



# WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 4 Issue 11

November 2002

N3SH  
WA3SH

Wireless Association of South Hills

## 45<sup>th</sup> Pa. QSO Party: Wow!

**N3SH** On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October, six of us drove to Vowinkel to get ready for our Multi-Multi entry in the Pennsylvania QSO Party. In attendance were K3VX, NØPEU, N3SBF, W3SRL, W3WH, and Murphy. All of us except Murphy worked hard on Friday to get antennas up and stations ready for Saturday. Murphy's contribution to Friday's effort was to allow us to leave a bad piece of coax on the 2 meter Yagi that Richie and Steve worked so hard to install on the 58 foot tower. So much for our plans to stay in touch on the 146.955 Repeater and to monitor packet spots. Murphy's other contribution was to allow us to use a bad coax connector on the horizontal loop's feedline (after the contest was over, Steve discovered it — no wonder the loop only worked so-so).

By the end of the day on Friday, we had a 160 meter inverted vee, an off center fed dipole, a full wave 160 meter loop which didn't work real well — see above, and an eight element two meter Yagi which wouldn't bring up the local repeater. But with all this, we all had fun and chef Richie fed us very well!

We all slept well Friday night (at least I did — there's a rumor that I snore, but since I've never heard anything, it's still just a rumor). On Saturday, we finished setting up the stations and were ready to go on at noon.

Shortly after we started, we discovered that the CW station was useless every time Shawn keyed his rig. We did everything we reasonably could to minimize the problem, but in the end we all just had to put up with each other's interference and do the best we could.

By the time the contest began, NØVLR had joined us, and he brought his world famous two-alarm chili (both with and without beans). It was delicious! By the end of Saturday, even with the antenna and interference problems, we all hit the sack having had another very good ham radio day.

On Sunday all three stations concentrated on finishing our second "clean sweep" of all 67 counties in a row. Shawn NØPEU had the honor this year of getting our last three counties about 2:00 Sunday afternoon. Way to go Shawn!

After that, we shut down a bit early to break down the stations and clean up the camp. Even though we could have and probably should have scored higher than we did, I'm certain that we all can say without reservation that we had a really good time at the 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party, and at the end of the day, that's what it's all about!

— 73, Bill Hill W3WH

**WA3SH** It was a foggy morning as Dan KB3HVN, Kevin N3HKQ, Rick KB3IAC, Alex KB3IRQ, Lori KB3GMU, Frank KB3FZU, and my dog George (affectionately known as K9DOG) made the trek to the Laurel Ridge to operate WA3SH Westmoreland/Somerset County Line for the PA QSO Party.

Rick and Alex set up the shelter and the all-important coffee pot and then helped erect the antennas. The first antenna to go up was the hex beam which was set for 20 meters; it was challenging but that is normal. It sure looked great

(PA QSO Party Continued on page 7)

### Annual WASH Christmas / Holiday Party Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

The Annual **WASH** Christmas/ Holiday Party & December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at **Al's Café, 440 McMurray Road, Bethel Park**, starting at 6:30 PM until ???

Cost will be \$14.99 per adult, children under 3 – 10 half price (children under 3 are free). As always, the party is open to all **WASH** members and their families, and to friends of the club.

If you are planning to go, please let me know as soon as possible. Call me at (412) 884-1466, call me on the 146.955 repeater, or e-mail me at [n3sbf@libcom.com](mailto:n3sbf@libcom.com). Also, I need the money by November 30<sup>th</sup>. You can get the money to me at the next meeting or you can mail me a check, or call me to make alternate arrangements.

The menu will feature two entrees, salad, two side dishes and ice cream for dessert There will also be a Chinese Auction, and installation of the 2003 officers Everything was fantastic last year, and we expect it to be as good or better this year too!

I know we will have a nice time because we have good company! Hope to see you there!

— Carol Danko KB3GMN, Ways & Means Chairman

#### Inside this issue:

Amateur Radio Calendar	2
WASH Club News	3
Meeting Minutes	4
You Might Be a WASH Member If...	5
Pa QSO Party Pictures	6 – 7
DX News Briefs	8
WASH Classifieds	9
WASHFest 2002 Announcement	10

### Next Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at the **John McMillan Presbyterian Church**, 875 Clifton Road, Bethel Park, starting at 7:00 PM.

Tonight is Election Night! Final nominations and elections for our 2003 officers will be taking place, so please make the meeting if at all possible!

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**


**Did You Know**

Pittsburgh's KDKA Radio began broadcasting in November 1920. But it's not the "world's oldest" radio station or even the "oldest" broadcaster — when they say that, they mean that they hold the first license to broadcast ever issued, which is not exactly the same thing!

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

- **WASH Christmas / Holiday Party Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002**
- **WASH 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 2M Contest January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003**
- **WASHFest 2003, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003**

