



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 2, Issue 2  
 January 13, 2008

Bob, WA3ZRM - Editor



## ARRL ATLANTIC DIVISION DIRECTOR TO VISIT AREA

Bill Edgar, N3LLR, ARRL Atlantic Division Director will be visiting our area on Saturday, February 2, 2008.

At the time of this writing, the tentative time and location will be 1:00 PM at the Ellwood City Wellness Center located near Ewing Park.

*Please note that this information is tentative and subject to change. Updates will be e-mailed as they become available.*

By way of background, Bill held a Technician

Plus license and upgraded to Extra Class in November of 2001 according to FCC records.

Bill lives with his wife and children in Bradford, PA and is an executive for the Zippo Corporation.

Bill serves as Chair of the ARRL's Ad-Hoc Background Investigation Committee and also serves as a member of the League's Administration & Finance and Ad-Hoc Scouting Committees.

Bill is currently teaching



**Bill Edgar, N3LLR**  
 a Tech class in Bradford.

Bill is active on both VHF & HF and has a keen interest in ECOMM. He is also a member of 10-10 International.

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### Newsletter & Information Exchange Program

- 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!

## COMMENTARY: Join the ARRL - Our One Best Hope

*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.*

First off, I would like to extend a public apology to WPA SM John Rodgers, N3MSE and anyone else I may have offended in the eQRM Special Edition published last week. The central intent of that issue was to serve public notice as to the editorial guidelines of this publication and not meant to be a personal attack or criticism of any individual or group. In turn, readers need to remember that I am only a member of the ARRL and do not hold any elected League position. Questions or comments concerning ARRL policy and/or actions should be directed to the elected League official(s) responsible for the area or subject matter in question.

(Continued on Page 3)

# JANUARY 2008

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
		1	2	3	4	DINNER 5
6	7	8	NETS 9	MEET 10	11	DINNER 12
13	14	15	NETS 16	LUNCH 17	18	DINNER 19
20	21	22	NETS 23	LUNCH 24	25	DINNER 26
27	28	29	NETS 30	LUNCH 31	1	DINNER 2
3	4	1	NETS 5	LUNCH 6	7	DINNER 8

The BVARA 10 Meter Net Lunch group will be meeting this Thursday at Kings in Center Twp at 11:00 AM. The Saturday Dinner group will be meeting at KZ3Z & W3PMS QTH on Saturday, January 12 at 6:30 PM. All area amateurs are invited and encouraged to attend these outings.

**VE TEST SESSION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2008:** 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, KZ3Z
- Trustee:** Tony Petrucci, KE3ED/W3SGJ
- Chief Engineer:** David Heim, KA3SMF

## CLUB NOTES

### REPEATER FUND ESTABLISHED

At the recommendation of the club's Technical Committee, a Repeater Fund has been established to be used for upcoming projects and repairs on the BVARA's repeaters.

At the request of several BVARA members and the club's Executive Board, the Technical Committee has been asked to investigate new controllers and antennas for our repeater system.

At the time of this writing, over \$200 has been pledged to the fund by various club members.

If you are interested in making a pledge to support our repeaters, please contact Shawn, KB8UDE. Donations can also be made by using the membership application found on page 5 of this issue.



# COMMENTARY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

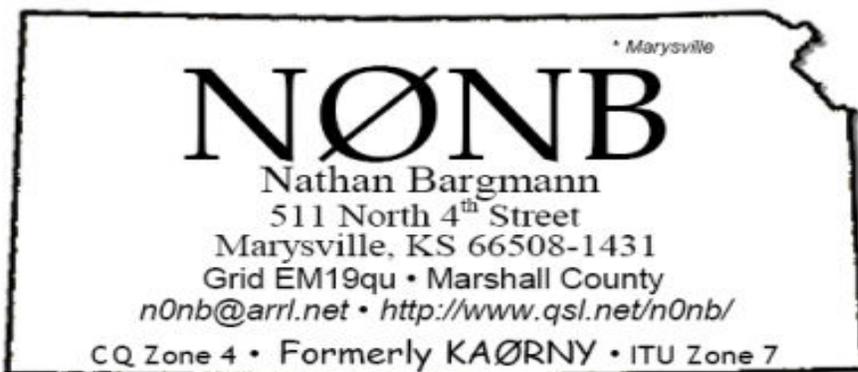
Next, I would like to remind readers that the eQRM does accept e-mails and/or letters to the editor for publication.

