



WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2002

N3SH
WA3SH

Wireless Association of South Hills

2nd Annual WASH 2 Meter FM Contest!

We're only about 2 weeks away (as this is being sent) from the Second Annual WASH 2 Meter Simplex. Everyone who participated in it last year had a blast, and it was so successful that it's been imitated several times across the country (the Philadelphia area version even had a small write-up last year in CQ Magazine! We're all looking forward to this year's version, and we're hoping that you'll join in, even if for a little while.

Please note that there are a few small rules changes from last year, specifically regarding frequencies to use, location multipliers, and club station bonus points. So please review the rules and we'll look forward to seeing you on the 12th!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 12th, 2002 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 13th 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 Meter 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, contact number, ZIP Code, and whether or not you are a Member of WASH or a Club Station. 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"

(Contest Rules Continued on page 6)

Zero Beat

Zero Beat has several meanings: the first being *right-on* frequency, to clearly hear the transmitting station. It also is the name of the *Pike's Peak FM Association's* newsletter which I belonged to as a brand new technician back in Colorado Springs. Now, It represents some thoughts, current events or happenings with the WASH club from a diehard "zero" in 3 land.

This month, I thought it fitting that since we have had many new members join in the past few years, that we describe a brief history of our organization.

The Wireless Association of South Hills is a non-profit organization, affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and dedicated to advancing the principles of amateur radio while making it fun for all who participate. Dissatisfied by some of the "old school" ways of thinking, the WASH amateur radio club was founded in 1993 by several amateurs that were looking for new ways to enjoy their hobby. With the emphasis on enjoying the hobby, the WASH Amateur radio club continues to experience steady growth

Originally founded in 1993 as the South Hills Amateur Radio Club, the Wireless Association of South Hills was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a non-profit corporation in 1999. Our interests are very diverse as are our operating styles and personalities. This is one of the reasons that we have as much fun as we have with this wonderful hobby! From Morse code to digital modes,

(Zero Beat Continued on page 4)

WASHFest 2002 is Next Month!

Inside this issue:

Amateur Radio Calendar	2
WASH Club News	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Antenna Analyzers Part II	5
Who's on CW?	6
DX News Briefs	8
WASHFest 2002!	10

Next Meeting: January 10th, 2002

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, January 10th, at the **John McMillan Presbyterian Church**, 875 Clifton Road, Bethel Park, starting at 7:00 PM.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Bob Stoner W3RWS, talking about paper chasing and QSL card collecting.

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

**LOOKING
AHEAD:**

- **Breezeshooter's 10 Meter Ground-wave SSB Contest February 23rd, 2002**
- **WASHFest 2002, February 24th, 2002**
- **Breezeshooter's 10 Meter Ground-wave CW Contest March 23rd, 2002**

January 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net North Hills ARC Net	2 Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	3 WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting	4 Eico ARS Meeting	5 Kid's Day RA Erie VE Tests WPA Hilltoppers VE Tests Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
6 Ellwood City ARA Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	7 Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooter's Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	8 Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&KC Meeting Punxsataway Area ARC Mtng SATERN Net	9 North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highland VHFS Meeting Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	10 WASH Meeting Horseshoe ARC Meeting Beaver Valley ARA Meeting	11	12 WASH 2M FM Simplex Contest Skyview RS VE Tests Tri-County CW VE Tests 2 Rivers ARC HammEggs Breakfast North Hills ARC Breakfast
13 QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	14 Breezeshooter's Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	15 Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting SATERN Net	16 Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	17 WASH VE Tests Triple 'A' ARA Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC Mtng.	18 2 Rivers ARC Meeting	19 Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
20 Elk Co ARC Meeting WPA Repeater Council Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	21 Breezeshooter's Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	22 Mercer Co ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net North Hills ARC Net	23 Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting North Hills ARC Activity Night Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	24 WASH Kit Night	25	26 WASH Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
27 QCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	28 Breezeshooter's Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net	29 SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net North Hills ARC Net	30 Steel City ARC Social Nite Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	31 WACOM Board of Directors Meeting	2/1 Eico ARS Meeting	2/2 Groundhog Day RA Erie VE Tests WPA Hilltoppers VE Tests Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net

WASH 2002 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Paul Lusardi NØVLR
VP/Secretary Frank Bobro KB3FZU
VP/Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

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 Bill Hill W3WH
Field Day 2002 Chairman Larry Comden K3VX
Ways & Means Carol Danko KB3GMN
Media Communications Kevin DeRose N3KFD

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS:

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

N3SH/WA3SH WASHNET, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

The **10 METER DIGITAL N3SH/WA3SH WASHNET** is on Hiatus until further notice. Please contact Paul NØVLR for more information.

THE LEGAL STUFF

"**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 2002 by the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius WN3VAW

Permission is granted to other Amateur Radio publications to reprint articles in this issue, provided the original author & "**The WASHRag™**" are given credit. 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@njdx.org, wn3vaw@arrl.net or wn3vaw@fyi.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, its members, or its actions in any way shape or form.

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 its members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test January 17th!

Our Next VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, January 17th, 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 Jacqu  Gosselin N3ZEL: Telephone (724) 746-9235 or E-Mail: 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)

The **WASH Breakfast Gang** enjoyed a cold post-Christmas morning on December 29th over coffee and discussion at **Dietz's Restaurant** during their monthly get-together. This month's contingent included... ah, well, ye editor was unable to make it, so we don't know who all was there. Weather permitting, why not join us at our next one? The next Club Breakfast (and first for 2002) will be Saturday, January 26th, 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!

