

THE eQRM

MARCH 2020



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

Repeater 145.310 PL 131.8

On the Cover : March in Western Pennsylvania is Maple syrup time. The sun is shining and sap is flowing! Is your radio sap beginning to flow? What is your radio related spring project? It won't be long and winter will break. It's radio planning time!

Inside This Edition

Who We Are	3	Radio Sport	13
This Month	4	Bits and Pieces	14
Propagation	7	It's Your Dime	15
Get a License or Upgrade	8	Of interest to all	16
New License and Upgrades	9	What's your goal	18
Membership	10	How is your goal	19
Hamfests & General Announcements	11		

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 - 2020. 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

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 2020

Mar 12

Apr 09

May 14

Jun 11

Jul 09

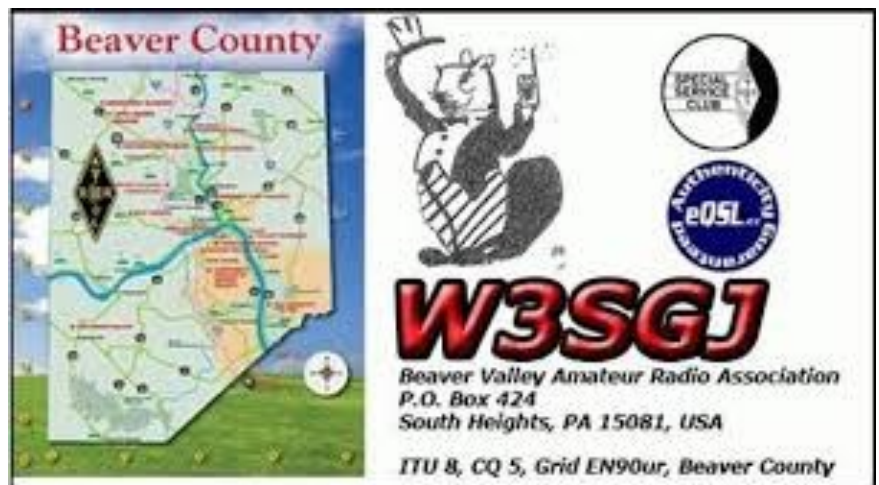
Aug Club Picnic TBA

Sep 10

Oct 08

Nov 12

Dec Club Christmas Party



This Month

This Month:

Speaker:

Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

Topic:

Practical Antenna Analyzer Uses

Including:

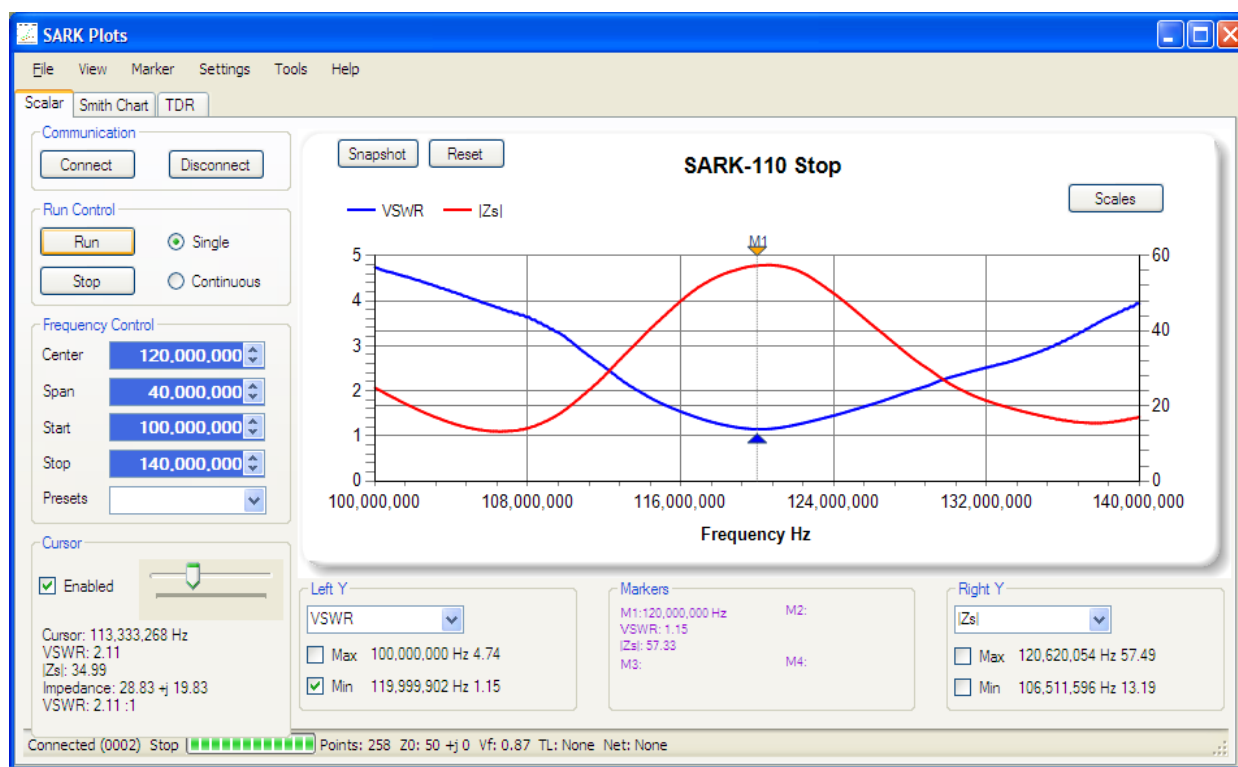
Continuing with our BVARA Presentation Series this year, our topic this month deals with practical uses of an antenna analyzer. If you're new to the hobby or you just want to know a little more about your antenna to determine if improvements can be made, this topic is for you. First, we'll find out what SWR is and if it is important. Then we'll explore how to measure your SWR, how to change 'things' to improve it, and even determine how much of your signal that you might be losing with 100 feet of coax at 7 MHz or at 145 MHz. Maybe you have a problem with your coax and you want to find out how far away the problem is from your transceiver. Reach for your antenna analyzer and find out. This is very interesting stuff!



Next, we'll discuss Velocity Factor in coax and why it is important when building antennas. Then we'll measure the Velocity Factor for two different types of coax with our SWR analyzer. Now we're 'armed and dangerous'.

This Month

We can now build open and shorted stubs for a multitude of purposes. Lengths to cut coax for a particular frequency to make antenna phasing lines is now a snap.



But wait, there's more! We'll look at baluns with our antenna analyzer to find out their input and output impedances and how well they work as the frequency is varied. Bring your antenna analyzer with you and try your hand at making some of these easy measurements. If you don't own one, then come and see what they can do to decide if you need one of these. This is one exciting 'hands-on' presentation that you won't want to miss.

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 and serve you something delicious.

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.

