



# WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 3 Issue 11

November 2001

N3SH  
WA3SH

Wireless Association of South Hills

## PA QSO Party: The Best Laid Plans...

It was an eventful 2001 Pennsylvania QSO Party for the club this year, and that was before the contest started.

As most of you know by now, the N3SH Clarion County operation had to be scrubbed at the last moment due to a death in N3SBF & KB3GMN's immediate family. As a result, Bill W3VH volunteered his shack for use by the N3SH crew as an alternate QTH.

So how'd they do, all things considered? Oh, only a new club record for points from a club station, and a "clean sweep" by working all 67 Counties! Congratulations to the whole crew on a job well done: K3VX, NØPEU, W3SRL, & W3VH.

Below are all of the reported club member scores as of the end of October. Remember, logs are due in to the Nittany ARC by November 15<sup>th</sup>!

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

Call	County	QSO's	Counties	Sections	Points
<b>Single-Op Stations:</b>					
W4ZE	Washington	456	65	57	55,632
N3UE	Allegheny	336	64	39	34,808
N3ZEL	Washington	249	66	26	23,108
K3OL	Washington	212	61	36	20,764
WN3VAW	Allegheny	183	54	24	17,160
W3RJM	Allegheny	145	68 total		9860
<b>Multi-Op Stations:</b>					
N3SH	Washington	642	67	63	121,630
— K3VX, NØPEU, W3SRL, & W3VH operators					
N3KFD	Allegheny	141	42	18	12,350
— N3KFD & KB3ERQ operators					
<b>Mobiles:</b>					
N3ZNI	Allegheny	17	11	7	806
	Armstrong	101	36	18	5954
	Butler	30	21	6	1310
	Washington	127	35	40	10,025
	Westmoreland	26	19	5	1124
	Mobile Total	301	56	51	34,707
(includes 2500 point bonus for operating mobile in Five (5) PA Counties)					

How did you do?

## Next Meeting: November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2001

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at the **John McMillan Presbyterian Church**, 875 Clifton Road, Bethel Park, starting at 7:00 PM.

It's Election Night! And our guest speaker for the evening will be Brett Valentine N3BV, on Repeater Systems. Bring your Q&A questions for him!

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RNX/R and 443.650(+) N3BV/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

## WASH Christmas Party



The 2001 WASH Christmas Party & Holiday Celebration will be held on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at

**Al's Café**, 440 McMurray Road, Bethel Park, starting at 6:30 PM.

The cost will be \$12 per adult, \$6 for children over 3. Cost includes all taxes and gratuities. Dinner includes Rigatoni with Meat Sauce, Fried Chicken, and Cabbage Rolls. A deli platter will also be available for those who prefer a sandwich. And of course, potato salad, cole slaw, and so forth.

Why the change? Well, every year we have a lot of hard work from club members and/or their spouses to organize and set up the party at the church, clean up, and so on. This year, we're going to give everyone a break so that everyone can relax and enjoy the festivities.

The party is open to all club members, their family members, and friends of the club. Space is limited, so if you're

planning on coming, please contact Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 or [kb3gmn@msn.com](mailto:kb3gmn@msn.com)

to make sure that we have your reservation! Carol must have the money by the end of November, so the sooner she knows, the better. It'll be fun! Hope to see you there!



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

**LOOKING  
AHEAD:**

- **ARRL 160 Meter Contest December 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>**
- **ARRL 10 Meter Contest December 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>**
- **WASH 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 2 Meter FM Contest January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002**
- **WASHFest 2002, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

# November 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Do you know a WPA Club not listed here? We lack meeting information for several WPA Amateur Radio Clubs, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chestnut Ridge ARC</li> <li>• Indiana Co ARC</li> <li>• Mt. Pleasant ARA</li> <li>• Western PA DXA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penn State ARC</li> <li>• Panther ARC</li> <li>• Carnegie Tech RC</li> </ul>		<b>1</b> WACOM Meeting WACOM VE Test	<b>2</b> Elco ARS Meeting	<b>3 ARRL SS CW</b> RA Erie VE Test WPA Hilltoppers VE Test North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>4 ARRL SS CW</b> Ellwood City ARA Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South 1 ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>5</b> Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Srvc. Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>6 Election Day</b> Butler Co ARA Meeting SHBP&M Meeting Skyview RS Meeting SATERN Net North Hills ARC Club Net	<b>7</b> Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Allegheny Co SKYWarm Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>8</b> <b>WASH Meeting</b> Triple "A" ARA VE Tests Horseshoe ARC Meeting Beaver Valley ARA Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Butler Co ARA VE Tests 2 Rivers ARC HamnEggs Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>11 Veteran's Day</b> QCWA Pittsburgh Net South 1 ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>12</b> AR League of Lawrence Co Bum of the Month Lunch Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Srvc. Net 2 Rivers ARC Net	<b>13</b> Foothills ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&KC Meeting Punxsatawny AATRC Mtg	<b>14</b> North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highlands VHF Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>15 Great American "Smoke Out" Day</b> Triple "A" ARA Meeting Somerset County ARC Mtng Greene Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC	<b>16</b> 2 Rivers ARC Meeting	<b>17 ARRL SS Phone</b> Foothills ARC VE Tests North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>18 ARRL SS Phone</b> Elk Co ARC Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South 1 ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>19</b> Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Srvc. Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>20</b> Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Mtng McKean Co ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting	<b>21</b> Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co ARES Net Allegheny Co SKYWarm Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>22</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>23</b> <b>National Turkey Leftovers Day</b>	<b>24 CO WW CW</b> <b>WASH Breakfast</b> Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC VE Tests North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>25 CO WW CW</b> QCWA Pittsburgh Net South 1 ARES Net WASH FM Net	<b>26</b> Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Srvc. Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	<b>27</b> Mercer Co ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting SATERN Net North Hills ARC Club Net GPVHFS SwapnShop Net	<b>28</b> Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES	<b>29</b> WACOM Board Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>12/1</b> RA Erie VE Test WPA Hilltoppers VE Test North Hills ARC 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)	(open)
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 N3RN/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 Hiatus until further notice. Please contact Paul NØVLR for more information.	

