



# WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 3 Issue 8

August 2001

N3SH  
WA3SH

# Wireless Association of South Hills

# PICNIC

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WASH Picnic & August Meeting will be held Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM at the pavillion at Allison Parkette in Houston, PA. Bill & Linda Hill will be our hosts for the afternoon!

This will be a "covered dish" picnic; everyone is asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert. The Club will be picking up the burgers, dogs, soft drinks, and possibly fresh corn on the cob!

Carol Danko KB3GMN has volunteered to organize the food. She needs to know ASAP who's planning to come and how many will be coming with you. Based on the last few years, we're planning on about 30 members, families, and guests in attendance. But call Carol at 412-884-1466, so that we can get a better idea on who is coming and what they are bringing.

As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, we will also need the following items for the picnic:

- Hamburger & Hot Dog Buns.
- ONE Watermelon.
- Ice.
- The World Famous N3RNK Veggie Pizza (a special request!)
- Sliced Cheese & Misc. Condiments (ie a Vegetable tray).
- Some paper & plastic (ie napkins, plates, plasticware, etc.)

It's also been suggested that you bring lawn chairs with you to make sure you have something to sit on!

Again, please coordinate with Carol before running out and buying something on the list, as the list changes daily. If you have trouble getting a hold of Carol on the phone or on the air, let me know ASAP as we are keeping in touch on getting the picnic together.

**Directions:** Take US-19 or I- 79 South to Race Track Road. Turn Right to the "T" Intersection; turn Right at the "T". Travel 1/2 Mile to McGovern Road. Turn Left. Stay on McGovern past Linda Lane to the next Stop Sign. Turn Left, and Allison Parkette is on your left. Talk-in on 146.955 & 443.650 MHz.

It should be great! Hope to see you there!

*73, Ron Notarius WN3VAW, President  
Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. N3SH/WA3SH*

## Next ~~Meeting~~ Picnic: August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2001

The next monthly meeting of the Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. will be Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, at **The Pavillion at Allison Parkette**, McGovern Road, Houston, PA, starting at about 2:00 PM until ????. Our host for will be Bill Hill W3WH.

There will be a brief and informal business meeting during the course of the day, but the main activity will be to relax, enjoy, and have fun!

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RNK/R and 443.650(+) N3BV/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

## WASH Fall Tech Classes

**Where:** Brentwood Presbyterian Church, 3725 Brownsville Road, Brentwood PA, less than 2 minutes from the intersection of Brownsville Road & Route 51. BPC is across the street from the Brentwood Police Station & the Brentwood Bank.

**When:** Starting Wednesday, September 12th, for 6 weeks through Wednesday, October 17th. Classes start the **week** after Labor Day & end the night before the WASH VE Exams October 18<sup>th</sup>

**Instructor:** Ron Notarius WN3VAW and other club members.

**Cost:** Free to the public, limited only by space.

**Text:** "Now You're Talking," 4th Edition, American Radio Relay League, available at many area Radio Shack stores, most Amateur Radio outlets, and from the ARRL Web Site [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

Class size is limited. Prospective students should call 412-882-7130 or email [wn3vaw@arrl.net](mailto:wn3vaw@arrl.net), to register. Space available on a first-come basis.

We are still looking into setting up an Upgrade and/or Morse Code class. Anyone interested should email [wn3vaw@arrl.net](mailto:wn3vaw@arrl.net) & we'll be in touch once we have the Upgrade classes arranged.

Thanks again to our friends in the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society, and to Rich Danko N3SBF, for their invaluable assistance in helping us make the class & room arrangements.

### Inside this issue:

Amateur Radio Calendar	2
WASH Club News	3
Last Month's Meeting Minutes	4
Kit Night	5
Random Thoughts On DX QSL's	6
DX News Briefs	8
ARRL News & FCC News	9

# August 2001

- WASH FM Net  
9:00 PM ET  
Sunday Nights  
on the  
146.955  
and 443.650  
Repeaters

**LOOKING  
AHEAD:**

- 1st ARRL  
WPA  
Section  
Convention  
& Annual  
Butler  
Hamfest,  
Sunday,  
Sept. 9th
- WASH 2nd  
Annual 2  
Meter FM  
Contest  
January  
12th, 2002
- WASHFest  
2002,  
February  
24th, 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny County SKYWarrn Allegheny County ARES Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>2</b> WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting	<b>3 3 Rivers Regatta</b> Elco RS Meeting	<b>4 3 Rivers Regatta</b> <b>Lewistown Hamfest</b> ARRL UHF Contest RA Erie VE Test Hilltoppers/BVARA VE Nittany ARC Coffee Call
<b>5 3 Rivers Regatta</b> ARRL UHF Contest Ellwood City ARA Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>6</b> Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co. Public Service 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>7</b> Butler Co ARA Meeting SHBP&M Meeting Skyview RS Meeting NHARC Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap'nShop Net	<b>8</b> North Hills ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny County ARES Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>9 No WASH!</b> (Meeting Changed to Picnic, Moved to 12th) Horseshoe ARC Meeting BVARA Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> MDC QSO Party Butler Co ARA VE Test Tri-County CW VE Test 2 Rivers ARC Ham 'n Eggs Breakfast NHARC Club Breakfast NHARC Elmer Net
<b>12 WASH Picnic</b> MDC QSO Party QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>13</b> ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Bum of the Month Lunch Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co. Public Service 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>14</b> Foothills ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Punxsatawney Area ARC Meeting NHARC Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap'nShop Net	<b>15</b> Huntington Co ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny County SKYWarrn Allegheny County ARES Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>16</b> Triple 'A' ARA Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> ARRL 10 GHz Contest Foothills ARC VE Test 2 Rivers ARC Corn Roast & Family Picnic Nittany ARC Coffee Call NHARC Elmer Net
<b>19 Warren Hamfest</b> Elk County ARC Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>20</b> Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co. Public Service 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>21</b> Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Juniatia Valley ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting NHARC Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap'nShop Net	<b>22</b> Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting Allegheny County ARES Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>23</b> <b>WASH Kit Night</b> (See Page 5 for Details) Steel City ARC Dinner	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>WASH Breakfast</b> W/VE Island Contest OH QSO Party North Hills ARC VE Test NHARC Elmer Net
<b>26 Skyview Hamfest</b> W/VE Island Contest OH QSO Party QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>27</b> Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co. Public Service 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>28</b> Mercer Co ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting NHARC Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap'nShop Net	<b>29</b> Allegheny County ARES Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>30</b> WACOM Board Meeting	<b>31</b>	<b>9/1 Uniontown ARC</b> <b>W3PIE Gabfest</b> RA Erie VE Test Hilltoppers VE Test Nittany ARC Coffee Call NHARC Elmer Net