*Letters and/or e-mails must be signed and contain your contact information (including phone number) for verification prior to publication. Preference will be given to letters of 200 words or less. Letters are subject to editing. Unused letters and/or e-mails will not be acknowledged or returned.*

Finally, I would like to reaffirm my support of the American Radio Relay League. No, I am not going to give you a lecture on why the ARRL is our one best hope for the future of our hobby; rather, I've chosen to reprint a portion of Nathan Bargmann's commentary on the Amateur's Code that appeared in Volume 1, Issue 15 of the eQRM.

**2. "The Amateur is Loyal...He offers his loyalty, encouragement and support to his fellow radio amateurs, his local club and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio is represented."**

Getting on the local repeater and complaining about how lousy its performance has been lately or denigrating those who volunteer to work on the machine is certainly not behavior consistent with Point Two. Griping that the repeater was in use for a parade, walk-a-thon, or other public service event for a few hours on a Saturday morning doesn't cut it either (I don't care how much yearly dues you pay!). Of course, not attending club meetings because the club officers are morons licensed within the past 10



years who didn't have to build their equipment doesn't qualify either. If you won't attend the local hamfests large or small, you're not promoting amateur radio on a local basis as you should be. Finally, refusing to join the ARRL because of Incentive Licensing, Novice Enhancement, the codeless Technician, or Restructuring is pointless and doesn't allow your dissenting voice to be heard nor does it help to protect the valuable spectrum we all share.

Join the local radio club. Sure, they may all be jerks until you get to know them and realize how much you have in common. Then you may find they could really use your expertise aligning that duplexer or getting the repeat audio just right. Don't be pushy, but vol-

unteer where you can and before you know it you'll be qualified to write Web pages like this. ;->

*Finally, join the ARRL. Is everything the ARRL does to my liking? Certainly not, but quitting the League will not give you the leverage you need to make your voice heard to your Section Manager, Vice-director, or Division Director. Where do you meet these folks? At your section and division hamfests and conventions and perhaps even your local hamfest if it gets enough support to warrant their attention. In short, a hamfest gives you the opportunity to bend the ear of these folks in person. They will listen to your concerns and passions regarding amateur radio.*



## County Radio Officer & ARRL EC Speaks at January Meeting



Members of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association would like to thank County RACES Officer & ARRL Emergency Coordinator Frank Cole, N3TN, for speaking at our January club meeting. Frank provided members with an overview of RACES operations in Beaver County and provided interested club members with applications to join RACES. Following Frank's visit, the club membership voted to appoint Shawn Hastwell, KB8UDE, as the BVARA's official RACES/ARES liaison. Shawn is a volunteer firefighter and has extensive experience in ECOMM. Shawn looks forward to working with Frank in the near future for the benefit of all residents of Beaver County.

# 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					

## FOUR NEW AMATEURS LICENSED ON January 9, 2008

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association is proud to announce that three Boy Scouts and the infamous "No Call Norm" passed their Technician class license examination on Wednesday, January 9, 2008.

*No call Norm is no more!!!  
He passed his Tech exam on  
Wednesday night.*



Under the supervision of the BVARA's VE Team, Scouts Grant T. Miller II, Justin Gleason and Evan Finkelstein successfully passed their exams.

Additionally, Norm Trunick, passed his exam ending months of ribbing by several club members. It seems that Norm got the last laugh on us when an executive board meeting was called following the regular club meeting. As he was leaving with the rest of the membership, I said, "Norm, where are you going?" "You are now the club secretary."

