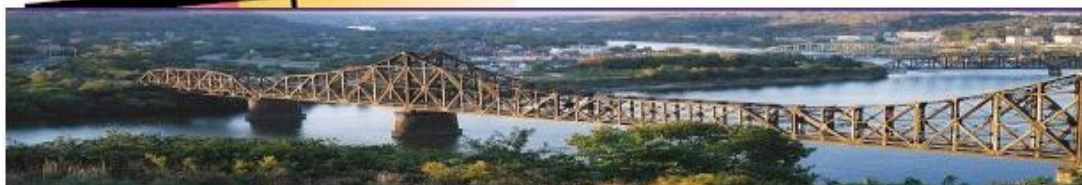




THE BEAVER VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
WWW.W3SGJ.ORG
BEAVER COUNTYS ONLY 75 YEAR ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB!

The eQRM Newsletter

Home of W3SGJ/R
145.310- 131.8 Hz PL



Volume 4, Issue 3

July 2010

Grant, KB3QFQ - Editor

What's new in the BVARA

PHOTOS FROM FIELD DAY

It's time for our annual Field Day photo newsletter issue!

We are showing photos from our Field Day, held at Brady's Run Park in Shelter 12.

These photos were taken by Rich, K3SOM.

**VIEW OUR PHOTOS FROM FIELD DAY
ON PAGE 7!**

UPCOMING EVENT



August 7

Corn
Roast

Inside this Issue:

RACES	2
Pittsburgh Area Calendar	3
Membership Info	4
BVARA Speaker Series	5
Club Info + Event Schedule	6
Technical article	7
BVARA 2 Meter Net Roster	9
QST Prop Charts	10
Monthly Section News	11

READER'S POLL OF THE MONTH

“Do you think the Technician class is a good entry-level class?”

Answer by emailing Grant at KB3QFQ@W3SGJ.org

What would you like to see added to the newsletter?

Would you like to help, but don't know how?

Email me at
KB3QFQ@W3SGJ.org
and let me know!!

I need YOUR
opinion!

Check us out on the web by clicking the links below



[Facebook](#)



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[Geocaching](#)

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The Beaver Valley Amateur
Radio Association

Letters and Emails to the Editor – Please email KB3QFQ@W3SGJ.org

The eQRM encourages letters/e-mails to the editor. Letters must 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 every Thursday at Rainaldi's in Center Twp at 11:00 AM. All area amateurs are invited and encouraged to attend the Thursday Morning Lunch.

VE TESTS are held by the BVARA VE Team at the Beaver County Emergency Operations Center in Ambridge. IF YOU DESIRE TO TAKE A TEST, CONTACT CHRIS, W3OUF, FOR THE DATE OF THE NEXT TEST SESSION.

All tests will begin PROMPTLY AT 6:00PM. Information and registration on a test session can be obtained by contacting the VE Team Coordinator, Chris Moratis, W3OUF.

His address, email and phone number are as follows:

Chris Moratis, W3OUF

1199 Highland Avenue

Ambridge, PA 15003

PHONE: 724-266-2866

cjmoratis@verizon.net

2010 BVARA Officers

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z
 Vice President: Robert De Marco, WA3ZRM
 Second Vice President: Evan Finkelstein, KB3QFR
 Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT
 Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS
 Director: George Caffro, N3HOJ
 Director: Chris Moratis, W3OUF
 Trustee: Dick Hanna, K3VVY



BVARA Meetings

***VE testing begins at 4:00.
 E-Board meetings are held at 6:30,
 Regular meetings are at 7:30.***

July 8 – Ambridge 911 Center
August - None, Corn Roast at Brady's Run
 September 9 – Ambridge 911 Center
 October 14 – Ambridge 911 Center
 November 11 – Ambridge 911 Center
 December - None, Christmas party

RACES & ARES

eQRM Urges ALL Beaver County Amateurs to Participate



As a matter of editorial opinion, 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 N3TN 146.850 MHz repeater (88.5 PL).

