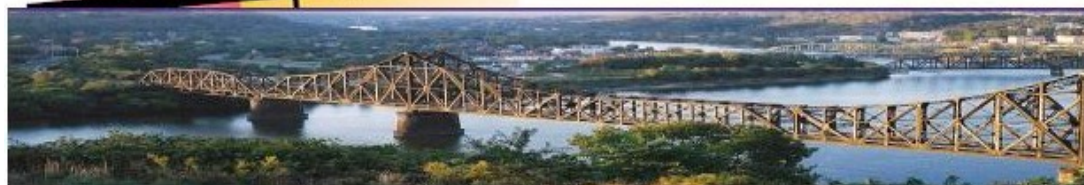




THE BEAVER VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
WWW.W3SGJ.ORG
BEAVER COUNTYS ONLY 75 YEAR ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB!

The eQRM Newsletter

Home of W3SGJ/R
145.310- 131.8 Hz PL



Volume 4, Issue 8

January 2011

Grant, KB3QFQ - Editor

What's new in the BVARA

IMPORTANT NEWS

Technician License Class

begins on Saturday, **January 15 at 3:30 PM** in Baden.

To enroll, **please contact Jack, KZ3Z at 724-869-2429.**

If you already have your license, encourage your spouse, child, or friend to attend!

UPCOMING EVENT



May 15

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Mark, KB3LED has agreed to serve as the

2011 TechFest Committee Coordinator!

Mark will be joined by Grant, KB3QFQ; Bob, WA3ZRM; Jack, KZ3Z; Pam, W3PMS; Rich, K3SOM and George, N3HOJ as committee members.

Mark will be **presenting details** on the 2011 TechFest **at the January meeting**. If you are interested in participating on the committee, **please contact Mark at 412-741-5717.**

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



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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 meets every Thursday at Rainaldi's in Center Twp at 10:30 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 5:00PM. 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

2011 BVARA Officers

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z
 Vice President: Robert DeMarco, WA3ZRM
 Second Vice President: Grant Miller, KB3QFQ
 Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT
 Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS
 Director: George Caffro, N3HOJ
 Director: Chris Moratis, W3OUF
 Trustee: Rich Soltesz, K3SOM



BVARA Meetings

E-Board meetings are now held the Sat. before the monthly club meeting.

***VE testing begins at 5:00.
 Regular meetings are at 6:30.***

January 13 – Ambridge 911 Center

February 10 – Ambridge 911 Center

March 10 – Ambridge 911 Center

April 14 – Ambridge 911 Center

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

January

12: SATERN Amateur Radio Classes Start - 7 pm (note 9)

13: SATERN Amateur Radio Classes Start-7 pm (note 9)

16: Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council Meeting (note 4)

1:30 PM - Talkin: 145.49 Mhz Repeater
Washington County Building - Emergency Operations Center

Beau Street (Route 136) - Washington, PA

More Info: <http://www.wprc.us>

18: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting - 8 pm (note 1)

22:Breezeshooters ARC Ground Wave Contest (PSK31 Digital Mode)

7 pm to midnight EST

More Info: <http://www.breezeshooters.net>

28-30: CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW Contest (note 7)

February

5-7: Ten Ten Winter Phone QSO Party (10 meter band)

5-7: Vermont/Minnesota/Delaware QSO Party

12: Two Rivers ARC 'Hams n Eggs' Breakfast (note 3)

12-13: CQ World Wide WPX Contest (RTTY) (note 7)

12-13: New Hampshire/Louisiana QSO Party

14-18: ARRL School Club Roundup (HF operating event)
1300 to 2359 UTC each day

More info: <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

15: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8 pm (note 1)

19: Breezeshooters Ground Wave Contest (CW Mode)
7 pm to midnight EST

19-20:ARRL International DX Contest (CW)

More Info: <http://www.breezeshooters.net>

19-20: AM QSO Party

25-27: CQ World Wide 160 Meter SSB Contest (note 7)

