

THE eQRM

MARCH 2019



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

Repeater 145.310 PL 131.8

On the Cover : Beaver County has many bridges. This is a wonderful photo by Karen Stephansky of the train bridge over the Ohio River from the Bridgewater side.

Inside this edition

Who We Are	3	Radio Sport	11
This Month	4	Bits and Pieces	12
Propagation	6	It's Your Dime	13
Get a License or Upgrade	7	Your first License ?	14
New License and Upgrades	8		
Membership	9		
Hamfests & General Announcements	10		

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

2019 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Hanna, N4YKQ

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Director: Tony Pavilonis, W6PEF

Director: Bob Winkle, N3AZZ

Trustee: Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

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).

Club Meetings 2019

Mar 14

Apr 11

May 09

Jun 14

Jul 11

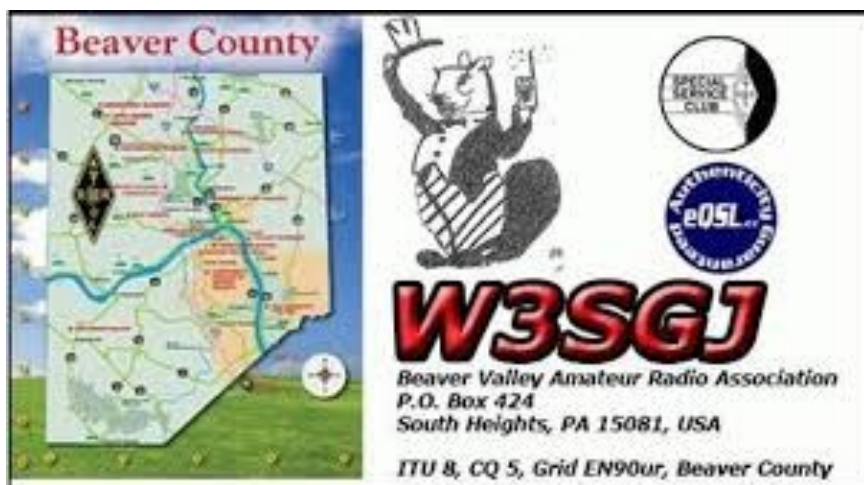
Aug 24 Corn Roast

Sep 12

Oct 10

Nov 14

Dec 07 Christmas Party



This Month

This Month:

Speakers:

Rich Soltesz and Bob Winkle
K3SOM N3AZZ

Topic:

Remote Operation Using the FlexRadio **Maestro™**

Including:

Continuing with our BVARA Presentation Series this year, our topic this month is a real-live, 'show-and-tell' demonstration of remote communication at the 911 Center using Maestro™ hardware from FlexRadio Systems. Bob, N3AZZ will be communicating to his 'remote' FlexRadio 6500 transceiver at his home while Rich, K3SOM will connect to his 'remote' FlexRadio 6700 transceiver. It's been rumored that Bob will be asking Rich (Maestro to Maestro) if he has any *Grey Poupon Country Dijon Mustard*.

But before that communication takes place, we'll talk about the hardware, the simplicity and low overhead of the methodology, the TLS Protocol Security in place, the performance that is easily achieved, and the expandability and upscale potential that is beginning to happen because of the implemented Smartlink API.

You will want to know Rich's response to Bob's request as well as how easily the two remote stations were set up and operational. Perhaps Bob's home computer will request an electronic QSL from Rich's home computer. Should paper QSL cards be exchanged? Perhaps LOTW, QRZ.com, ClubLog.org, eQSL.cc, and even QRZCQ.com can also be used electronically to confirm the QSO!

Next, we'll focus on the many benefits that FlexRadio's SDR implementation offers through the Maestro architecture. Some of the features include excellent audio, display/touch screen user interface, confusion-free controls, brick wall selectivity, two full VFOs, battery or AC operation, built-in Wi-fi and Ethernet, two independent high-resolution panadapters and waterfalls, and many intuitive, touch screen menus.

But wait, there's more! We'll have time to let you explore this technology with some hands-on time to gain appreciation of potential benefits you can gain as well as where this technology is headed. This is one presentation you won't want to miss!



Photo courtesy of FlexRadio Systems.

Rich's Background:

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

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)



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.