PITTSBURGH AREA HAM RADIO CALENDAR

From the Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society

July

10-11: IARU HF World Championships-More Info:
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

10: Two Rivers ARC "Hams n Eggs" Breakfast

11: North Hills ARC Hamfest-Northland Library Grounds-300
Cumberland Road-Pittsburgh, PA
More Info: <http://www.nharc.org> – Phone:412-760-7055 -
Email:nharchamfest@hotmail.com - Talkin: 147.09 Mhz

17-18: CQ World Wide VHF Contest -
More Info: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

18: Somerset County PA Hamfest-Somerset County Tech
Center-281 Technology Drive-Somerset,PA
Talkin: 147.195/443.25 MHz-VE Testing Available 10 am
More Info: <http://www.k3smt.org>

20: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting

25: Portage ARC Hamfair-Portage, OH - <http://Hamfair.com>

August

7: Two Rivers ARC Family Picnic -
White Oak Park - Cedar Grove #2 - White Oak

7-8: ARRL UHF Contest - More Info:
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

14: Two Rivers ARC "Hams n Eggs" Breakfast

15: Warren Amateur Radio Association Hamfest - More Info:
<http://www.w8vtd.org>

21-22: ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest - More Info:
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

22: Skyview Radio Society Hamfest / W.Pa. Section Convention
- Skyview Radio Society Grounds
2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA-
Talkin: 146.64 MHz (PL 131.8 hz tone)
More Info: 412-860-0046 / Email: kg3f@arrl.net --
<http://www.skyviewradio.net>

22: CARA Hamfest and Computer Show -
Cambridge Amateur Radio Association -
More Info: <http://www.w8vp.org>

September

11: Two Rivers ARC "Hams n Eggs" Breakfast

11-13: ARRL September VHF QSO Party -
More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

14: Two Rivers ARC Amateur Radio Exam Session

18-19: ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest -
More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/contest/calendar.html>

21: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting

25-26: CQ WW RTTY DX Contest -
More Info: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

26: Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Hamfest
Association of Cleveland - More Info: <http://www.hac.org>

October

3: Monessen ARC MARCFEST 2010 Hamfest - Blaine Hill VFD
- Elizabeth, PA - Talkin: 147.225/443.350 MHz
More Info: <http://www.w3csl.com> –
Phone: 412 287-8291 - Email: grilli@verizon.net

9: Two Rivers ARC "Hams n Eggs" Breakfast

9-10: PA QSO Party Contest (Tentative) -
More Info: <http://nittany-arc.net/paqso.html>

17: Western Pa Repeater Council Meeting

19: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting

30-31: CQ World Wide DX Contest (SSB Mode) -
More Info: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

November

6-8: ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) -
More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

7: WACOM Hamfest - Washington County Fair Grounds -
2151 North Mail Street - Washington, PA
Talkin: 145.49 Mhz More Info: 724-484-0207 /
Email: n3tir@arrl.net - <http://www.wacomarc.org>

20-22: ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone) -
More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

27-28: CQ World Wide DX Contest (CW Mode) -
More info: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

For more information about these events, please visit
W3SGJ.org/calendar



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
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA FULL MEMBERSHIP	20.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	15.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> BVARA SPOUSE/CHILD MEMBERSHIP	5.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR ARRL MEMBERSHIP	39.00	

ARRL MEMBER ? YES NO Subtotal: _____
Donation: _____
Total: _____

Your License Class (if any):

- ☐ Novice
☐ Technician
☐ General
☐ Advanced
☐ Extra

Name _____
Address _____

Phone _____

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

Are you interested in writing for the eQRM newsletter?

There are many ways
you can help with the
newsletter, even if it is
simply sending me an
email. We are always
looking for new,
interesting content; if
you read something of
interest, tell me!

A publication is only
as good as its readers.

Even if you are not the
“writer type”, you can
still help!

Please help me out by
sending one radio-
related article, or an
announcement that
you have read.

So get involved!
You may end up
enjoying it.

To contact me, please
email me at
KB3QFQ@W3SGJ.org



Interested in becoming an
amateur radio operator?
Want to upgrade your license?

Jack Spencer, KZ3Z is **hosting a
class** for just these reasons.
For details, please contact Jack
at 724-869-2429
or visit www.W3SGJ.org

The BVARA Speaker Series

The BVARA Speaker Series provides a vast array of topics and discussions, with a new topic every month at our club meetings.

Here are a few words from Rich, K3SOM, explaining the idea behind the series:

*“By adding a speaker program with a wide variety of topics, not all necessarily exclusively ham-radio, our club has an opportunity to **create excitement, to stimulate discussion, to spark creativity, and to enable people to have some fun as they expand their normal comfort zones with new ideas and possibilities for them to pursue.**”*

Are you interested in attending?

