

THE eQRM

DECEMBER 2021

Merry Christmas



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



On the Cover:

From all of us at the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association, have a very Merry Christmas !

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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

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Who We Are

2021 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Lawrence

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Director: Tony Pavilonis, K3AHP

Director: Jim Allen, KC3IXE

Trustee: Doug Hanna, N4YKQ

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

VE testing begins at 5:00 PM.

Regular meetings are at 6:30 PM

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

*All meetings subject to Covid
restrictions and cancellations.*

Club Meetings 2021
Dec 11 Christmas Party

Jan 13 2022

Feb 10

Mar 10

Apr 14

May 12

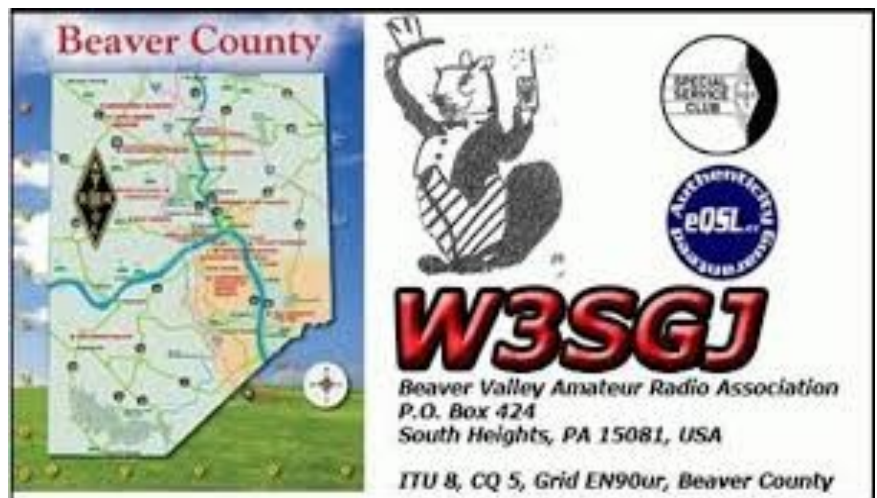
Jun 09

Jul 14

Aug 11

Sep 08

Oct 13



This Month

December



Club Christmas Party
5 PM December 11, 2021.

There will be no Club Meeting.

We will all be at Yolanda's in Chippewa.



More this Month

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**



RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



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

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)

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.



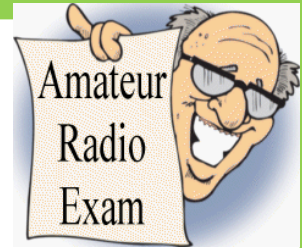
ALL candidates MUST bring ALL of the following:

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)

New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing

Testing this month :



November 2021 VE Test Session Results

Our November VE Test Session had two candidates, with the participants achieving their goal of passing the exam. Our new electronic filing system once again worked superbly with completion of new and/or upgraded licenses available in just two days. A congratulations email was then sent to the candidates with a snippet of their license or QRZ.com page with their new callsign and/or verification that all information was entered correctly.

Our testing was conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA. We are anticipating the continued use of the facility for our VE testing.

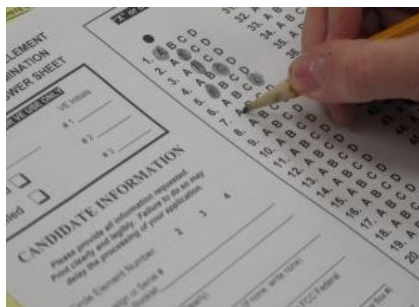
Congratulations to:

Paul Woods - KC3TBR, New Brighton, PA, passed the Technician exam

Randy Dinello – KC3LZM, New Brighton, PA, passed the Extra exam

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

Reg Genola – W3REG,
Tony Pavilonis – K3AHP,
Mick Pyzoha – N3OJP,
Bart Stack – KB3NFM, and
Bob Winkle – N3AZZ



73 from Rich Soltesz - K3SOM, VE Liaison



Membership Information

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

Join the BVARA and ARRL

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

Your License Class (If you have one.)

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

Make check or money order payable to:

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

Hamfests & General Announcements

Hamfest?



We will have to wait just a little longer....

Bits and Pieces

Hello all,

This completes the 2021 year of BVARA Newsletters.

It has been a busy year with a lot of radio related events.

This next year promises to be active too!

Let's get going!

Do you have any suggestions for Club activities? Please present them at our first regular Club Meeting 13 January 2022.

The BVARA wishes you the very best Christmas Season you have ever had.

Clear, but I will be monitoring.

73 KC3BXC



It's Your Dime

It's Your Dime.

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



Of Interest to All

**The BVARA Christmas Party is at 5 PM December 11, 2021
At Yolanda's in Chippewa.**

**All are invited
We will be in the back room.**

**Dinner choices and beverages are the responsibility of those
who attend. That means that you can order what you want to
eat and drink from their ample menu choices.**

**If you would like to participate in the Grab Bag
Please bring a \$10-\$15 gift.**



Of Interest to All

Skywarn Recognition Day, December 4th, 2021

The National Weather Service (NWS) declared that Skywarn Recognition Day would be scheduled for December 4th, 2021. The object of this announcement was to celebrate the contributions to public safety that are made by amateur radio operator's Skywarn Spotters during threatening weather.

As a result, amateur stations were encouraged to exchange QSO and local weather information with as many National Weather Service Stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2-meter bands plus the 70-centimeter band. Contacts via repeaters were permitted. The information exchanged included call sign, signal report, QTH, name, temperature, and a one- or two-word description of the weather occurring at each site that was contacted. Multiple modes were encouraged. The NWS agreed to issue Event Certificates via their web page electronically and in printable form after the event.

