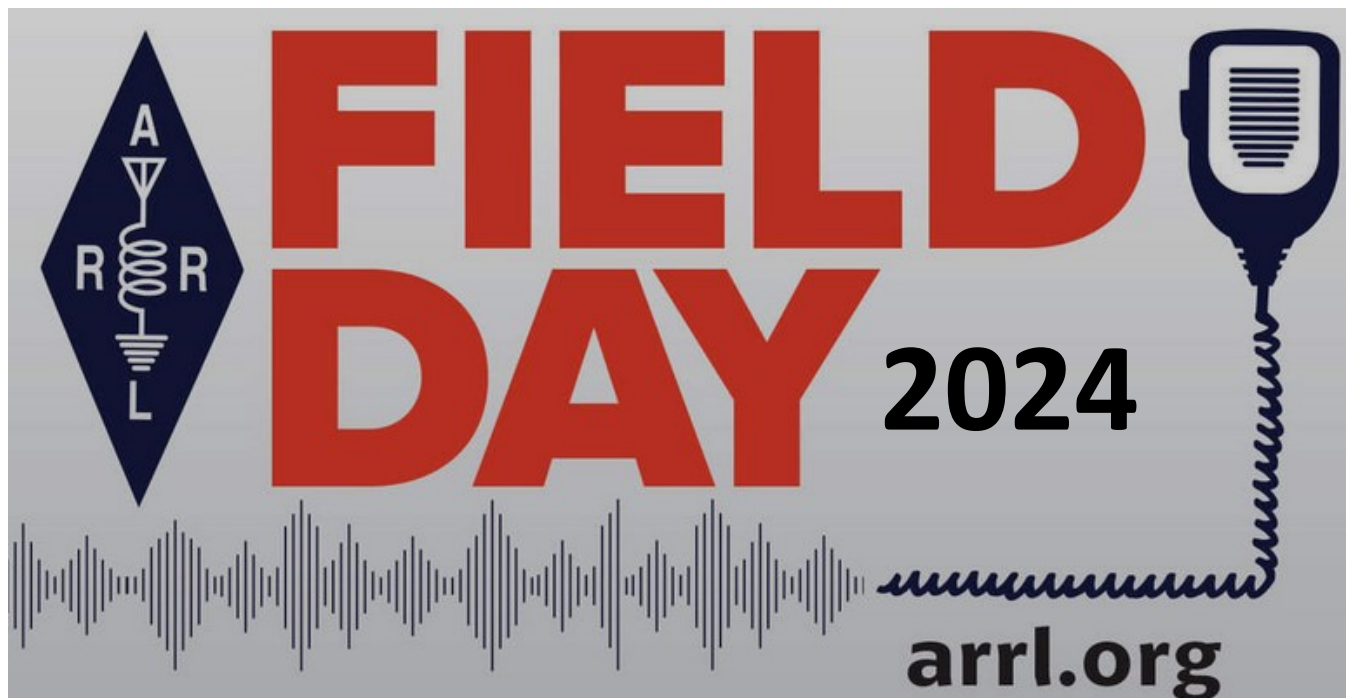


THE eQRM

JUN 2024

Here it comes!



Are you ready?

The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania



Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



On the Cover: Hams all over will be enjoying Field Day on June 22-23. The BVARA will be at Economy Park Shelter #1. You are personally invited to come. Come see what Ham radio is about. We sure will have a great time, you should come and enjoy field day with us! See page 13 for more information. Come and visit with us!