Just show up at our club meetings, held on the second Thursday of every month. They are held at:

Beaver County Emergency Operations Center
351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003

Would you like to speak? Contact me or any other BVARA club members to let them know when you would like to speak, and what you would like to speak about!

Potential speakers may want to present topics like:

On what frequency am I transmitting, and how close to the band edge can I operate?

What's it take to operate BPSK31?

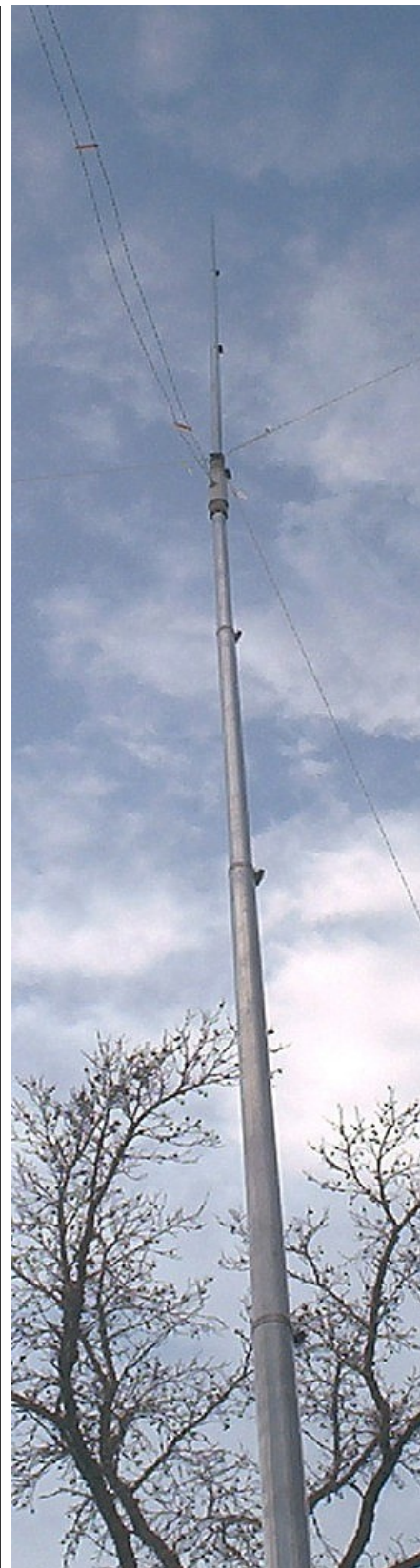
How can I effectively compete in a contest?

What's a fox hunt?

How can I find DX?

Or anything that interests you!

“...our club has an opportunity to create excitement....”



Club Announcements + Event Calendar

New Repeater Status

de Jack, KZ3Z

Our new repeater has arrived. It was ordered on March 15 and shipped on May 11.

The new repeater is a Maggiore Hi Pro "E" 35w version.

The PL tone is now 131.8.

It will come from the factory wired for our S-Com 7330 controller. It also has an optional IF filter installed, which would be needed if 2 meters goes to 15khz splits.

Our current Trustee, Dick K3VYY, has already downloaded and installed the latest firmware upgrades to the new controller. It will have 13 minutes of digital audio available for messages.

Below is the list of donors to the new repeater:

Pam, W3PMS
Jack, KZ3Z
Bob, WA3ZRM
George, N3HOJ
Norm, K3NJT
Dick, K3VYY
Rick, KB3RXP
Rich, K3SOM

All donated \$100 each.

The repeater cost is **\$1637**. Further donations would be appreciated. +

VE Test Session

de Chris, W3OUF

The next test session will be at the:

Beaver County Emergency Operations Center
351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003

Time: **5:00 P.M.**
(walk-ins allowed)

Date: **Thursday, July 8**

All candidates wishing to take the test should bring **ALL** of the following:

1. Two (2) forms of identification.
One should be a Photo ID.
2. A pencil and a blue or black pen.
3. Your original **AND a photocopy** of your current license (if any).
4. Your original **AND a photocopy** of any C.S.C.E's (if any).
5. The test fee of **\$15.00**.

All classes of amateur radio license tests will be administered.

Note: A new set of Technician test questions will be used starting on July 1, 2010.