With a big smile, Norm looked at me and said, "Not yet, the FCC hasn't issued me my call sign yet!"

Jack, KZ3Z who served as instructor for the Scout class, awarded Grant Miller a donated 2 Meter rig. Jack is currently seeking 2 Meter rigs for the other two Scouts. Any club member that has an extra rig that he would like to donate to help these new ham's get on the air should contact Jack.

## George, N3HOJ Named Field Day & Corn Roast Chair

By unanimous consent, club members voted to elect George, N3HOJ as Field Day and Corn Roast chairman for 2008. As frequent readers are aware, George was instrumental in securing the BVARA's traditional Field Day and Corn Roast sites at Brady's Run Park. During the regular January club meeting, George informed club members of his efforts and presented documentation from the County securing the site for the BVARA.

**BOTH GEORGE AND JACK, KZ3Z ARE COMMENDED FOR THEIR EFFORTS!**

# Commentary de N0AX: Do You Really Think We Don't Know?

Oh no, and you thought you were past all the gnostic New Year's resolutions! Read on, I'll only torture you a tad. The title of this editorial should probably be "You Can Run, But It's Getting Harder to Hide". The target audience isn't those given to making resolutions, but those that don't - the small minority of obdurate operators that continue to pursue advantage in the wrong ways.

Do you REALLY think we don't know? Do you think an over-powered signal blasting through the pileups doesn't attract scrutiny? When we hear you seemingly everywhere at once - don't you think we'll figure out that there are more of you than one? Do you think your persistent packet poaching isn't leaving a trail in the sponsor's database that leads right back to you? And self-spotting...is it really worth the effort to try and obscure your posts from the detailed signature available to the Internet-savvy sleuths out there? Rest assured that contesters DO know what you're up to!

Why not spend that extra effort and time and money improving your station and operating technique in legitimate ways? Everybody has plenty of room for opportunity for improvement in all the legal and ethical ways. Take a step back and ask yourself if all the evasion and denial is really worth getting a reputation as a cheat? For what? A piece of walnut on the wall? That's not exactly the right kind of bragging rights, friends. If there's something to be changed during 2008, how about your operating practices? You won't regret it! If

the leopard won't change spot-taneously, is there a solution for the rest of us? Contest sponsors can DQ an operator or change a log's category, but the horse is rather out of the barn by that point, isn't it? Except for the most egregious violations, the FCC is just too busy to respond. That, like many other things in life, leaves you and me, ladies and gentlemen.

Peer pressure can sometimes work wonders. Many of our bad apples got rotten because they think they are undetectable and/or nobody cares.

(Continued on Page 12)



**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 AND/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: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBER? YES NO

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

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, QRZ DX, 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.

**TANZANIA, 5H.** Hans, DL7CM will be QRV as 5H1CM from Uroa White Villa, Zanzibar Island, IOTA AF-032, from January 13 to 24. He will be active holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**CROATIA, 9A.** Special event call 9A35RKP is active until the end of 2008 in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Pazin Radio Club. QSL via 9A7P.

**BOLIVIA, CP.** Claus, CP4BT has been active on 30 meters around 0130 and 0300z. QSL via EA5KB.

**GERMANY, DA.** Special event call DR8M is active until the end of 2008 to mark the 850th anniversary of the city of Munich. QSL via bureau.

**ANTARCTICA.** Felix, DL5XL and Mirko, DG9BHQ are QRV as DP0GVN from the German Antarctic Base Neumayer II, IOTA AN-016. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and PSK31. QSL via DL5EBE.

**LIBERIA, EL.** Jim, EL2DX has been QRV on 160 meters around 2300 to 0700z. QSL direct.

**ST. BARTHELEMY, FJ.** Yuichi, JR2KDN and Paul, F6EXV are QRV as TO5FJ. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using SSB, with some CW and RTTY. QSL via F6EXV.

**GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8.** Peter, DL9DAK will be QRV as

DL9DAK/HC8 from January 15 to 18. Activity will be on 40, 20 and 17 meters using digital modes. QSL to home call.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI.** Simone, IZ5JNQ is QRV as HI/IZ5JNQ from Santo Domingo, IOTA NA-096, until January 26. Activity is on 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB with some digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL.** Chae, HL5YI/4 will be QRV from Sorok Island, IOTA AS-060, from January 18 to 21. Activity will be on 80, 40, 20 and 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**THAILAND, HS.** Simon, G6JFY is QRV as HS0ZIB from Phuket Island, IOTA AS-053. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via operator's instructions.

**ANTARCTICA.** Helmut, W6KDX is QRV as KC4AAA from the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Antarctica Base. He is usually active on 20 meters using SSB around 1700 to 0400z. QSL via K1IED.

**GUINEA-BISSAU, J5.** A large group of operators will be QRV as J5C from Bubaque Island, IOTA AF-020, from January 12 to 21. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FM, SSTV and digital modes with five stations active simultaneously. QSL via F5TVG.

**ST. VINCENT, J8.** Peter, G3XJE is QRV as J8ARF until January 15. Activity is mostly on 20 meters during his spare time. QSL to home call.

**MARIANA ISLANDS, KH0.** Koya, J15RPT and Toru, J15USJ are QRV as AH0V and KH0/J15USJ, respectively, from Saipan, IOTA OC-086, until January 14. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters, including 60 meters for US sta-



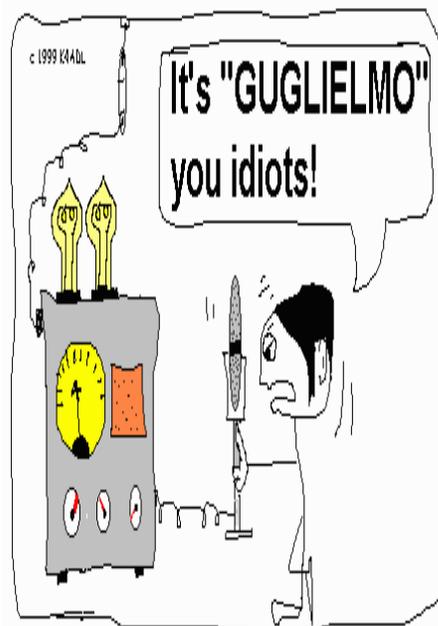
tions, and on various satellites, using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL to home calls.

**EAST KIRIBATI, T32.** La Marr, T32Z is QRV until January 23. QSL via K3PD.

**NAMIBIA, V5.** Station V55SRT is QRV until September 2008. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via IZ8EDJ.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The North American CW QSO Party, Hunting Lions in the Air Contest, 070 Club PSKFest, NCCC CW Sprint, MI QRP January CW Contest, Midwinter CW Contest, NRAU-Baltic CW Contest, Midwinter Phone Contest, NRAU-Baltic SSB Contest and the DARC 10-Meter Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend.

Please see January QST, page 98 and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.



THE ONLY REASON MARCONI INVENTED WIRELESS BROADCASTING WAS TO TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO PRONOUNCE HIS FIRST NAME.

## Propagation de K7RA

We just saw eight days of sunspots, but now the solar disk is spot-free. The big story this week is the sighting of the first spot of sunspot Cycle 24. The sunspot has now faded away, but a new spot is emerging near the solar equator, and it has the same polarity as the Cycle 24 spot last week. This is odd, because the spots from the new cycle should emerge at high latitudes, like last week's did.

News reports this week said Cycle 24 has begun, but actually Cycle 23 hasn't ended yet. Cycle 24 spots should gradually increase in number, while Cycle 23 spots fade away. Some time around solar minimum we should see the count of Cycle 24 spots equal, and then outnumber Cycle 23 spots. I believe that is really the start of the next cycle, when we begin to see more Cycle 24 spots emerging than Cycle 23 spots.

