



WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 5 Issue 5

May 2003

N3SH
WA3SH
WP2AIQ

Wireless Association of South Hills

N3SH Field Day 2003

It really seem like Field Day 2003 is a long ways off but June 28th and 29th are only about 8 weeks away!

WASH will be operating from the **Library Sportsmen's Association** grounds, south of Library on Route 88, again this year.

The biggest change, so far, is that we'll be using a different group of antennas. All will be coax fed, and hopefully assisted by band pass filters to all but eliminate interference with each other. Thanks to Kevin, Dan, Ted and Larry for completing the "pre-engineering" of our Field Day antennas; we now have Engineer's Cord in the trees to support the 80, 160, and two 40 meter dipoles.

Jacque and Ed are hard at work planning how to maximize our bonus point score, Steve is putting together a 20 meter "hamstick" 3 element. And many others are doing their part to get our Field Day operation ready.

We'll tell you the complete story next month both at the meeting and here in the **WASHRag**. Stay tuned...



73, Bill Hill
W3WH
WASH Field
Day 2003

Saturday Evening at N3SH/3 Field Day 2002
Photo Courtesy of & ©2002, 2003 Larry Comden K3VX



"How-To" PSK-31

At the May club meeting, Steve Lane W3SRL will be presenting a hands-on demonstration of PSK-31. If you have been wanting to get started with this exciting new digital mode but just didn't know where to turn, then this is the program for you!

We'll start with a brief overview of PSK-31 and what you will need to run it. We'll discuss the various hardware and software options available, and even demonstrate some of the software packages in real-time use.

From there we will launch into the hands-on portion of the program where you will be able to sit down at the rig and actually make some PSK contacts. In order to show you just how easy it is to make good DX contacts with PSK-31, we will be running QRP at ~2.5 watts into a dipole!

Come and join us for a fun and informative evening with the WASH group and PSK-31!



**REMEMBER! MEETING LOCATION:
PETERS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY**

Next Meeting: May 8th, 2003

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, May 8th, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 6:30 PM.

Our guest speaker will be Steve Lane W3SRL discussing PSK-31 operating, along with Field Day, Hamvention, & the **WASH** Breezeshooters Hamfest Picnic 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:**

- 05/04 Kevin N3HKQ
 - 05/11 Joseph KB3ENX
 - 05/18 Paul NØVLR
 - 05/25 Hank KB3FNM
 - 06/01 Michael KB3HFP
 - 06/08 Bill W3WH
 - 06/15 Carol KB3GMN
 - 06/22 Kevin N3HKQ
 - 06/29 Frank KB3FZU
- Alternates & Backups
Frank KB3FZU
Dave N3IDH
Ron WN3VAW

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

**LOOKING
AHEAD:**

- 49th Annual Breeze-shooter's Hamfest June 1st (and WASH picnic at the fest!)
- N3SH/3 Field Day June 28th and 29th

M a y 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 May Day WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	2 Eico ARS Meeting	3 Lumpy Rug Day RA Erie VE Test WPA Hilltoppers VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
UPMC/City of Pittsburgh Marathon						
4 Ellwood City ARA Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net Somerset Co ARC Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	5 Cinco de Mayo Breezeshooter's Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co PS Net	6 S H B P & M Meeting Butler Co ARA Meeting Skyview RS Meeting Carnegie Tech RC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS SwapnShop Net	7 Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SkyWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	8 WASH Meeting No Socks Day Beaver Valley ARA Meeting Horseshoe ARC Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	9 Mayo de Tuna	10 Butler Co ARA VE Test North Hills ARC Breakfast 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast Foothills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
11 Mother's Day OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net Somerset Co ARC Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	12 Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooter's Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co PS Net	13 Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&K Meeting Punxsatawney AARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	14 North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highlands VHFS Mtng Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	15 Triple 'A' ARA Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	Dayton Hamvention	
18 Elk Co ARC Net OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net Somerset Co ARC Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	19 Victoria Day Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooter's Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co PS Net	20 Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	21 Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	22 Uniontown ARC Net	23	24 CQ WPX CW Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
Dayton Hamvention	25 CQ WPX CW OCWA Pittsburgh Net South One ARES Net Somerset Co ARC Net North Hills ARC Teen Net WASH FM Net	26 Memorial Day Breezeshooter's Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co PS Net	27 Mercer Co ARA Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS SwapnShop Net	28 National Tap Dance Day Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting North Hills ARC Activity Night Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	29 WACOM Board of Directors Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	30 Hug Your Cat Day
					31 WASH Breakfast 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
WP2AIQ Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
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 (open)
Digital Net (10 Meter)	Steve Lane W3SRL
WASHFest 2003 Co-Chairman	Bill Hill W3WH
(South Hills Hamfest)	Bill Hill W3WH
Activities & Operating Events	Larry Comden K3VX
Field Day 2003 Chairman	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Ways & Means	Kevin DeRose N3KFD
Media Communications	Ben Williams KB3ERQ
Allegheny Co ARES Representative	

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

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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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius WN3VAW

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Ron Notarius WN3VAW
946 Sleepy Hollow Road
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2222

e-mail: wn3vaw@njdxa.org or wn3vaw@arrl.net

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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 July 17th!

