

***Home of W3SGJ/R***  
***145.310- 100 Hz PL***

December 30, 2007

**Bob, WA3ZRM - Editor**

## COMMENTARY: THE BIRTH OF A HAM

Here are some facts and figures concerning the database: All ARRL Division Directors with the exception of one subscribe to the newsletter; for every one unsubscribe I receive, I get about three new subscribers; new unique hits on the [w3sgj.org](http://w3sgj.org) website peak at around 54 the day after the newsletter is published and drop to about 10 the day before a new issue is released; one in about every 10 subscrib-


<http://www.eham.net/arti>

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- 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

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	 1	NETS 2	LUNCH 3	4	DINNER 5

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.

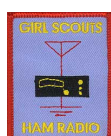
Don't forget to listen to the BVARA club nets every Wednesday Night! 2 Meter Net on 145.31MHz 100Hz PL at 8:30PM and the 10 Meter Net 28.370 QSY +/- 10 at 9:00PM. Also, don't forget the Rip Vanwinkle Net on 2 meters at 7:00AM daily.

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 Applebee's in Monaca on Saturday, January 5 at 6:30 PM. All area amateurs are invited and encouraged to attend these outings.

**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@arrl.net.

## 2008 BVARA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

**President:** Gary Hutchinson, KA3TYK  
**First Vice President:** Robert DeMarco, WA3ZRM  
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**Chief Engineer:** David Heim, KA3SMF



## CLUB NOTES

### MILESTONES CORRECTION

Recently I had forwarded a message about milestones in the section. ARRL HQ has found an error in the database so I am forwarding the new information I have received.

**First, I would like to congratulate The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association on attaining 75 years as an ARRL affiliated club.**

**This is quite a milestone in club status.**

Secondly, the Triple "A" Amateur Radio Association celebrates 35 years this month as an affiliated club.

Finally, I want to welcome The Amateur Radio Club of Edinboro University as our newest affiliated club.

73's

**John, N3MSE - ARRL WPA Section Manager**

## COMMENTARY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Which at my age seemed to take forever up and back, plus the wait on top of things for the work to be done.

Seeming to be such a simple thing to accomplish this eternity of waiting prompted me to make a trip to radio shack for my first soldering iron spawning my early interest in electronics.

A few soldered fingers later I started becoming more efficient in the "Art of soldering". Becoming more curious as to how things worked led me to building small projects out of books from the local library, which ultimately led to making my own simple etched boards and regulated power supplies.

The occasional basic repairs for my local CB Buddies, added a few extra bucks in the coffers for solder and heatsink compound etc, and old damaged radios for parts salvage and the occasional resurrection. A buck a week for an allowance from somebody that gambled everything away didn't go very far. It didn't take too long to cash in enough scavenged pop bottles to get a small roll of 60/40.

The Library's science department became invaluable for needed schematics, which a retired Zenith engineer named Charlie Hixon turned me on to.

My mother, getting more involved with radio, and not liking the way CB was becoming, Started nursing a desire to try Ham radio, and purchased a Hallicrafters SX-111 receiver. She would try everything she could think of to get me to study Morse with her. She eventually gave me the Hallicrafters.

After Disassembling the heavy pri-

mary of an old TV transformer and stringing it from the 4th floor fire escape to the Viaduct, above and across the lot of the sheet metal factory next door I had my first longwire. It was amazing how much I was able to pick up, especially on 10-meters.

Filled with the desire to tinker, I had occasionally heard those ?\$%\*# ham operators and decide to take classes at the local Red Cross. The instructors were a little surprised when I was normally the one to answer their questions about Ohms law etc. But could never quite seem to get the code down. After a few weeks (and lack of bus fare) I dropped out of classes.

With the arrival of the 80's along with the discovery of women, Radio slowly faded to the wayside after moving to my father's hometown in Ky. (1991) not to mention the lack of parts.

In 1998, I moved back to Ohio, and while working security, decided to get back into radio a few years later. After installing a radio in my vehicle I couldn't believe how bad radio had become during my hiatus. In 2006 I came in contact with a dear old friend I hadn't seen in over 20 years. Imagine my surprise when I found out that in my absence he had become a HAM! I didn't realize he was ever even interested in such a thing. Now he was KC8VLE, His ex brother in law, WN8GXX, his eldest son KC8WPI, and his wife was getting ready to take her test (now KD8DDR) and her uncle frank (I don't remember his call sign.)