For more information, please contact our VE Test Coordinator:

Chris Moratis, W3OUF
1199 Highland Avenue
Ambridge, PA 15003
PHONE: 724-266-2866
cjmoratis@verizon.net +

The BVARA Calendar of Events

For more information,
please visit www.W3SGJ.org

August 7:
Annual Corn Roast
in Brady's Run Park,
Shelter 15

September 24 – 26:
Campaganza
in Moraine State Park,
Butler, PA

October 15 – 17:
Jamboree on the Air
at Fern Hollow Nature
Center, Sewickley, PA

December 4:
Christmas Party
at the Baden Municipal
Building, Baden, PA

PHOTOS FROM FIELD DAY

Field Day 2010

Photos by Rich, K3SOM

It's time for our annual Field Day photo newsletter issue!

On these two pages, we will be showing photos from our Field Day, held at Brady's Run Park in Shelter 12.

These photos were taken by Rich, K3SOM.



< Bob WA3ZRM's pop-up camper. It was quite luxurious.

Grant KB3QFQ and Josh KB3TAD hang the BVARA sign from Shelter 12. >



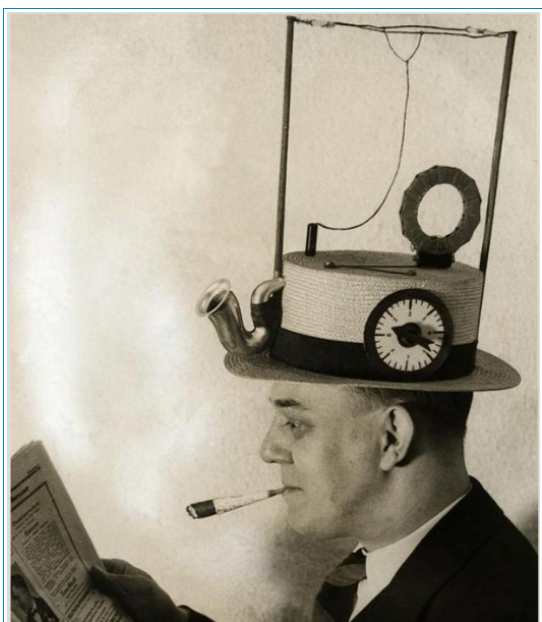
PHOTOS FROM FIELD DAY



^ Chris W3OUF (left) and Bob WA3ZRM.

^ Shelter 12.

Grant, Rick KB3RXP and Norm K3NJT chat. >



^ An unusual antenna.

Newly licensed ham
Nathan KB3UWT. >



BVARA 2 Meter Net Roster

Below is the net protocol. Please PRINT THIS OUT as a reference for when you run the net.

CQ, CQ, CQ. Calling the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association Two Meter Net. (BK)

CQ, CQ, CQ. Calling the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association Two Meter Net. (BK)

This is (**your call**), your net control station for this evening. (BK)

This net meets every Wednesday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the 145.310 W3SGJ repeater with a PL of 131.8 Hz. (BK)

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association is an American Radio Relay League affiliated club and we invite you to visit our website at www.w3sgj.org. (BK)

The purpose of this net is to exchange general information about the amateur radio service in the tri-state area. this net is also part of the National Traffic System. (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations with emergency traffic. Any stations with emergency traffic please call (**your call**). (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations with priority traffic. Any stations with priority traffic please call (**your call**). (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations with routine traffic. Any stations with routine traffic please call (**your call**). (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations with ARRL Bulletins. Any stations with ARRL Bulletins please call (**your call**). (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations having any announcements for the net. Stations having announcements please call (**your call**). (BK)

Make sure the following are mentioned either by you or by an announcement station:

Mention webpage (www.w3sgj.org) for our newsletters & information

Mention Rainaldi's Thursday luncheon @ 10:30AM / 11:00AM

NEW: Monthly Executive board meeting begins at 6:30PM on the Saturday before the club meeting.

Mention monthly membership meeting on the second Thursday of every month at 911 Center in Ambridge.

