

THE eQRM

AUGUST 2018



The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

Repeater 145.310

PL 131.8

On the cover: Here is a photo of the Club Field Trip to the 570 AM transmitter and antenna site of WKBN and WNIO radio station. John Clarke, the Chief Engineer, was a very gracious and informative host to our BVARA group. This was the July Club activity, special thanks to Jim Allen KC3IXE for trip planning.

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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 - 2018. 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

2018 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Lawrence, K3GTX

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Director: Tony Pavilonis, W6PEF

Director: Bob Winkle, N3AZZ

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 PM.

Regular meetings are at 6:30 PM

All meetings are held at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center
351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003
on the second Thursday of every month (unless otherwise stated).

2018

Aug 25 Corn Roast

Sep 13

Oct 11

Nov 08

Dec 08 Christmas Party



This Month

This Month:

Speaker:

NO Club meeting

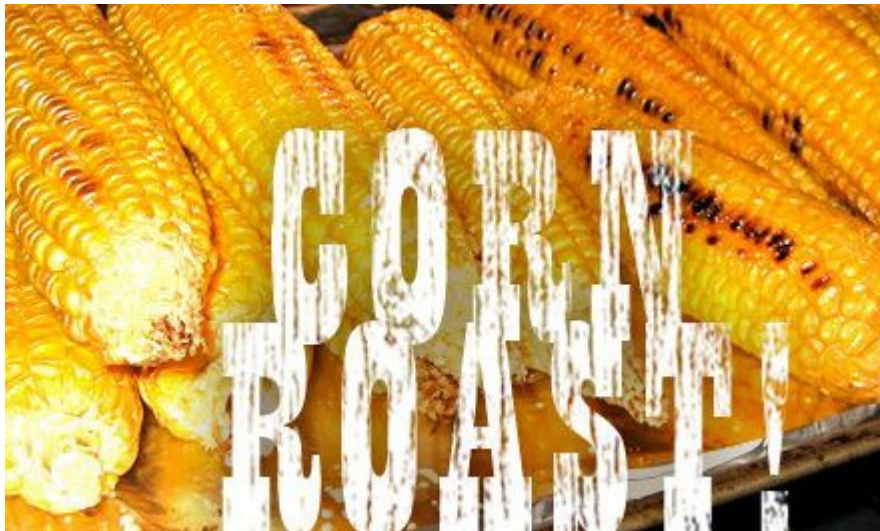
Topic:

BVARA Corn Roast for the month of August 2018.

Including:

Good food, fun and friends!

See page 10 for more information.



More this Month

Weekly

The Freedom Square Diner in Monaca has a great wait staff. Come let them take your order.

Thursday Morning Breakfast
(or you can have lunch)



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 Thursday at



The eQRM urges all Beaver County licensed amateurs to participate in the County's RACES and ARES programs.