Congratulations to Bob W3RWS on obtaining his DXCC!

Santa Net 2001 took place on December 23rd, and about seven youngsters had a last chance to make their final requests to Mr. Kringle. Thanks again to Bryan K3OL for making the arrangements to pull Santa away from his duties for an hour.

Dayton 2002 Reservations: Several club members have asked if there's still room. Well, Greg KQ3DX has reserved 6 suites. Each suite can hold up to 4 adults, so up to 24 WASH members can be accommodated. About half of those spots have been spoken for, so there's still room available, but don't procrastinate! The cost works out to as little as \$60 per person — but Greg needs to know as soon as possible, and payment in full must be sent by the end of this month, so time is running out. For more information, contact Greg at tony-babin@msn.com.

WASH 2002 Dues are due **now**. Remember, dues and the hamfest are the two main sources of income for the Wireless Association, so it's very important that you get your dues in as soon as you can.

And speaking of WASHFest 2002, as this is being sent out, we're just under two full months away from the last Sunday in February. Now is the time to start talking up the 'fest to other area amateurs you bump into on the air. The flyer (page 10) will be mailed out shortly (Steve W3SRL & Bill W3WH will soon let us know when they need help stuffing the envelopes); if you hear someone say they didn't get one, make a copy and get it to them. This is THE biggest event the club sponsors all year, and we all have to do what we can to promote it; if we don't tell anyone, if we wait for "someone else" to do this for us, our hamfest will wither away and disappear like so many others have over the years. Don't let that happen! It's up to all of us.

The time is soon coming to figure out who's going to be doing what during WASHFest. If there's a particular committee or task you'd like to help out on, let Steve or Bill know ASAP. And thank you!

WASH 80 Meter DXCC Challenge: WN3VAW now stands at 54 DXCC entities confirmed, with another 5 pending. No reports from anyone else. But these next two months will be the peak times for 80/75 activity at nights, so we expect that to change (hint hint) ...

Club Liason for ARES Net Still Needed! Mark N3RDV reminds us that the club is still in need of an official "rep" to the weekly Allegheny County ARES/RACES net, Wednesday nights at 9 PM on the 147.09 Repeater. There's not too much to it — "your name/call will be put on the roster that is read each net. You simply check-in as often as you can. Each club liaison is scheduled to be Net Control on a rotating basis. Each representative is given a schedule and quarterly roster." Contact Mark at n3rdv@arrrl.net for more information, or for any questions or comments.

The ARRL has standardized the list of Club Names that can be used when you enter an ARRL contest electronically and indicate you are a member of an affiliated club.

So, when entering as a club member, the system will **ONLY** recognize "Wireless Association of South Hills" — no Inc., no club calls, etc. Details can be found at www.arrrl.org

"I'm looking for the call sign of a Silent Key, Cyril Bertram Renner (1926-2000), 513 Western Avenue, Beaver PA. His daughter has many fond memories of 3rd Party traffic with him from her childhood and we're interested in finding out if his call has been re-assigned or is available. It does not show up in the QRZ database, so I know it's expired. He was on the air at least through the late 1970's.

Any help that you can offer would be greatly appreciated!"

— **George J. Vargo K7CHP**
k7chp@arrrl.net or
vargo@physicist.net
 Phone (509) 375-3066 (voice)

I've started a Yahoo Group that some of you might be interested in. It's for people who enjoy or are interested in experimenting in the unlicensed low power 49 MHz band. It has a e-mail reflector (obviously), files on 49 MHz experimenting including how to make a 49 MHz rig and scanner repeater as well as links to other 49 MHz sites, photos of 49 MHz equipment (in its original form and modified), etc.

If anyone's interested, the URL is <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/49megahertz/>

— **Michael Aquillina KB3HFP**

WASH 2002 Dues are NOW DUE! Don't put it off, renew your membership today!

Minutes, December 13th Meeting

Paul Lusardi NØVLR, VP/ Secretary, WASH

December's meeting was the annual WASH Holiday party, held at Al's Café.

Many members were present and were celebrating the season with their associates and families.

A plaque was presented by Paul, NØVLR to Ron, WN3VAW for his 3 years of service as WASH president followed by a warm reception by all.

Ron, WN3VAW mentioned that there are many WASH members going to Dayton this year and the accommodations are a good value. Contact Greg, KQ3DX at tony-babin@msn.com for reservations.

A round of applause for Carol, KB3GMN for coordinating the Holiday party.

Activities: Steve, W3SRL mentioned that the hamfest was on track for 2002 and wants to remind everybody to "talk it up" on local repeaters to get the word out.

N3ZNI mentioned that the WASH 2M FM contest is coming up in January, details of contest are in the newsletter.

A motion was made by Bob, W3RJM to have next year's party at Al's Café. 2nd-ed by all and was carried.

The Icom Q7A was raffled off and was won by Hank, KB3FNM. The 2nd door prize, a "Ham santa" was won by our new Secretary, VP, Frank, KB3FZU – (ed. I am sure it will go well with his 7.5kW of Christmas lights at his QTH!)

There was no motion to adjourn as everybody was enjoying themselves.

Amateur Radio Classes in Ross Township

The North Hills Amateur Radio Club will offer free amateur radio classes for the technician licenses as well as 5 word per minute Morse code classes. The class are free. The students only expenses are instructional materials.