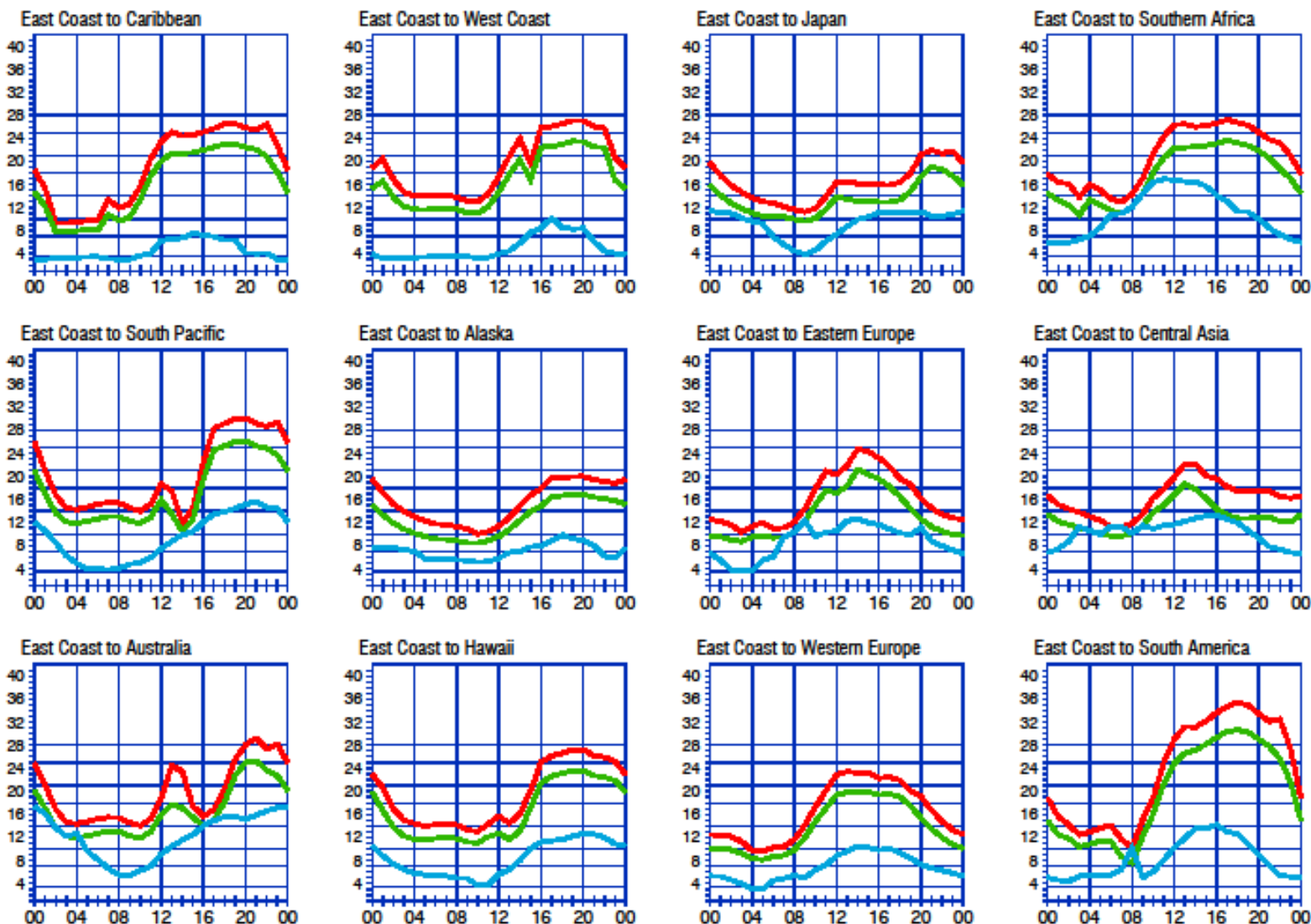
Any Beaver County Amateur that is interested in participating in the RACES/ARES programs can do so by checking into the Beaver County Public Service Net which meets every Monday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the WW3AAA 146.850 MHz repeater (131.8 PL)

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 73. This is a Very Low level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on The ARRL Antenna Book CD-ROM.



PROPAGATION

The East Coast propagation chart listed here is for March 2020.

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 911 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! Testing starts at 5PM, Club meeting starts at 6:30. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact :
Rich Soltesz, K3SOM
(724) 847-0610
k3som@arrl.net



VE TEST SESSIONS

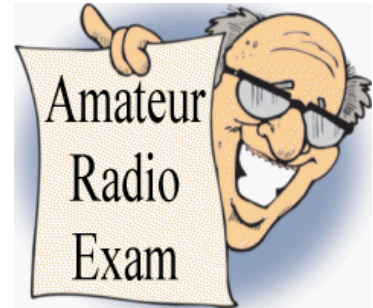
Beaver County Emergency Services Center 351 14th Street Ambridge, PA 15003.
Tests begin promptly at 5 pm on the same day as BVARA Club Meetings
(the second Thursday of the month).
All classes of amateur radio license tests are administered.

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



Our February VE Test Session had six candidates who all achieved their goals of either obtaining a new ham license or upgrading their existing license.

