

THE eQRM

SEPTEMBER 2025



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



On the Cover: Fall is coming. Are you all done with any outdoor station upgrades you want to make before cold weather? Now is a great time to get'em done. It's not too hot or cold Yet.

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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



The eQRM is a publication of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association (BVARA) and is Copyright 2010 - 2025. 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

2025 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Larry Homich, KC3ROS

2nd Vice Pres.: Greg Burns KCTFW

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Tom Stoops N3XC

Director: Tony Pavilonis, K3AHP

Director: Jim Allen, KC3IXE

Director: Douglas Lawrence K3GTX

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).

2025

Sep 11

Oct 09

Nov 13

Dec 06 Christmas Party

2026

Jan 08

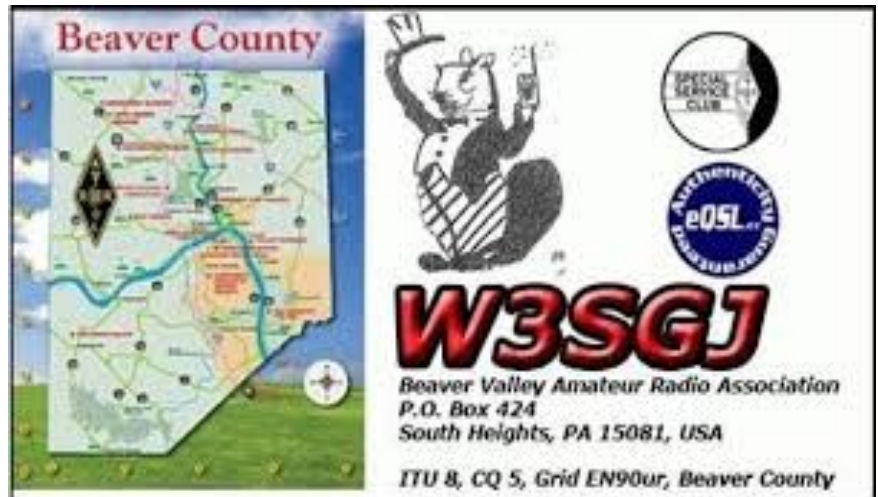
Feb 12

Mar 12

Apr 09

May 14

Jun 11



This Month

This Month:

Speaker:

Rich Soltesz

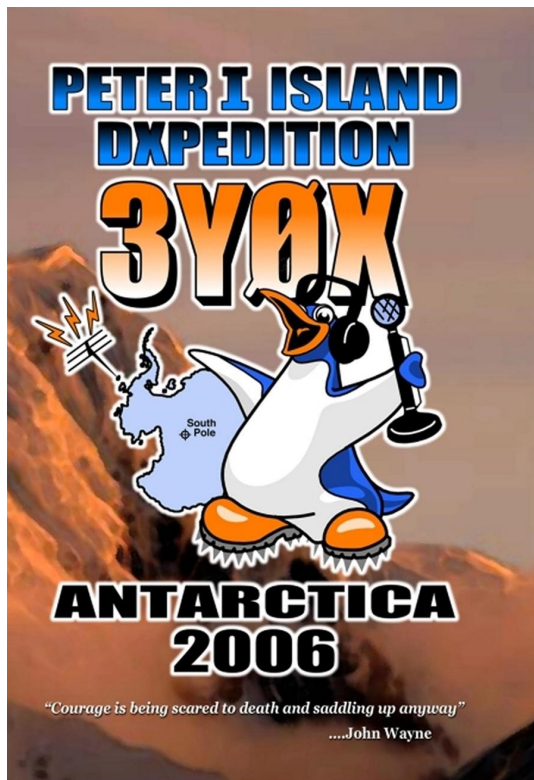
K3SOM

Topic:

General Member Discussion

Including:

A DVD Presentation of the Peter I Island Dxpedition of 3Y0X near Antarctica in 2006



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:

