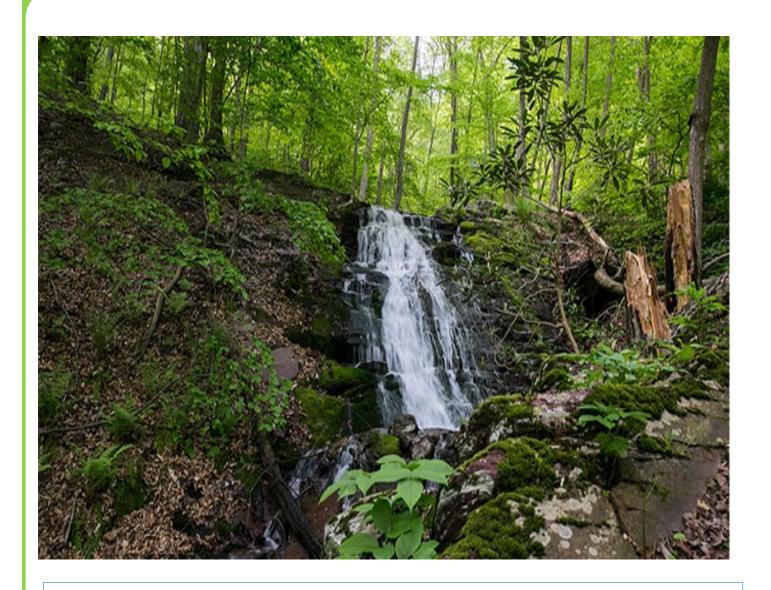
THE eQRM

MAY 2020



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

Repeater 145.310 PL 131.8

On the cover

This is Springtime in western Pennsylvania. Here is a beautiful photo from the mountains of Pa. I hope we can all get out and enjoy the great outdoors soon!

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Check into our nets

Wednesday 2 Meter Wednesday 10 Meter

8:30PM on 145.310 MHz PL 131.8 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

2020 BVARA OFFICERS

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

May 14 *Online ZOOM Teleconference

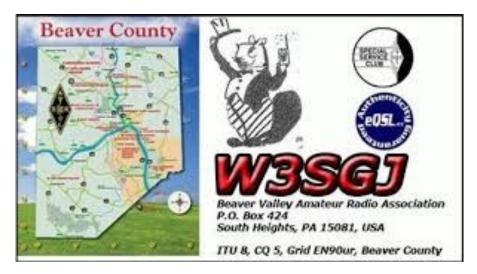
Jun 11

Club Picnic TBA

mas Party

Jul 07
Aug Cancelled till further notice Christ-







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This Month

This Month:

Speaker:

Rich Soltesz K3SOM

Topic:

Including:

Rich's Background:

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



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More this Month

The Freedom Monaca has a great

Weekly

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 interest-

ed in amateur radio are

encouraged to come join us at our Thursday morning breakfast.

Any Beaver County vice Net which PM local time on the WW3AAA 146.850

See you Thursday at



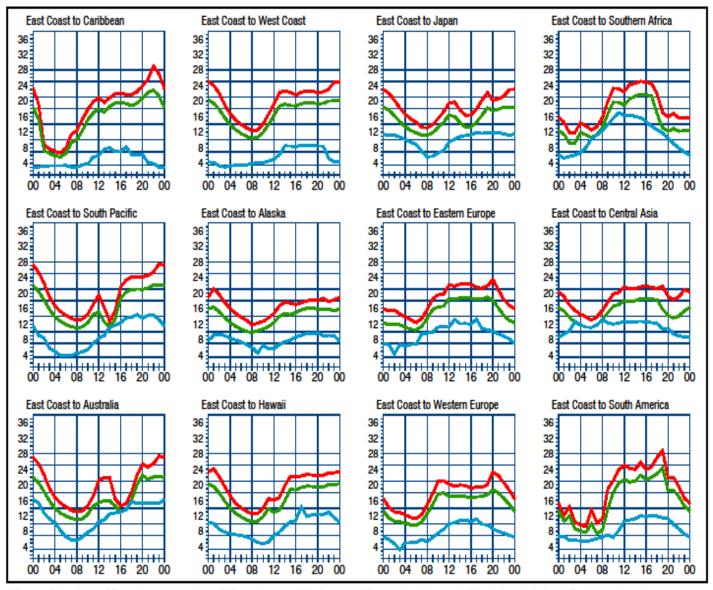
RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



