



WASHRAG

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Volume 1, Issue 7

July 1999

N3SH WA3SH

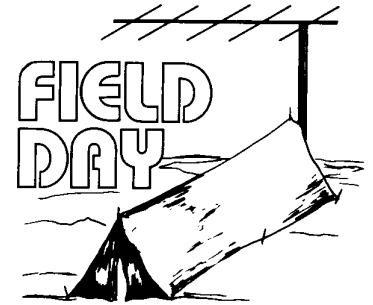
www.hky.com/~sanfordb/index.htm

Wireless Association of South Hills

A (Field) Day At The Beach!

Well, our Field Day festivities for 1999 have come to a close. I was just a little disappointed with the lighter than expected turnout from our members; I was hoping that more of you would show up and share in the fun. I guess it is true what they say; you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink.

We had a total of 3 stations in operation: 2 HF, and 1 VHF/UHF. We had 2 verticals in operation on HF, and monoband beams on 6M, 2M and 440 MHz. We also had a dipole for use on 160M, and 15M HF. I have not compiled the logs yet, but a rough count yielded a total of 366 QSO's on all bands, all modes. We operated on CW, SSB, RTTY, and the newest mode, PSK31. I would like to sincerely thank everybody who came out to help us make our Field Day a success. Yes, in spite of the light turnout, I consider this to have been a successful event staged by our club.



It was something that had to be done to help get our club back on track after not having a Field Day operation last year. To those of you who came out, our weekend in the sun would not have been the success that it was without your help and dedication to our club. As this was my first time as WASH Field Day coordinator, I learned a lot of lessons; what to do and what not to do. So, if I am called upon again to do it next year, I'll actually have an idea of what I am doing. A special note of thanks goes to Carol and Richie, N3SBF for supplying all the food. Also thanks to Steve W3SRL for bringing the bulk of equipment, Mark N3RDV, Ron WN3VAW, Bob AA3FI, Harold KB3CPI, Dave N3OOO, Dick N3QMV, Bill N3XFE, Jim K3WR, and Ed W3VFA for assisting in the set-up and take-down of our station. The complete list of attendees is on Page 3; if I missed anybody, I sincerely apologize, but my shack is a mess due to remodeling, and the list I have may be incomplete. Hopefully next year's event will be even better. Again, my thanks to EVERYBODY who participated; we even had a couple of non-members come out and support us. (Thank you Judy and Julie Petshot!) Wherever you operated from, I hope you enjoyed FD '99 and will participate again next year.

CU at FD 2000, 73 de Greg, KQ3DX
WASH FD 1999 Coordinator

Field Day Pictures on Page 6!

Vintage Grand Prix!

July 17th & 18th is the 17th Annual Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. Amateur Radio operators from Allegheny & surrounding counties have been involved in providing race communications since the very first Grand Prix, and this year is no exception.

If you enjoy racing, viewing antique and classic cars on display and/or on the road, this is a "can't miss" event. We get some of the best views in the house... & there's nothing quite like seeing a pack of three-wheeled Morgan's going all out around a hair-pin turn!

Hams are needed for corners, rope tow & "wrecker" rescue vehicles, and race official "shadows." Contact Corky Bennet N3MJP; e-mail at n3mjp@juno.com, or on the Allegheny County ARES net Wednesday nights on the W3EXW/R 147.09 repeater.

And look for N3BPB & me and the Coarse Crew loonies based at Corner 18, The Flamingo Flag!
— 73, Ron Notarius WN3VAW
Wireless Association of South Hills N3SH/WA3SH

Next Meeting July 8th, 1999

The next monthly meeting of the Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. will be Thursday, July 8th, at 7:00 PM at the John McMillan Presbyterian Church, 875 Clifton Road in Bethel Park. Talk-in on the 146.955 N3RNX/R Repeater.

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

We're going to move the August meeting to a Saturday or Sunday afternoon so that we can share a summer picnic with our families. The picnic will be at Mineral Beach. Do you prefer August 14th, 15th, 21st or 22nd? Let us know on or before the meeting so that we have plenty of time to pick a date & let everyone know!

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Schedule of Events

July 1999

- N3SH/WA3SH WASH Club Net, 9:00 PM ET Sunday Nights on the 146.955 & 443.650 Repeaters

NCS Schedule:

- ⇒ July 4th: Informal Net, No NCS
- ⇒ July 11th: N4MIS
- ⇒ July 18th: TBA
- ⇒ July 25th: TBA

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Maryland-DC QSO Party August 14-15
- Butler Hamfest, September 12
- PA QSO Party October 16-17
- Vintage Radio DXCC? Details next month on a new award that gives you a good reason to dust off those classic radios & start having fun chasing DX all over again...