Inside this edition

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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

The eQRM is a publication of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association (BVARA) and is Copyright 2010 - 2024. All material presented in this publication is not necessarily the views of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), BVARA, or members of the said organizations. If you would like to contact the editor of the eQRM, please email David at kc3bxc.73@gmail.com. Please visit us online at www.W3SGJ.org. To subscribe to our newsletter, please visit W3SGJ.org/newsletter.php

Who We Are

2024 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Lawrence, K3GTX

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Tom Stoops N3XC

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

2024

Jun 13

Jul 11

Aug Club Corn Roast

Sep 12

Oct 10

Nov 14

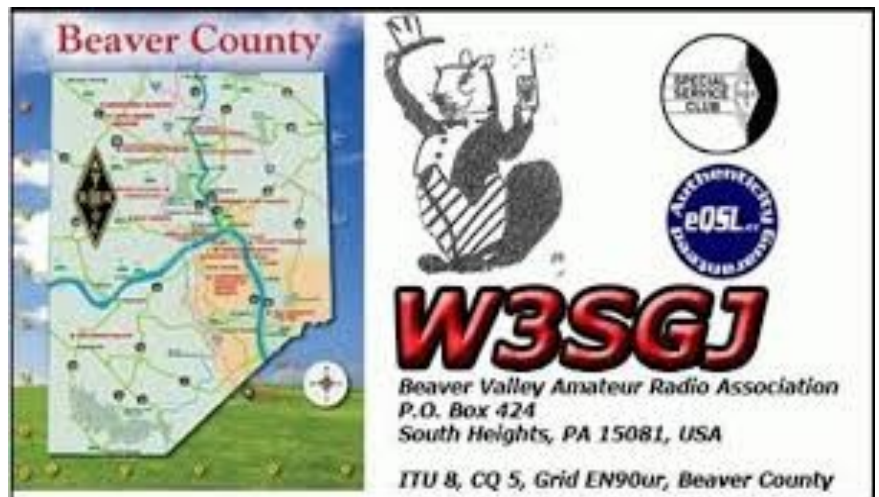
Dec Club Christmas Party

2025

Jan 09

Feb 13

Mar 13



This Month

This Month:

Speaker:

Rich Soltesz
K3SOM

Topic:

Meet *Quadra*, the inexpensive, small PC that runs
HamClock and many other ham programs

Including:

Continuing with our BVARA Presentation Series this year, our topic this month explores a ‘hands on’ presentation of connecting a *Quadra*, a small PC no bigger than a pack of cigarettes, to an amazing software application called *HamClock* using a compact and efficient Linux Operating System.

