

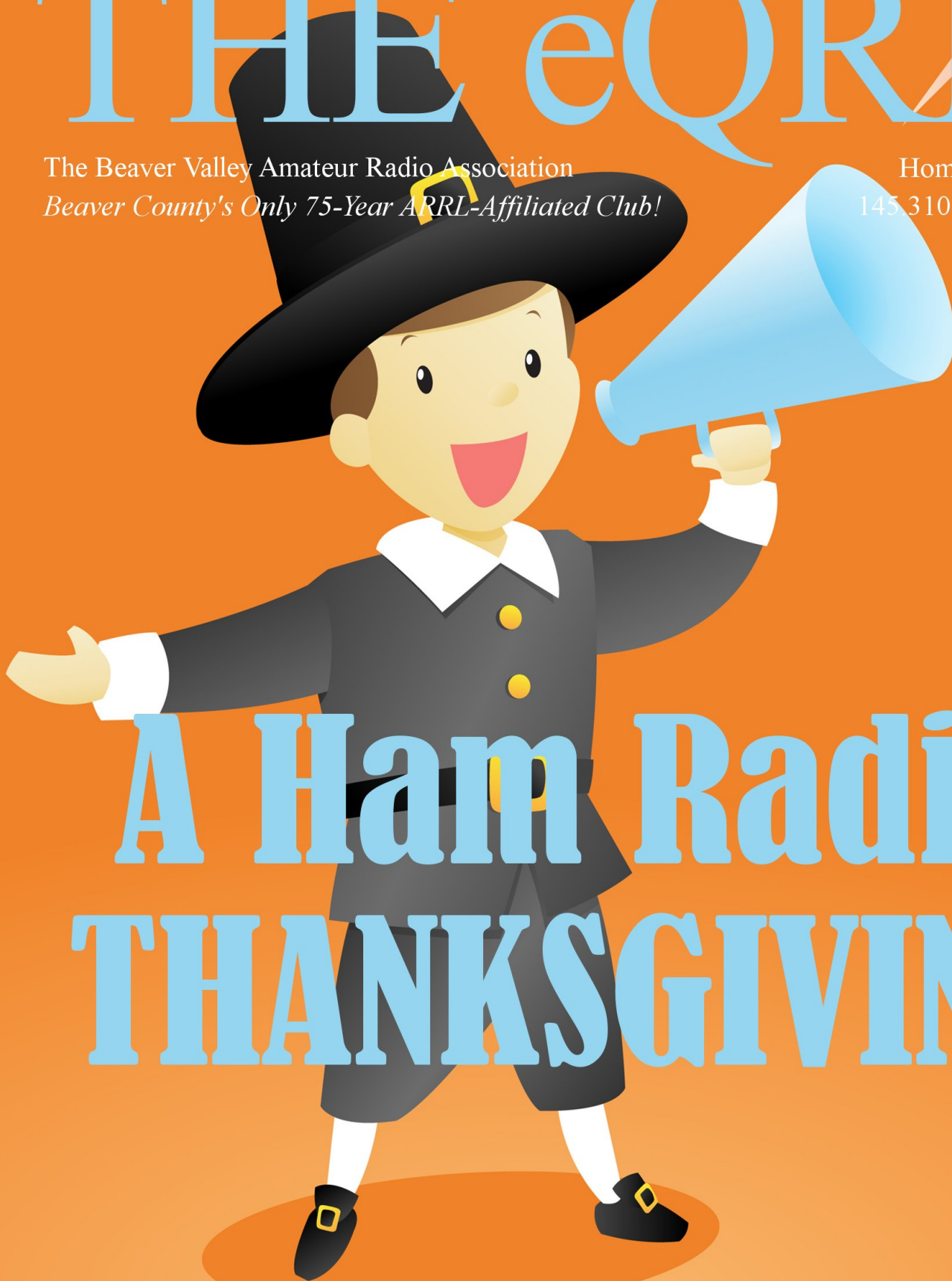
CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME V, ISSUE 6 - NOVEMBER 2011

THE eQRM

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association
Beaver County's Only 75-Year ARRL-Affiliated Club!

Home of W3SGJ/R
145.310 - 131.8 Hz PL



A Ham Radio THANKSGIVING

PLUS: ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 3

THE eQRM

NOVEMBER 2011

CHECK IN TO THE NETS!