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Murgas Hamfest, Wilkes-Barre
4 MI QRP CW Sprint Harrisburg RAC Hamfest Go Watch the Fireworks	5 I said, Go Watch the Fireworks!	6 SHBP&M Meeting	7 Uniontown ARC Meeting	8 WASH Club Meeting	9	10 2RARC Ham'n'Eggs MADRA Sweatfest I ARU Contest CQ VHF Contest
11 North Hills ARC Hamfest MAARC Hamfest, Valley Forge	12	13 SCARC Meeting	14 NHARC Meeting	15 WASH Club VE Exam Nite TAARA Meeting Breezeshooters Dinner	16 Vintage Grand Prix Operators Meeting 2 Rivers ARC Meeting	17 Vintage Grand Prix Jonestown Mt RA Hamfest, Beach Haven, PA
18 Vintage Grand Prix SEANET DX Contest NA QSO RTTY	19	20	21 NHARC Activity Night	22 SHARC Meeting	23	24 IOTA Contest
25 BRATS Hamfest, Timonium MD IOTA Contest	26	27	28	29	30	31 USI W/VE Islands Contest

WASH 1999 OFFICERS

Executive Committee:

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

And We Couldn't Do It Without:

N3SH & WA3SH Trustee Steve Lane W3SRL
 VE Team Liaison Bob Sanford AA3FI
 Club Communications Bob Sanford AA3FI
 Club Quartermaster Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI
 N3SH/WA3SH WASH Net Managers
 2 Meter FM Don Vollant N3KEH
 10 Meter Digital John Benitez KE3XB
 South Hills Hamfest Chairman Steve Lane W3SRL
 Field Day Chairman Greg Babin KQ3DX
 PA QSO Party Coordinator Don Vollant N3KEH

Club-Affiliated Repeaters:

Mt. Lebanon N3RNX/R 146.955 - PL 131.8
 Mt. Lebanon W3SRL/R 442.550 + PL 131.8
 Canonsburg N3FFP/R 443.650 + PL 131.8

N3SH/WA3SH WASHNet, 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 SSB Informal Net on 28.469 MHz. The **10 Meter Digital N3SH/WA3SH WASHNet** meets on 28.105 MHz at 9:30 PM ET, starting with RTTY. (Both 10 meter frequencies are +/- QRM). All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

THE LEGAL STUFF

"The WASHRag™" (formerly "The Mariner™") is the Official Newsletter of the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. (WASH)**

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The **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.** was founded in 1993 as the original South Hills Amateur Radio Club, and operated under that name through 1998. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group or its actions in any way shape or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3RNX/R Repeater System and the N3FFP/R Repeater System for permitting the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.** and its members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test July 15th!

Our Next VE exam session will be **Thursday, July 15, 1999, at 7:00 PM**, at the *John McMillan Presbyterian Church*, 875 Clifton Road, 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 VE Team Liason Bob Sanford AA3FI, telephone (724)-356-4020 or E-Mail: sanfordb@access.hky.com

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)

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

FYI Networks, an internet provider in the Pittsburgh & surrounding areas since 1995, is offering all members of WASH their Basic Internet account, normally \$20/month, for only \$15/month. This includes 1 e-mail box, 3 MB of disk space, web page hosting, Telnet & FTP access. Call FYI toll-free 877-FYI-4NET, or e-mail them at sales@fyi.net, for more details or to sign up. **You must mention that you are a member of the Wireless Association of South Hills to get the discount rate.** Many thanks to FYI Networks for making us this special offer available.

WASH Club Shirts Now Available! Ham Threads of Perry, MI can provide embroidered Polo shirts with the club logo (well, almost) for only \$22.95 per shirt (S M L XL; \$2/shirt more for 2X 3X & 4X shirts) when we place a group order. If you'd like your name & call on the shirt, the cost is \$8 more per shirt to cover the extra setup involved. Shirts are available in a variety of colors, including Black, White, Forest Green, Natural (Cream), Gold, Red, Navy Blue, Royal Blue, California Blue, and "almost any color you can think of." Delivery time is 2 to 3 weeks.

You can now order your shirts directly from Ham Threads. Make checks payable to Ham Threads. We've made up a sample "order form" on the inside of the back page, but you can use whatever you'd like (**just make sure you mention it's part of the club group order!**). Send your order to *Ham Threads, PO Box 679, Perry MI 48872* or call (517) 625-5037. Their email address is dbirdsley@aol.com.

(Why Ham Threads? Simple. They didn't charge a \$50 to \$75 set up fee like almost everyone else we spoke to, and they do good work — see the photos. And if you think the shirts look good, wait until you see the jackets!)

"You see, wire telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: You send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."
 — Albert Einstein

Thanks again to everyone who made it out to Field Day, be it to help set up, operate, tear down, or chow down!

N3SBF	KQ3DX	KB3CPI	N3ZEL	N3KFD	KB3DCO	N3RDV
N3QMV	N3XFE	N3KEH	K3WR	W3RJM	AA3FI	N3ZLQ
N3ZEN	N3OOO	W3SRL	N3ZEG	W3VFA	WN3VAW	
Carol Danko	Judy Petshot	Terry Lane	N3SBF's Folks			
Stephanie Gastel	Julie Petshot	Jen Lane	Mrs. N3XFE			
Mickey Gastel	Julie Notarius	Jessie Notarius	& the Puppy			

If we missed you, sorry, but you didn't sign in!

As some of you know, our 2 meter Net Manager, Don N3KEH, recently underwent surgery. The good news is that he's doing very well & will soon be fully recovered. The bad news is that his doctor has ordered him off bourbon for the duration. (After hearing that, we didn't dare ask him about his cigars...)