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, July 17th, 2003, 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, October 16th, 2003
Thursday, January 15th, 2004
Thursday, April 15th, 2004
Thursday, July 15th, 2004

Club news seem a little sparse this month? The newsletter is only as good as the input. It's up to YOU to keep the editor up to date on what's going on and what you're doing — if we don't know, we can't put it in!

And yes, that means writers are needed for articles! What are you doing? What's your interest? What do you think the club should be doing? Space is available every month, but it's up to you to write it down and send it in!

April 17th VE Test Results

We had three candidates at our April 17th VEC test session, held at the Peters Township Library in McMurray. There was a minor problem with the room reservation but it was eventually solved. All three candidates successfully earned new licenses!

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

Technician: J. Alex Lang KB3JOL
Mitch McFadden KB3JOM
Tom Flynn KB3JOK

WASH VE Team:

Bryan Beyer K3OL
Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI
Gary Van Balen KB3GUZ
Steve Lane W3SRL
Mark Stabryla N3RDV

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

WASH at the Breezeshooters Hamfest!

Don't forget... if you're planning on going to the Breezeshooter's Hamfest on June 1st, join us for lunch starting around 11:30. Look for the club gathering (usually around the vicinity of the grandstand along the fence line or very close to it) on arrival and plan accordingly!

As usual, this will be a "pot luck" or "covered dish" affair. The Club is taking care of the burgers, dogs & drinks; we all need to chip in on everything else.

And if you're planning on selling in the flea market, why not join us in the "club" area? This way we can all cover for each other whenever you need to leave your table for any reason!

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** flocked together on April 26th at **Dietz's Restaurant** in the Caste Village Shops Washington for our monthly coffed and brag session. With us this month were K3VX, W3RWS, N3ZEL, N3ZNI, W3WH, KB3CPI, N3SBF, W3VFA, WN3VAW, W4ZE and W3SRL. Items at large included Panera bagels, Chocolate-chip pancakes, the VX7R, unlocking a "V8," Field Day antennas, free 6 volt batteries (thanks Steve!), state vehicle inspections, ARRL code tapes, 4 Square antennas, the 2003 Florida QSO Party, AAA towing, Field Day signs, PSK31 and High Speed CW Contesting — plus a lot more that didn't get noted down anywhere! As a bonus, on the way out we bumped into CJ N3DHC and many of us got a chance to inspect his new ride, complete with mobile HF AND an amplifier!

Join us next month for these subjects & more, plus a cup of coffee & a good time! The next Club Breakfast will be returning to the **Ponderosa Steakhouse**, Wal Mart Plaza, Route 19 & Murtland Avenue, Washington, on May 31st, then back to **Dietz's Restaurant** in the Caste Village Shops, Grove & Baptist Roads, Whitehall, on June 28th. 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.

Didn't they close? There were recent reports of a Ponderosa closing due to the after-effects of a rock slide. Different restaurant — that was the one on Route 51 across from Century III Mall & Southland Shopping Center, not the one in Washington.

We're late, we're late... Ye Editor apologizes for the newsletter being several days late due to circumstances beyond his control. However, be forewarned that in order to get the June newsletter out prior to the Breezeshooter's Hamfest on June 1st, the deadline for the June issue for "stuff" will be Memorial Day weekend so that there's enough time to get everything together. So things will even out, overall...

"For ID:" A couple of club members have been pointing out that some of the 146.955 & 443.650 repeater users have been bending the "10 Minute ID" rule. A minor infraction? Sure, but still, it is one. So don't forget when you're in a long conversation that you are supposed to ID your station at least once every 10 minute interval — and at least once during the entire transmission. Hey, Riley's really a nice guy, but you (and the repeater owners) don't want to see that letter in the mail... or see it show up on many web sites 2 weeks later!

Hamvention... By the time most of you receive this, Hamvention will be roughly two weeks away. Final preparations for driving arrangements are still being made, so if you don't have a ride squared away, check with someone who's going. We will work something out! We've also received word that the bus trip to Hamvention normally scheduled by our friends in the **Butler County ARA** was cancelled this year due to insufficient riders. So some of those folks are also looking for transportation and/or lodging for some or all of the weekend, so keep your eyes & ears peeled to help our friends out!