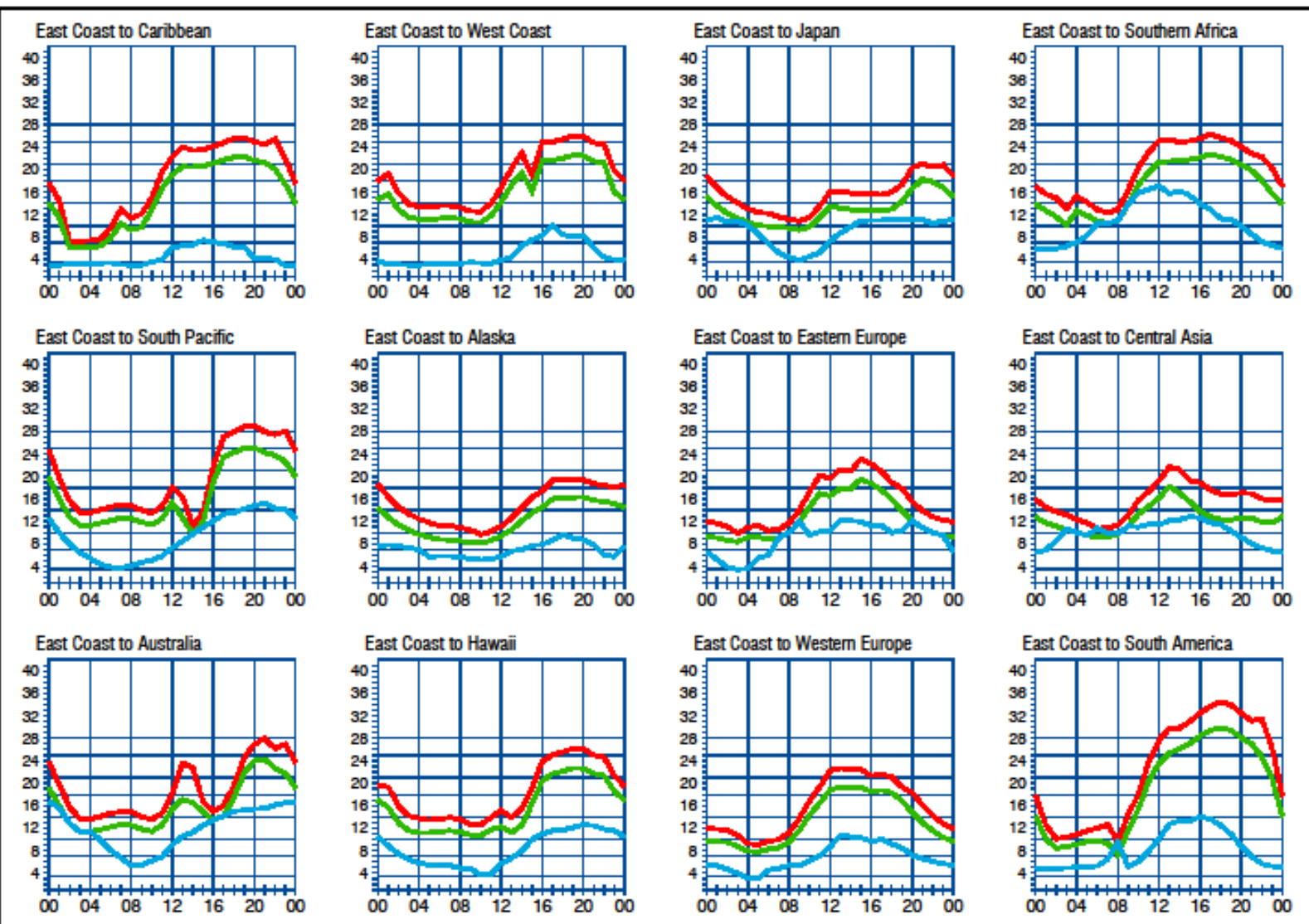
Any Beaver County Amateur that is interested in participating in the RACES/ARES programs can do so by checking into the Beaver County Public Service Net which meets every Monday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the N3TN 146.850 MHz repeater (131.8 PL)

RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



Propagation



When are the bands open? These charts, generated using CAPman, show probabilities for average HF propagation in the month of **March** for the paths indicated. The horizontal axes show Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), and the vertical axes frequency in MHz. On 10% of the days of this period, the highest frequencies propagated will be at least as high as the upper red curves (HFF, highest possible frequency) and on 50% of the days they will be at least as high as the green curves (MUF, classical maximum usable frequency). The blue curves show the lowest usable frequency (LUF) for a 1500-W CW transmitter. For SSB or a lower transmitter power, the LUF will be somewhat higher than the blue curves indicate. See Oct 1994 QST, pp 27-30, and Feb 1995 QST, pp 34-36, for more details. The predictions assume an observed 2800-MHz solar flux value of 67. This is a **Very Low** level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on *The ARRL Antenna Book CD-ROM*.

ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

PROPAGATION

The East Coast propagation chart listed here is for March 2019.

If you would like more information in general, please visit <http://www.arrl.org/propagation>

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 Nine One One 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

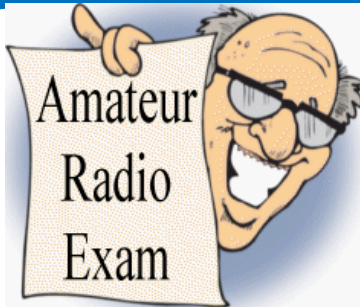
Beaver County Emergency Services Center 351 14th Street Ambridge, PA 15003.
Tests begin promptly at 5 pm on the same day as BVARA Club Meetings
(the second Thursday of the month).
All classes of amateur radio license tests are administered.

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, check, or money order.

New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing



Congratulations & a big Thank-You to Bart Stack for obtaining his ARRL VE Testing credentials and helping us during our February VE test session!

Here are the successful participants in our VE process this past month:

Don Lehocky, KC3MXO - Technician, Aliquippa*

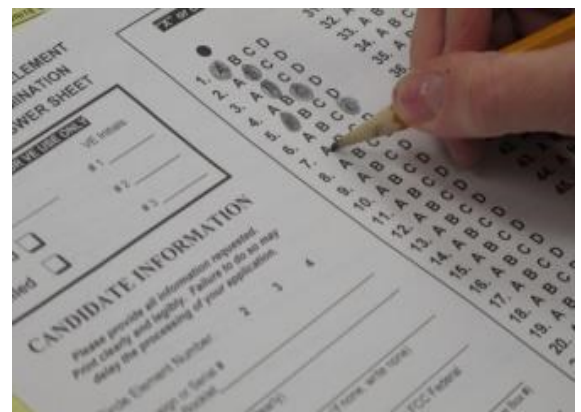
Sean Schwartzmiller, K3UKE - General, Baden

The partial Government Shutdown affected the FCC and our ability to get call signs for those that passed their tests. We are now posting Congratulations to:

Peter Birmingham, KC3MXC - Technician, Sewickley*

(delayed due to Government shutdown)

*Eligible for BVARA membership at no cost for 2019



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="checkbox"/> BVARA full membership | 25.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BVARA student membership | 15.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BVARA associate membership | 10.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BVARA Child under 21 at home membership | 5.00 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One year ARRL membership | 49.00 | _____ |

A Club Donation _____

ARRL Member? Yes No

Total Enclosed _____

Your License Class (If you have one.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technician | Name _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General | Address _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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

