

# PRRL FORMS TO COMBAT ARRL SECRECY

The following article is an editorial commentary and does not reflect the opinions of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association or the American Radio Relay League.

Just as our forefathers united to resist an unresponsive and oppressive form of governance, so have a group of similar minded Pennsylvania hams.

The Pennsylvania Radio Relay League (PRRL) has been born



out of discussions posted on QRZ.COM concerning the upcoming ARRL elections. EQRM readers are encouraged to visit: <u>http://forums.qrz.com/sho</u> <u>wthread.php?t=152397</u> for updates datailing the

for updates detailing the ongoing conversation.

The PRRL was formed by a small group of Western Pennsylvania (WPA) amateur radio operators in response to attempts by some members of the aforementioned QRZ.COM forum that are attempting to "justify" the need for secrecy at ARRL Board of Director (BoD) meetings. Forum snips:

K5MC POSTS: 1 THINK IN THIS DAY AND AGE OPEN BOARD MEETINGS ARE IMPOR-(Continued on Page 5)

# HELP THE BVARA EARN e-AWARDS

Thanks to the financial contributions of KZ3Z and WA3ZRM, W3SGJ is now an **AUTHENTICITY GUARANTEED** part of the eQSL network. With this designation, BVARA members can participate in helping the club earn e-Awards!

eQSL offers a series of awards that BVARA members can help the club obtain. Awards include the eWAS, eDX, eDX100, eGRID, eZ40 and ePFX300.

Based on eQSL log entries from other stations worked by W3SGJ over the years, the club needs to obtain only 22 (Continued on Page 11)



#### Inside this issue:

Rossi Wireless Society	2
ARMAD 2008	3
Ham's Horoscope	4
Membership Info	6
RACES ID CARD INFO	6
HAMFEST Update	10
E-Awards	11

#### Newsletter & Information Exchange Program

- Have your club's latest news and happenings printed here for FREE!
- Is your club having a VE session or classes? Let me know and I'll help spread the word!
- Planning a Hamfest? Drop me a line and get some FREE PR in the eQRM!
- Having an ARRL night, special speaker or program? The eQRM can help by spreading the news within our region!

### **REPEATER ANTENNA FUND**

Good news! At the time of this writing, the club's antenna fund has reached the \$470 mark! WOW! The cost of a new four bay dipole for the repeater is \$730 delivered.

Special thanks are in order for all club members that have contributed to the fund. A list of donators will appear in upcoming issues of the eQRM.

Donations to the club's antenna fund can be made by using the membership application found on page 6 of this issue.

# ANTENNA FUND CONTRIBUTORS Dave, KA3SMF \$20.00 Norm, K3NJT \$100.00 Pam, W3PMS \$60.00 Jack, KZ3Z \$145.00 Bob, WA3ZRM \$145.00 TOTAL TO DATE \$470.00

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association meets at the Beaver County Emergency Operations Center located at 250 East End Avenue, Beaver, PA on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.

#### +++PLUS+++

Don't forget to listen to the BVARA club nets every Wednesday Night! 2 Meter Net on 145.310 MHz 100Hz PL at 8:30 PM and the 10 Meter Net 28.370 QSY +/- 10 at 9:00PM.

#### Letters and E-Mails to the Editor

The eQRM welcomes letters/e-mails to the editor. Letters must be signed and contain your contact information for verification prior to publication. Preference will be given to letters of 200 words or less. Letters are subject to editing. Unused letters will not be acknowledged or returned.

#### The BVARA 10 Meter Net Lunch group will be meeting this

Thursday at Kings in Center Twp at 11:00 AM. All area amateurs are invited and encouraged to attend the Thursday Morning Lunch.

VE TEST SESSION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 7, 2008: The BVARA sponsors ARRL VE examinations at the Community College of Beaver County's Aviation Science building, 125 Cessna Drive, (Chippewa Twp.) Beaver Falls, PA. For more info on the test session, dates and times, contact Tony, KE3ED @ 724-774-4173 or by e-mail at KE3ED@arrl.net.