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Propagation



When are the bands open? These charts, generated using CAPman, show probabilities for average HF propagation in the month of May 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 (HPF, highest possible 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 66. This is a Very Low level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on The ARRIL Antenna Book CD-ROM.

PROPAGATION

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

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

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Get your License or Upgrac

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 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



Beaver County PA 15003.

celled till further notice Tests begin promptly at 5 (the second Thursday of the All classes of amateur radio

Emergency Services Center 351 14th Street Ambridge,

pm on the same day as BVARA Club Meetings month). 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.

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New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing



Testing this month:

You're invited, come test with us!

Testing for May 2020

Our Volunteer Examiners are working on an alternate location to resume testing this month. Details will be made available to those who have already contacted the VE Liaison because of space limitations. Communication will be emailed to these candidates no later than May 11th with specific details such as time and location. A few more candidates can be added before May 11th, subject to space available for safely conducting VE testing. Face masks will be required and candidates will be kept approximately 6 to 8 feet apart, according to State of Pennsylvania guidelines as issued by the Governor and his representatives.



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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							
☐ BVA	RA full membership	20.00							
☐ BVA	RA student membership	15.00							
BVA	RA associate membership	10.00							
BVA	RA Child under 21 at home membersh	nip 5.00							
One ye	One year ARRL membership 49.00								
A Clu	A Club Donation								
ARRL Member? Yes No Total Enclosed									
Your License	,	Name							
	General								
	Advanced								
	Extra Class	Email							
_									
	Your Call sign								
	BVARA student membership BVARA associate membership BVARA Child under 21 at home membership One year ARRL membership A Club Donation RRL Member? Yes No Total Enclosed Technician Name General Advanced Extra Class Email								

Make check or money order payable to:

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

Hamfests & General Announcements

Cancelled till further notice

The eQRM has been notified that due to the COVID-19 safety precautions, the Breeze Shooter's Hamfest and Western Pennsylvania Section Convention has been CANCELED. The hamfest was scheduled for June 6-7 at the Big Butler Fairgrounds, but WILL NOT BE HELD THIS YEAR.

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Radio Sport

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

Contest Corral

May 2020

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.