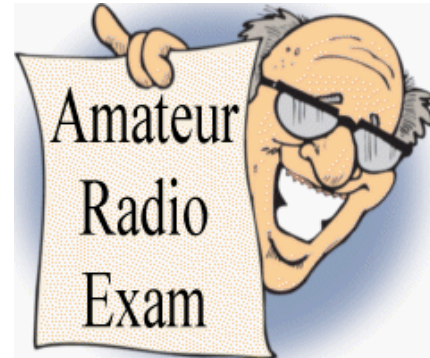
1. 2 forms of I.D. - one MUST be a photo I.D.
2. A pencil AND a pen with blue or black ink.
3. The original AND a photocopy of any valid ham license.
4. The original AND a photocopy of any C.S.C.E.
5. The test fee of \$15 - cash only.
6. Your FRN Number. (free from the FCC, call for details)



New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing

Testing this Month :



August 2025 VE Test Session Results

There was no testing for the month of August. We were all at the Club Corn Roast.

Our next VE Test Session will be on September 11th, 2025 at the 911 Center.

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 – KC3TZT
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	_____
A Club Donation		_____
	Total	Enclosed _____

ARRL Member? Yes No

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 7, 2025

8 A.M. to 1 P.M.



Buy a ticket, and open your trunk!

Gate donation of \$5.00 per person. No additional charge for sellers.

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

In case of inclement weather, the SwapFest will be held indoors at the fire hall,
and parking will be available on the asphalt.

40° 56' 19" N, 79° 57' 34" W

No firearm sales! No alcoholic beverages permitted in swapfest area!

FCC Amateur Radio Exams

PRIZES

(To be announced.)

Winner need not be present to win.

50/50 Raffles

Prize tickets will be available at the club's table.

Talk in W3UDX 147.36/96, CTCSS 131.8 Hz

Web Site: W3UDX.ORG

Breakfast and lunch available.

(No individual food sales permitted.)

Information: Dr. Mike Conlon, N2EM. N2EM@arrl.net; 724-496-3008

Sponsored by : Butler County Amateur Radio Association , Inc.

Hamfests & General Announcements



We cordially invite you to attend our 3rd annual hamfest

HATFest 2025
Sunday, September 28, 2025

717 Washington Street
Newell, WV 26050
FROM 10:00AM till 4:00PM

For additional information and advanced tickets call

304-277-7552

or

EMAIL: hatfest@wv8hat.org



Talk-In Frequency

147.510 MHz

Admission \$4.00 in advance (*through August 31st*) or \$5.00 at the door
each admission includes 1 (ONE) Grand Prize Ticket

Vendor Table & Registration Fees:

\$10 per Table (no power)

\$15 per Table (120VAC)