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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. 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.

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As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3RN/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 January 18<sup>th</sup>!

Our Next VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002**, at **7:00 PM**, at the **John McMillan Presbyterian Church**, 875 Clifton Road, Bethel Park, PA. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. 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)

A smaller than usual contingent of **The WASH Breakfast Gang** shivered their way, on a cold October 27<sup>th</sup> morning, into **Dietz's Restaurant** for their monthly breakfast get-together. KB3FNM, W3SRL, K3VX and WN3VAW spent the morning talking over computer virus problems, the Pa QSO Party, groundbreaking at the new Public Safety Building in Mt. Lebanon, zoning problems, and wishing good luck to the rest of the crew over at the morning tower raising at NØVLR/NØWPV's QTH. The next Club Breakfast will be Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, at **Dietz's Restaurant**, Caste Village Shops, Baptist & Grove Roads. Come down and share a cup of coffee with us! Hope you can make it!

**New Skyhook!** The morning of October 27<sup>th</sup> also saw Paul NØVLR's long awaited tower finally raised, on a cold and slightly windy day (so you know it will stay up this winter, right?). Right now the tower is 30 feet high and holds a 3 band VHF/UHF Lightning Bolt Quad and a 2 Meter J-Pole. WASH members participating included W4ZE & son, W3JAF, W3WH, KB3FZU & N8DPW (no wonder the Club Breakfast turnout was a little small!)

**WASH 80 M DXCC Challenge Stats:** As of deadline, uhm, well, no one has reported anything yet... possibly because conditions weren't that great for most of October. For what it's worth, WN3VAW worked 18 countries during the CQ WW Phone contest, including 7 brand new ones. W3WH had only worked one or two countries prior to the contest; no word on after. Remember, thought, one or two good nights (especially on CW) and anyone can jump into this thing! The rules are simple — how close to 100 DXCC entities can you work on 80/75 between October 1<sup>st</sup> & May 30<sup>th</sup>? Remember, it's a friendly intra-club competition, so helping each other out is as important as working that next one. Let WN3VAW know your status near the end of the month, and we'll keep a running count in the newsletter for the duration!

**SANTA NET:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual WASH Santa Net will be held on Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00 PM EST on the 146.955 & 443.650 Repeaters (starting one hour before the WASH FM Net). Children of all ages are encouraged to check in to make their last minute requests! Special requests or other information can be e-mailed ahead of time to NCS Brian K3OL at [brbeyer@bellatlantic.net](mailto:brbeyer@bellatlantic.net). So plan on hearing Santa and his elves on Santa Net! This special event is open to all amateurs children, relatives & neighbor's kids.

**Kit Night III** went off as scheduled on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Again, our thanks to the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department for permitting the club to use their meeting room for the projects. Kit Night (or a similar Activity Night) is planned to resume in January after the holidays. Any thoughts on a project? Let us know!

**Imagine** that you're an ARRL staffer like Dan Miller K3UFG. Here you are, in a hamfest in WPA in September, giving your spiel, when you notice a 12 year old boy, a scanner enthusiast to boot, all ears, getting excited about the possibilities of what a ham ticket can do for you. So you give him a ton of info and a ton of encouragement, aided by your Division Director (N3EFN) & Ass't Director (N3LLR). Figure, what, 99% of the time, you'll never know what happened? Just the nature of the job... well Dan, Bernie, and Bill, your work this time paid off, and WASH thanks you for helping us recruit our newest (& currently youngest) member, Mike KB3HFP! Watch out... he's looking for a code practice tape...

Citing concerns about hazardous items being sent through the mail, *CQ Magazine* has requested that, effective mid-October, all contest logs be submitted electronically.

Logs submitted for CQ sponsored contests that are sent in the mail will be held unopened indefinitely until all possible health risks have been evaluated.

CQ regrets the inconvenience to those who lack Internet access.

### October 18<sup>th</sup> VE Test Results

We had six candidates at our October 18<sup>th</sup> VEC test session, held at the John McMillan Presbyterian Church in Bethel Park. All six candidates successfully earned new or upgraded licenses!

According to the FCC ULS database, the following licenses were issued October 29<sup>th</sup>:

Technician: Michael Aquillina III KB3HFP  
 Technician w/HF: David Wagner KB3GOT  
 General: Carl Rizzo N3FFS  
 Carl Vozniak KA3BEN  
 Extra: Charles Shoemaker N3CCC  
 Dave DeMotte N3IDH

WASH VE Team:

Bryan Beyer K3OL  
 Paul Lusardi NØVLR  
 Robert Ketzell KB3IN  
 Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI  
 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Of course, many, many thanks to all of the VE's for coming out and lending a hand at this test session. And Congratulations to all our amateurs and looking forward to hearing them on the air!

73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

*The November Meeting is Election Night — Don't Miss It!*

# Minutes, October 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Steve Lane W3SRL, Acting Secretary, WASH

The meeting was called to order at 19:15 by WN3VAW.

A moment of silence was observed for recent silent keys.

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

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the July meeting as published in the newsletter was made by Steve W3SRL, seconded by Bill W3WH and carried.

## Committee Reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): Read and accepted.

Secretary (W3SRL for NØVLR): Letter received from John McMillan PC. We need to reserve the room at the church for 2002, as there are many groups clamoring for the space. Motion to do so made by Harold KB3CPI, second by Dick N3QMV and carried.

VE Team (WN3VAW for N3ZEL): VE Session next week. VE's needed!

Repeaters (W3SRL/N3RNX): Nothing new to report. All is well.

FM Net (K3OL): No report.

Digital Net: (vacant): No report.

Activities (W3SRL): Kit Night tentatively October 25<sup>th</sup> to complete the FOXX-3 40 meter kits; November 1<sup>st</sup> as a backup if the 25<sup>th</sup> not available. Next Kit Night in January; VHF/UHF kits are a possibility.

