

# THE eQRM

SEPTEMBER 2022



## The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



**On the Cover:** Fall is on the way! This is a great picture of Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon taken by Jim Cheney. I am hoping all of us can take a little time to visit the mountains of Pennsylvania and enjoy the fall colors this year.

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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

## 2022 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Lawrence, K3GTX

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

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).

2022

Sep 08

Oct 13

Nov 10

Dec Christmas Party

2023

Jan 12

Feb 09

Mar 09

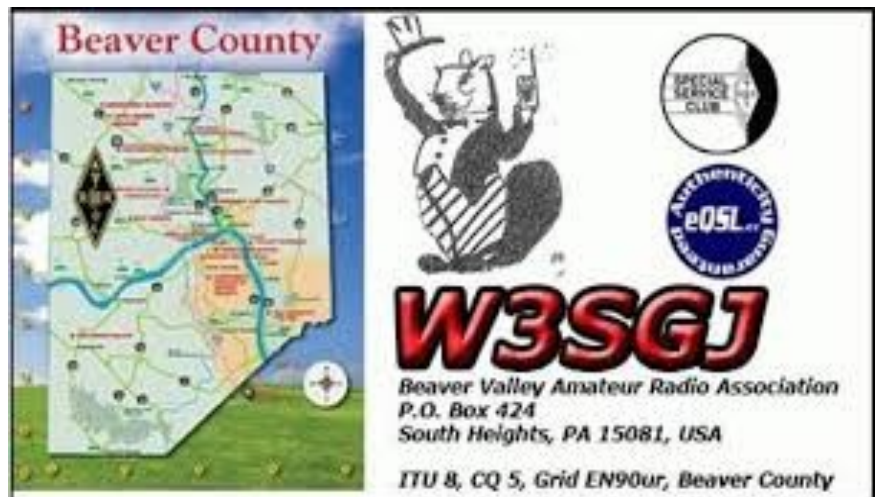
Apr 13

May 11

Jun 08

Jul 13

Aug Corn Roast



# This Month

## *Special Roundtable Session:*

*Speakers:* BVARA Club Members and You

*Topic:* Roundtable Help with Questions from You

### *What's It All About:*

New to ham radio? Are you wondering about new digital modes with your equipment? Maybe you have questions about antennas, setting up your station, how to make an HF contact, or how to interface your computer to your ham equipment. Perhaps your questions are even more basic like rules and regulations, which bands are best to use, where to find operating resources like band plans, what to do after you make contacts and how do you save or conveniently create a useful log. Maybe you have problems with annoying noise or need help in selecting some equipment. The list goes on and on . . .

Since our initial roundtable discussion in November 2019, some changes have been planned in our roundtable format that will enable you to more easily seek the answers to questions you have about ham radio and operating a station. After our monthly club meeting, our next roundtable discussion with your participation is planned. You don't have to be a member of the BVARA; you may just have a question or two that's been bothering you about our ham radio hobby. In fact, you could be new to the hobby or a seasoned veteran with questions. Whether it's technical or about rules/regulations or operating or equipment, we want to help you. Perhaps your question involves unique HF, VHF, or UHF operating or perhaps some of the newer digital modes. Your question could help others with the same issues!

We'll start our roundtable around 7:15 PM at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center at 351 14th Street, Ambridge, PA 15003. *Please join us with your questions!*

Rich Soltesz - K3SOM  
Extra Class Ham  
BVARA VE Liaison

# 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!**



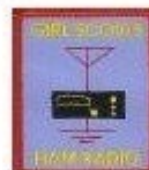
The BVARA meets every Thursday at the Freedom Square Diner in Center Township, just to the right of the Cinemark Center Township Marketplace at 09:30 AM. All radio amateurs and those interested in amateur radio are encouraged to come join us at our Thursday morning breakfast.

**See you  
Thursday at**



### RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.





# 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 :



### August 2022 VE Test Session Results

There was no testing session. We were all at our BVARA Corn Roast.