Average sunspot numbers this week were nearly 10 points above last week's average, at 13.3. Unsettled geomagnetic conditions were observed on January 5-8. Last week the prediction for solar flux for earlier this week looked optimistic. Go to

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpmenu/forecasts/45DF.html> and click on the December 30 forecast.

Note the prediction for solar flux of 85 for January 4-11. Then click back, and look at December 31. On that day it predicted a solar flux of 90 for January 5-7. The January 1 prediction is even higher at solar flux 95 for January 7-8. The next day, January 2 shows flux at 95 for January 7-9. January 3 is less optimistic, with flux peaking at 90 for January 9-11, although some of the dates are mislabeled. January 4 shows flux peaking for one day, January 6, at 85. None of those predictions came to pass, and solar flux was actually below 80 the entire week.

NOAA and the Air Force predict planetary A index values for January 11-17 at 5, 5, 15, 15, 10, 12 and 10. If you want an updated forecast after 2100z today, use the URL above and go to the January 10 forecast (if January 11 isn't shown yet). Then change a series of characters in the URL from 011045DF.txt to 011145DF.txt, and hit the Enter key. You should see an updated forecast for solar flux and planetary A index before the link appears on the main page.

Australia's IPS Radio and Space Services released a warning for a geomagnetic disturbance caused by a high speed solar wind stream from a coronal hole for January 13-14. This is reflected in the forecast in the previous paragraph, calling for a planetary A index of 15 for both those days. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions January 11-12, quiet to unsettled January 13, active conditions January 14, unsettled to active January 15, and unsettled conditions January 16-17.

For HF radio propagation, we would generally like to see sunspot numbers high, and A index geomagnetic readings low.

Last week Randy Crews, W7TJ reported excellent short path propagation to Europe on 160 and 80 meters on the night of January 3. Bob Culbertson, WA3YGQ of Cranberry, Pennsylvania said 80 meter propagation to Europe was the best he ever heard, with signals 20 db over S9. At 1230z he could hear Japan quiet strongly.

But Ken Gordon, W7EKB of Moscow, Idaho runs regional message traffic on 80 meters, and reported that the same night he experienced terrible conditions on 80 meters. Ken was net control for the RN7 net on 3560 kHz at 0330z and again at 0530z, and he could hardly hear anyone. But stations sitting at 800 miles and beyond were

booming in. Lately he's had an experience earlier in the evening on a net at 0030z on 3910 kHz in which signals from Montana are readable, but 10-15 minutes later they fade away and signals from the West Coast come in quite strong. The skip seems to be going long.

Jon Jones, N0JK of Wichita, Kansas sent comments regarding 10 meter Winter E-skip. He noted a number of strong E-skip openings on Saturday night in December's 10 Meter Contest. He made many contacts running QRP into a 6-meter loop.

Jon said he agrees with Bill Van Alstyne, W5WVO of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, that "most of the winter E-skip occurs during late afternoon and early evening hours. Summer E-skip tends to occur more frequently in the mid-morning hours, with a secondary peak in the evening." He wonders why Winter and off-season E-skip is more likely in the evening, but Summer E-skip seems more frequent in the morning?

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, [k7ra@arrl.net](mailto: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>. Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at, <http://www.arrl.org/qst/propcharts/>.

Sunspot numbers for January 3 through 9 were 13, 26, 12, 12, 14, 16 and 0 with a mean of 13.3. 10.7 cm flux was 79.3, 79, 79.7, 79.2, 77.7, 75.5, and 76.5 with a mean of 78.1. Estimated planetary A indices were 1, 2, 18, 13, 12, 13 and 6 with a mean of 9.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 2, 13, 12, 10, 11 and 6, with a mean of 7.9.