Public Service: No report

Contests: (K3VX): PA QSO: Due to a death in the family of N3SBF & KB3GMN, their cabin will not be available. Discussion on alternatives followed. WACOM & Steel City ARC have offered to let WASH members join their operations. N3SH op to talk with Bill W3WH & Larry K3VX after the meeting to make a decision.

WASH 2M Contest: Still on for January. Complete rules will be in newsletter starting with the November issue.

WASHfest 2002 (W3SRL/W3WH): No report

Newsletter (WN3VAW): No report

President (WN3VAW): Christmas Party cost will be \$12 per adult. Carol was inadvertently quoted the wrong price by Al's Café (did not include tax or gratuity).

Nominations for 2002 Officers: Opened:

VP/Treasurer: Mark N3RDV nominated by Bill W3WH, second by Bob W3RJM. WN3VAW commented that Mark had left word that he would accept the nomination.

President: Pete N3RNX nominated by Bob W3RJM and Larry K3VX. Paul NØVLR nominated by Bill W3WH (*second not indicated*). WN3VAW inquired of N3QMV, who wrote the current by-laws, how to handle the vacancy of VP/Secretary if Paul were to win election; by-laws do not cover the situation. Motion to close nominations by Bob W3RJM, second by Bill W3WH and carried.

Old Business: Steve W3SRL still has some "2<sup>nd</sup> Generation" blue SHARC jackets for free; these were the samples jackets bought to try on for size. Anyone interested in a free jacket, talk to Steve.

New Business: Bob W3RJM asked about ordering new jackets. He will get information from Steel City ARC on their supplier.

Good of the order: Ron WN3VAW passed on that Greg KQ3DX has reserved six suites at the University of Dayton for Hamvention Weekend (*see page 7 for details*). Bob W3RJM thanked everyone who had visited the Steel City ARC 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House and who had worked the W3KWH Special Event station on October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>. Ed N3UE introduced his guest & future son-in-law, Mark KB3GZG

Motion to adjourn: by Bob W3RJM, second by Dick N3QMV & carried. Meeting was adjourned at 19:55.

# Yes!



With a look of satisfaction on his face & a wave of his fist, Larry K3VX knocks off another one from N3SH during the 2001 Pa QSO Party. Photo courtesy of & ©2001 Bill Hill W3WH

## Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, November 24<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 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! See you there!

## Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AA3FI	KB3ERQ	N3CZZ	N3WPT	W3SRL
AA3JS	KB3FGO	N3IDH	N3XFE	W3VFA
K3BZW	KB3FNM	N3KFD	N3XI	W3WH
K3LIE	KB3FQT	N3MJQ	N3YPB	W4ZE
K3OL	KB3FZU	N3QMV	N3YQY	WA3JPP
K3VX	KB3GMN	N3RDV	N3ZCG	WB3BPH
K3WR	KB3GMO	N3RHT	N3ZEG	WB3GTL
KA3PPH	KB3GMP	N3RNX	N3ZEH	WN3BOJ
KA3TFB	KB3GOT	N3SBF	N3ZEL	WN3VAW
KA3TWI	KB3GZG	N3SRC	N3ZNI	Dan Mohr
KA3UPY	KB3HFP	N3TBK	N4MIS	JoAnn Cottrill
KA3WZO	KD3JV	N3TES	N8DPW	Marilyn Nizinski
KB3ANH	KE3XB	N3UE	NP2JF	K3EED (SK)
KB3CPI	KQ3DX	N3UIW	W3GEL	N3KEH (SK)
KB3DCO	NØPEU	N3VEH	W3HND	N3OBD (SK)
KB3DSB	NØVLR	N3VVL	W3JAF	N3SKR (SK)
KB3ECD	NØVPV	N3VWF	W3RJM	W3ZLK (SK)
KB3ENX	N2QIV			
KB3EPC	N3BSQ			
KB3EPI	N3CCC			

Through October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# The Electronic "Swiss Army Knife"

Steve Lane W3SRL

Every once on a while a piece of ham equipment comes along that falls into the "must have" category. The MFJ-269 and related models of antenna analyzers certainly qualify for this distinction. Small and compact, about the size of a common building brick and just loaded with many features commonly used by hams and communications professionals alike. Oh, and reasonably priced as well. Personally, I equate my MFJ-259 to my trusty "Swiss Army" knife in terms of overall usefulness and utility. Not perfect to be sure, but extremely useful for a myriad of small jobs. Once you own one, you'll never want to be without one again.

Ok, so what is so special about this little black box? Well, out of the package one immediately notices the standard-issue MFJ no-frills black matte aluminum finished case, prominent metering and LCD display. Everything is well marked and the unit has a solid feel to it. The case has to be opened to insert the batteries (10 AA cells, either alkaline or rechargeable-type) by means of removing 8 tiny Phillips screws. If you wish, you can power the unit from an external 12v source, but that can be cumbersome up on top of a tower or roof! Once the batteries are in, you are in business.

The MFJ-259 has a number of very useful functions as listed in the table below. Due to space constraints, I'm only going to showcase the most common one in this month's article.

<b>Antenna SWR</b>	<b>Impedance Phase (degrees)</b>	<b>Impedance (Z)</b>
<b>Cable length in feet</b>	<b>Inductance (uH)</b>	<b>Resonance (MHz)</b>
<b>Cable loss in dB</b>	<b>Reactance, or X (ohms)</b>	<b>Return Loss (dB)</b>
<b>Capacitance (pF)</b>	<b>Resistance, or R (ohms)</b>	<b>Signal Frequency (MHz)</b>

The first, and most often used function of the MFJ-259 analyzer is just as the name implies. Analyzing antennas. The MFJ-259B has a 1.8 through 170 MHz operating range, accessed in 6 ranges from the front panel selector. Let's run through a typical tune up of that VHF mobile mag-mount antenna that your buddy just gave you.