## WASH 2001 OFFICERS

## THE LEGAL STUFF

<b>Executive Committee:</b>			
President	Ron Notarius WN3VAW		
VP/Secretary	Paul Lusardi NØVLR		
VP/Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV		
<b>And We Couldn't Do It Without:</b>			
N3SH / WA3SH Trustee	Steve Lane W3SRL		
N3SH / WA3SH QSL Manager	Paul Lusardi NØVLR		
VE Team Liaison	Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL		
Webmaster	Bob Sanford AA3FI		
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI		
N3SH/WA3SH WASH Net Managers			
FM Net (2 Meter & 70 cm)	Bryan Beyer K3OL		
Digital (10 Meter)	Mike Serowik N3BSQ		
WASHFest 2002 Co-Chairman	Steve Lane W3SRL		
(South Hills Hamfest)	Bill Hill W3WH		
Operating Events Chairman	Bill Hill W3WH		
Field Day 2002 Chairman	Larry Comden K3VX		
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN		
Media Communications	Kevin DeRose N3KFD		
<b>Club-Affiliated Repeaters:</b>			
Mt. Lebanon	N3RNX/R	146.955 -	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL/R	442.550 +	PL 131.8
Canonsburg	N3BV/R	443.650 +	PL 131.8
<b>N3SH/WA3SH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 &amp; 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join!</b>			
The <b>10 Meter Digital N3SH/WA3SH WASHNet</b> is on Summer Hiatus and will resume in the Fall. Please contact N3BSQ or NØVLR for more information.			

**"The WASHRag™"** (formerly **"The Mariner™"**) is the Official Newsletter of the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. (WASH)** Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted. This issue is © Copyright 2001 by the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.** Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius WN3VAW Member, Amateur Radio News Service

Comments, articles, and requests for copies of or information about **"The WASHRag™"** should be mailed to the editor:  
 Ron Notarius WN3VAW  
 3505 Rosalia Avenue  
 Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2317  
 Email: [wn3vaw@fyi.net](mailto:wn3vaw@fyi.net) or [wn3vaw@arrl.net](mailto:wn3vaw@arrl.net)

"The WASHRag", "The Mariner", SHARCfest, South Hills Hamfest, WASHfest, WASHfest 2002, N3SH Net, WA3SH Net & WASHNet are ™ trademarks of the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.**

---

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. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH 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, it's members, or it's actions in any way shape or form.

---

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3RNX/R Repeater System and the N3BV/R Repeater System for permitting the **Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.** and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

## WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

### Next WASH VE Test October 18<sup>th</sup>!

Our Next VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001**, 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 VEC affiliated.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL: Telephone (724)-746-9235 or E-Mail: [n3zel@fyi.net](mailto:n3zel@fyi.net)

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 \$10.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

**Picnic Date Changed!** When we picked August 19<sup>th</sup> as the date of our annual summer picnic, no one realized that was also the date of the Warren (OH) Hamfest! Because of the large number of club members who are planning to attend Warren, it was decided to move the picnic date up a week to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Our apologies if this last minute switch causes any inconvenience!

**The WASH Breakfast Gang** got together on a wet and rainy morning on July 28<sup>th</sup> for our monthly get-together, at Dietz's Restaurant in the Caste Village Shops, Baptist at Grove. Present this month were KB3GMN, N3SBF, W3VFA, W3RWS, N3RNX, K3VX, W3WH, WN3VAW & W3SRL. The coffee flowed freely, the food was great as always, and there were so many discussions of everything from the picnic & upcoming hamfest plans to Ed's latest classic aircraft photos — way too many to keep track of. A great time was had by all — so if you haven't made one yet, why not join us for the next one! Remember, our next Club Breakfast will be Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at Dietz's Restaurant in the Caste Village Shops, Baptist Road at Grove Road. Hope you can make it!

**440 Repeater Change!** Starting July 5<sup>th</sup>, we are no longer using the N3FFP/R Repeater in Canonsburg. We're now using the **N3BV/R** Repeater. But don't touch that dial, do not adjust your set, we are in control... and congratulations to Brett on his new call!

**Congratulations** to Ed N3UE, who not only got a "Clean Sweep" in the 2000 ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone), but just received his certificate for winning First Place, Single Op Unlimited, for the WPA Section. But don't let it go to his head!

Also, the 2000 10 Meter Contest results from September QST have been posted to the ARRL Web Site. N3UE is listed as 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Mixed Mode, Low Power for WPA. WN3VAW is listed 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Phone Only for WPA (but Low Power, 1<sup>st</sup> Place WPA Phone is a QRP entry — antennas matter!). Former WASH Member N3WAW is 4<sup>th</sup> Place WPA Phone (3<sup>rd</sup> Low Power). Congratulations all!

**Speaking** of congratulations now in order: Those of you who've been associated with the PVGP know that for almost 20 years, Chief Steward Barry Kaplan has yearned for his amateur radio ticket. Well, "one of these days" finally came last June, and Barry is now KB3GKT! (Now, about that Pace Car ride around the track you always promised all of us if you ever made it...)

**The long awaited 2001 WASH Club Rosters** should be available to club members (only) at the picnic. Prefer to get the spreadsheet via email? Let WN3VAW know, [wn3vaw@fyi.net](mailto:wn3vaw@fyi.net). If you can't make the picnic and prefer a paper copy, it will be mailed to you. The roster shows all current (2001 dues paid) club members, with their addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (if known).

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual WASH 2M FM Contest** will be here before you know it. A few rules have been tweaked (see Page 4) and we're hoping for another fantastic turnout. Are you a Log-EQF user? N3EQF's aware of the changes, and plans on doing something for the contest! More on that as we get closer to January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002!

**NCS's Needed!** K3OL needs volunteers for August NCS duty. Can spare a half hour on a Sunday? Please contact Bryan ASAP

**It's Only 2½ months** until the PA QSO Party. Please let W3WH or K3VX know what you're planning! More at the meeting!

### August 19<sup>th</sup> WASH VE Test Session Results

We had six successful candidates at the August 19<sup>th</sup> VE Test Session, held at John McMillan Presbyterian Church. Five new or upgraded licenses were earned, and one candidate passed a theory element but did not qualify for a new license.

According to the FCC ULS database, the following licenses were issued in late August:

Technician: Jennifer Andrews KB3GXB  
Jeff Durocher KB3GXC  
Robert Kleber KB3GXD

General: Tom Martin N3AKB

Extra: Richard Johnson KB3GTQ

WASH VE Team:  
Ron Notarius WN3VAW  
Kevin DeRose N3KFD  
Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV  
Steven Lane W3SRL  
Don Fincher KA3WZO  
Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who gave their time to run this test session. As always, it's much appreciated!

73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

At their July meeting, the ARRL Board voted to invite all IARU Region 2 member countries to participate in the ARRL Field Day weekend, starting in June 2002.

They also voted to encourage hamfests to provide free admission to anyone under the age of 16 who is accompanied by a paying adult.

More information in a future issue of QST.



## Minutes, July 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Paul Lusardi NØVLR, VP/Secretary WASH

The meeting was called to order at 19:06 by WN3VAW. There were 20 members and 3 guests present.

A moment of silence was observed for recent silent keys and other deserving persons.

Introductions were then made all around, as is our custom.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the June meeting as published in the newsletter was made by K3VX, seconded by N3BSQ and carried.