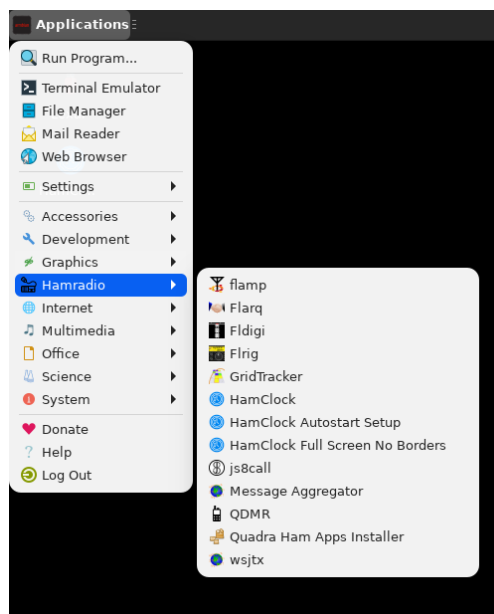
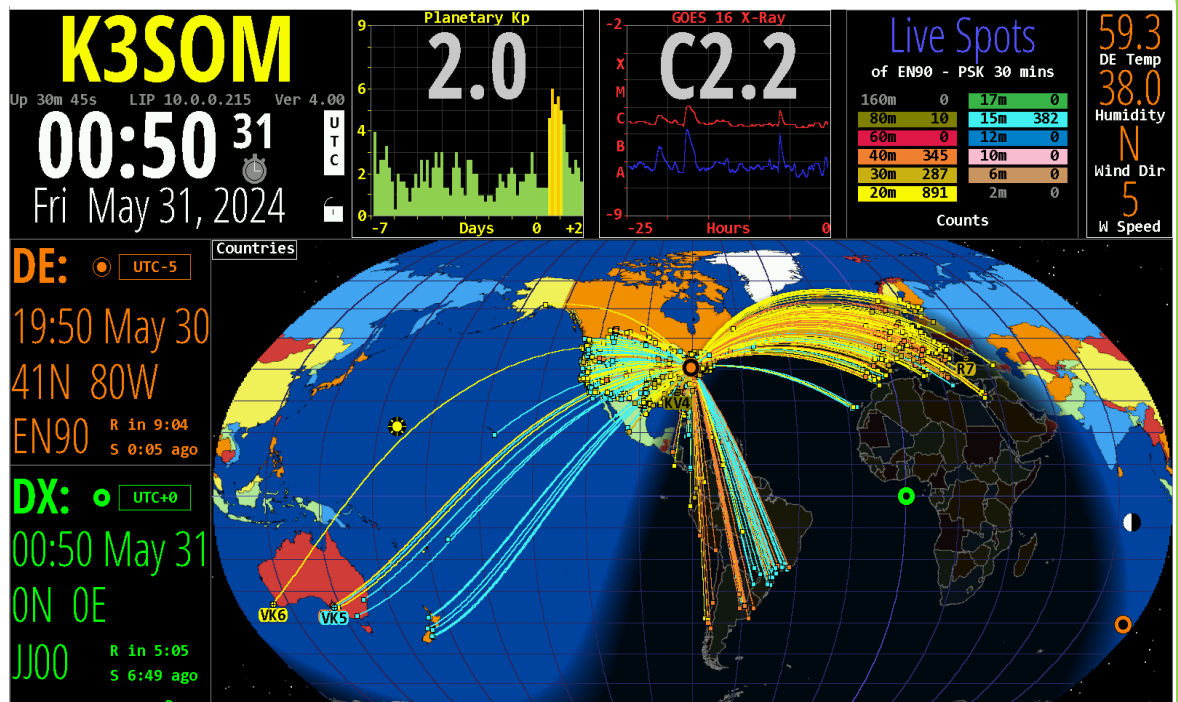
This hardware/software bundle includes the *Quadra*, *HamClock*, and many other pre-loaded software packages as well as a 5VDC power supply, a PC holder with a 40 x 40 x 10 mm fan, and a 4-port USB hub for only \$49 plus a small shipping charge. The bundle from <https://inovato.com/> boasts a 1920 x 1080 HDMI output to clearly present all of the gathered sources of information.

But wait, there’s more! We’ll power it up and show some of the many available displays on the big screen that will dazzle most hams with its capabilities. This is one exciting presentation you won’t want to miss!

Rich’s Background:

Extra Class Ham, Licensed since 1962, VE,
B.S. Electrical Engineering

This Month



(Thanks to Mark, K3VL for his inspiration to show this unique tool on a Skyview ZOOM session. I think this package will appeal to the BVARA community for its low cost and feature-rich, preloaded applications.)

More this Month

Weekly

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

Thursday Morning Breakfast
(or you can have lunch)

Come join us!



BREAKFAST

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.



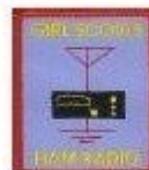
See you

RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.

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 :



May 2024 VE Test Session Results

Our May VE Test Session had no candidates. As a result, the test session was cancelled.

Testing was to be conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA. Our next VE Test Session will be on June 13th, 2024.

We tip our hat to *eQRM* readers Bob Reisenweber, W3BBO and Tom Tronzo, WB1AHL for finding an error in our VE Test Session Results for April 2024, as follows:

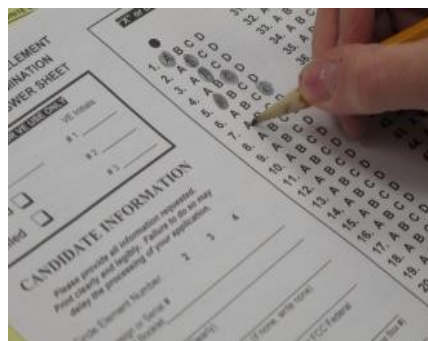
Tom Tronzo, N3ZOL, Extra Class, Freedom, PA
Tim Davis, KC3YYH, Technician Class, Darlington, PA

