to everyone involved.

Like many others, I have had much time at home to make improvements. My radio room is one. I put some new windows in, they are much bigger and lower. I can now see out the window while sitting at my radio. In the winter, I will be able to see outside so much better and stay warm while doing so. I took down some trees that blocked the radio room outdoor view and put a fresh coat of paint in there too. I am not finished in there yet. I am working on some outside projects first. Mowing the grass takes up a lot of my time. I may get to that “Dadgum Pole” and new HF antenna project before long, I am excited! Have you done any radio room improvements at your shack? What have you done to make the best of your Covid time? You know the old saying about having lemons and making them into lemonade. I hope you have been able to keep a positive mindset and use this time to do some constructive things like I have.

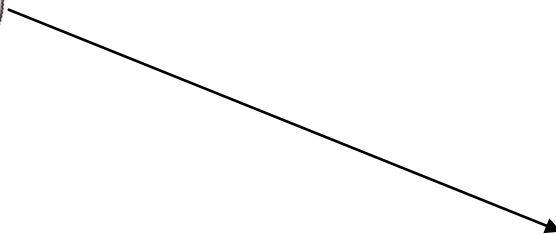
On the Cover is a very interesting event, I don’t want to miss it! The online forums should be very interesting. I will get to have a front row seat with little effort! I hope you find time to attend some of it too, see page 13.

Be courteous on the air, be safe and have fun with your hobby.

Till next month, 73 KC3BXC.

It's Your Dime

Remember back when you could communicate by “Pay Phone” for ten cents?
This page is for anyone who wants to communicate with the BVARA community and beyond. Please send me your article that you would like posted on this page. Please, only topics and language in good taste. As the editor I reserve the option to post it or ignore it. Send your dime to me at: kc3bxc.73@gmail.com



BVARA Corn Roast



Join our Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association celebration of Summer!

- When:** Saturday, August 22nd, 2020 at 5:30 pm
- Where:** Old Economy County Park, Shelter 1 (enter the park and turn left at the swimming pool) where we were on Field Day this year
- Who:** All BVARA members and their families and invited guests
- What:** Club furnishes the corn, hot dogs, and buns - please bring a home-baked dessert or covered dish. If Covid-19 is still a concern, you may choose to only bring food for yourself and your family. All home-brought foods are optional, but home-made extras add to the deliciousness. Coffee, pop, and bottled water will be available. Again, you may choose to bring your own (non-alcoholic) beverages.
- RSVP:** For planning purposes, we need a count by August 14th of how many people will be there, so please:

Email your response to jjallen@comcast.net or pavilonis@comcast.net or

- Call Jim, KC3IXE at (724) 630-7433 or
- Call Tony, K3AHP at (412) 974-9183

Special Note: Volunteers to help set up and clean up are especially welcome!

Of Interest to All

[Home](#) [Speakers](#) [Sponsors](#) [Exhibitors](#) [Prizes](#) [Contact Us](#)



QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

Participate in this ground breaking, virtual international amateur radio expo. Packed with world renowned speakers, exhibitors, and special conference rooms built on a virtual reality platform. Attend from the convenience of your desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

**Coming to your laptop, tablet, and smartphone on:
August 8 and 9, 2020**

Event	Zulu (GMT)	Pacific	Eastern
Expo Opens	8/8/2020 0:45:00	8/7/2020 17:45:00	8/7/2020 20:45:00
Keynote Address	8/8/2020 1:00:00	8/7/2020 18:00:00	8/7/2020 21:00:00
Saturday Speakers Begin	8/8/2020 15:00:00	8/8/2020 8:00:00	8/8/2020 11:00:00
Sunday Speakers Begin	8/9/2020 15:00:00	8/9/2020 8:00:00	8/9/2020 11:00:00
Live Expo Ends	8/10/2020 0:45:00	8/9/2020 17:45:00	8/9/2020 20:45:00
On-Demand Expo Begins	8/10/2020 1:00:00	8/9/2020 18:00:00	8/9/2020 21:00:00
On-Demand Expo Ends	9/9/2020 0:45:00	9/8/2020 17:45:00	9/8/2020 20:45:00

Register by July 24, 2020 to receive early bird prize incentives!

**GET YOUR FREE TICKET TO THE
"EXPO"**

**TELL A FRIEND ABOUT THE QSO
TODAY VIRTUAL HAM EXPO!**

Despite the current Covid-19 situation, ham radio operators are more active than ever and want to continue to learn and engage with their community. To meet this need, we've organized the first of its kind, virtual ham radio expo designed to allow everyone interested in amateur radio to engage with amazing speakers, leading suppliers of equipment, parts and services, and fellow attendees. Our virtual expo platform provides a visually captivating and easy to navigate user experience that recreates the look and feel of a physical amateur radio convention.

Attendees have the opportunity to:

- Listen to and engage with 70+ internationally recognized ham radio luminaries that have committed to lead expo sessions. [Click here for the speaker list.](#)
- Walk through our virtual exhibit hall filled with popular amateur radio suppliers. Watch new product demos, interact directly with booth staff using video, audio, or text conferencing.
- Engage with fellow hams without leaving your home ham shack. And save thousands of dollars since you don't have to worry about travel, food, and lodging!
- Return over the next 30 days to re-visit, explore, and re-engage exhibitor offerings.

Register by July 24, 2020 to receive early bird prize incentives!

**GET YOUR FREE TICKET TO THE
"EXPO"**

<<< Don't click this again if you already registered before July 24th. You are an "early bird"



**ARRL
Sanctioned
Hamfest**



Our Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



For more information go to <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>