

OCTOBER 2014

THE eQRM



Machu Picchu, Peru

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

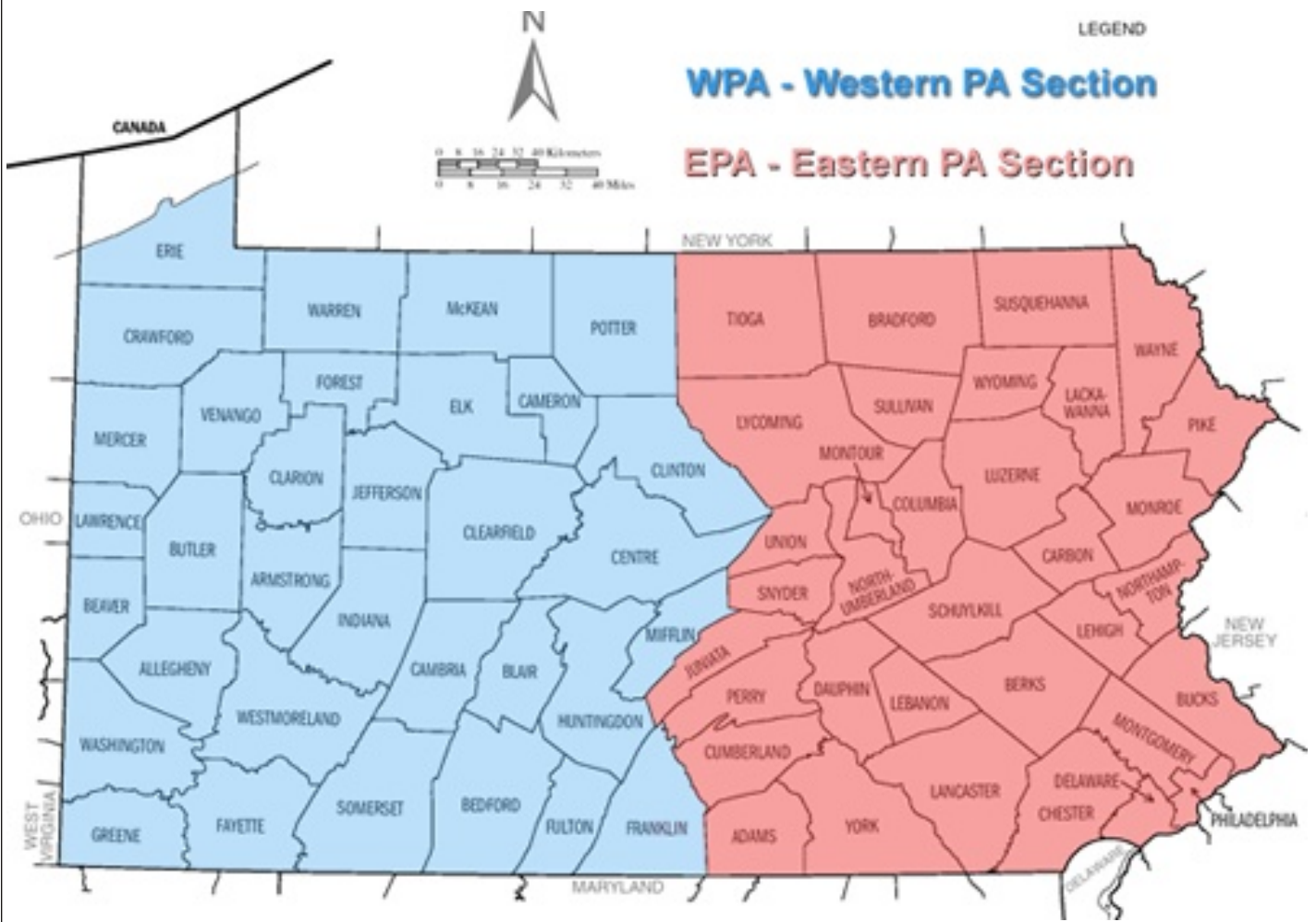
Wednesday 10 Meter
9:00PM on 28.470 MHz

Bulletins



THE PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY

The PA QSO Party is October 11th and 12th
For complete info, go to: nittany-arc.net