The mini-WASH picnic at the Breezeshooters Hamfest was a big success with everyone who was able to stop by the club tailgaters for some hot dogs & cold drinks. Thanks again to KA3UPY, W3SRL, WN3BOJ and WN3VAW for providing the grill, tables, condiments and goodies. If you're planning on being at the Butler ARC Hamfest in September, yes, we're thinking about it again, so contact WN3VAW if you'd like to join in.

Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI has volunteered to be the club Quartermaster. His first task is to track down everything WASH owns and where it is right now. So if you are holding or using something the club owns, please let Harold know ASAP. Thanks!

Yes, it's summer & amateur radio takes a back seat, but it's not too soon to start thinking about the fall. The annual PA QSO Party is coming up in October — 4 months away. We'd love to see a good representation from the club in the 1999 standings. 1999 rules will be printed in a future newsletter. In the meantime, contact our PA QSO coordinator, N3KEH. Let's see WASH members operate not just from their home counties (Allegheny, Washington, & Westmoreland) or other homes (Clarion Co) but mobile or portable from all over the area. It's a heck of a lot of fun, and if you're in a rare spot, you get a taste of what it's like to be DX! For more info, contact N3KEH, WN3VAW or W3HDH.



Minutes, May 13th 1999 Meeting

Steve Lane W3SRL Vice President/Secretary, WASH

Meeting called to order at 19:20 local time. 12 members were present.

Moment of silence observed for <SK> and other deserving parties.

Introductions were made.

Condensed minutes of the April meeting were read. Motioned to accept by W3RJM/N3RDV. Approved.

Treasurer: \$2357.73 in the bank. Bills for newsletter postage: \$60.00. The bank account has been changed.

Secretary: Motioned to appropriate \$70.00 to register a new domain name for the club site. W3SRL/N3KEH. Approved.

The N3SH call has been returned to us. No word on penalties to those involved.

VE Report: N3KEH – Next session 15 July. Be there.

FM Net: N3KEH – Doing OK. Same tired old horses doing NCS duty.

Contests: W3SRL – Motion to appropriate funds to purchase ARRL Field Day participation pins for those who actually operate at FD. The motion was for 10 contacts or 2 hours at a rig. Tabled until June meeting.

Old Business: Please join /renew your ARRL member ship through the club, as we get a small kickback for you doing so. ARES events on 147.09 (N3RDV)

New Business: Motion by N3SBF and seconded by W3SRL to purchase \$60.00 worth of main prize tix for the Breezeshooters Hamfest. This is where we won the Icom 738 rig. Motion carried.

Good of the Order: Motion to adjourn – N3QMV/N3KEH. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:00 hours local time.

Hands-on demo by Pete, N3RNK on PSK-31 digital mode.

The new home page of the IRC #CQDX Chat channel (with realtime spots from DX Summit) is now at <http://dx.qsl.net/cqdx>. The new page includes a Java based IRC applet which you can try out if you have been curious about #CQDX, but did not want to download and install any software.

— Doug Brandon N6RT dab@home.com

KBOWWP offers a new free service via his Web site that automatically alerts users that a pending FCC Amateur Radio transaction has occurred. Instructions at <http://davisfamily.nu/hamcalls/mailinst.htm>. Users also can register via e-mail to be notified.

To register, send an email to hamcalls@davisfamily.nu. Include the following 6 lines in the body of the message: e-mail address; last name; first name; city; two-letter USPS state abbreviation, five-digit ZIP code. E-mails will be kept private, are not used for any mailings, and will be deleted after the transaction occurs or after 60 days.

— Chris Davis KBOWWP via the ARRL Letter

Minutes, June 10th 1999 Meeting

Steve Lane W3SRL Vice President/Secretary, WASH

Meeting called to order at 19:20 local time. 12 members were present, as well as 3 guests, including Bob Ferry, N3DOK the Allegheny County EC and his wife Pat, N3LWV the ARRL WPA Section Public Information Officer.

Moment of silence observed for <SK> and other deserving parties.

Introductions were made.

Condensed minutes of the May meeting were read. Motioned to accept by N3RDV/N3RNK. Approved.

Treasurer: \$2179.72 in the bank. Bills for \$170.01. .

Secretary: Nothing notable to report.

VE Report: W3SRL for AA3FI– Next session 15 July. Be there.

FM Net: W3SRL for N3KEH – Same old. No new faces doing NCS duty.

Digital Net: No Report.

Contests: W3SRL – Motion to appropriate funds to purchase FD participation pins for those who actually operate at FD. The motion was for 10 contacts or 2 hours at a rig; This motion was made at the May meeting and tabled until June. W3SRL / N3ZEN Carried unanimously. N3RDV - Also, we are operating from battery power this year, please bring batteries to use. Carol Danko mentioned that we have the grove at Mineral Beach until 11PM on Sunday. No need to run off early.

Repeater: N3RNK – Parts have been ordered for the 146.955 machine to further repair the receiver. It will be off the air a day or two to do the tune-up. Autopatch possible on the 440 machine if there is sufficient interest.