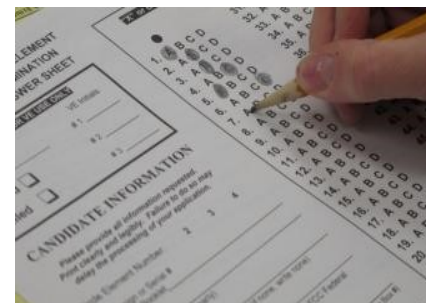
Please come to our regular Test Session at the September BVARA Club Meeting.



All of our BVARA testing would not be possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

Reg Genola – W3REG,  
Tony Pavilonis – K3AHP,  
Mick Pyzoha – N3OJP,  
Bart Stack – KB3NFM, and  
Bob Winkle – N3AZZ  
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



# Hamfests & General Announcements



**Radio, Computer, Electronics**

## **SwapFest**

**Sunday September 11, 2022  
8 A.M. to 3 P.M.**



***Buy a ticket, and open your trunk!***

**Unionville Fire Department  
102 Mahood Road, Butler, PA 16001  
(Along PA Route 8, 4 miles north of US 422)**

**40° 56' 19" N, 79° 57' 34" W**

**No firearm sales! No alcoholic beverages permitted in SwapFest area!**

### **FCC Amateur Radio Exams**

**You must have your FRN number!**

### **PRIZES**

**Yaesu FTM-200DR dual-band 2m/70cm FM/C4FM mobile radio.  
Alinco DJ-MD5XTG DMR-capable handheld.  
Aursinc NanoVNA SAA-2N V2.2 Vector Network Analyzer.**

***Winner need not be present to win.***

### **50/50 Raffles**

**Prize tickets are available at the club's table.**

**Talk in W3UDX 147.36/96  
Web Site: W3UDX.ORG**

### **Breakfast and lunch available.**

**(No individual food sales permitted.)**

**Information: Walt Wimer, W3TEK, [wlw.w3tek@gmail.com](mailto:wlw.w3tek@gmail.com), 412-965-1273**

**Sponsored by : Butler County Amateur Radio Association , Inc.**

# It's Your Dime

## New Slate of Officers and Directors for the Breezeshooters Organization 2022-2023

Amateur radio clubs and organizations are composed of people from all walks of life. Technology, at its core drives many changes to this hobby. People come and go, they move into and out of our hobby, have their own personal goals and objectives.

Like politics, people choose to run for office and seek the vote of those they hope to represent. As a voter, our expectation is to seek people who will move our dreams and wishes towards success. Sometimes our elected candidates are successful; other times, they fall short.

For various reasons, the Breezeshooters Amateur Radio Club, begun in the early 1950s, gradually began to disappoint, for various reasons that have now become a part of their history, those voters who continued their hopes for success.

A new slate of Officers and Directors as a driven team have been elected, as shown below. They seek to bring new life, new excitement, and fresh ideas to enable your dreams and wishes towards the success you have sought. Please support them and offer your ideas and participation back into our club!

Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

### New Officers and Directors for the Breezeshooters Organization, 2022-2023:

AG3I	Marty	President
N3WMC	Bill	Vice President
K3JAS	Jack	Secretary
KC3SDJ	Andrew	Treasurer
KC3GMM	Nate	Checker
KA3UTS	Dan	Director 1 Year (Elected for 2 yr term last year so will serve 2nd year this coming year)
W3TLN	Tom	Director 1 Year
KE3PO	Sam	Director 1 Year
WC3O	Bob	Director 2 Year
K3SOM	Rich	Director 2 Year
N3TIR	Bud	Director 2 Year

Respectfully submitted,  
Marty, AG3I



It's your Dime



# Of Interest to All

The BVARA 2022 Corn Roast was a wonderfully successful event. Over 30 people attended the event on a near perfect weather day. Many people favorably commented on not only the amount of food, but also on the outstanding variety of offerings. No one, I'm sure, left the event still hungry!