News & Information

This Month:



Speaker:

Rich Soltesz
K3SOM

Topic:

Peru: Ancient Land of Mystery



Including:

Continuing with our BVARA Presentation Series this year, our topic this month is one that will visually transport you to the land of the Inca civilization - Peru. We'll first explore the capital city and international gateway of Lima. Next, our travel will take us to several cities within the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Cusco, the center of the Inca Empire will be our next stop. Finally we'll explore Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. But wait, there's more: we'll look at the culture and beliefs of the Inca people and the results of the Conquest of Peru as led by Francisco Pizarro. Be sure to bring along your oxygen and coca leaves because this is one high-altitude presentation you won't want to miss!

Rich's Background:

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

VE TEST SESSION

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

Tests begin 5PM Thursday, October 9th (walk-ins allowed).
All classes of amateur radio license tests will be administered.

All candidates 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.

For more information, please contact:

Chris Moratis, W3OUF
1199 Highland Avenue
Ambridge, PA 15003
PHONE: 724-266-2866
cjmoratis@gmail.com

WEEKLY

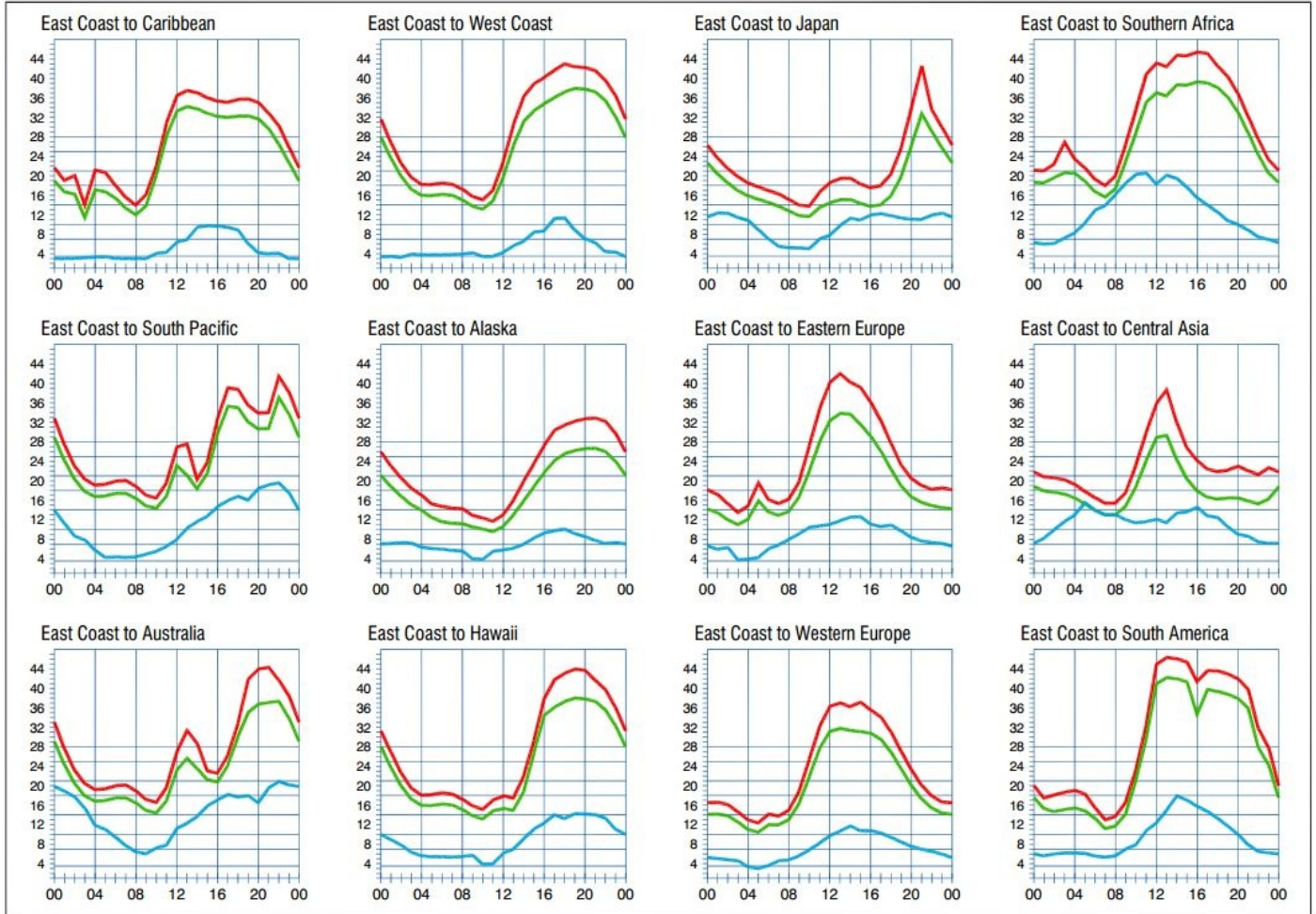
Thursday Morning Breakfast

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



PROPAGATION

The East Coast propagation chart listed above is for October 2014.

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)



HF OPERATING TIPS

Editorial by KR3DX

Suggestions on how to make that HF QSO go smoothly

Stateside HF contacts are usually pretty easy, but that DX QSO may be challenging. There can be a language barrier even when the other op's native language is English. When English is a 2nd or 3rd language for him, things can become a bit more complicated. Stateside and Canadian QSOs present few problems in most cases. Regional accents are becoming less and less of a problem. The Southern drawl, the Texas accent, the New England speech pattern, and all of the cultural differences between different areas of the US and Canada are not as pronounced as they were several decades ago. Minor cultural differences between these areas are rapidly disappearing also, and regional slang is understood