### 2008 BVARA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President: Robert De Marco, WA3ZRM First Vice President: George Caffro, N3HOJ Second Vice President: Evan Finkelstein , KB3QFR Secretary: Norm Trunick , K3NJT Treasurer: Shawn Hastwell, KB8UDE Director: Chris Moratis, W3OUF Director: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z Trustee: Tony Petruccelli, KE3ED/W3SGJ



### ROSSI WINERY WIRELESS SOCIETY



Temporary Relocation To Kings Restaurant

All area Amateur Radio Operators are invited to attend the weekly meeting of the Rossi Winery Wireless

Society. Until further notice, the Society will be meeting Saturday's at Kings Restaurant

in Center Township. The reason for this temporary move is due an illness in the

Rossi Family. As always, the meeting will begin at 6:30 PM with a traditional Vino toast. Talk-in is on the ,31 repeater.



#### PAGE 2

# ARRL WPA Section News de N3MSE

I recently had the opportunity to talk with many of you at the Two Rivers hamfest in April. As always I enjoyed meeting many of the members and I want to that the Two Rivers club for their hospitality as well. Personally I enjoying seeing and talking to the members that stop by the league table at the hamfests and I hope that many of you will stop at say hello at the Breezeshooters hamfest as well.

The Breezeshooters hamfest is Sunday June 1 at the Butler Farm show grounds on



route 68 just outside of Butler. More information regarding the hamfest is available at <u>http://www.breezeshooters.net/</u> <u>hamfest08.pdf</u>. I look forward to seeing you attend the largest hamfest in Western Pennsylvania.

Another of the enjoyable aspects of the section managers position is visiting the various clubs and talking to the members about what we are doing in the section as well as in the Atlantic Division. I recently visited Skyview ARC and also The Wireless Association of South Hills to talk to their members. Thanks to both clubs for their hospitality and great interaction with questions and comments. I will be visiting the folks at Steel City Arc on Thursday May 22 and look forward to seeing everyone there as well. I am finalizing my itinerary for field day travel so if your club in interested in having me stop by for a visit let me know as soon as possible. I am looking forward to field day this year as being section manager gives me the opportunity to see many different setups and this year I also plan on operating HF mobile as I travel between the various sites. Field day gives us a chance to share stories and operate the radio with old friends and new. We all have our favorite field day stories and if anyone would like to share either stories or photos from field day events forward them to me and I will post them on the section web page for all to enjoy. Any clubs that are planning operating events or other special activities are welcome to forward the information to be included in my monthly section news and posted on the web page. Photos of events are also welcomed and will be used as space permits. Stories of activities of the different clubs can be used to promote ideas for programs that could help generate activities for the other clubs within our section.

The Atlantic division is currently conducting a survey for members about the recent Koscovo Dxpedition and I encourage all to participate so Director Edgar can report your views at the next board meeting. The division is also conducting two additional webinar programs in the near future. The first will be on March 24 with ARRL's Media and Public Relations Manager, Allen Pitts W1AGP, who will present information about the ARRL's new public relations program for 2008. The next one will be on June 14 with ARRL's Regulatory Manager, Dan Henderson N1ND, who will present information about the ARRL's regulatory program and what he's been working on. To register for either of these please go to the following website and register for the webinar. The website is <a href="http://www.atldiv.org/training.htm">http://www.atldiv.org/training.htm</a>

Finally please join the Western Pa. Phone and Traffic net every evening at 6 PM local time on 3.983 KHz. This group will also be gathering at the Breezeshooters hamfest for a discussion on traffic handling so check the schedule at the hamfest. Don't forget about sending your field day message to me for the extra points. The net will accept the traffic for me to pick up on Sunday at the end of field day. That is it for this month and I look forward to talking with you on the

air and at the hamfests. 73's de N3MSE

# **BVARA ARMAD, BADEN LEGION-MAY 24**



All Beaver County Amateur Radio operators are invited to attend a Special Event Station celebrating Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day at the Baden American Legion on

May 24 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Special Event Certificates will be available to anyone that attends the event or works W3SGJ on the air Any amateur radio operator that would like to participate in this event by setting up a station should contact Jack, KZ3Z @ 724-869-2429 or via e-mail at: ajs322@comcast.net.