Warren County Hamfest 2019

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/09/2019

Start Date: 03/09/2019

End Date: 03/09/2019

Location: Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department

29 Firemen Drive

Youngsville, PA 16371

Website: <http://www.kb3bsa.com>

Sponsor: BSA Venturing Crew 73

Type: ARRL Hamfest

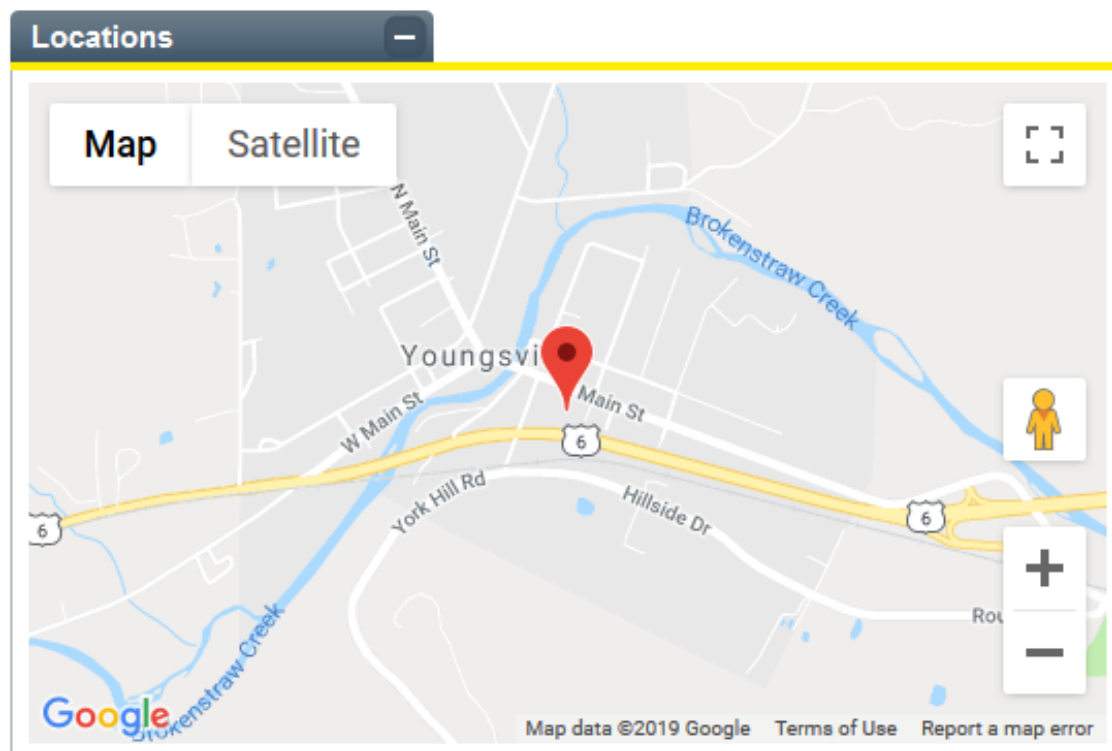
Talk-In: 145.110+ (PL 186.2)