# November 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>November <b>WASHNet</b> Net Control Stations:                      11/03 Hank KB3FNM                      11/10 Michael KB3HFP                      11/17 Bill W3WH                      11/24 Carol KB3GMN</p>	<p>Want to volunteer to be a Net Control Station? Please contact FM Net Manager Kevin N3HKQ</p>	<p>December <b>WASHNet</b> Net Control Stations:                      12/01 Paul NØVLR                      12/08 Kevin N3HKQ                      12/15 Joseph KB3ENX                      12/22 Hank KB3FNM                      12/29 Michael KB3HFP</p>			<p><b>1</b> Eico ARS Meeting</p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>ARRL Sweepstakes CW</b>                      WPA Hilltoppers VE Test                      RA Erie VE Test                      Somerset Co ARC Breakfast                      Nittany ARC Coffee Call                      North Hills ARC Elmer Net</p>
<p><b>3</b> <b>ARRL Sweepstakes CW</b>                      Ellwood City ARA Meeting                      OCWA Pittsburgh Net                      South One ARES Net                      North Hills ARC Teen Net                      Somerset Co ARC Net                      WASH FM Net <b>KB3FNM NCS</b></p>	<p><b>4</b>                      Breezeshooter's Net                      2 Rivers ARC Net                      Triple 'A' ARA Net                      Beaver Co Public Service Net</p>	<p><b>5</b> Butler Co ARA Meeting                      S H B P &amp; M Meeting                      Skyview RS Meeting                      Carnegie Tech RC Meeting                      North Hills ARC Net                      WACOM Net                      SATERN Net</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      Uniontown ARC Meeting                      Steel City ARC Social Night                      Allegheny Co SkyWarn Net                      Allegheny Co ARES Net                      Westmoreland Co ARES Net</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      WACOM Meeting                      WACOM VE Test                      Penn State ARC Meeting                      RA Erie Meeting                      Uniontown ARC Net</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> Breezeshooters VE Test                      Tri County CW VE Test                      2 Rivers ARC Breakfast                      North Hills ARC Breakfast                      Foothills ARC Breakfast                      Quad Co ARC Breakfast                      North Hills ARC Elmer Net</p>
<p><b>10</b>                      OCWA Pittsburgh Net                      South One ARES Net                      North Hills ARC Teen Net                      Somerset Co ARC Net                      WASH FM Net <b>KB3HFP NCS</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> <b>Veteran's Day</b>                      Bum of the Month Lunch                      ARL Lawrence Co Meeting                      2 Rivers ARC Net                      Triple 'A' ARA Net                      Beaver Co Public Service Net</p>	<p><b>12</b> Foothills ARC Meeting                      Coke Center ARC Meeting                      Nittany ARC Meeting                      Ft.Venango M &amp; K C Meeting                      Punxsatawney AARC Meeting                      North Hills ARC Net                      WACOM Net</p>	<p><b>13</b>                      North Hills ARC Meeting                      Laurel Highlands VHF Society Meeting                      Steel City ARC Social Night                      Allegheny Co ARES Net                      Westmoreland Co ARES Net</p>	<p><b>14</b> <b>WASH Meeting</b>                      Beaver Valley ARA Meeting                      Horseshoe ARC Meeting                      Uniontown ARC Net</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      2 Rivers ARC Meeting                      Quad Co ARC Meeting</p>	<p><b>16</b> <b>ARRL Sweepstakes SSB</b>                      Foothills ARC VE Test                      Butler Co ARA VE Test                      Nittany ARC Coffee Call                      North Hills ARC Elmer Net</p>
<p><b>17</b> <b>ARRL Sweepstakes SSB</b>                      Elk Co ARC Meeting                      OCWA Pittsburgh Net                      South One ARES Net                      North Hills ARC Teen Net                      Somerset Co ARC Net                      WASH FM Net <b>W3WH NCS</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>                      Monessen ARC Meeting                      2 Rivers ARC Net                      Triple 'A' ARA Net                      Beaver Co Public Service Net</p>	<p><b>19</b> Steel City ARC Meeting                      Tri-County CW ARC Meeting                      Juniata Valley ARC Meeting                      Pymatuning ARC Meeting                      McKean Co ARC Meeting                      North Hills ARC Net                      WACOM Net</p>	<p><b>20</b>                      Huntington Co ARC Meeting                      Allegheny Co SkyWarn Net                      Allegheny Co ARES Net                      Westmoreland Co ARES Net</p>	<p><b>21</b> Triple 'A' ARA Meeting                      Greene Co ARC Meeting                      Somerset Co ARC Meeting                      Cumberland Valley ARA Mtng.                      WACOM Board Meeting                      Penn State ARC Social Night                      Uniontown ARC Net</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b>                      SW Pa Packet Group Meeting                      North Hills ARC Elmer Net</p>
<p><b>24</b>                      OCWA Pittsburgh Net                      South One ARES Net                      North Hills ARC Teen Net                      Somerset Co ARC Net                      WASH FM Net <b>KB3GMN NCS</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>                      2 Rivers ARC Net                      Triple 'A' ARA Net                      Beaver Co Public Service Net</p>	<p><b>26</b>                      Mercer Co ARC Meeting                      Triangle ARC Meeting                      North Hills ARC Net                      WACOM Net                      SATERN Net                      GPVHFS Swapn'Shop</p>	<p><b>27</b>                      Fort Armstrong WA Meeting                      Steel City ARC Social Night                      Allegheny Co ARES Net                      Westmoreland Co ARES Net</p>		<p><b>29</b> <b>National Turkey Leftovers Day</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> <b>Hanukkah</b>  <b>WASH Breakfast</b>                      Nittany ARC Coffee Call                      North Hills ARC Elmer Net</p>

## 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)**

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 and **"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

e-mail: [wn3vaw@njdxa.org](mailto:wn3vaw@njdxa.org) or [wn3vaw@arrl.net](mailto:wn3vaw@arrl.net)

**"The WASHRag", "The Mariner", SHARCfest, South Hills Hamfest, WASHfest, WASHfest 2003, N3SH Net, WA3SH Net and WASHNet** are **™** trademarks of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** was founded on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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](http://www.washarc.org) or <http://doit.pgh.net/~wolfie/washrag.htm>

# WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

## Next WASH VE Test January 16<sup>th</sup>!

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:n3zel@fyi.net)

Please bring the following to your test session:

- Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)
- Pen / Pencil / Calculator
- Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)
- Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)
- Check or Cash in the amount of \$10.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
 Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
 Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
 Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004

## Remember: Elections for 2003 WASH Officers

At the November Meeting, we will be accepting additional nominations & then voting for the position of Club President (1 year term) and Club Vice President/Secretary (2 year term)

**The WASH Breakfast Gang** met on October 26<sup>th</sup> as always at **Dietz's Restaurant**. Our biggest turnout in quite some time (possibly ever), present & accounted for were KB3ERQ, N3ZEL, N3ZNI, KB3FNM, K3VX, W3RJM, W9UK, W3WH, W3RWS, W3VFA, WN3VAW, KB3GMN, KB3GOT, KB3FZU & KB3GMU. Subjects included the Pa QSO Party, car repairs, the Middle East, Chechnyan Rebels, Field Day antics, WW 2 & military aircraft, computer software, repeater QRM and clam chowder.

**Change of Venue:** Our next Club Breakfast will be Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at the **Ponderosa Restaurant**, Wal Mart Plaza, Washington (right behind the Cracker Barrel). We're going to give Dietz's Restaurant a break and make it a little easier for some of the Washington contingent to join us — and we've also invited the WACOM gang to come down too. So put down the turkey leftovers, come down & share a cup of coffee & a good time with us!

**QRZ?** Familiar voice, unfamiliar call means that N3PN is the new vanity call of Nelson ex-KB3FGO. He got his first choice, too. Congratulations!

**JOTA Report:** Rick KB3IAC & Paul NØVLR were on location in Confluence, PA at the site of a Webelo camping trip to introduce amateur radio to 20 scouts on JOTA weekend. After setting up the club's off-center fed dipole and the IC-738 rig, several scouts showed interest in talking to people around the world and had many questions about the hobby. One particular father/son team indicated that their interested in studying for the exam. We were able to establish communications with several stateside hams on 80M/40M and had a couple of scouts bravely step up to the microphone and say a few words. Due to the crowded band conditions and our low elevation, we were not able to establish and hold a frequency for very long. Paul NØVLR has committed to perform another demonstration for the scouts, at an upcoming scout meeting this year. — NØVLR

**Preliminary Indications** from our friends in the Butler Co ARA is that their hamfest saw an attendance increase of almost 2400 people this year. Nice to know that **WASHFest** isn't the only hamfest seeing attendance way up lately!