A list of the main operating modes and frequencies are listed at <u>http://www.armad.net/eventinfo.htm</u> however you may operate anywhere in the ham bands. The AR-MAD web page can be found at <u>www.armad.net</u>.

Let's '*Ham It Up For The Troops'* this Memorial Day Weekend. Fill the bands with positive messages of thanks and appreciation for those that sacrifice to keep this nation free by attending the BVARA's ARMAD Special Event Station on May 24 at the Baden American Legion from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.



#### THE HAM'S HOROSCOPE BY MADAM ZELDA, STIARS

That's Gold	I'm Happ	I'm Happy		Can't Complain		ot Happy	Turn down the heat	
Sign	Romance		ome & amily	Finan	ces	Career	General	
Aries								
Taurus								
Gemini								
Cancer								
Leo								
Virgo								
Libra								
Scorpio								
Sagittarius								
Capricorn								
Aquarius								
Pisces								

# WHAT ARE YOUR FIELD DAY PLANS???

George, N3HOJ needs to know what your Field Day plans are. Will you be attending the Cover Dish Dinner on Friday evening? If so, what do you plan to bring? Are you going to set-up a station or just "lend a hand" by logging or making some contacts? Would you like to help the Scouts in Troop 405 and BVARA Explorer Post 73 learn more about our hobby?



George reports that Field Day band allocations are going fast. He encourages any

club member that desires to work a specific band to contact his as soon as possible.

N3HOJ can be reached at 724-891-3236 or via e-mail at hojigc@verizon.net Give George a call to reserve a band and/or to let him know your Field Day plans.

PAGE 4

### **Decision 2008 - PRRL REPS ATTEND DAYTON!**

The following article is an editorial commentary and does not reflect the opinions of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association or the American Radio Relay League

#### -TANT. EMPHASIZE THIS IN YOUR MAILINGS. I ATTENDED ONE MEETING WHILE I WORKED AT ARRL HQ. PIP "

The words above are quoted directly from an email message that Pip WB4FDT recently sent me. I first met Pip about 20 years ago when he was living in north LA. Over **WA3VJB POSTS:** Of course having outside observers would be a good thing. I see no basis to support the idea that it would contaminate the atmosphere somehow. As for support among dues-paying participants, it was a move toward open discourse that prompted me to resume paying those subscription fees, case in point. Albert W3MIV said

his rather interesting career WB4FDT has worked for both the FCC and the ARRL. In addition to posting Pip's comments above, I would really like to know the following: Are there any "rank and file" League members (with the obvious exception of W3MIV!) who truly believe that having open Board meetings is a bad idea? As I recently pointed out, the Board meetings of the National Rifle Association are open. If the NRA can conduct its Board meetings in public, then surely the ARRL can allow a limited number of League members to ob-



High gas prices didn't stop these PRRL'ers from attending Dayton! All gassed-up and ready to go, KF3V, "The Renaissance Ham" and George, N3HOJ are shown leading a low fuel PRRL convoy from Beaver County to Dayton.

only subscribers could participate in the ARRL Directors Lakes and Delta divisions last year. What a breath of fresh air that they not only asked their constituents what they thought of various issues, but they ALSO vowed to publish the findings !!! Shocking !! And the world didn't end. It probably scared the s\*\*\* out of certain members of the Backroom Club in Newington to see substantial support for facets of the hobby they've been neglecting.

K5MC POSTS: As

serve Board meetings as I described in my campaign platform on the first page of this thread.

**WA3ZRM POSTS:** I think (that webcasting BoD meetings is) a great idea! As far as using Internet based technologies, the League is in the dark ages. Additionally, why doesn't the ARRL provide server space (hosting) for affiliated clubs to post their web pages? It would also be nice if the League provided forum space for members to discuss things.

**W5EW POSTS:** Bob has brought up some other good ideas and all are directed at keeping things open and available to as many members as possible. It is my opinion that in the long run "open" BOD meetings would not only benefit ARRL members but benefit the ARRL. Members and nonmembers would have access as to how things are done and the openness could very well contribute to a larger membership. Usually changes thru the years beginning with incentive licensing have caused many to leave the ARRL. The change from closed to open BOD meetings would have the opposite effect. Certainly no member would drop his membership due to this change. survey of amateurs that was rolled out in Atlantic, Great [others] point out, it would be a win-win situation if the ARRL Board of Directors would move toward open meetings.

