



WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 5 Issue 4

April 2003

N3SH
WA3SH
WP2AIQ

Wireless Association of South Hills

What Would You Do?

In this time of War and Viral outbreak around the world, we in the Amateur Radio community should be ready to provide aide in any way we can to the fellow citizens of not just our region or nation but the whole world. Yes, these are things that we do not wish to think about but now we must. If our home here in Western Pennsylvania was struck by a "Dirty Bomb" would you or do you:

1. Do you have a plan in place to have your family contact you or for you to be able to contact your family at a given time? This was one of the major communication problems in both New York and Washington D.C. People were calling continuously into those phone centers tying up lines needed for vital Emergency Services. To solve this problem have a set time and place where you or your spouse can receive a call. Or have someone non-local that can relay messages. So here is a scenario for you.

You work in Downtown Pittsburgh. Your spouse works in Bethel Park. Your retired mother lives in Florida. Now a chemical train on the wrong track collides with a passenger train at the Amtrak station and one of the cars derail and crack spilling toxins into the air. Parts of downtown are being evacuated. Your spouse sees this on the news during lunch. They rush back to the office and start calling you repeatedly getting busy signals due to overloaded phone circuits. But you were not where they were calling anyway because you had to evacuate your building.

Now if you had made arraignments ahead of time you would have gotten to a safe location and then called your spouse at the set time. Because they were in no immediate danger they would have stayed put. Then if for some reason they were unreachable there you would have called your mother in Florida and she would have waited for the call from your spouse and relayed a message. Thus eliminating a lot of worry and frustration but if a hundred people did this the call volume could be cut significantly enough to allow some calls through.

2. Would you be able to locate the necessary pieces of your radio station to set up a portable operation relaying messages either locally or nationally? Most of us have these great dual-band handheld radios with all sorts of accessories and functions. We often do not know how to use most of the functions or how to put a frequency into memory. Do you have a charged battery for that radio or could you use AA's in a pinch? When you arrive at an assigned post is not when to find out the HT is dead or you can't set the frequency or repeater offset. Now how about an idea, go into your closet

(What Would You Do? Continued on page 6)

UPMC/City of Pittsburgh Marathon Needs Ops!

The UPMC /City of Pittsburgh Marathon has requested amateur radio's participation for this year's event. The Marathon will take place on Sunday, May 4, 2003.

As in the past, we will be providing vital and necessary communication to ensure the safety and well being of all the runners and spectators. Once again, the Marathon will be starting and ending at Heinz Field. Due to the closing of the 16th Street Bridge, there have been some minor changes to course as it goes through the North and South Sides. You can learn more about the marathon and the course by checking out their web site at www.pittsburghmarathon.org/

There are many positions that need to be covered throughout the 26.2 mile race course. More than 150 amateur radio volunteers will be needed to support this effort. We need your participation! If you're new to the hobby or have never participated in a public service event, don't let that deter you from volunteering. We give you information and support to ensure that you have a positive and fun experience. This is an opportunity for you and amateur radio to provide a public service to our community, as well as to be part of this prestigious event.

Registration is easy. Go to www.cs.pitt.edu/~hoffman/marathon.html, fill out the form and hit send. That's all there is to it. You will receive your assignment and detailed instructions sometime during the week of April 28th. There will also be a pre-race meeting the morning before the Marathon. At that meeting we will review what to expect on race day and answer your questions. You will also receive your marathon credentials, T- shirt and hat.

I look forward seeing you and joining us this year.

— 73, Konrad Kammerrer W3KK

NEW MEETING LOCATION!
PETERS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Next Meeting: April 10th, 2003

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, April 10th, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 6:30 PM.

Our special guest speaker will be Larry Comden K3VX, discussing homebrew antenna projects. For real, this time!

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RN/R and 443.650(+) N3BV/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

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

**April & May
NCS Stations:**

04/06 Hank KB3FNM
04/13 Michael KB3HFP
04/20 Bill W3WH
04/27 Carol KB3GMN
05/04 Kevin N3HKQ
05/11 Joseph KB3ENX
05/18 Paul NØVLR
05/25 Hank KB3FNM

Alternates & Backups
Frank KB3FZU
Dave N3JDH
Ron WN3VAW

Want to volunteer to be
a Net Control Station?
Please contact FM Net
Manager Kevin N3HKQ
for more information.

**LOOKING
AHEAD:**

- 52nd Annual
Dayton
Hamvention
May 16th -
18th
- 49th Annual
Breeze-
shooter's
Hamfest
June 1st

April 2003

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | 1 Poisson D'Avril Contest S H B P & M Meeting Butler Co ARA Meeting Skyview RS Meeting North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net | 2 Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net | 3 WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting Uniontown ARC Net | 4 Eico ARS Meeting | 5 Beaver Valley ARA VE Test RA Erie VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast Foothills ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net |
| 6 DST Begins Ellwood City ARA Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Youth Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net | 7 Greater Pgh VHFS Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net | 8 Foothills ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&C Meeting Punxsatawney Area ARC Meeting North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net | 9 Breakfast with Dave Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Allegheny Co SKYWann Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net | 10 WASH Meeting | 11 | 12 Skyview RS VE Test North Hills ARC VE Test Tri-County CW ARC VE Test 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net |
| 13 OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Youth Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net | 14 Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net | 15 Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net | 16 North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highlands VHFS Mtng. Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net | 17 WASH VE Test | 18 Good Friday 2 Rivers ARC Meeting Quad Co ARC Meeting | 19 Mercer Co ARC VE Test North Hills ARC Elmer Net |
| 20 Easter Elk Co ARC Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Youth Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net | 21 Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net | 22 Earth Day Mercer Co ARA Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn'Shop Net | 23 Secretary's Day Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co ARES Net Allegheny Co SKYWann Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net | 24 WACOM Board Meeting Uniontown ARC Net | 25 | 26 WASH Breakfast Indiana Co ARC VE Test Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net |
| 27 Orthodox Easter OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net North Hills ARC Youth Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net | 28 Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net | 29 Holocaust Remembrance North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swapn'Shop Net | 30 North Hills ARC Activity Night Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net | 5/1 WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting Uniontown ARC Net | 5/2 Eico ARS Meeting | 5/3 North Hills ARC Elmer Net |

WASH 2003 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Shawn Djernes NØPEU
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 2003 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
Echo Link #26861 (courtesy W3SRL)
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 Shawn Djernes NØPEU for providing space on-line for back issues of **"The WASHRag™"** which can be found at www.washarc.org or www.djernes.org/washrag

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test April 17th!