The first class session is 6:45 PM on Tuesday, January 15th, 2002 at the Perrysville Volunteer Fire Company, 985 Perrysville Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (Ross Twnshp). Classes will run Tuesday evenings for about 15 weeks.

Recommended textbook and code tapes for the classes are those published by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), "Now You're Talking (4th edition, year 2000)" and 5 word per minute code tapes. Text and tape are available from the ARRL at 1-860-594-0355 or www.arrl.org, and at many Radio Shack stores. VE testing for all amateur radio licenses will be scheduled for class participants.

Advance registration is recommended, to help with planning, but walk-ins are truly welcome. Plan to arrive early to register.

For more information or to register, please contact Bill Kristoff N3BPB, at 412-761-6400 (work) or 724-935-3466 (home), on the 147.090 MHz W3EXW/R repeater, or by email at n3bpb@nharc.pgh.pa.us.

(Continued from page 1)

satellite to amateur television, contesting to kit-building, there is something for every ham or aspiring ham in the WASH club.

73, Paul Lusardi NOVLR, President
Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. N3SH/WA3SH

WASH Spotlight: Airbus A320



Wondering why this photo's here? Well, certain Airbus's intended for international travel have HF capability, and THAT's why you can sometimes hear our club webmaster, Bob AA3FI, aeronautical mobile on 17 meters... (photo courtesy www.airbusdriver.net)

Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, January 26th



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	KB3FNM	N3IDH	N3XI	W4ZE
AA3JS	KB3FQT	N3INT	N3YPB	WA3JPP
K3BZW	KB3FZU	N3KFD	N3YQY	WB3BPH
K3LIE	KB3GMN	N3MJQ	N3ZCG	WB3GTL
K3OL	KB3GMO	N3QMV	N3ZEG	WN3BOJ
K3VX	KB3GMP	N3RDV	N3ZEH	WN3VAW
K3WR	KB3GOT	N3RHT	N3ZEL	Dan Mohr
KA3PPH	KB3GZG	N3RNX	N3ZNI	JoAnn Cottrill
KA3TFB	KB3HFP	N3SBF	N4MIS	Marilyn Nizinski
KA3TWI	KD3JV	N3SRC	N8DPW	
KA3UPY	KE3XB	N3TBK	NP2JF	K3EED (SK)
KA3WZO	KQ3DX	N3TES	W3GEL	N3KEH (SK)
KB3ANH	NØPEU	N3UE	W3HND	N3OBD (SK)
KB3CPI	NØVLR	N3UIW	W3JAF	N3SKR (SK)
KB3DCO	NØWPV	N3VEH	W3RJM	W3ZLK (SK)
KB3DSB	N2QIV	N3VVL	W3RWS	
KB3ECD	N3BSQ	N3VWF	W3SRL	
KB3ENX	N3CCC	N3WPT	W3VFA	
KB3EPC	N3CZZ	N3XFE	W3WH	
KB3EPI				
KB3ERQ				
KB3FGO				

Through December 31st, 2001
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

The Electronic "Swiss Army Knife" — Part III

Steve Lane W3SRL

In the last two installments of this series, we briefly discussed some of the many uses for the MFJ 259 antenna analyzer. In this, the third and final installment we will conclude this series with several more functions that are available for use with this very useful instrument.

One of the easiest functions to use on the MFJ-259 antenna analyzer is the frequency counter function. On top of the analyzer you will notice a BNC-type connector. This is the input port for the internal frequency counter. **** NOTE**** Do not apply a high-powered RF source directly to this port. The unit will be severely damaged if you do!

The simplest way to use the frequency counter safely is to install a rubber-duck type antenna on the BNC port, and place it in close proximity to the source you wish to measure. Apply power to the unit, and step the "mode" button though until the LCD displays "Freq. Counter" in its window, and then activate the RF source you wish to measure. The frequency of the source will be displayed in the LCD window. This is a great way to see if your transmitter is dead on its intended frequency. Slick!

Another simple measurement that many hams will find use for is the measurement of capacitance.

With this measurement you can measure the exact value of either a fixed or variable capacitor. This can be invaluable when dealing with old components in which the markings have been obliterated, or in experimenting with a new circuit in which you have placed a variable cap for experimentation. To measure the value of a capacitor, use the enclosed adapter stud in the center of the antenna port. This stud simply presses into the center of the SO-239 jack, and has a screw-post top on it to secure one lead of the capacitor. The second lead should go to the ground stud next to the antenna jack, grounding it to the chassis of the analyzer. Power up the analyzer and step the "mode" button through until "Capacitance in pF" appears in the LCD display. Adjust the frequency control until the approximate operating frequency of the intended circuit is reached, and the capacitance value of the component will be displayed.

The last simple measurement we are going to discuss here is similar to the second one above. This is the measurement of inductance, expressed in millihenries (mH). This measurement would be useful in determining the value of an inductor, or coil to be used in a particular circuit much like the example above with the capacitor. Attach the inductor in the same manner as we did the capacitor; keeping the leads as short as possible while doing so. Power up the analyzer, and step the "mode" button until "Inductance in uH" is shown in the LCD display. Again, select the approximate operating frequency of the circuit, voila! The value of the inductor appears in millihenries on the display. Again, this could be very, very useful in designing a new circuit, as you could conceivably use a variable inductor in place of a fixed-value unit until the circuit works as intended; Then simply remove the inductor and measure the set value of it. A fixed-value unit could then be permanently installed in its place.

