

The Future of Amateur Radio in Beaver County is in YOUR Hands

On May 24, members of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association, Explorer Post 73 and BSA Troop 405 operated a Special Event Station for Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day at the American Legion in Baden, PA. During that event, three remarkable things happened:

1. Despite the Internet and cell phones, all of the Scouts present were actually **EXCITED** about operating a ham station. In fact, we couldn't pry these kids away from the radios! The event was suppose to end at 1:00 PM; however, it was almost 4:00 PM before we were able to wrap things up. WOW!!!
2. Support from the Beaver County Amateur Radio community was astonishing. Not only did BVARA members turnout in force, but several non-club members that I haven't seen in years paid a visit! In fact, the photos to the right were taken by Denny, KR3DX, a non-BVARA member who attended the event. Thanks, Denny.
3. The Scouts in attendance can't wait until Field Day. Throughout the entire event, all they could talk about was forming "Teams" from within their Troop to operate.

On June 27, 28 and 29, perhaps one of the largest Field Days in Beaver County history will take place at Brady's Run Park. No, I can't make you any promises or guarantees; however, what I can tell you is that over 20+ Scouts from BSA Troop 405 will attend and that over 500 Field Day invitations will be mailed to prospective Explorer Post members within the county courtesy of the

Greater Pittsburgh BSA Council (this mailing can be found on the last four pages of this issue). I can also tell you that we may be joined by members of other Scout Troops that are interested in earning Radio Merit Badges.

The BVARA has reached a critical juncture. At one time, our club boasted over 300 members and operated 33Alpha for Field Day. Last year at this time, Field Day was canceled due to lack of interest and our membership was down to 22. Today, our membership has increased to 43 and is growing. Both our newsletter and website have gained national attention— with a circulation of 500+ and monthly hits exceeding that of the ARRL WPA Section website!

With **YOUR** help, Field Day 2008 can mark the beginning of a new era for amateur radio in Beaver County. As part of this year's Field Day educational program, we hope to introduce 40 new Scouts and their parents to our hobby. All Scouts that enroll in our Field Day Radio Merit Badge classes will be given Technician Class license manuals and an opportunity to attend **FREE** licensing courses. These classes will begin in August and will be offered every Wednesday evening from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the American Legion in Baden.

The future of amateur radio in Beaver County is now in **YOUR** hands. Please plan to participate in this year's event; and, even if you don't want to set-up a station, we have a urgent need for control operators.

YOUR participation and financial support are needed now more than ever.



ARMAD DAY

Just received these photos at press time courtesy of Shawn, KB8UDE.

More ARMAD photos will appear in the next issue of the eQRM.





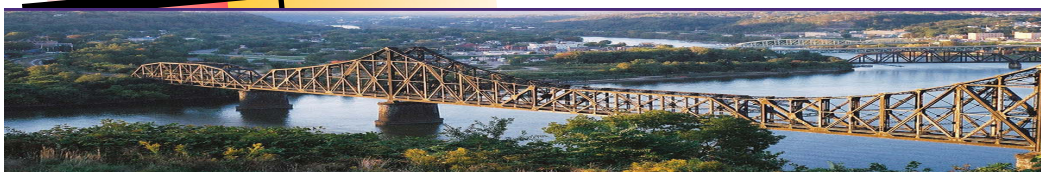
THE BEAVER VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
WWW.W3SGJ.ORG
BEAVER COUNTYS ONLY 75 YEAR ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB!

Explorer Post 73

Home of W3SGJ/R
145.310- 100 Hz PL

FIELD DAY
SPECIAL EDITION

Bob, WA3ZRM - Editor



YOU ARE INVITED TO FIELD DAY 2008

Are you interested in Engineering and Technology? Do you know what Amateur Radio Operators are? Would you like to earn a FCC License that will permit you to talk to people with similar interests around the world? Do you know what education, training and experience is necessary to become a Engineer or Technology Specialist? How hard are these jobs? What are their work schedules? Will you like the job?

If you are interested in becoming an Engineer or Technology Specialist, you probably have these and dozens more questions about finding out what these people do. One way of learning about this career while you are a young adult is to become an Explorer.