And as is normal at this time of the year, the rumors of the demise of the Hamvention and/or the HARA Arena abound. The truth is that the current 5 year contract between DARA and the arena expires after this year and is being re-negotiated. DARA wants to stay at HARA, but are exploring alternatives just in case (Columbus Hamvention anyone?) which is why they quietly dropped "Dayton" from the event name. And that's all.

If you are going, even if you're not staying with some of us at the University of Dayton, let Steve W3SRL know so that he can put you on the "call" list so that we can stay in touch with each other (no simplex frequency is good... wonder why? <g>). And try and plan on joining the group for dinner on Friday night. (WN3VAW is not picking the restaurant this time! No more bad poetry!)

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

Minutes, April 10th Meeting

Frank Bobro KB3FZU, VP/ Secretary, WASH

Shawn, NØPEU, **called** the meeting **to order** at 18:50 hours. There were 26 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 March meeting as published in the March newsletter. The motion was made by Ron, WN3VAW, and seconded by Bob, W3RWS. It was voted on and passed.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): No Report.

Secretary (KB3FZU): No Report.

VE Report (N3ZEL): The VE test is next Thursday. It will be here at the Peters Township Library at 18:30. VE's are needed.

Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL): Steve, W3SRL, reports that the repeaters and Echo link are playing well.

FM Net Report (N3HKQ): No Report.

Ways and Means (KB3GMN): Carol, KB3GMN, reported that the usual 50/ 50 will be held after the meeting.

Public Service (N3RDV): No Report.

Contests (K3VX): CQ WPX in May. Many state QSO Parties are coming soon.

Activities: Ron, WN3VAW, reports that the next breakfast will be at Dietz's on April 26th. June 1st is the Breezeshooters' Hamfest. A motion was made to have a club picnic at that hamfest by Bill, W3WH, and seconded by Carol, KB3GMN. Fifty dollars was allocated to cover expenses.

Newsletter (WN3VAW): There has not been a printed copy in a few months. Ron is looking for a volunteer that may be able to help get the copies printed. 30 copies are mailed out and the newsletter usually is 12 pages in length.

President's Report (NØPEU): No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Bill, W3WH, reported that Field Day is the 28th and 29th of June. Hank, KB3FNM, has secured permission for the same site as last year. Bill suggested that we secure yagi antennas for 10, 15 & 20 and some dipoles; also, he suggested that we run QRP. Bill suggested that we buy a set of 6 band pass filters not to exceed five hundred dollars. Steve motioned that we appoint a committee to study this and present a report of their findings at the next meeting. Shawn, NØPEU, seconded it was voted on and passed. Ted, W4ZE, is the chair of that committee.

Carol, KB3GMN, will take care of the food for Field Day. The ropes are not in the trees anymore, we would like to get them there before the leaves come out. We plan to go after the breakfast on April 26th. During the Field Day operation, you should relinquish your operating position after ½ hour of continuous operation (if anyone is waiting) so that everyone can get a chance to operate. The plan is to run Class 3A for Field Day.

Good of the Order: Shawn, NØPEU, reports that Access and bus route cuts have been proposed. Frank, KB3FZU, read a note that Shawn received outlining the proposed cuts. The letter urged you contact your representatives for support in preventing these cuts.

Ron had breakfast with DX'er Dave Heil K8MN in Moon yesterday. K8MN will be in town every couple of months and he will be interested in shooting the breeze with local hams on his next visit.

Ed, N3ZNI - Next Friday the Bower Hill Fire Hall is having a fish fry.

The UPMC City of Pittsburgh Marathon is still looking for operators for May 4th.

Motion to Adjourn: Made by Bob, W3RWS, and seconded by Dick, N3QMV. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 19:40.

WASH Spotlight: KB3IJX



Christopher KB3IJX posing at Mile Marker 14 at the 2003 Pittsburgh Marathon. Chris and his dad, Bryan K3OL, were the communications for the workers at the Mile 14, along with a large contingent from the club! Article next month, Bryan? Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2003 Bryan Beyer K3OL

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, May 31st

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	
KA3PPH	KB3HFP	N3AWF	N3WPT	W3VFA	Color Codes:
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					

Back Issues of the **WASH**Rag have a new home on the web:

www.djernes.org/washrag

Thanks NØPEU for providing the new site!

Through April 30th, 2003

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

Radio Gifts to DX Hams

Joshua Logan N7XM courtesy of www.eham.net

Many months ago I spoke to VU3BKY on 20 Meter CW. His signals were very weak. I live in the high desert of Northern Nevada (I use 800 Watts output to 2 element monoband Yagi and a late model ICOM transceiver). This Indian station had 10 — 15 Watts to inverted "V!"