After you put the antenna up on the center roof of the car and checked to make sure there were no nearby obstacles, such as garage roofs/doors, tree branches, etc. you simply connect the coax to the analyzer. Select the proper frequency range, and turn the analyzer on. The display will come to life, and the meters will swing. Turn the "tune" knob until you measure the lowest possible reading on the "SWR" meter. Say the "SWR" meter reads 1.7:1, and the impedance meter reads right around 50 ohms. Then read the frequency indicated on the LCD display. The reading you just took is the resonant frequency of the antenna. This is the frequency where the antenna is most efficient. For the sake of this discussion, let's say that it reads 155.400 MHz.

That's right in the middle of the itinerant business band, and about 9 MHz off from where we want it to fall for 2 meters. No problem.

Shut the analyzer off, but leave it connected. Locate the little set screw (s) that hold the whip portion of the antenna into either the base loading coil or the base itself. Use a magic marker to mark the exact position of the whip as it is inserted into the base. That way, you can always go back quickly to your original setting if you wish. Since the antenna is "cut" for 155 MHz now, and you want it to be resonant right around 147 MHz for 2 meter repeater use, which way do we want to go with the antenna? If you said to lengthen it, you were correct. By loosening the set screw, and lifting the whip up about a 1/2-inch and then tightening it again, the analyzer now reads 153.210 or so. At least you are going in the right direction. The SWR also dropped, it is now 1.3:1 at the lower frequency. So out comes the screwdriver again, and

the whip is raised again, this time about 3/4-inch more. That is all the longer the whip is; There is just barely enough whip inside the base to make contact with the set screw. This time though, the analyzer reads a flat 1.1:1 at 149.120 MHz. Still not in the ham band, But probably close enough to work pretty well on 2-meters. Huh? Read on.

The second measurement we are going to take is the usable bandwidth of the antenna. Sometimes referred to as the 2:1 bandwidth. As the name implies, we want to know just how broad an operating range we have to work with. Start by again putting the analyzer on the resonant frequency of the antenna. Write down the frequency and the SWR reading. Next, slowly "walk" the tune control of the analyzer clockwise until the SWR meter just rests at 2:1.

Write this frequency down as well. Then walk the tune knob counter-clockwise until the meter dips at the resonant frequency and then climbs back to 2:1 in the opposite direction. Write this frequency down also. Subtract the lower frequency from the higher one, and the result is the useable bandwidth of the antenna. In other words, this is the range of frequencies that you can expect to use this antenna on without experiencing really poor performance, damaging the rig, or both. For the sake of argument, let's say this antenna wound up at just under a 4MHz useable bandwidth. If so, you are in business! While not absolutely perfect for 2-meters, it is pretty close.



For the most perfectionists out there, let's look at this again. The best SWR we could get was at 149.120 MHz, and we couldn't raise the whip any more to get it any lower. The low 2:1 reading was right around 147.500 Mhz and the upper reading was 151.150 for a useable 2:1 bandwidth of 3.65 MHz. That means that as long as we stay in the upper repeater sub band of 2 meters, where the shift is a PLUS 600 kHz we should be OK. If we go below 147.500 on the transmit frequency, the SWR may be excessively high. Your only option here is to get a longer whip to replace the one you have and then start this whole process over again. If the antenna were originally too low in resonant frequency, of course you would be dropping the whip deeper into the base, and possibly cutting SMALL increments off the bottom end of the whip. 1/8- to 1/4-inch increments here only. It is very easy to wind up with a whip that is too short if you get too rambunctious with the cutters.

**Note:** A stainless-steel antenna whip **WILL** damage even the most stout of wire cutters if you try to use them to shorten your antenna. Either use bolt-cutters, or use a file to nick the whip in the pper place and then use a vise and a pair of vise-grips to snap off the end. A file can then be used to deburr the end.

As a final check, you may or may not wish to use an old-fashioned wattmeter to double-check the analyzer's readings. They are usually very close to each other, enough so that it doesn't make a bit of difference. Again, as long as you can keep the reflected power down to about 10 percent of the forward power, then you should be OK. Some folks obsess themselves with having the perfect 1.1:1 match all the time, which is certainly a desirable thing; The only problem is, that every time you QSY, your

## Preparing for Contest Season

Dave Clemons K1VUT courtesy of the CQ-Contest Reflector

As you know, the contest season is about to begin in earnest. After deciding that this would be the year that I would win top honors, I looked over the past contest and towertalk reflectors to remind myself of what I should do to reach my goal.

First, I did all my usual fall season preparations. I removed all of my antennas so I could clean and polish them. After I put them back up, I set my rotator to true north.

In order to get full legal output at my antennas, I decided to move the power amplifier to the top of my tower. That, of course, was a bit challenging. Part of the challenge was the weight involved, the rest of the challenge was working around the wasp nest that had been built since last year. For those of you who decide to undertake this radical move, I'd very much advise that you pin the amplifier so it doesn't turn in the wind (otherwise there will be a noticeable phase shift.)

Also, after deciding that this would be the year that I would operate 48 hours straight in CQWW, I began to get in training by staying up all night every night after work. So far I've been up 5 days straight. I figure I'll be in great shape by the weekend! My wife says I seem to be acting as though my thinking processes are suffering, but I seriously doubt it.

