



WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org

Volume 4 Issue 10

October 2002

N3SH

WA3SH



Wireless Association of South Hills

45th Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party: Two Weeks To Go & Counting!

It hardly seems possible that we're less than two weeks away from one of the most popular and fun ham events of the year- The 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party. Since our Club is interested in being appointed the Special Bonus Club Station for next year, it's especially important that we demonstrate a strong effort by our Club THIS YEAR!

Both **N3SH** and **WA3SH** will be activated by several Club members in Clarion and Westmoreland/Somerset Counties but these efforts alone won't do the trick. We need as many of our members as possible to get on the air from Home or Mobile to show that we really want to participate in all aspects of the QSO Party. Please try to get on even if it's only for a little while — and don't forget to submit your log (if you need help after the contest, don't worry, we have plenty of people who will be glad to lend you a hand!). If you have questions about any aspect of the QSO Party please ask at the next meeting or Sunday night on the net etc etc.

Now as far as **N3SH** is concerned, Richie N3SBF and Carol KB3GMN are hosting **N3SH** at their Camp in Clarion County again this year —Thanks Richie and Carol! We are planning to have 3 stations on the air as continuously as possible, staffed (so far) by NØPEU, NØVLR, W3SRL, K3VX, N3SBF, and W3WH — and we have plenty of room for more operators if you're interested! We're all looking forward to a great time and we'll let you know how things went in the next **WASHRag**.

N3SH plans to use all wire antennas. The ops also plan to help Richie install a 2 meter Yagi on his tower which will allow us to keep in touch with home and more importantly with N3ZNI and KB3GOT who will be motoring all around Pa giving out counties to the deserving. Ed and Dave have a very ambitious schedule and we all hope they'll be successful!

As many of you heard at the September meeting, Frank KB3FZU has obtained a television transmitter site on the Westmoreland/Somerset County line, out Route 30 on Laurel Ridge (about 2 hours from Downtown Pittsburgh), at 2800 feet elevation for the **WA3SH** operation. We want to run, or be capable of running, at least two transmitters from this location, and some attempts at VHF & UHF operation also. Currently Frank has the site available on Saturday and can try and obtain permission for Sunday if we have enough interest. We need additional club members to volunteer to help Frank & crew set up the antennas and man the station during the contest.

— 73, Bill Hill W3WH
& Larry Comden K3VX

WASH Pennsylvania QSO Party Organizers

Who's going to be on from which counties? See Page 6 for some of the announced Portable, Rover, and Mobile Operations. Remember, every little bit of activity helps the Club Aggregate Score effort, so please try and help WASH out by getting on the air and operating, even if just for a few contacts!

Introducing *EchoLink*

EchoLink is software which allows Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using Voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. It allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, from computer to station, or from computer to computer.

The program, freeware and runs on Microsoft Windows® 95 or above. Download it from <http://www.synergenics.com/el/register.htm>.

EchoLink opens up new possibilities for communicating around the world with other amateurs. Your PC links you or a local repeater to any of thousands of other stations worldwide via the Internet. Thanks to the hard work of Steve Lane W3SRL and Ed Wolf N3UE, the **442.55 + W3SRL/R** repeater is one of our local Echolink nodes.

From your home PC, if the bandwidth of your Internet connection permits it, EchoLink allows up to 10 different stations to be connected at once. This is especially useful in "Sysop mode" for running a roundtable on the local repeater, or allowing "listening" stations to be connected without blocking out others. "Floating" pop-up windows keep track of how many stations are on the system, along with detailed status about the current connection.

A number of useful remote-control features are available in "Sysop mode." Extended DTMF commands allow stations to be searched or connected by callsign, or the status of any station to be queried. The program also includes a built-in Web server for remote control of EchoLink from any browser on the Internet.

You can find a list of EchoLink nodes accessible from W3SRL/R at <http://home.insightbb.com/~n9yty/>

EchoLink can be controlled on the 442.55 repeater via the DTMF keypad on your microphone. You can get a short list of the primary commands for EchoLink by contacting Steve W3SRL w3srl@arrl.net

— Some of this information courtesy of Synergenics

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Next Meeting: October 10th, 2002

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

Our topic for the night will be the Pennsylvania QSO Party and final details on our planned operations.

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RN/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

Want to volunteer to be a Net Control Station? Please contact FM Net Manager Kevin N3HKQ

Did You Know

October 14th, 1947 was the day that USAF Captain Chuck Yeager flew faster than Mach 1, the first man to fly an aircraft supersonic. Classified Top Secret by the US Military, most Americans did not find this out until the movie "The Right Stuff" was released in the theatres in 1983.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **WASHFest 2003, February 23rd, 2003**

October 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Butler Co ARA Meeting South Hills Brass Pounders & Modulators Meeting Skyview RS Meeting North Hills ARC Club Net WACOM Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn/Shop Net	2 Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SkyWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	3 WACOM Meeting & Swap Meet RA Erie Meeting Penn State ARC Meeting Uniontown ARC Club Net	10-4 Good Buddy Day Eico ARS Meeting ARRL Simulated Emergency Test	5 Ca QSO Party RA Erie VE Test Beaver Valley ARA VE Test Foothills ARC Breakfast Somerset Co ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
6 Ca QSO Party Ellwood City ARA Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Club Net WASH FM Net NØVLR NCS	7 Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society Meeting Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Club Net Triple "A" ARA Club Net	8 Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Fort Venango M&K Meeting Punxsatawney AARC Meeting North Hills ARC Club Net WACOM Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn/Shop Net	9 North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highlands VHF's Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	10 WASH Meeting Beaver Valley ARA Meeting Horseshoe ARC Meeting Uniontown ARC Club Net	11 2 Rivers ARC Meeting Quad Co ARC Meeting VP2MAB & VP2MEB QRT — QSL Via WA31 OU N3SH Operators Breakfast	12 Pa QSO Party North Hills ARC VE Test Skyview RS VE Test 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
13 Pa QSO Party OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Club Net WASH FM Net N3HKQ NCS	14 Columbus Day (observed) Bum of the Month Lunch ARL of Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Club Net Triple "A" ARA Club Net	15 Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Juniatia Valley ARC Meeting North Hills ARC Club Net WACOM Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn/Shop Net	16 Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co SkyWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	17 WASH VE Test Triple "A" ARA Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC Meeting Penn State ARC Social Nite Uniontown ARC Club Net	18	19 Jamboree On The Air Mercer Co ARC VE Test North Hills ARC Elmer Net
20 Jamboree On The Air Eik Co ARC Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Club Net WASH FM Net N3HKQ NCS	21 Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Club Net Triple "A" ARA Club Net	22 Mercer County ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting North Hills ARC Club Net WACOM Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn/Shop Net	23 North Hills ARC Activity Night Fort Armstrong WA Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	24 United Nations Day Uniontown ARC Club Net	25 VP2MAB & VP2MEB QRT — QSL Via WA31 OU	26 WASH Breakfast CQ World Wide DX Contest (SSB) Indiana Co ARC VE Test Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
27 Daylight Savings Time Ends CQ WW DX Contest SSB OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Club Net WASH FM Net KB3ENX NCS	28 Breezeshooters Net Beaver Co Public Service Net 2 Rivers ARC Club Net Triple "A" ARA Club Net	29 North Hills ARC Club Net WACOM Club Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn/Shop Net	30 Mischief Night Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	31 Halloween WACOM Board of Directors Meeting Uniontown ARC Club Net	11/1 Eico ARS Meeting	11/2 ARRL Sweepstakes CW RA Erie VE Test WPA Hilltoppers VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast 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): Kevin Smith N3HKQ
 Digital Net (10 Meter): (open)
 WASHFest 2003 Co-Chairman: Steve Lane W3SRL
 (South Hills Hamfest): Bill Hill W3WH
 Activities & Operating Events: Bill Hill W3WH
 Field Day 2002 Chairman: Larry Comden K3VX
 Ways & Means: Carol Danko KB3GMN
 Media Communications: Kevin DeRose N3KFD
 Allegheny Co ARES Representative: Ben Williams KB3ERQ

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon N3RNX/R: 146.955 - PL 131.8
 Mt. Lebanon W3SRL/R: 442.550 + PL 131.8
 I-Link #13181 (courtesy of N3UE)
 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)**

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The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** was founded on August 23rd, 1993, as the original **SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3RNX/R Repeater System and the N3BV/R Repeater System for permitting the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes. Special thanks also to our webmaster, Bob Sanford AA3FI, and to Ed Wolf N3UE for providing space on-line for back issues of **"The WASHrag™"** which can be found at www.washarc.org or <http://doit.pgh.net/~wolfie/washrag.htm>

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test October 17th!