I had been studying for the license on occasion over the years, but for some reason kept procrastinating. Now the pressure was being applied from all directions.

I finally succumbed to the pressure in 2006.

**de KD8DEY**

### REPLY de N3OX

A lot more hams started on CB than are willing to admit it.

Count me in. I was tinkering with electronics and found my Dad's old CB in the barn, and that started it.

I was a little bit of a homebrewer from the start. I found some antenna books somewhere and built myself a vertical dipole and power supply and talked to my buddies around town who also got interested in it.

But, once I became a ham I was really embarrassed by coming in via CB. I found an old usenet post of mine once where I was making fun of CB ... I dunno, I guess to fit in?

Anyway, it's a free radio service and has all the magic of wireless ... and the radios cost thirty bucks at WalMart... and eventually people are likely to get worn out on CB.

For me it was when some kids somewhat older than I was started threatening to find my house and beat me up.

It's going to continue bringing people into the hobby, and they're probably going to come in because they're sick of CB shenanigans but really love to talk on the radio.

I don't (anymore) see what's wrong with that.

**de N3OX, Dan**

### REPLY de AF6GB

*(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					

## COMMENTARY (Continued from Page 3)

My brother was my first ham inspiration. He had become interested through Boy Scouts. He's nine years older than I, so when he was doing this at fifteen, I was six. I was awed by the mast he bought and the old military gear he had and never really ended up using. The idea of talking on the radio always seemed glamorous to me as a kid.

But somehow the rubber never really met the road for me on Ham, until after a stint playing around with CB as a teenager. Heh, I was jailbait as I flirted on radio with college town CB bunnies. Got some funny reactions as some of them decided I was cute (or whatever) and were advised that I was "1-5, 15."

By 16, my Dad discovered that I was using more power than was legal without a license. He scolded me pretty solidly, took my radio's crystals away, busted me trying to buy new ones at Radio Shack once and... ultimately we took a CB license. Which, ... well, it was unsatisfactory. Hey, if I'm gonna have a license, why not REALLY do radio? I'd been interested in science (especially electronics) since I was a kid anyway, so why not?

So, I enlisted Mr. Austin, who happened to be my Driver Training instructor and, as I look back, everyone's image of the ultimate elmer (I never heard that term until recently)--and he'd helped many. He arranged for the mail-order Novice exam and, armed with my Heathkit HR10-B and DX-60, I strung a crummy inverted V outside my window and had a few QSOs as WD6GQJ.

Then college and a few other things happened, and Ham got back burned. I always intended to get back into it, but it didn't happen in any kind of earnest until two months ago...

I live in a very rural mountain area that experienced a wildland fire in 2004 and, in the subsequent, "second wettest year on record in SoCal," flash floods that trapped my wife and me on our property for several hours, and did the same for many of our neighbors. I have one neighbor who has 100' canyons from that Winter that he never had before.

This has led to a lot of talk about emergency communications in our community group. Ham talk was raised and I volunteered to research and propose approaches to community emergency communications needs.

<http://www.live-well-survive-well.com/aboutradio.html> is a page from my website that discusses conclusions of that research. (Any comments on that page, related pages, or unrelated pages on my site are welcomed, using my "Contact" page. All of us are smarter than one of us).

My community has adopted the recommendations and, partly as a result, we have three new Hams in the community, serving the longer-range comms to complement local FRS/GMRS comms.

I'm one of those three.

de AF6GB, Keith

## Ham Radio Operators Broadcast Festival of Lights Information de Wheeling News-Register

WHEELING, WVA — Creating friendships across the globe, local ham radio operators are communicating cross-culturally, and even helping to bring tourism into the state.

On Saturday, the National Association for Amateur Radio Northern Panhandle Club began broadcasting information about Oglebay Park's Winter Festival of Lights around the world. The service will continue every day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today through Saturday.

Amateur radio, often called ham radio, is both a hobby and a service that uses various types of radio communications equipment to communicate with other radio amateurs for public service, recreation and self-training. A participant is called an amateur radio operator, or a ham.

Hams take part in wireless communications with each other and often support their communities with emergency and disaster communications while increasing their personal knowledge of electronics and radio theory.

"This is the seventh year we have done this for Oglebay Park," said club president John Green. "We talk to people all across the world who have been to the lights. We tell people about the lights and how it's been here since 1985. The more tourism we get in West Virginia the better."