Doug Lawrence, K3GTX, Jim Allen, KC3IXE and Doug's Kathy husked the corn.



# Of Interest to All



Dan, KB3VSP, Frank N3TN and Tim K2EA pose for a picture.

Jim Allen, KC3IXE, ensures everyone knows the  
**“Butter is here!”**



The food line begins here...



# Of Interest to All



There was plenty of food for all! It was a wonderful variety too.



It didn't take long for everyone in line to make their first selections, sit down and enjoy.

Here are only a few of the many deserts.





# Of Interest to All

## 2022 Skyview Hamfest – BVARA Attendees

### Overview:

At least six of our BVARA club members attended the Skyview Hamfest on Sunday, August 28th at their clubhouse and property on Turkey Ridge Road near New Kensington. The picture shows Doug, N4YKQ with Tim, KA3JRT, Rich, K3SOM, and Jim, KC3IXE warming up the concrete for one of the many towers at their outstanding location. Not shown are Dan, KB3VSP and Bob, W3BBO. (Photo courtesy of Marty, AG3I)



The weather was great, the bargains were many, and the food was excellent. Specialties included the World-Famous Skyview Burger, the Half-Wave Dipole and so much more. A great time was had by all who attended with two of our club members winning prizes.

# Of Interest to All

## 2022 Skyview Hamfest Prize Winners

### Door Prizes:

8:00 AM Skyview Tumbler createdbyamy.com: Don Stewart WA3HGW

8:30 AM Set of easywayhambooks.com: Bob Reisenweber: W3BBO

9:00 AM Pass your Technician/General/Extra set of books by easywayhambooks.com: Duncan MacGregor KF6YYT

9:30 AM \$50 ARRL Gift Certificate: John Bixler K3EAS

10:00 AM \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate: Mike Recklitis KC3CBQ

10:30 AM \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate Gary Rindfuss KC3KSC

11:00 AM J-Pole Antenna (Donated by Art Mueller WA3BKD): Harley Corbin KC3OCC

### Main Prizes:

1. Yeasu FT-65 (donated by Greg Dober N3MVF): Dennis Aheimer K3YN

2. \$100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate: Rich Gubanich K3MJ

3. \$100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate: Rich Gubanich K3MJ (Rich had two of his tickets pulled twice in a row)

4. Pro's Kit Soldering Station (Donated by Greg Dober N3NVF): Marty Newingham AG3I

5. PEET Brothers Weather Station: Bill Hastings KB3TBT

6. Isotrol 20 Meter Antenna: Rich Soltesz K3SOM

7. ARRL Handbook Set: Bob Steele N8HGL

**50/50:** \$75 Mark Benson KM3P

**Begali Key:** Cousin Joe Poli KC3PXQ

# Bits and Pieces

WOW!

How naive of me to think I had a grip on Summer. Where has it gone? I have had so much I wanted to do this Summer. It is September now; I still have so much I want to do before the snow flies. I have been laboring but I can't seem to get everything I want to do done in one Summer. Are you having the same experience? I will keep going and see if I can't get a few more things completed before the weather shuts everything down. I have much to do and I will plan my priorities so I get those done first. I will be working to get things done right up till it is cold and yukky outside. I have my goal to put up a HF antenna as my highest priority. I encourage you to get whatever it is you want to get done accomplished soon.



Looks like there will be one last chance for me to attend a Hamfest this year. I was away on a much-enjoyed vacation and missed the two Fests held in August. My Kathy and I visited some friends in Wyoming. On a trip to Yellow Stone we snapped this photo of one of the local residents.



I plan on attending the BCARA Swap fest in Uniontown on September 11th.