I checked QRZ.COM for an address and found that he had an email address. So I started a dialogue with Basappa VU2BKY. He was using an Indian design Transceiver homebrew that easily overheated. He was 47 years old, had served in the Navy, his monthly income many middle class professionals make in a day, he had two teenage children doing well in school - a son and a daughter. We exchanged photos, and letters. I began to ask him if he could research what is involved in sending him an old transceiver.

I began thinking how nice it would be to send a gift, working reliable solid state transceiver. I like the old TenTec gear — the receivers are very sensitive, great QSK, solid state, TenTec can help fix it even swap out boards. I found a TenTec Triton 540 analog transceiver, circa 1973. I bought the radio and spent some time checking it out. It had the audio narrow filters, covered 80 through 10 meters but no WARC bands.

I mated it with a microphone by Electro Voice that I had used 45 years ago as a teenager in New York. The internal contacts in the mike needed cleaning, but it drove the audio well on SSB.

I shared the idea with WX7M Patrick also here in Nevada, and we decided to split the costs involved.

So after installing a magnetic circuit breaker on the DC power cord and after packing the radio up we decided to ship it to India as a gift. The post office told me the size was barely within the India size limits - the US post office wanted \$86, UPS wanted \$230! So we used the Post Office — off it went!

After 6 weeks in transit, the radio arrived in Bombay (Mumbai) Indian Customs. Basappa spent the better part of a day traveling north to the city to pick it up. After a lot of questions, a duty tax (45% for used gear US\$67) Basappa traveled home on public transportation with the radio under his arm. If the declared value was under US\$100, there would have been no duty tax at all - but we did not know this before hand! We declared it at US\$155 — it was worth more than twice this value! The declared value is the insured value with post office.

Basappa started to use the radio mostly on CW. He could sit down before work and knock out 75 CW contacts! A VU3 call is worth 25 dB on signal reports! He checked into [All India Net](http://AllIndiaNet) on SSB too. He is active on 20, 15.10m now using an inverted "V." He was really enjoying the radio! He upgraded his radio class by taking a test & got a new call — VU2NXM .

Everybody complains about charities being corrupt! The fund raisers take the "lions share" of the donations! Well, start your own charity! - both the giver and the receiver are BLESSED! It gladdens my heart so to make such a personal difference.

Can you imagine loving Ham radio, being active with a small unreliable transceiver and then OUT OF THE BLUE being given a clean working 100w transceiver? Basappa told me that this was the " greatest gift" he had ever received.

I do NOT seek to start an organization! I seek to start a MOVEMENT! Goodwill in ACTION! Conscious Giving. Small acts of kindness can generate great ripples.

Most middle class American Ham Operators could easily afford to send an old (restored) transceiver to an "active" third World ham operator once every year OR two! Given a local Ham club, everybody could chip in \$20 a piece and buy OR restore an old transceiver — test it, burn it in, make sure it is working well, send extra parts that might be prone to failure — add a switching supply for the local Voltage, a paddle, a microphone, a tuner, a keyer — what ever!

This is something ANYONE can do, and make an immediate difference! The American image is one of wealth and power - How about adding "compassion in action". When you give with a glad heart both the giver and receiver are blessed.

I like to see the receiving party as a person who is ACTIVE — on the air often but using poor equipment — do research on duty taxes, reliability of different methods of transport. Do your homework.

I told Basappa that nothing is expected in return. That my fondest wish is for him to enjoy the gift and help a person in need - any person - any where.

**Right: VU3BKY in his shack
Photo courtesy N7XM**

New Mode: PSK-63!

Jim Mortensen N2HOS excerpted from Jim's Gazette #144

Skip KH6TY is in beta now with PSK-63 and there are a few pioneers out there testing its potential. Some interesting promises reside in this new mode and the accompanying software. Skip and his group have done it before and, from all appearances, are doing it again in a bigger, better, faster environment. The 100 WPM (yes, that is 100 WPM) speed of this new marvel beats the RTTY 60 word pace and does it in one-fifth the bandwidth. To repeat: almost twice as fast in 20 per cent of the bandwidth!

Hey, that is revolutionary, even in this day and age of the daily, sensational technical headlines. All of the characteristics of PSK-31 and related software are available: point and click waterfall tuning, low power, etc. In addition, PSK-63 transmits thumbnail portraits is less than two minutes so you know how good looking the operator on the other end of the exchange appears to be.

While trying to write these paragraphs I have been trying to contact KH6TY but, for the second day in a row, our signals appear to skip beyond the very short North Carolina/Florida path. But we'll make it one of these days, and this PSK-63 beginner will no doubt switch to the new mode along with many, many others.