With the exception of W3MIV, I don't recall reading any negative reactions so far on this thread to any of the six issues in my campaign platform. The hams who I've talked with in person at clubs and hamfests since beginning my campaign have certainly been very receptive to my platform. If the changes I've proposed are adopted by the Board of Directors, no current members will drop their memberships and a significant number of former members will join again.

I want to express my appreciation again to all the hams who have posted comments here. At this time I particularly want to acknowledge the very strong show of support from my fellow members of the Fist and Mouth Contest Company (K5FMC): K4JRB, N5NA, K5QK, WC5N, and W5EW. (Three of these guys will actually be able to vote for me, assuming K5QK renews his membership before the ballots are mailed out!)

### Amateur Radio Words of Wisdom from Robert Bash, KE3K

"Thom (**KF3V**) needs to rethink his platform on engaging youth in amateur radio. I don't know of any teenager or youth that appreciates being referred to as "one of those youngsters." It sound's like something an old fart would say."



KE3K AKA KEEK Field Day circa 1980





#### eQRM Urges <u>ALL</u> Beaver County Amateurs to Participate

As a matter of editorial opinion, the eQRM urges all Beaver County licensed amateur's 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 N3TN 146.850 MHz repeater (88.5 PL).

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** 

MEMBERS OF RACES THAT HAVE NOT YET OBTAINED THEIR COUNTY ID CARD MAY DO SO ON MAY 22 or JUNE 12 FROM 1:00PM to 7:00 PM AT THE HAZMAT GARAGE LOCATED NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO BRADY'S RUN PARK



BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE BVARA, YOU CAN HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN BEAVER COUNTY. ADDITIONALLY, THE BVARA RECEIVES A PORTION OF EACH ARRL AND/OR WORLD RADIO SUBSCRIPTION YOU PURCHASE!

### Join the BVARA, ARRL and World Radio

Sign up for:	Price	Quantity					
□ BVARA FULL MEMBERSHIP	20.00						
BVARA STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	15.00						
BVARA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	10.00						
BVARA SPOUSE/CHILD MEMBERSHIP	5.00						
ONE YEAR ARRL MEMBERSHIP	39.00						
U WORLD RADIO SUBSCRIPTION	21.00						
ARRL MEMBER ? YES NO	Subtotal: Donation Total:						
Your License Class (if any):							
	me dress						
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General							
Advanced —							
Extra Ph	one						
Your Call Sign:		Exp. date					
Signature							
Make Check or Money order payable to: The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 424 South Heights, PA 15081							

PAGE 6

#### Decision 2008 (Continued from Page 5)

**WB0WR POSTS:** It will only be changes like K5MC has proposed for the BOD meetings that will bring me back into being an ARRL member!

It is the "circle the wagons" mentality of the ARRL that has put it 180deg out of touch with the amateur community as their actions over the past decade has highlighted.

From their stance on bandwidth regulation, to unrestricted encryption being used on the ham bands, to recommendations like 20khz wide data signals on the HF bands to facilitate internet web browsing, to pushing amateur radio to become the next AT&T they are simply out of touch.

Clinging to the notion that BOD meetings have to be secret in order to accomplish things is just one more symptom of a group that is insular and paranoid. It smacks of back-room deals and good-ol-boy politicking.

There is not a single School Board in this country that does not have to continually address issues that are divisive, difficult, and complex. Yet they do so \*every month\* **in public**. They even allow the public to speak their mind during the meeting. Most School Boards understand that the Board itself is \*not\* always the most knowledgeable entity on specific subjects and that they don't always have the only ideas worth considering. Outside input is vital. That is the one big thing taught in leadership classes today -- the leaders don't always have the best ideas. What we see from the ARRL today is the top-down mentality from 50 years ago -- "by Gosh! We know best and we'll \*force\* everyone to follow our ideas!"

Sunshine is the best disinfectant for a group that takes money from others in return for services, including as a representative to international rule making bodies.