Public Contact: Russ Bush , N3YD

157 Bates Street Youngsville, PA 16371

Phone: 814-564-9202

Email: n3yd@usa.com



Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral

March 2019

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

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
2 0000 3 2359 1.8-28 3.5, 7, 21, 28, 144	ARRL International DX Contest, SSB	Ph	WVE: RS, SP; Non-WVE: RS, power	www.arrl.org/arrl-dx	
2 0000 10 2359	Novice Rig Roundup	CW	RST, QTH, name, class	novicerigroundup.com	
2 0800 2 0800 7-14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup	
2 1800 3 1359 1.8-28	Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Dig	2-letter region (state/province/canton), serial	los.ho.ua/openrtty	
3 0700 3 1100 3.5	UBA Spring Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, UBA section (if any)	www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules	
3 1200 3 1400 7	SARL Hamnet 40-Meter Simulated Emergency Contest	Ph	RS, serial	www.sarl.org.za	
3 1200 3 2200 3.5	NSARA Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county (if Nova Scotia)	nsara.velichy.net/?page_id=82	
4 2000 4 2130 3.5	RSGBC 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbc.org/hf	
5 0200 5 0400 3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqp.blogspot.com	
5 1900 5 2100 3.5	AGCW YL-CW Party	CW	RST, serial, name	agcw.org/index.php/en	
6 2000 6 2100 3.5	UKIICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	4-char grid square	www.ukiicc.com	
7 1800 7 2200 28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nraunet/activity-contests	
7 2000 7 2200 1.8-28	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com	
9 0000 9 2359 3.5-28	YB DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	rttyybdxcontest.com	
9 1000 10 1000 50-1296	SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid	www.sarl.org.za	
9 1000 10 1000 3.5-28	RSGBC Commonwealth Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbc.org/hf	
9 1200 10 1200 3.5-144	F9AA Cup, SSB	Ph	RST, serial	www.site.uac.asso.fr	
9 1200 10 1200 28	South America 10 Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CQ zone	sa10m.com.ar	
9 1200 10 2359 1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com	
9 1400 9 2000 3.5-28	AGCW QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, class, mbr or "NM"	www.agcw.org	
9 1500 10 1500 1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.klen.net/stew	
9 1500 10 2100 3.5-50	Oklahoma QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	k5com.com/okqsp.htm	
9 1800 10 1800 3.5-28	EAPSK83 Contest	Dig	RSQ, EA province code or serial	concursos.ure.es/en	
9 1800 10 0559 3.5	TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial, 4-char grid	www.radiosport.org.us	
9 1800 10 1800 1.8-50	QCWA QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Year first licensed, name, SPC or chapter	www.qcwa.org	
9 1900 10 1900 1.8-28	Idaho QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	idahoarrlinfo/qso-party	
9 2200 9 2300 1.8-28	QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Shootout	Ph	RS, SPC, mbr or power	www.qrp-arc.org/contests	
10 0000 10 0400 3.5-14	North American Sprint, RTTY	Dig	Other station's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ncjweb.com	
10 0700 10 1100 144	UBA Spring Contest, 2 Meters	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, UBA section (if any)	www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules	
10 1800 10 2200 3.5	WAB 3.5 MHz Phone/CW	CW Ph	RS(T) serial, WAB square or country	wab.internip.net	
10 1800 11 0100 All	Wisconsin QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	WI county or SPC	warac.org/hqwp/hqwp.htm	
11 0000 11 0200 1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com	
13 2000 13 2130 3.5	RSGBC 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbc.org/hf	
13 2300 17 2300 7-14	AWA John Hollins Memorial DX Contest	CW	RST, equipment type and year	www.antiquewireless.org	
16 0200 16 0200 3.5-28	BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, 4-digit UTC time	www.bartg.org.uk	
16 1200 17 1200 1.8-28	Russian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), oblast or serial	www.rdxo.org	
16 1400 16 1800 144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, class, 6-char grid	agcw.org/index.php/en	
16 1400 17 0200 1.8-144	Louisiana QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), parish or SPC	lap.louisianaccontestclub.org	
16 1400 17 2359 All	Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Serial, county or SPC	qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party	
16 2000 16 2159 1.8-28	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub	
17 0700 17 1100 3.5	UBA Spring Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, UBA section (if any)	www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules	
18 0100 18 0300 1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun	
18 1800 18 2059 3.5-7	Bucharest Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, county or country	yo3test2018.blogspot.ro/p/blog-page.html	
19 1700 24 1700 3.5-144	CLARA Chatter Party	CW Ph	RS(T), name, SPC	www.claraloca.com	
21 0030 21 0230 3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info	
23 0000 23 2359 1.8-VHF	FOC QSO Party	CW	RST, name, mbr (if any)	gflcc.org/qso-party	
23 1200 24 1200 3.5-28	UKIICX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, district (if UK/EI)	www.ukiicc.com	
24 0000 24 0400 3.5-14	North American SSB Sprint Contest	Ph	Other station's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ssbsprint.com/rules	
24 0600 24 1000 50	UBA Spring Contest, 6 Meter	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, UBA section (if any)	www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules	
27 0000 27 0200 1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com	
27 2000 27 2100 3.5	UKIICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	4-char grid square	www.ukiicc.com	
28 2000 28 2130 3.5	RSGBC 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbc.org/hf	
30 0000 31 2359 1.8-28	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.cqwpw.com	

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.

Bits and Pieces

Time to get that outdoor project lined up. The weather here in Western Pennsylvania is about to get warmer. Have you got that new antenna or have you built that new antenna? Have you ordered that new tower? Will it be an entirely new radio shack? It will not be long and it will be nice and warm outside. If you would like to share with the eQRM readers please contact me and I will do my best to include an article about your new update.



I was in the parking lot after a BVARA breakfast and saw N3AZZ still there. This was peculiar because Bob had exited the breakfast more than forty five minutes before me... I stopped to inquire if everything was okay. Sure! Bob was fine he had a new Ham radio device he was using. He was talking to K3SOM, Rich. This was fun. I thought Bob was using a 2 meter radio in his vehicle to talk to Rich at his house miles away. Okay, fine. Nope. Rich's vehicle was right in front of Bob's. What? Turns out they were operating remotely to each other from their houses!

I inquired how this was possible. They explained a little bit, just enough to get me entirely interested! Well now they are going to present a forum at the March club meeting to explain it to me (and those that attend) more about how it works. I don't want to miss this forum, I think you will be interested too. You are personally invited, please come to the 911 Center in Ambridge March 14 and hear how it works with me. See page 4 for more details.

That's it for this month. Be safe in your radio hobby endeavors, have fun and share your radio enthusiasm with some one.

Till next month 73 KC3BXC clear but I'll be listening...

Be courteous on the air, be safe and have fun with your hobby.

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



We have had some great input to this page.
Please, I am waiting for more.



Of Interest to All Radio Enthusiasts

Hello fellow PA QSO Party club participants,

Our BVARA group won a certificate for our 2018 efforts in the PA QSO Party!