Well, as I said in my first article, the MFJ 259 analyzer has earned a permanent place in my electronics toolbox. Small, light, and affordable by a large number of hams, this instrument can be invaluable to you even if you are not interested in designing a better electronic widget. For the average ham that occasionally needs to make an antenna adjustment, or troubleshoot a faulty piece of feedline, this little gadget is the cat's meow.

Considering the current new price of the MFJ-259 is right around \$225.00, and used units routinely turn up at hamfests for about half that, there is a unit out there for just about everyone. If I have whet your

appetite for this little gem, but would like to try one out for yourself before plunking down your hard-earned cash, consider checking out the WASH club's very own MFJ-259 analyzer sometime. It is available for use by all members in good standing, and there are plenty of "technical consultants" in the group that would be willing to help out with whatever projects you may wish to undertake.

Until next month!

PI4COM Vandalized & Destroyed

Matt Strelow KC1XX courtesy of www.contesting.com

PI4COM is located 20 miles south of Rotterdam in the Netherlands. It is a real nice contest location along the river Rhein and just few miles from the ocean.

On November 24th, the Saturday of the CQWW-CW contest, PA3EWP wanted to participate on ten meters with his own call part time and he did some operating during the day. After he left between 16:00 and 21:30 UTC, the shacks got broken into and all valuable stuff got stolen by unknown suspects. After that they set fire to the operating and sleep/storage shacks of PI4COM. It burned to the ground as you can see in the pictures.

Since the set up was a remote site close to the water in the Netherlands insurance was as good as impossible for them or would have been very expensive. Some team members found out about the fire on the 22:30 local news when during the interview with the fire chief, they spotted the antennas in the background. What a way to see your QTH go down.

The members of PI4COM (PA3EWP, PA7FM, PA5ET, PA3DZN, PA3BWD, PBØAIU, PA1ZX, PA3FOA, PA5AT) worked hard for the last 14 years to get the place to a world class contest station and lost everything but the antennas. I'm sure that all of you have them in the log.

The guys were smart enough to remove transceivers and amps from the remote location. But still they lost the housing (mobile trailers) and all the accessories like, rotor controllers, coax band pass filters, computers and monitors, cabling etc. We all know how much stuff you need in a big operation like this.

Plans to put it all back up are in the works. The PI4CC team offered their help with cash and man power as well.

Lets help them to rebuild it by donating some money. It doesn't have to be much. Please do what ever you can afford to show them that the contest community worldwide cares about their team.

I talked to a few guys on the phone and they wanted to help out. We opened an account on "paypal.com" and also a bank account. We'll collect for them and we will then send it to the Netherlands. Unlike many other things like this, every dime will go back into your log too, when you work the new PI4COM.

Please give your donation on paypal.com & use kc1xx@rcn.com as the e-mail to receive money. If you prefer to send a check you can do so to PI4COM Fund and send it to my address:

PI4COM Fund
814 Hurricane Hill Road
Mason, NH 03048

Please be sure to include your call sign.



Who's On CW?