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, October 17th, 2002, 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

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)

Future test dates: Thursday, January 16th, 2003
Thursday, April 17th, 2003
Thursday, July 17th, 2003
Thursday, October 16th, 2003

Remember: Nominations for 2003 WASH Officers

At the October Meeting, we will be accepting nominations for the position of **Club President (1 year term)** and **Club Vice President/Secretary (2 year term)**

The **WASH Breakfast Gang** met on August 31st, Labor Day Weekend, as always at **Dietz's Restaurant**. Present & accounted for were W3RWS, W3WH, WN3VAW, N3ZNI, N3ZEL, K3VX, KB3GMN, N3SBF, N3RNX, KB3GOT & Rebecca. Subjects included the Pa QSO Party plans, applying for the 2003 Pa QSO Special Event Bonus Station, computer and radio repairs, IC-706 keypads, loop antennas, and selling more raffle tickets. The group met again on September 28th, and joining us were NØWVP, K3VX, W3VFA, N3ZEI, N3ZNI & WN3VAW; plus, we spotted N3DHC heading in as we were all on our way out the door. Larry brought with him a certificate from the 1969 Pa QSO Party and an old W6AM QSL card; we also talked about loop antennas, SPAM filters, old-time Field Day photos, the upcoming Pa QSO party operations, and Dr. John's Magic Golf Bag for air transport of mobile antennas. Don't forget that the next Club Breakfast will be Saturday, October 26th, at **Dietz's Restaurant**, Caste Village Shops, Baptist & Grove Roads. Come down & share a cup of coffee & a good time with us!

Pa QSO Party N3SH/3 Operators traditionally have met for breakfast on the way up to Clarion on at the Bob Evans Restaurant on Route 19 in Cranberry, October 12th this year, about 7 AM or so. Even if you just want to stop by and say "high," all are welcome to join in. As of deadline, we haven't heard if the **WA3SH/3** crew is also going to rendezvous for breakfast too (watch the reflector for details as we get closer to the contest weekend)

"Every now and then, a man needs lobster": On Labor Day, WN3VAW was checking out a DX packet cluster spot for VP2VE on 3806 kHz. He was monitoring the conversation to see if the BVI station was on frequency, when he was startled to hear, clear as a bell, "NØVLR testing" during the QSO! Meanwhile, Paul was checking out his just-back-again-from-Yaesu FT-100 on 146.52 MHz FM Simplex. Was the rig malfunctioning again? No, turned out the ragchew was between two local hams, K3VR & WA3Y, one of whom was also monitoring 146.52 with the volume up... it took a few minutes to figure it all out. A good, relieved chuckle was had by all. And, Brian & Jack, we agree completely — so you two can buy all of us lobster anytime!

The **2002 ARRL DX Contest Results** were posted to the ARRL Web Site on September 24th, and several WASH members will be happy with what they see! Ted W4ZE took overall Top Score for WPA with 980,811 points. Ted also took 1st Place Single Op High Power & 1st Place Single Op Assisted honors. Ron WN3VAW took 5th Place overall, 3rd Place Single Op, and 1st Place Single Op Low Power with 369,369 — which shows you what a difference a decent beam and amp (versus a pair of verticals barefoot) can make in a contest! Finally, Ed N3ZNI placed 13th overall and 8th Place Low Power with 12,240 points, a very good showing considering that he operated only for a limited period of time. Congratulations all!

However, Generalissimo Francisco Franco is Still Dead. Saw Wexford's favorite son, Bill Kristoff N3BPB, at the BCARA Hamfest. There's been a few rumors going around... seems that a Mr. William Kristoff of Penn Hills, no relation, passed away a few months back, and of course, some saw the obit in paper and wondered. Put the rumors to rest, the Big Pot Belly is still with us!

Change of Venue for the 2RARC: Our friends in the Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club W3OC have changed their meeting site to the McKeesport High School cafeteria effective with their September 2002 meeting. They had been meeting at McAllister Lodge in White Oak, but due to expansion of the White Oak Public Library, that location is no longer available.

WACOM April 2003 Hamfest Rescheduled: We've heard from some of our friends in WACOM that they've had to reschedule their April 2003 hamfest. Due to a calendar foul-up, no one realized until mid-September that the scheduled date was also Easter Sunday, and by then no other April dates (without conflicts) at the Washington County Fairgrounds. Now the good news: WACOM has rescheduled the hamfest for October 5th, 2003, returning it to the fall and making it the last one of the season again — same location, same bat time, same bat channel.

Jamboree On The Air

Scouts from around the world (including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, and Venture Scouts) will be on the air during the 45th Annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) October 19th & 20th. The largest Scouting event in the world, JOTA is not a contest, but a chance to expose Scouting youth to Amateur Radio.

That weekend, Boy Scout Troop 1005 from Washington, PA will be hosting the 2nd Year WEBELOS from Pack 1005 (also from Washington, PA) on a two night, three day camping adventure at the ARMY Corps of Engineers campground in Confluence, PA. The camp is located at the foot of the breastworks of the Confluence Dam.

The WEBELOS scouts will be getting their first look at outdoor tent camping with the older Boy Scouts. They will be learning how to set up a proper camp, prepare their meals as a patrol, plan activities, and generally have a good time while learning outdoor skills.

As a highlight of the weekend, Paul Lusardi NØVLR and Rick Bell KB3IAC are planning to operate N3SH at the camp site during the Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Some scouts have already expressed interest in starting their RADIO merit badge and this may be the "spark" that they need to get started. They are looking into both HF and VHF operations, depending on exactly what types of antennas they can put up and where.

If you hear N3SH during JOTA, stop over and give them a shout & give our potential new amateurs a boost!

More information on JOTA can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/international/jota>.

Want to know when the Space Shuttle, Space Station, or other spacecraft will be flying overhead? Check out a list of quick and easy sightings by city at www.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings, and click on the city of your choice.

— courtesy Bob Ferrey Jr. N3DOK

ARRL Members! Don't Forget to Vote for WPA Section Manager & Atlantic Division Director!

Minutes, September 12th Meeting

Frank Bobro KB3FZU, VP/ Secretary, WASH

Mark, N3RDV, **called** the meeting **to order** at 19:25 hours. There were 19 members and guests in attendance.

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

A motion was made to **accept the minutes** of the August meeting as published in the newsletter was made by Ed, N3ZNI, and was seconded by N3QMV. The motion was voted on and passed.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): The club had some income and is running a positive balance.

Secretary (KB3FZU): A Thank-you note will be sent to W3KWH for allowing us to use their site for our picnic.

VE Report (N3ZEL): The next VE test session is coming up. It will be held here at John McMillan Presbyterian Church on October 17th at 7 PM.

Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL): Pete, N3RNX, began. – The duplexer seems to be the cause of the recent interference problems on the 2-meter machine. He is looking into buying one. Steve, W3SRL, added that the first duplexer he researched was a very good one, made by WACOM. Used duplexers are quite expensive. The other big player in duplexers is TX RX. That is the brand that we currently have installed on the 146.955 machine. Telwave is another manufacturer of duplexers. The cost of a duplexer will be in excess of \$750.00. We could probably sell the old one as-is and generate a return of around \$350.00, which would be turned back to the club. The current duplexer would probably work fine in an area that has less RF energy than our current site. Pete and Steve are asking the club to contribute about \$400. Pete said that the main problem with our current site is that it is in a secure location and we need to make arrangements to gain access to the site. You just can't walk in.