Think about becoming an Explorer Scout with the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association's, Post 73. Post 73 is open to young adults age 14-21, from our area, who are interested in "exploring" the fields of Engineering and Technology. Post 73 is a specialized Explorer Post dealing with Electronics, Amateur Radio and Computer Technology, that is sponsored by the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association and chartered by the Boy Scouts of America. Exploring is a Co-ed Division of the Boy Scouts of America. The purpose of specialized Explorer Posts is to expose these young adults to a possible career field, and to let them learn about and participate in this selected field. This opportunity will help the Explorers to determine if this is an area they want to pursue as a career. Some of the Explorers may find that they would like to pursue this as a career, some may find that it is not what they expected, while some may find that although they do not want to go into the field as a career, they may still enjoy it as a hobby.

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association's Explorer Post 73 will be hosting an Open House event for 2008 on June 27, 28 and 29 at Brady's Run Park in Beaver County. You are invited to attend this event which will be located at the Calland Arboretum, Shelter 12, in the park. You can attend the entire event; or, feel free to just stop by and visit.

If you are already a scout and would like to earn your Radio Merit Badge, special workshops will be available for a small fee (\$10.00) to cover instructional materials.



This patch can be purchased at
the Field Day site for a \$5.00 fee.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Post Advisor Pam Spencer, W3PMS, at 724-869-2429 or Post Field Day Chairman George Caffro, N3HOJ, at 724-891-3236.

What is Exploring?

By way of background, Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 to 20 years old. Adults are selected by the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or citizenship is not criteria for participation.



Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities. Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

For more information on Exploring, please visit the following website:

<http://www.learning-for-life.com/exploring/index.html>

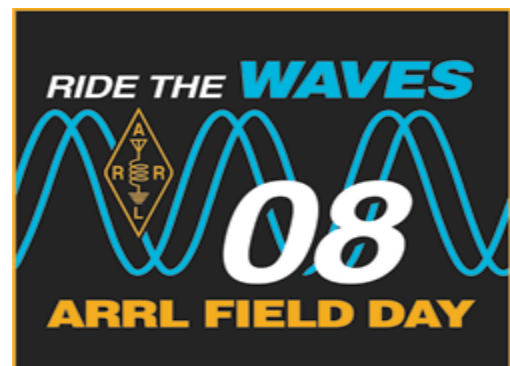
What is Field Day?

Where the spirit of “Amateur Radio Past” joins forces with the Next Generation of Innovations, Interests and Individuals!!!

Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in amateur radio. On the fourth full weekend in June, tens of thousands of amateur radio operators gather for a public demonstration of our service. Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event – **and ALL about FUN!** Amateur radio is about knowledge and growth. It is a hobby and service that truly offers “something for everyone.” **Amateur Radio embraces both the old and new.** While CW may no longer be a testing element, it is still a strong and favorite operating mode for many. Tens of thousands of operators are embracing digital technologies, from RTTY to newer digital modes like PSK31 and Olivia. Phone operation, probably the largest segment of the hobby, also has new frontiers to be explored with digitized voice, VOIP, and IRLP. And this is why Field Day – the largest annual on-the-air operating event – is so exciting. It gives all – the old timer and the newcomer, the brass-pounder and the computer assisted operator – the chance to share and teach the broad range of modes and technologies we find in our hobby.

Field Day is truly the time in which **we bring amateur radio to Main Street USA.** By setting up in parking lots, malls, Emergency Operations Centers, parks and even at home, amateur operators learn skills that will allow them to better serve their communities. Setting up in these public venues gives added public relations value – their friends and neighbors can see and experience the fun and public service capability that their “ham radio” neighbors bring to the community.

Join in the fun! For more information on amateur radio and the ARRL – the national organization for Amateur Radio – visit www.arrl.org



Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

Field Day 2008 Agenda

SITE COORDINATOR – George Caffro, N3HOJ - 724-891-3236

FOOD COORDINATOR – Pam Spencer, W3PMS - 724-869-2429

EXPLORER COORDINATOR – Bob De Marco, WA3ZRM - 724-378-7070



Friday June 27

18:00 UTC/2:00 PM - FIELD DAY SET-UP BEGINS

- All campers and operators may begin to set-up campsites and stations.
- All campers and operators must check-in with the Field Day Site Coordinator, George, N3HOJ, at the main pavilion for location assignment prior to set-up.