**VE testing begins at 5:00PM.
Meeting begins at 7:30PM.**

I will now stand by for any mobile stations wishing to check in. Mobile stations only please call (**your call**) (BK)

I will now stand by for any portable stations wishing to check in. Portable stations only please call (**your call**). (BK)

I will now stand by for any stations wishing to check in to the beaver valley amateur radio association two meter net. Stations wishing to check in please call (**your call**). (BK)

**Record all call signs and then allow for comments.
After all stations make comments, stand by for any late or additional check-ins.**

I would like to thank all stations that have checked into our net. Listeners are reminded that the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association's 10 Meter net on 28.470 MHz will follow this net at 9:00PM local time. Everyone is invited to check in. (BK)

I will now close the net at _____ local time and return the repeater to general amateur use. This is (**your call**) wishing you 73's and a good evening.

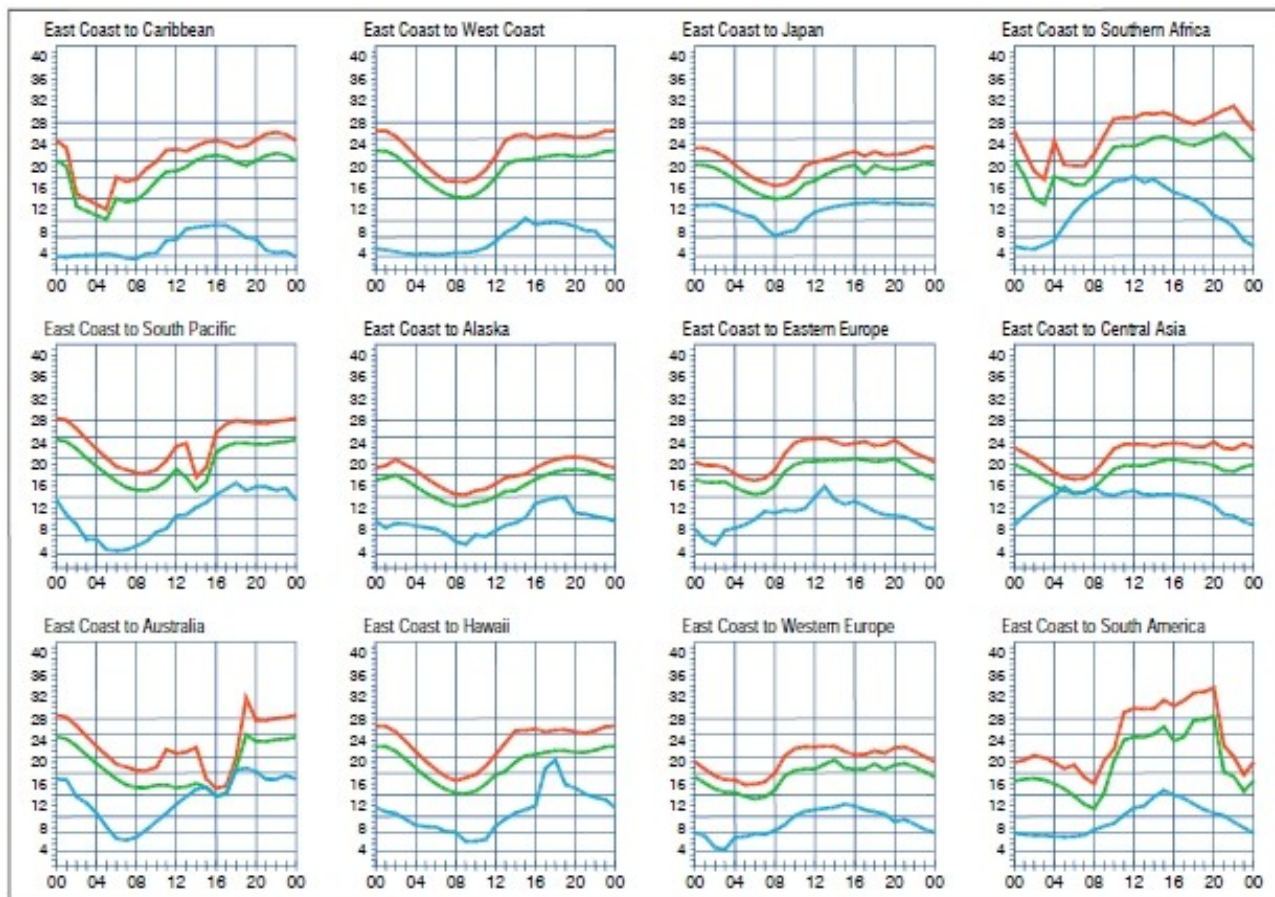
notes: a (BK) means to pause to allow the repeater tail to beep.