Ted, WN3BOJ, made a motion to allot \$800 for a duplexer. It was seconded by Harold KB3CPI. It then went to a vote and was carried unanimously. Steve said that he will make the arrangements to obtain the duplexer.

Echo Link should be operational tonight. Steve has some papers that outline the operation. If you have the software you can work DX from your computer. Suggested procedure when accessing the link is to ID before you start pressing touch-tones. "This is N3RNX accessing the Echo Link system." The Echo Link system is far more sophisticated than the I-link system.

FM Net Report (N3HKQ): No Report.

Ways and Means (KB3GMN): Carol sent the proceeds of the speaker raffle to the treasurer. Thanks to Carol for the hard work setting this up and also to everyone who participated.

Public Service (N3RDV): The Great Race is the last Sunday of this month at about 8:00 AM, any interested ham will be welcomed.

Contests (K3VX): The RTTY contest will be on 9/28/2002. Mark, N3RDV, will post the information to club's list server. Ron, WN3VAW, added that the 1st weekend in October is the California QSO party.

Field Day pins are here and are available to those who participated on behalf of the club. Larry passed out to those who were in attendance.

The club will be operating for the PA QSO Party. N3SH will be at Ritchie and Carol's camp in Clarion County.

In January the club will again be hosting the FM simplex 2-meter contest. It will be the second Saturday in January – the 11th from 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM. The frequencies will be the same as last year - all of the simplex frequencies above 146.52 MHz. The zip code will be the exchange.

Newsletter (WN3VAW): The newsletter is out. There are 80 copies mailed, 181 others are sent out electronically. Ron is looking into reducing the number that are mailed. Michael, KB3HFP, suggested the webmaster run a CGI File to request newsletter. Newsletters are not on Bob's, AA3FI, site but are on Ed's, N3UE, site. If you are getting an electronic copy, please let Ron know that you no longer need to have a copy mailed to you.

President's Report (NØVLR): No Report.

Old Business: Bob, W3RWS, was the winner of the clear speech speaker raffle and Mark, N3RDV, presented it to him.

New Business: The November meeting will be election night. The October meeting will be nominations. Up for nomination are 2 offices, President and Vice President / Secretary.

The topic of a Christmas party was raised. First do we want to have one and

(Meeting Minutes Continued on page 7)

WASH Spotlight: N3ZNI



Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI proudly displays the MFJ 24 Hour Clock he won at the Butler County ARA Hamfest & WPA Section Convention on September 8th. A great time was had by all WASH members who came out, even if Ed is the only one who walked away with a prize this year!

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2002 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Every month we're going to try and feature a different WASH club member and/or something about them in the WASH Spotlight. Submissions for the WASH Spotlight should be submitted to WN3VAW.

Dayton Hamvention® 2003

University of Dayton Room Reservations

Greg KQ3DX is in the process of reserving rooms at the University of Dayton for Dayton 2003. He's initially trying to reserve 6 suites again (each suite holds at least 4 people). Cost is expected to once again be about \$80 per suite per night (a small increase over last year). If you are interested, please contact Greg at kq3dx@hotmail.com so that he can have an idea of how many rooms to reserve. This won't commit you to anything yet — he's just trying to get a head count so that we make sure we have enough rooms for all!

Monthly WASH Breakfast

Saturday, October 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	KB3FZU	NØVLR	N3UE	W3RJM
AA3JS	KB3GMN	NØWPV	N3UIW	W3RWS
K3BZW	KB3GMO	N2QIV	N3VEH	W3SRL
K3LIE	KB3GMP	N3BSQ	N3WPT	W3VE
K3OL	KB3GMU	N3CCC	N3XFE	W3VFA
K3VX	KB3GOT	N3CZZ	N3XI	W3WH
K3WR	KB3GZG	N3FZ	N3YPB	W4ZE
K9LZ	KB3HFP	N3HKQ	N3YQG	WA3JPP
KA3PPH	KB3HVN	N3IDH	N3ZCG	WB3BPH
KA3TFB	KB3IAC	N3INT	N3ZEG	WB3GTL
KA3UPY	KB3QX	N3KFD	N3ZEH	WN3BOT
KA3WZO	KC2JJB	N3MJQ	N3ZEL	WN3VAW
KA3YTS	KC6VLV	N3QMV	N3ZNI	Barbara Mistic
KB3ANH	KD3JV	N3RDV	N4MIS	
KB3CPI	KE3XB	N3RHT	N8DPW	K3EED (SK)
KB3DCO	KE7FD	N3RNX	NP2JF	N3KEH (SK)
KB3ENX	KE8RN	N3SBF	W3GEL	N3OBD (SK)
KB3EPI	KQ3DX	N3SRC	W3HND	N3SKR (SK)
KB3ERQ	NØPEU	N3TBK	W3JAF	W3ZLK (SK)
KB3FGO				
KB3FNM				
KB3FQT				

Through September 30th, 2002

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

Candidate Statements: WPA Section Manager, ARRL

John Rodgers N3MSE

My name is John Rodgers, N3MSE. I became a Technician in 1992. Later I upgraded to General, Advanced, and eventually to Extra. In 1994, I was appointed as Assistant Section Manager in Western PA and held that appointment until January 2000 serving different capacities. This provided me the opportunity to work closely with current Section Manager, Bill Edgar, and Vice Director, Bernie Fuller, while learning the many aspects of section operation. This learning period gave me with the tools necessary to step in and quickly manage the section activities after being selected in January 2000 by Director Fuller and Vice Director Edgar to become the Section Manager. I was appointed by ARRL Field Organization Manager Rosalie White and re-elected the following year to a full term.

I have attended sanctioned Hamfests and many club meetings over the years to better serve the members of the WPA section. For the past several years, I have also visited Field Day sites within the section. In cooperation with the Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager, a PRB-1 antenna law has been prepared that we intend to have introduced into the legislature. We are also preparing an emergency plan that will be effective throughout the state. With section staff personnel, we have begun to conduct training in the emergency communications courses in various locations. This provides an opportunity for classroom training for those that do not have Internet capabilities. I am active in the National Traffic System and participate each year in the PA QSO Party. I also serve as a Volunteer Examiner and have completed training as a Venture scout leader. I have the support of many of my contemporaries and WPA clubs. For more information, see <http://www.bfdin.net/n3mse>. I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election for Section Manager.

During October, ARRL Members in Western Pennsylvania will be asked to choose who will be the WPA Section Manager for the next two year term. We present these statements so that when your ballots come in the mail, if you don't know either or both of the candidates, you have some idea of what they stand for.

At the September meeting, The WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS voted to endorse John Rodgers N3MSE for re-election as WPA Section Manager

Dave Leiser K3NPX

I believe that my background of extensive experience in leadership, management, education and communications uniquely qualifies me to lead the Western Pennsylvania Section into the future of Amateur Radio and beyond.

A licensed General Class operator for 44 year's and now retired from Westinghouse, Cutler-Hammer after 38 years service, I have the time, my own 28 foot self contained and fully amateur equipped Command Center to travel the Western Pennsylvania Section. A past 20 year President of Triple "A" ARA also holding Vice President and Secretary positions, a past Vice President and Communications Officer of Rescue 40 Search and Rescue Disaster Response Team, past President of Search 1 SAR Team, on staff at the Beaver County Emergency Operations Center and member of the Beaver County Chapter Disaster Services Committee.

Currently Skywarn Coordinator, RACES Deputy Radio Officer and a 21 year Certified Emergency Coordinator of Beaver County coordinating and participating in over 350 Public Service, emergency and disaster events including 20 airshows plus 10 days at the crash of USAir Flight 427 and 10 days when tornado ripped thru northern Beaver County in 1985. A W5YI and ARRL volunteer examiner, member of the ARRL, held Amateur Radio Mall Shows, taught amateur radio classes and have held ORS, OPS and OES appointments. Was the 1985 and 1986 "Ham of the Year" for the Triple "A" ARA and received the Community Service Award from the Chairman of Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

I am trained and hold certificates in Hazardous Materials First Responder, Radiological Monitoring, Search and Rescue, Managing the Search Function, Hypothermia and cold water, Skywarn and Disaster Response. A graduate of the American Broadcasting Company school of Broadcasting and attended Hinds College.