Old Business: W3SRL - Please join the WASH listserver. It is a very fast and easy way to get the word out to the group.

New Business: W3SRL – No formal programs for July & August because of light attendance. Possibly a picnic is in order for August.

Overheard during Field Day, while listening on 20 meter SSB:

Station one: "You are 1 A San Francisco"

Station two: "San Francisco ? What's that ?"

Station one: "San Francisco is our ARRL Section."

Station two: "Please give that to me phonetically."

Station one: "S F"

Station two: "OK, thanks."

— Jim Kehler kh2d@kuentos.guam.net

PSK-31, the Experience!

Pete Cole N3RNX

Hello fellow wash raggers , does that sound right?

Anyway Ron asked me to write a little about my experience with PSK. I still can't get over how well this works. It makes me wonder if the military missed out on something. It sure seems to me that this would be something they would be interested in.

As I write this I just finished talking with WD7F, John in Tucson AZ. I was using about 12 watts and had perfect copy. He was running 50 watts into a tri-band beam, which was stuck in the NE position. At the meeting during the demo I gave, I worked a fellow in San Francisco running low power into a dipole stapled to his wooden fence in the back yard. I was using my TS-440 into a Ham Stick on the roof of my truck.

I can't imagine anything more efficient other than the telephone. It seems to me that as I tune around the band that more and more hams are jumping on the PSK band wagon. I think we are looking at the biggest thing to hit ham radio in a long time and I believe we'll see a lot more written about it in the near future.

But enough of the horn blowing, Getting started in PSK is very easy and if you have the HF equipment extremely cheap. If I can help anyone in getting set up to run PSK please let me know. It's just a matter of making the connections to the radio and setting the audio levels. One fellow I worked in the Caribbean was using one connection from his speaker jack to the sound card for receive and holding the mike to the computer speaker for transmit audio. I think we'll do that demo again for a topic in the fall when attendance picks up and we have an open meeting.

Feel free to get in touch by radio or e-mail. If you don't you'll miss a lot of fun.

1999 Maryland/DC QSO Party

Antietam Radio Association w3ham1@hotmail.com

The Fun Contest "The 1999 Maryland / DC QSO Party," August 14 1600-0400 UTC August 15 + 1600-2300 UTC August 15. Certificates are awarded to all stations with 50 or more QSO Points in their entry !

Plaques awarded to the high scoring single operator from Maryland and elsewhere, also to the high scoring MD Club and High Scoring Technician Class Entry! Many other certificates awarded, including 10 Best MDC Single Ops, and Best score from Each: State, QRP per State, DX Country, MDC Mobile, MDC YL and Tech. Class per state.

Send Logs with SASE by September 1, 1999 to ANTIETAM RADIO ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 52, Hagerstown, MD 21740-0052 !

Phone and CW in CW Sub-bands only. Stations may be worked once per band using each mode. Stations that change MD counties or states are different stations for logging purposes. Non-MDC stations must be single operator. Non-MDC must work MDC stations. MDC works the world! No packet or repeater QSOs allowed. No QSOs as part of a regularly scheduled net are allowed. Club entries must be from a single QTH.

BreezeShooters Picnic & Election Meeting

Ed Wolf N3UE, Breezeshooters President 1998-99

The BreezeShooters Annual Picnic / Meeting / Elections will be Sunday July 25 starting at 12:00 NOON at the Bellevue Memorial Park (that is in Bellevue, PA off of PA Route 65). All BreezeShooters -- Please come and show your support by voting!!! (The picnic's not bad either! Good food, good people!)

However, you either need to check into the weekly BreezeShooters Net, Monday nights 9 PM ET on 28.480; or e-mail directly to me, wolfie@breezeshooters.net: who is going, how many guests, Male or Female, How many children, their age, name, and boy or girl.

Gary Evans WB3JSB, formerly of Castle Shannon, became a "Silent Key" Tuesday, June 8th, 1999 due to catastrophic heart failure. His heart simply stopped functioning.

Gary was 46 years old and a long time amateur in the Pittsburgh area. He was active on most modes of operation.

A trust fund for Gary has been established. Contributions go to:
The Gary Evans Memorial Trust Fund
c/o Dollar Bank
PO Box 765
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0765

Gary's amateur radio and computer equipment will soon be sold with all proceeds going to the trust fund to cover funeral expenses. A listing will be posted on the WPA Hilltoppers VE web page, <http://www.city-net.com/~mtanner>. All inquiries should be made to Mike Tanner WB5NLJ at (412) 885-8073.

--- Mike Tanner WB5NLJ

Exchange QTH and MAJOR CATEGORY of entry. QTH is county for MDC, State, Province, or Country as appropriate for others. MAJOR CATEGORIES are CLUB, QRP, MOBILE, TECHNICIAN, and STANDARD. Stations should send the category that reflects THEIR HIGHEST POINT VALUE to the station worked.

SCORING Add up the QSO Points and Multiply by the sum of the multipliers. Multipliers may be claimed once each. They do not repeat on each band. QSO Points score as follows: 10 points per club QSO ! 5 points per QSO with a mobile station! 4 points for a QSO with a QRP station OR a Technician 3 points for each CW, RTTY or ATV QSO 1 point for any other valid contest QSO. Only the highest single point value applies for each valid QSO.