27: Hamfest-W.A.S.H. 2011 Hamfest

Castle Shannon VFD-3600 Library Road (Ste Route 88)

Castle Shannon, Pa-Talkin: 146.955/443.650 Mhz Repeater

More Info: (Phone 412 884 1466)

(email:n3sbf@comcast.net)

<http://www.n3sh.org>--direct email:

washarc@yahoo.com

March

5-6:ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)

8: Two Rivers ARC Ham Radio Exams (note 2b)

12: Two Rivers ARC 'Hams n Eggs' Breakfast (note 3)

15: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8 pm (note 1)

19: Breezeshooters Ground Wave Contest (Voice Mode)
7 pm to midnight EST

More Info: <http://www.breezeshooters.net>

26-27:CQ World Wide WPX SSB Contest (note 7)

April

3: Hamfest-Two Rivers ARC Hamfest -
The Spectrum-Boston, Pa
More Info: TBA

3: Two Rivers ARC Ham Radio Exams (note 2a)

9: Two Rivers ARC 'Hams n Eggs' Breakfast (note 3)

17: W.Pa. Repeater Council Meeting (Note 4)
Meeting Location: TBA

17: ARRL Rookie Roundup (SSB)

19: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8 pm (note 1)

23-24: Ten Ten Spring (Digital) Contest

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"/> CHILD UNDER 21 IN HOME	5.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR ARRL MEMBERSHIP	39.00	

Subtotal: _____
Donation: _____
Total: _____

ARRL MEMBER ? YES NO

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



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 Amateur's Code

The radio amateur is
CONSIDERATE. . . never
knowingly operates in such a
way as to lessen the pleasure
of others.

LOYAL. . . he offers loyalty,
encouragement and support
to other amateurs, local
clubs, and the American
Radio Relay League, through
which Amateur Radio in the
United States is represented
nationally and
internationally.

PROGRESSIVE . . . with
knowledge abreast of
science, well-built and
efficient station and
operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY . . . slow and
patient operating when
requested; friendly advice
and counsel to the beginner,
kindly assistance,
cooperation and
consideration for the interests
of others. These are the
hallmarks of the amateur
spirit.

BALANCED . . . Radio is an
avocation, never interfering
with duties owed to his
family, job, school or
community.

PATRIOTIC . . . station and
skill always ready for the
service to country and
community.

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....”



BLAST from the PAST!

Image DE Adam, KG3L

IMPORTANT NOTICE DE Frank Cole, N3TN

To all radio operators,

As of October 1, 2010 the PL and CTCSS frequency on the 146.850 repeater has been changed from 88.5 to 131.8 MHz.

Please make note of this and set your memories. Also please pass the word to others as I do not have everyone's email address.

There will be announcements on all nets on the machine and I will be listening the the input frequency to try to catch the ones that are not aware of the change.

This has been done in an effort to eliminate intermod and crosstalk from the public service frequencies here in Beaver County and to bring us up to speed with the rest of the region.

Club Announcements + Event Calendar

2011 Club Officers

de Bob, WA3ZRM

Elections for 2011's BVARA officers occurred at the November meeting. The officers for this year are now as follows:

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Robert DeMarco, WA3ZRM

Second Vice President: Grant Miller, KB3QFQ

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Director: George Caffro, N3HOJ

Director: Chris Moratis, W3OUF

Trustee: Rich Soltesz, K3SOM

2010's **Ham of the Year Award**, presented at the annual BVARA Christmas Party, was presented to

Rich, K3SOM

for the astounding amount he has contributed to the club in the last year, as well as his dedication to amateur radio and his exemplification of the Amateur's Code. Congratulations, Rich!

We would also like to formally congratulate John Rodgers, N3MSE, on his reelection as WPA Section Manager. +

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, November 11**

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 has started being used 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

May 15:
Pittsburgh Marathon
in Pittsburgh, PA

June 24 - 26:
Field Day
at Brady's Run Park

More events TBA!

Do *you* have any

event ideas?

Send them to us by posting on our [Facebook Page](#)!



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!

