

THE eQRM

NOVEMBER 2024



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ



2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



On the Cover: The BVARA wishes you and yours a very Happy Thanksgiving!

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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

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

Nov 14

Dec 07 Club Christmas Party

2025

Jan 09

Feb 13

Mar 13

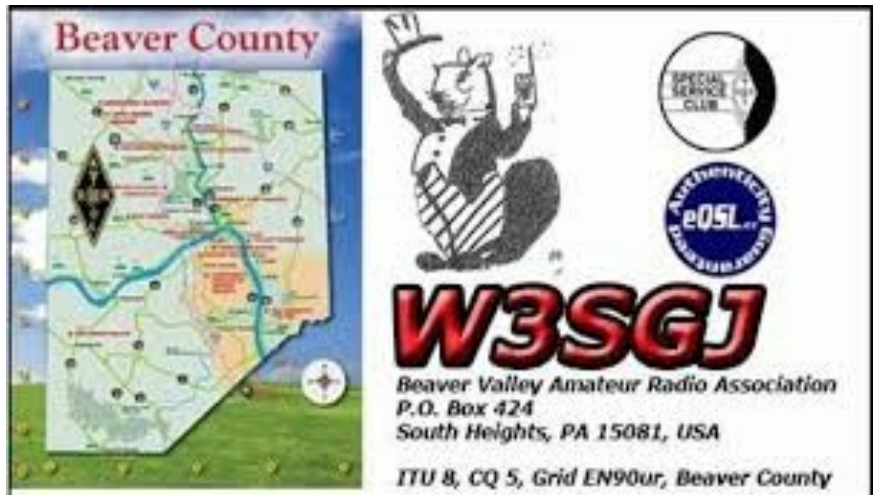
Apr 10

May 08

Jun 12

Jul 10

Aug Corn Roast



This Month

This Month:

Speakers:

BVARA Club Members

Topic:

This November meeting should be a very busy one with the following possible items on the agenda:

Old business

- Intermittent repeater receiver issues
- Shed rebuild
- Outdoor Immersion results
- VE Testing results

New business to include:

- Election of officers for 2025
- Identification of directors
- Nomination and election of the BVARA Ham of the Year
- Christmas menu and related decisions
- Club membership dues for 2025 will be requested

With all of that in mind, members always like to discuss the many aspects of the hobby, so in the remaining time, individual as well as group discussions are suggested with no formal agenda.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends!

Rich's Background:

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

More this Month

Weekly

Thursday Morning Breakfast
(or you can have lunch)

Come join us!



BREAKFAST

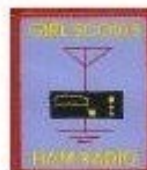
The BVARA meets every Thursday at the Freedom Square Diner in Center Township, just to the right of the Cinemark Center Township Marketplace at 09:30 AM. All radio amateurs and those interested in amateur radio are encouraged to come join us at our Thursday morning breakfast.



See you

RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



The 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 :

October 2024 VE Test Session Results



Our October VE Test Session had five candidates, who achieved their Technician license or General license class. Our electronic filing system once again worked superbly.

Testing was conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA. Our next VE Test Session will be on November 14th, 2024.

Congratulations to:

- Zach Allen, KC3ZWQ, Technician and General, Washington, PA
- John Bosnyak, KC3ZXF, Technician, Pittsburgh, PA
- Ray Dean, KC3ZXI, Technician, West Sunbury, PA
- Brad Herr, KC3ZXG, Technician, Beaver Falls, PA
- Lanqi Sun, KC3ZZH, Technician, Pittsburgh, PA

If you hear them 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 – 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

Okay!

Okay, both of you just quit it!



**When it comes to hamfests,
there will be some next year.**

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

Announcing The 1st Annual BVARA CW Roundup!