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, April 17th, 2002, 6:30 PM**, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, 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 **\$12.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

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

Wireless Association's 10th Anniversary 1993 – 2003

This year marks the 10th Anniversary for WASH. Have any favorite stories or tall tales about the early days of the club? Let us know — we hope to be able to run some of those during 2003!

The **WASH Breakfast Gang** gathered on March 29th at **Ponderosa Steakhouse** in Washington for our monthly get-together. In attendance were KE7FD & his son Andrew, K3VX, KB3FNM and Mary Lou, W3RJM, N3SBF, KB3GMN, KB3JHN, KB3GOT, N3ZNI, N3ZEL & W3WH. Topics included Insurance, Hank's ICOM IC-746, travel antenna experiments, loop antennas, and getting Diane's 2 Meter Mobile working — plus a lot more that didn't get noted down anywhere!

Join us next month for these subjects & more, plus a cup of coffee & a good time! The next Club Breakfast will be returning to **Dietz's Restaurant** in the Caste Village Shops, Grove & Baptist Roads, Whitehall, on April 26th, then back to the **Ponderosa Steakhouse**, Wal Mart Plaza, Route 19 & Murland Avenue, Washington, on May 31st. See you there!

Reminder Switching breakfast venues: Starting in 2003, we're going to alternate the monthly Club Breakfast site between **Dietz's** and the **Ponderosa**. Even though it's been wildly successful since we started it, some club members simply can't make it every month because of the long drive; this way, we try and give everyone a chance to make it to a more convenient site at least every other month.

On the mend (continued). We're happy to hear that Steve W3SRL is recovering well from his February back surgery and he should be back in full health soon. We've also recently heard that Dave KB3GOT recently underwent knee surgery and he too is reported to be recovering well.

SKYWarn Class: There will be a SKYWarn class on April 16th at the Emergency Communications Center in Washington. Contact Bob KB3IN to sign up or for more information.

VE Test Change of Venue: Reminder to all planning to be at the VE Test Session this month the like the club meetings, the VE session has also moved to the Peter's Township Library. Please try to be there at 6:30 (not 7:00) if possible, as we MUST be done and out of the library by 9:00 PM!

Sorry it's late... Ye Editor would like to take a moment to first thank everyone from the club who's been able to help me & my family during the difficulties of the last few weeks. I don't know how I would have made it through all of this without your help! Special thanks to Bob W3RWS, Kevin N3KFD, Dick N3QMV, Hank KB3FNM, Dan KB3HVN, Larry K3VX, Ted WN3BOJ and last but certainly not least, Steve W3SRL, all of whom gave up time and effort to help us move and/or get other things ready to move. We could not have done this without you!

No, I'm not back on HF yet (give it a few weeks), but start thinking about wire antennas for that backyard hillside

As hectic as the last few weeks have been, between moving, working the night shift, and working some temp jobs, there just hasn't been enough time until now to get the newsletter out the door. Sorry about that, but it couldn't be helped. Hopefully we'll be back on track for May.

Heard some new calls on the repeaters coming out of Washington County? Might be thanks to the successful Technician class that WACOM held in March.

Front Row: Diane KB3JHN, James KB3JHP, Kevin KB3JHO, Susan KB3JHQ, Gene KB3JHR
 Back Row: Shawn KB3JHK, David KB3JHL, Damian KB3JHM.

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2003 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Famed DX'er Dave Heil K8MN (OH2/K8MN, J52US, & many others) will be in Moon Township on Wednesday, April 9th. He's expressed interest in an informal get-together with "the gang," so we've arranged an informal Breakfast gathering for coffee & talk at **King's Family Restaurant** on Broadhead Road, starting shortly after 9 AM until ???.

This is open to all; no RSVP's required, but if you're planning to come, please let WN3VAW know.

Talk-in on the Steel City ARC Repeater 147.030



Enjoying breakfast at the **Ponderosa** are Bob W3RJM, Andrew KE7FD's son, Carol KB3GMN, and Diane KB3JHN. Photo courtesy of & ©2003 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL



Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 11!

Minutes, March 13th Meeting

Frank Bobro KB3FZU, VP/ Secretary, WASH

Shawn, NØPEU, **called** the meeting **to order** at 19:00 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 February meeting as published in the February newsletter. Motion was made by Ed, W3VFA, seconded by Ed, N3ZNI. The motion was voted on and passed.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): Mark reported the club's finances.

Secretary (KB3FZU): Frank announced that Dave, N8DPW, is leaving for Ohio. There was a gathering at Al's Café after the meeting to send him off.

VE Report (N3ZEL): The next VE test session is coming up on the third Thursday in April. It will be held at the Peters Township Library at 7 PM.

Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL): No report.

FM Net Report (N3HKQ): Kevin reports that the extended schedule is posted through June.

Public Service (N3RDV): Paul, NØVLR read a letter from Konrad, W3KK, requesting amateur radio operators for the UPMC City of Pittsburgh Marathon.

Contests (K3VX): Ron, WN3VAW, reported that CQ Worldwide Prefix Contest is the last weekend of this month. Ted, W4ZE, is trying to get a group to run multi-operator from his QTH. Bill, W3WH, emphasized that Ted does want us to come over to his shack to operate. March 22 is the Breeze Shooters Ground Wave Contest's phone portion from 8:00 PM – 12:00 AM on 10 meters.

Activities: Bill, W3WH, reported on the hamfest. It was OK; there were enough vendors and attendees to make it a success. Thanks to everyone that supported the hamfest.

Newsletter (WN3VAW): Electronic newsletter is on time. No hard copy because (due to other commitments) the individual who was getting it printed has been unavailable recently. If anyone can help with the printing, please see Ron.

President's Report (NØPEU): Shawn introduced himself as the club's new President.