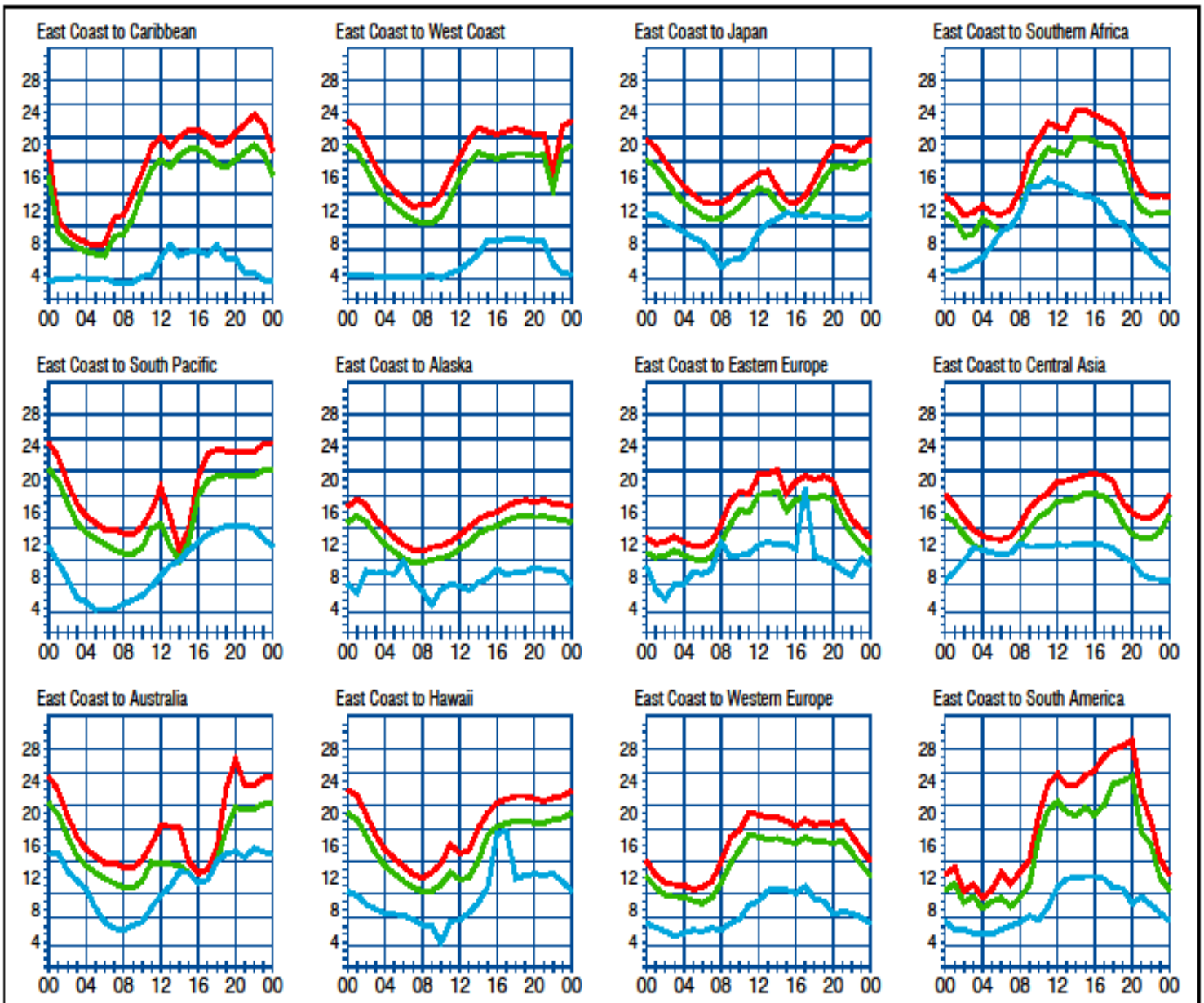
Any Beaver County Amateur that is interested in participating in the RACES/ARES programs can do so by checking into the Beaver County Public Service Net which meets every Monday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the N3TN 146.850 MHz repeater (131.8 PL)

RACES / ARES

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



Propagation



When are the bands open? These charts, generated using CAPman, show probabilities for average HF propagation in the month of **August** for the paths indicated. The horizontal axes show Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), and the vertical axes 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 (HFF, 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 1500-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 68. This is a Very Low level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on *The ARRL Antenna Book CD-ROM*.

PROPAGATION

The East Coast propagation chart listed here is for August 2018.

If you would like more information in general, please visit <http://www.arrl.org/propagation>

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 Nine One One 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, check, or money order.