Date: Feb 27, 2025 **Time:** 7:00 to 8:30 PM (Local Time) **Frequency:** 28.04 to 28.06 MHz **100W Max**

Operating Classes: **CLASS A** – BVARA member – Experienced CW operator

CLASS B – Newcomer or newer CW operator (BVARA member or non-member)

CLASS C – Non-BVARA member – Experienced CW operator

CLASS D – Listeners who copy only (log calls of participating stations you heard)

CQing: Send "CQ CWR CQ CWR"

Exchange: Signal report (including operating class) / QTH (your location) / Name

Example: You are a newer CW operator and you are in a QSO with K3XYZ whose signal is readable, their signal strength is registering a '7' on your S-meter and their signal tone is good. Your (example) callsign is W3ABC, you live in Ambridge, and your name is Bruno. You would then send something like:

K3XYZ DE W3ABC (K3XYZ this is W3ABC) BT (break)

RST IS 579 B 579 B BT (signal report and class)

QTH IS AMBRIDGE, PA AMBRIDGE, PA BT

NAME IS BRUNO BRUNO BT

HW CPY? (how did you copy my transmission?)

K3XYZ DE W3ABC K (over)

The other station would then reply with their information using the same format. After the exchanges are completed, short informal remarks can be made during the QSO if desired, after which the contact would end with something like:

TNX FER QSO (thanks for the QSO)

GL ES 73 (good luck and best wishes)

K3XYZ DE W3ABC SK (end of contact)



Description of event: **This 1½-hour event is not a contest.** Rather, it is a celebration of our area newcomers new to CW, returners to the mode of CW, and listeners. Also, it is an invitation to our veteran CW operators to enjoy helping the newcomers in making live, on-air CW contacts. There are no points scored, and no results or standings posted. **You do NOT have to be a member of the BVARA to participate.**

A handsome certificate will be issued to each participant submitting a log entry from the event (see above)

Send logs *no later than Saturday, March 8, 2025*, to Rich Soltesz – K3SOM:

Regular mail log: Rich Soltesz

115 Brooks Dr

Beaver Falls, PA 15010

Electronic log: K3SOM@ARRL.net

Attach Cabrillo file: [call].log

Of Interest to All

Special Events*

Working special event stations is an enjoyable way to help commemorate history.

Below are samples for this month. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate.

Nov. 6, 1700Z – 2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS *Midway* Museum Ship. **Commemorating Veterans Day (11/11/1919) and USMC Birthday (11/10/1715)**. 7.250 14.320; 14.070 PSK31 D-STAR on PAPA System repeaters. QSL. USS *Midway* Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101. www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw

Nov. 16, 1400Z – 2200Z, K3S, Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship *Savannah* Amateur Radio Club. **First Transatlantic Ham Radio QSO (1923)**. 7.1 14.1 21.1 28.1. QSL. K3LU, 980 Patuxent Rd., Odenton, MD 21113. *Please check spotting networks for frequencies.* www.qrz.com/db/k3s

Nov. 16, 1500Z – 1800Z, W0CXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Collins Amateur Radio Club. **Collins ARC 41st Anniversary**. 14.263. QSL. Brice AntonJensen, 1110 Lyndhurst Dr., Hiawatha, IA 52233. www.qrz.com/db/w0cxx

Nov. 16 – Nov. 18, 0000Z – 0000Z, W6SFM, Fair Oaks, CA. Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club. **W6SFM Bug Roundup**. 3.533 7.033 14.033 28.033. QSL. John Geyer, 4901 Minnesota Ave., Fair Oaks, CA 95628. *This is an operating event.* www.w6sfm.org/bug-roundup

Nov. 27 – Dec 1, 0000Z – 2359Z, NW7US, Fayetteville, OH. Olivia Digital DXers Club. **Autumnal Olivia Digital Mode QSO Party**. 7.071 14.071 21.071 28.121. Certificate. Tomas, NW7US, P.O. Box 110, Fayetteville, OH 45118. *This is an operating event.* www.oliviadigitalmode.org

Nov. 30 – Dec. 1, 1500Z – 2300Z, W9CAP, St. Charles, IL. Illinois Wing Civil Air Patrol. **83rd Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol**. 7.255 14.250 18.125 28.450. Certificate. Attn: Lt. Col. Robert Becker, P.O. Box 4027, St. Charles, IL 60174. www.qrz.com/db/w9cap

*Courtesy American Radio Relay League (ARRL), *QST Magazine*, November 2024

Of Interest to All



Carol Wilson – W5CDW, a member of the Bella Vista Radio Club located in North West Arkansas (BVRC) was recently reunited with an old friend who first introduced her to the hobby 40 years ago, Bob Winkle – N3AZZ, from Beaver County, just North of Pittsburgh, PA. They had both lost their spouses many years ago.