**W3MIV POSTS:** I wish Mickey all the luck in the world. I do not in any way disparage his sincerity or his desire to work to improve the League and its BOD. What I doubt is his discretion in coming on QRZ and proposing a platform that has zero chance of acceptance by a majority of the current Board, and then using this platform as a vehicle to disparage a serving Director in another Division.

I have the strong feeling now that Mickey's election, if successful, will not materially contribute much worthwhile since I believe he has branded himself badly and will likely be viewed as a loose cannon rather than as a potential team player. The ways of Boards do not vary much from one to another or from one type of organization/institution to another.

In his eagerness to gain support among some of the participants on this forum (which do not constitute a majority of the Delta membership, which approximates 8k or so hams), Mickey has shot himself in the foot. I regret that, but cannot change it.

**KC4RAN RESPONDS:** He can suggest that the board votes to see whether they'll open the meetings or not. Hopefully the procedural elements surrounding that 'suggestion' (i.e. rules of parliament or whatever other) will be recorded in the minutes in such a way to show that it happened. If someone 'seconds', then we can see who did, and at least know there's one other member either in support or who wants to see it come to a vote, even if it fails.

If it doesn't come to a vote, we know there's something terribly wrong with the entire board. Each division should be made aware of this. If it comes to a vote, then those that vote "no" should be prepared to defend their position, and each no voter should be challenged on this position, and it should be publicized to their division.

Transparency is key here. There are too many questions surrounding many of the key ARRL positions and how they came to be.

**K5MC POSTS:** Perhaps W3MIV will tell the rest of us here whether any current ARRL Directors have actually told him that they are "enraged" by my campaign platform or whether that is merely another opinion held by him. If it's merely his opinion, as I suspect it is, then W3MIV apparently thinks the current Board members are rather petty.

Perhaps W3MIV will also give the rest of us here his opinions as to why the National Rifle Association, unlike the ARRL, conducts its Board meetings in public rather than limiting attendance to Directors and Officers. Even W3MIV should be willing to concede the point that the NRA and the ARRL are very similar organizations in spirit - one is an advocate for gun owners and the other is an advocate for ham radio operators.

## **Decision 2008**

#### (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

**W3MVI POSTS:** Sorry, Mickey, but I must aver that it is not any of the present Board members who is being "petty" in this thread. As to my opinion, it is just that, and were I privy to any "inside" information, I assure you I would not share it with any of you. That is the essence of confidentiality.

Mickey, I have been a Life Member of the NRA for more than thirty years, and I was an annual member for more than ten years before that. I go back a long way with the NRA, and I cannot agree that it is a "very similar" organization. The only true parallel is that both are membership organizations; beyond that, their missions are very different, as are their goals.

In the final appraisal, however, none of that matters: We are not here dealing with the NRA, but with the ARRL. We are dealing with an organization that has an established institutional bias and is subject to a hardened institutional memory. That is a fact that anyone running for office must take into account. Your "platform" stands at odds with most of that bias, flagrantly so on a few "planks." How well those "planks" play to the Delta crowd remains to be seen; how they will play to your fellow Directors in Newington, should you be elected, is entirely predictable. That you have chosen to let yourself be a tool in an attack on another Director speaks ill of your discretion, seriously so, as I have pointed out previously. It is one thing to set out on a very tough goal; but to make the matter even tougher by such a stupid (sorry, Mickey, but no other word suffices) faux pas puts your ability to handle the task in serious doubt.

I tire of posting the same old responses by the same old coterie of bashers. This will be my last. Let's plan to meet again after the election and compare notes; if you succeed, I shall raise a glass in salute, but also challenge you to meet again toward the middle of your term for an appraisal.

**K5MC POSTS:** Gee, Albert, it's rather amazing to me how a fellow NRA Life Member can't recognize how similar in spirit the NRA and the ARRL truly are. Based upon some of your other posts here, however, there's really no reason that I should be surprised.

There's also no reason for us to "compare notes" after the election. If I'm not elected to represent the Delta Division, I will congratulate the winner and will then happily return to my many other interests, both inside the hobby and elsewhere. If I am elected, I will work diligently to have the Board adopt as many of the changes outlined in my platform as possible and all you will have to do is read the minutes of the Board meetings for an appraisal of my performance.