Should have been reported as:

John Telesz, N3ZOL, Extra Class, Freedom, PA
Tim Davis, KC3YYH, Technician Class, Darlington, PA

If you hear John or Tim on the air, please congratulate them on their achievement! All of our BVARA testing would not be possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

Keith Custard – KC3TMC
Reg Genola – W3REG
Tony Pavilonis – K3AHP
Scott Pelkofer - KC3KYZ
Mick Pyzoha – N3OJP
Bart Stack – KB3NFM
Ron Victorelli – KC3TZZ
Bob Winkle – N3AZZ and
Frank Witkowski – W3FJW



73 from Rich Soltesz



ARRL the national association for
amateur radio®

– 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

67th Annual

Largest Hamfest in the Tri-State Area



BreezeShooters



HAMFEST / ELECTRONICS / COMPUTER SHOW

Web Site: <http://www.breezeshooters.org>

Email: hamfest@breezeshooters.org

Sunday June 9, 2024

8am-2pm (vendor setup Saturday 2pm-8pm, Sunday 6am-8am)

Butler Farm Show Grounds

625 Evans City Road, Butler, PA 16001

(same as last year!)

- **Site of the 2024 ARRL WPA Section Convention**
- **Indoor and Outdoor Flea Market spaces available – email for info**
 - Spaces \$15 each(20'x30'); Also limited indoor; email: fleamarket@breezeshooters.org
- **Numerous of Educational Forums**
- **Vendors and Sponsors include: KJI Electronics, ICOM, DX Engineering, Radioddity, N3ZN Keys, MFJ, ABR Industries, Alpha Antenna, Arrow Antenna, Balun Designs, Bioenno, Chameleon Antenna, Comet Antenna, Digirig, Halibut Electronics, Hammond Manufacturing, Ham Radio Deluxe, Mastrant Antenna, MPD Digital, N3FJP, PreppComm, RT Systems, Time Microwave**
- **VE License Testing for all Amateur and Commercial Classes**
 - Starts 8:30 am
- **ARRL, DXCC Card Checking and Bureau representatives**
- **Live Demonstrations of the WEARS EMCOMM Mobile Unit**
- **BreezeShooters Award Presentations**
- **Prizes, Prizes, Prizes Admission Ticket: \$10**
- **Main Prizes Drawing: \$2 Each, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20, 40 for \$50**

Need Info: hamfest@breezeshooters.org

Talk-in will be on the 147.300(+) Repeater- pl 131.8 Watch

<http://www.breezeshooters.org> for details.

If using a MAPPING APP on your phone, be sure to query "BUTLER FARM SHOW GROUNDS – Butler PA"

MAIN PRIZE DRAWING

1st ICOM IC-7610 HF/50MHz All Mode Transceiver

Compliments of DX Engineering & ICOM

2ND YAESU FT-710 HF/50MHz All Mode Transceiver

3RD ICOM IC-705 HF/50MHz/2M/70CM Transceiver

4TH YAESU FTM-300DR C4FM VHF/UHF Transceiver

5TH N3ZN KEY Model ZN-9ZX - donated by N3LAD

In memory of brother Chris, KC3DTC

6TH COMET 500 Antenna Analyzer

7TH Bioenno BLF-1220A (20 AHr) Battery w/ Charger

8TH POTA/SOTA/Portable antenna EFHW 40m-10m

9TH Surprise !

10th Surprise !



Of Interest to All

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



BVARA Field Day, 2024

BVARA members,

Field Day 2024 is fast approaching. Keeping in my mind that Field Day is the fourth full weekend in June along with the fact that there are five weekends in June this year, Field Day arrives a bit early this year. Dates are June 22 and 23, 2024.

BVARA has secured shelter #1 at Economy Park for this year's operation. One just needs to enter 5 Forcey Dr., Baden, PA 15005 into their favorite mapping program or GPS to find the park. Once in the park, stay to the left and follow the road to the end to find shelter #1.