2 Meter

8:30PM on 145.310 MHz

10 Meter

9:00PM on 28.470 MHz

THIS MONTH

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Important events in the Pittsburgh region; upcoming hamfests

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From WPA Section Manager
John Rodgers, N3MSE

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Announcements; Speaker
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LOOKING AHEAD

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Propagation charts for the East
Coast

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officers; meetings; VE testing

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THE COVER:

Thanksgiving Pilgrim

Art by J. Romero,
my-free-vector-art.com



*This year's Christmas Party will be held on December 3. More details on page 3.
Photo courtesy of Freechristmaswallpapers.net.*

FEATURES

3 BVARA Christmas Party Annual Christmas Party on December 3

6 A Ham Radio Thanksgiving What one ham is thankful for this year by Jon Kreski, AB9NN

7 Equipment for Sale The BVARA is offering a variety of used ham equipment for sale, while they last!

The eQRM is a publication of the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association (BVARA) and is Copyright 2010 - 2011. 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 Grant at KB3QFQ@W3SGJ.org. Please visit us online at www.W3SGJ.org, on Twitter @W3SGJ, and on Facebook. To subscribe to our newsletter, please visit W3SGJ.org/newsletter.php

Calendar

From the Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society

BVARA EVENTS

Christmas Party Dec 3



Time: Doors Open @ 4:30PM
Dinner @ 5:00PM to ?

Where: Borough of Baden
Municipal Building
Community Room
149 State Street
Baden, PA 15005

Buffet Menu:

Roast Beef
Fried Chicken
AuGratin Potatoes
Linguine w/Clam Sauce
Stuffed Shells
Tossed Salad w/Dressings
Dessert
Coffee
Pop
Water
Punch or BYOB

Price: \$14.00 per person

Grab Bag: \$10.00 (Optional) -
Please bring with you to the Party!

Please make checks payable to
Pamela Spencer and mail to the
following address:

322 Camilla Street
Baden, PA 15005-1843

Deadline date in order to secure
your seat(s) is **November 19, 2011**

NOVEMBER

5-7:ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)

6: Hamfest-WACOM Hamfest 2011-
Washington, Pa -
More Info: <http://www.wacomarc.org>

12: Two Rivers ARC 'Ham n Eggs'
Breakfast

12-13:Ten Ten (Digital) Contest

15: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8PM

19-21: ARRL November Sweepstakes
(Phone)

DECEMBER

3: PARS Holiday Luncheon - Contest:
Novelty Radios

3-5: ARRL 160 Meter Contest

10-11: ARRL 10 Meter Contest

CLUB MEETING

Club Officer Nominations

Elections for BVARA club officers are being held at this month's meeting on November 10 at the Beaver County 911 Center.

If you are interested in running for a position, or would like to participate in elections, please come to our club meeting Thursday!

ELECTION

Atl. Division Director

Hello WPA, my name is Phil Theis, K3TUF, and I'm running for the Atlantic Division Director position. Directors serve on the corporation's Board of Directors, without compensation, and are responsible for financial and administrative policy decisions in the day to day, and long range operations of the League. They serve for a three year term and are voted upon by the members in their geographic division.

The Atlantic director represents 13,000 members in the division. Growing up in the Philadelphia EPA area I was licensed in 1962 as KN3TUF and served in numerous positions along the way. You can check my website (k3tuf.com) out for all the extremely interesting details of my life :-)

My wish for this hobby is to keep it exciting and every move I make as a director would take all of the many interests we have into account. We are a diverse bunch of hobbyists and that's what makes it so much fun. I want to have all of the members in the Atlantic division involved in the decision processes and would publish the agenda prior to board meetings for your feedback.

In previous balloting the majority of ballots ended up in the trash; I'd like to see a good turnout in this election process. Please look for your ballot in the coming days and exercise your right to choose your representative at the ARRL Board of Directors, it's your choice.

And please take a look at my website: k3tuf.com

Phil Theis K3TUF

Section News

WPA Section Manager John Rodgers, N3MSE

OCTOBER 2011

The year is quickly coming to an end and with it the last of the hamfests will be held on Sunday Nov. 6. This hamfest is the WACOM hamfest in Washington, Pa. Complete information regarding the hamfest and vendors etc is available at <http://wacomarc.org/hamfest.html> Be sure to stop at the league table and say hi and also at the ARES table.

This year once again at the WACOM hamfest after the VE exams there will be a hot wash discussion of the Simulated Emergency Test that was conducted on October 1. Please plan to attend and provide input on areas that you found beneficial or ideas for next year.