This year's grand prize is a

Yaesu FT-710 Field

**100W HF/6M Transceiver
with a 4.3 in. Color TFT
Touchscreen Display**

***All prize winners must be present to
win except for the Grand Prize***

Schedule of Events

VE Exam Session

1:00 PM

Suite 207 in the main building

***Testing for all classes of amateur
radio license***



2 ATMs conveniently located on site

**717 Washington Street
Newell, WV 26050**

**Across the river from East Liverpool, Ohio
Easy access from US 30
on WV Route 2 in Newell**



Hamfests & General Announcements

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA HAMFEST

Presented by Clearfield County Amateur Radio Club

www.clearfieldcountyarcc.net/hamfest

Swap Meet | Meet n Greet/Rag Chew
SkyWarn Training | Exam Session

WHEN

Sunday September 14 2025

8AM to 1 PM

DOOR PRIZES

WHERE

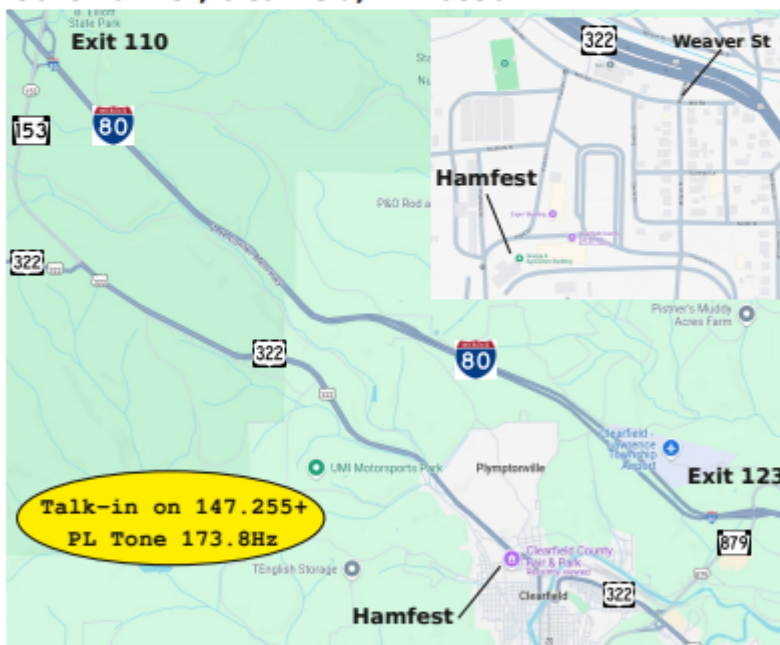
Clearfield County Fair Grounds

Agriculture Building and surrounding grounds

5615 Park St, Clearfield, PA 16830



ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®



CLEARFIELD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAMFEST COMMITTEE

Chuck Sheaffer KM4NSC

chuck@sheaffer.us

(540) 632-2847

John Szwarc N3SPW

johnszwarc@gmail.com

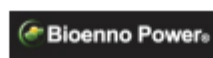
(814) 553-5649

Tim Lumadue N3PUL

tlumadue176@gmail.com

(814) 761-5002

OUR SPONSORS



FEES

Parking: FREE

General Admission: \$5*

Inside Vendor Table: \$10

Tailgate Spaces: \$5

*Active Duty Military/Emergency in uniform/
under 12 free.

Reserve and pay for your table ahead
of time: hamfest@clearfieldcountyarcc.net

EVENT SCHEDULE

7AM Set-up Dealers & Tailgating

8AM Hamfest opens

9AM ARES® Meeting

9:30AM SkyWarn Spotter Training

11AM ARRL Atlantic Division Director & Section
Manager

11:30AM VE Testing

12:30PM Prize Drawings

~1PM Close

EXAM SESSION

NO FEE FOR EXAM

Begins at 11:30 AM

(Reservations preferred but not required)

Contact: Mary Lewis N3UDN

E-mail: jims@windstream.net

Sponsor: Ridgeway ARC/Laurel VEC

You will need:

- Your FRN
- Photo ID or student ID
- Email address
- Non-programable calculator (optional)

***If testing for General or Extra bring your current
license card issued by the FCC***

NOTE: Reasonable accommodations honored.

Advance notice is appreciated.



CONCESSIONS

Coffee/Soda

Egg/Sausage/Pancake Breakfast

Hamburgers/Hot Dogs/Sloppy Joes

The Corn Roast of 2025

What a difference a year or two can make! In 2023, you may recall: *“It was a dark and stormy night; the rain fell in torrents—except at occasional intervals, when it was checked by a violent gust of wind which swept up from the valleys below, rattling along the house-tops, and fiercely agitating the scanty flame of the lamps that struggled against the darkness.”* In 2024, the weather was exceptionally pleasant with low humidity and comfortable temperatures with gentle breezes. This year, Mother Nature decided to once again, cut us some slack and provide just a little warmer temperature but with those gentle breezes and blue skies with billowy clouds to make for a near-perfect Corn Roast at Shelter 1 in the Old Economy County Park near Baden.