**Did you say WASHFest?** Yup. Hard to believe, but we're only not quite four months away (with the holidays and old) from our ninth annual hamfest. Start making your plans! Incidentally, PennDOT is now promising that the Route 88 construction (between Route 51 & McNeilly Road) that was supposed to be done by mid-October will now be completed by the end of December...

**That also means** that we're also only two and a half months away from the WASH 2 Meter contest. Complete rules on Page 8. Note that it's not just an FM contest this year, but we're adding SSB & CW for those of you with multi-mode rigs. It'll be a heck of a lot of fun!

**DX Means Never Having to Say You're Sorry...** An unnamed club member, who is an active contester & DX'er (any resemblance to your editor is purely coincidental) took a break, early Sunday morning of the CQ WW SSB contest, to try and work a Japanese station on 80 meter CW. Even turned on his amp to do so (he was running the 'test barefoot'), which proved to be fatal — the amp's final tubes spectacularly self-destructed. (And no, he didn't work the JA) Anyone out there with a spare set of 572-B tubes?



**The October WASH Rogue's Gallery**, a/k/a the WASH Breakfast Gang, sat still long enough at the end of Breakfast for Jacqué N3ZEL to snap off a few photos. Photo courtesy of & © Copyright 2002 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

## October 17<sup>th</sup> VE Test Results

We had three candidates at our October 17<sup>th</sup> VEC test session, held at the John McMillan Presbyterian Church in Bethel Park. All three were successful — one new license, one upgrade, one exam element passed!

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

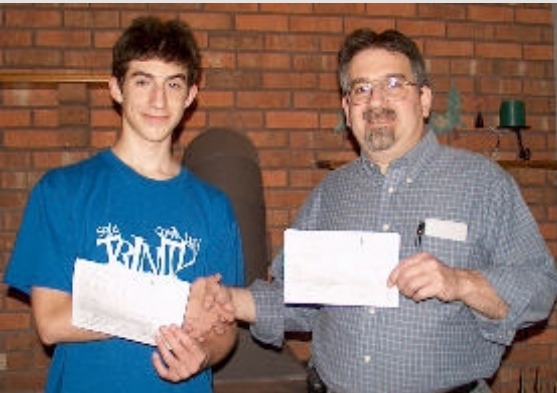
Technician: Alex Bell KB3IRQ  
 General Theory: Rick Bell KB3IAC  
 Extra: Dave KB3GOT

WASH VE Team:

Jeff Farrar W3JAF  
 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL  
 Ron Notarius WN3VAW  
 Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI  
 Ed Salva W3VFA

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

73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL



A very pleased Alex KB3IRQ & proud father Rick KB3IAC show off their CSCE's shortly after the VE test session.

Photo courtesy of & ©2002 Rick Bell KB3IAC

**Don't forget that voting for ARRL WPA Section Manager and ARRL Atlantic Division Director is still going on through mid-November. If you haven't already sent in your ballots, don't put it off any longer — if you wait too long, your votes won't count at all!**

**Join WASH! Pay Your 2003 Dues, Get the Rest of 2002 "Free!" Membership Application Page 11!**

# Minutes, October 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Frank Bobro KB3FZU, VP/ Secretary, WASH

Paul, NØVLR, **called** the meeting **to order** at 19:04 hours. There were 29 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 September newsletter. The motion was voted on and passed.

## Committee Reports:

**Treasurer (N3RDV):** Mark reported the club's account balances.

**Secretary (KB3FZU):** Frank gave an update on the WA3SH operation. It will be at the Laurel Ridge on the Westmoreland / Somerset County Line. He would like to be at the site by 10 AM so that the group can be ready to go at the start of the contest.

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

**Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL):** No report here but there is a repeater update under Old Business.

**FM Net Report (N3HKQ):** Kevin is setting up a rotating schedule for net control. He is currently is booked through mid-November. See Kevin if you need the script or would like to volunteer. It is easy and fun to be net control.

**Ways and Means (KB3GMN):** Carol is looking for ideas to raise money for the club. If we do not do raffles, we will need to find another source of income. Next: the Christmas Party at Al's Café. A show of hands was taken of those interested in attending; about 18 people were interested. It is tentatively scheduled for Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM (the normal meeting night). The cost would be approximately \$13 -15 per person. Ted, W4ZE, motioned to charge \$20 with the excess to go to the club's treasury; Bob, W3RWS, seconded. Ted amended the amount to \$17.50. After much discussion, Ted withdrew the motion. Bob, W3RWS, motioned to charge \$20.00 for the party and have the club pick up the cost of a radio that is raffled off. None in favor. Bill, W3WH, made a motion to have the Christmas Party at Al's Café. Shawn, NØPEU, seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. Dave, N3IDH, motioned to place a deposit at Al's Café, Ron, WN3VAW, seconded.

**Public Service (N3RDV):** No Report.

**Contests (K3VX):** Sweepstakes is in November. The 1<sup>st</sup> weekend is CW, the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend is phone. The club is having its' 2 meter FM contest in January, please plan to participate. A motion was made to open the contest to sideband & CW by Bob, W3RWS; Bill, W3WH, seconded. It was voted on and passed - one vote to oppose. JOTA is the third full weekend of October. Scouts get on the air and try to talk to fellow scouts. Paul has some handouts with frequencies that the scouts will be using. Rick, KB3IAC, and Paul, NØVLR, will be at Confluence, PA trying to make some contacts. Paul will be running phone and SSTV. W3KWH and other stations also plan to be on the air.

**Newsletter (WN3VAW):** The printer did not get the paper copies of the newsletter to Ron, so there were none to mail. Please let Ron know your e-mail address and we can get the newsletter to you electronically. The newsletter is available to anyone.

**President's Report (NØVLR):** This month we are taking nominations. Because of other commitments, Paul, NØVLR, is not able to run for a second term as President. VP / Secretary Nominations: Paul, NØVLR, nominated Frank, KB3FZU. Paul motioned to close, Ron seconded. President Nominations: Bob, W3RWS, nominated Bill, W3WH. Ron, WN3VAW, nominated Larry, K3VX. Michael, KB3HFP, nominated Ron, WN3VAW. Ed, N3UE, nominated Ritchie, N3SBF. Bill, W3WH, motioned to close, Carol, KB3GMN, seconded.