### Committee Reports:

**Treasurer** (N3RDV): Read and accepted.

**Secretary** (NØVLR): Forthcoming survey for WASH members – seeking ideas for next year's activities

**VE Team** (N3ZEL): VE Session next week. VE's needed as we will have to read an exam to a visually impaired candidate.

**Repeaters** (N3RNX): 440 and 2M repeaters are OK! – interference with local hams, due to proximity, is still an issue to be resolved.

**FM Net** (K3OL): reports good response for Net & Net Control Stations. All NCS operators are reminded that the 443.650 Repeater is now N3BV/R due to Brett's new vanity call.

**Digital Net:** (N3BSQ & NØVLR) On Hiatus until Fall. Activity has been sparse because of Mike's work schedule & related travel.

**Activities** (W3WH): Discussed upcoming events: PA QSO Party, US Island, Erie canal event and a possible DXpedition in 2002

**Public Service** (Guest Allegheny Co EC Kathy KA3VXM): reminder of the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix on July 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> as well as Beaver County Air show, Great Ride, and other upcoming events; ARES applications were made available.

**Contests:** (K3VX): Field Day wrap up including scores, great job by all who helped and wish to help out again next year. WN3VAW discussed a change to the WASH 2M FM simplex contest for 2002 — exchange will be zip code in lieu of the town name. K3VX & W3WH offered to co-chair the PA QSO party effort – Thanks guys!

**Newsletter** (WN3VAW): No report

**President:** 6 Week Technician class scheduled for Wednesday nights from September 12 thru October 17, thanks to Rich N3SBF for arranging the Brentwood Church again. Interest remains in an Upgrade or Code class but another instructor is needed.

**Old Business:** N3BSQ moved to reimburse Rich N3SBF \$50 for classroom rental, second by N3RNX and carried

**New Business:** (W3WH) Club picnic in lieu of August meeting will be on Sunday, August 19. W3WH volunteered to find a site. KB3GMN volunteered to handle the food

**Good of the order:** (N3UE) Breezeshooter's Picnic July 29th

**Motion to adjourn:** by W3WH, seconded by N3BSQ and carried. Meeting was adjourned at 20:10.

**Presentations** by N3RNX of DigiPan PSK31 Software, W4ZE of a Repeater Coverage Map, and K3OL of a new carrying case for tools and equipment followed.

## Rules Changes, 2002 WASH 2M FM Contest

Use all standard simplex frequencies **above** 146.52 as per ARRL 2M band plan. **146.52 & below reserved for non-participants.**

Zip codes (5 digit not +4) will be used to indicate location rather than community name and/or county.

Points: Non-WASH Club members 1 Point/QSO  
 WASH Members (only): 2 Points/QSO  
 ALL Club Stations: 3 Points/QSO (not just N3SH/WA3SH)

## W/VE Islands Contest Expedition: Return to Washington's Landing

The N3SH Contest Crew will again return to Washington's Landing for the 2001 W/VE Islands Contest (also known as the US Islands Contest) on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, to "defend" and improve on our finish from last year! The Contest Crew is being organized by Bill Hill W3WH with "a little help from his friends".

Plan to meet under the 31<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge starting at 10 AM — leaving plenty of time for those also planning to be at the Club Breakfast at 8 AM (below) — and of course, talk-in and directions available on the 146.955 & 443.650 Repeaters. The W/VE Islands Contest starts at 1600 Z (12 Noon EDT) through 2359 Z on the 26<sup>th</sup>; our operation is planned just for Saturday until an unspecified time in the evening.

Plans were being made to travel via canoe to "The Island" in Moraine State Park's Lake Arthur, but it was felt that this could be too limiting for club members who only had a small amount of time to operate. But — anyone interested in running a WA3SH expedition up there, please contact Bill W3WH or Ron WN3VAW!

Thanks to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar for information about the W/VE Islands Contest. It's available via Contesting Online at [www.contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com)

## Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>



Please join us for the next WASH Breakfast! We get together on the LAST Saturday of every month for a chance to informally sit down, shoot the breeze, compare notes, and just have a good time together!



Join us again this month at **Dietz's Restaurant**, Baptist and Grove Roads in the Caste Village Shops. Start time is about 8 AM until whenever. Monitor 146.955 & 443.650 for talk-in or any last minute changes. All are welcome, WASH members or not, amateurs or not! Hope to see you there!

## Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AA3FI	KB3ERQ	N3MJQ	N3YPB	W3WH
AA3JS	KB3FGO	N3QMV	N3YQY	W4ZE
K3BZW	KB3FNM	N3RDV	N3ZCG	WA3JPP
K3LIE	KB3FQT	N3RHT	N3ZEG	WB3BPH
K3OL	KB3FZU	N3RNX	N3ZEH	WB3GTL
K3VX	KB3GMN	N3SBF	N3ZEL	WN3BOJ
K3WR	KB3GMO	N3TBK	N3ZNI	WN3VAW
KA3PPH	KB3GMP	N3TES	N4MIS	Dan Mohr
KA3TFB	KD3JV	N3UE	N8DPWV	JoAnn Cottrill
KA3TWI	KE3XB	N3UIW	NP2JF	Marilyn Nizinski
KA3UPY	KQ3DX	N3VEH	W3GEL	
KA3WZO	NØPEU	N3VVL	W3HND	K3EED (SK)
KB3ANH	NØVLR	N3VWF	W3JAF	N3KEH (SK)
KB3CPI	NØWPV	N3WPT	W3RJM	N3OBD (SK)
KB3DCO	N2QIV	N3XFE	W3SRL	W3ZLK (SK)
KB3DSB	N3BSQ	N3XI	W3VFA	
KB3ECD	N3CCC			
KB3ENX	N3CZZ			
KB3EPC	N3IDH			
KB3EPI	N3KFD			

Through July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001  
 List compiled by  
 Mark Stabryla N3RDV  
 Vice President/Treasurer

## Something Smells Fishy Around Here!

### Announcing the First WASH Kit Building Night

Steve Lane W3SRL

Well folks, we've been kicking the idea around for a couple of years now, but the time has finally come. I'm pleased to announce the first of what will hopefully become a regular event: The WASH Club kit night. The date will be Thursday night, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001, but the actual location is as yet unknown. The time will be 7 PM, and of course, it's open to all, members or not!

**Your Mission:** To build a working 40-meter transmitter in 3 hours or less. We'll all learn a thing or two, and either learn or practice our soldering skills and have a blast at the same time.

For our kickoff event, I have chosen the venerable "Tuna Tin 2" transmitter that originally made its debut in the May, 1976 QST. The brainchild of the late Doug DeMaw, W1FB, the TT2 is a simple crystal-controlled 40m CW transmitter in which W1FB used a discarded tuna can (sans tuna!) for his chassis. He even went as far as to use a round circuit board that fit inside the rim of the empty can for a professional, finished look. The result was a QRPp (under 1-watt) CW transmitter that really works!