With the help of the section membership, I will work for the future development and promotion of amateur radio throughout Western Pennsylvania.

How to Be a Lid

Jerry Benson K1OU

Simply follow these guidelines, and you will insure your status as a lid, GUARANTEED!!

- For a stateside contact, be sure to use phonetics for your name, especially if you have a simple name such as Ed or Bob. The person you are talking to knows enough to get a license, but is severely lacking mental faculties in other areas.
- For a stateside, non-contest contact, ALWAYS use Q signals. As a matter of fact, just the other day, I was walking down the street, somebody shouted out my name, I turned around and said "QRZED?!?!?."
- When breaking into a roundtable, immediately key down upon acknowledgement and go on and on for minutes about something that has nothing to do with what is being discussed. This is tremendously endearing to a group that you have never spoken with before.
- In said roundtable, use PTT (Push-to-Talk). This will guarantee one becoming the center of attention, and keep your agenda on the table.
- If you are given a weak signal report, try to keep the conversation going anyway. That way, the others will have a chance to evaluate the performance of their receiver. You are doing them a tremendous favor.
- On the occasion that you are very readable, at the end of your thought, odds are that the other station can't assemble your train of thought, so say "OVER OVER!!"
- If you happen across a roundtable with discussion that you find objectionable, stay riveted to that frequency, let the blood boil, jump in, call everybody a CB'er, and whatever you do, DON'T identify.
- When it IS time to identify, add "for ID" to the end of your call. You're right, other amateurs not as swift as you have no idea what a callsign is.
- Also, when identifying, give the time. Really, the other guy may think that your call could change within the next ten minutes, or it was something else ten

minutes previous.

- When calling CQ, always tell the prospective contact which band you are on. They may be confused.
- When it comes to DX, tell the DX that you called to say hello, you won't hold it, and that there are many stations calling. It could very well be that the poor DX station was wondering if you were going to die soon, if you are gracious, and if his receiver has problems.
- For a bonus, remind the especially rare DX working a pile-up that you have worked them several times. Mention the last several times specifically, and fill them in on your wife, new car, new rig, new dog, and your gallbladder surgery. Take your time doing this.
- When trying to bust the pileup, pay no heed to what the DX operator is asking for. Keep shouting. He probably either screwed up your call, or other people weren't listening for what he was asking for.
- If the DX is running split, jump on his transmitting frequency and ask the pileup what his call is. If you can hear him or not is of no consequence.
- Don't have any fun. Get on the local repeater and gossip about how the local club is all about money.
- Don't buy a dummy load, just tune up on a busy frequency. The efficiency of your station will be determined by how much the people on frequency talk about how well their auto-notch filters work.

The Diamond DX Club has replaced the DDXC Antarctica mailing list with a new Yahoo Reflector, *Antarctica List*. Gil F5NOD is the moderator.

To subscribe, send an email to antarctica_list-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Candidate Statements: Atlantic Division Director, ARRL

Bernie Fuller N3EFN

The Amateur Service and ARRL will be witness to many changes in the coming years requiring aggressive and innovative leadership if we are to survive as a viable segment of society. Today's hams demand that their voices are heard during the decision making process at the FCC and at the Board of Directors' meetings of the ARRL.

It has been my privilege to serve you as Director for the past three years. I have traveled extensively in that capacity throughout the Division attending hamfests, club meetings and conventions. I believe in the necessity for strong leadership. I have been the prime mover behind the many club leadership forums conducted at conventions during my term emphasizing the need for leaders to treat all Amateur Radio special interest groups equally.

As your Director, I provide an important bridge between the grassroots field organization and the Board of Directors. I have served in various capacities in the League including Vice Director, Section Manager, Emergency Coordinator, Official Observer, Technical Coordinator and Assistant Section Manager. I served as Section Manager of Western Pennsylvania from 1990 until 1996 and as Division Vice Director from 1996 until appointed Division Director in 2000.

Providing a connection between the ARRL Board Room and the grass roots Field Organization and clubs is an important part of my personal agenda. Too often the needs and desires of the membership of many organizations are lost in the recesses of the board room, this has not happened on my watch, and **WILL NOT** happen when I am re-elected. My experience as a longtime member of the Field Organization serving the needs of the membership and Amateur Radio *uniquely qualifies me to be a knowledgeable voice upon whom the members can rely.*

I actively participate in on-the-air contests, chase DX, operate QRP and enjoy traffic handling. Member ARRL, QRP ARCI, EPA QRP, RV Svc Nets, Radio Association of Erie, OMISS, WAS, WAC. Degree in Serbo-Croatian/Political Science from Univ of NY. Korea and Vietnam wartime service. Retired Lieutenant Colonel, US Army. Active in Boy Scouts of America as a key leader at the Council level.

I will enthusiastically continue to seek your views and opinions to help chart the future of the ARRL and the Amateur Radio Service. *Your vote will keep a proven, responsive leader at the helm of our Division*

Tony Gargano N2SS

My amateur radio, professional experience and education cover a broad spectrum including executive positions in the corporate world, local community, and industry and charitable organizations. I wish to apply my extensive experience to representing the amateurs of the Atlantic Division and contributing to the governance of ARRL with the highest level of professionalism and expertise.

Licensed in 1958 at age 15 and having an Extra Class license for 30+ years, I am a 40+ year member of ARRL and hold membership in the RSGB, Frankford Radio Club, Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club and ARES/RACES of Gloucester County, was a founding member of two local repeaters and have been the Atlantic Division representative to ARRL's DX Advisory Committee for over 15 years. My recent professional positions include, President & CEO, AgileVision and Senior Vice-President, Sony Electronics.

I have served on corporate and association boards including ITCA, Webb Foundation, the Vision Fund of America (fund raising arm of the Lighthouse Foundation serving the visually impaired), and five years as Chairman of the Washington Township Zoning Board.

I hold an MBA from St. Joseph's University and over my career have completed executive development programs at Babson College at Wellesley; the Tuck School at Dartmouth College and the Tokyo Management Seminar in Japan.

I view the Director's position with two broad sets of responsibilities: internal (organizational governance, oversight and strategic direction) and external (promoting the League, both to amateurs on the benefits of membership and to government and society on the benefits of Amateur Radio in general). This clearly all needs to be done within the context of understanding the needs and desires of the Atlantic Division constituency and solid communication with you on the issues we face. I solicit your vote and will serve with pride to represent you.

During October, ARRL Members in the Atlantic Division (Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, DC, Southern New Jersey and Northern & Western New York) will be asked to choose who will be the Atlantic Division Director for the next two year term. We present these statements so that when your ballots come in the mail, if you don't know either or both of the candidates, you have some idea of what they stand for.

At the September meeting, The WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS voted to endorse Bernie Fuller N3EFN for re-election as ARRL Atlantic Division Director

Note: Atlantic Division Vice-Director Bill Edgar N3LLR ran unopposed and has already been re-elected for another term.