Old Business: Field Day - Bill, W3WH, reports that Hank, KB3FNM, has once again secured the Library Sportsmen's Club for our operations this year. If anyone has other site suggestions, please suggest them. Paul, NØVLR, said we should do it again as we did last year. Ted, W4ZE, will have a set of band pass filters by field day. Bill, W3WH, said that we will not have perfection but as long as we don't interfere with the CW rig, he doesn't care. Field Day is June 28 and 29th 2003.

Dan, KB3HVN, has come up with a patch for the old (2nd order) SHARC jackets, cost is \$9.00. WASH shirts are also available. We are working on the link so they can be ordered on line. Dan is working on hats and satin jackets that will be available soon.

Bill, W3WH, made a motion to use the Peters Township Library as a permanent meeting location and to have the meeting start at 6:30. The motion was seconded by W3RWS. The vote was split into two rounds. The first round was to use the Library as a permanent meeting site. That vote passed with one opposed. The second part was to move the meeting time to 6:30 PM. That vote was 15 in favor and 9 opposed. The motion was carried.

New Business: Paul got an email from the Fort Cherry PTA. On April 10 & 11th they are looking for persons to speak about ham radio at the Fort Cherry Elementary School.

Good of the Order: Ron, WN3VAW, will be moving over the weekend and is looking for help. The start time is 8 AM and it will be going on all weekend. Dan, KB3HVN, asked to move Larry's, K3VX, antenna presentation to the April meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Made by Ron, WN3VAW, and seconded by Carol, KB3GMN. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 19:41.

Pass This On to an Interested Potential Ham:

What's New at [HowStuffWorks!](http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/ham-radio.htm), The Electronics Stuff Channel for March 31, 2003

"Roger That - How Ham Radio Works

<http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/ham-radio.htm>"

Tip courtesy of Paul Lusardi NØVLR

WASH Spotlight: Presenting...



Steve W3SRL presenting the First Place (Club Station) certificate to the Dan KB3BYI, President of the Foothills ARC W3LWW operators at the March club meeting. (Other winning certificates are still being created and will be available shortly.) Looking on is Rich N3WWN.

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2003 Bill Hill W3WH

Every month we're going to feature a WASH club member, something about them, or a club- related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH** Spotlight. Submissions should be sent to Ron Notarius WN3VAW, wn3vaw@arri.net

Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, April 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, drink lots of coffee, and just have a good time together!

Starting in 2003, we will be alternating our breakfast locations every month to make it easier for club members to get to at least one of them:

Join us in EVEN-numbered months at **Dietz's Restaurant**, Baptist & Grove Roads in the Caste Village Shops, Whitehall.

Join us in ODD-numbered months at the **Ponderosa Steak House**, Wal-Mart Plaza, US Route 19 @ Murtland Road (just off Interstate 70), Washington.

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 | KD3JV | N3RDV | NP2JF | Silent Keys |
| AA3JS | KB3GMN | KE3XB | N3RHT | N8DPW | K3EED |
| AB3AB | KB3GMO | KE7FD | N3RNX | W3GEL | KB3FQT |
| K3BZW | KB3GMP | KE8RN | N3SBF | W3HND | N3KEH |
| K3LIE | KB3GMU | KQ3DX | N3SRC | W3JAF | N3OBD |
| K3OL | KA3GNT | NØPEU | N3TBK | W3RJM | N3SKR |
| K3VX | KB3GOT | NØVLR | N3UE | W3RWS | W3ZLK |
| K3WR | KB3GZG | NØWPV | N3UIW | W3SRL | |
| K9LZ | KB3GUZ | N2QIV | N3VEH | W3VE | Color Codes: |
| KA3PPH | KB3HFP | N3AWF | N3WPT | W3VFA | 2003 Member |
| KA3TFB | KB3HVN | N3BSQ | N3XFE | W3WH | 2002 Member |
| KA3TWI | KB3IAC | N3CZZ | N3XI | W4ZE | 2001 Member |
| KA3UPY | KB3ICC | N3FZ | N3YPB | W8LEV | 2000 Member |
| KA3WZO | KB3IJX | N3HKQ | N3YQY | WA3JPP | |
| KA3YTS | KB3IRQ | N3IDH | N3ZCG | WB3BPH | |
| KB3ANH | KB3IVW | N3INT | N3ZEG | WB3GTL | |
| KB3CPI | KB3IVX | N3KFD | N3ZEH | WN3BOJ | |
| KB3DCO | KB3QX | N3MJQ | N3ZEL | WN3VAW | |
| KB3ENX | KC2JJB | N3PN | N3ZNI | | Barbara Misic |
| KB3EPI | KC6VLV | N3QMV | N4MIS | | |
| KB3ERQ | | | | | |
| KB3FNM | | | | | |

Through March 31st, 2003

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

The Great Tavern Caper

Glen E. Zook K9STH

The following is a true story, only the names have been omitted to protect the guilty!

It was in the fall of 1960 (maybe early winter of 1961, I don't remember exactly the dates), when a certain local amateur in LaPorte, Indiana, came up with what he thought would be "the" event of the year. Now, although the first few days of this "caper" were accomplished by that particular individual alone, he did invite me along for the great "finale". As such, I can truthfully relate the story for all to know.

This amateur had obtained a military surplus TBY transceiver that he had converted to 6-meter operation. The TBY was notorious for causing TVI (I think they even caused TVI when turned off, disconnected from the antenna, and put in your attic - at least it seemed like this!). Because we lived in a Channel 2 fringe area (LaPorte is about 60 miles east of Chicago) the amateur only ran his TBY mobile in his 1951 Plymouth sedan. Since he was never in one location very long, no one really had to suffer from the TVI which this rig caused (and it "did" cause TVI!).

At that time, in the State of Indiana, all bars, taverns, etc., places that sold beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption, had to have a large picture window on the front of the building. This was to allow any law enforcement officer the ability to drive by the establishment and see into the building. The bar itself had to be visible from this window.