**Old Business:** The old duplexer is on the sale block and Steve, W3SRL, reports that he has an interested buyer at the asking price. Thank you to the club for helping with the cost of the new duplexer. The 146.955 machine may need to run with PL tone at all times. If anyone needs to add PL tone to their equipment please speak up. It is easy to do and someone in the club can help get it done. There is also the possibility that the repeater's PL tone may need to be changed to a non standard tone. The standard tone is 131.8.

Ed, N3ZNI, made a contact about the hamfest flyers. 1000 printed flyers with mailing labels and postage will cost approximately \$500.00. Paul, NØVLR, motioned to study this further. Ultimately it would be for the hamfest committee to decide on this matter.

Steve asked that the club pay the invoice of the repeater insurance. It was voted on and passed.

(Meeting Minutes Continued on page 5)

# WASH Spotlight: N3RNX/R



On the morning of October 5<sup>th</sup> the N3RNX Repeater got the new duplexer that **WASH** voted to buy at the September meeting. Escorting the new cavities to their new home is ½ of Steve W3SRL, Richie N3SBF, Dan KB3HVN, Ted WN3BOJ and Larry K3VX. Lurking around somewhere out of camera view is Pete N3RNX. Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2002 Bill Hill W3WH

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

## Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

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

This month, join us and members of WACOM for a joint breakfast at the

**Ponderosa Restaurant**, Wal Mart Plaza

(behind the Cracker Barrel) off Route 19 in Washington PA.

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	KB3GMN	NØPEU	N3TBK	W3RWS
AA3JS	KB3GMO	NØVLR	N3UE	W3SRL
K3BZW	KB3GMP	NØWPV	N3UIW	W3VE
K3OL	KB3GMU	N2QIV	N3VEH	W3VFA
K3VX	KB3GOT	N3AWF	N3WPT	W3WH
K3WR	KB3GZG	N3BSQ	N3XI	W4ZE
K9LZ	KB3GUZ	N3CCC	N3YPB	WA3JPP
KA3PPH	KB3HFP	N3CZZ	N3YQY	WB3BPH
KA3TFB	KB3HVN	N3FZ	N3ZCG	WB3GTL
KA3UPY	KB3IAC	N3HKQ	N3ZEG	WN3BOJ
<b>KA3WZO</b>	KB3IRQ	N3IDH	N3ZEH	WN3VAW
KA3YTS	KB3QX	N3INT	N3ZEL	Barbara Mistic
KB3ANH	KC2JJB	N3KFD	N3ZNI	K3EED (SK)
KB3CPI	KC6VLV	N3QMV	N4MIS	N3KEH (SK)
KB3DCO	KD3JV	N3RDV	N8DPW	N3OBD (SK)
KB3ENX	KE3XB	N3RHT	W3GEL	N3SKR (SK)
KB3EPI	KE7FD	N3RNX	W3HND	W3ZLK (SK)
KB3ERQ	KE8RN	N3SBF	W3JAF	
KB3FGO	KQ3DX	N3SRC	W3RJM	
KB3FNM				
KB3FQT				
KB3FZU				

Through October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

## EE 010S

Information courtesy Brad Parola KB3HQE, Vice President, Penn State ARC

EE 010S is the course catalog number for Penn State's Freshman Seminar, which helps acclimate new students to college life.

This year, part of the course during the first half of the Fall semester included exposure to Amateur Radio. The students were shown how to tune radios like the Ten Tec Pegasus, they received PSK 31 signals, and took a tour of the world famous Rock Springs Antenna Test Range run by Dr. Jim Breakall WA3FET (the K3CR trustee and owner of contest station WP3R).

Early in October, those students who were interested were given the opportunity to take their Technician class tests. A total of 15 students to date have passed their tests and have received or are awaiting their new licenses!

Thanks to a startup fund from UPAC that was entrusted to WA3FET, each of the new amateurs received a Yaesu VX-1 handheld and have been encouraged to join the weekly PSARC Club and Centre County Public Service nets. They have also been involved in two Fox Hunts, looking for a hidden transmitter. The first one was an "on foot" fox hunt on the Penn State campus, the second covered the entire State College area and involved doppler directional antenna arrays on top of the hunter's vehicles.

The Penn State ARC is keeping these new amateurs and their members busy. They have plans to activate K3CR at an upcoming "Late Night", along with other student organizations, on a future Friday evening from the Hetzel Student Union Building (HUB). They are also planning to operate K3CR during a future PSU Football Weekend, although probably from the HUB and not from outside Beaver Stadium (surely there's one or more tailgaters with HF mobile, isn't there?).

For those alumni who've been wondering, yes, K3CR is still located in 202 Engineering Unit "E." The station presently consists of a Yaesu FT-1000MP Mark V HF Transceiver, Yaesu FT-847 HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver, Alpha 87A HF Amplifier, and an Icom PCR-1000 All mode receiver

For more information on these and other events involving K3CR, contact PSARC VP Brad Parola KB3HQE at [bbp107@psu.edu](mailto:bbp107@psu.edu), or visit the current PSARC club web site now at located at <http://www.clubs.psu.edu/k3cr/>.

*(Meeting Minutes Continued from page 4)*

**New Business:** Bob, W3RWS, thanked the WASH club for the thank you letter to W3KWH. It was published in the W3KWH's newsletter.

**Good of the Order:** Michael, KB3HFP, reports that the scanner net is on the air the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday on the 146.88 repeater after the Elmer net. Greg, KQ3DX, has again reserved 6 rooms at the University of Dayton for the Dayton Hamvention. Gary KB3GUZ, has joined the club.

**PA QSO Party** (Bill W3WH): Ed, N3ZNI, and Dave, KB3GOT, will be mobile. N3SH will be in Clarion County. WA3SH will be on the Westmoreland / Somerset County line. If you do not participate at one of the club stations, please operate from home; send in your logs and list that you are a member of WASH. WASH would like to have a strong showing of club participation so that we could apply to be the special bonus station next year.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Made by Bob, W3RWS, and seconded by Shawn, NØPEU. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:25.

### Dayton Hamvention® 2003 University of Dayton Room Reservations

Greg KQ3DX has reserved six suites again at the University of Dayton for Dayton 2003. Each suite has two two-bed rooms, a kitchenette, bathroom, and living room area, and comfortably holds 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](mailto:kq3dx@hotmail.com). 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 room for all! Greg expects to be billed for the rooms in January.