One of the great things about staying up all night are the educational TV shows you can see. I was watching a few nights ago and I saw a commercial for a cell phone amplifier. Now I don't have a cell phone, so losing calls in an elevator seldom concerns me. I had just about decided to listen up 1, when the advertisement got to the "But Wait!" part. (You'll all remember that this is the exciting time when they not only offer this great item for \$19.99, but they also throw in the kitchen sink if you call in the next 10 minutes.) Well, it seems like the throw-in item of the day was a "wave scrambler". This nifty little gadget hooks onto your phone and "repels all those harmful RF waves away from your head". At first I thought that this would be a great way to meet the new FCC RF Guidelines, but then I remembered that not only are handheld radios exempt, but I don't own one either. (If a radio uses an antenna shorter than 24 feet, or the radio doesn't have CW output, it's not a radio anyway, right?) Ah, but then I realized the ideal use for the wave scrambler. If I put one on top of a tower, just under the antenna, then it makes sense that the operator is going to experience reception nearly equivalent to that found during the biggest solar flare ever seen. At this point I realized that I had found my secret weapon. I immediately ordered 500 of the cell phone amplifiers, and then began installing the wave scramblers on all my competitors' towers. (You'll know who you are during the contest!)

Some might wonder why I would share this secret with anyone else? Why not? Not only did the TV advertiser run out of these little wave scramblers, but I also figure the two Dobermans tied to my tower will prevent a similar thing from happening to me. (On the chance that the dogs don't deter other would be contest winners, the wasps up top will probably be successful, or the hawks who have been roosting on my antennas ever since I put up a plastic owl to keep birds away....)

So, I wish all of you good luck ...well, perhaps not all of you... in the upcoming contests. By the way, if any of you are interested, I do have a few cell phone amplifiers for sale. They are brand new, in the original packaging, with manuals, for only \$19.99.

(*"101 Uses for an MFJ Antenna Analyzer"* Continued from page 5)

carefully tuned antenna is no longer perfectly resonant. Think about it!

The thing that most hams ask when they first see one of these devices used as I just described is simply "Hey that's really neat. But I can already do the same thing with my rig and my wattmeter!"

That may be true, but you may be putting your rig under a LOT of strain if the antenna is way out of whack, and the process is a lot more time consuming. Especially if the rig is down in your basement shack, and the antenna is up on your roof or tower! The antenna analyzer and a short coax jumper can go up onto the roof or tower with you and make life much, much easier for you!

Well, as you might have guessed, the MFJ-259 analyzer has earned a permanent place in my tool box. It is small, rugged and very useful. Priced right around \$250.00 MSRP, they can often be found for considerably less at hamfests and on the internet swap groups. The WASH club just happens to own one for use by its members. Just ask to see who has it and sign it out for that next antenna project!

**All Pittsburgh sports fans, especially Pirate fans, will be pleased to hear this: In an October 25<sup>th</sup> e-mail to WN3VAW, *Sports Illustrated* Magazine acknowledges that despite what they printed in a column in the August 27<sup>th</sup> issue, it was the Pittsburgh Pirates, not the Baltimore Orioles, that won the 1979 World Series. (Although *SI* apologized for the error, they have yet to print a correction.)**

**Both the ARRL and Amateur Radio Newsline are reporting this month that they are not soliciting for "affinity" credit cards, nor have they authorized any telemarketer to do so. Should you receive a phone call offering you a credit card sponsored by the ARRL, Newsline, or Westlink Radio Network, get all of the information you can about the telemarketing representative or firm, sponsoring organization, and bank or financial institution issuing the cards. Then decline the card and then e-mail the information to either ARRL or Amateur Radio Newsline (depending on which group is named) so that they can follow up and take appropriate action to put a stop to this unauthorized and possibly illegal practice.**

**The Butler County Amateur Radio Association is planning a Special Event Station to honor America's Veterans, at the VA Medical Center (VA Hospital) in Butler, on Veteran's Day, Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Event times are not established yet, but plan on setup starting at about 0800 and closing sometime around 1600.**

**The goal is to include as many Veterans (from the facility and community) as possible in the QSO's. We look forward to honoring our Nation's Veterans who have sacrificed so much, so that our country can remain free.**

**— Fred Held N3FH courtesy the BCARA Tell-A-Ham**

**The Clairvoyance Society of Greater London will not meet next Tuesday because of unforeseen circumstances.**

**— Attributed to a Financial Times ad by Jane Bryant Quinn**

## What Makes the WASH ARC Tick?

Paul Lusardi NØVLR

This question was posed several months back to get the WASH club members (and friends) to find out what makes us tick. A handful of responses were collected and they all revolved around 2 things: regular communication (more than just a monthly meeting) and social activities.

Communications comes in many forms. For those who participate in the daily grind of a commute, the 146.955 and the 443.65 repeaters have provided wonderful coverage (and relief from road rage) and allowed us to communicate with one another.

The Sunday night **WASHNet** has been getting the word out about club activities and other deserving news. Many new net control operators have stepped up to hone their skills as net control operators.

Another form of communication is what you're reading right now; the **WASHRag** newsletter; electronic or printed. The newsletter acts as a form of advertisement to those outside the club or who can not attend the monthly meetings. It has a surprisingly wide distribution via the WA3SH e-mail reflector. We also have the N3SH list reflector on **Yahoo! Groups** as a means of sharing ideas among fellow members.

There are a variety of activities that the club sponsors or participates in. There are monthly meetings, VE test sessions, Kit Nights, Contests (more radio, less eating) such as Field Day, the PA QSO party, the WASH 2M FM contest, and the US Island competition (where propagation and Murphy's Law meet). There are family oriented outings such as the summer picnic (more eating, less radio). How can we forget to mention our long-term relationship with **Al's Café**? Prior to; and sometimes after the monthly meetings, we stop by for dinner or a quick bite. I would be remiss not to mention hamfests such as the WASHfest in February, gathering at Breezeshooters in June, and for some, the Dayton Hamvention (a.k.a. "**The Big One**") in May.

Other comments revolved around the co-operative "Elmer-ing" that the club promotes, such as letting someone borrow that ARRL book you've had on the shelf or perhaps demonstrating some unique mode or aspect of the hobby. Not to mention the annually club-sponsored Technician classes. Each monthly meeting usually has a club member or guest speaker address a particular topic. There are literally hundreds of topics to be covered regarding amateur radio. It is the challenge of each member to give back a little to the club by using his/her experiences.