On the eastside of downtown was a local "hangout" called, if I remember correctly (this has been over 40 years and sometimes I do forget) the East Lincolnway Inn. It was on the north side of the street, which, it just so happens, was East Lincolnway (being the main "drag" of LaPorte) and also being State Highway 2 (the road to South Bend). The building was located approximately at a "five points" (two cross streets with a third street coming in at an angle making a total of five streets intersecting). Across East Lincolnway from the bar was an abandoned small building which had housed a Frozen Custard stand for many years. Although the building was abandoned, there was still a small parking lot that a number of the patrons of the bar used when the bar's main parking lot became full.

The East Lincolnway Inn was a favorite neighborhood "watering hole" for a number of workers at the Allis-Chalmers plant a few blocks away. At this time the plant was manufacturing things like corn "pickers", wheat-harvesting machines, and for the United States Marine Corps a little tank destroyer called the M-50 "Ontos". Now the "Ontos" was a "sweet" little machine. It was about the size of a Volkswagen "beetle" and had six 106 mm recoilless rifles plus two 50 calibre spotting rifles installed (three 106s installed on each side of the vehicle). The three-man crew would fire the spotting rifles until a round hit the opposing tank (or other target) and then the 106 mm rifles would fire as one, two, four, or all six at one time (now that was a sight to see!).

To reload the rifles required getting out of the vehicle. The crew was protected by two large steel doors that opened wide of the rear of the rifles, which allowed them to be reloaded while protecting the crew. Of course when the rifles were fired, the flames shot out both ends of them and you definitely did not want to be on either the front or the back of the destroyer when the rifles were fired. The US Army only bought 12 of these units but the Marine Corps bought several hundred, some of which were used in Vietnam.

Anyway, I digress!

As I said above, a number of the workers at Allis-Chalmers would stop by the bar for a couple of beers on their way home. Since their shift ended at 4:30 PM, they just had time to get to the bar and be about halfway through their first beer when the 5:00 PM news came on Channel 2 out of Chicago (most news in the Eastern and Pacific time zones comes on at 6:00 PM, but in the Central time zone 5:00 PM was most prevalent back then and, in many areas, is still so today). Most of them ordered another beer sometime during the half-hour broadcast and went home soon after 5:30. This was a nightly ritual for quite a number of employees.

Now, Friday was "payday" and the patrons usually made a quick dash to the bank before dropping by the bar. Also, since it was payday, they usually bought a few more drinks before going home. Unless the person got to the bank immediately, he was often a few minutes late and therefore missed the first few minutes of the news broadcast, but since they were there for the fellowship, etc., they really didn't seem to mind.

The television set was a 21 inch (largest normally available at that time) black and white set that sat over the bar and was quite visible from the street. You could see the program reasonably well from the parking lot across the street (at least well enough to tell what was going on). Since the patrons liked watching the Channel 2 news, the television set was always tuned to Channel 2 during that time frame.

Well, now that I have set the physical parameters I'll get on with the story.

Since his TBY was "notorious" for causing TVI, the amateur involved decided to play a "prank" on these bar patrons. Starting on one Monday afternoon, he parked his Plymouth sedan where he could easily see the television set. After about 10 minutes into the news broadcast the amateur would "key up" the TBY. Of course the television set went "bananas". Whenever the bartender would reach up to try to adjust the set the amateur would then release the push-to-talk on the transmitter. The immediate result was that the interference immediately would go away. Every 30 to 60 seconds the amateur would key the transmitter, the bartender would reach up to adjust the set, and then the amateur would release the PTT. This would go on for about 15 minutes and then the amateur drove away.

The amateur came back to the parking lot on Tuesday, then Wednesday, and then Thursday, repeating the same thing that he had done on Monday. Of course the bartender and the patrons were obviously upset. But, no one really knew what was going on.

Finally, on Friday, payday, the particular amateur invited me to come along. I was just starting my junior year in high school and was, at that time, at bit of a "smart alec" who did enjoy playing a joke or two on people.

We pulled into the parking lot a little after 5:00 PM and the routine was started. However, unlike previous times the amateur keyed the transmitter at least once every 30 seconds and sometimes with even less time interval in between. Also, instead of only doing this for about 10 to 15 minutes, the amateur continued for almost all of the news broadcast. The bartender was getting frustrated, a good number of the patrons were getting frustrated. Frankly, I think that they were just about ready to "chuck" the television set.

Finally, the amateur made a final transmission. As the bartender reached up to adjust the television for the "umpteenth" time, the amateur said into the microphone "just leave me alone for a couple of minutes and I'll be OK"! The bartender jumped back. The patrons who had not been playing any attention to the television looked up. Of those who had been paying attention a number of them jumped up and looked at the television. The place was chaos!

This was before CB radio was really popular and many people had no idea as to what TVI really was. The television set had received the AM from the TBY and it sounded just like the set was really talking to them.

As for us across the street, we were laughing our heads off. It was all that we could do to put the car in gear and get away from the tavern as fast as possible.

I "heard through the grapevine" that number of patrons at the bar that day swore off ever drinking again! I also heard that it was several weeks before some of the others that had been there that day came back. Myself, I was "sworn to secrecy" and it was several years before I told anyone about the incident.

The particular amateur involved passed away in the mid-1970s from cancer. But, his family still lives in the same hometown. Therefore, when I tell the tale I conveniently leave out just who this really was. As I said at the beginning, "the names have been omitted to protect the guilty"!

New (Unofficial) Site for the Pennsylvania QSO Party:

I just uploaded my preliminary updates to my (personal) Pennsylvania QSO Party site. If you're bored, and would like to check it out, here's the link. This is the update to the pages, not the scores.

<http://www.qsl.net/kd8mq/ppq/>

I have a lot of work to do yet, but the basic format is there. I have a countdown clock that will be ready to upload in the next week or two, as well.

By the way, this will be the new address for the site. Anybody that goes to the old address, will be automatically redirected to the new one.

— 73, John Myers KD8MQ

A New Ham's Perspective

Don Darde AE6AT courtesy of www.eham.net

The Ham Community is amazing! I have been a Ham for only a little over a year and had almost no contact with Ham Radio before that. What I have experienced in that year as a Ham has caused me to have great regard, respect and admiration for Hams, and a sense of pride being one.