### Silent Keys



James Allen Wasson KB3ESR, 76, State College, PA, August 29<sup>th</sup>  
Don McDaniel KJ3Q, formerly of Plum Borough, PA, September 17<sup>th</sup>  
Howard Franklin Keck K3VGS, 72, State College, PA, September 28<sup>th</sup>

## You Might Be A WASH Member If...

Michael Aquilina III KB3HFP

1. If your spouse calls you on the .955 repeater instead of calling you to dinner
2. If you can quote articles from any **WASHRag** issue in the past two years
3. If you want a **WASH** life membership for Christmas
4. If NØVLR is your hero
5. If WN3VAW and other past club presidents are your heroes.
6. If you can name 6 **WASH** members.
7. ... and their callsigns ...
8. ... and their license classes.
9. If your idea of good interpersonal communication means remembering 146.955 / 131.8 / meeting second Thursday of the month / please come to the meeting.
10. If you look forward to Christmas only for the Christmas Party at Al's Cafe.
11. If you use an antenna modeling program to design your clothesline
12. ... and you get some ideas regarding clothesline materials ...
13. ... and you have to warn the XYL not to touch said clothesline when you're transmitting.
14. If your family is going on vacation in February, you suddenly have to pull over to use the bathroom at the Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall.
15. If you have **WASHRag** issues displayed anywhere in your work area, or anywhere at home other than the shack. (What nice wallpaper...)
16. If you carry on a one-hour debate over the exact club policies on VE testing before you conduct a five-minute test. (No offense to the **WASH** VE team!)
17. If you are convinced that if we only tried, we could pass four hours just on new business.
18. If you have ever set up a 286 in your shack for the sole purpose of reminding you of **WASH** events.
19. If you know the entire floor plan of John McMillan Presbyterian Church.
20. ...including where one might find extension cords or tables or extra chairs to borrow for the meeting.
21. If you own "Official **WASH**" anything.
22. If you've thrown an antenna party and invited the **WASH** antenna team to improve your businesses radio system.
23. If you've bought more than five items from **WASHRag** classifieds.
24. If you've memorized the WHOIS information for [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org).
25. If you aim to make your screensaver the exact same one used at the **WASHFest** test bench booth.
26. If you have more toys than your kids.
27. If you have a habit of destroying things in order to see how they work
28. If you can remember the names and calls of everyone in the club, but not your anniversary.
29. If you have memorized the Big List 'O Local Nets and have listened to or checked into most of them already.
30. If, sad because you couldn't check into the Eastern Ohio ARES net, you built a 2 meter beam.
31. If you wonder why, somehow, your picture gets into almost every **WASHRag** issue.
32. ... and you expect a conspiracy.
33. If you can do CW at 150 wpm but can't read your own handwriting.
34. If, for most of June and July, you mumble "WPA, that's WHISKEY PAPA ALPHA, WPA, WPA, WPA, this is N3SH!" to yourself.
35. If you CAN remember where you parked your car because of the **WASH** bumper sticker, the loading coil, and the five antennas.
36. If you have more friends in the **WASH** club than anywhere else.
37. If you think that when people on other clubs' repeaters yawn, it's because they didn't get enough sleep.
38. If you spend more on the .955 machine than your computer or car.
39. If you know what WASH stands for.
40. You know that a **WASHFest** is not a washing machine company's expo.
41. If you've ever bought (to "save money") a few Motorola EMS VHF radios at Dayton, and then bought custom-made Motorola proprietary crystals (146.955/146.355), and then tone boards with 131.8 in them, and then realized with all the money you spent you could have bought a nice used HT at the **WASHFest**.
42. When driving you see a license plate with the letters K3XXX / N3XXX / W3XXX, and you feel compelled to pull out your PalmPilot and check to see if he's a **WASH** member.
43. When you have to go to the bathroom, you wait until bladder meltdown, because you can't bear to stop listening to the exciting new business.
44. You actually read all the way to the end of this article.
45. Your funny post to the **WASH** Reflector becomes an article in the next issue of the **WASHRag**.

# Waiting for N3ZNI Mobile... Or Someone Like Him

Right: "Doctor" Ed N3ZNI performing emergency field surgery on the power cable for the N3ZNI/M automatic antenna tuner. Seems that they grabbed the wrong cable and left the right one back in 84 PA... Photo courtesy of and ©2002 Dave Wagner KB3GOT



Above: Assembling the 144/444 Lightning Bolt Quad at WA3SH (thanks for the antenna donation to Nelson N3PN!) (left to right) N3HKQ, KB3HVN, KB3IRQ Photo courtesy of and ©2002 Rick Bell KB3IAC

Below: Steve W3SRL and Paul NØVLR operating one of the N3SH rigs outdoors... now Paul, about that chilli you guys had for lunch... photo courtesy of and ©2002 Larry Comden K3VX



Right: Three transmitters, no waiting, WA3SH QRV! (left to right) Kevin N3HKQ, Alex KB3IRQ, Frank KB3FZU, Dan KB3HVN. Photo courtesy of and ©2002 Rick Bell KB3IAC



## Reported WASH Club Member Scores, 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party

Call	County	80/160		Single Operator Stations					Total
		CW		Phone	Counties	Sections	Bonus		
W4ZE	WAS			768	67	65	1000	102,376.0	
WN3VAW	ALL	36	14	341	64	36	1000	44,400.0	
N3ZEL	WAS			287	65	25	100	25,930.0	
KB3FZU	WAS			194	52	25	600	15,538.0	
N3KFD	ALL	45	13	41	40	9	600	7,974.5	
W3RJM	ALL			130	41	20		7,930.0	
N3HKQ	WAS			43	32	4	200	1,748.0	



Left: Shawn NØPEU at another N3SH rig. Photo courtesy of & ©2002 Larry Comden K3VX

Call	County	80/160		Multi Operator / Club Stations					Total
		CW		Phone	Counties	Sections	Bonus		
N3SH	CLA	154	118	628	67	55	800	136,586.0	
WA3SH	WES/SOM			269	54	46	400	27,300.0	

Call	Active Counties	80/160		Mobile & Rover Stations					Total
		CW		Phone	Counties	Sections	Bonus		
N3ZNI/M	[Still fighting with Win EQF to figure out his total score at newsletter deadline]								
NØVLR/M	1			42	15	3	200	1,456.0	

Notes:  
NØVLR/M operated in 5 counties but only had 10+QSO's in one.