Here in Western PA, amateur clubs were specifically encouraged by local ARRL and ARES representatives to volunteer by substituting for the NWS personnel because of the Federal Covid restrictions. The Beaver Valley ARA (BVARA) stepped up to the request and volunteered time, equipment, and people to support this recognition event like we did on the 100th Anniversary of Radio Station KDKA.

Jim Allan, KC3IXE, Doug Hanna, N4YKQ, Tony Pavilonis, K3AHP, and Rich Soltesz, K3SOM operated two stations on 20, 40, and 80 meters at the home of K3SOM on Saturday from 4 pm to 6 pm. The bands cooperated and noise levels were low resulting in very positive results. A total of 86 SSB contacts were made that covered 33 states and 2 Canadian provinces. At times, extended runs of contacts and DX-like pile-ups made the brief time slot fly very quickly. We all had a good time for a good cause. It is always a unique experience to be on the other side of a pile-up!



Radio Sport

Contest Corral

December 2021

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 - Finish		Date-Time	Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
Date-Time	Date-Time							
1	0230	1	0300	1.8-21	Phone Weekly Test – Fray	Ph	Name, SPC	www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf
1	1300	1	1400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC or "CWA"	cwops.org
1	1700	1	2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
1	1900	1	2000	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC or "CWA"	cwops.org
2	0000	2	0300	1.8	QRP ARCI Top Band Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contest
2	0000	3	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	qrptest.com/pigwalk40
2	0300	2	0400	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC or "CWA"	cwops.org
2	0700	2	0800	1.8-28	CWops Mini-CWT Test	CW	Name, mbr or SPC or "CWA"	cwops.org
2	1700	2	1900	3.5-14	RTTYops Weekspint	Dig	Other station's call, your call, serial, name	rttyops.com
2	1800	2	2200	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrrlcontest.no
2	2000	2	2200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
3	0145	3	0215	1.8-21	NCCC RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial, name, QTH	www.ncccsprint.com
3	0230	3	0300	1.8-21	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial, name, QTH	www.ncccsprint.com
3	2000	3	2100	1.8-28	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.k1usn.com/sst.html
3	2200	5	1559	1.8	ARRL 160-Meter Contest	CW	W/VE: RST, ARRL/RAC Section; DX: RST	www.arrl.org/160-meter
4	0500	5	1000	3.5-28	UFT Meeting	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	uft.net/les-rencontres-uft
4	0600	4	0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	grp.ru/contest/wakeup
4	1200	5	1159	3.5-28	PRO CW Contest	CW	RST, serial, "M" if member	www.procontestclub.ro
4	1300	4	1330	144	Two-Meter Classic Sprint	CW Ph	Serial, 4-char grid square	fwrc.info
4	1800	5	2359	3.5-28	FT Roundup	Dig	W/VE: RST, state/province; DX: RST, serial	www.rttycontesting.com
6	0000	6	0100	1.8-28	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com/sst.html
7	0100	7	0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, Youth)	wsac.com/rules.html
7	0200	7	0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
7	1700	7	1900	3.5-14	RTTYops Weekspint	Dig	Other station's call, your call, serial, name	rttyops.com
8	0130	8	0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
8	1700	8	2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
11	0000	12	2359	28	ARRL 10-Meter Contest	CW Ph	W/VE/XE: RST, state/province; DX: RST, serial	www.arrl.org/10-meter
11	0000	13	2359	1.8-7	PODXS 070 Club Low Band Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
11	0600	12	1800	3.5-28	TRC Digi Contest	Dig	RST, serial, "TRC" if membr	trcdx.org/rules-trc-digi
11	1200	12	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
11	1300	12	1300	3.5, 7	ARI 40/80 Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 2-letter province code	www.ari.it/en/contest-hf
11	1600	12	1559	3.5-28	International Naval Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), mbr (and club) or serial	www.marinefunk.at
12	2000	12	2300	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contest
12	2100	12	2259	14	COC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	CW	RST, SPC	www.coloradoqrclub.org/contests
13	0100	13	0300	1.8-28	4 States QRP Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqr.com
16	0000	17	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	qrptest.com/pigwalk20
17	1600	17	1700	3.5, 7	AGB-Party Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, mbr (if member)	ev5agb.com/contest/agb_party.htm
17	1800	17	2200	1.8	Russian 160-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), oblast code or serial	www.topband.ru/rules.htm
18	0000	18	2359	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
18	0000	18	2359	3.5-28	OK DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ Zone	okrtty.crk.cz
18	0000	18	2359	1.8-144	RAC Winter Contest	CW Ph	VE: RS(T), province/territory; Non-VE: RS(T) + serial	www.rac.ca/contesting
18	0000	19	2359	50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
18	1200	19	1159	3.5-28	Padang DX Contest	Ph	RS, serial	padangdx.com/rules
18	1400	19	1400	1.8-28	Croatian CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	9acw.org/index.php/rules
18	1500	19	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
19	1800	19	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	CW	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, SPC	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
19	2300	20	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrptest.com/pigrun
22	0000	22	0200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
22	0130	22	0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
25	1200	26	1159	3.5-28	Gedebage CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	oikb.or.id
26	0000	26	1159	3.5-28	RAEM Contest	CW	Serial, latitude and longitude (e.g. 57N 95W)	raem.srr.ru/rules
26	0830	26	1059	3.5, 7	DARC Christmas Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK (or "NM" if not DARC member) or serial	darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste
30	1200	30	2359	3.5-28	YOTA Contest	CW Ph	Age (or average age for multi-ops)	www.ham-yota.com/contest
31	0900	31	2359	3.5, 7	Bogor Old and New Contest	Ph	RS, operator age	contest.orari-bogor.org