At first I listened a lot on the HF bands and heard the professional sounding way Hams talk to each other. Call signs, answering with information about their location and equipment, always courteous and considerate. I heard people who didn't want to have a long conversation continue talking and politely answer questions. I heard people make mistakes and be embarrassed but be politely excused with friendliness. I heard people helping people and talking about their problems with a sympathetic ear. I heard a Ham using a Braille machine get patience and understanding.

I read Ham magazines and was astonished at the level of technical expertise and detail I saw. Astonished at the wide variety of Ham activities; Casual operating, kit building, contesting, Morse code, Amateur TV, satellites, repeaters, antennas, mountain topping, Dxpeditons, collecting counties, states, countries, QSL cards, public service, experimentation, clubs, Hamventions, Hamfests. The list goes on and on and on with each individual Ham choosing his favorites. I expect to be able to explore and enjoy the Ham experience the rest of my life.

So far I have principally operated on HF phone with only one simplex VHF contact since my location is in a rural mountain valley and is not very good for VHF. Although I can hear a number of repeaters I think repeaters are to be used for purposeful communications such as calling specific Hams, asking directions, talking to people you know or emergencies, so I don't use them.

I am working on my code speed and have great respect for the time and effort it takes to get to 20 words per minute. Being a new Extra Class I feel guilty and not genuine at only having to pass the 5 word per minute code test and have vowed to get to 20 words per minute. I can't imagine how anyone can do 30 or 40 or faster. Amazing, unfathomable.

I have read that Ham behavior on the air is representative of the behavior of the general populace. I don't believe so. From what I have seen and heard the Ham community is much better than that and I aspire to be a contributing and positive part of it.

When I am driving on the freeway and some one cuts me off and my temper goes past the legal limit, I remind myself I am Ham and what that means to me and it is easy to let it go.

I thank the Ham community for giving me this perspective and feeling of pride. Respectfully from one operator to another, Don

CT Now Freeware!

K1EA's famed DOS-based CT contest software program is now free. The latest version can be downloaded from www.k1ea.com/ctvault. Support is courtesy of the CT reflector, ct-user@contesting.com

(What Would You Do? Continued from page 1)

and find a small duffel bag and take it into the shack. Put any accessory you might need into it, such as a cigarette lighter charger for the car, speaker mike, extra batteries. You say, oh that's obvious. Well here are some things you may not have thought of:

- Make yourself a "cheat sheet" of all the command steps need to store a new repeater or simplex frequency into your radio. Do not make this small you need to read it in a hurry or in bad lighting.
- Laminate the "cheat sheet" and a copy of your station license.
- Now you are going to need to write most likely. So find a few pens and a spiral notebook (this is so all your paper stays together).
- You yet to know where you may have to go so put the following things in here to. A rain poncho, a flashlight with extra batteries, granola bars, and a bottle of water.

Now zip it up and put it into your car or the hall closet so you can get to it quickly. If you use the radio all the time then have a spare battery on the charger to be swapped out when one is low. With this kind of kit ready you can answer the call of our community.

Hope this was enlightening and I will continue my ramblings in the next issue.

— 73, Shawn Djernes NØPEU, President
Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. N3SH / WA3SH / WP2AIQ

DXpedition Cancelled

Ponsonby Britt OBE, VE5/MOØSE courtesy Larson E. Rapp III K3IOU

Port of Poisson D'Avril, Moosylvania, April 1st, 2003 — The previously announced DXpedition to the island & possible new DXCC entity Moosylvania (see the [WASHRag](#), September 2002, page 9), scheduled to start on or about today, was cancelled, according to DXpedition leader Dr. Jay Ward and other team officials.

Details for the reasons for the late cancellation were sketchy. Some attributed the cause to the outbreak of war in the Middle East and the need for additional security along the US/Canadian border; the location of Moosylvania equidistant to both countries on the Lake of the Woods made this a prime concern. Former FBI Special Agent Karen Sympathy, and Corporal Dudley Doright of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, both of whom were handling security and licensing concerns for the group, were unavailable for comment.

Other reports mentioned concerns over funding (disputed by Professors R.J. Squirrel & B.J. Moose of Wossamotta University in Frostbite Falls, MN) and pending DXCC, IOTA, or USI status, to say nothing of the long-standing petition for US Statehood that Moosylvania submitted in the early 1960's.

However, we've learned from Professor Moose, who's family owns or controls the bulk of the island, that the real reason for the cancellation was the revocation of the group's permission from the Moose family to occupy the southern beaches of the island (adjacent to the mosquito marshes, which were hoped to be favorable for vertical antennas). Because of the potential new DXCC entity status, so much equipment was loaned or donated by individual Radio Amateurs and DX Clubs around the world, that when it was delivered earlier in the week in preparation for the DXpedition, the island sank beneath the surface of the lake! There were early concerns during the planning stages that just such a catastrophe could happen, based on unconfirmed reports of a similar occurrence about 40 years ago, but these were brushed off as unfounded.

The island reappeared above the waters after a significant portion of the equipment was reportedly removed ("salvaged") by two individuals representing the Pottsylvania Shipping Corporation, Captain Boris Badenov and Natasha Fatale, both of whom have reportedly returned home to Pottsylvania and have since declined to answer our inquiries. Many of those donating the lost or damaged equipment expressed outrage over the disappearances, which led to most of the remaining items being returned. With no antennas or transceivers now available to them, the DXpedition team had no choice but to cancel operations.

Because the unstable nature of the island, one of the prime causes for it to remain uninhabited (along with the summer mosquito population), it now appears that Moosylvania will not qualify for DXCC entity status, as it does not remain above water at all times. (This may also help explain why the island was once thought to be located off the coast of Southern California, although if this is true, how it got to it's current location remains a mystery.)

The DXpedition team wishes to thank the world DX community for their support in this failed effort. They are endeavoring to raise funds to repay all donations and replace all lost equipment. Those who wish to make a donation can get further details at <http://members.shaw.ca/fffff/faq.html>.

Future plans include the possibility in the near future of travelling to the country of San Serriffe, a small republic in the Indian Ocean. While there has been activity from island of Upper Caisse (where the capital city, Bodoni, is located), the less inhabited island Lower Caisse has never before been QRV. The team is awaiting word from the President for Life of San Serriffe, General Pica, on whether or not they are they type of individuals welcome in this small but proud nation.