Setup and corn shucking began in earnest, with minimal rearranging of the picnic tables within the shelter to a customary configuration for our club event. Our blue-colored, simulated checkered table covers easily encouraged a family-style outdoor picnic.



Shucking Corn

Doug – N4YKQ,

Doug – K3GTX, and Kathy

Of Interest to All

As in the past, the large kettle and propane burner were set up just outside the shelter so that the chance of accidental burns could be avoided. Ice chests were deployed to provide safe and cool conditions for some of the food, water and pop. A large cooler was reserved to temporarily store the steamed corn so that people would not have to wait for a nice hot ear or two of corn. Electric outlets and outlet strips were put in place for the pierogies, baked beans, the hot dog and Bratwurst machine as well as hotpots with assorted offerings. On another table, various summer salads and desserts were prominently displayed.

As 5:00 PM approached we began preparing the corn and hot dogs as well as picking up the fried chicken that we had ordered earlier in anticipation of the expected crowd.



At the food line are Angie, John – N3NQP, Tony – K3AHP, and Celeste



At the food line are Tony – K3AHP,
Celeste and Jeff – K3SLK

Soon we had approximately 30 plus hungry people. Members who had not been seen for some time, new members, whole families including small children arrived. The picnic was on! Once again, name tags helped to identify both old and new with many conversations and mingling as people sampled the various food offerings and many desserts.

Of Interest to All



Doug – K3GTX, Kathy,
Kathy, and David – KC3BXC

And what offerings were available! Many imaginative Summer salads filled in one area. Creative vegetables complimented the salads with delicious side dishes. Better quality hot dogs and Bratwurst competed with some excellent fried chicken in the meat departments. But the desserts, including cookies, pies, and so much more demanded a second trip to the food buffet just to try a little of this or that, as if it had been missed with the first pass!

The pleasant weather seemed to encourage so many enjoyable conversations with the opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of both new and old friends.



Jack – KZ3Z Auctioning off a Radio
Shack item to the crowd



Tony – K3AHP with his Yaesu Rotor
Auction Treasure

As a bonus later in the early evening, Jack, KZ3Z brought many ham radio items and an assortment of less-needed but quality tools offered to those attending as he conducted an old-fashioned auction.

But all too quickly, the sun began to set, and twilight began to take over as nightfall approached. A good time was had by all! Teardown went very smoothly with Shelter 1 cleaned up and restored to its original condition.

Of Interest to All

Free Tech Class !



A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Technician Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, Sept 4, and will run through Thursday, October 16 (7 sessions). The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum.

This is for anyone interested in getting their first FCC Ham radio license.

Those wishing to sign up should email roland.anders@comcast.net



Of Interest to All

BVARA Coming Attractions



September 2025

Regular Club Meeting September 11

Several Hamfests

October 2025

Hamfests

Bits and Pieces

Hello All,

I didn't get the newsletter out in a timely manner this month. I have had one calamity after another. Then I got the flu. I am better now and I have put out this newsletter quite late. I am shooting for an "on-time" newsletter for next month.



I hope you are enjoying the nice Fall weather.

Till next month, happy radioing.

Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.