Please remember to go to <http://www.wpaares.org> and register for ARES. Even if you have registered before on another site please do so here again. This will finally allow us to have an accurate database for our section. There is a wealth of information available at this site and a great deal of effort has been put into its development.

Several of us are considering the sponsoring of a digital

EMMCOMM conference for the spring of 2012. We are looking to have this conference in the Johnstown, Pa. Area as a centralized location. This will include win-link, d-star, nbems and other digital modes. Anyone with comments or ideas as well as individuals willing to participate as presenters should contact myself at n3mse@arrl.org



or Larry Keller ab3er@arrl.net. We will forward your ideas and comments to the others involved in the planning.

The PA QSO Party was a great success once again. I had limited operating hours here as my 5 year old Granddaughter was visiting and informed me I needed to spend time with her playing. I got about two hundred contacts before shutting down and spending the weekend with her. Next year I might have to plan her visit for a different weekend

or get her licensed. Hi HI

A survey has recently been conducted by a sub committee appointed by the directors. This ECAC group is looking at the ARES and NTS platforms to determine if any changes are necessary. No decisions have been made to change anything at this point and the recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors at an upcoming meeting.

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 6 PM now that the time change has taken place. 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.

73

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

John Rodgers N3MSE is the ARRL Section Manager for Western Pennsylvania

Et Cetera

Club Announcements and Speaker Series

NEWSLETTER REDESIGN

With a magazine-like cover, table of contents, cover story, and crisp layout, our newsletter has received a makeover - and it is easier than ever to find the information you want to read. Using a different program to design the newsletter has also had a tremendous impact on the style on the newsletter, delivering more versatility than was possible in the past.

We have still kept the same material, such as the prop charts, calendar, meeting dates, and VE testing information - but it is now presented in an easier-to-understand format, with "blocks" dedicated to important events.

We are now highlighting local hamfests, to make you more aware of cost, prizes, times, and the location.

The end of the newsletter now holds club information, such as BVARA officers and membership information.

I hope you enjoy the new look of the newsletter, and stay tuned for next month's issue! ☑

VE TEST SESSION

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, Nov. 10

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 ☑

FUTURE IDLEWILD TRIP



A possible trip to Idlewild and Soakzone (date TBA) is in the works with Boy Scout Troop 405. Idlewild is offering a "Scout It Out" program, which costs \$26 on a weekday, or \$28 on the weekend. The package includes a ticket for all Idlewild and Soakzone rides, a meal voucher, a commemorative patch, and an activity packet. This is a greatly discounted rate - an admission ticket to Idlewild, purchased alone, costs \$31.99.

Idlewild Park opens at 10AM, and closes between 6PM and 8PM.

This trip will only be possible if there is enough interest from our radio club members - and any family members you would like to take!

If you are interested in going, please contact Bob DeMarco, WA3ZRM at wa3zrm@w3sgj.org ☑

MONTHLY

Speaker Series

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



This Month:

Speaker:
Rich Soltesz
K3SOM

Topic:
An Introduction To
Ferrites and Toroids

Including:
Powdered Iron or Ferrite,
What are they used for,
What did I just buy at the Hamfest,
And much more!

Are you interested in attending?
Come to the club meeting on
November 10 at 6:30PM, held at:

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

RICH'S BACKGROUND

Extra Class Ham, licensed since 1962
Amateur Radio VE (Volunteer Examiner)
B.S. Electrical Engineering
Registered Professional Engineer, PA ☑

WEEKLY

Thursday Morning Breakfast

The BVARA 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 Breakfast.



A Ham Radio Thanksgiving

DE Jon Kreski, AB9NN

First and foremost, I am thankful that – in this time of rapidly diminishing radiowave spectrum space – the F.C.C. still deems it to be in the national interest to allocate a nice amount of radiowave spectrum to ham radio operators. The F.C.C. does this for a number of reasons that probably will not diminish over time. Spectrum available for experimentation. A large quantity of trained communicators. A large quantity of loose networks that can not be destroyed with a quick strike in a war – as with a national communications hub. All of the public service that ham radio operators provide – Skywarn severe storm spotters, race communications support, hospital communications backup, etc....

Secondly, I am thankful for the relationships I have made over the few short years that I have been a ham. Hams are always willing to help each other and we have all had someone help us at one time or another. The hobby is so diverse and technically intense that no one person can really expect to be an expert in every segment of the hobby. That generally makes each person respect the particular qualities that each other person has.