Paul Dunphy VE1DX courtesy of the W4/KH2D's DX-List Reflector

VE1DX: Well Bob, I'm guess you're going to go on the DXpedition with the guys.
 VE1YX: Look Paul, if you're organizing this operation, you must know all the guys.
 VE1DX: I certainly do.
 VE1YX: Well you know I've never met the guys. So you'll have to tell me their names, and then I'll know all the operators.
 VE1DX: Oh, I'll tell you their names, but you know it seems to me they give these DXpeditioners now-a-days very peculiar names.
 VE1YX: You mean funny names?
 VE1DX: Strange names, pet names. Well, let's see, we have on the DXpedition, Who's on CW, What's on phone, I Don't Know is on RTTY . . .
 VE1YX: That's what I want to find out.
 VE1DX: I say Who's on CW, What's on phone, I Don't Know's on RTTY.
 VE1YX: Are you the QSL manager?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 VE1YX: You gonna be the pilot station too?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 VE1YX: And you don't know the fellows' names.
 VE1DX: Well I should.
 VE1YX: Well then who's on CW?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 VE1YX: I mean the fellow's name.
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: The guy on CW.
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: The guy sending Morse code.
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: The guy with the key . . .
 VE1DX: Who is on CW!
 VE1YX: I'm asking you who's on CW.
 VE1DX: That's the man's name.
 VE1YX: That's who's name?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 VE1YX: Well go ahead and tell me.
 VE1DX: That's it.
 VE1YX: That's who?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: Look, you gotta CW man?
 VE1DX: Certainly.
 VE1YX: Who's sending CW?
 VE1DX: That's right.
 VE1YX: When you send the CW man's QSL cards to him every month, who gets them?
 VE1DX: Every one of them.
 VE1YX: All I'm trying to find out is the fellow's name on CW.
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: The guy that gets . . .
 VE1DX: That's it.
 VE1YX: Who gets the QSL cards . . .
 VE1DX: He does, every one of them. Sometimes his XYL comes down and picks them up.
 VE1YX: Who's XYL?
 VE1DX: Yes.
 PAUSE
 VE1DX: What's wrong with that?
 VE1YX: All I wanna know is when the CW op fills out the card, how does he sign his name?
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: The guy.
 VE1DX: Who.
 VE1YX: How does he sign . . .
 VE1DX: That's how he signs it.
 VE1YX: Who?
 VE1DX: Yes. PAUSE
 VE1YX: All I'm trying to find out is what's the guys name on CW.
 VE1DX: No. What is our phone operator.
 VE1YX: I'm not asking you who's on phone.
 VE1DX: Who's on CW.
 VE1YX: One mode at a time!
 VE1DX: Well, don't change the operators around.
 VE1YX: I'm not changing nobody!
 VE1DX: Take it easy, buddy.
 VE1YX: I'm only asking you, who's the guy on CW?
 VE1DX: That's right.
 VE1YX: Ok.
 VE1DX: Alright.
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: What's the guy's name on CW?
 VE1DX: No. What is on phone.
 VE1YX: I'm not asking you who's on phone.
 VE1DX: Who's on CW.
 VE1YX: I don't know.
 VE1DX: He's on RTTY, we're not talking about him.
 VE1YX: Now how did I get on RTTY?
 VE1DX: Why you mentioned his name.
 VE1YX: If I mentioned the RTTY man's name, who did I say is operating RTTY?
 VE1DX: No. Who's is operating CW.
 VE1YX: What's on CW?
 VE1DX: What's on phone.
 VE1YX: I don't know.
 VE1DX: He's on RTTY.
 VE1YX: There I go, back on RTTY again!
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: Would you just stay on RTTY and don't go off it.
 VE1DX: Alright, what do you want to know?
 VE1YX: Now who's operating RTTY?
 VE1DX: Why do you insist on putting Who on RTTY?
 VE1YX: What am I putting on RTTY?
 VE1DX: No. What is on phone.
 VE1YX: You don't want who on phone?
 VE1DX: Who is on CW.
 VE1YX: I don't know.
 Together: RTTY!
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: Look, you gotta any satellite operators?
 VE1DX: Sure.
 VE1YX: The RS-12 guy's name?
 VE1DX: Why.
 VE1YX: I just thought I'd ask you.
 VE1DX: Well, I just thought I'd tell ya.
 VE1YX: Then tell me who's the RS-12 Satellite operator.
 VE1DX: Who's operating CW.
 VE1YX: Stay with the satellite guys!!! I want to know what's the guy's name on RS-12?
 VE1DX: No, What is on phone.
 VE1YX: I'm not asking you who's on phone.
 VE1DX: Who's on CW!
 VE1YX: I don't know.
 Together: RTTY!
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: The RS-12 operator's name?
 VE1DX: Why.
 VE1YX: Because!
 VE1DX: Oh, he's our PSK-31 op.
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: Look, You gotta 160 man on this DXpedition?
 VE1DX: Sure.
 VE1YX: The 160 guy's name?
 VE1DX: Tomorrow. VE1YX: You don't want to tell me today?
 VE1DX: I'm telling you now.
 VE1YX: Then go ahead.
 VE1DX: Tomorrow!
 VE1YX: What time?
 VE1DX: What time what?
 VE1YX: What time tomorrow are you gonna tell me who's the 160 operator?
 VE1DX: Now listen. Who is not on top band.
 VE1YX: I'll break your arm if you say who's on CW!!! I want to know what's the 160 guy's name?
 VE1DX: What's on phone.
 VE1YX: I don't know.
 Together: RTTY!
 PAUSE VE1YX: Gotta packet man?
 VE1DX: Certainly.
 VE1YX: The packet guy's name?
 VE1DX: Today.
 VE1YX: Today, and tomorrow's on 160.
 VE1DX: Now you've got it.
 VE1YX: All we got is a couple of days on the DXpedition.
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: You know I'm a packet operator too.
 VE1DX: So they tell me.
 VE1YX: I get behind the rig to do some fancy packet work, Tomorrow's on 160 and a Big Gun gets on the air. Now the Big Gun connects to me on packet. When he connects, me, being a good packet man, I ask him to call us on CW. So I tell him the 20-meter frequency where the CW operator is, and he calls who?
 VE1DX: Now that's the first thing you've said right.
 VE1YX: I don't even know what I'm talking about!
 PAUSE
 VE1DX: That's all you have to do.
 VE1YX: Is to tell the guys to call us on CW.
 VE1DX: Yes!
 VE1YX: Now who's gonna answer them?
 VE1DX: Naturally.
 PAUSE
 VE1YX: Look, if they call us on CW, somebody's gotta answer them. Now who does it?
 VE1DX: Naturally.
 VE1YX: Who?
 VE1DX: Naturally.
 VE1YX: Naturally? VE1DX: Naturally.
 VE1YX: So they QSY to 20 and call Naturally.
 VE1DX: No they don't, they call Who.
 VE1YX: Naturally.
 VE1DX: That's different.
 VE1YX: That's what I said.
 VE1DX: You're not saying it . . .
 VE1YX: I tell them to call Naturally.
 VE1DX: You tell them to call Who.
 VE1YX: Naturally. VE1DX: That's it.
 VE1YX: That's what I said!
 VE1DX: You ask me.
 VE1YX: I would tell them to call who?
 VE1DX: Naturally.
 VE1YX: Now you ask me.
 VE1DX: You tell them to call Who?
 VE1YX: Naturally.
 VE1DX: That's it.
 VE1YX: Same as you! Same as YOU!!! I tell them to call Who. Whoever it is busts their call and the guy calls on phone. Who picks up the call and tells What it's busted. What tells I Don't Know to listen for him on RTTY. I Don't Know gets the call right Tomorrow. He's in the log on all three modes. Another guy calls Because. Why? I don't know! He's on RTTY and I don't give a damn!
 VE1DX: What?
 VE1YX: I said I don't give a damn!
 VE1DX: Oh, that's our Pactor man.