Date	Start - Finish e-Time Date-Time		Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website		
			1900	3.5-28	AGCW ORP/ORP Party	CW			
1 2	1300	3	1600				RST, serial, class (A or B)	agow.org/index.php/en www.avhfo.com	
				50, 144	Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest 10-10 International Spring	CWPh	RS(T), 6-char grid square		
2	0001	3	2359	28	Contest, CW	CW	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org	
2	0300	2	0859	3.5-28	RCC Cup	CWPh	RS(T), mbr or ITU zone	госоирли	
2	0600	3	2359	2.3 GHz and up	SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest	CWPh Dig	6-char Maidenhead locator	n6nb.com/sbmsrules.htm	
2	0900	2	1400	All above 902	Microwave Spring Sprint	CWPh Dig	6-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/ springvhfupsprints	
2	1200	3	1159	3.5-28	ARI International DX Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), province or serial	www.ari.it	
2	1300	3	0700	1.8-28	7th Call Area QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), 5-letter state/county code or SPC	7qp.org	
2	1500	3	0300	1.8-28	Indiana QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), IN county or SPC	www.hdxco.org/inqp	
2	1700	2	2100	3.5-28	FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	fistsna.org	
2	1700	3	2359	1.8-VHF	Delaware QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), DE county or SPC	www.fsaro.org/qsoparty	
2	2000	3	2359	3.5-28	New England QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county+state or SPC	www.neqp.org	
4	1900	4	2030	3.5	RSGB 90-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgboo.org/hf	
4	2300	5	0300	All, no WARC	MIE 33 Contest	CWPh	RS(T), age, "ME" or "MEJ"	www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33	
5	0100	5	0300	3.5-28	ARS Sportan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsgrp.blogspot.com	
7	1700	7	2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CWPh Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.nrau.net	
7	1900	7	2100	1.9-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skoogroup.com	
9	1200	10	0900	50,70,144, 432,1296	SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, 6-char grid locator	www.sarl.org.za	
9	1200	10	1159		CO-M International DX Contest	CWPh	RS(T), serial	ogm.smru/en-rules	
9	1200	10	1200	3.5-28	VOLTAWW RITTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, CQ zone	www.contestvolta.com	
9	1200	10	2359	1.9-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skoogroup.com	
9	1400	10	0200	3.5-28, 144	Arkansas QSO Party	CWPh	RS(T), county or SPC	www.arkqp.com	
9	1700	9	2100	3.5-28	FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	fistsna.org	
9	2300	10	0300	50	50 MHz Spring Sprint	CWPh Dig	4-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/ springvhlupsprints	
10	1000	10	1400	7	WAB 7 MHz Phone/CW	CWPh	RS(T), serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net	
11	0000	11	0200	1.9-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CWPh	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com	
13	1900	13	2030	3.5	RSGB 90-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgboo.org/hf	
16	0600	16	2100	1.8-28	UN DX Contest	CWPh	RS(T), District code or serial	undso.kz	
16	0800	17	1100	3.5	NZART Sangster Shield Contest	CW	RST, serial, ZL Branch number (if ZL)	www.nzart.org.nz/activities	
16	0900	18	1700	3.5-28	Portuguese Navy Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), mbr or serial	www.nra.pt	
16	1200	17	1200	1.9-28	His Majesty King of Spain Contest, CW	CW	RST, EA province or serial	concursos.ure.es/en	
16	1200	17	1200	3.5-28	Aegean HTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.aegeandxgroup.gr	
16	1600	16	2159	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellolub	
17	1900	17	2359	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	grpcontest.com/pigrun	
18	1900		2030	3.5	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	Dig	4-char grid square	www.rsgboo.org/hf	
21	0030	21	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	nagoc.info	
21	1600		2200	3.5,7	QRP Minimal Art Session	CW	RST, dass, number of components	qrpoo.de	
23	2100	24	0200	3.5	Baltic Contest	CWPh	RS(T), serial	www.irsf.it/en	
25	0000	25	0100	1.9-28	QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	grparci.org/contests	
25	1300	26	0400	1.9-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	qrp-labs.com/party.html	
27	0000	27	0200	1.9-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skoogroup.com	
28	1900	28	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgboo.org/hf	
29	0000	31	2359	1.9-50	PODXS 070 Club 3-Day Weekend Contest	Dig	Name, RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com	
30	0000	31	2359	1.8-28	CQ WWWPX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.ogwpx.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 WA7BNIM 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, WA7BNIM, in providing this service.

www.arrl.org QST May 2020 69

Bits and Pieces

Hello all,

Winter is soon to be in the rear view mirror. Come on Spring! What have you been doing with your Amateur Radio Hobby? Being quarantined in my house, I can only watch so much TV and take so many naps.

Have you been on the air more than your normal? With the quarantine/lockdown our hobby hasn't been entirely affected, the air waves are wide open! Most of us have to stay home and this has given us a



little more time to do the things we want to do at home. Have you been able to make some unusual contacts? Anything new at your shack? Please share with me.