The WASH club is a success today because of the culmination of what it's members contribute. So, if you have an idea on how to make it better, use one of our forms of communication to spread the word!

**There seems to be a habit that has reached the new, younger hams; "For ID". You hear on the air, "This is W1AW for ID" or "N3DOK for ID." All that extra added language is not needed. When you identify that way it is as if you are saying to someone, "my name is Fred for ID". The redundancy is obvious when you think about it that way.**

**To identify on the air, simply state your call: "N3DOK." That is your unique call; no other identification needed.**

**I hope the younger amateurs will drop this bad habit now while they are just getting started in the Amateur Service. All of us need to learn to drop the redundancy.**

**— Bob Ferrey Jr. N3DOK**

## Hamvention® 2002

The theme of the 2002 Dayton Hamvention will be emergency communications and preparedness, the Hamvention Committee announced in a letter to vendors and exhibitors. Hamvention said it's expecting "record attendance" at its 51<sup>st</sup> event, May 17<sup>th</sup> —19<sup>th</sup>, 2002, at Dayton's Hara Arena. The annual event typically draws upwards of 30,000 amateurs.

"Hamvention expresses deep concern for the tragic events that occurred September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, and the world events since," the letter said. "In order to show our support for Amateur Radio, we are going to emphasize emergency communications and preparedness as our theme for Hamvention 2002."

The Hamvention Committee said that it anticipates new Amateur Radio-related exhibitors as a result of its theme choice and would "limit the number of computer exhibitors at the show to only those who are related to Amateur Radio." According to the Hamvention Web site, there are some 550 indoor exhibit spaces, and exhibitors are "limited to Amateur Radio, electronic, and related items only." — ARRL Web Extra, Dayton Hamvention Web Site

During the 2001 Hamvention, there was a rumor circulating about the future of the HARA Arena and Hamvention. DARA & the Hamvention Committee assures everyone that the HARA Arena has not been sold, the Arena is not being razed, the Hamvention's contract has not been bought out, and they will be back at HARA for years to come as scheduled. — Dayton Hamvention Web Site

As many WASH members know, a contingent of club members have spent their Hamvention stay in recent years at the University of Dayton dorms, located just off I-75 South of downtown Dayton. For Hamvention 2002, Greg Babin KQ3DX has reserved six suites for use by WASH members. Each suite, which includes a kitchenette and a living room with cable (but bring your own pots & pans and TV) has two two-bed bedrooms. Total cost for each suite is about \$80 per night, or \$240 for the entire weekend; a "full house" in a suite would come to a net cost of \$60 per person for the entire weekend! You will not find a deal anywhere near as good at any of the hotels or motels in the area... and we promise to find a better place for dinner on Friday night! If you are interested in sharing the suites with other WASH members, please send an e-mail to Greg ASAP at [tony-babin@msn.com](mailto:tony-babin@msn.com); he needs to know by late January 2002. The rooms must be paid for in advance. If there any "unclaimed" rooms, those reservations will be released. — Greg Babin KQ3DX



And speaking of Greg...

Congratulations again to you & Janine from all of us. And we're going to miss you in the contests...

(yes, we know what you're saying about operating... now...)

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2001 Ron Notarius WN3VAW

## DX QTH For Rent

Herb Schoenbohm ex-KV4FZ [herbs@vitelcom.net](mailto:herbs@vitelcom.net)  
 Courtesy of the KH2D DX-List Reflector

Ever wanted to be on the DX end of a pile up without spending a fortune on a Dx-pedition? It is now possible for a very low cost, especially with the air fares to the islands being the lowest in years. (A two week advanced purchase from Orlando to St. Croix is under \$400 round trip!)

You are invited to operate from my QTH in the US Virgin Islands. I have a fully stocked ham shack with adjoining efficiency apartment available for you by the day or week. No longer having a US license drives me to just to fix up a contest or DX ham shack for visitors.

The QTH is located near the beach with a panoramic sea view. The radio room has two complete setups rigs including an ICOM 765 and Drake L4-B linear modified for 160 meters. Antennas are a new Force 12 C3 at 75 feet, shunt fed tower for 160 meters. Numerous low band 500 and 800 foot Beverages for super quiet 160-80-40 meter receiving. Logging contest computer with CT Ver. 9.53 along with internet provided connection for spots, E mail, and Instant Messenger chat back home.

My wife is a great German cook and serves up the meals and drinks as required right to the ham shack. Location is already taken for the CQ WW Phone by a group. However, it is available for ARRL Sweepstakes (a proven winning location for both Phone and CW), CQ Worldwide CW, the ARRL 160 meter DX Contest, the Stew Perry Topband Challenge, and the CQ 160 Meter Phone and CW contests. A special NP2 2X1 call is available for use if needed.

During non contest periods enjoy the endless pileups on the WARC bands where the C3E is an excellent performer. No heavy equipment to lug along. Travel light if you wish and avoid the security hassles at airports with luggage. Just grab your swimming trunks and have an enjoyable time in America's tropical paradise, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. I will take care of the rest.

The contest weekends should fill up quickly and the discounted airfares may not run for long, so it is important to act quickly on this. Just let me know via E mail and I can confirm a date.