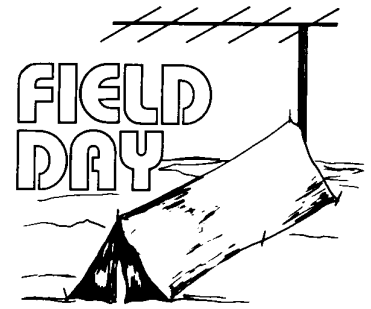
Multipliers - for Non-MDC each MD County + Baltimore City + DC (25 possible) For MDC Stations The Basic 25 above + 49 other states + DX Countries. Note: Each Canadian Province is no longer a Separate Multiplier!

An optional Scoring Summary Sheet and Optional Log Form is available on the Web at or you may send an SASE to ARA (address above) for a printed Summary Sheet if desired.

Questions about the party? E-mail w3ham1@hotmail.com.



Three Elements, 6 Meters, No Waiting!
(Also a nice view of our pavilion!)



Photos by Greg Babin KQ3DX

(We hope to have more photos by the next newsletter...)



VHF/UHF Station

"I got a couple of very nice cards this week. I received (2) yes count them 2 Official Observer notices for my operations from home Sunday morning for 2 hours during FD! I gave out the exchange 2K STX. When someone asked what is 2K I would say 'uhh 2 kilowatts'. Just having some fun as this is a hobby you know! Well one of my OO's was from W6&&& who says "by my own admission I was using 2000 watts and was breaking FCC Reg. 97.313" Gee John, maybe that was 2K input?

The other was from WB8\$\$\$\$, he sez " I was giving a false FD identifier even after being advised of the same and therefore breaking FCC Reg 97.113.. false or deceptive signals"

I don't think I have ever had such a good laugh! I guess in NAQP when I use Sluggo as my name that is also a false signal since everyone knows I'm just plain Mike! Yes.. I do plan to frame both of these fantastic cards!" — Mike K5NZ



HF Station One (160, 20, 15, 10) running PSK31



HF Station Two (80, 75, 40, 20)

Congratulations to our friends in WACOM for working into Cuba on 6 meters from WA3COM during FD!
"I heard Steve on 20 meters talking to another station but I couldn't raise either one" — NP2JF /1A Battery

“Wham, Bam, End of Club Call Scam!”

ARRLWeb Extra courtesy of ARRL; Title courtesy of Jim Kehler KH2D

Gettysburg, PA, June 14, 1999--A ham who's listed as the trustee for more than three dozen club station call signs has agreed to give up all but one of them. Last month, the FCC set aside 14 recently granted club station call signs and 12 recently granted club vanity call signs held by Motoaki Uotome, JA1GZV/W9BO. At this point, the FCC is still trying to figure out exactly how many club station call signs Uotome had been granted, but it appears the number could be 41.

In a May 11 letter, the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, questioned Uotome's need for the multiple club station grants and asked Uotome to justify the grants. The stations had mailing addresses in various cities in the continental US as well as in Hawaii, the Marianas, Guam, and Alaska. Some of the listed "clubs" held more than one call sign, according to the FCC database. Several of the "clubs" had the same mailing addresses.

In a June 8 e-mailed response to Hollingsworth's letter, Uotome volunteered to give up all of the club station call signs but W3AN, which is listed to the "DX Gang" and has a Washington, DC, mailing address. Uotome lists a Honolulu, Hawaii, address for his personal call sign, W9BO, but he also has an address in Tokyo, and his reply to Hollingsworth was sent from Japan.

The FCC is in the process of deleting the other grants from the its database. Some of Uotome's other grants were listed under names such as "Alaska DX Gang," "World Wide DX Contest Team," "Antique Wireless Club" and even "DX Century Club," an ARRL trademark.

Hollingsworth said today that he'll draft a formal response to Uotome this week to clear the case.

The action was the first of several that Hollingsworth has taken in recent weeks. On June 4, the FCC wrote Steve Massey, N6TT, of Manhattan Beach, California, inquiring about the one dozen club station call signs it had granted to him. The FCC immediately set aside several call signs, including K6AG--granted within the last 30 days--as well as WB6CW, WE6DX, W7TTT, and KF6ULZ.

The letter--from Hollingsworth--requested that Massey provide justification for having each of the call signs. It asked for names, addresses, and telephone numbers of club members, meeting times and dates within the past year, proposed meeting times and locations in the coming year, copies of minutes, copies of the document of origination for each club, and if any other club station or other FCC call signs had been assigned to him or to an entity in which he holds an interest.

Hollingsworth advised Massey, an ARRL member, that the listed call signs would be canceled if he does not reply satisfactorily within 30 days. The FCC also indicated Massey's Amateur Radio license could be in jeopardy. Unless Massey can completely justify applying for the grants, the FCC letter said, "we may also consider the request to be an abuse of our licensing processes that would reflect adversely on your qualifications to hold an amateur license."

In a similar letter on June 7, the FCC also set aside four recently issued club station call signs granted to Steven K. Nace, KN5H, of

Chandler, Arizona. Nace also is an ARRL member.

