THE eQRM

We are having our annual Corn Roast
Saturday August 12, 2023 at 5PM

The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association   W3SGJ

2M   Repeater   145.310   PL 131.8

On the Cover: Our annual Corn Roast is this month. Come attend a great event! We hope to see you there.

Inside this edition

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

Who We Are

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 (A.K.A. THE 911 Center)
351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003
on the second Thursday of every month
(unless otherwise stated).

2023
Aug 12 Corn Roast
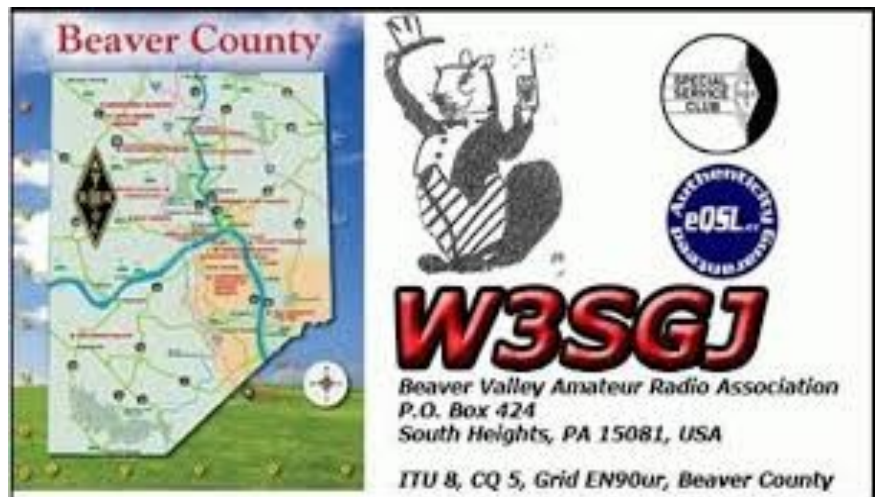Sep 14
Oct 12
Nov 09
Dec 09 Christmas Party
2024
Jan 11
Feb 08
Mar 14
Apr 11
May 09
Jun 13

This Month:

BVARA Corn Roast!

Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 5 PM.

See page 12 for details.

More this Month

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

Weekly

Thursday Morning Breakfast
(or you can have lunch)

Come join us!

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.
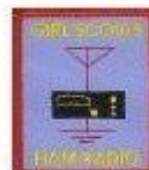
Get your License or Upgrade

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!

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.

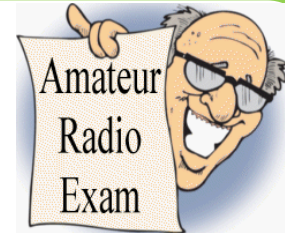ALL candidates MUST bring ALL of the following:

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 only.
6. Your FRN Number. (free from the FCC, call for details)

Testing this Month :

July 2023 VE Test Session Results

Our July VE Test Session had three successful candidates, with their achievements of either obtaining their new Amateur Radio license or upgrading their current license. Our electronic filing system once again worked superbly, despite FCC web site issues.

Our testing was conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA. Our next VE Test Session will be on Sept 14, 2023. There will not be any testing for the month of August, we will all be at the BVARA corn roast.

Congratulations to:

Barbara Harris, KC3WMB, Technician, Baden, PA
Glenn Harris, KC3WMC, Technician, Baden, PA
Roy Price, KC3WHQ , General, Monaca, PA

All of our BVARA testing would not be possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

A huge thank you to our Volunteer Examiners :

Reg Genola – W3REG,

Tony Pavilonis – K3AHP,

Mick Pyzoha – N3OJP,

Bart Stack – KB3NFM

Bob Winkle – N3AZZ

Frank Witkowski - W3FJW

Rich Soltesz - K3SOM, VE Liaison
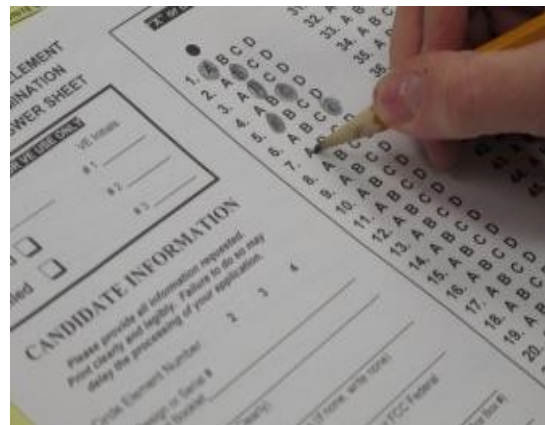
Membership Information

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	
○	BVARA full membership	25.00	_____
○	BVARA student membership	15.00	_____
○	BVARA associate membership	10.00	_____
○	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.)