Enjoy your time away from this thread. (Something tells me, however, that you will be back sooner rather than later.)

Editors Notes: The PRRL is a fictious organization; however, if anyone out there would like to join, I'm sure Thom and/or George would be happy to accept your dues.



### WHAT ARE THEIR POSITIONS?

Where do the current ARRL Atlantic Division Director & Vice Director stand on K5MC's campaign platform? What are their positions and comments concerning open ARRL Board Meetings? If you would like to know, I urge you to e-mail Mr. Edgar, N3LLR and Mr. Abernethy, W3TOM and ask. They can be reached at the following e-mail addresses:



Bill Edgar, N3LLR

n3llr@arrl.org w3tom@arrl.org Tom Abernethy, W3TOM

EDITORS NOTE: Please visit <u>http://forums.qrz.com/ showthread.php?t=152397</u> to see the complete thread that snips from this article were taken from.

# **GET INVOLVED!**

Who says there isn't anything going on with Ham Radio in Beaver County? Besides helping the club earn e-Awards, BVARA members can participate in any of the activities listed to the right. By working together, we can better enjoy our hobby while educating the public about Amateur Radio.





Old BVARA Patch Logos courtesy of Dick, K3VYY.

**MAY 24** W3SGJ Special Event Station for Amateur Radio Appreciation Day. Baden American Legion, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Contact: KZ3Z at 724-869-2429 or on 145.31.

**JUNE 1** Breezshooters Hamfest and Computer Show-8am to 3pm Butler Farm Showgrounds-Route 68-(next to Roe Airport) Butler, PA-Talk-In: 147.300 (no tone) More Info: Phone: 412-829-9383

**JUNE 14** Happy Daze Car Cruise. Beaver Falls. Contact N3TN on the 146.85 repeater or via e-mail at N3TN@comcast.net for more info..

JUNE 22 American Diabetes Association Cure de Tour. Seneca Valley HS. Contact <u>N3XCD@fyi.net</u> 724-452-0583 or on 145.31 for more info.

**JUNE 24** RACES/ARES Shippingport Power Plant Drill. Contact N3TN on the 146.85 repeater or via e-mail at N3TN@comcast.net for more info.

**JUNE 27-29** Explorer Post 73 kickoff. Contact W3PMS at 724-869-2429 or on 145.31 for more info.



### WESTERN PA SECTION HAMFEST UPDATE

Atlantic Division Convention (Rochester Hamfest) - May 30/31, 2008 Rochester Amateur Radio Association <u>http://www.rochesterhamfest.org</u> Talk-In: 146.88 (PL 110.9)

Harold C. Smith, K2HC 300 White Spruce Blvd Rochester, NY 14623 Phone: 585-424-7184 (office) or 585-225-5260 (home) Fax: 585-424-7130 (office) or 585-227-5771 (home) Email: <u>rochfst@frontiernet.net</u>



24 Aug 2008 \* Western Pennsylvania Section Convention



Skyview Radio Society <http://www.skyviewradio.net/> Talk-In: 146.640- (PL 131.8) Contact: Bob Boehmer, WB3FXC 1240 Hulton Road Oakmont, PA 15139 Email: <SkyviewHamfest2008@verizon.net>

Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA

# The BREEZE SHOOTERS 😤



1 Jun 2008 + Hamfest and Computer Show Breezshooters ARC <http://www.breezeshooters.net> Talk-In: 147.300 (no tone) Contact: Robert W. Benna, N3LWP, 1010 Willow Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2225 Phone: 412-366-0488 Fax: 412-366-0488 Email: <n3lwp@verizon.net> Butler Farm Showgrounds Route 68, (next to Roe Airport)



13 Jul 2008 + 23rd Annual Hamfest- North Hills Amateur Radio Club <http://www.nharc.org> Talk-In: 147.09 (PL 88.5) Contact: John Gorman, N3RQD, 162 Home Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15223 Phone: 412-487-9254 Email: <n3rqd@earthlink.net> Pittsburgh, PA - Northland Public Library - 300 Cumberland Road