The Uotome case already is having repercussions. Hollingsworth said that one holder of multiple club station call signs already has taken the initiative to return them to the FCC before being asked.

When the Uotome case arose, Hollingsworth told the ARRL that those serving as the trustee of multiple club station call signs "better have legitimate clubs" or the FCC would be taking back the call sign grants. He said the Commission was getting a lot of complaints about call sign warehousing by some individuals. Additional cases are under investigation.

The FCC also says that former holders of multiple call signs reclaimed by the FCC may not reapply for any of them under the former holder exception to the two-year waiting period. Additionally, the FCC does not plan to allow relatives claim them in the future as relatives of deceased former holders because the current holders do not qualify as legitimate license grantees.

K4ZDH told the ARRL that those who are trustees of multiple club calls "better have legitimate clubs" or the FCC will be taking the calls back — and they ain't kidding

FCC Implements CEPT!

American Radio Relay League Bulletin #38

Newington CT June 8, 1999: The FCC has implemented the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Recommendation T/R 61-01 that eliminates the need to obtain a special license or permit for US hams wishing to operate during brief visits to most European countries. In addition, the ARRL has begun issuing International Amateur Radio Permits to simplify operation by US hams in certain South American countries.

The FCC put the final pieces of the CEPT arrangement into place June 7 by issuing a Public Notice in English, German, and French that spells out the basic information about Amateur Radio operation in CEPT countries. To operate in a CEPT country, US hams only need a copy of the Notice, their original Amateur Radio document, and proof of US citizenship (a US-issued passport or a birth certificate should suffice).

US hams holding any license class but Novice are eligible to operate in CEPT countries. A US citizen with a Technician ticket may be authorized privileges equivalent to a CEPT Class 2 (ie, VHF-only) license, while a US citizen holding a higher class license may be authorized CEPT Class 1 (ie, all amateur and amateur-satellite) privileges.

The authorization is for use of a portable or mobile station only, including stations set up at hotels or a camping site. Authorization is also granted for US hams to operate the stations of permanent licensees in host countries. The use of Amateur Radio aboard an aircraft is not allowed, however.

To identify while overseas, US stations will use their assigned call signs preceded by the CEPT call sign prefix for the country or territory visited. US licensees operating under this agreement overseas cannot request protection against harmful interference.

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QSL Considerations, Tips & Techniques

Steve Wheatley KU9C ku9c@ix.netcom.com

Some considerations for making sure you get your QSL card returned to you in one piece. These observations are based on seeing a number of the infamous plastic sleeves with torn QSL cards returned in the last 6 months or so.

- Use a return envelope that can go into the envelope you send to the QSL manager without ANY folds. For US managers, I'd suggest using a 6 3/4 envelope inside one that is slightly bigger. The 6 3/4 envelope allows the QSL to fit inside with little extra room, and the lack of folding allows automated machinery to not tear the envelope up.

- DO NOT use a #10 for your return envelope, unless specifically requested. Normally, these are folded in some manner...and the automated machinery used by the US Postal Service tears these up. I think the worst is when the return envelope is folded in thirds...as the QSL fits quite well in two-thirds of the envelope, but the remainder of the envelope folds over, and seems to get torn off by the automation. I would strongly suggest buying a good supply of quality (i.e., not thin paper) 6 3/4 envelopes, and find the smallest envelope that these will fit inside without folding the smaller envelope. Several sources (Plum, Mackey, W4MPY, & others) sell the airmail envelopes in two sizes that solve this problem...particularly for DX QSL requests, where the return QSL card can be larger than what will fit into a 6 3/4 envelope. I'd strongly suggest using these for DX QSL submissions, as well as US QSL submissions. However, for the US QSL, which fits nicely into a 6 3/4 envelope, this may be better, as they are universally available and there is very little room in the envelope that is unsupported by the QSL inside, lessening the chance of tearing by machinery.

- Check your return envelope to make sure the glue strip on the flap does not come close to the edge of the back of the envelope. Some of the cheaper ones put the glue very close to the edge of the opening on the envelope back. You risk getting your QSL card back, and when opened, the return QSL card defaced by the envelope glue sticking to your card. Bad news if the QSO details are in this area of the card.
- Check your ink that you use to address your envelope... make sure it doesn't run when wet is applied (many felt tip pens have this problem). Write your address; let it dry a minute; wet your finger, and rub across your envelope. If it runs, keep that pen away from any QSL envelopes. Not only can rain ruin your return address, it gets on my clothes in the hot summer when I'm enjoying a beer while doing your QSL!