Congratulations to all six candidates including:

Joel C. Gaesser – KC3OXX, Ambridge, PA, Technician

Mike Muhlberger – KC3OXY, Aliquippa, PA, Technician

Dave Kraft – KC3OXZ, Moon Twp, PA, Technician

John Leonard – KC3OLU, Monaca, PA, General

Welland Burnside – KE8OAA, Wheeling, WV, Technician

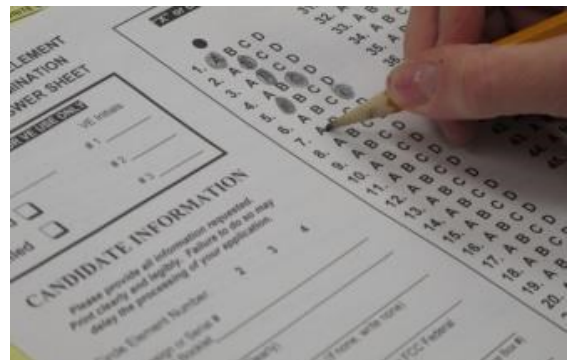
Carol Hamilton – KC3OYA, Harmony, PA, Technician



All of this testing so far in 2020 would not have been possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

Reg Genola - W3REG, Tony Pavilonis - K3AHP,
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="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

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/14/2020

Start Date: 03/14/2020

End Date: 03/14/2020

Location: Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department

222 E Main Street

Youngsville, PA 16371

Sponsor: BSA Venturing Crew 73

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.015 (PL 186.2)

Public Contact: Russ Bush , N3YD

157 Bates Street Youngsville, PA 16371

Phone: 814-564-9202

Email: n3yd@usa.com

Locations



Hamfests & General Announcements



TWO RIVERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 48th ANNUAL AMATEUR RADIO HAMFEST / COMPUTER SHOW March 29, 2020 8 am – 2 pm

The McKeesport Palisades – 100 Fifth Avenue. – McKeesport, PA 15132

["https://www.themckeesportpalisades.com/"](https://www.themckeesportpalisades.com/)

NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE OF VENUE

"The McKeesport Palisades" is located off PA Route 48 in the city of McKeesport, PA.