Green said the best part about promoting the Winter Festival of Lights is contacting people who have already been to Wheeling — who live in another part of the world.

"You make friends all around the world," Green said. "I am on the ham radio every day. It's part of my life. Many of our spouses and kids are 'hams.'"

Operator Paul Scott said hams like to think of themselves as being there to help "when all else fails." "Amateur radio exists because it's a service," Scott said.

Joe McCreedy, secretary, agreed and said ham radio operators do a lot during disasters in the area. Dedicating

himself completely to ham radio operating, McCreedy has spoken to other operators in more than 100 countries and on every continent. "We do a lot of public service work," McCreedy said. "A lot of people in emergency services right now are getting their ham radio license."

An estimated 6 million people throughout the world are regularly involved with amateur radio. In the Wheeling area, 20 dedicated members make up the Northern Panhandle club. Many of the members have been involved with the hobby since the 1960s. For information on the club, call 740-676-2590.



**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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Technician

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ General

☐ Advanced

☐ Extra

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 LZ1ZF, 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.

ROTUMA, 3D2. Tony, 3D2AG is QRV as 3D2AG/p until the end of January. He is generally active on 20 meters using mostly CW but with some SSB as well, and on 40 and 17 meters using CW. QSL via FO5RK.

CYPRUS, 5B. Special event station C4EURO will be QRV during 2008 to commemorate the Euro as the new currency of Cyprus. Activity will be on all HF and VHF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via 5B4AGC.

TANZANIA, 5H. Pat, W8FV is QRV as 5H9PD until January 12. Activity is mainly on 40 to 10 meters using CW with some PSK31. He may try to be active on 80 meters as well. QSL to home call.

KENYA, 5Z. Ben, DL7UCX will be QRV as 5Z4/DL7UCX from December 31 to January 12. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 17 meters using mainly CW. QSL to home call.

MOROCCO, CN. Didier, F4ELJ is QRV as CN4MC until January 3. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Giovanni, IZ2DPX will be QRV as EA8 home-call from Fuerteventura, IOTA AF-004, from December 30 to January 6. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters. QSL via IK2DUW.

JERSEY, GJ. Operators Flo, F5CWU, Sylvain, F4EGD and Terry, F5MOO are QRV as MJ/homecalls until Janu-

ary 6. Tom, GM4FDM is QRV as GJ4FDM, also until January 6. Activity is on the HF bands, including 2 meters. QSL to home calls.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. Marek, SP3GVX will soon be QRV as HF0POL from the Polish Henryk Arc-towski Antarctic Station. He is here for all of 2008. QSL via SP3WVL.

OGASAWARA, JD1. Harry, JG7PSJ will be QRV as JD1BMH from Chichijima, IOTA AS-031, from December 29 to January 4. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

BULGARIA, LZ. In commemoration of the 130th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from the Ottoman empire, special event call LZ130LO will be QRV from January 1 to March 31. QSL via operators' instructions.

SURINAME, PZ. A team of operators will be QRV as PZ5YV from Paramaribo for ten days in the first half of January. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via IT9DAA.

KAZAKHSTAN, UN. Rashad, 4J9M is QRV as UN/4J9M until February 3 while on business here. QSL via DL7EDH.

ANTIGUA, V2. Pete, N0FW and Rod, KE0A are QRV as V25FW and V26GF, respectively, until January 2. Look for V25FW to be active in the Stew Perry Topband CW Challenge contest using low power. They will be active holiday style. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. QSL V25FW via W8QID and V26GF via KE0A.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA and GOUGH ISLANDS, ZD9. Andy, ZD9BV has been active on 20 meters from around 0730 to 0800z. QSL direct to home call.

MICRONESIA, V6. Kazu, JA0VSH and his XYL Miyuki, JG0PBJ are QRV as V63KZ and V63MP, respectively, from Pohnpei, IOTA OC-010, until January 3. They may also be active using club call V63BBQ. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via JA0VSH.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The Stew Perry Topband CW Challenge, NCCC CW Sprint, RAC Winter Contest, Original QRP CW Contest, SARTG New Year RTTY Contest, AGCW Happy New Year CW Contest and the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest are all on tap for this last weekend of 2007. The ARRL Straight Key Night begins January 1st. The Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party runs until January 1. Please see December QST, page 79, January 2008 QST, page 98 and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.