We plan to start the weekend with a picnic for club members and guests on Friday, June 21, 2024. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM. The club provides fried chicken and attendees are requested to bring a covered dish or dessert. Please let me know by June 13 if you plan to attend so we know how much chicken to purchase. I can be reached by email at n4ykq@verizon.net. Setup for the picnic will be at 2 PM and all help is appreciated.

The club will begin setting up for the actual Field Day operation on Saturday morning, June 22, at 8 AM. We plan to use the Spider Beam antenna that was purchased last year. We plan to operate the 24-hour period beginning at 2 PM on Saturday with operation ceasing at 2 PM on Sunday. Again, all help with setup and clean up will be appreciated.

Anyone who would like to bring a station to use at Field Day should contact me so I can fit you into the plan. A station consists of a radio, antenna and feedline, coax jumpers, power supply, generator or battery, and computer for logging. We will likely operate as 3A this year, meaning three transmitters in simultaneous operation and transmitter power will be limited to 100 watts (I know the rules allow for 500 watts this year, but we are not bringing amplifiers). Rich, K3SOM, will again provide the logging server. Anyone who wants to bring a station will need to make arrangements with Rich in the week or so prior to Field Day to ensure that their software is up to date and connects with the server.

Rich has also agreed to provide band pass filters for each station and a tri-plexer so that as many as three radios can connect to the Spider Beam antenna. I think that covers everything for now. I hope to see you all at the event.

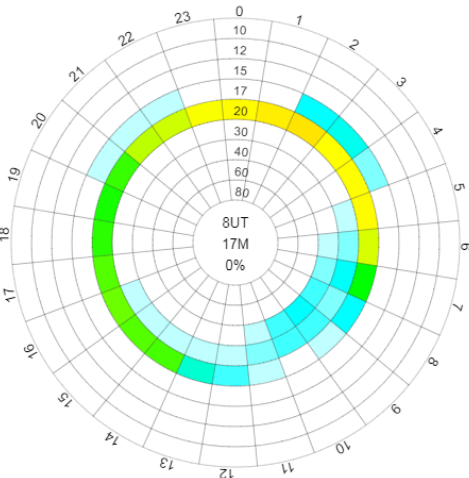
Doug, N4YKQ



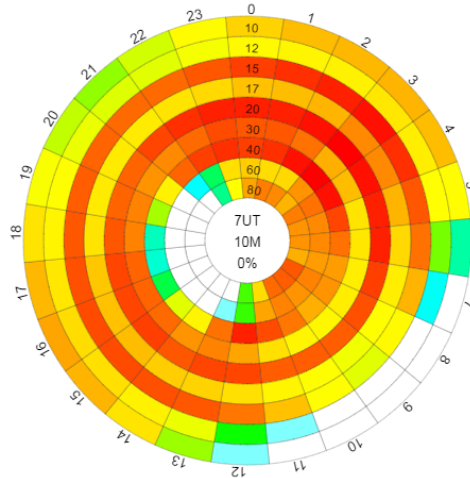
Of Interest to All

Propagation prediction for BVARA Field Day

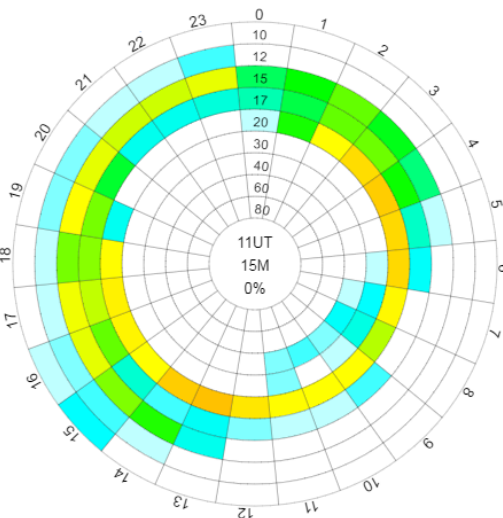
**2024 VOACap Predictions at 40.6218, -80.2009, EN90vo
SSB, 100W, E, On, Default SSN**