○	Technician	Name _____
○	General	Address _____
○	Advanced	_____
○	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

Uniontown Amateur Radio Club

73nd Annual Gabfest
Saturday, August 12,2023

The Uniontown Amateur Radio Club – W3PIE will conduct our
73nd Annual GABFEST on
Saturday, August 12 , 2023!

The gates open around 8:00 AM with vendors welcome at any time Friday or starting at 6:00 AM Saturday!

The GABFEST will be held at the Radio Club Grounds located on Old Pittsburgh Road just off Northgate Highway/RT 43 Mon Fayette Expressway--- near RT 51 and US RT 119 in Uniontown, PA

Talk in will be provided on 147.045 + (Full Time PL 131.8) Just call for W3PIE Gabfest Talk-In.
This talk-in is provided for directions and Gabfest information. No check in is needed if you know how to get here!

As always, free parking is available! Refreshments available! Free Swap-N-Shop Set-up with registration!
Check our web site prior to the event for Covid 19 Restriction Updates.

Hamfest Prizes for our event !

1st Prize : Yaesu FTM-400DX
2nd Prize : Yaesu FTM-200DX
3rd Prize : Yaesu FT-70D
4th Prize : Yaesu FT- 70D

WPA ARRL DCCX Card Checker
Tim Haniwalt "N3DL" Will be at Gabfest.

Address of UARC-W3PIE is 433 Old Pittsburgh Rd, Uniontown, PA

Contact Tony Alviar 724-430-1277 (M-F 8-4) or George Syner 724-439-1554
(leave message if no answer) if more information is needed. Also,
Information is available anytime on 147.045 + (Full Time PL 131.8).
Additionally- email officers@w3pie.org for information

Look forward to seeing everyone this year!

2023 SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY
SWAP N SHOP!

SUNDAY AUGUST 27, 2023 8:00am until 1:00pm
LOCATED AT OUR CLUB GROUNDS NEAR NEW KENSINGTON PA

Aprox 13 miles northeast of Pittsburgh

2335 Turkey Ridge Road

New Kensington, PA 15068

Talk-in 146.640- 131.8pl

Admission $5.00 – Table space is $5.00 (Bring your own table)

Great prizes

Door prizes

Begali CW key raffle

Breakfast and lunch served

Get your Skyview Burger and your Skyview Dipole Hotdog!

Contact: John Italiano WA3KFS - 724-339-3821

K3mjw@arrl.net

https://www.facebook.com/SkyviewRadioSociety

Location is near the intersection of Rt. 366 and Rt. 380

From Apollo / Leechburg: Take Rt. 66 S to Rt. 380. Take 380 W to Rt. 366. Take Rt. 366 W (toward New Kensington) to the end of the 4 lane. Go ¼ mile past the end of the 4 lane. Turn right on Whitten Hollow Road. Go about ½ mile to first stop sign. Turn right on Turkey Ridge Road. Go about ½ mile to top of hill. Skyview is on the left.
From New Kensington: Take Rt. 366 E. Go about 5 miles from the Parnassas area. Look for the Hannan Building on the left. Go about 100 yards past the Hannan Building (If you get to the 4 lane, you went too far). Turn left on Whitten Hollow Road. Go about ½ mile to first stop sign. Turn right on Turkey Ridge Road. Go about ½ mile to top of hill. Skyview is on the left.
From Monroeville / Parkway: Take Rt. 286 E to Rt. 380 E. Take Rt. 380 E to Rt. 366. Take Rt. 366 W (toward New Kensington) to the end of the 4 lane. Go ¼ mile past the end of the 4 lane. Turn right on Whitten Hollow Road. Go about ½ mile to first stop sign. Turn right on Turkey Ridge Road. Go about ½ mile to top of hill. Skyview is on the left.
From Greensburg: Take Rt. 66 N to Rt. 366. Take Rt. 366 W (toward New Kensington). Cross over Route 380 and then go to the end of the 4 lane. Go ¼ mile past the end of the 4 lane. Turn right on Whitten Hollow Road. Go about ½ mile to first stop sign. Turn right on Turkey Ridge Road. Go about ½ mile to top of hill. Skyview is on the left.