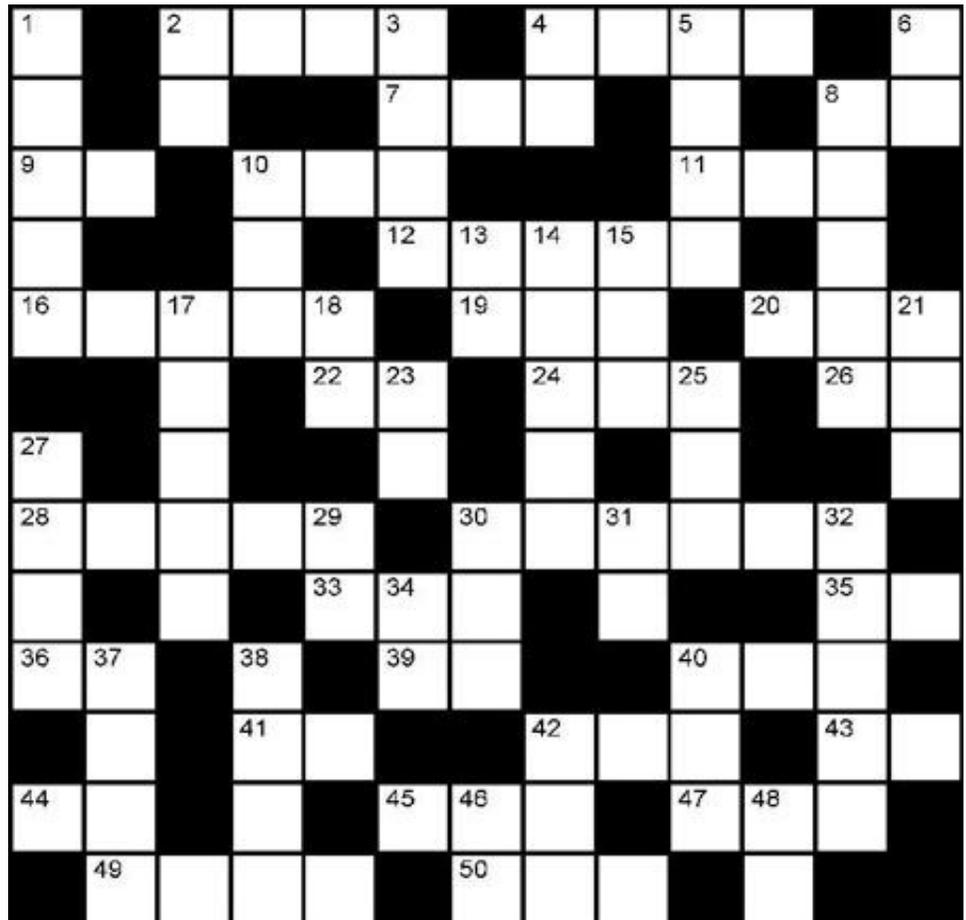
## Think Small

### Across

2. Increases "talk power"
4. Can't change frequency
7. Scares birds off the antenna
8. Keeps noise silent
9. Transmit
10. Stores frequency info
11. Levels out the receive audio
12. Controls transmitter output
16. Narrow rejection filter
19. Lower light level
20. Operate with a repeater
22. Final gain stage
24. Plate current at tank resonance
26. Two components of radio wave
28. Controls words per minute
30. Jack for a headset
33. Level of AM central component
35. Made it yourself
36. Front end gain
39. Mixer input
40. Medical technique that uses RF pulses
41. Receive
42. Main tuning component
43. F3 emissions
44. Empty
45. Changes CW pitch
47. Adjust transmit frequency
49. To continually adjust the gain
50. Transmit oscillator

### Down

1. Reduces signal strength
2. What the transmitter delivers



3. Squeezes voice into narrower range
4. Telephone
5. Adjust receive frequency
6. Control frequency response
8. Displays signals graphically
10. Spoken audio level control
13. Outside diameter
14. Amount of receive bandwidth
15. Interference from transmissions
17. Accessory that matches impedance
18. More than low power
21. Type of copper wire
23. Speaker volume
25. Strong signals do this to a meter needle
27. Voltage ratio in transmission lines
29. Battery power
30. A "super" receiver from