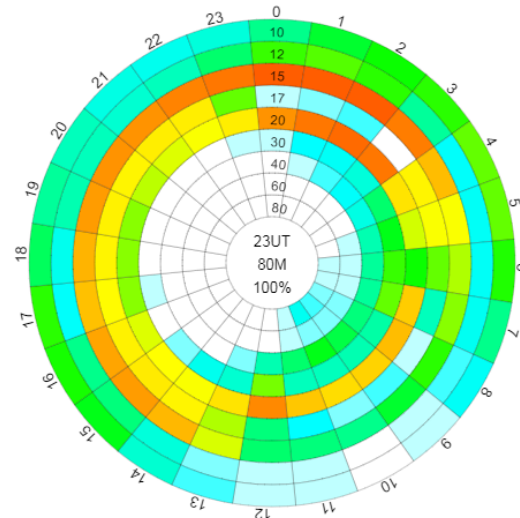
Anchorage, AK - 3171 miles, 321 degs



Bangor, ME - 649 miles, 60 degs



Honolulu, HI - 4650 miles, 279 degs



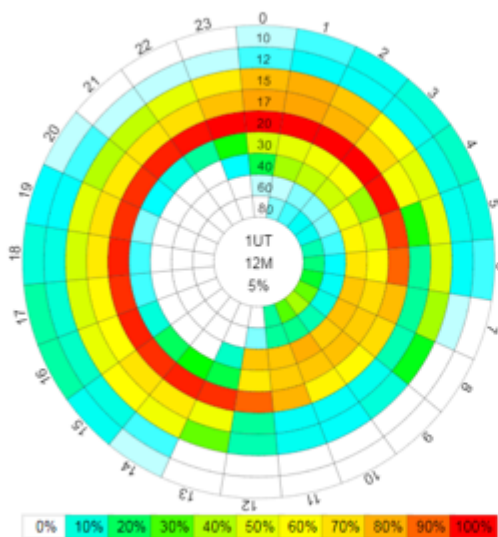
Los Angeles, CA - 2122 miles, 270 degs

**Transmit Ant – 3-El Yagi @ 50 ft, Receive Ant – 3-El Yagi @ 33 ft 10-15-20 M
λ/4 Verticals on 40 and 80 M with good ground systems**

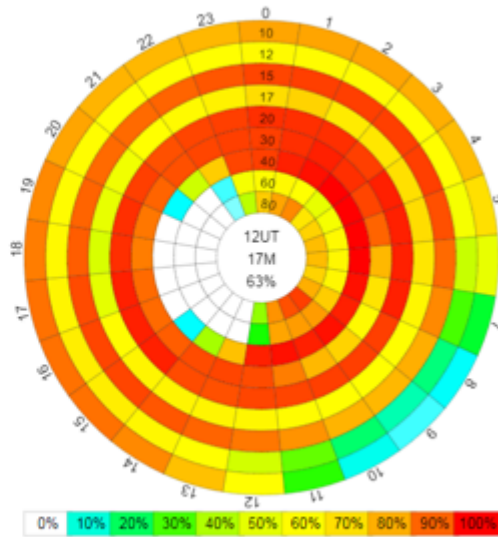
2024 VOACap Predictions at 40.6218, -80.2009, EN90vo

Of Interest to All

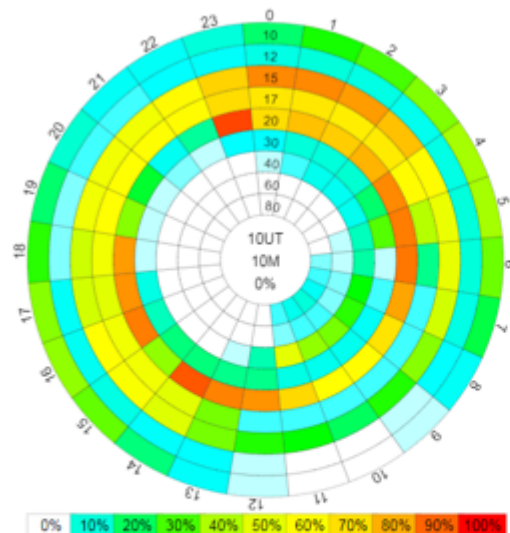
2024 VOACap Predictions at 40.6218, -80.2009, EN90vo SSB, 100W, E_s On, Default SSN



