

Special points of interest:

- Did you hear about the new frequency for the Breezeshooters?
- Late News on Chestnut Ridge ARC's Winterfest
- Late News on W3ABC
- VE Test Coming Up This Month

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 1999

A New Year, A New Name, A New Newsletter!

Welcome to the first issue of the new newsletter for the Wireless Association of South Hills!

No, it doesn't have a name yet.

Got one in mind?

It's not that I didn't come up with a few, but they were just a little TOO cute. I've had a lot of suggestions from you guys, but nothing that came right out & said to me "This is IT!" And I didn't feel comfortable coming up with a name all on my own.

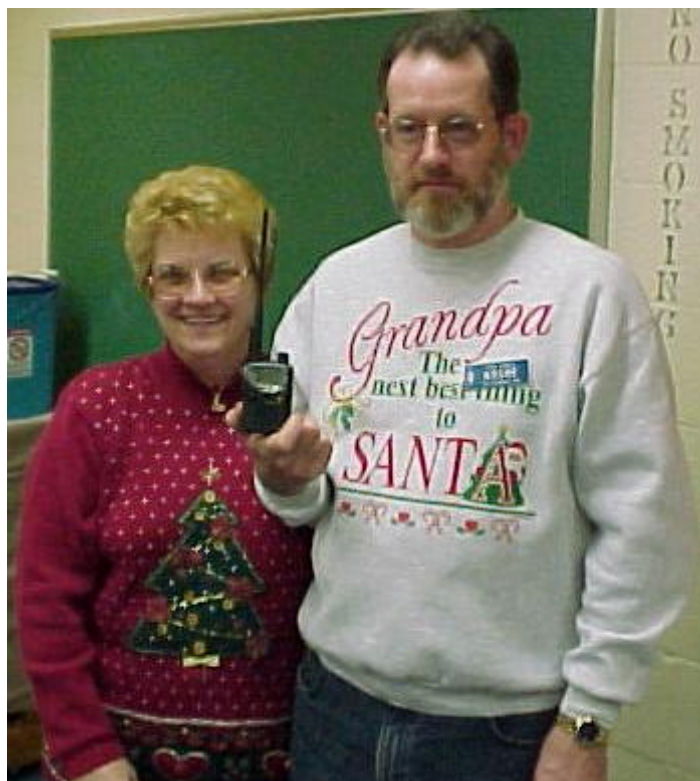
So instead of coming up with a lame or cute temporary name, we'll just go without one for a little while (famous last words?)

What's your idea for a newsletter name? Bring it to our next meeting on January 14th & we'll see what we can come up!

Don't forget... *4th Annual South Hills Hamfest, Castle Shannon Fire Hall, February 28th!*

Looking forward to the next year, hope to see you at the meeting!

73, Ron WN3VAW



The Proud Raffle Winners show off their new HT at the December Christmas Party! Congratulations Rich N3SBF and Carol (when are you getting licensed!?)

More Christmas Party Photos on Page 4!

Photo by Ed Salva W3VFA

Next Meeting January 14, 1999

The next monthly meeting of the Wireless Association of South Hills will be Thursday, January 14th, at 7:00 PM at the John McMillan Presbyterian Church, 875 Clifton Road in Bethel Park.

Our guest speaker will be freelance Professional Broadcast Engineer Jack Layton W9UK, who will be giving us a presentation on Broadcast Engineering as it exists today.

All radio amateurs & interested guests are, of course, invited!

See you there!

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Schedule of Events

- WASH Net NCS Schedule:

- Jan 3: Bob W3RJM
- Jan 10: Rich N3SBF
- Jan 17: Steve W3SRL
- Jan 24: Jerry K3BZW
- Jan 31: Ron WN3VAW

- Jan 6 — WACOM Amateur Radio Classes Start (10 weeks) at the George Washington Hotel, Main Street, Washington at 7 PM

- Jan 12 — NHARC Amateur Radio Classes Start 6:30 PM Pine Richland High School

- Jan 14 — WASH Monthly Meeting — Guest Speaker Jack W9UK

- Jan 21 — WASH Sponsored VE SESSION

January 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 WACOM Classes	7 WACOM Meeting	8	9 Hamfest Skyline ARC Marathon NY
10	11	12 NHARC Spring License Classes	13 NHARC Meeting	14 WASH Meeting	15	16
17	18	19 SCARC Meeting	20	21 WASH VE Tests	22	23
24	25	26	27 NHARC Club Auction	28	29	30
31 Hamfest MD Mobileers Odenton, MD						

WASH 1999 OFFICERS

Executive Committee:

President Ron Notarius WN3VAW
 VP/Secretary Steve Lane W3SRL
 VP/Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV

Standing Committees:

N3SH Trustee Steve Lane W3SRL
 VE Team Liason Bob Sanford AA3FI
 WASH Net Manager Don Vollant N3KEH
 South Hills Hamfest
 1999 Chairman Steve Lane W3SRL
 2000 Chairman (Open)
 Field Day 99 Chairman (Open)
 PA QSO Party Chairman N3KEH (tentative)
 WASH Chief Operator
 ARRL DX Contest (Open)
 CQ WPX Contest (Open)
 Club Repeaters: N3RNX/R 146.955-
 N3SH/R 442.550+
 (Both with PL tone of 131.8)

WASH Net, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 repeater, usually followed by the 10 Meter Informal Net on 28.469 MHz. All radio amateurs are welcome!