I did make my very first contact today with KB2EOQ who was calling CQ over and over again. I hesitated, then plunged into the deep water and called. He responded and I then displayed my deplorable lack of knowledge about this latest mode. The speed blew me away and, since I had set up no macros or other familiar props to my performance, I stumbled badly.

Sure, I can type very fast. I can beat the PSK-31 speed any day, and even keep up with RTTY at 60 WPM, but there is no way my fingers can get at the level needed for this new entry. Calling CQ for example, takes all of about 1.123 seconds to execute the macro and splash across the screen. If somebody answers your call, you have about 450 milliseconds to respond in a respectable way. Believe me, it takes time to adjust to this new way of life!

There is one way to slow things down. Have a small file of your smiling face tucked away in the quikpsk directory and, as you sit there and wonder what to do next, simply click Load Picture, then Send Picture. In this simple series, you have loaded a teeny-weeny image of your smiling face and sent it on its way to your friend. And, hopefully, this will trigger a similar response from the other end of the exchange. This little diversion gives you two minutes or so to collect your thoughts and a few seconds or more to build up a backlog for the next transmission. Use it well, or you will soon be sending your brag file all over again, and again! We really don't need that. Hi!

Enough, already. PSK-63 is not simply a new version of PSK-31. It's not version 1.2 of a well accepted 1.1 piece of software used by thousands of PSK-31 users. This new mode represents a fundamental change in our digital world and how we use it. And all of us, regardless of the mode of choice now, better take a look at this impressive piece of work and think about what it means to our mode of choice and our use of the digital spectrum. Whether your primary interest is DX or contesting or rag chewing, Skip has changed your environment for years to come.

Go to www.qsl.net/kh6ty/psk63/ and download the current beta and the accompanying bits of information. Be prepared to update all this software quite frequently, but get used to the idea of unheard of speed, unusual low power, superior polar path performance, narrow bandwidth, then tune to 14072.5-14080.0 for some of these strange signals.



Texas Ham Fighting City to Keep His Tower

Orin Snook KB5F

I erected a 100' antenna support structure at the back of my property, located in Missouri City, Texas. This antenna was built under a building permit issued on December 23, 1999 by said city. All city and legal requirements and demands were fulfilled **prior** to construction. Although 100' seems massive, trees on all sides top 80'+; screening 80%, but to reasonably operate, the tower needs to be 100' tall to turn above the trees and use VFH/UHF and above.

In addition, the HOA and members of the neighborhood (save two) have all signed letters of support for the antenna and associated landscaping.

One year after erecting it, the city of Missouri City decided that I was required to submit a special use permit (SUP). As part of the SUP, the city has stated that I can erect a 65' tower. The SUP is basically worthless, given that 100' is necessary **at this site** for 40m and that 100' is required for VHF/UHF, per the city's own expert. The SUP also resets the clock by requiring total disassembly, new building permit, then put the antenna back up.

Two separate written requests, one for a Board of Adjustment hearing and another for a Planning & Zoning Finding-of-Fact have been ignored. I continue to be found guilty by the local municipal judge for the 30+ violations who refuses to allow the jury to even be told of PRB-1.

My vested rights, right to property (5th Amendment) and my right to due process (14th Amendment) are being usurped by a corrupt and prejudiced system.

Specific Points of Recap

- All city and legal requirements and demands were met prior to construction of the antenna.
- The city issued a building permit on December 23, 1999. It has never been retracted, recalled or negated.
- No complaints have **EVER** been received, even after the erection of the antenna.
- The city provided an unworkable SUP that was neither reasonable nor accommodating as it removes any ability to function as an ARRL Official Emergency Station, Amateur Radio Communication Emergency Coordinator for Fort Bend County, or comply with the Part 97 stated purposes of my FCC license. Without 2m, 440, 40m and 80m, I am effectively out of the radio business.
- The city has since passed retroactive ordinances without grandfathering any vested rights.

Next Steps

- I am facing selling the house to survive the financial strains.
- To donate to the cause, please contact Orin Snook at: 281-431-9539 or KB5F@ev1.net.
- All funds so stipulated will be returned with a win, or donated again to a legal defense fund for the next poor soul.

I look forward to your comments, similar court cases and good jokes. Before flaming though, be aware of extensive communication with the ARRL through out the process. They MAY be able to provide limited help at the Federal Appellate level only. Also, the **HOA SUPPORTS my position** – this is a strictly a city government issue, bent on control.

The Rest of the Story...

is that apparently the only guy driving this is the father of a councilman who lives in the area. I have never met or spoken to this retired Dr. and the only interaction is his shooting me the bird when I drive by. I suppose someone else could have prompted his son to make all the council motions as well as push city staff...