Right: Evening at WA3SH, it gets cool up in the mountains! Foreground Frank KB3FZU, Background Dan KB3HVN? Photo courtesy of & ©2002 Rick Bell KB3IAC



Photos and comments from the WASH Members & Club Station Operators from the 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party



**Above: Bill W3WH busy at the N3SH controls. Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2002 Larry Comden K3VX**



**Above: Frank KB3FZU declining to share lunch with George K9DOG, with Lori KB3GMU in the back. Photo taken by Dan KB3HVN, courtesy of & ©2002 Frank Bobro KB3FZU**

My humble offering (6 hours of operation complete with kitchen trips for cake) for the 2002 PA QSO party that will be donated to the club aggregate score. I had a great time. See 'yinz next year and 'aht! — *Kevin DeRose N3KFD*

**N3KFD**

Best start I've had in a long, long time — 40 counties in just the first 90 minutes. Ended Saturday with 63 Counties, and I'd heard at least 2 of the remaining ones I needed. A sweep was in sight, but it was not to be as other obligations limited my Sunday operating hours. Still, I'm very happy with the score, and I'll be back next year — I'll get that blasted sweep yet! — *Ron Notarius WN3VAW*

**WN3VAW**

This is my second year operating the Pa QSO Party. This is always a very enjoyable contest. The cooperation among stations by letting others break in to work a particular station says a lot for the caliber of the PAQ participant. I wish to think all the rovers and mobiles that traveled many miles to make many counties available.

**W4ZE**

I would like particularly give my thanks Ed and Dave, operating as N3ZNI/M, who went out of their way to go through Clinton County and permit me to make my clean sweep. Ed and Dave were able to give 11 stations their last county for clear sweeps Sunday afternoon. — *Ted Huf W4ZE*

(PA QSO Party Continued from page 1)

connected to a rotor at the top of WACOM's portable tower.

The next item on the agenda was to get the 2 meter / 70 cm antenna erected. Thanks to Steve, W3SRL, for the use of his portable guyed pole, we got this antenna in the air. We even remembered to tie a rope to the back of it to allow us to move it around.

Assembly was also under way on the ground-mounted vertical, and then the real fun began. How many hams does it take to place a rope in a tree to support a wire antenna? Apparently one more than we had. After a frustrating battle that was won by gravity, we finally decided to just get it off the ground. — I think we managed about 15 feet. But, as I recall the map of the parking lot, the G5RV antenna was just about on the county line, give or take a few feet.

With the antennas in the air, it was time to begin operating. Dan set up his radio and, after Kevin helped set up the tuner, began to work on 40 meters. Kevin went to his radio and made a few contacts on 2 meters. With hindsight being what it

is, I wish we had put out the word that we would be on 2 meters. Everyone that we heard we were able to work. We could have made some great contacts here — maybe next time. I began to call CQ on 20 meters. This being my first QSO party I was expecting a lot of Pennsylvania Sections. I wasn't hearing them — I was hearing mostly states. After a while, I looked at Dan and said, "Are you working any counties?" He said that he was working a lot of counties, but not much else. We exchanged notes and went on . . . ah, propagation.

I took a drive across the street to the local restaurant, which was the real reason I suggested this site — and you thought it was the elevation of 2,800 feet! Being that this was a ham radio contest, I ordered my favorite from the menu - a ham sandwich to go. Then it was back to the site where K9DOG admired my meal, or did he want a bite of it?

Then it was back to the radio and when I searched for a new frequency to call CQ, I found a vacancy at 14.280 MHz, the suggested operating frequency! I parked there and called CQ until the band conditions changed. As the afternoon progressed, the fog faded in and out. There were times we could see the top of the 300-foot tower behind the building and then a few seconds later we could not see the tower at all.

As evening fell, I began to work 80 meters and heard Ted, W4ZE, calling CQ. He allowed me to share the frequency. He would work a station and, after he was done, would say, "Stand by for another contact," then I would work the station and turn it back to Ted. We really boosted our score by operating like this and it took some of the other contesters by surprise to hear two stations sharing a frequency — in a contest!

It was getting late and dark, so everyone broke down the site and secured it at 8:45 PM local time. This outing was a lot of fun and I hope that the club can participate as a group in more activities similar to this contest. Now, the Whiskey Charlie call, please copy number 195 from Somerset and Westmoreland counties. . . .

— *Frank Bobro KB3FZU*

The site was being dismantled all around Frank KB3FZU as he literally operated until the plug was pulled. The consummate contester, if we had given Frank more time, he would have taken it.

— *Kevin Smith N3HKQ*

Here is my humble offering to the group effort. . . 65 of 67 Counties (Yes, got Clinton County repeatedly this year, just missed Juniata & Monroe), 24 sections + DX, 287 QSO's. And yes, I know, other people can cite the minute they heard both Juniata and Monroe, but I refer to the puzzle of the tree falling in the forest. If a county is active and I don't hear it, does it really exist? Anyway it was fun and every year I vow to try harder the next!

**N3ZEL**

— *Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL*



**Above: Up in the clouds on top of Laurel Ridge along US 30 at the Somerset / Westmoreland County Line, WA3SH Portable. Thanks to all concerned for permitting us to use the site, KB3FZU for making the arrangements, and special thanks to WACOM for letting the WA3SH crew borrow the WACOM Trailer! Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2002 Rick Bell KB3IAC**

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WASH 2M Contest!

This January will mark the Third Annual WASH 2 Meter Contest. We've already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting! In response to input from our participants, and in view of the growing popularity of radios like the IC-706 and FT-100, this year, the contest will NOT only be an FM contest but also open to SSB, and CW! (Digital? Ah, wait 'till next year!)

Everyone who participated in it the last two years had a blast, and we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

So please review the rules and we'll look forward to seeing you on the 11<sup>th</sup>!

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

## Objectives:

- To make as many contacts as possible
- To have fun!

**Band, Mode & Frequencies:** The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band

**FM:** FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM 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.  
**CW:** 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)  
**SSB:** 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please 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 will use their 6 digit postal code.

**Example 1:** "N3ZCG from N3ZEL, please copy Number 3, 15347, Member."

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

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

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

**Disqualification:** Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels 146.52 MHz and below .
- Intentional interference to non-contesters and established nets and QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators

**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 or Industry Canada to **bona-fide** Amateur Radio Clubs. They include **N3SH, WA3SH, WA3COM, W3KWH, N3GC, W3PIE, K3CR, W3YA, K3HKK, W3YI, W3VC, W3PGH, W3EXW, K3MJW, NY3EC, W1AW**, etc. The call **MUST** be assigned as a Club Call to be eligible..