### New Prefix for Bosnia-Herzegovina Officially Announced

In response to a request from the Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina in August, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) withdrew the call sign prefix allocation T9A-T9Z for Bosnia and Herzegovina and made a new allocation, E7A-E7Z. The change was made initially on a provisional basis under authority of the ITU Secretary-General and was confirmed by the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference to be effective November 17, 2007.

According to International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, the Ministry of Communications and Transport (BiH) held a press conference in Sarajevo on December 18 to formally announce the change. Minister Dr Bozo Ljubic explained the

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## Propagation de K7RA

Last week this bulletin reported sunspot 978 rotating from view. Now through a process called helioseismic holography, an image of the Sun's far side shows the spot fading away. 978 was first visible December 6, and squarely faced earth on December 12. Perhaps January 2 or 3 we will again see 978 peeking around the eastern limb, if it hasn't by then faded completely.

No sunspots at all this week, and average daily solar flux was down over 12 points from the previous week. Geomagnetic activity was still low, and down slightly. Over the next week the planetary A index is predicted to be 5 on each day, a low number indicating a stable and quiet geomagnetic field. Solar flux is expected to stay around 72 for Dec 28-30, rising to 73 on December 31, 75 for the first few days of the new year, then up to 80 and 85 by January 4-5. This indicates an expectation for the return of sunspot 978 or possibly other sunspots around the same time.

Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet geomagnetic conditions. December 28-30, quiet to unsettled December 31, and quiet January 1-3.

Michael Mark, VE4MM was portable /6Y5 December 10-19 from Runaway Bay, Jamaica when he went to visit a new home built by a friend from Winnipeg. Michael brought a 2-element beam, and occupied the top floor with an ocean view. He worked all the five bands from 10 to 20 meters, concentrating on 17 meters. This was during the recent robust sunspot activity, and it was a real treat experiencing HF conditions from 18.46 degrees North Latitude, far different from his home at 49.84 degrees. He commented, "I made my own con-

ditions on 10 and 12 meters just by calling CQ." I think he means that when first tuning the band, it sounded dead, but came to life once VE4MM/6Y5 was heard. All together he made almost 1400 contacts, most of them on 17 meters.

We received more reports of 10 meter surprises, probably due to sporadic-E, although it doesn't seem the season for it. Hank Pfizenmayer, K7HP of Phoenix, Arizona heard "horrible 40-meter noise wiping out FJ/OH2AM," so he switched to 10 meters to see if he could pinpoint the source with his beam. This was well after dark, and more than six hours after local sunset at 0632-0636z. He heard beacons from Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri. W0ERE/B in Southwest Missouri was S9 from 5 watts into a vertical.

This weekend is the Stew Perry Topband DX Challenge, an annual 160 meter CW operating event. The link, <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/stew.html> given in the ARRL Contest. Calendar doesn't seem to work early Friday morning, although it may be back by the time you read this. With no sunspots in sight, and quiet geomagnetic conditions, a long Winter's night is a great time for 160 meters. Try <http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/dec.html> for rules, or check out <http://tinyurl.com/3dslt> and [http://www.radiosport.netstew07\\_preview.htm](http://www.radiosport.netstew07_preview.htm) for more details.

Don't forget Straight Key Night on New Year's Eve. This runs from 0000-2359z January 1, and is lots of fun, and a nice excuse to activate some old and classic manual keys. See, <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/skn.html> for details.

Next week in the first bulletin of the New Year we will review some of the numbers, including average sunspot numbers for the whole of 2007. 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>. 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/>.

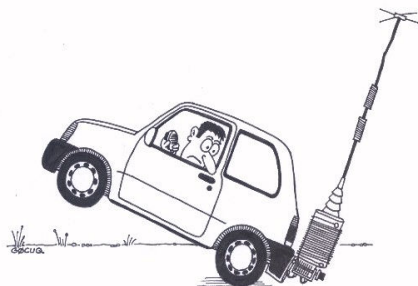
Sunspot numbers for December 20 through 26 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. 10.7 cm flux was 72.6, 71, 71.5, 71.4, 71.4, 72, and 72.6 with a mean of 71.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 12, 11, 7, 6, 2, 2 and 2 with a mean of 6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 9, 7, 4, 1, 2 and 1, with a mean of 4.9.