Of Interest to All

BVARA Coming Attractions

August

Corn Roast, Economy County Park, Shelter 1, around or just before 5:00 PM, August 12th

More POTA Activations

August 5th and 6th, North American QSO Party, CW

August 19th and 20th, North American QSO Party, SSB

Skyview Radio Society clubhouse and grounds – Hamfest, August 27th 2335 Turkey Ridge Rd, New Kensington, PA

September

Butler County ARA hamfest – Unionville Volunteer Fire Company Station 14, 102 Mayhood Rd, Butler, PA

October

Trip to GBRT to operate their Radio Telescope for 24 hours, Cass Railway, POTA in WV, Overnight stay, early to mid-October

More POTA Activations

PA QSO Party, October 14th and 15th

November

(TBD)

You're invited

What: Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association annual Corn Roast

When: Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 5 PM

Where: Old Economy Park, shelter #1. (Same location we have used in the past.) Enter the park, go straight toward the pool, make a left, and follow that road to the end.

The BVARA is holding its annual Corn Roast on Saturday, August 12. This will be a fun family get-together with lots of food and fellowship. Please make plans to attend and bring your favorite covered dish.

The club will provide fried chicken and corn-on-the-cob.

Please notify Doug, N4YKQ, at n4ykq@verizon.net or n4ykq@comcast.net or Jim, KC3IXE, at jjjallen@comcast.net to let us know if you plan to attend and how many family or friends you are bringing.

See you all there,
Doug, N4YKQ

Of Interest to All

Enon Valley Community Day with the BVARA and Ham Radio

Regarding the Enon Valley Community Day, the four of us including Jim, KC3IXE, Tom, N3XC, and Tim, K2EAA from his home put three stations on the air from our previous location last year by the Enon Presbyterian Church using our club call sign, W3SGJ. July 15th, 2023 was a hot and humid day with very little wind. But we had a good time, especially next to the Amish women making their glazed doughnuts.

Tom was using a Wolf River Coil vertical antenna with three deployed radials. When tuned, the SWR dropped down to around 1.2 at the frequency that Tom wanted to use for 40-meter QRP CW operation.

To the right is Tom, N3XC calling CQ QRP on 40m CW.

Of Interest to All

Tom, N3XC and a young visitor

Tom and Jim had several young kids come by and Jim was able to reliably talk to Tim on the two-meter repeater while Tom helped other kids practice sending Morse Code with the letters and numbers displayed in front of them. Tim was at his home standing by for us to give him a call on 2 meters. His support was much appreciated in conversing with the kids.

Jim, KC3IXE

Of Interest to All

Friday evening, we put up a 90-foot sloping vertical about halfway up a very tall oak tree. Jim's ICOM AH-4 auto tuner did a remarkable job matching that antenna on multiple bands. I used a counterpoise ground that was about 50 feet long on the ground and around the house where we were. SWR didn't even register any return loss values on the ICOM-7300.

15 contacts are in the log on SSB on 20 meters. An ADI file was created from our paper log after the contest. One ham was a VOTA member while many other contacts were operating POTA activations.

An Evolve laptop running Linux Mint was connected to the ICOM-7300 and one or two contacts on 20 meters with FT8 were added to our total contacts at the Enon Valley event. Bob, N3AZZ, Tony, K3AHP, and Doug, K3GTX stopped by and spent some time with us.

Those doughnuts were awesome!

Rich – K3SOM

100 Years Ago in *QST Magazine*

Continuing, this issue of our *eQRM Newsletter* and in celebration of our 100th Anniversary of the BVARA, two issues of the 1923 QST Magazine will be featured. A photo of the cover of each issue will be shown as well as a description of two articles within each issue of the magazine.