Planned Pennsylvania QSO Party Operations as of September 28th

List compiled by Bud Trench AA3B from the Pa QSO Party Reflector and other sources

Home and Portable Stations

County	Call	Notes
ARM	KD8MQ/P	
BER	AA3B	
BRA	W3SK/P	KA3JOI + N3ISH
BUT	N3MSE	WILL GO TO CLA IF NEEDED
BUT	AA3LX	
CAR	N3CR	
CHE	WT3P	
CLA	N3SH	
CLI	N3GNW/P	
CMB	WA3SES/P	
COL	N3KYZ	
DCO	KW3A	
ELK	KE3FO	
FAY	K3MI	
FOR	W3HKK	??
FUL	N2OCW/P	
INN	W3TDF/P	
LAC	KA3QLF	
LAN	N3NTJ	
LYC	KC3M	
LYC	N3JIX	SUNDAY ONLY
NHA	W3FRC	BONUS STATION
PHI	K3ZV	
PHI	W3AYT	

Home and Portable Stations

County	Call	Notes
PIK	N3GWR	
PIK	KW3U	
POT	KB3EIA	
SOM	KC3XD	
SOM	WA3SH	COUNTY LINE
SOM	K8SYH/P	WITH KO4A
SUL	N3EP ??	
SUL	K3BM	
SUL	N3JYY/P	
TIO	NR3K	KA3VRW, WB3DLN KE3HT, KF3DY
TIO	NM3O	
WAR	N3FR/P	
WAS	W4ZE	
WES	WA3SH	COUNTY LINE
WYO	N3KAE	
YOR	K3NG/P	
Section	Call	Notes
ILL	W3HDH/9	
SNJ	N8LXR	WK2G's QTH
DX	VP2MAB / VP2MEB	QSL via WA3IOU

Rover Stations

County	Call	Notes
HUN	KN4SK/R	Saturday
BRA	KN4SK/R	Saturday
CMB	KN4SK/R	Sunday
INN	KN4SK/R	Sunday
Interstate Highway Mobile Warriors:		
W3USA/M with W1NN		
Saturday:	SUL COL MTR NHA UNI	
	MTR COL LUZ CAR MOE	
Sunday:	"Something around NE PA"	
K8MR/M with W8DRZ (Saturday Only)		
	MER VEN BUT ARM CLA JEF	
	FOR WAR MCK ELK CLE CEN	
	BLA HUN CEN HUN MIF JUN	
	PER FRA FUL BED SOM WES	
	ALL BUT BEA LAW	
K4UK/M with N3AXB		
Saturday:	PER JUN SNY UNI LYC CLI	
	POT TIO BRA WYO LUZ	
Sunday:	SUL LYC COL MTR NUM UNI	
	SNY JUN PER DAU CUM FRA	
Possible Side Trip: YOR ADA		
Route(s) not specified:		
WA3RA/M W3DYA/M		

Interstate Highway Mobile Warriors:

N3ZNI/M with KB3GOT	
Saturday:	ARM JEF ELK FOR CLA VEN
	CRA ERI WAR
Sunday:	MCK POT TIO BRA WYO LAC
	WAY PIK MOE LUZ
If Time Permits: SUL LYC CLI	
N3WAV/M: FAY GRE WAS ALL BUT BEA	
	LAW MER VEN FOR CRA ERI
	WAR MCK ELK CRN POT CLI
	CLE CEN MIF HUN FRA FUL
	BED BLA CMB SOM INN JEF
	CLA ARM WES

List based on information posted to the Pa QSO e-mail Reflector through September 30th, and is subject to change. Many additional portables, mobiles & rovers will be operating! Mobile & Rover stations routes & locations are subject to change at any time with little or no notice.

Our thanks to Bud Trench AA3B and the entire Pa QSO Party Reflector for providing this information.

Simulated Emergency Test 2002

Rich Beaver N3SRJ, WPA Section Emergency Coordinator

For the first time in many years the ARRL SET is being held on a day that the PA QSO party is not! So, this years SET will be Saturday October 5th 2002. Time of drill will be 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM local time.

Basis for this years Scenario is to be weather related. Flooding will be used as a BASIS for this SET. Basically I'm leaving this up to each EC in each county to elaborate on how they want to do it. An additional task this year will be a report to me from either the **WESTERN PA PHONE & TRAFFIC NET**, 2 meters, and as a last resort e-mail. The report will come from the DEC's to me.



Also remind everyone involved that the word "TEST" and or "DRILL" be used quite often during the drill. The purpose is not to ALARM the listening public by our drill.

If your particular area is involved in any Skywarn or any "REAL TIME" ARES Functions or Nets by all means tend to that incident — the SET comes 2nd!

Most of all have some fun with this. It is a test of our emergency preparedness and it's a good time to make the mistakes. That's what drills are for.. learn from it.

(Meeting Minutes Continued from page 4)

second where. A motion to secure Al's Café for the Christmas party was made by Ted, W4ZE and seconded by KB3CPI. It was voted on and passed.

WASHfest - Kevin, N3KFD, will place the hamfest ad into the trade magazines. Ed, N3ZNI, has close to 700 names and call signs that can be used as a mailing list. There was discussion that we would like to have the announcement mailed by the end of November. Ed will check into the printing and costs.

Ron, WN3VAW, ARRL elections are up. Ron made a motion that the club endorse John Rodgers, N3MSE and Bernie Fuller, N3EFN for upcoming ARRL elections. KB3CPI seconded and there was much discussion. Division Director ballots will be going out soon. The Section Manager election is in October. A vote was taken that the WASH club issue a statement that recognizes their support of the above-mentioned individuals in the upcoming election. 14 members voted to endorse, 3 were opposed. The motion passed.

Ed, N3ZNI, said that the speaker raffle was a good idea to raise cash, but it was restricted to ham operators. He presented the idea of a calendar ticket to raise money for the club. It looks like a regular ticket and is sold for \$5.00 each. It has a potential for income of \$5,000 if all of the tickets are sold. Half of the proceeds go into the bank and the rest is used for the payout.

Mark, N3RDV, recommended that this or other fundraising ideas should be run past Carol, KB3GMN, the Ways and Means Committee.

Steve, W3SRL, suggested we investigate running a business band repeater service. It was offered as food for thought. There was discussion on the floor. It will be discussed further next month when Pete can add his two cents.

Good of the Order: This Saturday at 10 AM the South Western Packet group will be meeting at Blue Flame Club on Route 51.

Motion to Adjourn: Made by Bob, W3RWS, and seconded by Larry, K3VX. Motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:25 and followed by a presentation & discussion about the PA QSO party.

Silent Keys



- A. Prose Walker W4BW, 92, "Godfather of the WARC Bands," former Collins Radio Engineer & FCC Staffer, August 8th
- Edmund D. Haube W3LNG, 80, Bellefonte, PA, August 21st
- Peter Soma Jr. W3KLP, 83, Muse, PA, September 21st
- Hilory B. Cox W3HBC ex-K3VMG ex-NF3Q, 52, formerly of Murrysville, PA, September 26th

HT Battery Packs & Charging

Author Unknown. Courtesy of the Spring Hill ARC **SHARC Letter** & the Zanesville ARC **ZARC Carrier**

Even when your HT transceiver power is OFF, a slight current still flows in the circuits. Remove the battery pack or case from the transceiver when not using it for a long time. Otherwise, the battery pack or installed dry cell batteries will become exhausted.

If you want to get the longest life out of your battery pack, points to follow include:

- ◆ Avoid overcharging. The charging period should be less than 15 hours for most HT's.
- ◆ Use the battery until it becomes almost completely exhausted under normal conditions. Most HT manufacturers recommend battery charging just after transmitting becomes impossible.
- ◆ Never attempt to charge alkaline batteries. This will cause internal liquid leakage and damage the battery case and transceiver.
- ◆ Never connect two or more charges at the same time.
- ◆ Charging may not occur under temperatures of 10° C (50° F) or over temperatures of 40° C (104° F)
- ◆ If your battery pack seems to have no capacity even after being fully charged, completely discharge it by leaving the power on overnight. Then, fully charge the battery pack again. If the battery pack still does not retain a charge (or very little), a new battery pack may need to be purchased. {Refer to the user instructions that came with your HT}.

Packet & Digital News Briefs

Due to an interference problem, The South West Pennsylvania Packet Group (SWPPG) changed their packet network frequency from 145.69 to 145.090 MHz in August.