Interestingly, Bob told me earlier this year that he had come across something that made him recall his earlier friendship with Carol from many years ago. Soon afterward, he headed down to Arkansas for a follow-up visit to renew their friendship. “Hmm . . .” I thought! At our Thursday morning breakfast at the Freedom Square Diner in Monaca on October 10th, both Carol and Bob joined us with the good news that they were now newlyweds!

Now, we can simply say: Congratulations Bob and Carol!



Of Interest to All

Outdoor Immersion

RENEWING VETERAN & MILITARY RESILIENCE

Outdoor Immersion is a Community Care Mission using outdoor activities to create connections of friendship, moving them from isolation to community and rebuilding resilience physically, mentally and spiritually.



BVARA members,

I'm still looking for volunteers for the Outdoor Immersion Run 4 Resilience held in Raccoon Creek State Park on Saturday, November 9. Time is from 7 AM to approximately 4:30 PM.

Don't worry about experience or equipment. At this point I have several experienced operators signed up, so you would be paired with someone who has worked this event previously.

Please let me know if you can help out with this event.

Doug, N4YKQ

Of Interest to All

BVARA

November

Election Day, November 5th so be sure to vote!

Outdoor Immersion Event at Raccoon Creek
State Park, November 9th



BVARA Election of Officers and the Ham of the Year Nomination, November 14th

ARRL November Sweepstakes, SSB, November 16th – 18th

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW, November 23rd – 24th

Thanksgiving Holiday, November 28th

POTA, POTA – Dress warm!

December

Christmas Dinner, Rochester Hotel, December 7th

ARRL 160-Meter Contest, CW, December 6th – 8th

ARRL 10-Meter Contest, CW and SSB, December 14th – 15th

POTA, POTA – Dress very warm!

Bits and Pieces

Hello everyone,

How are your “end of warm weather” radio projects coming? I have had my radio projects put on hold as I am in the middle of getting the farm ready to be tucked in for winter. I have been so incredibly busy!

The farm has been good to my family this year with a nice garden. It produced so well we ate some and had some to share. When it produced too much, we had to do a lot of canning! Come winter, we will reap the efforts of our labors and the blessing from our Creator. We will have some great “home grown” food to feed us.

With that being said I turn my thoughts to Thanksgiving. So it begins, colder weather will set in soon and thoughts of gathering with Family and Friends will fill my thoughts. I will count my blessings and celebrate the goodness with my family. Christmas is just around the corner too. Ahhhh what a great time of year. I hope you count your blessings too. I am wishing you a great Thanksgiving! May it be the best you have had so far.

The BVARA Christmas Party is December 7th at 5:30. More details will be in the December issue of the eQRM.

This is all for this month... happy radioing and
be safe in all your radio hobby activities.

Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.