On the "It's your dime" page I look forward to good things to happen for the Breeze Shooters Club. May great things happen for you! I look forward to hearing from them and sharing their accomplishments here in our newsletter. Good luck in all that you do!

I think this will do it for this month.

Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.

73 KC3BXC





# Radio Sport

## Contest Corral

September 2022

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at [www.arrl.org/contest-calendar](http://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 1700	1 2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	<a href="http://nrlcontest.no">nrlcontest.no</a>
1 2300	3 2300	3.5-28	G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr, or power	<a href="http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html">www.fistsna.org/operating.html</a>
3 0000	3 2359	3.5-28	Russian RTTY WW Contest	Dig	RST, RU oblast or CQ Zone	<a href="http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/93">www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/93</a>
3 0000	4 2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, Phone	Ph	RS, 2-digit age	<a href="http://www.jarl.org/English">www.jarl.org/English</a>
3 0600	3 0800	714	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	<a href="http://grp.ru/contest/wakeup">grp.ru/contest/wakeup</a>
3 0800	4 1000	1.8-28	SARL Field Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), # of rigs, category, province	<a href="http://www.sarl.org.za">www.sarl.org.za</a>
3 1300	3 1600	7	AGCW Straight Key Party	CW	RST, serial, class, name, age	<a href="http://www.agcw.de/contest/http-htp-en">www.agcw.de/contest/http-htp-en</a>
3 1300	4 0400	All, except WARC	Colorado QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, CO county or SPC	<a href="http://ppraa.org/coqp">ppraa.org/coqp</a>
3 1300	4 1259	1.8-28	IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	Ph	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.darc.de">www.darc.de</a>
3 1300	4 1300	3.5-28	RSGB SSB Field Day	Ph	RS, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
3 1400	4 1400	145	IARU Region 1 145 MHz Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid square	<a href="http://www.iaru-r1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Rules-2021.pdf">www.iaru-r1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Rules-2021.pdf</a>
3 2000	4 2000	3.5	PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80-Meter Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	<a href="http://www.podxs070.com">www.podxs070.com</a>
4 1000	4 1400	144	WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	<a href="http://wab.internip.net">wab.internip.net</a>
4 1800	5 0300	All, except WARC	Tennessee QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), TN county or SPC	<a href="http://tnqp.org/rules">tnqp.org/rules</a>
5 1900	5 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
6 0100	6 0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	<a href="http://arsqr.blogspot.com">arsqr.blogspot.com</a>
7 1700	7 2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en</a>
10 0000	10 2359	1.8-28, VHF	FOC QSO Party	CW	RST, name, mbr (if any)	<a href="http://g4loc.org/qso-party">g4loc.org/qso-party</a>
10 0000	11 2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	<a href="http://www.darc.de">www.darc.de</a>
10 1200	11 2359	1.8-28, 50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
10 1400	10 2200	3.5-28	Ohio State Parks on the Air	Ph	OH park abbreviation or SPC	<a href="http://ospota.org">ospota.org</a>
10 1500	11 0300	3.5-28	Alabama QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), AL county or SPC	<a href="http://www.alabamagsoparty.org">www.alabamagsoparty.org</a>
10 1500	11 0959	3.5-28	Russian Cup Digital Contest	Dig	serial, 4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/86.html">www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/86.html</a>
10 1800	12 0300	50 and up	ARRL September VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf">www.arrl.org/september-vhf</a>
11 0000	11 0400	3.5-14	North American Sprint, CW	CW	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	<a href="http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf">ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf</a>
12 0000	12 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://www.4sqrp.com">www.4sqrp.com</a>