The cover of the **July 1923** issue of *QST Magazine* by Clyde Darr, 8ZZ shows a rather rotund mailman in full uniform and cap as he personally delivers two handfuls of QSL cards to an eager ham who is sitting by his equipment with his headphones on. He pauses to thank the mailman as he reads the first message on a QSL card. Gone today with LOTW are the personal, hand-written messages from a bygone era. Perhaps a comment field could be added to LOTW?
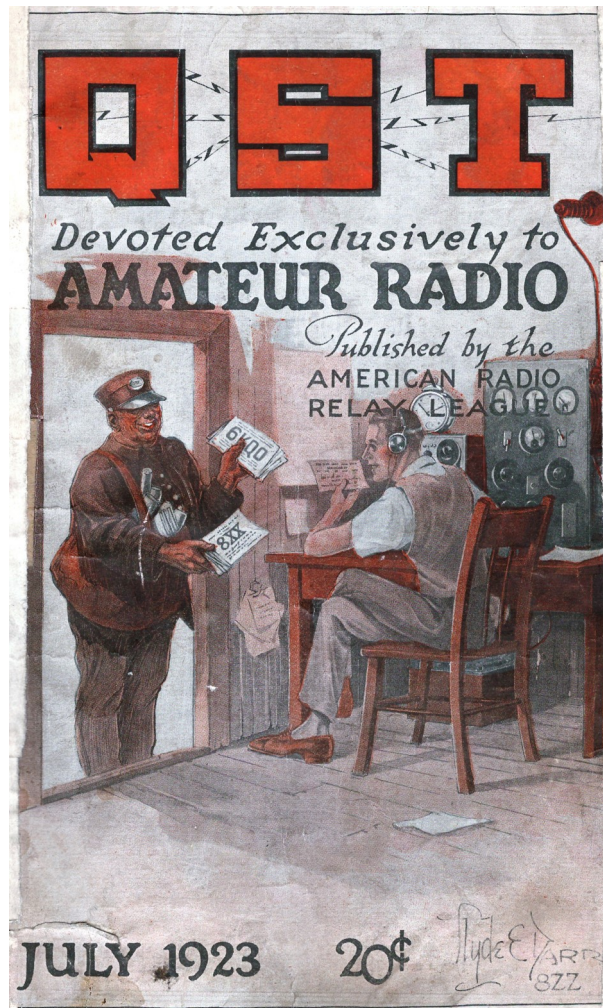
This issue of *QST Magazine* headlines the ham news of the day with an eight-page feature article entitled *Amateur Radio Shoves Off for the Pole.* The lead photo captures: On board the "Bowdoin," after unpacking the equipment from a mountainous pile of packing cases. ARRL personnel, radio operator D.H. Mix, 1TS, the Zenith design engineer, and the skipper, Dr. MacMillan are shown, clustered around the communications equipment. The article goes on to describe the

equipment, the plan, the route, the receiver, the tuner, the wavemeter, the installation on the "Bowdoin" with practical operating rules. Schedules, messages and deliveries, urgent message handling, and a list of American Newspaper Alliance contacts are described. Rounding out the article is a photo of Dr. MacMillan wearing Arctic furs, ready for a sledge trip.

In another article, *U.S. Will Send Standard Waves for ARRL*, seven frequencies from 425 KHz up to 1500 KHz were to be sequentially broadcast, starting with "QST", then the Standard Wave, and finally followed by announcements via key and voice. Each frequency set would require 11 minutes to complete before moving up to the next higher frequency. The purpose was to enable all within receiving range to calibrate their receivers and wavemeters.