I am thankful for the ability to pay for the modest amount of ham radio equipment that we do have. We all probably have some level of envy over those that have the “dream station” and that huge antenna farm. And we all are amazed at what we CAN DO with what he can afford. I know that I am. While I do realize that in electronics you generally do get what you pay for – I also do wonder just how much really do need. How much difference in signal do you really notice as the price continues to climb? And how much more complexity do you have to deal with as you buy a more and more complex radio, for example... There is something to be said for being comfortable with what you have.

I am frankly thankful that I do not know it all. I am thankful for being involved in such a diverse hobby that allows me to be constantly challenged with new modes, new bands, new countries to contact, etc...

I am thankful for those that have pushed me gently along the learning curve. A.P.R.S. tracking to be used for severe storm spotting and other functions, for example. Now that it is set-up and working it is quite enjoyable to use on a daily basis. But it is something that I

likely would not have done on my own without being encouraged by others to do.

I am thankful for those that provide opportunities to perform and challenges to perform in new ways. This has gently encouraged me, for example, to be a net control operator many times in various capacities. I would not have done that without being involved in various groups and assigned those responsibilities by my fearless leaders.

thankful for having had the opportunity to meet weather forecasters at the National Weather Service in Green Bay, Wisconsin. And I am thankful for having been able to operate a ham radio station right in the 9-1-1 Emergency Operations Call Center for Outagamie County, Wisconsin during a severe storm. Training allowed me to do that and it was good to help our community with a skill that others did not have.

Overall, I am thankful that I have not become bored with the hobby as some do. I have found new ways to explore and challenge myself and that has been interesting and personally rewarding. Thanks ham radio!

Jon Kreski, AB9NN

Equipment for Sale



Astron RS-35M Power Supply
25 amp cont. 35 amp surge 13.8vdc.
\$100.00 plus S+H.



Ritz Electronics Power Supply
PS-1001MR regulated.
13.8 vdc, 8amps , 115vac input.
\$25.00 plus S&H.



Dentron Ant Tuner AT-1K
with manual, 160meters-
10 meters, 500 watts.
\$75.00 plus S&H.



Ramsey Electronics PA-1
2 Meter Amplifier,
20W out with 4W in
\$30.00 plus S&H.



Palomar TX75 Amplifier.
\$35.00 plus S&H.



American Electronics
SWR/Watt Meter, model
95/134. 52 Ohms, 100 W
\$20.00 plus S&H.



Daiwa SWR Model CN-520, 1.8-60mhz, 50 ohms, 2KW. (with manual).
\$50.00 plus S&H.



Daiwa SWR Model CN-550, 140-250 mhz, 50 ohms, 200 W, (with manual).
\$40.00 plus S&H.



Trionyx TR-1000, 600 mhz Frequency Counter. (with manual).
\$40.00 plus S&H.