All campers and operators must be set-up before 18:00 UTC/2:00 PM on Saturday, June 28, 2008.

22:00 UTC/6:00 PM - COVER DISH DINNER

Everyone attending Field Day is invited and encouraged to attend the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association's (BVARA) traditional Cover Dish Dinner. In order to attend, you must bring a Cover Dish that can feed at least 6 to 8 people. Examples of Covered Dishes include: salads; soup/chili; fruits; chips, pretzels and dips; deserts... lots and lots of deserts!!! Rumor has it that Norm, K3NJT will even be bringing his famous cookies!

The BVARA provides Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Buns, Condiments; Paper/Plastic Ware; and, Beverages.

NOTE: *YOUR COVER DISH WILL REMAIN AT THE PAVILION UNTIL 18:00 UTC/2:00 PM, SUNDAY JUNE 29. **LEFTOVERS ARE USED TO FEED OPERATORS AND VISITORS OVER FIELD DAY WEEKEND.** Please plan accordingly and make arrangements with Pam, W3PMS, for your storage container needs and/or returns.*

23:00 UTC/7:00 PM

BUSINESS MEETING & EXPLORER POST 73 OPEN HOUSE

A brief business meeting and 50/50 Raffle will be held. A presentation will then be made by BVARA Explorer Post members about Post meetings, activities and projects.

01:00 UTC/9:00 PM - CAMPFIRE

YOU PROVIDE YOUR OWN CHOCOLATE & GRAHAM CRACKERS, Post 73 provides the Marshmallows and the BVARA provides the Beverages. This time will be used to answer your questions about Scouting, Exploring and Amateur Radio.

Saturday, June 28

11:00 to 13:00 UTC/7:00 AM to 9:00 AM **Mountain Pie Breakfast**

YOU PROVIDE YOUR OWN MOUNTAIN PIE IRON, the BVARA provides the Fillings and Beverages. Meet at the pavilion.

14:00 to 15:00 UTC/10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Merit Badge Workshops
 15:00 to 16:00 UTC/11:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Merit Badge Workshops
 16:00 to 17:00 UTC/12:00 PM to 1:00 PM – LUNCH
 17:00 to 18:00 UTC/1:00 PM to 2:00 PM – Merit Badge Workshops



Pictured above is the BSA Amateur Radio Merit Badge that you can earn while attending Field Day.

18:00 UTC/2:00 PM – FIELD DAY CONTACTS BEGIN!

18:00 to 19:00 UTC/2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM – Merit Badge Workshops

01:00 UTC/9:00 PM - CAMPFIRE II

YOU PROVIDE YOUR OWN CHOCOLATE & GRAHAM CRACKERS, Post 73 provides the Marshmallows and the BVARA provides the Beverages. This time will be used to answer your questions about Scouting, Exploring and Amateur Radio.

Sunday, June 29

11:00 to 13:00 UTC/7:00 AM to 9:00 AM – Breakfast with PAM!!!

Join Pam, W3PMS, at the pavilion for the BVARA's Field Day Continental Breakfast.

18:00 UTC/2:00 PM – FIELD DAY CONTACTS END!

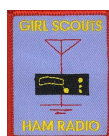
18:00 UTC/2:00 PM – FIELD DAY CLOSING AWARDS, RAFFLE & PRIZES!

AMATEUR RADIO

2008 BVARA

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President: Robert De Marco, WA3ZRM
First Vice President: George Caffro, N3HOJ
Second Vice President: Evan Finkelstein, KB3QFR
Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT
Treasurer: Shawn Hastwell, KB8UDE
Director: Chris Moratis, W3OUF
Director: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z
Trustee: Tony Petrucci, KE3ED/W3SGJ



Meeting Notice

With the exception of the June and August meetings that are held at Brady's Run Park, 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.

Special Field Day Fees

Field Day is a **FREE** event that is open to the general public. While at the event, you may decide to join Post 73, earn a merit badge or purchase a special Field Day Patch as shown on the cover. Here are the fees for each of these items:

POST 73 Six Month Membership	\$10.00
Radio Merit Badge Materials Fee	\$10.00
Field Day Patch	\$5.00