

FEBRUARY 2015

THE eQRM



A cold Ohio river wishing for spring

THIS MONTH

Bulletins

Hamfests and general
announcements

The Month Ahead

Contests, VE testing, and
Presentation Series

Propagation Charts

Propagation charts for
the East Coast

Who We Are

Membership information,
club officers, and meetings

CHECK IN TO THE NETS

Wednesday 2 Meter
8:30PM on 145.310 MHz

Wednesday 10 Meter
9:00PM on 28.470 MHz

Bulletins

This month's feature presentation:

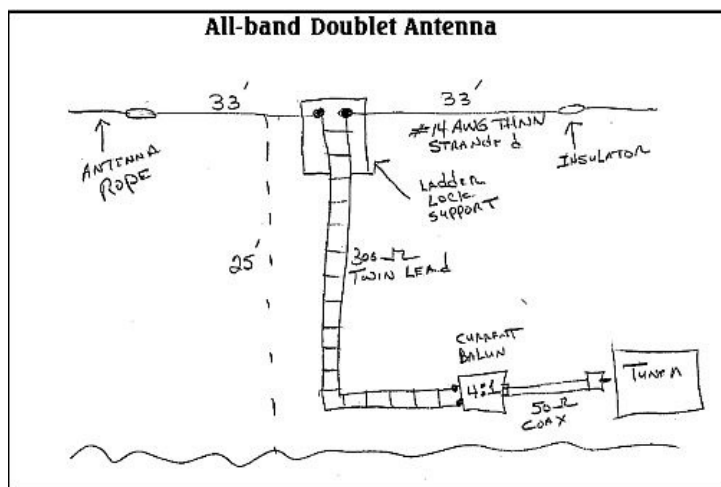
Speaker: Rich Soltesz, K3SOM
Topic: Doublet Antennas with EZNEC+

Continuing with our BVARA Presentation Series this year, our topic this month is one that has attracted considerable interest among our club members - the

Doublet Antenna. Is it the low cost of this antenna, the multiband capabilities, the reduction in QSB, or is it the performance that has garnered so much attention? We'll find out at our January BVARA Club Meeting! But wait, there's more: we'll examine ladder lines as well as open-wire lines for use with this antenna. Some club experts will be along to provide first-hand stories of this antenna's performance. This is one exciting presentation you won't want to miss!

Rich's Background:

Extra Class Ham, Licensed since 1962, VE,
B.S. Electrical Engineering



This topic was going to be presented at the January Club meeting. Many members were not present because of the foul weather or illness. We asked Rich to give this talk at our February club meeting so no one would miss out on such an interesting subject.

News & Information

VE TEST SESSION

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

Tests begin 5PM Thursday, February 12th (walk-ins allowed).
All classes of amateur radio license tests will be 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.

For more information,
contact: Richard Soltesz, K3SOM
(724) 847-0610
k3som@arrl.net

WEEKLY

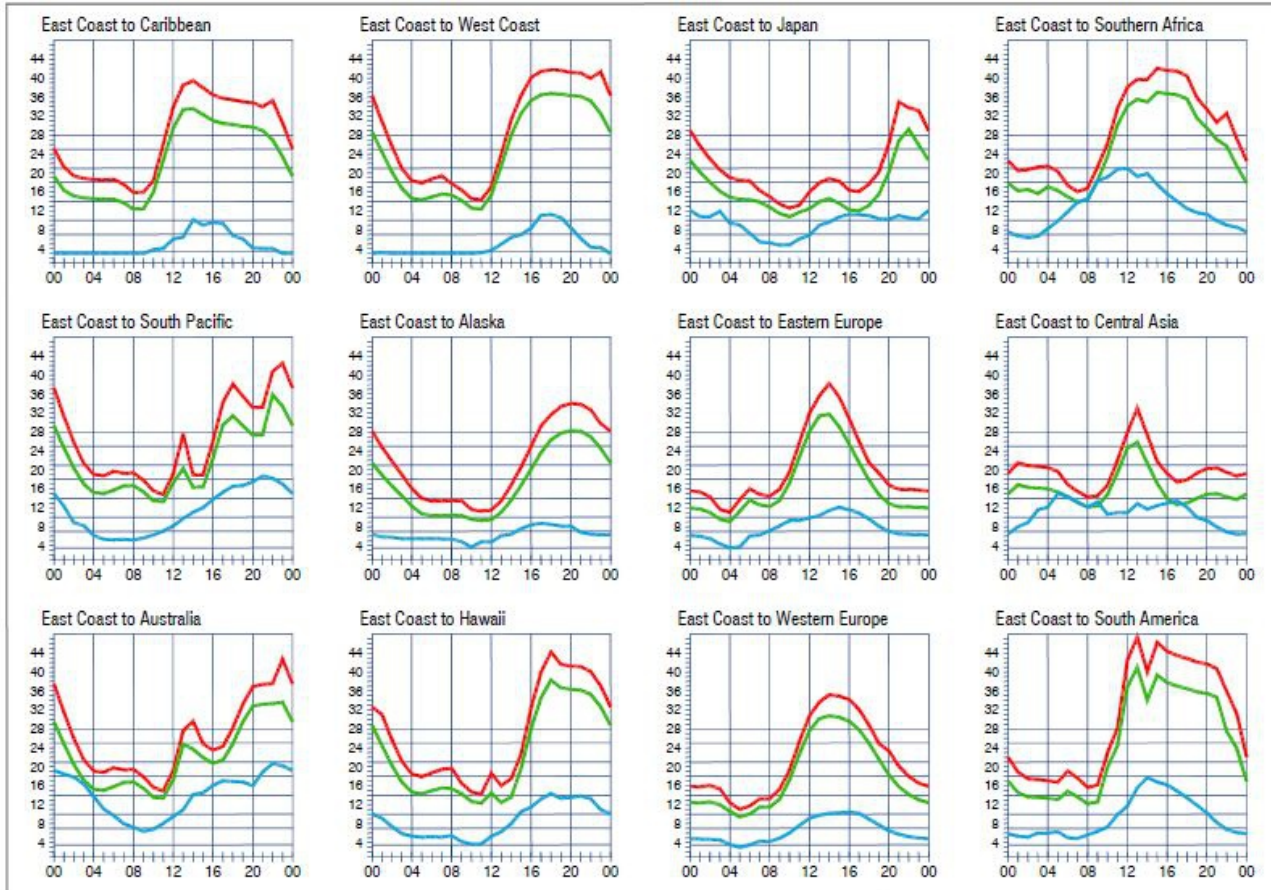
Thursday Morning Breakfast
The BVARA meets every
Thursday at Steak n Shake in
Center Township, by the
Beaver Valley Mall, at 10:00 AM. All area amateurs are invited and
encouraged to attend the Thursday Morning Breakfast.