These are a few of the things I've seen in processing a LOT of cards in the last few months. This is a problem for a SMALL percentage of the mail, but the rate is increasing, not decreasing. I think these few small things that would really help

[KU9C is the QSL Manager for: 3E1DX (17-28 Nov 1996 & 22 Nov 1997 - 7 Dec 1997), 8P2K, 8P6AD, 8P6AL, 8P6AM, 8P6AZ, 8P6BE, 8P6BU, 8P6CV, 8P6DA, 8P6DK, 8P6EU, 8P6QA, 8P6QY, 8P6RY, 8P6SH, 8P9GD, 9K2RR, 9K2RR/NLD, 9M6BH, 9M8X, AP2N, B1A (CQWWSSB1998), BQ9P, BS7H, BT2HC, BV9P, CO8DM, CO8JY, DX1S (Special Event Station "DX IS!" May 1999), FM5DN, FM5DP, FM5FJ, HC8/DL2BAY (1996), HC8/DL5XX (1996), HH2NH, KP2/N8NX, KP2/N9FD, OD5PY, OH0/K7BV, OJ0/K7BV, T30A, T30AF, T30BC, T32BC, UN7LG, V26DX (3 Mar 1997 on), VK9XM (7 Apr 1996 - 10 Apr 1996), VR2GO, VR96GO, VR97GO, VR98GO, WP2Z, XX9AS, XX9AW, XX9JN, XX9SW, XX9TAR, XX9TMC, XX9TNX, XX9TOT, XX9TR (1995), XX9TSW, XX9TXD, XX9TZ (1994), XX9X (Oct. 1994- March 1995 & Oct 1998 CQWW SSB), XZ1A (1995), XZ1X (1995), ZS1AFZ
E-Mail him if you have any questions on QSL's with any of these calls.]

DX News Briefs



VE2QRZ (Zone 2) operator **WB2K** is not accepting cards from either the VE2 buro, or the W2 buro. The VE2 buro is holding several hundred cards. The W2 buro is holding approx. 500 cards. Also, **ZL7HI** & **ZL7OK** manager **WA2JUN** is not accepting cards from the W2 buro. The W2 buro is holding approx. 2.5 k cards. Suggest using other routes to get QSLs from these stations. — ARRL W2 Incoming QSL Buro

Following SN4 calls will be active between 20-31 May and 26 August - 06 September 1999; QSL direct or via buro as indicated:

SN4PL to SP2PI	SN4PLA to SP2PI	SN4PLB to SP2AIB
SN4PLC to SP2AOB	SN4PLD to SP2BBD	SN4PLE to SP2BMX
SN4PLF to SP2EFU	SN4PLG to SP2EPV	SN4PLH to SP2SWT
SN4PLI to SP2SWW	SN4PLJ to SP2UKB	SN4PLK to SQ2BNM
SN4PLL to SQ2DMI	SN4PLM to SQ2DML	SN4PLN to SQ2EAP
SN4PLO to SP2DBN		

— SP2UKB sp2ukb@box43.gnet.pl

BQ9P cards have been sent out unless you also requested a card for another station in the same envelope. E-mail KU9C if you haven't received your card yet. — KU9C ku9c@ix.netcom.com

Version 6.07 of LOGGER, the FREE Windows logging program and update files for prior versions of LOGGER are now available for download at the GO List Web Site, <http://www.itis.net/golist/> LOGGER is the Window program written by 9K2ZZ/K4CY, by and for DXer's. Version 6.07 now has built in PSK31 support (a full featured BPSK and QPSK terminal). — K1XN golist@wk.net

"**XU1SS**" has been very active since June 1999. "Jang" said his manager was W3HMK, later ops claimed it was JA1ELY. Both Joe & Toshi have disclaimed all knowledge of this station & allege that he is a pirate, so don't waste your \$\$\$ until further clarification — W3HMK, K1XN, JA1ELY, KB8NW/OPDX

"I've updated our DXcluster software packages (OZ2DXC). The QSL Data base contains now 214457 Unique records. This is 2586 New records and 3808 changed since marts 1999. The package is available at <ftp://ftp.muurkrant.com/pi4com/packetcluster/oz7c0699.exe>. We also have a search machine, <http://www.hammall.com> (QSL MGR search) weekly update." — Boye OZ7C oz7c@cool.dk

ZD8V is KF4OOX as of 15 June, very active on the 14.247 DX net and on 28.495. Paul looks for Mercer County hams! He also asks that adult DX'ers stand by when he tries to contact with Scouts and other youth groups, to help promote ham radio — KB8NW/OPDX

Look for Alan, N5PA, as **7Q7PA** from July 3 to 13. Activity will be from 0400 to 0600z and 1600 to 2030z. An entry in the IARU Contest is expected. W8MV will be QRV as **FP/W8MV** from July 8 to 14. CW activity primarily on the newer bands is expected. 6 meters will be checked for openings. And Jack, VK2GJH, is QRV until July 8, and July 20 through 27, on 80 to 6 meters as **C21JH**. QSL to their home call.s. — ARRL DX Bulletin, KB8NW/OPDX

At deadline, we received word of two more recent Silent Keys: Norman E. "Gus" Gour, KE3XK of the Butler Co. ARA, 29 June 1999 at the Butler VA Hospital; & James W Lundberg WB3M (ex KC3HJ) of The Two Rivers ARC, 1 July 1999. Our condolences to their families; they will be missed. (courtesy W3DMB, N3DOK)

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Operators must abide by the provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations as well as CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 and the regulations in force in the host country. US operators planning to operate in other countries must become familiar with that country's regulations and frequency allocations, paying special attention to regional differences.