Personally, I have been missing going to hamfests and the fun face to face contacts I usually make there. I have spent little time on my radio hobby. I have been doing things differently since I have been locked up in the house. It's a major outing to go get the mail! I get all dressed up just to see what is in that white box with the red flag on it. I have been getting more than three weeks to the gallon on my truck. So no trips to the filling station. I was sitting on the couch the other day looking out the window; a delivery truck was driving toward my house. I got so excited! They stopped at the neighbor's. I was so disappointed. I saw a squirrel out the window. I began barking at it with the dog. After the barking, the dog looked at me as if to say "Now you know why I chew on the furniture". My wife watched with some degree of amusement. I now have a lot of honey dews on a list.

Okay, I went off chasing a rabbit. Back to Radio...I have been talking to our Volunteer Examiner liaison about resuming amateur radio license testing. They are working with the ARRL to find an acceptable method of testing. He will let me know once he gets some information from the ARRL and our Pennsylvania governor.

Members of the BVARA have been talking to each other with a computer conference program called "ZOOM". The May Club meeting via ZOOM is in the works. I can't wait to have a virtual Club Meeting!

I hope this issue of the eQRM finds you well. Be safe and stay tuned for next month's issue.

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

Till next month, 73 KC3BXC.

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THE eQRM

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



I put this in the eQRM some months ago. I hear all the time we need to get young/new hams involved in amateur radio. What have you done about it? You may have some extra time on your hands now. Is there someone you can introduce to Ham radio?



I have given "How do we invite new hams into the hobby?" considerable thought.

When was the last time that you invited a licensed ham under 25 to your shack and got them to talk on the radio or type in a message on PSK31? Before I get too far about invitations, I often wonder if we have short-changed potential candidates. Do we show off the many facets of Amateur Radio by trying it by example? Have we done a disservice to our hobby by not personally trying the many facets of the hobby? For starters...What of the old fashion Morse Code? When propagation is down, DITs & DAs can get through. During Field Day one year I witnessed many voice-only stations having no activity, the CWs were busy making contacts... It must be fun because so many people use this mode. It may even be one of the fastest growing facets of our hobby. The FCC dropped the requirement and now it seems to draw radio hobbyists.

One amateur radio excitement that I received was, a well-wish message after passing my general exam from a person I never met, via a "three station passed-on" Morse coded message from Germany to me in the states.

If we do not participate in the uses of the hobby how can we encourage

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It's Your Dime

others to try? If we don't use a portion of the hobby, others cannot enjoy their radio privileges with us. The more the merrier. When was the last time you got on the air in support of a High School Round Up (October 19-23, 2020) or a Rookie Round Up (Sunday, August 16, 2020, using RTTY / Sunday, December 20, 2020, using CW)? If there are limited contacts (**No You**) on the air, there is limited fun. Be a part of it. Make an effort to find out when these events are and get on the air so that you and the newbies can have fun. The fun and excitement that newbies bring is contagious! It may be just the thing you need to recharge your amateur radio hobby fun battery.

Have you ever used your frequency privileges to communicate via amateur satellites on VHF/UHF? Have you gotten into the digital aspects? What about Slow Scan Television with the International Space Station.

There is more than just voice communications to explore. There are beacons, digital modes, telemetry, satellites, moon-bounce, meteor scatter, remote control, APRS, JT65, FT8, fox hunting, and amateur TV to name just a few that make our hobby interesting.

I think to get more young people interested we have to invest in them. **You** have to share your time. **You** have to do more than help them get them their ticket. **You** have to show them how to enjoy the hobby. **You** have to be on the air and seek out the newly licensed. When was the last time **You** invited your niece, nephew, grandson, granddaughter, the kid next door or the kid down the street to your station, a Field Day, Club meeting, other Ham related event or just talked about Radio to seed their interest? Are **You** sensing a theme? Yes, it is **You** that makes a difference, it takes **You** to get young people interested.

So what are **You** going to do?

David KC3BXC, over....



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Of Interest to All

Here are the published 2020 Winter Field Day results for Western Pennsylvania from the WFD web site page. I thought that you would enjoy seeing how well we did when compared to others in Western Pennsylvania. Our secret weapon worked very well! We had a female voice on one of our stations.