The cover of the **August 1923** issue titled *Local QRM* shows a Commerce Department Radio Inspector sending Morse with a mechanical code machine to a bug-eyed applicant. "10 Words per" is the caption.
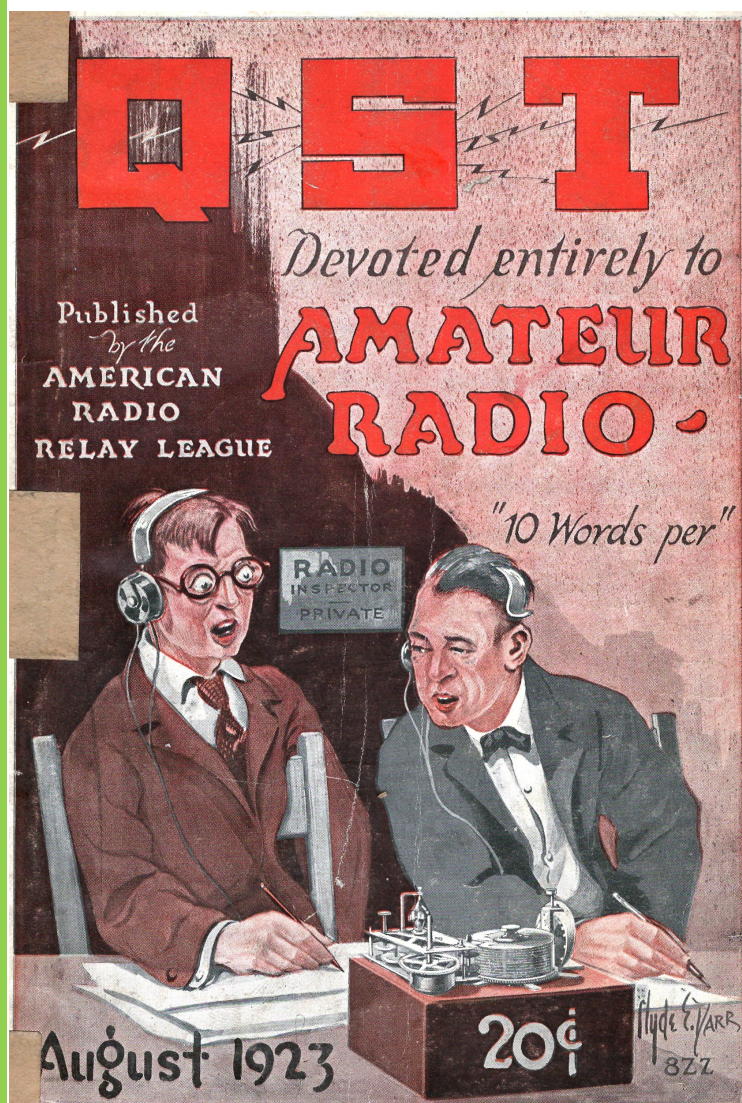
With the lead-off article: *The Passing of the Pacific,* and subtitle: *Kangaroo Outclassed as American Amateur Radio Signals Leap to Antipodes,* A trans-Pacific event that began at 10:00 PM PST on May 1st and ended at the end of the month was a resounding success. Thus, began the sport of 'yank logging' from Australia and New Zealand. V.M Bitz, 6JD from Los Angeles was the first US station to make a successful contact across the Pacific Ocean during this event.

The Departure of "WNP" from Wiscasset, ME happened in the afternoon of June 23rd, 1923 when the "Bowdoin" set sail for Ellesmere Island. Radio operator D.H. Mix 1TS, who was sponsored by the ARRL, has already been in regular communication on the voyage.

Rich – K3SOM

Bits and Pieces

Hello all,

    Where did summer go? This is August and September is right around the corner! I have had a very busy summer. How about you? I attended a few hamfests and had some great face to face QSO time. I haven't taken time to be on the air much. I checked-in at a few club nets and had some Thursday morning breakfasts. I also got to go to an antenna party or two.

    I have had many non-radio projects use up most of my summer. I attended as many Club Events as I could, I had a great time. Thanks to all the BVARA Club members that supported our club events and volunteered their time! I appreciate how our members support club activities. I encourage anyone that is not active to come be a part of the club events. This month's Corn Roast promises to be another great time. Make time to come.

    As summer is starting to come to a close, I have news about my Dadgum Pole… I finally got a team together to put a hole in the ground, grab that Dadgum Pole and plant it! Ahhh but alas, that Dadgum Pole sat laying on it's side on the ground so long it has rotted… Rotted to the point that it is not safe to put in the ground and stood up. Oh, that is just my kind of luck. Oh well, I am not defeated. I will try again!

    I am now in quest of a new "DADGUM POLE"! Details in the coming months.

    As always please be safe and enjoy our radio hobby.

    Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.