**Pam, there seems to be some hissing on my signal...maybe it's my new callsign, KZ3Z?**

## Gary's Amateur Radio Cartoons

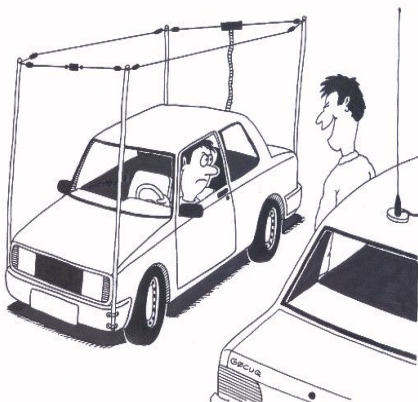
A little bit of radio humour from the pen of GOCUQ



**KB8UDE's New Ride!**



**At no call Norm's QTH, all the equipment is homebrew!!!**



**George, don't you think you are going a little overboard with this Field Day Chairman position???**

## DX NEWS via the ARRL

(Continued from  
Page 6)

desirability of changing a prefix that initially was allocated

during wartime and how it was now being replaced with one that has no connection to that troubled time; similar steps have been taken with regard to passports, drivers' licenses and automobile registrations, he said. Ljubic also observed that the costs associated with the change were minimal compared to the benefits.

Amateur Radio station licenses bearing E7 prefixes will be issued beginning in January 2008, and the use of other prefixes will be phased out.

Sumner and IARU Region 1 President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, of Norway, were invited to speak at the press conference. Accompanying them was IARU Region 1 Executive Committee member Nikola Percin, 9A5W, of Croatia. They expressed congratulations and support for the change, limiting an issue that has complicated relations among the radio amateurs of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Also invited to speak was Miroslav Nikse, President of the Union of Radio Amateur Associations of Bosnia and Herzegovina (URAS), a recently formed umbrella organization of amateur radio associations based in different parts of the country. He thanked those involved in promoting the change. In his remarks, Dr Ljubic pledged support from the Ministry of Communications and Transport to the umbrella organization for the development of Amateur Radio repeater and digital networks that would cover the whole of the country, enhancing emergency communications capabilities.



WWW.ARRL.ORG



## The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

*"Worthy Components" -- Get out your resistor color code chart and see if you can track down the various parts of this puzzler!*

Those little bits and pieces that make up so much of electronics are often taken for granted. This puzzle's theme is words associated with the various types of simple electronics components. How well do you know your little friends and neighbors?

(See Page 9)