The second kit, to be done at a subsequent session will be the MRX-40 receiver that serves as an excellent companion to the TT2, and has a bunch of features that make it suitable for QRP use. It also fits nicely into a tuna can if desired. The third will be some sort of lightweight 40m antenna suitable for use with your new "pocket ham shack."

**Why the TT2?** Well, several reasons. First of all, it is a relatively easy kit to assemble. It has a low parts count, and can be easily completed in about 1-2 hours by a novice kit builder. Second, the circuit board has a neat, uncluttered layout that is user-friendly, and allows room for even the most ham-handed of builders. Third, the circuit itself is very simple, and allows for easy troubleshooting and modification. Oh, did I mention that it is cheap? The entire kit, minus tuna can (you supply the can since I HATE tuna) goes for \$12 including shipping. If we get 10 folks to order at the same time, they are only \$10 apiece.

**How does it work?** Reports are that it works extremely well. With a resonant antenna, contacts several hundreds of miles away are common. Under the right conditions, more than a thousand miles is possible with 400mw of power. The frequency is fixed at 7.040 MHz, the 40m QRP frequency, although a simple crystal swap will allow use on 7.122 MHz (Novice) or other 40m frequency as you wish. There is no shortage of activity on 7.040 though, as interest in QRP is steadily on the rise. You will rarely have difficulty making a contact with another QRPer, and quite a few QRO stations hang out there looking for QRP contacts as well!

**Now for the logistics:** If you are interested in participating in our kit night, please drop me an email at [w3srl@yahoo.com](mailto:w3srl@yahoo.com), or phone me at (412) 341-1043. I will reserve a kit for you, and you can pay me for it that evening. I will have a variety of hand tools available for use, but it will be a great help if you can provide your own diagonal cutters and low-wattage soldering iron. I will need to order the kits ASAP so we can be sure that they will be here in time, so don't dally.

Looking forward to seeing you at our club kit night!

## The WASH 80M DXCC Challenges

How'd all this get started? Well, it's amazing sometimes, what comes out of a casual morning commute repeater conversation. One morning, Ron WN3VAW was telling Bill W3WH on the club repeaters that his last cards confirming 40 Meter DXCC had finally arrived, leaving just 80/75 to complete. That got Bill to thinking, so he went back and looked over his logs. Turns out that WN3VAW had 48 countries confirmed on 80/75 meters, and W3WH had 43 worked but wasn't sure how many confirmed. So they got to talking about it again another morning, and one thing led to another...

Right now, Bill has more time to operate and better antennas on the band, but Ron has time to do antenna work and has some real incentive for the upcoming DXCC contests. So the Original Challenge developed: Which one will be the first to complete DXCC on 80/75 meters this coming Winter? Bragging rights (only) are on the line!

When they started talking about it, quite a few members asked if or how they could join in, too. So, the Club Challenge evolved.

The Club Challenge is open to all Club Members... yes, we know we have many members who don't have 80/75 rights or capabilities, keep reading. Everyone participating starts at Zero (Ø) on October 1<sup>st</sup> (or whenever they start for those who join late) We'll track reported countries worked on 80/75 through May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002 (winter should be over by then <g>!) Monthly updates will be in the newsletter, and weekly progress reports will be on the club reflector.

Now, how do you participate if you don't have 80/75 privileges? If you have a family member who does, or can guest operate at a club or another amateur's station, you can operate under that call (within FCC Rules, of course, especially on 3<sup>rd</sup> Parties) as long as YOU make the contact. For the purposes of this Challenge, the call you use is not as important as the fact that YOU are making the QSO.

There aren't going to be a lot of "rules" in this challenge. The ARRL DXCC list applies — this is not the time to get into arguments about why 4U1ITU & 4U1UN count but 4U1VIC & 4U1WB don't. Use of Packet and Spotting on the club repeaters are permitted. And we'll be tracking calls worked, as it can sometimes take years to get certain stations confirmed. This is all mode — the contacts can be a mix of Phone, CW, RTTY, PSK31, whatever. You MUST be a 2001 Member of the club to participate. Your mileage may vary, no purchase necessary, void where prohibited by law (sorry Tennessee!)

80/75 is probably the 2<sup>nd</sup> toughest HF band to work DXCC on (160 Meters is probably the toughest) so this can be a real challenge in it's own right. But don't let that dissuade you, it has been done and it can be done! Who will get their 100 worked first and how fast? Who will have the best month? Who will have the most fun? Remember, this is all for fun, so we want to have a good time doing it while not taking it TOO seriously! More on this in the next issue!

Good luck!

**Congratulations to Bill Pasternak WA6ITF & Amateur Radio Newline on their 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of service (under that and earlier names) as of the end of July. That's 1250 consecutive weeks of news reports!**

**Congratulations also to Jack Ciaccia WMØG who is stepping down as Editor of the award-winning Boulder ARC Bark & the Mile High DXA Wire due to work commitments. Thanks again to Jack & his wife Mary for their help & encouragement over the last 3 years.**

## Random Thoughts on QSL'ing

Brett Graham VR2BG / VS6BG / 9M6BG / XX9TDM / ex-VS6UP

Some random comments as an active DX station who does his own cards:

1. Do not tape your envelope shut, as it makes it hard for me to open. I may route such envelopes straight into the bin in future.
2. Do not tape your IRC/US\$ to the card, or use the IRC/US\$ to prevent the gummed flap of your SAE to muck up your card. Either adds additional work for me as I open & sort mail. Frequently, it also results in useless IRCs & US\$. It might also be a good idea to make sure the gummed flap of your SAE doesn't muck up your card. Hong Kong is hot & humid and I live without air conditioning, making most SAEs used by US amateurs a bloody pain in the bum.
3. The first two letters of SAE stand for **self addressed**. Do not make me address your envelope for you. US amateurs are advised to come to grips with the fact that they live in a country called "USA" & start to include that in their address as before too long I probably will stop fixing this for you. For those who do not know, the third letter of SAE stands for **envelope**. Be sure to include one & be sure it's big enough for a standard sized QSL.
4. Don't send ratty IRCs or US\$ as they're useless. I have a drawer full of forex due to frequent travel as a result of work, so please no pesos, rubles, RMB & other such rubbish. For those who think this is a gravy train for me, note that I have yet to retire from my day job. The HK\$ may be linked to the US\$, but banks here expect US\$ to be spot on, so if my bank doesn't take your US\$ it's **your** problem, not mine.
5. Don't make rude comments about me in public. If you have a problem, contact me directly & we'll sort it out. Those of you who have been inclined to say untoward things now know you **will** wait as a result & those who contact me directly know I'll see you right. How long you wait for my QSL is up to you.
6. Don't send me registered mail unless you first contact me directly, send me the US\$50 it will cost me to go into town to collect it & confirm **exactly** when the item will arrive at the post office. US\$50 is how much it costs me to go into town to collect the mail, assuming I do not get a parking ticket for illegal parking outside the post office, as I currently am not driving a goods vehicle. With the exception of my recent trips into town for BV visas, I generally get to the box once per month, which under UPU rules means **all** registered items **will** be returned as unclaimed. Lo siento mucho, pero esta es tu problema!!!! (Unless your call is CO2OR, in which case you were **very** lucky, mi amigo.)
7. Please do not ask me for QSLs by email. Please try real hard not to ask me by email if I received your card, but don't hesitate to contact me if you haven't received your card within a reasonable amount of time. Don't even consider eQSLs!
8. Please use only the Callbook Address: POBox 12727, HONG KONG. Do **not** include China in the address, especially in the form "Republic of China". Only send cards to W7TIR for **VS6UP** and **XX9TDM**, but bear in mind my father forwards them to me, therefore it is better to send them direct to me begin with. He has just come out of hospital, so do us both a favor & give him a miss. KB7G is not a valid route for any of my calls. Cards sent to any other address without my prior knowledge may be assumed to never reach me.
9. If you use the bureau, please be prepared to wait. You'd be advised not to use the bureau for **XX9TDM** or **9M6BG** as I'm neither resident nor a member of the national societies there at the present time.
10. My logs never close & I'm happy to receive an envelope for a