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

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

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

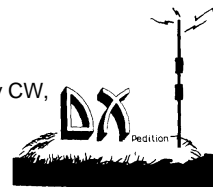
Enclose a SASE #10 for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002

**Each log submitted with SASE on or before the deadline will receive a raffle ticket to WASHFest 2002 on February 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

## DX News Briefs

G3AB (ex G4ZVJ) will be QRV on 160 – 6 meters, mainly CW, as **9L1AB** from November 7<sup>th</sup> for several weeks. QSL via G3AB You will be able to e-mail requests for bureau QSL cards to [andy@g3ab.net](mailto:andy@g3ab.net) — G3AB



The **Azores** now use only the **CU** prefix block. They stopped using the **CT2** block, long ago; that block is now used in Portugal. The main prefixes for Portugal are now **CQ, CR, CS & CT** — CT2HMN

Many requests for **OH0Z** are going to the wrong address. The QSL manager is OH5DX, but the call was recently reissued to ex-OH1EH. The original OH5DX can no longer be reached. The correct address is Ari Korhonen, OH5DX, Kreetalank. 9A1, FIN29200 Harjavalta, Finland, —OH1EH/OH5DX

**YJ8MN** can be QSL'd either direct or to the op's home call (JH3IU) via the bureau. Direct to Vanuatu is preferred if you want the card quickly as Masahiro is based in Vanuatu most of the time. Direct address is Masahiro Nada PMB005, Port Vila, Rep of Vanuatu — YJ8MN, KI4RU

### The Sir Francis Drake Report:

Ignore packet spots for **5Z4DZ** on 30 meters or RTTY. Kenya does not currently permit 30 meter operation, and Alex is not on RTTY yet — PA1AW

**TT8FC** is not on CW, only SSB, RTTY & PSK31. Any CW operation is Slim in action — W3AWU, EA4AHK

The **ZL7C** operation went QRT immediately after the end of the CQ WW SSB contest. Initial reports are that they worked 72,200 QSO's (including 5513 in the contest), which included both 6 meter QSO's into Japan and 4 EME contacts into the US from Chatham. QSL via ZL4HU — ZL2AL

**7Z1AC** is reported to have submitted his documentation to the ARRL. By the time you read this, the "official" word that his operation is approved for DXCC credit should have been released. QSL via WA4JTK — AB2NZ, WA4JTK

Check your DXCC printout lately? Credits for **7P/ZS6AIS** (1991) have been removed because of a lack of supporting documentation. **S05R** (2000) is also being rejected due to lack of documentation. — KU0A

3D2AG is now active as **FO5RK** from Rapa Island (OC 051) through November 28<sup>th</sup>. He will be on SSB & CW with some digital modes — F5NOD, VA3RJ

**KH8** American Samoa is now active by a multi-national team from two different islands. **K8T** will be on Tutuila (OC 045) through November 8<sup>th</sup>, QSL via AH6HY; and **K8O** on Ofu (OC 077) through November 6<sup>th</sup>, QSL via GW0ANA. Both operations will have three operators each and be running most bands and modes. — GW0ANA

VK8RH will be QRV as **C21RH** November 4<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. He will be mainly on 6 meters, with have some HF activity with a vertical. QSL via VK4AAR —VK8RH

W3HNC has asked anyone who needs help confirming **EX2T, EX7ML, EX8AA** or **EX8AC** to contact him. But he is very emphatic that he is NOT their QSL Manager! Also, if you are having problems getting QSL cards from Russia, see if Joe can help, even if he's not that station's QSL manager — W3HNC

The popular **#CQDX** chat room for DXers has a new address. Regular users are asked to please reconfigure their IRC client to connect to [irc.radiochat.org](http://irc.radiochat.org). Information about the room and software configuration instructions can be found at <http://dx.qsl.net/cqdx>. — N6RT

## QSL Routes

**3V8KO** via I5JHW — RA3DNC  
**3XY6A** via VE2XO — NJ7H  
**5W0IR** via DJ2MX — DL6KAC  
**8P5A** via W2SC — RA3DNC  
**8Q7KK** via HA2SX — W9OL  
**9M2MU** via WA4JTK — W9OL  
**9M6DBT** via WN7J — W8GC  
**9Q1A** via F2YT — RA3DNC  
**9Q1L** via F2YT — RA3DNC  
**9U0X** via DJ6SI — KQ4YI  
**A45WD** via YO9HP — XE1ZW  
**EW/NP3D** via W3HNC — N1NK  
**EY90MT** via K1BV — W9OL  
**GB2IOM** via G0PSE — VA3RJ  
**IQ0NK** via IK0NFV — IK0LNN

**L65W** via LU7DW — VA3RJ  
**MD4K (HF)** via G3NKC — G4XUM  
**MD4K (VHF)** via GD0TEP — G4XUM  
**P5/4L4FN** via KK5DO — W3BJ  
**PT0F** via PY5XX — XE1ZW  
**R1ANF** via RK1PWA — F5NOD  
**S21/OK1FWC** via OKDXF — W3BJ  
**T88ZF** via DK2ZF — N1NK  
**TL8DV** via W3MC — W9OL  
**W5BIB** via F6KMF — VA3RJ  
**TO8MZ** via F6BLK — VA3RJ  
**V63ZF** via DK2ZF — N1NK  
**XW1HS** via E21EIC — KZ2I  
**XY3C** via DL4KQ — KA2MGE  
**ZC4VG** via G0UVX — W9OL

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 **WASH**Rag. 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 **WASH**Rag or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

**HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
P.O. Box 201  
Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201  
Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944  
gallina@usaor.net



"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:  
Radio Equipment                      Computer Equipment  
Antennas Rotors & Towers        Computer Media & Software  
Cellular Telephones  
Mechanical Breakdown & Electrical Damage Coverage



**EcoQuest International**  
"Healthy Living Technologies"

Featuring Living Air, Living Water, and the soon to be released WindTree.  
Suffering from Allergies, Asthma, Headaches, Pet Odors, Smoke, or Bad Tasting Tap Water? Call for a FREE in-home demo and 3-day trial of Living Air and Living Water.  
Kevin F. DeRose N3KFD  
1-877-900-9620 Toll Free Overview  
1-724-348-6892 Office

kfderose@ecoquestintl.com  
www.ecoquestintl.com/kfderose

**Sprouse Creations** — Custom made Shirts, Tote Bags, Buttons and Mouse Pads. Linda Sprouse, 500 Maryland Avenue, Oakmont PA 15139-1604 (412) 828-1822 [info@sprouseworks.com](mailto:info@sprouseworks.com)

**Computer & Network Consulting** — PC & Server Repairs, upgrades, maintenance, software installs, etc. for both home and business computer system. Ask me how to wire up your home network! Ron Notarius WN3VAW, (412) 882-7130

"When I die, come to Gettysburg and buy my equipment — you'll get a hell of a deal.