THE LEGAL STUFF

"The Mariner" is the Official Newsletter of the **Wireless Association of South Hills.**

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 Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius WN3VAW

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The **Wireless Association of South Hills** was founded in 1993 as the original South Hills Amateur Radio Club. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club Inc." and is not responsible for that group or it's actions in any way shape or form.

Our thanks to the owners of the N3RNX Repeater System for permitting the **Wireless Association of South Hills** & it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

Chestnut Ridge Hamfest Cancelled!

Bob Ferrey Jr. N3DOK, ARRL EC for Allegheny County

The Chestnut Ridge Hamfest for February 7, 1999 has been canceled, according to Bob Hamilton AA3ML, the Chestnut Ridge ARC treasurer.

The Latrobe American Legion Building was damaged by the New Years Weekend Winter Storm.

The hamfest will be held again in February 2000.

New Canadian Prefix

Peter Wollenberg VE8PW

Starting April 1, 1999 all VE8 stations within the new territory of NUNAVUT will change to the new VY0 prefix. Most of these stations (there are only 4 or so active) reside within CQ zone 2.

The new prefix will be permanently assigned to the territory of NUNAVUT, which comprises all of the Eastern Arctic. NUNAVUT (which means = Our Land = in Inuktituk) will be Canada's newest territory starting April 1st this year.

The old VE8 prefix will be assigned to stations in the Western Arctic, CQ Zone 1.

Next VE Test January 21st!

Our Next VE exam session will be **Thursday, January 21, 1999, at 7:00 PM**, at the *John McMillan Presbyterian Church*, Bethel Park, PA. Talk-in on 146.955 MHz.. All examiners are ARRL affiliated. Morse code exams are multiple-choice. Walk-ins are welcome, but if you plan on attending the test session, please contact AA3FI [E-Mail: sanfordb@access.hky.com or (724) 356-4020]

Please bring the following to your test session:

Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)

Pen / Pencil / Calculator

Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)

Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)

Check or Cash in the amount of \$6.45 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Note: Novice written (element 2) and 5 wpm (element 1A) code exams are free.

N3INT Ties The Knot!

It was revealed during a very late check in after the WASH Net on January 3rd that our man from Natrona Heights, Bill Such N3INT, is a newlywed!

Bill married the former Susan Lukee on November 20th in North Carolina.

Congratulations to the newlyweds from the entire Wireless Association of South Hills!

Ahoy! USS Requin Needs Your Boat Anchors!

The North Hills ARC is looking for a new location for their monthly club breakfast due to the December 29th fire at the Wexford Denny's

The USS REQUIN, a Tench class submarine is looking for DONATIONS of radio's to furnish the radio room of the sub. The USS REQUIN is now moored and in service as an exhibit at the Carnegie Science Center, in Pittsburgh, PA, where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers form the Ohio River. The station is operated by members of the USS REQUIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

Of interest to the crew are;

1. WW2 vintage J-36 type bug.
2. Military radios from 1945 to 1968 as would be appropriate to this class of submarine during its active service, including tubes, manuals, and etc. Of particular interest is the R-390A equipment and field/depot maintenance manual. Sorry no RTTY needed.

3. 1950s low to medium power A.M. transmitters (Hallicrafters, Viking, Ranger, Challenger, Globe Scout, etc.)

4. Original calendar and submarine memorabilia from 1945 to 1968.

For more information, Contact:

“Captain” Jack J. Buzon, KA3HPM
R D 2, Box 118, Grubbs Road,
Cheswick, PA, 15024-9648
phone: 724-265-4237

or

Brian Roberts, K9VKY
130 Tara Drive
Fombell, PA 16123
phone: 724-758-2688

'Twas the Fortnight Before Christmas... And a Good Time was Had By All!

1998 Christmas Party Photos by Ed Salva W3VFA



Carol getting things just right ready for the gang...



You didn't really think good food lasts long, does it?



What do you mean, who's ready for the next course?



Calling Dr. John...



Judging the Shack Photo Contest... decisions, decisions...



Meeting? Wait a moment, First things first!

Operating Portable in a Land Down Under...

John Benitez, KE3XB / VK3FJY

As many of you know, I had the unique opportunity to travel this past October. I was asked to go to India and Australia to give a series of lectures. My immediate thoughts were "...a unique DX opportunity!"