Antenna Dreams

In Georgia a ham with a dream,
came up with an antenna scheme.
His apartment was on the third floor
and a balcony was outside the door.

If an arrow would fly through the air
and carry a wire that was bare,
over a tree that was tall he could see
what a super antenna that would be.

His aim with the bow was fine
and the arrow flew over the pine
but the shock he got was unkind
as the wire fell across a power line.

It blew the shoes off his feet
and the burns he got from the heat
took a very long time to heal
and believe me this story is real.

If you ever have such a desire
to put up a antenna wire,
be sure the path is free
or you could be a Silent Key.

— Dave Johnson K4SSU

W4ZE CQ WPX SSB Contest 2003

All photos this page courtesy of & ©Copyright 2003 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

How'd we do for the first-ever Multi/Single CQ WPX effort from W4ZE?

232 QSO'S for 88032 POINTS

Operators were: WO3Z, N3ZNI, N3SBF, W4ZE

Assisting were: N3ZEL, KB3GMN, W3WH

We used my call, I did not think of using the club call until after I had started.

— 73, Ted Huf W4ZE



Rich N3SBF & Ted W4ZE working the rig hidden behind all those USPS boxes!



Raising one of the masts for one of the "4 Square" antennas on March 18th



Ed N3ZNI having a blast behind the microphone

WASH Apparel Updates!

Dan KB3HVN & OGN Distributing are continuing to work on the upcoming web page link to permit WASH club members to order shirts, jackets, hats, and whatever direct from the club web page.

But in the meantime, if you still have one of the light blue SHARC "baseball" style windbreakers (these were the "2nd generation" jackets that Steve W3SRL handled the orders for about 5 years ago) hanging in the closet collecting dust, good news! Dan has come up with a patch to "update" the jacket to the new WASH logo. Cost for the patch is \$9, and you will have a choice of either the "regular" or limited time "10th Anniversary" logos to choose from. The patch will be sewn directly onto the jacket; additional embroidery can be done if desired at a small additional cost.

For more information, contact Dan and OGN Distributing at 412-655-8787

9N1MM Memorial Call Status

Charles Harpole K4VUD

For several years 9N1AA and I have been trying to obtain some version of Father Moran's (sk) 9N1MM call sign for a Nepal club station.

Several very generous hams from America and Japan donated rigs!, gear, an antenna, power supply, coax, and cash toward this effort. These donations have not been in vain despite the delay in establishing a club station.

The radios and other gear have been temporarily placed by 9N1AA with native Nepali hams and they have gotten on the air because of this generosity (and only because of it). The cash was used to purchase accessory gear (the first Nye straight keys in the nation, code practice sets, study books, a set of ham CDs, ant tuners, shipping, etc.)

Nepal has been shaken badly by the murder of its King and many of the royal family and more recently by distressing political violence and killings. In such a small and poor country, these events have been quite traumatic and have stopped lots of normal activities... like consideration of ham club station applications.

Please be patient, especially great donors, because 9N1AA and I have not given up, we have only been delayed.

[PS: I have NO access to any 9N1MM logs, sorry. 9N1AA's QSL mgr. is N4AA, Carl of DX Magazine fame.]

IRC Chart Updated

The current version of my IRC / Green Stamp chart can be found at <http://files.billnjudy.com/>

It has some new information on the amount of IRC's or GS's needed to various countries. Hams in all countries are invited to send me data on the amount of IRC's or GS's needed to return a QSL request from their country.

—Bill Heinzinger Jr. W9OL

S2/HA5BUS: Finis

Following some recent inquiries, after serious research work into the current QSL status of the 1992 GLOBEX Dxpediton, I can tell the you the following:

- the main operator (HA5HO) emigrated to the US, and we are not able to make contact with him
- another one has died
- there are some 300 blank QSL cards left in the hands of the former QSL manager, but no log with him

This is the end of the story of the GLOBEX Expedition from 1992.

— Laci Szabo HAØHW

"Freeware" Voice Keyer by SM3WMV

The Voice Keyer is a free Windows based voice keyer. It is very easy to use and it handles up to 7 messages. By connecting your computer soundcard to your radio it's possible to just press a button and the computer will CQ for you, to spare your voice. It can also PTT your radio via the LPT port.

Almost all contest softwares have built in voice keyer nowadays so this is something primarly developed for off contest use. That is nothing that limits you though, for using it during a contest.

You can download freeware version on

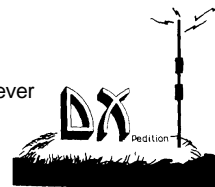
<http://hem.passagen.se/cerussa/software/index.html>

Silent Keys



Keith Leibold KB3FQT, 49, Whitehall, March 25th
 Mary Jane Kristoff, Mother of Bill Kristoff N3BPB, March 2nd
 Missionary Bill Hyde KBØKUB, following a bombing, March 4th
 Bernie Dugan N3BKY, 89, Pittsburgh, March 7th
 Adam Osborne, Creator, **Osborne 1** Portable Computer, 64, March 18th

DX News Briefs



April 14th — 21st will see "the biggest International Team ever seen" in Western Sahara active as **SØ5X**. The team will consists of 11 operators from 6 different countries. The stations will be QRV 24 hours a day, "all mode, all bands (including 160 meters and 50 MHz)." QSL Manager will be EA4URE via the Spanish QSL bureau — SØ5X news release

The 54th annual International DX Convention at Visalia, California, is scheduled for May 2nd — 4th, hosted this year by the Northern California DX Club. QST "How's DX?" Editor & *The Daily DX* publisher Bernie McClenny, W3UR will be this year's banquet speaker, talking about the recent Johnston Island AH3D DXpedition. QSL card checking for both DXCC and WAZ will be available. Full information is available at <http://www.ncdxc.org/Ncdxc/Convention/index.htm> — ARRL Web Site & W3UR/The Daily DX

According to a pop-up announcement on the **5Z4DZ** web site, "Due to the situation in the world, the 5Z4DZ activities are low. As soon as the situation stabilizes he will return to be more active." The log at www.qsl.net/5z4dz is updated and now contains 25,041 QSOs December 15th. All incoming cards are answered the same day. — PA1AW