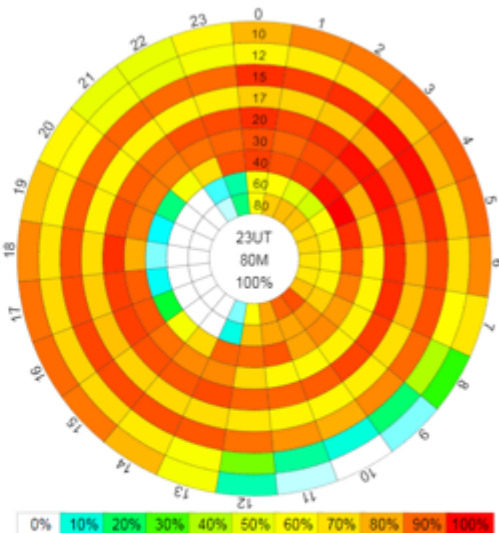
Odessa, WTX - 1376 miles, 251 degs



Orlando, FL - 835 miles, 185 degs



Spokane, WA - 1897 miles, 297 degs



St Paul, MN - 721 miles, 299 degs

**Transmit Ant – 3-El Yagi @ 50 ft, Receive Ant – 3-El Yagi @ 33 ft 10-15-20 M
λ/4 Verticals on 40 and 80 M with good ground systems**

Field Day 2024 Propagation Predictions by: Rich – K3SOM 5/20/2024 voacap.com/hf/

Of Interest to All

BVARA



June

ARRL VHF Contest, June 8th – 10th

BreezeShooters Hamfest, Butler Farm Show Grounds, June 9th

West Virginia QSO Party, June 15th – 16th

ARRL Field Day Old Economy Park, Shelter 1, June 21st - 23rd

POTA, POTA

July

The Annual 13 Colonies Special Event, July 1st – 7th

Indianapolis Motor Speedway, W9IMS Special Events:

July 15 - 21: NASCAR 200 at the Brickyard - Operator Schedule

POTA, POTA

Bits and Pieces

Hello everyone!

I am getting ready to work on my horizontal loop antenna. I have had so many farm responsibilities that have demanded my time... I will be making time to get my new antenna worked on! I am determined to get some Dad Gum poles in the ground and attach some wire to them! I will keep you posted (all pun intended). I will do my best to have pictures too. Now on to bigger things.



Here we are at the time of year so many Hams get active. This is Field Day Month! Some radio operators that have been inactive seem to just get the radio bug and get radio-active. I love it! If you have been radio-active or radio quiet so far this year, come, join all the radio operators on the air. You know it is great fun. It's even more fun when you participate with ham radio friends. The comradery is always fun. Add in some food, some calamity, some visitors and things get really fun. If you don't know, this is my favorite radio event of the year. Sure hamfests, making on-air contacts and club meetings are fun. I just enjoy the activities connected to BVARA Field Day. Every aspect of Ham Radio-ing is all rolled into one great event! All the other ham radio related events are what keep me going. Then the crescendo happens, Field Day! I just can hardly wait. Come visit us June 22-23 at Economy Park Shelter #1, there will be signs to get you there.

So that's it for now. Please, if you can come to Field Day; all of us at the BVARA would enjoy seeing and visiting with you.

Till next month, happy radioing and be safe in your hobby activities.

Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.