73 KC3BXC



Radio Sport

Contest Corral

November 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 Date-Time Date-Time				Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1	0100	1	0130	See rules	NCCC FT4 Sprint	Dig	4-char grid square	ncccsprint.com
1	0145	1	0215	3.5-28	Weekly RTTY Test	Dig	Name, SPC	radiosport.world/wrt.html
1	0230	1	0300	See rules	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial, name, QTH	ncccsprint.com
1	0600	1	0859	3.5,7	Silent Key Memorial Contest	CW	RST, SK call sign you wish to recognize	www.skmc.hu/en/rules.html
2	0600	2	1800	3.5-28	IPARC Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, IPA, US state (if USA)	www.iparc.de
2	2100	4	0259	1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW	CW	Serial, precedence, your call, check, ARRL/RAC Section	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
3	0600	3	1800	3.5-28	IPARC Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial, IPA, US state (if USA)	www.iparc.de
3	0800	3	1200	Any	EANET Sprint	CW Ph Dig	RS(T)	fediea.org
3	1400	3	1700	3.5-28	High Speed Club CW Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	www.highspeedclub.org
4	2000	4	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
5	0100	5	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, pwr	ars-qrp.com
6	2000	6	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
7	0000	8	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	13 WPM max; RST, SPC, name, mbr/pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk40
7	1800	7	2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net
7	2000	7	2200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
9	0000	9	2359	3.5-28	FISTS Saturday Sprint	CW	RST, name, mbr or "0," SPC	fistsna.org
9	0000	10	2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, RTTY	Dig	RST, serial	www.darc.de
9	0000	11	2359	1.8-7	PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
9	0001	10	2359	28	10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital	Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
9	0700	10	1300	1.8-28	JIDX Phone Contest	Ph	RST, JA prefecture number or CQ zone	www.jidx.org
9	1200	10	1200	1.8-28	OK/OM DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 3-letter OK/OM district code or serial	okomdx.crk.cz
9	1200	10	2359	1.8-28,50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, (SKCC no./"NONE")	www.skccgroup.com
9	1900	11	0500	1.8-28,50, 144,432	CQ-WE Contest	CW Ph Dg	Name, location code, years of service	w8zpf.com/cqwe
9	2300	18	0300	1.8-14	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party	CW	RST, name, QTH, equipment year/type/pwr	antiquewireless.org
10	0000	10	0400	3.5-14	North American SSB Sprint Contest	Ph	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ssbsprint.com
10	0700	10	1700	3.5-28	FIRAC HF Contest	Ph	RS(T), serial	www.firac.de
11	0000	11	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
12	1900	12	2000	3.5	DARC FT4 Contest	FT4	RST, 4-char grid square	www.darc.de
13	2000	13	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
15	0100	15	0130	See rules	NCCC FT4 Sprint	Dig	4-char grid square	ncccsprint.com
15	0145	15	0215	3.5-28	Weekly RTTY Test	Dig	Name, SPC	radiosport.world/wrt.html
15	0230	15	0300	See rules	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial, name, QTH	ncccsprint.com
16	0000	17	2359	50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
16	1200	17	1200	3.5-28	LZ DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-letter LZ district or ITU zone	lzdxbfra.org
16	1600	16	2359	1.8	All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	CW	RST, serial, OE district code (if OE)	www.oevsv.at
16	1700	16	2359	1.8	REF 160-Meter Contest	CW	RST, serial, department code	concours.r-e-f.org
16	1800	17	2100	3.5,7,21,28	South American Integration Contest CW	CW	See rules	sacw.cwsp.com.br
16	1900	16	2059	1.8-28,50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
16	1900	16	2300	1.8	RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest	CW	RST, serial, UK district code (if UK)	www.rsgbcc.org
16	2100	18	0259	1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes, SSB	Ph	Serial, precedence, your call, check, ARRL/RAC Section	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
17	0000	17	2359	3.5-28	FISTS Sunday Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "0"	fistsna.org
17	1300	17	1700	3.5,7	Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment Party	CW	RST, serial, class	www.qrpcc.de
17	2300	18	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
18	2000	18	2130	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	Dig	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org
21	0000	22	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	13 WPM max; RST, SPC, name, mbr/pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20
21	0130	21	0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	naqcc.info
21	1900	21	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	25 WPM max; RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl
23	0000	24	2359	1.8-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, CQ zone	www.cqww.com
27	0000	27	0200	1.8-28,50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
27	2000	27	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW	6-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
28	2000	28	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
29	0100	29	0130	See rules	NCCC FT4 Sprint	Dig	4-char grid square	ncccsprint.com
29	0145	29	0215	3.5-28	Weekly RTTY Test	Dig	Name, SPC	radiosport.world/wrt.html
29	0230	29	0300	See rules	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial, name, QTH	ncccsprint.com