New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing

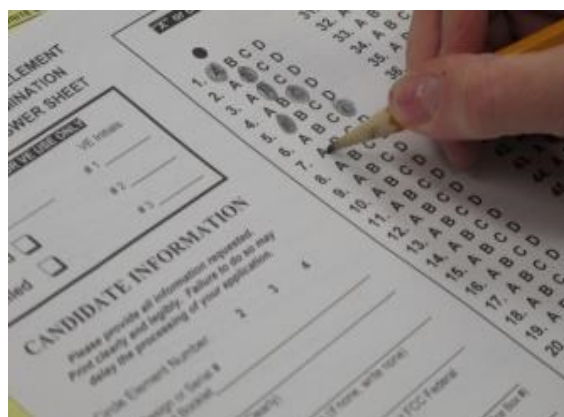


Here's the list of participants in our VE process :



In June

Howard Greer – KB3ACN, Beaver Falls, PA passed his General Class exam



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="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 Child under 21 at home membership	5.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> One year ARRL membership	49.00	_____
A Club Donation		_____
ARRL Member? Yes No	Total Enclosed	_____

Your License Class (If you have one.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Technician	Name _____
<input type="checkbox"/> General	Address _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 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

BVARA Corn Roast



Join our Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association celebration of Summer!

When: Saturday, August 25th, 2018 at 5:30 pm

Where: Old Economy County Park, Shelter 1 (enter the park and turn left at the swimming pool) where we were on Field Day this year

Who: All BVARA members and their families and invited guests

What: Club furnishes the corn, hot dogs, and hamburgers - please bring a home-baked dessert and your beverages. All home-brought foods are optional, but home-made extras add to the deliciousness. Coffee and bottled water will be available. Bring your own pop, if desired.

RSVP: For planning purposes, we need a count by August 17th of how many people will be there, so please:

Email your response to k3som@arrl.net or

- Call Rich, K3SOM at (724) 847-0610

Contest Corral

August 2018

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
2 1700	2 2100	2B	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.nrau.net
2 1900	2 2100	1.8-2B	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
4 0001	5 2359	2B	10-10 International Summer Contest, SSB	Ph	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
4 1200	4 2359	1.8-2B	European HF Championship	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-digit year first licensed	lea.hamradio.si/icc
4 1400	4 1800	144	WAB 144 MHz Low-Power Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.internip.net
4 1800	5 0559	1.8-2B	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
4 1800	5 1800	222 and up	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest
5 1400	5 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Phone Contest	Ph	RS, serial	www.sarl.org.za
7 0100	7 0300	3.5-2B	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqp.blogspot.com
11 0000	12 2359	3.5-2B	WAE DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.darc.de
11 1200	12 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
11 1600	12 0400	1.8-432	Maryland-DC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Entry class, county or SPC	www.w3vpr.org
11 2200	13 2200	144	MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.mmmmonvhf.de/testinfo.php
13 0000	13 0200	1.8-2B	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
15 0030	15 0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
18 0000	19 1600	3.5-2B	SARTG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sartg.com
18 0600	19 2359	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char Maidenhead locator	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
18 0800	19 0800	1.8-2B	Russian District Award Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), District code or serial	rdaward.org/rdac1.htm
18 1200	19 1200	1.8-50	Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	CW	RST, JA prefecture/district or continent code	www.kcj-cw.com
18 1600	18 1759	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
18 1800	19 0559	1.8-2B	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
18 2100	19 2100	3.5-2B	CVA DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, station type	www.cvdzx.org
19 1400	19 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za
19 1800	19 2359	3.5-50	ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Dig	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, state/province/XE area/CX	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
20 0100	20 0300	1.8-2B	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpccontest.com/pigrun
22 0000	22 0200	1.8-2B	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
25 0400	26 0400	1.8-2B	Hawaii QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), HI QTH or SPC	www.hawaiiqsoparty.org
25 0600	26 0559	3.5-144	ALARA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), "A" if member, name	www.alara.org.au/contests
25 1200	26 0300	1.8-50	WVE Islands QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), US/CISA island designation or SPC	usislands.org
25 1200	26 1159	3.5-2B	SCC RTTY Championship	Dig	RST, year first licensed	lea.hamradio.si/icc
25 1200	26 1200	3.5-2B	YO DX HF Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YO county or serial	www.yodx.ro/en/english
25 1400	26 2000	3.5-50	Kansas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	ksqsoparty.org
25 1600	26 0400	3.5-2B	Ohio QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	www.ohqp.org
25 2100	26 2100	3.5-2B	CVA DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, station type	www.cvdzx.org
25 2300	26 0300	50	50 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	svfhs.org
26 1400	26 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. No contest activity occurs on the 60-, 30-, 17-, and 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity, XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.