nationwide in most cases. The situation becomes entirely different when you make a DX contact. Even talking to other native English speakers in Britain, South Africa, India, Australia, or New Zealand can present some challenges. Having a rag chew, or even exchanging callsigns, names, and signal reports with non-native English speaking stations can be frustrating if you don't adjust for the other operators use of the language.

Remember, we are lucky that English is the language that has been adopted by the international ham community. Imagine if you wanted to make a DX contact and you had to speak Russian or Chinese or Spanish! This is the problem that many of the DX stations face when you are trying to work them. Make it as easy as you can for them, and you will find that the contact will go much quicker and easier for both of you. If you have been listening to the DX station before contacting him, pay attention to what he is saying and try to get an idea of how well he understands English. Some DX stations can say their callsign, name, QTH, and give you a signal report, anything beyond that may be difficult or impossible for them. If you hear a station that is limiting his QSOs to only the most basic information, don't ask him complicated questions about his station, the weather, his family, etc. He may tell you that he has QRM, QRN, your signal is fading, etc., when, in fact, he just doesn't understand what you are saying. Put yourself in his place and think what you would do in the same situation.

Use standard phonetics when exchanging information with the DX station! For example, when you say your callsign, use "Kilo Radio Three Delta X-Ray" as the phonetics, Do not say "Keep Repairing Three Dead Xeroxes" and expect the DX station to understand it. What works well with a stateside contact, may not work at all with DX.

If you find that the DX station speaks English fairly well, you may try a bit of a rag chew. If he continues the QSO, be aware of how fast you are talking and the words and phrases that you are using. Talking at your normal everyday speed may be difficult for the other guy to understand, try slowing down just a bit and pronounce your words as clearly as you can. Avoid slang words or phrases as these can easily confuse or bewilder the other operator. If he can't understand you, he may cut the QSO short and you may miss an interesting conversation.