This is a very extensive network, and a very good communication tool that is under used. You can find more information on the SWPPG web site at www.swppg.zelie.com/index2.html - — Frank J. Rossi Jr. N3FLR

The Cambria County packet network is on 145.050 MHz, with a gateway to Somerset County on 145.030 MHz. We just recently installed our new KB3BLF BBS at the Cambria 911 Center, also on 145.050 MHz — Barry Rummel AA3SM

Individuals running packet stations, especially those running APRS, are requested to check the TAPR NADSD internet site for Pennsylvania to make certain that their information is listed & is correct. The data was last updated September 14th, 2002. Corrections & additions should be sent to Chuck KC3ET, kc3et@arrl.net — Chuck Gessner KC3ET

Convenient Antenna Dimensions

Adapted from a chart by Tom Ostrowsky W3NI (original chart published in & courtesy of **WorldRadio**, September 2002)

Band Meters	Freq. MHz	234 / F	468 / F	585 / F	1005 / F
		1 / 4 Wave	1 / 2 Wave	5 / 8 Wave	Full Wave Loop
160	1.8	130'	260'	325'	558' 4"
	1.9	123' 2"	246' 4"	307" 10¾"	528' 11½"
	2.0	117'	234'	292' 6"	502' 6"
80	3.5	66' 10¼"	133' 8½"	167' 1¾"	287' 1¾"
	3.75	62' 4¾"	124' 9½"	156'	268'
	4.0	58' 6"	117'	146' 3"	251' 3"
40	7.15	32' 8¾"	65' 5½"	81' 9¾"	140' 6¾"
30	10.1	23' 2"	46' 4"	57' 11"	99' 6"
20	14.1	16' 7¼"	33' 2¼"	41' 6"	71' 3.4"
17	18.1	12' 11"	25' 10¼"	32' 3¾"	55' 6"
15	21.2	11' ½"	22' 1"	27' 7"	47' 5"
12	24.9	9' 4¾"	18' 9½"	23' 6"	40' 4¼"
10	28.0	8' 4¼"	16' 8½"	20' 10¾"	35' 10¾"
	28.5	8' 2½"	16' 5"	20' 6¼"	35' 3"
	29.7	7' 10½"	15' 9"	19' 8.4"	33' 10"

Antarctica RF Conditions

Dr. Bruce Long KJ3Z coolbruce@netscape.net

I'm involved with a group at Penn State that does research in Antarctica. I design and build equipment from them. I am presently struggling to get ready for my third trip to the KC4 land then end of October. This work doesn't pay all that well, but I am having fun! This year I am building an ice penetration radar and a GPS microprocessor box to set off explosions (for active seismic studies, i.e. looking at the layers of rock under the snow).

I really, really like it on the ice, but ham radio there is a chore. In the field we use HF for communications to McMurdo and to other field parties. We are issued PRC-112 backpack HF military rigs, running ~20 watts PEP into a dipole, suspended by a pair of bamboo poles usually low enough to step over without much trouble. The antenna is a dipole with color coded BNC jumpers. If you can't hear McMurdo Operations (McOPs) on 11 MHz, you have to get out of your tent, move the shorting plugs, shovel the drifted snow away from the tent door and try again. This year I packed a small Kenwood transmatch so I can change bands from the comfort of my sleeping bag.

When we are in the field we are usually working hard long days with little time left for stuff like radio. An exception to that is when the weather is bad. I sat in a two man tent for a week, checking in each morning only to find that the weather was just a little too bad for the plane to come pick us up.

I did a little SWL'ing then. That was the first time I truly understood just how damn far way I was from civilization. The band was dead quite, no atmospherics to speak of as the nearest thunderstorm was probably 3000 miles distant minimum. Way, way off in the distance on 20 meters, I heard very faint, just barely detectable voices, Japanese and English, but too weak to make out calls. Even foreign broadcast was weak and not very listenable. During this time I thought there might have been an ionospheric event with high D-region absorption. Being close to the pole, we are susceptible to such storms — storms that slightly affect propagation up here just wipe us out down there. Fortunately in the last two years, field teams have been issued (ex) Motorola Iridium phones. However, during this time of supposed poor propagation, MacOps and other nearby 300-800 miles field parties came in loud and clear. The other field teams had the same antenna and rig we did.

Even when the band is good and I have time to get on there are other problems not the least of which is keeping a proper log. Pens are essentially out of the question because they freeze solid so we tend to use pencils. This is not without it's own set of limitations. You see all it takes is one exhaled breath on the log paper. This forms a film of ice, and the pencil just slides without leaving a mark.

Another issue is the rig is powered by a 12 VDC battery recharged by a small solar cell. In normal operation there is just one net checkin each morning. So it is not at all obvious how much operation you can do without running the battery down. The battery is a semi-exotic lead calcium battery so I am not even sure I can tell charge state properly with a voltmeter. Anyway, get a lead acid battery cold enough, like ambient temperature and it reads almost 15 VDC, dead or alive.

The HF is the primary source of communications with the Iridium used only as required. So the HF stuff is essentially survival gear and recreational use of survival gear may not be looked upon with favor by the other(s) in camp. This puts rag-chewing in the same category as eating the candy in the survival bag for a snack. On my first trip to the ice I did get a few hours operation on a 200 W commercial HF rig having a vertical antenna and a not so bad ground plane. By the way the nearest earth ground is a mile away — straight down.

Here the standard roar on 20 Meters was just barely intelligible. I ran some phone

(KC4 Conditions Continued on page 9)

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 and FTP access. 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.

FYI Networks now also provides sDSL service in selected areas. **WASH** Members can get DSL for the discounted rate of only \$47.50/month. A pre-qualification must be done to see if your address is in the DSL coverage area. Call John Vasicek at 412-488-7800 for more information about FYI sDSL services & benefits.

Many thanks to FYI Networks for making these special offers available to us for the past four years!

DX News Briefs



A partial resolution to the **70** controversies came out of the ARRL DXCC desk in mid-September. The **70/OH2YY** operation of May 2002 was approved for DXCC credit effective immediately, since Pekka was able to prove that he conducted his operation with "written, governmental approval." But the **701YGF** operation remains ineligible for DXCC credit as that same written governmental approval has yet to be provided. "No evidence traceable to the Yemeni government has been received by the DXCC desk to date." Keep your fingers crossed! — NC1L / ARRL DXCC Desk via KF2TI

Long time Western PA DX'er & poster **KJ3Q**, who moved from Plum Boro to Florida last year, is in extremely poor health; his prognosis is very poor. Anyone wishing to send him cards or letters should do so, soon, to Don McDaniel, KJ3Q, 4810 Hidden Lane, St. Cloud, FL 34771-9071 — W3NO / WPADXA, KQ3DX

Look for **SØ7L** Western Sahara October 9th – 13th. They will be QRV on 40 – 10 Meters SSB & PSK31, with the possibility of some CW, 80 & 6 Meter activity. QSL via EA4URE (not WA3HUP) — EA5RM

There will be a November 2002 DXpedition to **KH8** American Samoa. They will operate from Tutuila Island as **K8T** and Ofu Island as **K8O**. More information & the exact dates QRV can be found at www.ukdxers.com.uk.uk — DL9RCF

The Sir Francis Drake Report:

"Radio Hooligans" have been pirating the calls "**4K7DYY**" & "**EP3PTT**." They claim the QSL route is via RZ6LS or RV6LAH. Save your money. — RV6LJK
"7Q7YE", QRV on September 15th is another Slim. JR3QHQ is neither the op nor the manager & was home at the time — JR3QHQ, Diamond DX Club News
"STØ/ST2SA/p" in September was another Slim operation — ST2SA, OPDX
 Another pirate was using TA2RC's contest call, "**YMØT**", on July 26th. TA2RC reports that he can only use the YMØT call during contests. — G3SWH

VP5T Manager N2VW does not require a QSL card. "A piece of paper or 3x5 card with the info on it and an SAE & postage or SASE is fine for direct replies. For bureau cards, an email to n2vw@arrl.net with the details will get you one via the bureau." Jack does not use any of the electronic QSL services — N2VW

Noted DX'er Dr. Don Miller **ex-W9WNV** was granted early parole on July 27th and released from California prison (he was serving 25 years to life for murder conspiracy). He is allegedly studying to retake his Extra class exam — W7BX, WB6DSY, www.thedesertsun.com/news/stories/local/1027736792.shtml

7Z1AC is not currently being accepted for DXCC, as the operator has repeatedly declined to send requested documentation to the ARRL DXCC desk — KZ2I

The QSL backlog at **HC8N** from last year's contest season is now caught up, with the possible exception of some bureau & recently sent direct cards. If you need an HC8N card, send for it now before this year's contest season begins. The new QSL manager is W5UE, and he has all back logs — W5UE

People looking for QSL cards from the circa-1992 **HA5BUS** expeditions have been coming up empty. HA5HO now lives in Las Vegas, NV, and has not been heard from for some time. HA5BSW had answered all cards he'd received, but he is presently hospitalized, recovering from a stroke — HA5WA.