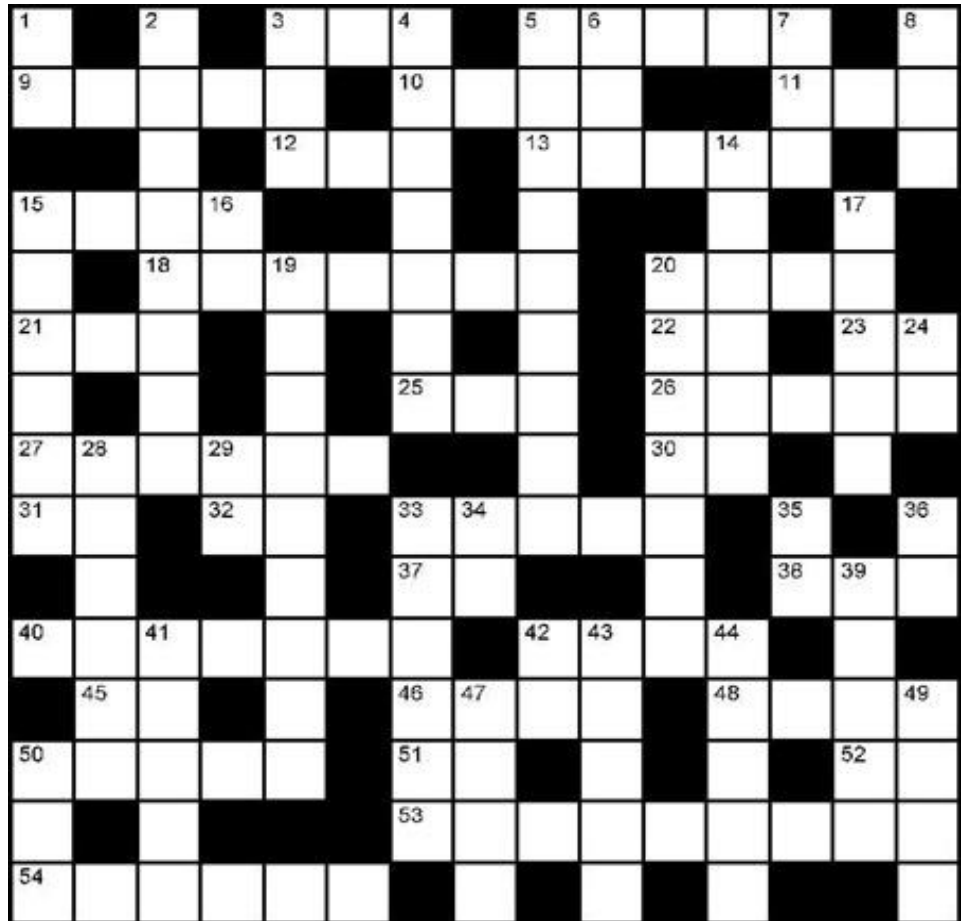




# A HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Across

3. Batteries with liquid electrolyte are ... cells
5. Prevent flow of ac current
9. Unit of inductance
10. Translate symbols into information
11. Old abbreviation for pico
12. Ferrites prevent this type of interference (abbr.)
13. This moves on a variable capacitor
15. Designates "6" on resistor band
18. Material of disc capacitors
20. Resistors cause voltage to do this
21. Adjustable resistor
22. Common abbreviation for "that is"
23. Mixer signal (abbr.)
25. Receiver frequency fine tune (abbr.)
26. Legitimate
27. Hit
30. Indefinite article
31. A good job is done "just ..."
32. Light (abbr.)
33. Unit of capacitance
37. Abbreviation for chip
38. One in a million (abbr.)
40. Printed value of a component
42. Makes mistakes
45. Input-Output (abbr.)
46. Lift or carry
48. Smallest state in the tenth district
50. Confuse
51. Electric vehicle (abbr.)
52. CW abbreviation for "and"
53. Power dissipating components
54. These designate numbers and exponents of component values



## Down

1. Thousands of microhenries (abbr.)
2. Stores magnetic energy
3. Opposite of delta connection
4. Small adjustable capacitor
5. Stores electric energy
6. Good kind of cholesterol (abbr.)
7. Longest possible path for a contact
8. Main frequency control
14. Imply hostile intent
15. Shunt ac signals around a component
16. Engineer that knows the most about electricity (abbr.)
17. Divided in two
19. Imaginary impedance
20. Two series resistors form a voltage ....
24. Rod dimension that must be less than a matching hole's ID
28. Round core with a hole in the middle
29. Safety lab (abbr.)
33. Remove a signal
34. Reversing current
35. A correctly adjusted circuit is "tuned ..."
36. Most popular mode on 2-meters
39. Volts times amps
41. Prototype or exhibit
42. Phoned home
43. One component of epoxy
44. Blue-black-black
47. Heats materials
49. Assistant (abbr.)
50. Keeps volume constant (abbr.)



## Vanilla-Poached Pears in Custard Sauce

### Pears

6 pears, at room temperature  
3 tbsp/45 mL **Original Double-Strength Vanilla**  
3 tbsp/45 mL honey

### Custard Sauce (*Crème Anglaise*)

1-1/2 cups/375 mL whole milk

4 egg yolks

1/4 cup/60 mL sugar

Dash of salt

1 tsp/5 mL **Original Double-Strength Vanilla**

### Crème Chantilly

1 cup/240 mL heavy whipping cream

2 to 4 tbsp/30 to 60 mL powdered sugar (depending on sweetness desired)

1 tsp/5 mL **Original Double-Strength Vanilla**



### Pears

Fill a Dutch oven or 5-quart/5-litre saucepan half full with water. Over high heat, bring to a boil. Meanwhile, core pears from the bottom, leaving stem intact, then peel. Stir the vanilla and honey into the water. Set pears in water. Bring water back to a boil, reduce heat and simmer pears until tender but not soft (10 to 20 minutes, depending upon ripeness of pears). With slotted spoon, gently remove pears from poaching liquid and drain well. Cover with plastic wrap and chill until serving time.