- The city has passed a series of retroactive ordinances AFTER erection, ignoring any vested rights.
- City now perjures themselves to obtain convictions in muni.
- No findings of fact ever given as requested in writing.
- City ignores their (and my) engineer written reports.
- All convictions are based on these later ordinances. The muni judge refuses to allow the jury to hear about PRB-1 or Texas 250.002 or much else.
- The city has fired my wife, WB5HUV, the city Health Inspector. This firing was initiated by the city's criminal prosecuting attorney, sighting a "conflict of interest".
- SUP fees went from \$300 to \$1200
- Construction bond now required so city can take it down
- SUP limits me to one tower
- SUP limits the antennas used to a partial list of those currently up rather than regulating the "support structure".

The City will say...

- Tower was built before an SUP was obtained. It was addressed in the application and submitted with all SUP requirements.
- The city gives me a building permit then is silent for 5 months rewriting the ordinance. Why no notice of what SUP fee was to be?
- City "accommodated" me with extensive ordinance development.
- SUP gave me the opportunity to lower to 65'. Thereby "accommodating" me.

What I Need

- Money
- How do I avoid making a bigger mess?
- Media training to avoid mistakes, looking foolish or fanatical
- Strategies; develop tactics to use media, local hams
- Succinct distillation of salient facts to hammer
- Support for my expert – why 100'?
- How can I better support 1983/1988 claim/award?
- How can I better lay out and capitalize on my non-PRB-1 claims?
- How can I differentiate the city's actions against me while distancing those actions from a sole cause of action of PRB-1?
- Money

For further information, please visit these links:

Complaint – Federal Complaint filed in US South Texas District

Application – Cover letter, Table of Contents and a few attachments

P&Z – a letter outlining the mistakes made by P&Z and asking for answers

MOC – a coy letter in April of 2001 from the city feigning ignorance to the whole affair to start the process over...

Snook Ordinances – approved by the city ex post factor to thwart my vested rights and other Civil Rights violations

Possible Solution – a way to STOP (?) further CC&R changes in Texas after you are already in an HOA

KB5F Legal Defense Fund
6140 Highway 6
Box 156
Missouri City, Texas 77459

Orin Snook KB5F
281-431-9539
KB5F@ev1.net

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 – 6 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

Want one of those jackets to update but don't have one? Steve still has a few stashed... these were the "samples" that he had to buy in advance from the company that did the original embroidery. Contact Steve W3SRL at w3srl@yahoo.com to check on the availability of the last of these jackets... but when they're gone, they're gone!

The Great Days of DX'ing Are Here!

Paul M. Dunphy VE1DX

courtesy of the Ham Radio History reflector ham-radio-history@yahoogroups.com

One of the local QRPers was up the hill the other day, this one to slouch down in a chair and heave a heavy sigh of despair. "It's the sunspot cycle", he said, "this is terrible." We were a bit surprised for this particular QRPer was always optimistic. "Not to worry", we said in a properly sympathetic voice, "the sunspots always come back. Why, you were just saying at the club meeting last week that we were near the bottom and it can only get better. Why the sudden change?" The QRPer looked at us for a moment, then stared at the floor. "It's not going to come back up this time.", he sighed, "The flux is stuck at 100, and the A and K indices are always unsettled. There's no hope. Every other cycle came roaring back, but this one won't. We are doomed to work DX on 160, 80 and 40 for the rest of our lives."

Son of a Gun! We were becoming confused. "What's wrong?", we asked, "have you been reading some of those theoretical papers out of NASA again?" The QRPer began to glare at us with his beady little eyes. "No, I haven't been reading anything at all", he said, his voice rising, "You and I both know it's got nothing to do with solar physics or NASA or anything else! It's the Palos Verdes Sundancers that bring on the sunspots and the DX."

We admitted that this was true. "You are beginning to understand the Mysteries of the Ages", we replied, "Don't worry. They will be hard at work this fall and there will be DX for everyone." We sat back in the chair, confident the crisis had been averted. "No there won't be", the QRPer said, "there won't be any DX at all. Have you listened down in the barrancas? Did you hear what they are playing?" We had to admit we had not visited Palos Verdes country in a long while. "They are playing Mendelssohn's 'Symphony in C Minor'! That won't bring on the next cycle! We are never going to see the flux over 100 again!" And before we could get a chance ask more, he was off down the hill, convinced that the Great Days of DXing were never to return.

What could we say? So we went straight down to see the leader of the Palos Verdes Sundancers . . . and the QRPer was right. The tones of Mendelssohn were stirring in the background. "What gives?", we asked. "Oh nothing," he answered, "the Dancers are just a bit tired. Remember the good conditions when Ducie was on? And when we gave it our all so the East Coast could work them? Well, it's taken its toll. We just need some relaxation. It's part of the new management philosophy of the new millennium," he explained. This was a new one on us and we were starting to worry that the QRPer was right.