#### 7th ANNUAL NW PA HAMFEST 2008 **JULY 12, 2008** Hamfest Opens at 7am! **PRIZES!** One main prize, 2 meter HT, and one talk in prize, (25 A) Astron Switching Power Supply. Entrance fee is \$5, under 16 years - free. Tailgating available. Vendors spaces available. Tables prices \$5 per table. Vendors contact us for electric and special needs. Vendors can set up the evening before. Email for more info. The Hamfest is a joint venture of the Union City Wireless Association and the Wattsburg Wireless Association The Hamfest is held at the Greene Township Municipal Building

9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA

Map To Us

Convenient!!! 2 miles south on Route 8 from Interstate 90! 3 miles from Erie City line For more information and Vendor and Entrance pre-registration & tickets, please email: hamfest@nw-pa-hamfest.com hamfest@wattsburg-wireless.us Tailgating - Vendors - Prizes - Food - Restrooms - Off street parking Outdoor picnic area & grills - Two Fox Hunts - Large playground for kids - VE Exams Talk-in on 146.700- (pl 186.2) Ham Radio License Exams Entrance fee per person for everyone entering the grounds over 16 \$5.

**GOOD FOOD !!** 

Email: hamfest@nw-pa-hamfest.com

### HELP THE BVARA EARN e-AWARDS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

more states in order to receive the WAS e-Award.

How can you help? Simple. All club members are permitted to use the club call sign as part of an organized club activity. Seeking awards for the club qualifies as such an activity as long as you use the call sign within the privilege limitations of your license.

So, the next time you are on the air and would like to help the club earn some e-Awards, feel free to use W3SGJ when you make a contact.

Once you have completed the contact, you need to e-mail our e-Awards coordinator, wa3zrm@yahoo.com with details of the contact. Once he receives the information, Bob will enter it into the club's eQSL database.

All BVARA members are encouraged to establish a FREE eQSL personal account. To do so, please visit their website:

### http://www.eqsl.cc

Once you establish your free account, you can read about the e-Awards program available from eQSL.

Samples of the e-Awards along with a picture of the club's official eQSL card can be found on page 12 of this issue.

### STATES THAT W3SGJ NEEDS TO EARN THE eWAS AWARD

AK; AL; AR; CO; DE; HI; ID; KY; LA; ME; MI; MO; MS; ND; NV; RI; SD; TN; VT; WA; WI; and WY

# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual BCARA SWAPFEST

## UNIONVILLE FIREHALL • BUTLER, PA

### SUNDAY • SEPT. 7, 2008 • 8 A.M. to 3 P.M.

SPONSORED BY; THE BUTLER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC. \$5.00 DOLLAR DONATION FOR ADMISSION - Children under 12 admitted free Admission includes 1 prize ticket – Additional tickets available at the Swapfest

FREE PARKING – Tailgating Room for 200 Cars, No RV or Camper parking available, Handicap Parking Is Available

OUTSIDE FLEA MARKET - Free for 1 Vehicle/set-up TALK-IN: W3UDX 147.36+

INDOOR FLEA MARKET - Vendor's Space \$15.00 per Table To Reserve Indoor Tables Contact:

Swapfest Coordinator: Dave Zibrat W3VXT, 105 Seminole Trail, Butler PA 16001 (724) 282-9077 or e-mail dzlbrat@zoominternet.net

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS - As Always - Real Good Food at Good Prices (NO Individual Sales Permitted)

PRIZES - Drawn at 3:00 PM - PRESENCE NOT REQUIRED

1<sup>st</sup> - Prize Yaesu FT-1802M 2m Single Band Mobile 2<sup>nd</sup>- Prize Yaesu VX-150 Ultra Rugged 2m Single Band HT 3<sup>rd</sup> - Prize Icom IC-V8 2m Single Band HT

#### THE OFFICIAL BVARA EQSL CARD





ITU 8, CQ 5, Grid EN90ur, Beaver County

To: xxxxxx Confirming 2-way (mode) QSO, Band: xx Date: mmm dd, yyyy Time: hh:mmZ, RST: 599 (comments)