73 KC3BXC



Radio Sport

Contest Corral

June 2024

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		Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
Date-Time	Date-Time					
1 0000	2 2359	28	10-10 Int'l Open Season PSK Contest	Dig	Name, SPC, mbr	www.ten-ten.org
1 0200	1 1459	1.8-28	Tisza Cup CW Contest	CW	RST, CQ zone	www.tiszacup.eu
1 0600	1 0800	7,14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru
1 1300	2 0100	1.8-28, 50,144	Kentucky QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), KY county or SPC	www.kyqsoparty.org/rules
1 1300	2 1300	50	UKSMG Summer Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, 6-char grid	uksmg.org
1 1500	2 1459	1.8-28	IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.darc.de
1 1500	2 1500	1.8-28	RSGB National Field Day	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
1 1800	2 2359	1.8-28,50	ARRL Int'l Digital Contest	Dig (no RTTY)	4-char grid	contests.arrl.org/dig
3 0000	3 0100	1.8-28	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com/sst.html
3 1300	3 1400	1.8-28	ICWC Medium Speed Test	CW	Name, serial	internationalcwcouncil.org
4 0000	4 0200	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, pwr	arsqrp.blogspot.com
5 0230	5 0300	1.8-14,21	Phone Weekly Test	Ph	Name, SPC	www.perluma.com
5 1700	5 2100	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid	www.ft8activity.eu
6 0000	7 0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com
6 1800	6 2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid	nrau.net
6 2000	6 2200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
7 0145	7 0215	3.5-28	Weekly RTTY Test	Dig	Name, SPC	radiosport.world/wrt.html
7 1900	7 1959	3.5,7	HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	radioamator.honlapepites.hu
8 0000	9 1700	3.5,7,28	Batavia DX Contest	Ph	RS, 2-char province code	batavia.orariokaljakut.or.id
8 0000	8 2359	1.8-28	VK Shires Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), VK shire, or CQ zone	www.wia.org.au
8 1100	8 1300	14,21	Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	jsfc.org
8 1200	9 1200	3.5-28	Portugal Day Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CT district or serial	portugaldaycontest.rep.pt
8 1200	9 2359	1.8-28,50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
8 1400	8 1800	144,432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, pwr, 6-char grid	www.agcw.de
8 1500	9 1500	3.5-28	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	CW	RST, CQ zone	www.gacw.ar
8 1600	9 1600	50	REF DDFM 6m Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 4-char grid	concours.r-e-f.org
8 1800	10 0259	50 and up	ARRL June VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid	www.arrl.org/june-vhf
10 0000	10 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
10 1900	10 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
12 1700	12 2100	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid	www.ft8activity.eu
15 0000	15 2359	3.5-28	Pajajaran Bogor DX Contest	Ph	RS, serial	www.pbdx-contest.id
15 0000	16 2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 2-digit age	www.jarl.org
15 0000	16 2359	50	SMIRK Contest	CW Ph	4-char grid, mbr (optional)	smirk.info
15 1400	16 1400	50	IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid	www.iaru-r1.org
15 1400	16 1400	50	LZ International 6-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid	www.radioclub-troyan.bg
15 1500	16 1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid	www.kkn.net/stew
15 1600	16 0400	3.5-28	West Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), WV county or SPC	www.qsl.net/wvsarc
15 1800	15 2359	3.5-14,18, 21,24,28, 2 rpters	ARRL Kids Day	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	www.arrl.org/kids-day
16 0000	16 2359	1.8-28,50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	Mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
16 0800	16 1400	50	WAB 50 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net/Contests.php
16 1200	16 1300	7	SARL Youth QSO Party	Ph	RS, age	www.sarl.org.za
16 2300	17 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com
17 1900	17 2030	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	FT4	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org
19 1700	19 2100	1.2G	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-character grid	www.ft8activity.eu
19 1900	19 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
20 0000	21 0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com
20 1900	20 2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM: RST, mbr, or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp
22 1200	23 1200	1.8-28	His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, EA province or serial	concursos.ure.es
22 1800	23 2100	All, except WARC	ARRL Field Day	CW Ph Dig	Number of transmitters, operating class, ARRL/RAC section or "DX"	www.arrl.org/field-day
26 0000	26 0200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
27 1900	27 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org