- request for several of my calls in one go - in fact, I prefer to see such requests... just be sure to include enough for return postage.
11. Please do not send SASEs — too many folks attach the wrong amount of postage, attach stamps that are no longer legal to use here, or attach stamps that were and/or will **never** be legal to use here. Useless stamps include those of the USA, the PRC & ROC. BTW, since liberation Japanese postage has been of little use here - but I do drive an late 80s-vintage L-series Subaru & spare parts are becoming hard to come by (hint, hint).
  12. I'm human & am bound to cock things up. Part of why I do my own cards is because I'm the best to judge how I might've busted your call. If things seem to be going pear-shaped, drop me an email at [vr2bg@harts.org.hk](mailto:vr2bg@harts.org.hk) & I'll do my best to see you right.
  - 12a. Now please re-read item #5 above.

I love amateur radio & there is **nothing** better than being DX. I can remember when the first JA cards from the bureau was the dog's bollocks for me as a kid in W7. I don't think I ever confirmed **VR**, **9M6** or **XX** before emigrating here, so I have a keen appreciation for what our QSO may mean to you. Lists & last two letters will never be part of the game here, but I must insist on some basic rules for QSLing as described above. Please go with the flow & we'll all be the better for it.

Otherwise, on rare long holiday weekends, I'll be down at the beach (about 75m north of my antennas) instead of operating or dealing with cards.

It's your call!

---

### Rockwell Collins **Collins Independent!**

*Cedar Rapids, IA, July 2<sup>nd</sup>* — On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Rockwell International distributed approximately 183 million shares of common stock in a tax-free spin-off to Rockwell International shareholders. With that, the one-time Collins Radio Company and long time wholly-owned Rockwell subsidiary became an independent firm once again.

Rockwell Collins, as the firm is now known, "a leader in aviation electronics and communications for commercial and government applications worldwide" is now trading its shares on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **COL**. "As an independent, publicly traded company, Rockwell Collins will own and operate the avionics and communications business previously owned and operated by Rockwell International."



The 70 year old company was once the premier US based manufacturer of Amateur Radio and commercial radio equipment available world wide, and Collins Radio equipment still attracts a premium among collectors. The firm ceased manufacturing for the Amateur market sometime in the late 1970's or early 1980's, with the KWM-380 rig as one of their last products. There are no expectations that the firm in it's new incarnation will re-enter the Amateur market in the near future.

Following the divestiture, Rockwell International, once known as North American Rockwell and at one time headquartered at USX Tower in Pittsburgh, changed it's name to Rockwell Automation.

Additional information about Rockwell Collins can be found on their web site, [www.rockwellcollins.com](http://www.rockwellcollins.com)

*This article based in part on a Press Release issued by Rockwell Collins. Quotes in this article are from that Press Release which is available on their web site.*



## New TenTec QRP Rig Due January

TenTec Web Site



Announcing the new Ten-Tec model 516 QRP HF transceiver. Another innovative software-defined radio from Ten-Tec. All the benefits and features of IF-DSP, in a modern QRP HF transceiver. Let's take a look under the hood:

Our philosophy is that "QRP" need not be synonymous with "incomplete". Some QRP rigs offer pieces as options. Some offer limited performance and features. Some aren't exactly user-friendly. With the new model 516, Ten-Tec offers all of the features & solid HF radio performance in a user-friendly format, with a competitive price:

- 5 watts output power, all modes. SSB, CW and FM. Front panel adjustable to less than 1 watt output. AM operation at 1.25 watts carrier power (5 watts PEP).
- A true general coverage all-mode HF QRP transceiver. Receive .1 to 30 MHz continuous in user-selectable tuning rates of 10 Hz, 100 Hz, 1 kHz, or 1 MHz.
- 38 IF-DSP receive filters are built-in. No extra filtering to buy to operate any available mode. Filters range from a low of 200 Hz to 8 kHz high.

Like other recent Ten-Tec HF transceivers, the 516 is a software-defined radio. All functions and features of the little rig are stored in flash ROM. To add new features, simply visit our website, download the latest, and it's as if your rig rolled off the production line a few minutes earlier. A Ten-Tec QRP exclusive!

Computer command interface on the rear panel (accessible via DB-9 connector) makes the radio connectable to a PC for computer interfacing. As this feature has yet to be completely defined, complete information is not available at present.

The 516 QRP transceiver will use the same case, color, digital readout and front panel layout as our current model 526 "6N2" multi-mode VHF transceiver. Front panel buttons and knobs will be relabeled to match features of the new QRP rig.



The 516 is a "work in progress" and we expect it to be released by January 1. If you have suggestions for features you'd like to see in this new QRP transceiver, drop us a line at [sales@tentec.com](mailto:sales@tentec.com). **Estimated retail price: \$595.**

### PRELIMINARY SPECIFICATIONS, subject to change:

- MODES:** LSB, USB, CW, FM, AM  
**FREQUENCY RANGE:** 100 kHz - 30 MHz receive. Transmit on all 9 HF ham bands, 10 to 160 meters.  
**DISPLAY:** 7 segment LED's for main and secondary.  
**DUAL VFO's** with SPLIT mode.  
**OFFSET TUNING:** +/- 10 kHz transmit and/or receive.  
**MEMORIES:** 100.  
**ANTENNA:** 50 ohms unbalanced. SO-239 output connector.  
**POWER REQUIRED:** 400 mA receive (no signal), 2A transmit @ 5 watts. Digital display and meter lighting can be disabled to conserve current draw.  
**RF OUTPUT:** Approximately 1 to 5 watts, ALC stabilized.  
**MIC INPUT:** 200 to 50k ohms. 4 pin front panel connector accepts microphones with 5 mv (-67 dB) output. Polarizing voltage provided for electrets.  
**T/R SWITCHING:** PTT on SSB, FM, AM. QSK on CW.  
**METERING:** forward power.  
**SSB GENERATION:** DSP generated.  
**SENSITIVITY:** To be determined  
**SELECTIVITY:** 38 filters built-in; 200-1000 Hz in 50 Hz steps, 1000-2800 Hz in 100 Hz steps, 4 kHz, 6 kHz, 8 kHz. All 1.5:1 shape factor or better. All RX filters selectable independent of mode.  
**I-F FREQUENCIES:** To be determined.