Photos from the annual BVARA Christmas Party

Here's a selection of photos from our annual Christmas Party, held on December 4. Photos courtesy Rich, K3SOM and Mike, WA3ULO.



Brian & Cathy & Barb & Harvey



Chang & WA3GFM-AI



K3NJT-Norm & Mary



KD8SSB-Shirley & K6BLM-Bob



KB3QFQ-Grant & Grant



KB3RXP-Rick & KB3QFR-Evan



KG3L-Adam & WA3ZRM-Bob



KZ3Z-Jack



KZ3Zs Dad – Jack Sr.



Lisa & Robby & KB3SFL-Erik



Mary Jo & Mary Ellen



Mrs Kavic & KB3LED-Mark & AA3TK-Tom



N3HOJ-George & Cheryl



N3OJL-Rob & KR3DX-Denny



N3TN-John & N3HAJ-Carolyn



N4KRA-Tom & Bev



Rebecca & KB3QGX-Steven



NN3J-George



WA3ULO-Mike & Linda



W3OUF-Chris & Helen



Table Centerpiece



Gift Exchange - These Numbers are Small



*Rich K3SOM
accepting the
Ham of the Year
Award from Bob
W3ZRM.*

*Thanks to all who
attended the party!*

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 6:30PM.**

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.

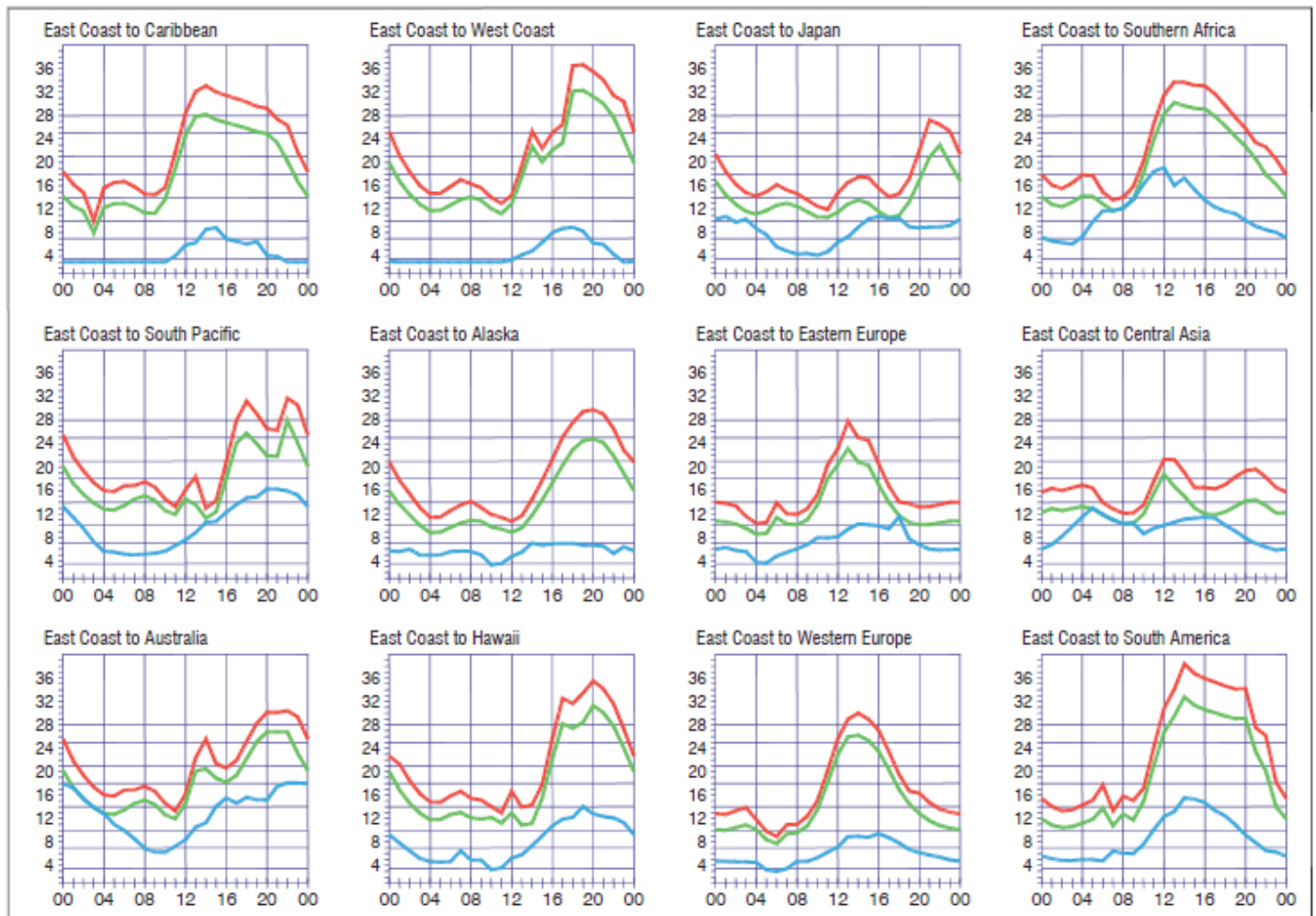
If any stations have traffic, ask if any stations on frequency can take the traffic. If not, take the traffic and contact Bob, WA3ZRM at 724-378-7070.