I immediately asked my partner at work, who is from Pakistan, if it would be possible to visit his country too. I went about trying to get time off, set up a travel itinerary and obtain tickets, visas, hotels etc. Just when I thought everything was set up, some embassies in Africa were bombed and shortly thereafter a suspect was arrested in Pakistan! Within a few days the US government issued a warning to US citizens to NOT travel in Pakistan, and in fact sent in extra planes and removed all non-essential personnel and civilians. Well, that part of the trip had to be scrapped.

By the time I knew my new itinerary it was too late to get an Indian Amateur license (several months pre-departure). I inquired about an Australian license & I could do it via airmail (would take 3-6 weeks to obtain) & I would need notarized copies of my passport, license & about \$35.00 US. Or, you could show up in person at a regional Radio Authority office & obtain one in person in a matter of a few minutes. I chose the latter.

What to take? I decided on: original license, ICOM 706 & tuner, OB8 Outbacker antenna & tripod, 4 element 2 meter beam, rope & power supply. How to pack it? Radio, tuner & power supply went in carry-on. The rest plus a few other travel necessities went into a hard golf bag case. This was a great find for travelling! It protected everything great, though it managed to get a few inquisitive looks everywhere it went.

As many of you know, we tried various schedules with Pittsburgh to try & talk. All to no avail initially. I worked Panama, Florida, Maryland, northwestern Pennsylvania, California, Tennessee, & Hawaii without problems. South Pacific, & Europe (long path) were great contacts. Well we changed the schedule a few times, I built a 20 meter dipole, changed the schedule a few more

times, had a few great side trips on the off-radio times (available on the club's web page), & changed the schedule a few more times...

Finally the big day of LEAVING Australia approached! Bob (AA3FI), & Frank (N3XI, ex KB3CXV) planned a marathon session my last evening (morning in Pittsburgh): no contact! Although I did hear Frank a time or two clear as a bell, he would fade out.

Time for one last contact my morning of departure (your evening): we decided to use CW only, & try for 2 hours straight. I heard Bob briefly then Frank. I copied Franks report briefly but thought I must be wrong: RST 111. I then sent him my report and we soon lost each other. It was time to pack up the radio, antennas & drive to the airport in less than 1 hour. Made it on time.

It was a great privilege to meet and operate with other Aussie hams and to try and contact the club here at home. Thanks for putting up with me & all the not-so-great propagation paths that month. It still was great fun & I would recommend taking your HF (or VHF) radio wherever you may travel. Many thanks to all the club members who participated on this end! I hope to give a presentation to all at one of our future meetings.

Note: The USA has signed a general memorandum of agreement with the CEPT to allow mutual recognition of amateur licenses with other CEPT members. How soon this will be implemented in the US is anybody's guess. What this means however, is that whenever you travel to a CEPT member country you can operate appropriate amateur frequencies just like we have that privilege now in Canada.

ARRL Vice President, and former Atlantic Division Director Hugh Turnbull W3ABC, 82, was taken ill on Christmas Day. He has been hospitalized in Intensive Care since for an infection of the pancreas. Although there are signs of recovery, progress is very slow. Get well cards and notes of encouragement may be sent to his home, 6903 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740. Of course, keep the Turnbull family in your good thoughts and prayers.

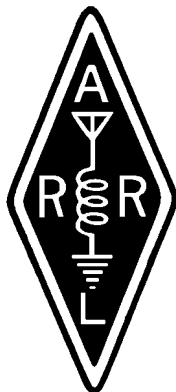
— Kay Craigie WT3P, Atlantic Division Director, ARRL

The rest went into a golf bag... it protected everything great although it managed to get a few inquisitive looks...

The Breezeshooters Net Moves From 28.495 MHz To 28.480 MHz Starting Monday, February 1st, 9 PM ET! from Ed Wolf N3UE & the Friendly Breezeshooters

Wireless Association of South Hills

c/o Ron Notarius WN3VAW, Editor
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Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2317



Inside This Issue:

- The LAST *SHARC Mariner* You Will Ever Receive... and Why
- 1998 Christmas Party Photos
- January 1999 Amateur Radio Activity Calendar
- 4th Annual South Hills Hamfest Announcement
- And a Whole Lot More...

Winners of the First Annual Wireless Association of South Hills "Show Us Your Shack" contest. Judging was held at the annual Christmas Party and club meeting at the John Mc Millan Presbyterian Church on Thursday, December 10th:

Best Limited Station:	Fred Beighley, KB3DCO	Best Classic Station:	Don Vollant, N3KEH
Best Unlimited Station:	Ed Salva, W3VFA	Best Operating Position:	Steve Lane, W3SRL
Best QRP Station:	Samantha Sanford, AA3JS	Honorable Mention:	Fred Beighley, KB3DCO
Most Exotic QTH:	John Benitez, KE3XB (Australia)	Best Mobile Station:	John Benitez, KE3XB
Most Unique Station:	John Benitez, KE3XB (Complete with Joeys er, kangaroos in the yard!)		
"McGuyver Award".	John Benitez, KE3XB	Given to the ham who can make something that really works out of little more than baling wire and duct tape.	

Our Thanks to Everyone Involved! [And we WILL do this again next year!]