## 22 True-False Questions for Prospective Hams

Original Article: Glenn Peck KE5GK via eHam.Net  
 Additional Material from comments as noted below  
 Used With Author's Permission

1. **T F** Hams from Virginia are sugar cured
2. **T F** Hams in Nashville only use CW
3. **T F** A clean, uncluttered ham shack is against the law
4. **T F** Channel 19 is where bad hams go when they die
5. **T F** QRM is transmitted by sneezing
6. **T F** "Twin Lead" is when a baseball team from Minnesota is a game up in the World Series
7. **T F** If your antenna hasn't blown down, its too low
8. **T F** If it doesn't glow it's not ham radio
9. **T F** Key clicks are caused by ill-fitting dentures
10. **T F** "TVI" means "That's Very Interesting"
11. **T F** To reliably contact a fellow ham in the next town, you NEED a kilowatt and phased beams.
12. **T F** No matter how small it is, no bit of wire is ever thrown out
13. **T F** Temporary antennas are temporary.
14. **T F** If you build the antenna just like the magazine article, except for the radials, it will work as well if not better
15. **T F** HT antennas made for use in the Northern Hemisphere will not work in Southern Hemisphere unless the radio is turned upside down.
16. **T F** Dogs are allowed on the radio as "Rover" stations.
17. **T F** Dogs may not be utilized in contests, they can hear weak signals better and thus have an unfair advantage.
18. **T F** On CW, everyone is an OM unless proven otherwise.
19. **T F** In colder climates, antennas must use all-season radials
20. **T F** Ladder line keeps you from falling off of your tower
21. **T F** A "Low Pass Filter" keeps aircraft from buzzing your shack
22. **T F** "Coax" is what you must do with your XYL to get that new Kenwood TS-2000.

Authors:

- 1 - 10: Glenn Peck KE5GK  
 11 - 14: Larry Nixon VE7LFN  
 15 - 18: David Bartholomew AD7DB  
 19 - 22: Edward Thierbach KC8PIA

**The Steel City Amateur Radio Club, W3KWH, will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this October with an all-band Special Event station and Open House on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at the Steel City ARC Clubhouse, 208 McMichael Road in Collier Township, about a mile from Settler's Cabin Park, and only a few minutes from the Campbell's Run Road exit of the Parkway West. More details will be available in upcoming months.**



**Congratulations to our friends and fellow amateurs at Steel City on their anniversary!**

**News Flash!!!! Anne Marie Lusardi, born 0942Z (05:42 AM EDT), 1 August 2001, to Paul NØVLR & Annette NØWPV, their 6<sup>th</sup>! Birth Statistics: 8 lbs., 11 Oz., 22½ Inches. Expect heavy QRM when hungry.**

## Island Radio Expedition Foundation

Mike Crownover AD5A, President, IREF, Inc.

I attended Dayton in May and as usual it was nice to see many of my island chasing buddies. The RSGB was kind enough to allow IREF to sell the first 50 IOTA Directories sold from their stand so IREF benefited from the sales. IREF receives a contribution for each Directory sold. I also prepared and distributed a nice fold-out IREF promotional brochure that has color pictures of some of the QSL cards of the expeditions IREF has sponsored.

The IREF Board of Directors also met at Dayton. The Directors present were G3NUG, K9AJ, and N5FTR. IREF officers present included AB5EB, WB2YQH and myself, AD5A. IREF is currently in reasonable financial shape, but consistent contributions are the key to maintaining our ability to make meaningful grants. Key accomplishments organizationally were to eliminate all bank service charges on our bank account and to add a credit card facility via our webpage. I plan a direct mailing campaign in the fall to target all IOTA Honor Roll members who aren't contributors to IREF.

The annual Dayton IOTA dinner was held at the Barnsider Restaurant, not too far from HARA arena where the Dayton Hamvention is held. Some of the attendees this year were Roger G3KMA and his XYL Gill, Martin G3ZAY, Neville G3NUG, Lucien ON4XL, Jim K9PPY, Mike K9AJ, Dan W4DKS, Buzz N5FTR just to name a few. There were several others who attended. We had a good time as usual and swapped lots of island chasing and DX-peditioning stories.

Of note is that the VP of IREF, Michael Crownover, AB5EB, and his brother Jacob, KB5SKN were able to secure licenses to operate from Isla Mujeres, Mexico (XF3), NAO45. These are the first licenses issued to Americans for operation on a Mexican island in several years. This breakthrough is the culmination of lots of lobbying by many individuals and is hopefully an indication that permission will be easier to obtain in the future. This development does not guarantee that future operations will be allowed, but I think it is a positive indication that things are moving the right direction. The XF3 expedition was aided by IREF through the loan of a Hex Beam antenna that was contributed to IREF by N5UR and K5PP.

Below are some recent operations that have received IREF grants:

Callsign	IOTA Reference	Grant
BA4DW/2	AS158	\$300
YB8HZ/p	OC247	\$300
TA0/IT9YRE	AS159	\$250
XF3/AB5EB, KB5SKN	NAO45	Loan of Hex Beam antenna

IREF has also approved a grant of \$350 to an expedition to SA052, San Lorenzo Island, Peru. The expedition has been delayed however until late August or early September. IREF will also be making a grant to an expedition to Sagar Island, India, AS153.

If you haven't made your contribution for 2001, I would encourage you to do so. The address is:

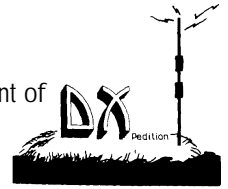
**IREF, Inc.**  
118 Oak Ridge Drive  
New Braunfels, Texas 78132 USA

### Silent Keys



John Halligan, son of Hallicrafters founder Bill Halligan W9AC ex-W9WZE, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

## DX News Briefs



The FCC has opened an investigation into the grant of the call sign **AH1A** to an Italian license holder named Gino Attaianese. The FCC says that Attaianese, of Torre Del Greco Italy, had used a street address in the Canton Islands when he got the AH1A call sign back in 1988. Now the Canton Islands authorities have informed the FCC of one simple but interesting fact: There never have been any street addresses in the Canton Islands. At last report, the FCC is still waiting for a reply from Attaianese — Amateur Radio Newsline

For its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters has been issued an exclusive call sign to promote the celebration. Look for Special Event Station **ZL75** on most bands and modes over the next few weeks. Each NZART branch will be using the call for one week, and the operators will be running their home stations. QSL as directed or via NZART — NZART

#### The Sir Francis Drake Report:

KI4RU worked someone signing **5V1SM** on 20 CW in mid-July, with alleged manager KL7Y. But KL7Y has "no clue who this bozo is" and requests that any Packet Cluster posts indicate he is not the manager. No one knows if this station is legitimate or not — KI4RU, KL7Y