73, Herb Schoenbohm ex-KV4FZ, Box 4419, Kingshill, VI 00851  
 (340) 773-8522 [herbs@vitelcom.net](mailto:herbs@vitelcom.net)

**Virus warnings continue as a regular part of each day. I suppose more of them will be showing up in this environment. In any event, before you even think of forwarding any warning, take this simple step:**

**Go to <http://hoaxinfo.com>. In all likelihood, you'll find the warning to be a hoax, out of date or of little or no threat. Check it out first!**

— Jim Mortensen N2HOS (from *Gazette NL #108*)

## Silent Keys



Julia Maciejewski, mother of Carol Danko KB3GMN, October 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Fred Ullman N3SKR, former WASH member & retired Montour High School teacher, Sheraden PA, October 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Jim Ricks W9TO, inventor of the Hallicrafters HA-1 "TO Keyer" & founder of the Chicken Fat Operators club, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Retired KDKA-TV News Anchor Patti Burns, October 31<sup>st</sup>

## DX News Briefs



**VP6 Ducie Island** (OC-182) should be the next new Entity to be added to the DXCC List. The Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association (PIARA) has applied to the IARU for membership and the closing date for voting is 15 November. If PIARA becomes a member society of the IARU, Pitcairn will become a DXCC "Political Entity" and thus Ducie Island, which is separated from its "Parent" (Pitcairn itself) by 350+ kilometers, will become a DXCC "Geographic Separation Entity". PIARA has now announced that plans are complete for their expedition to Ducie Island which will be active with a VP6 callsign to be announced when the operation starts at 0000 UTC on 16 November. The two main frequencies — 21020 kHz (CW) and 21295 kHz (SSB) — will be used 24 hours a day. Other prime frequencies include 28495 kHz and 14195 kHz for SSB and 14020 kHz for CW, but some activity is planned to take place on the other bands (160-6 meters) and on RTTY as well. QSL via VE3HO. — 425 DX News, OPDX & many other sources

### The Sir Francis Drake Report:

**F8BBL** reports that on October 7<sup>th</sup>, "a crazy man" was using his call on 14.195 to disrupt the **3D2CI** pileup. — F8BBL

**K4UTE** is being "overrun" with phone calls & emails, but he is NOT the "701DX" manager. As far as he knows, this is a pirate. — K4UTE

"**8ZØA**" claimed to be operating recently from the one-time Saudi Arabia/Kuwait Neutral Zone and is now believed to be another pirate — 425 DX News, NJDXA DX News Reflector

### QSL Routes:

<b>XU7ABF</b> via XW2A – KZ2I	<b>HC8A</b> via KU9C — N5KO
<b>T32RJ</b> via JP1TRJ – KI4RU	<b>HC8GR</b> via N5KO — N5KO
<b>T32CY</b> via JA1PCY – KI4RU	<b>HC8L</b> via N2AU — N5KO
<b>3D2CI</b> via YT1AD — YS1RR	<b>HC8N</b> via AA5BT — N5KO
<b>3D2CY</b> via Z32AU — YS1RR	<b>HC8Z</b> via NE8Z — N5KO
<b>5WØMO</b> via OM2SA — W3BJ	<b>HD8Z</b> via NE8Z — N5KO
<b>PT2/KC2BAA</b> via OK1FWQ – KF2TI	<b>T93M</b> via K2PF — K2PF
<b>PTØT</b> via PY1LVF — K3AIR	<b>T97M</b> via K2PF — K2PF
<b>ZK1VVV</b> via VE7XF – W7OM	<b>7Q7RV</b> via ZS6DX — ZS6DX
<b>ZK1ASQ</b> via VE7XF – W7OM	<b>7Q7TV</b> via ZS6DX — ZS6DX
<b>ZK1APM</b> via VE7XF – W7OM	<b>FG/T93M</b> via DJ2MX — K2PF
<b>T87ZY</b> via K6VNX — OE1002419	<b>FG/T97M</b> via K2PF — K2PF

Logs for last month's Conway Reef DXpeditions can be found at:

<http://dx.qsl.net/cgi-bin/logform.cgi?3d2ci>

<http://dx.qsl.net/cgi-bin/logform.cgi?3d2cy>

<http://dx.qsl.net/cgi-bin/logform.cgi?3d2ad> — VE3EXY

It's been reported that Baldur DJ6SI is very unhappy with NCDXF for turning down his request for funding of the **J5X** & **J5Z** expedition on the grounds that "J5 is not sufficiently rare to justify our supporting you for this operation." — OE1002419

"From 1965 until he became a Silent Key in 1999, Pino, IØDUD, was the QSL manager for HV3SJ. I do not have his log information. However, I can confirm contacts which I myself made from HV3SJ during the following time periods: Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup>, 1994; and January 10<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1995. Please request confirmation of your contact via email before sending me 2 IRC's for a QSL card: [eschmidt@up.edu.pe](mailto:eschmidt@up.edu.pe)" — OA4SS/W9SI

Belgian stations are now using the **OQ** prefix (instead of **ON** or **OT**) in honor of the birth of Princess Elisabeth. They are permitted to do so through December 31<sup>st</sup> — ON4UN / OQ4UN

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News & DX Chat Reflectors, 425 DX News, OPDX News, & ARRL DX Bulletins for our DX News information. Thanks also to Bernie McClenny W3UR/The Daily DX for confirmations & additional information.



## FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy American Radio Relay League

NEWINGTON, CT, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2001 — The FCC has put on public notice a rulemaking petition from Kenwood Communications Corporation requesting that the FCC relax restrictions on Amateur Radio auxiliary station operation. The FCC assigned the rulemaking number RM-10313 to the petition and opened the request for public comment.

The petition marks the latest effort by the Amateur Radio equipment manufacturer to make its "Sky Command" remote station control system legal.

Kenwood seeks a change in Part 97 rules that would expand permission to operate an auxiliary station on all 2-meter frequencies above 144.5 MHz, except on 145.8 to 146.0 MHz. While not mentioning Sky Command by name, Kenwood said the proposed rule change "would allow the development and use by amateurs of new technology devices and increase the utility of the limited amateur allocations." Current FCC rules limit auxiliary operation to certain frequencies above 222.15 MHz

In July 2000, the FCC declared that use of the Sky Command did not comply with Amateur Service rules--specifically Section 97.201(b)--and declined to grant a waiver make it legal. The ARRL commented in opposition to Kenwood's earlier efforts to have the system declared to be in compliance, and it refused to permit Sky Command advertisements in QST.

Sky Command lets a user control a fixed HF station via a pair of dual-band transceivers. It operates in full duplex, using a 70-cm frequency to transmit audio and control commands to a dualband transceiver at the remote station and a 2-meter frequency to transmit received audio via the remote station's Sky Command transceiver to the operator's xcvr.