14 1700	14 2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu">www.ft8activity.eu</a>
14 1900	14 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org">www.rsgbcc.org</a>
15 0030	15 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://naqcc.info">naqcc.info</a>
15 1800	15 1959	3.5	BCC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), T-shirt size	<a href="http://www.bavarian-contest-club.de">www.bavarian-contest-club.de</a>
15 1900	15 2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	NTC member: RST, mbr; non-member: RST, "NM," less than 25 WPM	<a href="http://qsl.net/ntc/party.html">qsl.net/ntc/party.html</a>
16 2100	16 2359	3.5	AGB NEMIGA Contest	CW Ph Dig	AGB member: RST, serial, mbr; non-Member: RST, serial	<a href="http://www.ev5agb.com/contest/agg_nemiga.htm">www.ev5agb.com/contest/agg_nemiga.htm</a>
17 0000	18 2359	2.3 GHz and up	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest">www.arrl.org/eme-contest</a>
17 0300	18 0900		SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, 6-char grid locator	<a href="http://www.sarl.org.za">www.sarl.org.za</a>
17 0600	18 2359	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up">www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up</a>
17 1200	18 1200	3.5-28	Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.sactest.net/blog/">www.sactest.net/blog/</a>
17 1400	18 0200	All, except WARC and 60	Iowa QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), IA county or SPC	<a href="http://www.w0yl.com/IAQP">www.w0yl.com/IAQP</a>
17 1400	18 2000	All, except WARC	Texas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), TX county or SPC	<a href="http://www.txqp.net">www.txqp.net</a>
17 1500	17 2100	1.8-28	QRP Afield	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), SPC, power or mbr	<a href="http://www.newenglandqrp.org">www.newenglandqrp.org</a>
17 1600	17 2300	3.5-28, 50, 144	Wisconsin Parks on the Air	CW Ph	WI park abbreviation or SPC	<a href="http://wipota.com">wipota.com</a>
17 1600	18 0359	3.5-28	New Jersey QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NJ county or SPC	<a href="http://www.k2td-bcrrc.org/njqp/">www.k2td-bcrrc.org/njqp/</a>
17 1600	18 2200	All, except WARC	New Hampshire QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NH county or SPC	<a href="http://www.w1wqm.org/nhqsol/">www.w1wqm.org/nhqsol/</a>
17 1600	18 2359	1.8-28, 50, 144	Washington State Salmon Run	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), WA county or SPC	<a href="http://salmonrun.wwdxc.org">salmonrun.wwdxc.org</a>
17 1800	17 1959	1.8-28, 50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/">sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/</a>
18 0000	18 0400	3.5-14	North American Sprint, RTTY	Dig	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	<a href="http://ncjweb.com">ncjweb.com</a>
18 1700	18 2059	3.5-28	BARTG Sprint PSK63 Contest	Dig	Serial	<a href="http://bartg.org.uk">bartg.org.uk</a>
19 1900	19 2300	144	144 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	<a href="http://svhfs.org/wp/sprints/">svhfs.org/wp/sprints/</a>
21 1700	21 2000	12G	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu">www.ft8activity.eu</a>
22 1900	22 2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org">www.rsgbcc.org</a>
24 0000	25 2359	3.5-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	Dig	RST, CQ Zone, (+state/prov for US/VE)	<a href="http://www.cqwwrtty.com">www.cqwwrtty.com</a>
24 1200	25 1200	1.8-28	Maine QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), ME county or SPC	<a href="http://www.ws1sm.com/MEQP.html">www.ws1sm.com/MEQP.html</a>
24 1400	24 1800	144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power, 6-char grid	<a href="http://www.agcw.de">www.agcw.de</a>
24 2200	25 2200	1.8-14	AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	Ph	Name, SPC	<a href="http://antiquewireless.org/homepage">antiquewireless.org/homepage</a>
25 0700	25 1000	50	UBA ON Contest, 6 Meters	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, ON section (for ON)	<a href="http://www.uba.be">www.uba.be</a>
26 1900	26 2030	3.5-14	RSGB FT4 Contest	FT4	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org">www.rsgbcc.org</a>
27 1900	27 2300	222	222 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	<a href="http://svhfs.org/wp/sprints/">svhfs.org/wp/sprints/</a>