ON6AA has emphatically insisted that **F/ON6AA** on CW & RTTY is a Pirate as he has never operated CW from France and only operates RTTY from home. — ON6AA

#### QSL Routes:

<b>9A0HQ</b> via 9A5K – 9A0HQ	<b>9V9HQ</b> via AA5BT — 9V1YC
<b>HS0AC</b> via G3NOM — G3NOM	<b>FK8GM</b> via WB2RAJ — WB2RAJ
<b>YR0HQ</b> via YO3FRI — YR0HQ	<b>W1AW/6</b> via ARRL — N6RO
<b>5K3CA</b> via HK3DDD — OPDX	<b>VU3CHE</b> via K4VUD — K4VUD
<b>SI9AM</b> via SM3CVM — OPDX	<b>C21DA</b> via VK3DYL — VK3DYL
<b>J3PA</b> via PA5ET — PA5ET	<b>CP4BT</b> via EA5KB — EA5KB
<b>J8PA</b> via PA5ET — PA5ET	<b>S21YT</b> via KX7YT — KX7YT
<b>9M6OO</b> via N2OO — RA3DNC	<b>ZK1BJA</b> via LA5VK — KZ2I
<b>9M6A</b> via N2OO — RA3DNC	<b>4D9RG</b> via DU9RG — K6ACZ
<b>HV4NAC</b> via IK0FVC — KU4BP	<b>RU1A</b> via KC1WY — KI4RU

**5R8O** has had a call change and is now ORV as **5R8GZ**. His old call was a special issue because he was operating from Antananarivo Gendarmerie County. — 5R8FV, OPDX, 425 DX

"Was just notified by Fred, HB9AAQ, that the QSLs for **3B6RF** are printed. His email indicated they would be express shipped to me (soon). Just a note to the ham community as an update, and a "notice" to STOP sending duplicate requests, which are coming in at a pretty good clip! I've not been back in the US a month yet! All QSL requests received have been processed, all labels printed, and we're simply awaiting the 3B6 QSLs. Those who did not include any or insufficient postage will be receiving their cards via the bureau via Switzerland. With everything ready on this end, I feel comfortable in saying that we will have all cards into the US mail within 7 days of receiving the 3B6RF QSLs. We want to be sure everyone has theirs for this year's DXCC submission. The number of "Thanks for the all time new one." is pushing about 40% of those received. One gentleman even wrote that 3B6 would have been his last country had they not added P5! Wow...." — N3SL via WD4NGB

The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual **W9DXCC** Convention will be held September 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Rolling Meadows, IL. Details and on-line registration available at [www.qth.net/w9dxcc](http://www.qth.net/w9dxcc) — W3UR/The Daily DX

Thanks to the NJDXA *DX Reflector*, 425 *DX News*, *OPDX News*, & *ARRL DX Bulletins* for our *DX News* information. Thanks also to W3UR/*The Daily DX* for confirmations & additional information.



## ARRL Board Asks Congress To Take Action on CC&R's

ARRL Bulletin #27 courtesy American Radio Relay League

NEWINGTON, CT, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001 — Meeting July 20-21 in Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors adopted a goal of legislative action to provide amateurs the same protections from real estate covenants, conditions and restrictions now enjoyed under FCC rules by home satellite dish owners and others receiving over-the-air broadcast signals.

Board members felt that amateurs should be granted the right to install an antenna having a visual impact similar to that of a home television satellite dish or other antenna that falls under the FCC's Over the Air Reception Devices (OTARD) policy. In 1999, the FCC reaffirmed the OTARD rule that prohibits restrictions that impair the installation, maintenance or use of antennas used to receive video programming.

The Board also approved the filing of a petition seeking a domestic, secondary allocation for the Amateur Service at 5.250 to 5.400 MHz. The petition will ask that amateurs General and above be allowed to operate in the so-called 60-meter band at up to maximum authorized power. No mode subbands will be proposed at this time.

The Board also adopted the revised band plan for 160 meters based on a proposal from the ad hoc 160-Meter Band Plan Committee. The plan adopted sets aside a segment for digital modes from 1.800 to 1.810 MHz, maintains CW operation for the entire 1.8 to 2.0 MHz band, recommends a lower limit of 1.843 for SSB operation, and designates QRP calling frequencies--1.810 for CW and 1.910 for SSB. The 1.830 to 1.850 MHz "DX window" was eliminated. The committee recommended that contest sponsors "consider the use of DX windows as necessary." The plan accommodates established frequencies used on 160 for AM.

The ARRL Board of Directors also endorsed the Logbook of the World. An electronic alternative to collecting traditional QSLs for awards, the project goes beyond simply replacing printed cards with electronic versions. Logbook of the World will make use of electronic confirmations within a giant repository of QSO information maintained by ARRL. Digital security methods will ensure data integrity and authenticity.

The Board also approved a new QRP DXCC award. Applications likely will be accepted starting early next year. No QSL cards would be required, and there would be no time limits or endorsements.



## FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy American Radio Relay League

NEWINGTON, CT, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2001 — The FCC is auditing a May 10<sup>th</sup> ARRL VEC Amateur Radio examination session, after viewing documents that FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth said "reflect several alarming discrepancies in testing procedures." The session was held in Trumbull, Connecticut. The ARRL VEC referred the test documents to the FCC as part of its responsibilities as a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.



Ten volunteer examiners listed on the Test Session Report as having participated in the Trumbull session have been suspended at least for the duration of the FCC inquiry. The suspensions are standard procedure in such cases, said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ.

In a June 28 letter addressed to the 10 VEs, Hollingsworth focused on discrepancies in documents submitted on behalf of one applicant, Elvis Mendez, KB1GPY, a Technician licensee from Revere, Massachusetts, who attempted to upgrade to Extra at the May 10 session. "It appears that Mendez, either before or during the examination, may have had access to the answer key used by VEs for grading Morse code examinations," Hollingsworth wrote. "In the alternative, his answer sheet may have been completed prior to the examination."

Hollingsworth also noted "a significant number of erasures" on the answer sheet, to VE grading marks and to the score of Mendez' Extra class written exam. "When correctly graded, Mendez score was 36 out of 50 rather than 40 out of 50 to which you certified," Hollingsworth said.

Mendez' Extra exam has been invalidated as a result of the discrepancies, Hollingsworth said. The FCC also has requested that the ARRL VEC maintain the VE suspensions until it completes its probe. The FCC letter was sent to Kevin W. Cellini, N1GKM; Allen H. Silberstein, N1RWE; Andres A. Rosado, KB1FKJ; Peter J. Keyes, N1GOJ; Arthur L. Cartier III, N1VGT; Glenn J. Krieger, N1HAW; Freddy Martin, KB1FKI; Robert E. Moreland, KA1ZMF; Donald W. Stowe, N1VNM; and Kenneth A. Frissora, N1JKA. All are Extra class licensees.