The leader of the Palos Verdes Sundancers saw the look of concern on our face. "Not to fear! This fall there will be DX for all! We are working on a new strategy. Ragtime! In 2-4 time, characterized by a syncopated melody over an accented bass. In true Scott Joplin style!" he explained, "the Dancers are just using the symphony to relax." And with that, he did a double-heeled click and was off. Son of a Gun! Who are we to argue with the success of the Palos Verdes Sundancers? The Great Days of DXing are at hand! The signs are everywhere. Be a Believer . . . And learn to like ragtime!

DX IS!

T88SP activity was some months ago but I hope you will be interested in reading the T88SP story by Maciek WQ7X. We could not publish it earlier due to some agreements with HAM magazines publishers. Now we can do it, so please visit:

<http://www.sp5zcc.waw.pl/dxpeditons/t88sp/>

The story is written with great passion and there are also many nice pictures of Palau. There are a lot of pictures so the page can load some long but everything is worth seeing and reading. Welcome!

— Tom Baranowski SP5UAF

The 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party Scores have been posted at <http://www.nittany-arc.org/paqso.html>

The files this year are in two formats. The individual classes are posted in html format, and the entire scoring is available as a PDF. The pdf is a large file, around 1.5 megabytes. There are 44 pages to the document. So fair warning, it will take a while.

— Mike Coslo KB3EIA

QSL's Via KU9C

Steve Wheatley KU9C

With the rash of "KU9C is very slow" comments I've seen lately, and some peculiar behavior I've seen at my PO box lately, I thought I'd refresh how to QSL via KU9C. My guess is that most of this is good rules to follow for most managers, at least those handling volume and multiple calls.

If you send me cards for multiple stations I manage, SEND TO ME in either separate envelopes or all in one envelope. I prefer ONE envelope, but multiple is FINE. However, if you're trying to save money, use one envelope. I had a guy recently send me 6 registered envelopes received the same day. I could have paid for a good number of bureau cards with the wasted money!

If you WANT THE CARDS RETURNED PROMPTLY (as promptly as I can.....depending on my work load) send me a SASE for each call you request. If you are NOT IN A HURRY, feel free to send one sase. PLEASE REALIZE THAT that will slow the cards down significantly, ESPECIALLY if one of the calls is not a high volume card for me....as I don't get to it as often. Many of the people complaining send a rare one with a 'garden variety' call, or a card they've already requested, which slows the process down significantly, then they go on the reflectors and declare open season on QSL managers!

If you are NOT IN A HURRY...i do answer Bureau cards. However, at the moment, I am over a year behind on those cards....and will be playing catch up this year. Due to the volume I mail, I mail bureau cards very irregularly to save money. My incoming bureau costs are around \$25 bucks a month in postage....and I spend several hundred US\$ a year in outgoing, not to mention the cost of the cards. Thus, I will do this in the most economical manner I can.

DO NOT SEND DUPLICATE REQUESTS via the bureau. If I have answered direct, they go in the trash.

Please be aware that there is a small group of folks that send duplicate cards with each request. For example, they will send PW0T with WP2Z and BQ9P and PW0S. Then, a few months later, they will request a YA5T with PW0T, WP2Z, BQ9P, PW0S....as they've not gotten the first one due to the multiple QSLs in one SASE. Then, a few months later, they'll request PW0T again, with many of the same cards again. In a VERY SMALL number of cases, I'm keeping track of these, and you can expect to get your cards, but only one set, and at significant delay. This practice creates a LOT of work for me, and as a result, I'll manage it to keep my work load to a minimum...but it will delay your cards.



CQ Hall of Fame Class of 2003

Robert Cox K3EST

Chairman CQ Contest and DX Hall of Fame

It is with pleasure that CQ announces two new additions to the Contest Hall of Fame. Ken Keeler, N6RO and Dan Street, K1TO. Both have contributed on a broad scale to our sport.

Also officially receiving his Hall of Fame plaque will be Leif, OZ1LO who was elected last year but could not attend.

The official presentation will be made at the Dayton contest banquet on Saturday, May 17th.

The new member of the DX Hall of Fame is James Brooks, 9V1YC. In addition to supporting / attending many rare DXpeditions, James has uniquely contributed his expertise to create video documentaries, thus bringing the DX experience to a wide audience.

Congratulations to the new members!

Congratulations to the 2003 – 04 Officers of the Penn State Amateur Radio Club K3CR:

President	Benjamin Heyser KB3HCT
Station Director	Brad Parola KB3HQE
Vice President	Jason Steiner KB3IYN
Treasurer	Jim Rusinko KB3GWD
Secretary	Rich Mazzeo N3XKU

Waiting for A61AJ Cards?