See you at Steak n Shake!



Propagation Charts

From the ARRL



When are the bands open? These charts, generated using CAPman, show probabilities for average HF propagation in the month of **February** 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 (HFP, 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 34-38, for more details. The predictions assume an observed 2800-MHz solar flux value of 136. This is a Very **High** level of solar activity. See the detailed propagation tables on *The ARRL Antenna Book CD-ROM*.

PROPAGATION

The East Coast propagation chart listed above is for February 2015. If you would like more information on how to read these charts, or for more information on propagation in general, please visit <http://arrl.org/propagation>

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)



Announcing the WPA Section D-STAR Contest

The D-STAR Repeater Operators of Western Pennsylvania are giving you the chance to win a new Icom ID-880H mobile dual band D-STAR capable rig. The contest runs from



March 2 through August 24 2015. To enter the contest all you need to do is 1) reside within the ARRL's Western Pennsylvania Section, and 2) check into the Monday night WPA Section ARES D-STAR Net. Each week you check into the net counts as an additional entry into the contest. The WPA Section D-STAR Net is held each Monday night at 9 PM on the WPA Section D-STAR reflector REF063 module C. Most D-STAR repeaters in Western Pennsylvania are normally linked to the reflector so participating in the net is as simple as using your local D-STAR repeater. This contest has been made possible by generous gifts from The Repeater Association (sponsor of the W3EXW D-STAR System in Allegheny County and sponsor of the WPA Section's REF063 reflector), the K3LR Operators (supporters of the K3AWS D-STAR System in Crawford County), The Westmoreland Emergency Amateur Radio Service (sponsor of the WC3PS D-STAR System in Westmoreland County) and the Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association (sponsors of the W3PHB D-STAR System in Clearfield County.) So check into the WPA Section ARES D-STAR Net between March 2 and August 24th for your chance to win a new Icom ID-880H mobile rig. you can improve your odds by checking in each week. The winner will be announced at the WPA Section Convention on Sunday August 30th 2015. Complete details and rules can be found on the WPA ARES web site at www.wpaares.org in the D-STAR section of the site.

This months Ham Fest within 50 miles

Hamfest/Convention 02/22/2015 | WASHFEST 2015 (20th Annual Event) Location: Castle Shannon, PA Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Wireless Association of South Hills Website: <http://n3sh.org>



WASHfest 2015

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **TWENTIETH** big year!
Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



Breakfast & Lunch will be available!

Sunday, February 22nd, 2015
8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)
Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall
3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA
Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL



(800) 545-8881

DXCC Card Checking Available!
Thanks Art Lund NQ3A



FREE Coffee for the entire Hamfest
courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES
of Canonsburg, PA

MAIN PRIZES — You've Got to Play to WIN!



- 1st Prize: Kenwood TS-590S 100 W HF/6M Transceiver
- 2nd Prize: LDG AT-200 Pro 2 Antenna Tuner
- 3rd Prize: Kenwood TM-281A VHF Mobile

Additional Hourly Door Prizes! Special Black Box Prize (Separate Drawing)!
Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20
All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 n3sbf@comcast.net
E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2015. Reservations received after February 1st, 2015 must include payment in full. Reserve now... we have sold out in advance five years running!

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X \$15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
WASHFEST 2015
C/O CAROL DANKO KB3GMN
4246 Seton Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!

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
 Technician
 General
 Advanced
 Extra

Name _____
 Address _____

 Email 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

2015 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z
 Vice President: Dick Hanna, K3VYY
 2nd Vice Pres.: Rob Miller, N3OJL
 Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS
 Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT
 Director: Bob Winkle, N3AZZ
 Director: Jeff Waite, K3SLK
 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

2015

February 12
 March 12
 April 9
 May 14
 June 11
 July 9