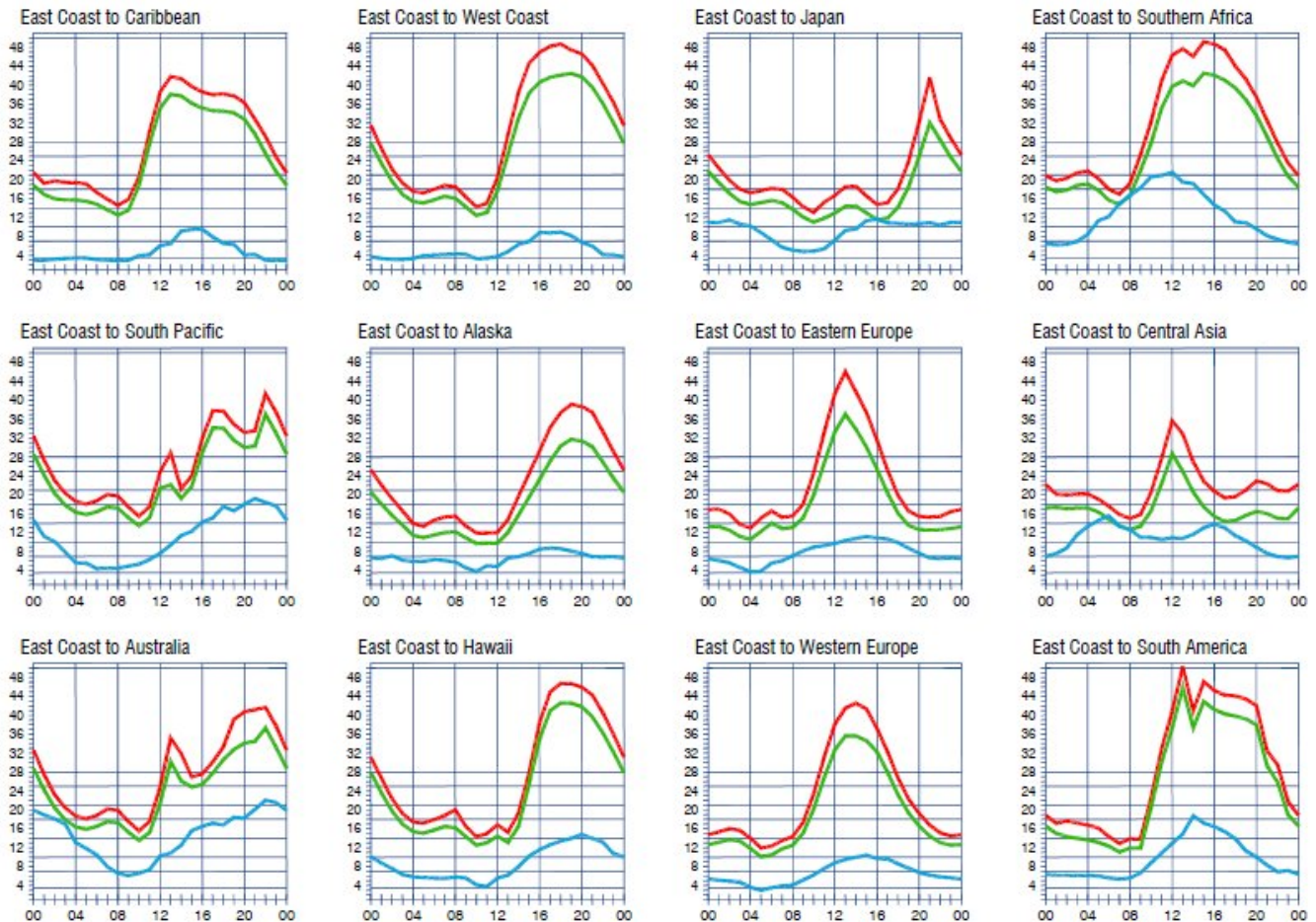


2 Turner Model +3B microphones. \$15.00 each plus S&H.

If you are interested in buying an item, please call Chris, W3OUF at 724-266-2866

Prop Charts

From the ARRL



RACES / ARES

eQRM Urges All County Hams 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 (131.8 PL)

PROPAGATION

The propagation chart listed above is for November 2011.

If you would like more information on how to read these charts, or for more information on propagation in general, please visit <http://arrrl.org/propagation>



Who We Are

Membership Information and Club Officers

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	

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

Your License Class (if any):

☐ Novice Name _____
☐ Technician Address _____
☐ General _____
☐ Advanced _____
☐ Extra 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

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

VE testing begins at 5:00.

Regular meetings are at 6:30.

**All meetings are held at
 Beaver County
 Emergency Operations Center
 351 14th Street
 Ambridge, PA 15003**

on the second Thursday of every month (unless otherwise stated).

MEETING DATES

2011

November 10

December – No meeting (Christmas Party)

2012

January 12

February 9

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

July 12

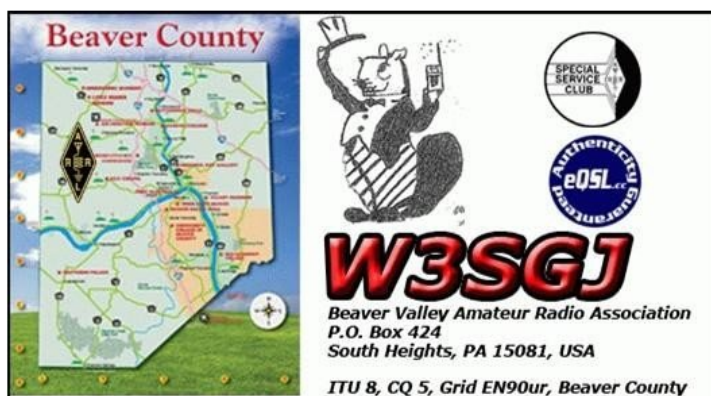
August – No meeting (Corn Roast)

September 13

October 11

November 8

QSL CARD



NEXT MONTH
DECEMBER 2011

A CENTURY OF HAM RADIO

This radio operator is 99 years old and is still tuned in.