A list of **LZ QSL Bureau Users** for the last four years can be found at <http://www.qsl.net/lz1pj/LZbureau/QSLindex.html> — LZ1PJ

QSL Routes

4W6GH via CT1EGH – W9OL	PYØFF via W9VA – W9OL
5R8FL via G3SWH – 5R8FL	R1ANF via RK1PWA – N1NK
7Q7AH via GØIAS – W9OL	RK1B via RV1AC – KQ4YI, IN3NJB
7XØDX via DL4DBR – K8AJS	RUØB via UA9OBA — SM5DJZ
8Q7AM via EA5MB – EA5MB	STØF via ZS5WC — ZS5WC
C98DC via DL7AFS — DJ7ZG	TL8DV via W3MC – N1NK
D2U via CT1BFL – KDØAL	TT8ZZ via F5PTM – TT8ZZ
EI9FN via G3YOJ – W9OL	V73CW via AC4G – V73CW
EK3AA via DK6CW – W9OL	VK9YL via VK3DYL — VK9YL
EP3UN via LA7JO – K4MQG	VP5T via N2VW – N2VW
EZ8CW (1998) via F5RUQ – N9QQK	XU7AUR via ON5UR — ON5UR
FWØDX via JE3RZT — PT7WA	YE7V via YC7WZ – W4JS
GJ1L via WA3HUP — GJ1L	YJØHE via ZL2HE — YJØHE
JT1FDI via K4YT — JT1FDI	ZG2FK via G3FRX — ZG2FK
KHØ/KJ1C via JI1CYX – KHØ/KJ1C	ZSØ2AM via ZS6DX — ZS6DX

Thanks to the NJDXA *DX News* & *DX Chat* Reflectors, the *DX-QSL Reflector*, *425 DX News*, *OPDX News*, *Diamond DX Club News*, *ICPO Bulletin*, & *ARRL DX Bulletin* for our *DX News* information. Thanks also to Bill Moore NC1L / ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR / *The Daily DX* for confirmations & additional information.



WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the **WASHRag**. Condition as stated, and all sales should be considered "as-is" unless otherwise noted. All subject to prior sale or withdrawal from sale at the owner's discretion. All responsibility for this information lies with the source and not the **WASHRag** or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

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"We can't regulate stupid"

— Bill Cross W3TN, quoted by Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH
 FCC Forum, Dayton 2002

(KC4 Conditions Continued from page 8)

patches for the people in the field camp. RST 3-6 contacts happen only with a KW, and 4 – 5 elements at 200 feet, class of station back in the states.

So this year I will spend 6 weeks on the ice, the first two weeks in McMurdo station. Operation during this time is iffy as I will be very busy staging equipment and I suspect I will be making a number of day trips 300 – 700 miles out in a small ski plane to service earthquake detection equipment I helped put in last season. The next 4 weeks I will be about 800 miles east of McMurdo in a place called Onset D in a field camp with 7 other people, four guys and two women I think. We have a seismic survey line that stretches for 170 km across the ice so I might spend some time with one or two other guys working the line using the Big (8 person) camp as a base camp. The D in Onset D refers to ice steam Delta. Central West Antarctic has 5 big ice stream (glaciers) that feed the Ross ice shelf. These ice steams are rivers of moving ice surrounded by stationary ice. We are looking at the "head waters" of ice stream Delta, hence Onset D.

Concerns about global warming make the stability of the Antarctic ice a major issue. Some of this ice has, as far as we know, never moved. Some has always moved. Some has been moving and just stopped 20-30 years ago and other sections have just started moving in the last few years. basically the glaciologists are unable to explain or predict much of this movement. So if a section of ice starts moving it that evidence of global warming or was this section just over due for a little walk?

One big missing piece of information is the material at the bottom of the ice. It can be dry cold rock, frozen gravel, wet clay or a pool of meltwater. In general, unless somebody drilled a hole to the bottle and got a sample, we just don't know. Our group, among other goals, hopes to tease out this needed information by a combination of acoustic and radar echoes.

FCC News

ARRL Web Extra & ARRL Letter, courtesy American Radio Relay League

NEWINGTON, CT, September 18th, 2002 — The FCC has ordered a UHF Amateur Radio system in the Los Angeles area shut down until it either obtains coordination or comes up with an acceptable plan to prevent interfering with a coordinated repeater just 10 kHz away. FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says the owner of the 447.250-MHz system on Mt. Disappointment, Steven R. Decho, KE6FX, has complied with the FCC request, which was included in a September 4 *Warning Notice*.

"For over two years, your Mt. Disappointment KE6FX station has been characterized by lack of control and identification problems," Hollingsworth wrote. "The real basis of this matter seems to be that you object to a recent change in spacing standards by the coordinator and do not wish to conform to them." The regional coordinator, the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association (SCRRBA), has told the FCC that the coordination for KE6FX was abandoned.

The FCC considers the KE6FX station a repeater, while Decho, who resides in Draper, Utah, calls it "a remote base." As a remote base, he has claimed, KE6FX does not require coordination. But the FCC said Decho did submit outdated coordination documents in his response last year to FCC communications.

In either case, Hollingsworth again pointed out, the KE6FX system is causing interference to the coordinated WA6UZS repeater 10 kHz away. If it's a repeater, Hollingsworth explained, KE6FX is obliged to prevent interference to the WA6UZS repeater under §97.205 of the FCC rules. If it's an auxiliary station or a remote base, "the fact remains that it interferes with the WA6UZS repeater," Hollingsworth said.

In previous communications with Decho going back about a year and a half, Hollingsworth among other things cited "reports of dead carriers that last for weeks, a tone that lasted continuously for three weeks, weekends of 2-meter rebroadcasts and a repeating CW identification that lasted for weeks." Over the July 4th holiday this summer, the system re-broadcast other repeater traffic and ignored attempts by WA6UZS repeater personnel to contact Decho, the FCC said.

In August 2001, the FCC said the KE6FX beacon identifier that activated without operational input, the rebroadcasting of other repeater traffic, dead carriers, continuous tones or repetitive CW identifiers "must cease immediately" and normal repeater traffic, if any, must not interfere with WA6UZS.

In his letter, Hollingsworth raised the specter of further enforcement action against KE6FX and any control operators for the system, up to and including fines and license revocation proceedings, if the system were not shut down. A copy of the letter was sent to the FCC Western Regional Director.



Ham Radio Rule Number 404:

Anything that can be used as a station "accessory" can and will be.

Ham Radio Rule Number 505:

Anything that can be used to prop up, hold up, or otherwise support an antenna, will be.

— Clinton Herbert AB7RG

W3AA QRT September 27th

ARRL Web Extra courtesy the American Radio Relay League

September 27th marked the end of 50 years of Amateur Radio at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. W3AA, formerly W3TKQ, has been operating from the fourth floor of the Institute for 50 years, and by the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club since 1960.

The Institute is being remodeled, and the fourth floor is being converted to office space. Although the PMRC was offered another spot in the museum, starting in 2005 (which would require an excessively long coax run), there was no place in the institute to relocate the W3AA station in the interim.

The W3AA / W3TKQ station was staffed seven days a week by volunteers from the PMRC and other Philadelphia area clubs, and served to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the general public.

The PMRC is making plans to reactivate W3AA from a Philadelphia high school in the near future

Official Rules, 45th Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party

Sponsored by the Nittany Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 614, State College, PA 16801

OPERATING PERIODS - 1600Z October 12 to 0500Z October 13 and 1300Z October 13 to 2200Z October 13, 2002.

FREQUENCIES

SSB: 1850, 3980, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28310, 50.125, 146.55

CW: 40 KHz up from the bottom and 1810 KHz.

12, 17, & 30 meter QSOs **NOT** permitted.