Operators EY8MM & 4L5A have asked K1BV to become the new QSL manager for **D4B** and **D44TT** effective immediately. Ted has the D44TT logs and is awaiting the D4B ones. He does not know if cards sent to the old manager will be forwarded to him, so he suggests re-QSL'ing — K1BV

GM44FDM advises all awaiting **A52OM** cards that he has just received a batch from the printer and will take care of them upon his return from **OY Faroe Islands** as part of the LLDXT expedition (see next item). He is still waiting for his **HSØZDZ** cards from the printer — GM44FDM

Due to a strike involving the ferry line, The Low Land Dxpediton Team trip to **OY Faroe Islands** was postponed one week to March 31st — April 10th; they will miss the CQ WPX contest due to this. Calls are **OY7ET** (PA5ET), **OY7QA** (PA3FQA), **OY7TW** (GM44FDM), **OY7WB** (AKØA) & **OY7WP** (PA3EWP). OY8PA will be a special call for 160 meters only. QSL all via PA5ET — PA5ET

An updated list of **LZ Bureau Users** is available at www.qsl.net/lz1pj/LZbureau/QSLindex.html — LZ1PJ

W2GR is now **HK3AXY**'s QSL Manager for all QSO's past & present — W2GR

The **9K2USA** log is now at <http://dx.qsl.net/cgi-bin/logform.cgi?9k2usa>. 9K2HN is the new QSL manager duties following many complaints — 9K2HN

If you need to send cards to Columbia **HK**, **HK3SGP** & **HK3BZO** will be going to Dayton 2003. They have offered to take cards back with them — HK3SGP

The Sir Francis Drake Report:

"**ST1MN**" was reported active in February & March. However, his QSL manager, IV3OWC, states that these are a Pirate as the real ST1MN is at the moment too busy to operate — I4EAT, W2LO

Slim was operating as **A45WD** on 30 meters on March 28th for an hour starting at 2000Z. The real A45WD states that Oman has not opened 30 to the Amateur Service; any QSL's sent will be returned. — DL6KVA, A45WD/ YO9WD

QSL Routes

3D2RW via ZL1AMO — KZ2I
5R8FL via G3SWH — W9IXX/4
5T5PBV via JA1PBV — N5PHT
6YØT via K3TEJ — N5PHT
8N1OGA via JA1MRM — K1NU
9J2BO via G3TEV — W7LR
9K2USA via 9K2HN — 9K2HN
9N7YJ via LA5YJ — LA6FJA
CT3FN via HB9CRV — K4KU
D2AI via CT1EGH — KK6T
D2BB via W3HNC — K2DBK
D2GG via CT2GG — KDØAL
D4B & D44TT via K1BV — K1BV
E44/JA8RUZ via JA1UT — W9OL
EI9HQ via WA7OBH — W8TTS
EJ9HQ via WA7OBH — W8TTS
FOØPT via DJØFX — N5PHT
FWØDX via JE3RZT — AB5A
HKØTU via HK3DDD — W7LR
LXØLT via LX1RQ — VA5DX
P29DX via G3LQP — N5PHT
P43P via I2MQP — K4KU
TF8GX via K1WY — W2IRT
TR8CA via F6CBC — AB5A
TYØT via I8ACB — W9OL, W2IRT
TY3M via I8ACB — W2IRT
XT2WP via G4BWP — W9IXX
XU7ACB via N6FF — UA4RZ
Z24S via W3HNC — KZ2I
ZA1E via I2MQY — W9IXX/4

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.**

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7P8 DXpedition Seeks Operators

Frosty K5LBU reports that the planned July Dxpediton to Lesotho 7P8 has an opening for an additional operator. Interested parties should email him at frosty1@pdq.net or visit his web page at www.k5lbu.com

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 five years!

FCC News

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

NEWINGTON, CT, March 26th, 2003 — The FCC has proposed increasing the regulatory fee to apply for, renew or reinstate an Amateur Radio vanity call sign from \$14.50 to \$16.30 this fall. The Commission included the new fee in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003" (MD 03-83), released March 26th.



The closing date for comments on the new fee schedule is April 25. Reply comments are due by May 5.

"We estimate that 9800 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in FY2003," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. That's up by 800 from FY2002. It expects to collect revenues of nearly \$160,000, an increase of almost \$30,000 from FY2002.

If all goes as it has in the past, the FCC will adopt a *Report and Order* on the FY2003 fee schedule this summer, and the new fee will become effective sometime in early September.

The FCC *NPRM* also seeks comments on its efforts to review, streamline and modernize its fee assessment and collection processes and procedures. "We welcome comments on a broad range of options in this regard," the FCC said. Areas of particular interest include suggestions for improvement in the agency's electronic payment system.

Applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the \$14.50 regulatory fee per call sign (per 10-year license term) until the FY2003 fee schedule becomes effective. The FCC has said in the past that because it continues to incur costs related to vanity call signs even after their issuance or renewal, it believes a regulatory fee at renewal is appropriate.

Interested parties may comment via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Enter "03-83" in the "Proceeding" field. Electronic comments by e-mail also are welcome. To receive filing instructions for e-mail comments, send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov and include the words "get form <your e-mail address>" in the message body. The ECFS will reply with a sample form and directions on filing comments.

A copy of the *FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making* is available on the FCC Web site at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-64A1.doc.

The FCC's Boston office has requested a Maine amateur to submit weekly reports detailing some of his on-the-air activities. FCC Boston District Director Vincent F. Kajunski wrote Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, on March 4th. Kajunski said the FCC needed the information to determine if Baxter was operating his station in compliance with Part 97 and with rules regarding recording and broadcasting of telephone calls.

"Your Amateur Radio station is apparently being used for broadcasting various 'programs,' 'talk shows,' children's shows and programs having nothing to do with Amateur Radio," Kajunski said in his letter. "Transmissions from your station are being used for deliberate interference and for communications in which you apparently have a pecuniary interest."