Every time I bring something in there, I tell my wife it costs about \$75!"

— Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, FCC Forum, Dayton Hamvention 2002

## 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](mailto:sales@fyi.net), for more details or to sign up. You must mention that you are a member of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS** to get the discount rate.

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!

## FCC News

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

**NEWINGTON, CT, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002** — The FCC this month advised several amateurs in Ohio and Michigan to avoid lengthy FM simplex QSOs on 146.52 MHz. Under the generally accepted band plan endorsed by the ARRL, 146.52 MHz is the 2-meter national calling frequency. Stations making initial contact there are expected to move to another simplex channel to continue their conversation.

"While band plans are not mandatory under the Commission's rules, the Commission depends upon them to minimize the situations in which Commission intervention is required, and they comport with good amateur practice under our rules," FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth said in letters to four amateurs in Ohio and one in Michigan.

He asked the five amateurs to review §97.101 of the FCC's Amateur Service rules, which covers general standards and mentions "good engineering and good amateur practice" as well as cooperation in the selection of transmitting channels. Band plans are informal agreements that outline how various segments of the different bands should be used. Among other things, the 2 meter band plan incorporates such standards as where repeater operation should occur in the band — as opposed to moonbounce and SSB or CW, for example. It also establishes a standard spacing between a repeater input and its output. The primary goal of a band plan is to minimize conflicts among users of different modes.

Hollingsworth told ARRL that he wrote the five amateurs on the basis of complaints about lengthy contacts in late September and early October, which averaged 45 minutes and in some cases lasted up to an hour. He said two of the amateurs he'd written already have contacted him and agreed to cooperate with the request.

"It's not the worst thing going on," Hollingsworth said this week, adding that the FCC has no intention of making band plan compliance mandatory. "I don't consider it a big deal. I'm just trying to raise awareness."

Hollingsworth reiterated that while Part 97 does not strictly prohibit holding a QSO or a roundtable on any national simplex calling frequency, band plans — to the extent that they're followed — do help to keep down friction among various users and make his job a lot easier.

**NEWINGTON, CT, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2002** — FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth has told five amateurs in Ohio and Michigan to disregard his earlier admonition to avoid lengthy QSOs on 146.52 MHz. That's the generally recognized national simplex calling frequency and endorsed by the ARRL's 2-meter band plan. Acknowledging that some confusion exists within the amateur community as to whether 146.52 MHz is a national calling channel or just another simplex frequency, Hollingsworth decided to simply rescind the five advisory notices he'd sent October 15<sup>th</sup>.

"We made an error in issuing that *Advisory Notice*, and you may disregard it," Hollingsworth wrote today in letters sent to each of the affected amateurs. Commenting to ARRL, Hollingsworth was blunt yet good-natured. "I goofed," he said. "If I were worried about making a fool of myself from time to time, I never would have become a lawyer in the first place."

Amateurs commenting to the FCC and on various newsgroups reportedly were bewildered by the FCC advisory notices. An ARRL error apparently contributed to the confusion. Hollingsworth did not find 146.52 MHz singled out as the national simplex calling frequency in his edition of *The ARRL's FCC Rule Book* (12th edition, 1st printing). The designation does appear in subsequent printings of the *Rule Book*, however, as well as in recent editions of *The ARRL Operating Manual* and *The ARRL Repeater Directory 2002/2003*.

Hollingsworth says that operation that does not comply with a generally accepted band plan such as ARRL's is not illegal. He points out, however, that band plans — to the extent that they're followed — do help to keep down friction among various users and make his job a lot easier. In this case, he said, it was unclear to him that everyone accepted the notion of 146.52 MHz as the national simplex calling frequency. "In an ideal world, stations making initial contact on 146.52 MHz probably should move off to another accepted simplex channel to continue their conversation," Hollingsworth said.

Band plans are informal agreements that outline how various segments of the different bands should be used. Their primary goal is to minimize conflicts among users of different modes.

In addition to designating 146.52 MHz as the national simplex calling frequency, the ARRL band plan calls for 144.200 MHz as the national calling frequency on CW and SSB; digital simplex between 144.90 and 145.10 MHz; and FM voice simplex between 146.40 and 146.58 MHz and between 147.42 and 147.57 MHz. In some parts of the country, however, some of the frequencies within these ranges do serve as repeater inputs or outputs.



Now in our EIGHTH big year!



# WASHfest 2003

**The South Hills Hamfest**

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

**Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003**

**8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)**

**Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall**

**3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA**

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



**(800) 545-8881**

**DXCC Card Checking will be available, thanks to Mike Lazaroff K3AIR**

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

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-817 HF/VHF/UHF All Mode QRP Transceiver
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: ICOM IC-207H Dual Band Mobile FM Transceiver
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: ICOM IC-V8 2 Meter Hand Held Transceiver

**Additional Hourly Door Prizes!**

**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

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too! [www.washarc.org](http://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 2003



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

(check quarter →)  
(check one ↓)

	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1st Qtr</b> <b>Jan-Mar</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>2nd Qtr</b> <b>Apr-Jun</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>3rd Qtr</b> <b>Jul-Sept</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>4th Qtr</b> <b>Oct-Dec</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Members Only:

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

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

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

ARRL Member?  Yes  No    Family ARRL Member?  Yes  No

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

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

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

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

## Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

# Order Form for "The TLC Embroidery Company"

## Embroidered Shirts and Hats

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

<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:

- Comments and pictures from many of the WASH members operating in the 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party!
- Jeff Foxworthy, eat your heart out!
- **Christmas / Holiday** Information!
- Announcing **WASHFest 2002!**
- Announcing the 3rd Annual **WASH**Two Meter Contest — not just FM this year!

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

**“We’re Lost, but We’re Making Very Good Time!”**



Trying to decipher the map to figure out how to get to there from here are Ed N3ZNI (l) and Dave KB3GOT (r), operators of N3ZNI/M in the 2002 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party.

Despite such obvious navigational difficulties, they covered a significant portion of the 33 counties in Western Pennsylvania and made many of the contest ops happy by giving out some real rare counties and helped quite a few complete their Worked All County “Clean Sweeps.” Well done & congratulations to both!

More 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party pictures inside!

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2002 David M. Wagner KB3GOT

## The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
Ron Notarius WN3VAW, Editor  
3505 Rosalia Avenue  
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2317



N3SH / WA3SH  
[www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)

Remember Veteran's Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>