Bits and Pieces

Dear eQRM readers,

Please be easy-going with me for the months I had not created the BVARA newsletter. (I'm pretty sure the last issue was May 2018.)

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, phone calls, hospital visits and well wishes. I am doing better. I still have a few concerns but things are on the healing side. This August issue of the newsletter is a bit abbreviated.

Next month... please stand-by, I will endeavor to make a better issue. For this month, please come to the 5:30 pm August 25th Corn Roast!

All are welcome, see *page 10* for more detail.

Again a big thank-you to everyone,

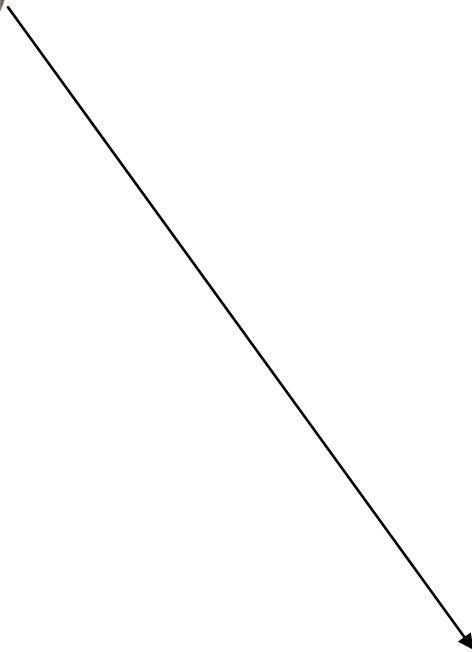
KC3BXC David



Be courteous on the air, be safe, learn something new and have fun with your hobby.
Till next month, 73 KC3BXC.

It's Your Dime

Remember back when you could communicate by “Pay Phone” for ten cents? This page is for anyone who wants to communicate with the BVARA community and beyond. Please send me your article that you would like posted on this page. Please, only topics and language in good taste. As the editor I reserve the option to post it or ignore it. Send your dime to me at: kc3bxc.73@gmail.com



Some Interesting Links



Interesting facts about amateur radio <http://iinterestingfacts.blogspot.com/2009/03/interesting-facts-about-amateur-radio.html>

A quick into to ham radio <https://www.tek.com/blog/ham-radio-facts>

More quick info <https://www.redpitaya.com/n23/4-interesting-facts-about-ham-radio>

Ham trivia <http://www.funtrivia.com/en/Entertainment/Amateur-Radio-DX-6807.html>

More trivia <https://www.qrz.com/trivia>

More trivia <https://www.absurdtrivia.com/quiz/011914/ham-radio/>

More trivia <http://hamradiohut.com/interesting-ham-radio-facts/>

What is ham radio <https://www.walkietalkiecentral.com/what-does-ham-radio-stand-for/>

Loving ham radio <https://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/gadgets/a14410/why-you-should-learn-to-love-th-ham-radio/>

A good ham radio overview <https://www.technewsworld.com/story/75830.html>

BVARA Field Trip



After we finished our inside tour, it began to get a little dark and mysterious outside. We were headed along this path to a night-time tower that was not yet connected and to one of the Automatic Antenna Tuning Units that was located at the base of each of the towers. I really enjoyed how this picture came out. The darkened skies heightened the aura of mystery for an impending storm and the repercussions that could result. Of particular interest to me was the extensive efforts that