If any stations have traffic, ask if any stations on frequency can take the traffic. If not, take the traffic and contact Bob, WA3ZRM at 724-378-7070.

THANK YOU!

To Bob, WA3ZRM for the donation of an antique 1940's radio to the club. The radio has an estimated value of approximately \$150-\$200.

QST Propagation Charts



When are the bands open? These charts, generated using CAPman, show probabilities for average HF propagation in the month of June 2010 for the paths indicated. The horizontal axis shows Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), and the vertical axis frequency in MHz. On 10% of the days of this period, the highest frequencies propagated will be at least as high as the upper red curves (HPF, highest possible frequency) and on 50% of the days they will be at least as high as the green curves (MUF, classical maximum usable frequency). The blue curves show the lowest usable frequency (LUF) for a 1000-W CW transmitter. For SSB or a lower transmitter power, the LUF will be somewhat higher than the blue curves indicate. See Oct 1994 QST, pp 27-30, and Feb 1995 QST, pp 34-36, for more details. The predictions assume an observed 2800-MHz solar flux value of 121. This is a high level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on The ARRL Antenna Book CD-ROM.

The above chart is for the month of **June**.
July's chart is not yet available.

For information on how to read these charts, and on propagation in general, visit
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation>

W3SGJ
Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 424
South Heights, PA 15081, USA
ITU 8, CQ 5, Grid EN90ur, Beaver County

MONTHLY WPA SECTION NEWS

de John Rodgers, N3MSE

June 2010

The Breezeshooters hamfest was a good success even if the weather did not fully cooperate with us. We had a few outbursts of rain but quite a few braved the weather and attended. The next hamfests will be in July with Union City on July 11, North hills on July 12 and Somerset on July 18. Additional information regarding hamfests is available at the league website

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>

For me hamfests are a time to chat with old friends and to make new ones. I get the opportunity to hear from the members of the section any issues that they have and see if I can assist in resolving these problems. Of course walking around and checking the goodies the various vendors have to offer is enjoyable as well. While I have little open space on the desk in the shack I still dream about the new equipment. When you attend a hamfest please stop by the ARRL table and say hi.

Last month I reported on the recent article by Harry Bloomberg and Dave Kleber. I have received many comments on the NBEMS platform. For those interested check out the excellent web page at

<http://www.wpanbems.org/>.

Software information as well as the schedule for the various nets in the section using NBEMS is posted at the site. Software is free and does not even require a user interface to operate. All translation is handled via the sound card. I am using a hand held and a net book for easy portable

operation. I am looking forward to trying this while operating mobile HF in the near future.

In just about ten days, Field Day 2010 will be in operation. This year it occurs on June 26-27. This event is the most enjoyable thing for me with the exception of the PA QSO Party. I am able to travel around the section and visit with area clubs at their field day sites. It is amazing to see the ingenuity of the hams as they set up their station and engineer antennas for the weekend event. This event is designed to demonstrate emergency preparedness and show people in our community how we can provide a service in times of need. While it is not a contest many strive to score higher than neighboring clubs and we all check the results as soon as they are posted to see where our favorite club placed. Another wonderful aspect of field day weekend is the social aspects. The wonderful food and the camaraderie that is paramount at every location. If you would like me to stop by for a visit send me an email at n3mse@arrl.org providing the request and a location.

I urge every amateur and their relatives and friends to write, email or call their state senators and representatives to oppose the passage of HB-20070 unless specific language is added to exempt amateur radio devices from the bill. Some legislative people feel that all our radios are permanently installed in vehicle as part of the bill exempts devices that are physically or electrically integral to the vehicle.

This needs all of our immediate attention to contact our local reps and oppose passage. If you need help determining your state officials check the following web site <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/> in the upper right corner you can enter your zip code to get the officials for your district.

As always I encourage you to join one of the various traffic nets and help deliver messages to individuals in your community and throughout the country as operators struggle to keep the keep this activity running strong. The section net is on 3983 every evening at approximately 6:00 PM local time. The CW net is at 3585 at 7 PM local time.

Join the nets and lets all get Radio Active.

73

John V. Rodgers, N3MSE
W. Pa. Section Manager +



Are you interested in seeing what Boy Scout Troop 405 and Explorer Post 73 are doing?

Visit their website at www.Baden405.com to see photos, video and info about the Troop!