(Contest Rules Continued from page 1)

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, NY3EC, 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.

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 7th, 2002

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

'Twas the Fortnight before Christmas, and all through the Cafè All the WASH Folks were enjoying dessert (no parfait?)



About 40 WASH members and their families gathered at *Al's Cafè* on December 13th for our annual Holiday/Christmas Party. The food was great, the room was gorgeous, the service outstanding, the company was fantastic, and a great time was had by all!

Thanks to Bob W3RJM for these shots of the party guests at the various tables during dinner. (Don't be fooled by the dark backgrounds, that's a function of the digital camera & the editing process, not the room!)

There are just too many people shown to identify... see how many you can recognize!

(All photos this page ©2001, 2002 Robert J. McCloskey W3RJM & used with permission)



Do you know who N6NHG/7 is (or was)? Computer professionals know him better as convicted computer hacker Kevin Mitnick (currently out of jail and on probation through 2003). On December 11th, Mitnick's routine license renewal (on hold since 1999) was denied, and he has been issued a Hearing Designation Order before an Administrative Law Judge. The denial was on the grounds of character issues related to his federal felony convictions.

A somewhat biased version of the story appears at <http://www.theregister.co.uk/content/55/23494.html>

Silent Keys



John Thompson WB3FYP, Blawnox, November 8th
John Parrott W4FRU, Veteran OSL Manager, November 28th
Homer O. Linnert K3TTJ, Bethel Park, December 6th

Whatever Happened to Sir Bobby?

An E-Mail from Sir Robert Martin VP2MO
courtesy Steve Rutledge N4JQQ

(Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an e-mail sent to Steve Rutledge N4JQQ, inquiring about Bobby VP2MO. VP2MO, who was knighted in recognition of his work during a hurricane, was widowed and suffered major injuries in an August 1995 car accident. He's not been heard from for some time since the accident until he sent this...)

I am here in the UK where I came in 1999 as a result of my need for specialist medical care. It has been a long hard road, totally from a lifetime in the Caribbean. The good news is that I have been able to walk again with much less pains than I originally experienced. In fact, the main reason which brought me here was because of my inability to walk and was actually in a wheel-chair even when I arrived here

Anyhow I was originally diagnosed as having a nerve in my spine trapped as a result of the auto accident and I would need surgery to remove a section of the spine and if this was not done urgently, I would be permanently crippled. Thus began a long period of preparatory work while I was on the long surgical waiting list. I was subjected to some pain relieving methods including hydro-therapy combined with a long list of pain killers. The good news is that by the time it came for the pre-surgery exams, the x-rays showed that the structure had shifted and the nerve released, thus the continuous exercises (painful like heck) and today I am walking upright except for the almost continuous pains from the several areas where I sustained fractures. The climate here (especially now) doesn't make it any easier but it is a toss-up between being close to the other medications and medical attention I need. I have come to terms with these things, but I can never come to terms with losing Mae my wife, the way I did. Like all those loving people of September Eleventh, she never deserved this.

I don't know, I have been sort of keeping my head low and out of the highlights and just think I've had just about all the publicity I need. Of course I know I owe it to my millions of friends around the world who have been concerned about me.

I still hope to return to Montserrat some day and build a much bigger DX station than I had before.

Thanks a million and yes, you can simply say to all that I am truly grateful for their concern. 73 and God Bless.

Regards,

Bobbie, VP2MO

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, 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!

DX News Briefs

Amateur Radio in **North Korea** is taking another step forward as YT1AD and YU7AV returned from a trip there in December with the announcement of **P5 licenses** issued to them & two other operators, effective during their next trip on or about March 5th, 2002. Calls, if issued, have not yet been announced. In return, they will be training at least one class of new Novice operators and expect an initial class of up to 20 amateurs. No word on how (or if) this affects the current operating permission of UN relief worker **P5/4L4FN**. — VE3EXY

The Pitcairn Island ARA has announced plans for another expedition to activate new DXCC entity **VP6 Ducie Island**. The operation will be departing on March 12th, but exact dates of operation have yet to be announced. The operation (callsign tba) will be running 24x7 on 15 meters (phone & CW). Amateurs are being asked to avoid "insurance" QSO's to maximize the number of stations contacted on each band/mode. QSL via VE3HO — PIARA News Release

The Sir Francis Drake Report:

"VP8/LU5DG", QRV in mid December, is Slim in action. LU5DG was not the operator and requests no QSL's be sent to him — LU6EF
"P5/YT1AD" on December 20th is Slim again, capitalizing on the above news. — WB6RSE

You can also ignore cluster spots for **"P5/HAØHW"** — HAØHW
Someone has been making phony spots on the DX clusters using **F8BBL's** call. It's not him — F8BBL

Look for **T12/AA1CM** (CW) and **T12/W1USN** (SSB) February 4th – 11th. QSL each via home call — AA1M

"I have just sent by the bureau more than 800 QSL for **9K2F** (IOTA AS-118 Years 1994, 1996, 1999), this means there is no more cards pending for this call. All the direct request for **9K2USA** are answered and will be mailed December 24th (TNX 9K2TO)" — 9K2HN