Hammarlund

31. The most important piece of equipment
32. Vary the intermediate frequency
34. Light metal used for antennas (chemical symbol)
37. Reduces receiver bandwidth
38. Tunes a tube's control element
40. Manual transmit
42. Activate transmitter by voice
46. Prefix for Yaesu/Vertex HF rig models
48. Collector current



## Ham's Love to Eat

### Blue Ribbon Chili



#### Ingredients

2 lbs/900 g lean or extra lean ground beef  
 6 oz/170 mL (half bottle) **Tropical Salsa**  
 1 cup/250 mL ketchup  
 1/2 cup milk  
 1/4 lb/227 g (1 stick) butter  
 1 tsp/5 mL (for more heat, increase to taste) **Calypso Hot Pepper Sauce**  
 2 cans (15 oz/420 g each) tomato sauce with chunky vegetables (or substitute one can w/green peppers and onions for one of the chunky)  
 1 can (15 oz/420 g) hot chili beans  
 1 can (15 oz/420 g) light red kidney beans  
 5 tbsp/75 mL (more or less to taste) **Chili Seasoning**  
 1/2 tsp/2.5 mL **Rosemary**  
 1 can (15 oz/420 g) mushrooms  
 1/2 tsp/2.5 mL (optional, may be added as condiment later) **Red Pepper Flakes**  
 Toppings for garnish (below)

#### Cooking Directions

Brown ground beef and drain well. In slow cooker on high heat (or pot on stove top over medium heat), combine browned meat, Tropical Salsa, ketchup, milk, butter, Calypso Sauce, tomato sauce, beans, chili seasoning, rosemary and mushrooms. Cook for two hours (stovetop: bring to boil and simmer for 1 hour). Add red pepper flakes (if desired) and simmer for at least 1 more hour. Cool and refrigerate overnight. Reheat and serve.

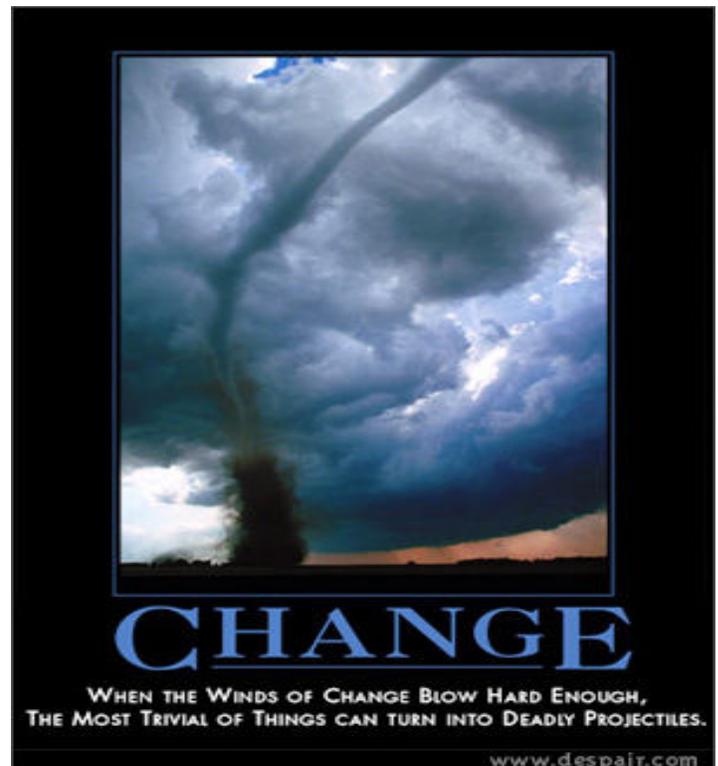
Make available: shredded cheddar cheese, diced onions, diced green peppers, sour cream, red pepper flakes and saltine crackers for guests to garnish as desired.