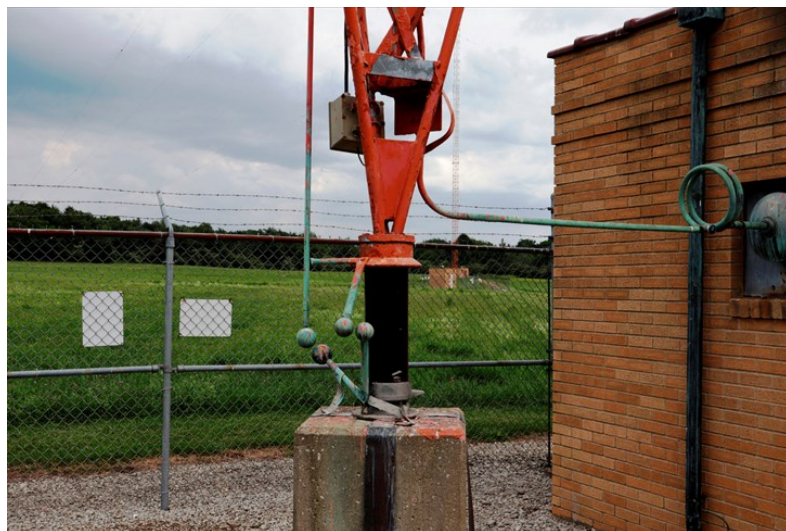
were required to “re-direct” lightning strikes to ground without damaging equipment or personnel.

Please add these pictures with a few comments to our monthly newsletter; I think it would help to let other Hams know what they may have missed with this Field Trip. Our field trips are open to all.

Best regards,

Rich - K3SOM

Will there be another BVARA Field Trip? Yes!! A Field Trip to a very large collection of antique radios is being planned for mid-September near East Brady, PA. Every radio has a story, some of them should be quite interesting. Details for this Sunday afternoon trip are being finalized and will be available shortly. Please stay tuned!



Special thanks to : Jim Allen KC3IXE for field trip planning, Denny Herbuth KR3DX and Rich Soltesz K3SOM for photography, WKBN & WNIO radio station’s John Clarke, Chief Engineer and gracious host.

More field trip photos can be viewed at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/w3sgj/albums>

Of interest to all



Dear Club Leader,

DX Engineering's "August Hot Deals" sales event is back for 2018 and better than ever! We look forward to seeing you again in our well-equipped showroom. You're invited to get on the air from N8DXE and try out the latest transceivers and accessories using three HF beam antennas stacked atop our 80-foot Rohn tower, and our state-of-the-art antenna switching system.

You and your club members can visit, make some contacts, and attend two free mini-seminars:

8:30 am to 9:00 am, **Digital and Software Defined Technologies**, presented by Will Jourdain, AA4WJ, from ICOM America. Jourdain will be joining us until noon to answer all your pressing questions about ICOM rigs and related equipment.

9:00 am to 9:30 am, **Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) Antenna Communications**, presented by Tim Duffy, K3LR, Chief Operating Officer of DX Engineering.

In addition to the mini-seminars, on-air excitement, and technical advice, you can score discounts on open-box gear and inventory reduction items. Plus, you'll be able to purchase and pick up your in-stock order that same day.

August Hot Deals begins at 8:30 am on Saturday, August 11. Our DX Engineering staff will be on hand to answer questions until noon Saturday. The sale lasts through 9 pm on Sunday, August 12. The deals will only be good here at our Retail Showroom, inside the Summit Racing Retail Super Store at 1200 Southeast Ave. in Tallmadge, Ohio.

Watch for more details at DXEngineering.com and on our Facebook page. In the meantime, add the date to your calendar of events, newsletter and website, and spread the word to your club members and friends. Even if you can't make it to this event, I encourage you to come in anytime and get on the air in our Retail Showroom to test drive what's hot in Ham Radio.

73,

Tim Duffy

K3LR

Tim Duffy K3LR
Chief Operating Officer and General Manager

DX Engineering
1200 Southeast Ave.
Tallmadge, OH 44278 USA
330.570.8888

Of interest to all



Hello BVARA Club Members,

From time to time our club receives mail that may be of interest to some of our members. On page 16 is a letter that our club received from DX Engineering regarding some presentations and a sales event that will be held on Saturday, August 11th, beginning at 8:30 am at their Mogadore, Ohio store location just East of Akron, Ohio. No formal club activity is planned, but let us know if you attend as well as your impressions!

Please send email to kc3bxc73@gmail.com