All **TXØDX** Chesterfield QSL cards are now out, even to those who didn't send for them (via bureaus) — OH2BH via N4GN

N2CYL is not the manager for **EL2PP**. Toni had in the past been able to verify a few QSO's over the air during her schedules with Monica but never had the logs. Sadly, Monica (now in Italy) was forced to flee her home & evacuate from Liberia on no notice, the logs and equipment were left behind and are now lost. — N2OO

T19M is scheduled to be QRV February 17th – March 4th with a crew of 17 operators running 160 through 6 meters — 425 DX News

QSL Routes

3D2CY (SSB) via Z32CY – KQ4YI	J5X via DJ6SI – KA2MGE
4K5CW via UT3UY — UT3UY	JW5E via JW5NM — RA3DNC
5R8EE (1988) via FR8EL — VK1MJ	K3J via AH6HN — WB2JRI
5R8O (May 2000 – May 2001 only) via G3SWH — G3SWH	P43P via I2MQP — RA3DNC
5WØVK via OH3JR — W9OL	T2T via JN1HOW — JF6QJX
6Y6L via WA8LOW — LU2DKN	T5X via DJ6SI — KA2MGE
6W4RK via F5NPS — RA3DNC	TR8CA via F6CBC — LU2DKN
8Q7IJ via G3TMA — ARRL DXB	UA6JD via KØKG — KI4RU
9G5Z via OM3LZ — RA3DNC	V47KP via K2SB — RA3DNC
CN8YR via K4KU — K4KU	V51KV via ZS6DX — ZS6DX
E3ØTA via DL5NAM — RA3DNC	V51VE via ZS6DX — ZS6DX
EXØS (1992) via UAØSAU — K7XM	VP2E via N5AU — RA3DNC
FK8VHM (1997) via F5TLP — WB2JRI	VK9AA/9 via DL8YR — DL8YR
HR3J via JA6VU — JA6WFM	XU7ABC via G3XAQ — KA2MGE
	YN9HAU via EA7JX — LU2DKN
	ZK1NCP via JR2KDN — W4FOA

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

NEWINGTON, CT, December 18th, 2001 — Despite objections from the ARRL, the FCC has announced plans to amend its Part 15 rules to allow fixed point-to-point transmitters in the 24.05 to 24.25 GHz band to operate at field strengths of up to 2500 mV per meter. Among other safeguards against interference, the FCC will require devices operating at these higher field strengths--10 times the level currently permitted--to use highly directional antennas. Amateur Radio is primary at 24.0 to 24.05 GHz and secondary on the rest of the band. The AO-40 satellite includes beacon, digital and analog transmitters in the vicinity of 24.048 GHz

"This band has accommodated unlicensed transmissions, government radar and amateur facilities with no major conflicts," the FCC said. "By allowing a greater variety of systems to occupy the band, we will provide the opportunity for innovative products and services to be made available to the American public as quickly as demand dictates. The FCC said those "innovative products and services" include managing network traffic on a high-speed wireless Internet service or connecting a multi-building intra-office network.

The FCC first proposed permitting the Part 15 devices at the elevated field strengths in 1998, in response to a *Petition for Rule Making* from Sierra Digital Communications Inc. Sierra had requested that its proposal be authorized to include a portion of the 24.0 to 24.05 MHz segment, but ARRL had argued that such a move would adversely affect amateur operations there, and the FCC agreed. The FCC finally acted in the three-year-old proceeding, ET Docket 98-156, on December 11 in a *Report and Order* that closely mimics its earlier *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*.

Noting that Part 15 devices operate in a non-interference basis to licensed services and must accept interference from licensed services, the FCC said it was requiring directional antennas with gains of at least 33 dBi to minimize interference potential. The FCC also imposed more stringent frequency stability and spurious emissions requirements than initially proposed to help reduce interference potential.

The FCC said it disagreed with ARRL that permitting Part 15 devices at the higher field strengths would increase the risk of interference to amateur operations in the 24.05 to 24.25 GHz segment. "The use of a directional antenna will change the shape of the radiated radio frequency field but not the amount of geographic area contained in that field," the FCC said. The Commission said that Part 15 field disturbance sensors have operated in the band at 2500 mV/m field strengths "for years with no adverse affects to other users in the band, including amateur operations."

The ARRL pointed out that the FCC had earlier denied a request to allow low-power fixed systems in the 24.04-24.25 GHz band, but the FCC said that Sierra's application would involve much lower power levels than the earlier proposal, not to mention the use of highly directional antennas. The FCC also turned down an ARRL request that manufacturers maintain detailed records of unlicensed transmitter installations that employ the expanded Part 15 operating parameters and supply it to ARRL for coordination purposes.

The FCC took issue with ARRL's assertion that the FCC should acknowledge that Part 15 devices are only allowed under the Communications Act when they pose no interference potential to licensed services. Calling the ARRL interpretation "overly conservative," the FCC said Part 15 rules appropriately provide for unlicensed devices to share spectrum with licensed services and provide adequate protection to licensed services if interference does occur.

The entire 24.0-24.25 GHz band is allocated for use by Industrial,



ARRL Web Extra courtesy American Radio Relay League

Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment. In addition to Amateur Radio, the 24.05-24.25 segment is allocated on a secondary basis for radiolocation in the Private Land Mobile Radio Services and for Earth-exploration satellites. The band is adjacent to frequencies authorized for satellite Earth exploration and for radio astronomy and the Digital Electronic Message Service (DEMS).