### Custard Sauce (*Crème Anglaise*)

Heat milk in top of double boiler over direct heat until tiny bubbles appear around edge of pan. Beat egg yolks, sugar and salt, mixing well. Pour the hot milk into the egg mixture very slowly, beating constantly. Return mixture to double boiler top; place over hot (not boiling) water. Water should not touch pan. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture is thick enough to coat metal spoon (8 to 10 minutes). Immediately pour custard into a bowl, cover with plastic wrap and set in a larger bowl of ice water to cool. Stir in vanilla. Refrigerate until very cold.

### Crème Chantilly

Chill the small bowl and beaters of an electric mixer (if in a hurry, place in freezer). Beat the cream in chilled bowl until it begins to thicken. Add the powdered sugar and vanilla and beat until stiff. Do not overbeat.

**To assemble dessert:** Place 3/4 cup/180 mL Crème Chantilly in pastry tube and fill center of pears. Divide custard sauce evenly between 6 serving dishes. Place a pear upright in custard in center of each dish. Pipe remaining whipped cream on sides of pears as desired. Sprinkle with **Watkins Nutmeg**. Serve immediately.

## Thanks, I Kneaded That

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



Can you predict cold, rainy weather more accurately than your local meteorologist simply by the level of joint pain you experience? If so, your forecast just got brighter. A study just published in the British Medical Journal found that nearly 90% of patients taking glucosamine supplements for 12 weeks found significant relief from chronic knee pain. Doctors believe that breakdown of cartilage is a major cause of knee pain. Glucosamine, a substance found naturally in the body, appears to stimulate the production of cartilage, which scientists believe may be responsible for the reduction in joint pain and stiffness. Watkins Linimax™, a source of glucosamine, is available at [www.watkinsonline.com](http://www.watkinsonline.com), along with time-tested Liniments and Salves, which provide temporary relief from arthritic aches and pains.

## 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](mailto:ajs322@comcast.net)

## Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society

I recently had the opportunity to exchange e-mail with Rich, WA3QKX who is the current President of the Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society. Rich forwarded me a copy of their clubs newsletter which I found to be of such interest that I decided to add an additional page to this issue of the eQRM ... something I hope to do with other club's in upcoming issues.

As I mentioned a few issues back, one of my earliest memories of ham radio involved attending a GPVHFS meeting in the 1970's concerning a new technology called Packet Radio.

One item that was of particular interest to me was GPVHF's involve-



ment with the Salvation Army's Team Emergency Radio Network or SATERN for short. What follows is an overview of SATERN and it's relationship to amateur radio in our region.



### Salvation Army's Team Emergency Radio Network

A visit to the following website: [www.salvationarmydisasterservices.org/](http://www.salvationarmydisasterservices.org/) will provide readers with a comprehensive description of the SATERN service.

SATERN is a corps of Amateur Radio volunteers who have united themselves with the Disaster Services program of the Salvation Army. This group provides the Salvation Army with the nucleus of their communications support system in the event of an emergency.

#### The Primary objectives of SATERN are:

- 1) To develop and maintain a corps of Amateur Radio operators, skilled in emergency trafficking and communications, to assist The Salvation Army during times of disaster;
- 2) Assist in training other Salvation Army personnel to access and use the resource of Amateur Radio for

local, regional, national, and international disasters; and,  
3) Development of training materials and exercises designed to enhance the use of Amateur Radio within the Salvation Army Disaster Services programs.

Any licensed Amateur Radio Operator is eligible to serve as a volunteer member of the SATERN team. The only restriction on a potential volunteer is that they cannot be currently serving as a communications volunteer for another major private relief agency such as the Red Cross. Volunteers may belong to RACES, ARES, Skywarn or any Amateur Radio Club.

If you would like volunteering with SATERN to provide these vital services in giving aid and assistance to your community in times of emergency, please call (412) 922-4808 for more information.

### GPVHFS

#### Officers

President - Rich WA3QKX  
Vice President - Dave N3BJA  
Treasurer - Don KA3IYI  
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#### Trustees

Ricky N3ZCH  
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Phil WB3DHF

### GPVHFS Repeater System

146.01 / 146.61 MHz

222.380 / 223.980 MHz

444.950 / 449.950 MHz

144.73 / 145.33 MHz (Aleg911) -  
29.54 / 29.64 MHz - 52.640MHz

*Repeaters are linked to provide simultaneous transmission*

*on all three bands*

#### Packet Frequency

144.910 MHz

Connect to W3PGH for digipeating  
or to read the

Swap-n-Shop List

Connect to CANON or PITTS for

K-node functions



**Photo of a portion of WPA's SATERN Fleet.**