Kajunski also alleged that transmissions from Baxter's station "start and end erratically, are sometimes repetitive and abruptly end with no identification as required by Commission rules." He said such operation indicates the transmissions "are not under the control of a licensed operator." Kajunski's three-page letter also outlines other complaints and allegations involving transmissions from or operation of K1MAN.

Starting March 17th and continuing every week until further notice, Kajunski said he wants a report from Baxter that, among other specifics, provides the name, address, telephone number and exact location of the control operator and the method of station control used when K1MAN transmits. He also has requested the dates, times and frequencies of broadcasts of telephone conversations, either live or recorded, including any recordings from answering machines; transmissions referencing the offer of a degree in electronics or an IARN (International Amateur Radio Network) credit card; transmissions referencing the IARN Web site; and transmissions soliciting donations of radio equipment or other items, including donations to "the Radio Peace Corps Foundation."

Kajunski further asked for dates and times of transmissions "claiming that you, IARN or AARA [American Amateur Radio Association] are affiliated with 'People First Network' in the Solomon Islands," and a record of CQs transmitted, including recorded or automated CQs and a description of any responses, including the call sign of responding stations.

Further, Kajunski has requested that Baxter provide within 30 days information on the alleged transmission of an "apparently continuous 'CQ' loop that the FCC says aired at approximately 10-second intervals for more than two hours on February 3rd,

(FCC News Continued on page 10)

49th Annual Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 1st, 2003 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sponsored by the Breezeshooters

Butler Farm Show Grounds / Roe Airport, State Route 66, Butler PA

(The Farm Show Grounds are West of Butler between Butler and Evans City)

Talk-In on 147.360+ Repeater

VE Testing courtesy of the Ellwood City ARA starting at 12 Noon

ARRL Level 1 ECOM Testing for EC001

Testing starting at 12 Noon at the CB Ranger Building

To register for testing go to:

http://www.qsl.net/ecara/register_1.html

Prize Tickets \$2.00 Each or 3/\$5.00, 7/\$10, 15/\$20

2003 Prizes To Be Announced

For more information go to

<http://www.breezeshooters.net/hamfest/hamfest.htm>

(FCC News Continued from page 9)

2003, on 20 meter SSB. Within the same time frame, the FCC also wants a list of dates, length of time and frequencies "during which your amateur station has operated since February 15th, 2002, without you at the transmitter location." If any, Kajunski asked for the name and address of the control operator, the location of the control operator and control point and the method of control used.

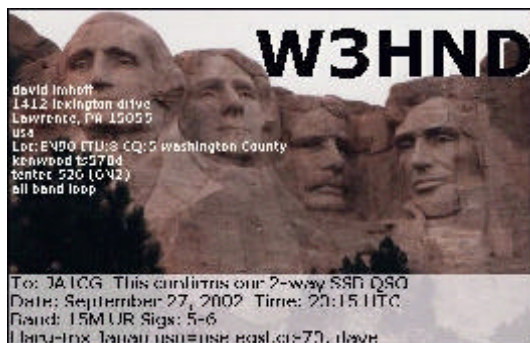
Baxter was the subject of an FCC inquiry initiated in 1999, when FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth requested that Baxter provide details about who was running his station on May 14th and 15th of that year, when FCC personnel monitored and visited Baxter's station in Belgrade Lakes, Maine, but failed to find him or anyone else on the premises. Baxter responded to the inquiry asserting that he had not violated any FCC rules.

In other enforcement news, the FCC also has notified a New York repeater operated by the Cadet Amateur Radio Seminar at the US Military Academy at West Point that it appears to interfere with a coordinated repeater, NA1RA, in New Milford, Connecticut. The Connecticut Spectrum Management Association (CSMA) coordinated the NA1RA repeater, operated by the Northville Amateur Radio Association, on January 31st, 2001. The FCC says the request was cross-coordinated — and "no objection received" — with the Upper New York Repeater Council (UNYREPCO), the coordinating entity for W2KGY.

"UNYREPCO apparently did not coordinate with CSMA, the coordinating entity for the Northville repeater, before issuing coordination to your station," Hollingsworth wrote March 10. The coordination request did go to seven other adjacent repeater coordinating bodies, including one in Quebec. In light of the "failure or refusal" to inform CSMA of W2KGY's request, he said, "it is apparent that the Northville repeater, NA1RA, is the coordinated repeater" for 146.73, the channel both repeaters share. Hollingsworth said that according to the FCC rules, the licensee of an uncoordinated repeater has a primary responsibility to resolve the interference. He also asked the W2KGY owners to furnish any proof of coordination prior to 2001. If the FCC determines that both repeaters are coordinated, W2KGY's owners still would have to detail steps taken to minimize or eliminate interference to NA1RA, Hollingsworth explained.

Courtesy of eQSL

Dave W3HND recently had the following exchange of electronic QSL "cards" on the eQSL.cc service with JA1CG. Haruo's comment speaks for itself... so be wary the next time you pick a photo for your card! (Mt. Rushmore photo on the W3HND QSL card courtesy of & ©2003 Dave Imhoff W3HND)





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 ↓)

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

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

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

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

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Address: _____ License Class: _____

City, State: _____ Expires On: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Birthday: _____

New Members Only:

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

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

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

ARRL Member? Yes No Family ARRL Member? Yes No

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____

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

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

Order Form for "The TLC Embroidery Company"

Embroidered Shirts and Hats

| Quantity | Item/Description | Size | Color | Unit Cost | Net Cost |
|----------|------------------|------|-------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | 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:

- An RFI Tale from Yesterday!
- DXpedition cancelled!
- The UPMC/City of Pittsburgh Marathon Needs Your Help!
- The FCC wants to raise fees!
- **New Meeting Location**

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



“It’s Up”

One of the antennas making up the two “4 Square” antenna systems that was installed at Ted W4ZE’s QTH prior to the CQ WPX SSB contest in March. WASH club members helped Ted set up the antenna system, and they helped Ted run his station in the Multi-Operator Single Transmitter category during the 48 Hour contest.

More pictures and information inside!

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2003 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

The WASHRag

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Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2222



N3SH / WA3SH
www.washarc.org

Reminder!
**We Now Meet At the
Peters Township Library**