Amateur Radio Directions: 146.73 MHz Repeater – Mobile Check in: 146.52 MHz

Main Prizes: ICOM-7300

ICOM-2730AP

HP laptop computer

Heil Proset 6 headset

Free drawing Mobile check in

ICOM-5100AD

ICOM-51A +2

Portable Generator

Antenna Analyzer

Plus More Prizes

Admission \$5.00 - Tables for Rent At \$10 each

Table Reservations: Phone: 412-398-1092 -- Email: petersondt@verizon.net

Overnight Parking is Available

*** Amateur Radio Exam Testing Available**

*** Exam Registration: 412-751-9657 -- Email: ["veteam@trarc.net"](mailto:veteam@trarc.net)**

*** Breakfast and Lunch Available ***



This is an ARRL sanctioned hamfest



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

Contest Corral

March 2020

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
1 1200	1 1400	7	SARL Hamnet 40-Meter Simulated Emergency Contest	Ph	RS and serial	www.sarl.org.za
1 1200	1 2200	3.5	NSARA Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county (if NS)	nsara.vet1ch.net/?page_id=82
1 1500	2 0059	3.5-144	North Carolina QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	NC county or SPC	ncqso.org/rules
2 2000	2 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
3 0200	3 0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqp.blogspot.com
3 1900	3 2100	3.5	AGCW YL-CW Party	CW	RST, serial, name	agcw.org/index.php/en
4 2000	4 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	4-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
5 1800	5 2200	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net/activity-contests
5 2000	5 2200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
7 0000	8 2359	1.8-28	ARRL International DX Contest, SSB	Ph	WVE: RS + SP, Non-WVE: RS + power	www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
7 0000	15 2359	3.5, 7, 21, 28, 144	Novice Rig Roundup	CW	Name, QTH, rig and/or NRR number	www.novicerigroundup.org
7 0600	7 0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng
7 1200	8 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
7 1800	8 1359	1.8-28	Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Dig	2-letter region (state/province/canton, etc.), serial	krs.ho.ua/openrtty
8 0700	8 1100	3.5	UBA Spring Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, UBA section (if ON)	uba.be/hf/contest-rules
8 1800	8 2200	3.5	WAB 3.5 Mhz Phone/CW	CW Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.internip.net
9 0000	9 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
11 2000	11 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
11 2300	15 2300	7, 14	AWA John Hollins Memorial DX Contest	CW	RST, equipment type and year	www.antiquewireless.org
14 0000	14 2359	3.5-28	YB DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	rttyybdxcontest.com/dx-station-rules
14 1000	15 1000	3.5-28	RSGB Commonwealth Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
14 1200	15 1000	50, 70, 144, 432, 1296	SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.sarl.org.za
14 1200	15 1200	3.5-144	F9AA Cup, SSB	Ph	RST, serial	www.site.uncasso.fr
14 1200	15 1200	28	South America 10 Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CQ zone	sa10m.com.ar/qsoa10m_rules.html
14 1400	14 2000	3.5-28	AGCW QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, class, mbr or "NM"	agcw.org/index.php/en
14 1500	15 1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.k2n.net/stew
14 1500	15 2100	3.5-50	Oklahoma QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	k5cm.com/okqp.htm
14 1600	15 1600	3.5-28	EA PSK33 Contest	Dig	RSQ, EA province or serial	concursos.ure.es/en
14 1800	15 0559	3.5, 7	TESLA Memorial HF-CW Contest	CW	RST, serial, 4-char grid square	radiosport.org.us/HFTeslaMemorial
14 1800	15 1800	1.8-50	QCWA QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Last 2 digits of year first licensed, name, SPC or QCWA chapter	qcwa.org/W2020-qso-party-rules.pdf
14 1900	15 1900	1.8-28	Idaho QSO Party	CW Ph	County or SPC	pocastellorc.org/idahosqso-party
14 2200	14 2300	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Shootout	Ph	RS, SPC, mbr or power	qrp-arci.org/contests
15 0000	15 0400	3.5-14	North American Sprint, RTTY	Dig	Other station's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ncjweb.com
15 0700	15 1100	144	UBA Spring Contest, 2 Meter	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, UBA section (if UBA)	uba.be/hf/contest-rules
15 1800	16 0100	All (no WARC)	Wisconsin QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	County or SPC	warac.org/wqsp.htm
16 0200	16 0400	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
16 1800	16 2059	3.5, 7	Bucharest Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	yo3tes201x.blogspot.ro/p/blog-page.html
17 1700	22 1700	3.5-28	CLARA Chatter Party	CW Ph	RS(T), name, SPC	clawyl.ca/chatter-party
19 0030	19 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
21 0200	23 0200	3.5-28	BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, 4-digit UTC time	www.bartg.org.uk
21 1200	22 1200	1.8-28	Russian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-char oblast or serial	rdxc.org/asp/pages/rules.asp
21 1400	21 1800	144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power class, 6-char grid	agcw.org/index.php/en
21 1400	22 2359	All (no WARC)	Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Serial, VA county or SPC	qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party
21 2000	21 2159	1.8-28	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
22 0700	22 1100	3.5	UBA Spring Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, UBA section (if ON)	uba.be/hf/contest-rules
25 0000	25 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
25 2000	25 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	4-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
26 2000	26 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
28 0000	28 2359	1.8-VHF	FOC QSO Party	CW	RST, name, mbr (if FOC member)	g4foc.org/qso-party
28 0000	29 2359	1.8-28	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.cqwp.com
30 1300	31 0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	qrp-labs.com/party.html

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar date in North America. Times given as AM or PM are local times and dates. No contest activity occurs on the 60-, 30-, 17-, and 12-meter bands. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. S/P/C = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Publication deadline for Contest Corral listings is the first day of the second month prior to publication date (May 1 for July QST) — send information to contests@arrl.org. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time for a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column.

Bits and Pieces

Hello All. Wow, how time is moving on! Spring is right around the corner. It is time to plan those outside radio projects. When was the last time you checked your antenna guy wires, all your water tight seals, anything that could corrode, all your station grounds, cleaned & resealed all your coax connections, inspected the coax outside covering for weathering? Soon it will be a good time to check your station's health on the outside, outdoors. Do your inspections meticulously with attention to every detail. Plan to take care of it in spring and confidently enjoy a trouble free summer of radio operation.