In the summer of 1998, the ARRL wrote yet another letter to the FCC imploring it to beef up amateur enforcement. It was October when the letter arrived in the Compliance and Information Bureau. By November, amateur enforcement had been transferred *carte blanche* from the Wireless Bureau, which retained its licensing and policy functions. Amateur enforcement thus began in this renewed context in November 1998.

In this three-year period, the Commission established an Enforcement Bureau and enhanced its enforcement presence across the board in the various areas it regulates--from broadcast to tower lighting, unsolicited faxes and long-distance carrier slamming to pirate radio cases. Enforcement in the Amateur Service was folded into the Enforcement Bureau and continued as well in a vigorous and determined way.

Now moving into the fourth year of diligent amateur enforcement, I have strong feelings about the Amateur Radio Service and its diverse participants. I personally believe that it has the brightest potential in 25 years, and there are several reasons why. The overwhelming majority of amateur operators care about Amateur Radio, want it to thrive and want to share their joy and enthusiasm for it. They want to be proud of it and proud to demonstrate it to a niece, neighbor or news reporter. That's why we have had a 99.9% support level for the enforcement program.

Amateur Radio remains at the leading edge of technological experimentation, especially in the digital arena. The satellites, Amateur Radio participation in the space program, the array of new equipment and the convergence of Amateur Radio and computers — perhaps best exemplified by the popularity of PSK31 — all point toward great things ahead for Amateur Radio.

It is the task of you, as individual amateurs, to educate the public and the media about the wonderful benefits of Amateur Radio. You need to do a better job of that. You also need a greater realization that you are, indeed, heard throughout the world and you need to be more aware of how you sound to the rest of the world. I hear far too many operators who don't realize what a bad reflection they are on American amateur operators. Additionally, you, as well as any other serious national activity, business or service, need to continue to support a vigorous national voice in Washington.

But I can honestly say, from this three-year perspective, that the overall level of rule compliance in the Amateur Radio Service is, simply put, outstanding! The vast majority of operators are proud of the service and want to contribute to it and want to pass on the great legacy that it has become. Your enthusiasm is contagious.

I am proud of the Amateur Service. I saw the energy and compassion and excellent operating of amateurs at the Pentagon and World Trade Center after September 11. I've seen and heard it at the National Hurricane Center in Miami and in countless meetings with individual amateurs and at amateur events all over the United States. Amateur Radio operators in America have a lot to be proud of.

Participate in your service with enthusiasm, celebrate it, enjoy it and share it, because you have made it an incredible national resource and the only truly fail-safe communication service on the planet Earth.

I am proud of all of you. My personal and professional goal for Amateur Radio is the same: *May it last a thousand years!*

— Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH

Now in our SEVENTH big year!

WASHfest 2002



The South Hills Hamfest

Sponsored by the Wireless Association of South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Sunday, February 24th, 2002

8 AM until 3 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall

3600 Library Road (Route 88) Castle Shannon, PA

Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL

Bring this flyer for \$1.00 off General Admission!



(800) 545-8881

FREE Coffee for the entire Hamfest courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES of Canonsburg, PA

Back by Popular Demand: Onsite DXCC QSL Card Checking!!

MAIN PRIZE DRAWING at 2 PM—You've Got to play to WIN!

1st Prize: Icom IC-207 Dual-Band Mobile Transceiver

2nd Prize: MFJ-269 HF/VHF/UHF Antenna Analyzer

3rd Prize: Radio Shack HTX-245 Dual-Band HT

4th Prize: Icom IC-V8 2-meter Handheld Transceiver

5th Prize: Motorola FRS Handheld Pair (No License Needed!)

Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, or 3 for \$5.00— All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For reservations, or information, Contact Steve Lane, W3SRL at (412) 341-1043 or Bill Hill, W3WH at (724) 746-1776

Email us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.washarc.org

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X \$15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSN. OF SOUTH HILLS
897 Lovington Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15216-1725

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, 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): _____

Call Sign: _____

Name: _____

License Class: _____

Address: _____

Expires On: _____

City, State: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

Email Address: _____

ARRL Member? Yes No Family ARRL Member? Yes No

New Members Only:

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

Date: _____

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]

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
				Sub-Total	
				6 % Sales Tax	
				Total Enclosed	

<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



**This Month:
WASH 2M FM Contest
Next Month:
WASHFest 2002**



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

Inside This Issue:

- W3SRL on Care & Feeding of Antenna Analyzers, Part 3 of 3
- Complete Rules for THIS MONTH's WASH 2M FM Simplex Contest!
- WASHFest 2002 Is But A Few Weeks Away!
- WASH Christmas/Holiday Party Photos!
- K4ZDH's Comments on Amateur Radio Enforcement,!
- Anyone remember VP2MO?
- "Heeeyyyy, Abbott!"

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



LAST, BUT NOT LEAST!

New WASH President Paul Lusardi NØVLR presents Bill Hill W3WH with his WASH PA QSO 2001 Clean Sweep award at the WASH Christmas/Holiday Party in December. (Work commitments forced Bill to miss the November meeting... and he had completely forgotten about the award and was very pleasantly surprised!)
More Party Photos Inside!

Photo Courtesy of & ©Copyright 2001, 2002 Ron Notarius WN3VAW