160 Meters: Try at 0300Z Sunday.

Follow 160 Band Plan, CW - 1.800-1.830, SSB - above 1.850

TECH & TECH PLUS: 28310, 50.125, 146.55

V/UHF QSOs are permitted and encouraged but, of course, no repeater contacts. Use of V/UHF rig does NOT make you MM!

MOBILE WINDOW - 5 KHz below listed frequencies.

KEEP CLEAR FOR WEAK MOBILES.

SPECIAL HIGH BAND ACTIVITY PERIODS

Saturday & Sunday: 10 Meters: 1800 Z

SSB on the hour 15 Meters: 1900 Z

CW on the half hour 20 Meters: 2000 Z

Great way to increase your multipliers!!

EXCHANGES - Sequential SERIAL NUMBER plus COUNTY or ARRL or Radio Association of Canada (RAC) section. Stations on county lines will give out ONE serial number per contact but all counties may be counted as multipliers. Work stations once per band and once per mode. Work mobiles and Rovers again as they change counties.

SCORING

QSO POINTS - CW QSOs on 160 and 80 - 2 points, Other CW QSOs - 1.5 points, SSB/FM QSOs - 1 point

MULTIPLIERS

Pennsylvania Stations: ARRL sections + RAC sections + PA Counties + 1 for DX. (152 total)

Out-of-State Stations: Pennsylvania Counties (67 total)

FINAL SCORE - Total Points X Total Multipliers

QRP BONUS MULTIPLIER - Multiply your final score by 2 if less than 5 watts output.

NOVICE/TECH BONUS MULTIPLIER - Multiply your final score by 3 if a novice or tech.

PA MOBILE BONUS POINTS - If mobile, add 500 points for each county operated from (10 QSOs Minimum).

PA ROVERS BONUS POINTS - Add 500 points for every location operated from (10 QSOs Minimum)

MOBILE & ROVER DIVISIONS:-

Mobile stations must be truly mobile.

Rover division stations MUST use a portable antenna and must travel more than 5 miles between stops.

10 QSOs from each location/county worth 500 point bonus for each. Submit summary for each QTH as well as an aggregate summary. Stations should identify by using /M or /R on CW and by adding "ROVER" or mobile on SSB. Only single transmitter entries eligible for awards. Remember, many county lines are on tops of mountains.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION - Each year, a different Pennsylvania Club will set up and operate a special event station as part of the contest. The **Frankford Radio Club (FRC), W3FRC**, is this year's special event station. This operation is a part of the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the FRC. A special limited edition of the classic FRC QSL card will be used to confirm QSOs for this operation. QSL's will go to via the bureau to all DX stations. Requests for domestic QSLs will need an SASE. Information on other awards available from the FRC can be found on the web at <http://www.frc-contest.org/awards.htm>. **W3FRC** will operate on 160 through 2 meters from the QTH of Bill, K3ANS. Add 200 points to your final score for each QSO with **W3FRC** after all other bonuses have been taken.

ENTRY DIVISIONS:

- ◆ Single Operator Medium power (5 – 150 Watts)
- ◆ Single Operator QRO (> 150 Watts)
- ◆ Single Operator QRP (5 Watts or less)
- ◆ CW ONLY (Single Operator Only, 150 watts max);
- ◆ Multi-Operator Single Transmitter
- ◆ Multi-Operator Single Transmitter
- ◆ Portable (Single Op or Multi-Single only)
- ◆ Novice/Technician
- ◆ Mobile
- ◆ Rover

NOTE: QRP is defined as all contacts on any radio running 5 W or less

NOTE: Single ops and multi-single – ONLY ONE SIGNAL on air at one time!

AWARDS:

Plaques to:

- ◆ Top scores in all entry divisions
- ◆ Single Op Out-of-State plaque Eastern Time Zone
- ◆ Single Op Out-of-State plaque Central Time Zone
- ◆ Single Op Out-of-State plaque Western Time Zones
- ◆ Single Op Medium & High Power EPA
- ◆ Single Op Medium & High Power WPA
- ◆ Out-of-State Medium Power
- ◆ Out-of-State QRP
- ◆ Top Canadian entry, if enough entries
- ◆ "Rover" division, if enough entries
- ◆ Others as warranted.

Certificates to County and Section winners.

Trophy to Club Aggregate winner.

SPECIAL PLAQUE FOR TOP FIRST TIME ENTRANT - Intended to encourage new contesters, a plaque will be awarded to the top single operator entry from Pennsylvania who enters the Party for the first time. If you got your feet wet logging or operating briefly at a multi-op station you're still eligible. **Attention Clubs**, encourage your new members to get on and compete for this handsome plaque. **This is not intended for "Big Guns" from other Contests!**

PARTICIPATION COFFEE MUGS - Anyone who makes 100 QSOs during the Party is eligible for a handsome PA QSO Party Coffee Mug personalized with your call. To order, include your log showing 100 or more QSOs and a check for \$15.00 made payable to "NARC".

SPECIAL PLAQUE FOR WORKING ALL 67 COUNTIES - If you work all 67 counties during the Party, a special plaque will be awarded in recognition of that feat. QSOs will be verified by the committee from log information. **To order, submit a special summary sheet (in addition to your entry summary) listing county, call of station worked, date and time of QSO and numbers sent and received.** Please enclose a check for \$29.00 made payable to "NARC".

LOGS AND DUPE SHEETS - Logs and dupe sheets must be submitted with an official summary form or reasonable facsimile. 100 points will be deducted for each dupe found. The summary sheet can be downloaded from the web site, <http://www.nittany-arc.org/paqso.html>

SEND LOGS by November. 16, 2002 to:

Pennsylvania QSO Party 2002
c/o Nittany Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 614
State College, PA 16804-0614

A DONATION of \$2.00 or more with your entry will help defray the costs of mailing, printing, etc. and would be greatly appreciated. PLEASE NO SASEs - they only get lost.

QSO PARTY COMPUTER LOGGING PROGRAMS -

- ◆ **KA3JWE** (Windows version)
Download:
<http://www.enter.net/~donster/>
- ◆ **K3CP** (c/o DLARC, KA3MOU, 120 McIlhane Ave, Bath, Pa. 18014)
E-mail: KA3MOU@enter.net
- ◆ **KM3D** (Box 392, Richland, Pa. 17087)
Download:
<http://home.supernet.com/~bump-km3d/ham/km3d.htm>
- ◆ **NA** - latest version now handles the 1.5 Point QSOs.
- ◆ **WriteLog** has template. www.writelog.com
- ◆ **EQF Software** – www.eqf-software.com
E-mail: n3eqf@eqfsoftware.com

PA QSO PARTY WEB SITE

<http://www.nittany-arc.org/paqso.html> - For latest info!

THE PA QSO PARTY REFLECTOR - To subscribe, send a two word message "subscribe paqso" to "majordomo@QTH.net".

Check out the Latest info on portables, mobiles and activity: Friday night, October 11th - 8:00 PM - Eastern Time, 3910 LSB +/-



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
				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

Inside This Issue:

- Latest info on N3SH & WA3SH in the 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party!
- N3SH QRV in the Jamboree on the Air too!
- "Vote for me, I never lie & I'm always right!" Candidate statements for ARRL WPA Section Manager & Atlantic Division Director
- Ever wonder what the scientists in Antarctica go through out on the ice? Find out!

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



W3RWS ClearSpeech® Raffle Winner

779 was the Pennsylvania Lottery Daily Number on Labor Day, and Bob Stoner W3RWS was the holder of the winning ticket for the ClearSpeech® Speaker Raffle. Congratulations Bob!

Shown here: Bob being congratulated by WASH VP/Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV as he receives the speaker at the September 2002 meeting.

The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS** wants to thank all who participated in our summer raffle, especially Ways & Means Chair Carol Danko KB3GMN, and Jacqu  Gosselin N3ZEL for their ticket selling efforts.

Photo courtesy of and  Copyright 2002 Jacqu  Gosselin N3ZEL

The WASHRag

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N3SH / WA3SH
www.washarc.org