The 'Dad Gum Pole' install has proved to be an insurmountable goal for now. I set my goal a bit more obtainable. I installed a 2 meter mobile radio in my truck. This involved some hardware, heat shrink tubing, a 2M radio, a drill & drill bits, some wire, electrical tape, a magnetic mount antenna, me, some blood (I scrapped my hand somewhere & it bled a little) and some time to attain my goal. One reason it was a more attainable goal was it only involved me (at least I thought I wasn't going to need help, read on). I didn't have to coordinate with other people to help me. Weather wouldn't be a factor. As it turned out it was cold but no rain. I didn't require the assistance of others so there were no time constraints (I could do it at my leisure & when ever), no tractors and best of all, No heavy Dad Gum Pole involved! But I will get that Dad Gum Pole in the ground some day!

Back to the 2 meter mobile. The install was pretty straight forward. I found a good place to run the radio power wires from the battery in the engine compartment to the people compartment (through the firewall). Next, I put a 2 meter mag mount antenna on the roof. I ran the coax through the sliding back cab window and under the seats. Once I got all that completed, I took a few days to contemplate where to mount the radio. I had a pretty good idea of the radio's mounting location but I needed to figure it out exactly. I made sure to have some extra slack in the power cord and antenna coax for this.

As I installed the radio mounting bracket I found I did require some help. My nephew reached through the dash board access panel to mount the bolts securing the radio's mounting bracket... My hand was too big to fit behind the dash. During the SWR check, I found out I needed to clean some corrosion off the antenna to tune it. It wouldn't move up or down freely for tuning. I removed the corrosion and everything went well. The 2m radio is installed and working fine. Thanks Sam, I couldn't have done it without your help.

A funny side note here: When I was checking to see how the radio was working, I talked to Shawn K3UKE, a person I had never met, on the 146.850 Triple A repeater. As we exchanged information, I told him my 2m install was a lower goal than an HF antenna install I had planned, he began to put two and two together. He mentioned an article he read in the eQRM BVARA newsletter. He asked me if I knew anything about a 'Dad Gum Pole'... "Yes" I told him, "That's me!" I almost fell out of the truck laughing!

Last month I attended the regular BVARA Club meeting, it was a round table discussion. There was some great discussion about radio subjects. I personally learned a lot. I encourage you to ask some questions at the next one! We are going to have another one of these questions and answers when it is announced. I look forward to the next round table format of radio related questions and answers. The informal format of this makes it very friendly and inviting. I hope you will come to the March Club meeting and the next quarterly round table.

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

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



* FIELD TRIP *



We are making plans for an **April 18th 2020 field trip to DX Engineering** and we've been invited on a “funspedition” to the **K3LR Super Station** to follow.

We will be leaving about 0730 so we will all arrive at Summit racing / DX Engineering before 0900.

Everyone is invited to come along!

Please contact Jim Allen KC3IXE at (724) 630-7433

Of Interest to All



Legislative assistant, Nat Troupe, District Director Josh Konecheck , Senator Elder Vogel, Jr.

To: All Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Operators
From: BVARA and Triple A (Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.)
Re: House Bill 37- Legislative Update Report
Date 2/21/2020

Today representatives from The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association and Triple A Amateur Radio clubs met with State Senator Elder Vogel at his Rochester office. Representing the Beaver County Amateur Radio community was Jack Spencer KZ3Z, Frank Cole N3TN, Rich Soltesz K3SOM, Pam Spencer W3PMS, David Covalt KC3BXC, and Jim Allen KC3IXE.

House Bill 37 is a resolution that was forwarded to the Pennsylvania Senate Transportation Committee. The intent of the legislation is to create hands-free, distraction free driving. The bill would forbid the use of cellphones while driving. This goal is not opposed at all by the ARRL. However, the bill also eliminated the Amateur Radio Operator's exemption to operate while in transit. Subsequent discussions by ARRL Legislative Officers that interviewed Representatives declared passage of this was an oversight, an unintentional consequence that should be restored.