Participating CEPT countries as of June 7 include Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, Guiana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre et Miquelon, St. Martin, and Reunion/Dependencies), Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom (including Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man).

The ARRL has begun issuing the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) that allows US amateurs to operate from Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela without having to obtain a special license (the US and Canada also are CITEL signatories). The IARP is valid in any country that is a signatory to the CITEL Amateur Convention.

The Class 1 IARP--available to Tech Plus and higher class licensees--requires knowledge of Morse code and carries all operating privileges. The Class 2 IARP--equivalent to the US Technician ticket--does not require knowledge of Morse code and carries all privileges above 30 MHz. An IARP is not a license, but it certifies the existence of a license.

Complete information on CEPT and IARP operation, including an IARP application form and a copy of the FCC Public Notice on CEPT, is available from the International Operating page on ARRLWeb, <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/io/>.

The new procedures affect operation only in participating CEPT (European) and CITEL (Central and South American) countries. They do not change the procedures for US hams wishing to operate overseas in countries that are not CEPT participants or CITEL Amateur Convention signatories. Information on operation from these countries also is available on the pages of ARRLWeb.

The distance to which a CQ DX call is aimed can be derived by comparing the sound of the call to the following table:

SEA Que D X - 1,001 miles to 2,500 miles
 SEAA Que DEE X - 2,501 miles to 3,999 miles
 SEAAA Que DEEEE X - 4,000 to 5,999 miles
 SEAAAA Que DEEEEE X - 6,000 to 7,999 miles
 SEAAAAA Que DEEEEEEE X - 8,000 miles or farther

The use of the term 'SEAAA QUE DOG XRAY' should be restricted to use only by licensed veterinarians."

When I hear somebody calling "CQ DEEE X BEAMING LONG PATH"... who does want to talk to? Long Path is not on my DXCC list

And if I hear that portable seven guy calling "CQ DEEE X CHECKING PROPAGATION," does he really want to talk to ANYBODY ??

— Jim Kehler kh2d@kuentos.guam.net

CY9RF DXpedition to St. Paul

Dan Flaig CY9RF/K8RF

K4LT & I just returned from St. Paul Island. We just got home after an exhausting trip fraught with both problems & good accomplishments!

We had originally planned a Major operation, with a group of myself and five top notch operators. We were to enter the WPX CW Contest as a Multi-Multi entry, with a great team of guys (W6RGG, W6BSY, K4LT (ex-WD8AUB), AC8W, & K8DD).

We had problems getting the 2100 LB's of gear to the operating location, which almost cancelled the Dxpedition. K4LT, W6BSY, AC8W and K8DD were all flying into Halifax on a rather tight schedule, so when the transportation problems occurred I asked them to cancel their flights, since it was not looking good as far as launching any time near the scheduled time frame.

So Bob W6RGG had to endure a very long 2600 Mile journey in my old Ford Van for nothing other than a scenic ride through the entire East Coast, which neither I or Bob had the pleasure of visiting before. The end result was Bob flying back home disappointed and very tired. I know he had been really looking forward to operating with his long time close friend Mac W6BSY.

Doug K4LT and myself reluctantly decided to jump in Doug's Truck and go up by ourselves, and entering the WPX Contest as a Multi-Single. We had very mixed feeling about going at all at this points, as we knew the other team Members had worked so hard and invested a lot of time and money in planning the operation. We drove straight through, with out stopping, the 1850 Miles to Bay St. Lawrence, NS to catch a boat ride, ending us on St. Paul on the morning of Thursday May 27th.

We got on the air a little after 0100 GMT May 28th and made 4840 QSO's during the Contest and another 1500-2000 before and after. Our M/S Score was some 14.4 Meg, a possible new M/S World record!. However, it is a bittersweet victory.....

The bad news was that we had S9+20DB constant noise from the generator on 160 Meters, which resulted in no operation on my favorite band, 160 Meters. (80 Meters was also not too great, made very few QSOs there) My sincere apologies to all those who needed CY9 for a new one on Topband, I can't tell you how much I was looking forward to putting CY9RF into your Logbooks on 160. Hope we at least gave you a new one on 80-10 Meters!

QSLs for CY9RF to **Dan Flaig CY9RF/K8RF, 2101 Ronaldson Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45230-1510** (NOT Callbook Address!) Please send SAE and postage or IRC/ \$1 for direct Airmail reply!

There are three methods to date a ham:

1. Scrape off a bit of fingernail of the ham to be dated. Then use standard carbon dating to determine the age.

2. If the ham starts salivating at names like Gonsett, Hallicrafters, Harvey-Wells or Transoceanic, it's probably an older one. If, on the other hand, a positive reaction is gotten with names like Ten-Tec, Kachina, Icom or PacComm, it is probably not as old.

3. Take a look at the date stamped on the ham's can.

— Bob Ferrey Jr. N3DOK n3dok@pgh.net

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.
<http://www.hky.com/~sanfordb/index.htm>



The *WASH*Rag
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- Operate the MD-DC QSO Party!
- DX QSL Techniques!

Much, much more... of course!

Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix – July 17 & 18, 1999



All egheny County ARES will be there providing race communications... Will You?