In its latest Petition for Rule Making filed May 1, Kenwood asserted that auxiliary operation is "poorly defined" in the FCC rules and "significantly overregulated." Kenwood described its remote-control system as "an innovative product" and argued that present limitations on auxiliary operation no longer are appropriate in today's amateur environment and "should be withdrawn in order to enhance amateur operation in the 2-meter VHF band."

Kenwood said it agrees that the 2-meter band is crowded in many areas, but the "short-duration, itinerant" type of auxiliary operation it envisions can be accommodated on FM simplex frequencies in accordance with ARRL or local band plans. "It is now time "to take the next logical step in the progress of deregulation of amateur auxiliary stations and to relieve the strict frequency limitations applied to auxiliary stations," Kenwood concluded.



## Announcing: The Second Annual WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest!

**Date & Times:** Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 13<sup>th</sup> 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

**Objectives:**

- To make as many contacts as possible (within an ~250 mile radius of the Point in Pittsburgh).
- To have fun!

**Band, Mode & Frequencies:** The contest will take place solely on 2 meter FM simplex (no repeater contacts). The frequencies are all standard 2 M simplex frequencies, every 15 kHz, from **146.535 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.405 to 147.585 MHz**. The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520, and simplex frequencies below that are **not** to be used. In the event of accidental QRM with non-contest QSO's in progress, please request that the QSO move to 146.52 or below; should they decline, respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

**Power Limit:** Maximum 50 watts output. No external amplifiers.

**Exchange:** Callsign, ZIP Code, contact number, and whether or not you are a Member of WASH. For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient — do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations should use their 6 digit postal code.

**Example 1:** "N3ZEL from N3ZCG, please copy Number 3, 15234, Member."

**Example 2:** "K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801, Non-Member"

**Example 3:** "W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 15137, Club Station"

**Contacts:** Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station **once** per ZIP Code — Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations. Remember hilltops work best!

**Scoring:** Each Contact, non WASH Member: 1 point  
 WASH Member: 2 points  
 (\*) Club Stations: 3 Points

**Multipliers:** Number of different ZIP Codes  
**Power:** Stations running 10 watts or less: 2  
 Stations running over 10 watts: 1

**Final Score:** Total Points x Locations x Power

(\*) "**Club Stations**" for the purposes of the contest are those calls assigned by the FCC to **bona-fide** Amateur Radio Clubs. They include **N3SH, WA3SH, WA3COM, W3KWH, N3GC, W3PIE, W3YA, K3HKK, K3CR, W3YI, W3VC, W3PGH, W3EXW, K3MJW, W1AW**, etc.

**After the Contest:** Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets can be downloaded from the WASH web site, [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org).

**Submit Log Sheets:** Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest  
 Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI  
 P. O. Box 254  
 Meadow Lands, PA 15347-0254.

Enclose a SASE #10 for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002

**Each log submitted with SASE on or before the deadline will receive a raffle ticket to WASHFest 2002 on February 24<sup>th</sup>!**

## 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!

Now in our SEVENTH year – Bigger and Better than Ever!



# WASHFest 2002



The South Hills Hamfest  
Hosted by the Wireless Association Of South Hills, Inc.

**Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2001 from 8 AM until 3 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)  
Hall opens at 6 AM for VENDORS ONLY!!  
Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall – Rt. 88 in Castle Shannon  
One Mile South of Route 51 — Ten Minutes from Downtown Pittsburgh  
Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RNX Repeater**

ARRL DXCC Field Checker for Western Pennsylvania, Mike Lazaroff  
K3AIR, will again be on-site to verify your QSL cards for DXCC !!!

General admission is still only \$4.00. XYLs and Harmonics under 12 admitted FREE with an adult.  
Tables are \$10.00 each without electricity and \$15.00 with electricity (limited number)  
All display areas are accessible to the physically challenged.

## Main Prize Drawing

**Watch this Space!  
Main Prizes To Be Determined!**

Main prize drawing tickets are \$2.00 each, 3/\$5.00, or 7/\$10.00  
Drawing to be held at 2 PM in the main hall.



**FREE COFFEE**  
Courtesy of HAM RADIO  
INSURANCE ASSOCIATES  
Of Canonsburg  
(And DOUGHNUTS  
For VENDORS ONLY  
6 AM until 8 AM)

For additional information, or to reserve your space, contact Steve Lane, W3SRL at (412)  
341-1043 or Bill Hill, W3WH at (724) 746– 2111 or (724) 746-1776  
Email: washarc@yahoo.com Website: www.washarc.org

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tables WITH power @ \$15.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tables w/o power @ \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to  
The Wireless Association Of South Hills, Inc.  
Send reservations to:  
WASH ARC  
897 Lovington Drive,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216-1725.  
Any table not occupied by 8:00 AM may be  
resold without refund unless prior arrangements  
have been made!



# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2002



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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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>	

Available	Cost (S M L XL)	Cost (2X 3X 4X)
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



**Remember:  
The November Meeting  
Is Election Night**

## *Inside This Issue:*

- N3SH Pennsylvania QSO Party Results!
- Care & Feeding of Antenna Analyzers
- What's up with the Christmas Party?
- What Makes the Club Tick?
- Contest Season is Upon Us...
- WASHFest 2002 Is Coming Up!
- The 2M FM Contest is Coming Up Too!

**All this and more... waiting for your right  
inside these pages...**



### **CONCENTRATION AT THE RIG...**

Shawn NØPEU and Steve W3SRL at the controls of N3SH Washington County in the 2001 Pennsylvania QSO Party. Operating from the W3WH shack, due to a last-minute QTH change, Shawn, Steve, Larry K3VX and Bill W3WH set a new record for the club station AND had a 67 County "Clean Sweep!"

Details on Page 1

Photo Courtesy of & ©Copyright 2001 Bill Hill W3WH



### **The WASHRag**

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