Interested in Running the 2 Meter Net?

Contact Pam, W3PMS at
724-869-2429

The Net is ran Wednesday nights at 8:30PM

QST Propagation Charts



The above chart is for the month of **January**.

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

Dec 2010 - The holidays are just around the corner and most of us are caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season. With my reelection to section manager for the next two years we have plans for many changes to happen in the upcoming months. One area will be the evaluation and restructuring of the ARES program with SEC Larry Keller looking at ways to improve the performance of various groups. Another area we want to concentrate on is completely revising the Section Emergency Plan. The plan has not been updated in quite a few years and frequency changes as well as modes of operation need to be implemented into the plan. Individuals with input for the plan should contact me, Larry Keller ab3er@arrl.net or Bob Bashaw with traffic issues at w3zeh@arrl.net. Your input will be greatly appreciated. We would also like to hear concerns or other issues regarding ARES or NTS problems either local or section.

I am beginning to schedule meetings or other events that clubs would like to have me attend in the upcoming year. Please drop me an email with available dates and I will try to get you on the schedule.

We are also planning a couple of meetings during the Breezeshooters hamfest. We plan on getting club presidents together for a discussion on club issues and perhaps come up with a few events to get clubs involved in operating

activities. There will also be a meeting for ARES leaders.

I would like to hear from individuals with ideas for more activity on the air and at various events to build interest in our hobby. At most hamfests everyone is interested in the vendor product and chatting that it is often difficult to discuss such things as a group. Please get in touch with suggestions and we will see what we can do.

With the beginning of the new term of office I will also be restructuring the section staff. Individuals with an interest in any of the field organization appointments should contact me for details. One area of particular need is a public information coordinator. This person would help to get the word out about amateur radio and also about many of the things and services we do and provide.

Any clubs or groups that would like to include event notices or photos on the section pages should forward the info to me at n3mse@arrl.org. I will post pictures on the site and post the info in the next month's column. Please give at least a month ahead of the event to allow for the posting.

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 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.

Also please check in on the Saturday morning ARES net. This net is conducted at 9 AM local on 3983 Hz. Following at 11 am is a NBEMS net on 3583.5. There is also a net on this frequency on Sunday morning at 10 am.

On Tuesday evening a PANBEMS net is conducted at 6 pm also on 3583.5. Please check in for valuable information. Additional information on various NBEMS nets is available at <http://panbems.org> there are also several traffic nets on various vhf-uhf repeaters.

Join the nets and lets all get Radio Active. Wishing each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas as well as a Happy New Year and a Happy Holiday Season.

73

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

See you all the
BVARA club
meeting, Thursday
January 13 @
6:30PM! p. 2 for details