    73 KC3BXC

Radio Sport

Contest Corral

August 2023

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contest-calendar.
Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start Date	Time	Finish Date	Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor s Website
1	0100	1	0159	1.8-28,50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM/YL/Youth)	wwsac.com/rules.html
1	0300	1	0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	www.qrp-labs.com/party.html
1	0800	1	0859	3.5	ZL Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), outside temp (C)	www.nzart.org.nz
2	1700	2	2100	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
3	0000	4	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk40
3	1700	3	2100	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid	nrau.net/nrau-contests-in-general
3	2000	3	2200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
5	0000	6	2359	3.5-28	Batavia FT8 Contest	FT8	4-char grid	batavia-ft8.com
5	0001	6	2359	28	10-10 Int'l Summer Contest, SSB	Ph	name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
5	1800	6	0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
5	1800	6	1759	222 & up	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid	www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest
6	1400	6	1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Phone Contest	Ph	RS, serial	www.sarl.org.za
7	1630	7	1729	3.5,7	OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	CW	RST, serial	memorial-ok1wc.cz
8	0100	8	0159	1.8-28,50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM/YL/Youth)	wwsac.com/rules.html
8	0100	8	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, pwr	arsqrp.blogspot.com
9	0030	9	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	naqcc.info
9	1700	9	2100	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid	www.ft8activity.eu
12	0000	12	2359	3.5-28	FISTS Saturday Sprint	CW	RST, first name, mbr or "0," SPC	fistsna.org
12	0000	13	2359	2.3 GHz & up	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
12	0000	13	2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.darc.de
12	0400	14	0359	144	144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.mmmonvhf.de
12	1200	12	1300	7	SARL Youth QSO Party	Ph	RS, age	www.sarl.org.za
12	1200	13	2359	1.8-28,50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, (SKCC # or "none")	www.skccgroup.com
12	1400	12	2200	3.5-28	Kentucky State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	KY park abbr, SP or DX	k4msu.com/kypota
12	1400	13	0400	1.8-28,50, 144,432	Maryland-DC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Entry class, county, SPC	w3vpr.org/mdcqsop
13	1400	13	1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za
14	0000	14	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Grp 2nd Sun Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
16	1700	16	2100	1.2G	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid	www.ft8activity.eu
17	0000	18	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20
17	1900	17	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM; RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp
19	0000	20	1600	3.5-28	SARTG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sartg.com
19	0600	20	2359	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char Maidenhead	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
19	0800	20	0800	1.8-28	Russian District Award Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), RU district code or serial	rdaward.org/rdac1.htm
19	1200	20	1200	1.8-28,50	Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	CW	RST, JA prefecture/district code or CQ zone	kcj-cw.com
19	1600	19	1759	1.8-28,50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	(See rules)	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/
19	1800	20	0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	NA: name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
19	2100	20	2100	1.8-28	CVA DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, type/UF	cvadx.org
20	0000	20	2359	3.5-28	FISTS Sunday Sprint	CW	RST, first name, mbr or "0," SPC	fistsna.org
20	1800	20	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Dig	name, 2-dig yr 1st licensed, SPC or "DX"	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
20	2300	21	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, (mbr or pwr)	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
23	0000	23	0200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
26	0400	28	0400	1.8-28	Hawaii QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), HI district or SP	www.hawaiiqsoparty.org
26	0600	27	0559	3.5-28	ALARA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, name	www.alara.org.au
26	1200	27	0300	1.8-28,50	W/VE Islands QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), island designation or SPC	usislands.org
26	1200	27	1200	3.5-28	YO DX HF Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YO county or serial	www.yodx.ro
26	1200	27	1200	1.8-28	World Wide Digi DX Contest	FT4/8	4-char grid	ww-digi.com
26	1400	27	2000	3.5-28,50	Kansas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), KS county, SP or "DX"	ksqsoparty.org
26	1600	27	0400	1.8-28	Ohio QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), OH county, SP or "DX"	www.ohqp.org
26	2100	27	2100	1.8-28	CVA DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, type/UF	cvadx.org
26	2300	27	0300	50	50 MHz Fall Sprint	Not specified	4-char grid	svhfs.org/2023VHFSprintRules.pdf
27	1400	27	1700	3.5-14	SARL HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za
27	1700	27	2100	3.5-28	NJQRP Skeeter Hunt	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.qsl.net/w2lj