2020 Winter Field Day Results in WPA*											
RANK	CALLSIGN	CATEGORY	SECTION	PH	CW	DIG	MULT.	PWR	BONUS	CLAIMED	CALC'D
	AB1A	1H	WPA	10	0	0	1	4	1500	1540	1535
	AB3GY	1H	WPA	3	0	9	2	2	0	80	76
	K3VZ	1H	WPA	30	0	0	5	1	0	150	105
	KA3PMW	1H	WPA	2	0	0	1	2	0	4	2
	KC3GYU	1H	WPA	26	0	0	3	2	0	156	138
	KC3JAS	1H	WPA	333	0	0	3	2	0	1998	1878
	KD3VN	1H	WPA	19	0	0	5	4	1500	1880	1880
	W3SGJ	2H	WPA	357	1	0	5	2	0	3590	1800
	W3ZIC	3H	WPA	99	35	1 5	5	2	0	1980	1490
	WA3JAW	1H	WPA	16	0	0	2	2	0	64	60
	WU3U	1H	WPA	145	51	0	5	1	0	247	1130
70	KS3N	21	WPA	168	51	0	6	2	1500	4740	4372
141	N3LI	21	WPA	150	0	0	2	2	1500	3680	1660
54	W3ACH	40	WPA	152	85	0	6	2	4500	8352	7946
66	W3GH	10	WPA	65	37	0	6	4	4500	7836	7268
140	N3RF	10	WPA	45	0	0	2	4	4500	4860	4851
145	KC3TOM	10	WPA	22	0	1	4	4	4500	4868	4816
154	WA3PRR	20	WPA	36	4	0	3	2	4500	4764	4736
296	KA3KSP	10	WPA	12	0	0	3	2	0	3072	60

^{*}Sorted by Category: H = Home Station, I = Remote, Indoors (non-home), O = Outdoors (tent, ice fishing shelter, etc.)

Operators: K3SOM, KC3IXE, K3AHP, N3SVK



Provided by Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

The Old Gang of Bygone Days



March 2020 eQRM

Newsletter of the BVARA

The Old Gang of Bygone Days – from the pages of *QST Magazine*, January 1971.

A meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Net was held at Cook Forest.

Do you know everyone? Answers/Names next page.

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The Gang of Bygone Days

In attendance were:

(front row, left to right)

W3KUN – Joe Nester, Emporium

K3HCT – Dale Squires, Rochester

K3VQV – Cliff Ray, Greenville

W3UCS – Miller Young, Summerville

W3IYI - Cliff Porter, Indiana

W3KPJ – Henry Schneider, Wesleyville

W3SIJ – Ed Woodson, Beaver Falls

(back row, left to right)

W3ATQ - Claude Feigley, Hagerstown, MD

W2KAE – Lloyd Brown, Jamesburg

W3KNK – Sherwood Doughman, Harrisburg

W3UHN - Tony Mroczka, Donora

W3LOS – Leo Weiner, Erie

W3NEM – Bob Gawryla, State College

W3SN - Hobart Geer, Erie

W3IDO – Howell Babbitt, Greensburg

W3LOD – Harold Passenger, Oil City

WA3IPU – Frank Prina, Delmont

W3RUL – Milton Vandall, Oil City

W2KAT – Jim Petlock, State College

K3ZNP – George Markis, Aliquippa

K3SOH – John Bench, Pittsburgh

WA3AKH – George Stoneburner, Coraopolis

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Some Interesting Links



These links are all SDRs (software defined radios) that you can control and listen to. They are available to anyone via the world wide web. If the site is busy try it again later. Have fun.

Use this Drake R8 located in Reston, VA USA http://www.chilton.com/R8/receiver.html
You have to turn it on just like a real radio. All the controls work like a real R8.

New Zealand radio http://kiwisdr.northlandradio.nz:8073/

Warrenton Virginia USA http://kiwisdr.k1ra.us:8073/

Lamont, Alberta, **Canada** http://kiwisdr.ve6slp.ca:8173/

Fernebo Sweden http://kiwisdr.sk3w.se:8073/

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