There has been an amendment to HB 37 by Senator Farnese of Philadelphia. He will be introducing the amendment to this bill to exempt Amateur Radio Operators from any prohibition on the use of Amateur Radio equipment while mobile (operating a motor vehicle). Staff members of the Transportation Committee also conveyed their support of the exemption restoration.

Of Interest to All

Senator Vogel and his staff appeared to be quite supportive of our concerns. The Senator and his staff were genuinely impressed with the contribution Amateurs have made and are making. We are grateful for him and his staff's time and attention to our opposition to the exclusion. Additionally, we appreciate his office's offer to include any of our respective club's activities in his newsletter and to post any notices in his office.

The bill is not on the agenda as of yet for the Senate's Transportation Committee on which Senator Vogel serves as a member. It is not likely to be revisited until May or June when the Senate (amended) version is acted on and returned to the House. Though the HB 37 has been passed as a resolution, it is not yet an enacted law. We still have some time to let both our State Representatives and Senators know that the exemption is absolutely necessary if Amateur Radio is to continue to provide volunteer service to our respective Pennsylvania communities.

The fact that our exemption's removal went this far is a telling indication that our (PA amateur radio voters) lack of legislative input could indeed result in our privileges being abridged... We must stay alert for threats, intentional or otherwise and intervene via our elected officials. We encourage all PA. amateur radio operators to contact your Pennsylvania State Senator & Representatives and request support to **reinstate the exemption** soon. Please write a letter; send an e mail, make a phone call.

Senator Vogel's staff will keep us apprised of any developments.

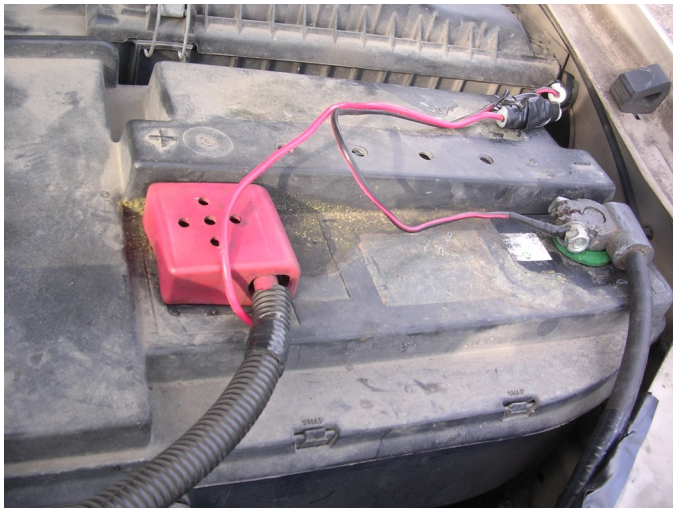


Jack Spencer KZ3Z, Pam Spencer W3PMS, Rich Soltész K3SOM, Frank Cole N3TN, and Jim Allen KC3IXE

Photos taken by David Covalt KC3BXC

Submitted by: James Allen, KC3IXE, BVARA Public Information Officer

What's your goal for 2020



KC3BXC

2 meter radio install :

Battery connections



Radio mount secure



Antenna mounted



How is your goal for 2020

So that Dad Gum Pole is still lying on the ground. I will get back to that soon, I hope.

In the meantime, I set my goal on a more obtainable project. I installed a 2 Meter radio in my truck. It wasn't too difficult. I had some help from my nephew Sam installing the radio mount bracket. My hand didn't fit in the access opening in the dash, his did. Between the two of us we got the bracket secured.

I connected the power harness to the battery. Ran the wires through the firewall, my truck had a very convenient plastic grommet to drill through. I put a mag mount antenna on the roof. Next I ran the coax through the sliding window, under the seats and that was pretty much it. The radio works great! I now have one radio goal successfully completed.



The Score : Dad Gum Pole install = 0
2 Meter Radio install = 1

How about you what are your radio ambitions?

Please send me your goals.

kc3bxc.73@gmail.com