Among other things, Hollingsworth has asked the 10 VEs to explain their role in the May 10 exam session, if any had communication with Elvis Mendez before, during or after the exam session, if they graded Mendez' Morse or written exam, if their signatures on the Test Session Report are authentic and if Mendez' name was on the roster when they signed it. Hollingsworth also asked each VE to explain the discrepancies he outlined in his letter. Replies were due in 20 days.

The names and signatures of three VEs [Cellini, Martin and Krieger] appear on the NCVET Form 605 application filed by Mendez.

Eight applicants appear on the Candidate Roster for the May 10<sup>th</sup> session. The roster indicated that all eight successfully passed their examinations for a new ticket or upgrade.

## FYI Networks

For Your Information needs

FYI Networks, an Internet Service Provider in Pittsburgh and surrounding areas since 1995, is offering all members of WASH their Basic Internet account for only \$18/month. This includes one e-mail box, 3 MB of disk space, web page hosting, Telnet & FTP access, and in some areas Toll-Free 500 Area Code service. Call FYI toll-free at 1-877-FYI-4NET, or e-mail them at [sales@fyi.net](mailto: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 this special offer available to us for the past three years!

**For Sale: Hallicrafters DD-1 Dual Diversity Receiver. One of only about 20 known to still exist. \$6500. Located in Austin TX. Pictures and more information can be obtained at [http://www.hallicraftercollector.com/dd1\\_for\\_sale.htm](http://www.hallicraftercollector.com/dd1_for_sale.htm)**

— Brad Stone NB9M for Chuck Dachis WD5EOG



**Skyview Radio Society Hamfest**  
**Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM**  
**2335 Turkey Ridge Road**  
**New Kensington, PA 15068**

From the Intersection of PA 380 & 366, Take 380 West towards New Kensington  
 Go 1 Mile, Turn Right onto Whitten Hollow Road, Go 1/2 Mile, Right onto Turkey Ridge Road

Club house is on the left at the top of the hill

Free Admission — Free Parking — Tailgating \$5 Per Space

**Talk-in on the K3MJW/R 146.64 Skyview RS Club Repeater**

**Uniontown ARC Gabfest**

**Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM**  
**433 Old Pittsburgh Road**  
**Uniontown, PA 15401**

Talk-in on the W3PIE/R 147.045 Uniontown ARC Club Repeater



**Butler Hamfest & Computer Show**  
**WPA ARRL Section Convetion**  
**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM**  
**Butler Farm Show Grounds at Roe Airport**



**Sponsored by the Butler County Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**

\$5 Donation for Admission — Includes All Prizes, Children Under 12 FREE

Free Parking — Room for 2500 Cars

Overnight Campers \$10 — Handicapped Accessible

Outside Flea Market \$5.00 Per Vehicle/set-up

Indoor Flea Market — Vendor's Space \$15.00 per 8 Foot Table

To Reserve Indoor Tables Contact Kevin Berry KF4RMA, 380 Three Degree Road, Renfrew, PA 16053

Telephone (724) 586-1182 E-Mail KF4RMA@arrl.net

**Talk-in on the W3UDX/R 147.360 Repeater**

**Mobile Check-In until Noon on 146.52 Simplex**

**Main Prizes — Drawn at 4:00 PM (need not be present to win):**

1st	Yaesu FT-817	5 Watts HF, 6M, 2M, 70cm SSB/AM/FM
2nd	Alinco DX-70TH	Compact HF & 6 Meters Mobile Transceiver
3rd	IC-718	HF Transceiver / SW Receiver
4th	IC-2800H	50 W 2M / 35W 70cm Dual Band Receiver w/9600Baud
5th	IC-T7H	6 W 2M / 70cm Hand Held

Special Events: ARRL Representatives from Headquarters, Atlantic Division, Western PA Section and ARES/RACES  
 QSL Card Checking at the Hamfest for DXCC, WAS, VHF & UHF Awards  
 Forums on a wide range of Amateur Radio Topics

Hamfest Coordinator Gerald Wetzel W3DMB, 784 Mercer Road, Butler PA 16001 (724) 282-6777

[www.qsl.net/w3udx](http://www.qsl.net/w3udx)



# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2001



I would like to join WASH!. I am interested in the following type of membership:     **New Membership**     **Membership Renewal**

(check quarter →)  
(check one ↓)

**1st Qtr**     **2nd Qtr**     **3rd Qtr**     **4th Qtr**  
**Jan-Mar**    **Apr-Jun**    **Jul-Sept**    **Oct-Dec**

(F1) Full Membership:                      \$20.00              \$15.00              \$10.00              \$5.00

(F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:    \$10.00              \$7.50              \$5.00              \$2.50

(A1) Associate Membership:                      \$10.00              \$7.50              \$5.00              \$2.50

(FM1) Family Membership (F1 or F2 or A1 dues x 20% x No. of household family members): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires On: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

New Members Only:

I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector

I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List

[If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out]

ARRL Member?  Yes  No    Family ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check or money order payable to the club treasurer, Mark Stabryla.  
The Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals.  
Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to:  
Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
C/O Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer  
1120 McKnight Drive  
Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456

## Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

# Order Form for "The TLC Embroidery Company"

## Embroidered Shirts and Hats

Quantity	Item/Description	Size	Color	Unit Cost	Net Cost
				<b>Sub-Total</b>	
				<b>6 % Sales Tax</b>	
				<b>Total Enclosed</b>	

<u>Available</u>	<u>Cost (S M L XL)</u>	<u>Cost (2X 3X 4X)</u>
Golf Shirts	\$20.00	\$22.00
Rugby Shirts	\$20.00	\$20.00
Light Jackets	tba	tba
Lined Jackets	tba	tba
Hats	\$10.00	\$10.00

Club logo is not currently available on the hats due to size limitations. Contact TLC Embroidery for more information.

Prices, availability & available colors subject to change without notice.

Use additional sheet(s) if necessary

Make checks payable to Sharon Cox  
Mail to: The TLC Embroidery Company  
366 Dry Ridge Road  
West Alexander, PA 15376

Phone: 724 - 484 - 7703



**Be an  
Elmer  
Not a  
Fudd!**



## The WASHRag

Ron Notarius WN3VAW, Editor  
3505 Rosalia Avenue  
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2317

## Inside This Issue:

- WASH August Picnic Details & Directions
  - Technician Classes Start in September!
  - Announcing Our First Kit Night!
  - N3SH QRV 31<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge! W/VE Island Contest Plans!
  - Rules Changes, 2<sup>nd</sup> WASH 2M FM Contest
  - The WASH 80 Meter DXCC Challenge!
  - *News Flash!* Anne Marie Lusardi — Page 7!  
(And you thought August was a slow month?)
- All that and more... waiting for you, right inside these pages...



## **“JOE COOL” AT THE RACES!**

Bryan Beyer K3OL (Right) providing Race Communications during the 2001 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix along with Corner Captain John Corpin, and the Flaggers and other corner workers at PVGP Corner 18 in Schenley Park on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Photo Courtesy of & ©Copyright 2001 Ron Notarius WN3VAW