#### What's Hot

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



If you want to cool off and burn some extra calories after the holidays, here's a hot tip: A meal that includes hot peppers can boost your metabolism for several hours, helping to burn extra calories. Ironically, hot peppers can also help you stay cool by stimulating the cooling center of the brain. They can also help to lower blood cholesterol and reduce blood clots, cutting the risk of heart attack and stroke. As if that weren't enough, they might even make you feel better by stimulating the release of endorphins, substances in the brain that act as natural painkillers and mood enhancers. Watkins offers a variety of hot sauces, salsas and hot spices, including Jalapeno Hot Pepper Sauce & Salsa Seasoning, found in our recipe for black bean and citrus salsa. You'll find this recipe and many others at [www.watkinsonline.com](http://www.watkinsonline.com).



Now in our **THIRTEENTH** big year!

# WASHfest 2008

## The South Hills Hamfest

Sponsored by the Wireless Association of South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008

8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall

3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA

Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL

**FREE Coffee** for the entire Hamfest

courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES

of Canonsburg, PA



## MAIN PRIZES — You've Got to play to WIN!



1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Kenwood TS-480SAT

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Kenwood TH-D7A

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: SGC SG-239 HF Smarttuner

**Additional Hourly Door Prizes!**

**Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, or 3 for \$5.00**

**All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes**



For reservations, or information, Contact:

Kevin Smith N3HKQ at (724) 228-4153 or Bill Hill W3WH at (724) 746-1776

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too!

[www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)

## Information on FJ/OH2AM

This operation by OH2BH and OH0XX was conducted under CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01. This Recommendation makes it possible for radio amateurs from CEPT countries (and certain non-CEPT countries) to operate in other CEPT countries without obtaining an individual temporary license from the visited CEPT country.

Complaints were received from several individuals. The main thrust of the complaints is that the operators used a club call for which Laine is station trustee, rather than their individual call signs.

The intention of the operators in using a single call sign was to limit the number of duplicate contacts. Many DXpeditions use club or special-issue call signs for this reason. The Recommendation makes no mention of club call signs but says that the visiting license holder "must use his national call sign preceded by the call sign prefix of the visited country." Other operations using club call signs from French territory, including in the Caribbean, have taken place under provisions of the Recommendation and have been credited for DXCC.

Since the question was raised, checking with various CEPT administrations and with the European Radiocommunication Office (ERO) has revealed different views regarding the use of club call signs under the Recommendation. The ERO observes that the use of a club call sign could prevent an administration from determining whether a particular operator is qualified and concludes, "Club members, including the holder of the club call sign, should use their national personal call signs when abroad."

In the case of FJ/OH2AM, the two operators clearly were qualified to operate in St Barthelemy under the Recommendation. They utilized a call authorized to them by their national authority. The purpose of a radio station call sign is to identify the administration and the licensee responsible for the operation of the station. The use of FJ/OH2AM rather than FJ/OH2BH and FJ/OH0XX did not thwart this Purpose.

## Commentary de N0AX (Continued from Page 5)

When this turns out to be true, many stop to reconsider. Perhaps they think "everybody does it" and so may be surprised to find out that no, everybody doesn't do it. And maybe they just haven't been made aware that their tactics are offensive. After all, we have no referees tossing yellow flags on the spot for transgressions.

The flip side of all this is that one can't be too quick to jump to conclusions. A good operator can make a two-VFO radio sound way too nimble for a single, unassisted operator. Well-engineered antennas in a superior location can generate a tremendous signal. Consider carefully whether you're confusing good, aggressive operating with foul play. Or maybe being just too darned finical. If you can pass the "red-faced test", then go ahead.

It does take a little gumption to take up the subject in person or by correspondence. After all, you're basically making an accusation, right? Well, not if you go about it the right way. Perhaps you can open the conversation with something less confrontational, such as, "Hey, N0AX, what a huge pile of multipliers last weekend - what's up with that?" Give them an opportunity to at least respond without invective. The conversation can proceed from there and you've taken the first step in letting them know they're NOT invisible.

Maybe reconsideration will follow. And maybe not, but you tried - a benefaction to your fellow contesters. And while we're on the subject, be sure to make sure that operator in the mirror takes the same advice. The easiest person to fool is one's self, of course.