73 KC3BXC



Radio Sport

Contest Corral

September 2025

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				Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
Date-Time	Date-Time							
1	1900	1	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
1	2300	2	0300	1.8-28,50	MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	www.miqrp.net/contest
3	2000	3	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
4	0000	5	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr; 13 WPM max	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk40
4	1800	4	2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net
6	0000	7	2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, Phone	Ph	RS, 2-digit age	www.jarl.org
6	0800	7	1000	50,144,432	SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest	Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.sarl.org.za
6	0800	7	1000	1.8-28	SARL Field Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), # of rigs, category, province or "DX"	mysarl.org.za
6	1200	7	1159	3.5-28	Russian RTTY WW Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	www.contest.ru
6	1300	7	1259	1.8-28	IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	Ph	RST, serial	www.darc.de
6	1300	7	1300	3.5-28	RSGB SSB Field Day	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
6	1300	6	1600	7	AGCW Straight Key Party	CW	RST, serial, class, name, age	www.agcw.de
6	1400	6	2200	3.5-28	Ohio State Parks on the Air	Ph	OH park abbreviation or SPC	ospota.org
6	1400	7	1400	145	IARU Region 1 145 MHz Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid square	www.iaru-r1.org
6	2000	7	2000	3.5	PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
7	1000	7	1400	144	WAB 144 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net
7	1700	8	0300	All, no WARC	Tennessee QSO Partv	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), TN county or SPC	tnao.org
9	1800	9	1859	3.5	DARC CW-Training Contest	CW	RST, mbr/"NM" or serial	www.darc.de
10	1900	10	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
13	0000	14	2359	2.3 GHz and up	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
13	0000	14	2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.darc.de
13	1500	13	1800	3.5-14	Africa FT4 DX Contest	Dig	Signal report, 4-char grid square	www.sarl.org.za
13	1800	15	0300	50 and up	ARRL September VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	www.arrl.org/september-vhf
14	0000	14	0400	3.5-14	North American Sprint, CW	CW	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
14	1300	14	1330	432	IRTS 70cm Counties Contest	Ph	RS(T), serial, county (if EI/GI)	www.irts.ie
14	1330	14	1500	144	IRTS 2m Counties Contest	Ph	RS(T), serial, county (if EI/GI)	www.irts.ie
15	0000	15	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
15	1900	15	2100	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	Dig	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org
18	0000	19	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr; 13 WPM max	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20
18	1800	18	1959	3.5	BCC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), T-shirt size	www.bavarian-contest-club.de
18	1900	18	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM; RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp
19	1600	19	1700	3.5	AGB NEMIGA Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, mbr (if any)	ev5agb.com
20	0900	22	0759	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
20	1200	21	1200	3.5-28	Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.sactest.net
20	1400	21	0159	3.5-28	New Jersey QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NJ county or SPC	www.k2td-bcqr.org
20	1400	21	2000	All, no WARC	Texas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), TX county or SPC	www.txqp.net
20	1400	21	0200	All, no WARC	Iowa QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), IA county or SPC	www.w0yl.com
20	1500	20	2100	1.8-28	QRP Afield	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.newenglandqrp.org
20	1600	21	2200	3.5-28	New Hampshire QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NH county or SPC	www.w1wqm.org
20	1600	21	2359	1.8-28,50	Washington State Salmon Run	CW Ph	RS(T), WA county or SPC	salmonrun.wwdxc.org
20	1600	20	2300	All, no WARC	Wisconsin Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	WI park number or SPC	wipota.com
21	0000	21	0400	3.5-14	North American Sprint, RTTY	Dig	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
21	1700	21	2059	3.5-28	BARTG Sprint PSK63 Contest	Dig	Serial	bartg.org.uk
21	2300	22	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
22	2300	23	0600	144	144 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	packratvhf.com
24	2000	24	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW	6-char grid square	www.ukicc.com
25	1900	25	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
27	0000	28	2359	3.5-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	Dig	RST, CQ zone, US/VE state/prov	www.cqwwrtty.com
27	1200	28	1159	3.5-28	YU DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YU/YT county or serial	www.yudx.yu1srs.org.rs
27	1200	28	1200	1.8-28	Maine QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), ME county or SPC	www.ws1sm.com
27	1400	27	1800	144,432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, pwr, 6-char grid square	www.agcw.de
27	1400	27	2200	3.5-28	Masonic Lodges on the Air	Ph	Lodge name, lodge no., jurisdiction or SPC	cqmorelight.com
27	2000	28	2359	1.8-14,28	AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	Ph	Name, SPC	antiquewireless.org
28	0700	28	1000	50	UBA ON Contest, 6m	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, ON (for ON)	www.uba.be
30	2300	1	0600	222	222 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	packratvhf.com