Joe Veras N4QB courtesy of the DX QSL reflector on www.qth.net

I put my email address on QRZ.COM a while back. It is used for handling QSL-related matters. I found that having a published address allows me to clear up problems quickly without putting people through the time and expense of two-way mail.

I still have been unable to obtain SOME (non-contest) logs from individual ops 6 months to a year after their operations. Other logs have been submitted in electronic formats that cannot be read by logging programs . . . and I have All of the majors. Some guest ops sent me handwritten logs on everything from 8-1/2 X 11 sheets of paper to Post-It Notes. Not all the writing is legible. Some of these Qs remain to be entered into the computer.

A61AJ was on the air to a limited degree during this past contest season, but due to the imminent and subsequent unpleasantness in YI, the Multi-Multi plans were scrubbed. But for all that, I would have been there myself and taken care of the log/QSL matters in person.

This IS and has been for a Long Time a real mess. It would be easier for me to send your card back and say you're Not In The Log . . . even though we both know you're probably in Some Log, Somewhere . . . just have to find it.

My life, as a husband, father, grandfather, and - yes, ham - has a time budget. Nearly ALL the time budgeted for ham things is spent on QSL matters. My wife even does her part making the post office runs.

With the exception of the newest arrivals, all Incoming Cards Have Been Processed, as of 25 April 2003. If your card was submitted much before that, and you haven't received it back with a Not-In-Log notation, you Will Receive an A61AJ confirmation. Those affected by missing/corrupted logs segments represent a small number of the total.

Antenna Design Help Needed!

I am going to the Dominican Republic again this summer in late May for an extended stay...several weeks. It's going to be another of the HI9/K8WK deals.

I have been there several time with radio equipment and am planning another radio/diving trip this time as well. Spelled: a lot of junk to carry!

I have a Gap Titan DX which I have brought and used well, but is such a big thing when properly packed, doesn't even want to fit in 4-seater which we take to the NE corner of the island.

It's a hassle to put together. And it doesn't work on 160 and works poorly on 80 (bands of interest). I have also tried an end-fed long wire. This works better through the tuner for all bands, but puts a lot of RF in the shack and as a result, I cannot use the computer to do CW and log at the same time.

Is there a wire antenna, which can be center-fed with coax, run into my little MFJ 16010 tuner, and will work on all (160-10 including all warc) bands? I do not have any antenna design/model software, so if somebody is willing to run a model for me depicting what I have described, I would appreciate it!

Long wire dipole-type (can be BIG...even full size on 160) can be fed with a balun to 52 ohm small coax and run through an MFJ 16010 tuner to an ICOM 706 Mk2G.

Any ideas?

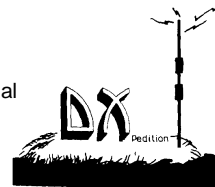
73, Steve Litwins K8WK
litwins@badsector.com

Silent Keys



R. Burke Caldwell W3SDV, 68, Pittsburgh, April 7,th
Chuck Bender W1WPR, 79, Former Chief Operator W1AW, April 17th

DX News Briefs



The Lone Star DX Association has announced the individual calls for the July 18th-25th **7P8 Lesotho DXpedition** are **7P8CF** (K5LBU), **7P8TA** (WV5L), **7P8MJ** (W5MJ), **7P8NK** (VA7DX), **7P9DA** (K4SV) & **7P8IZ** (WØIZ).

There will not be a "main" DXpedition call. 7P8CF & 7P8TA will be the main phone ops, while 7P8MJ, 7P8NK, & 7P8DA, 7P8IZ will be mostly CW & digital modes. The 7P8 operation will be an all mode, all band operation. "We hope to have at least one station on the air 24 hours a day." QSLs will be handled by each operator separately via their home calls as each will have their own 7P8 call. ZS6WPX, is the on-scene coordinator of the DXpedition. For additional information contact frosty1@pdq.net or WV5L@gte.net — WV5L

K4SV and VA7DX will also be operating from **3DA** after 7P8, but call signs have not been issued yet — WV5L

9K2ZZ is currently QRV as **YI/K4CY** (sometimes signing K4CY/P or K4CY/M). An unconfirmed report via the Internet, attributed to 9K2ZZ QSL manager W8CNL, states that Ray does not have the logs or cards for this operation & that Bob's wishes are that he will only "QSL" via the ARRL **Logbook of the World**. **LotW** is still in beta test and not presently available to the public, and **LotW** is not intended to provide electronic QSL cards. If this report is accurate, it remains to be seen if & how QSL cards will be available — N7MAL

The ARRL W2 Incoming QSL bureau has been holding "thousands" of QSL cards for the "Big Gun Contest Club" stations, **W2AA** and **W2A**. The BGCC membership is quoted as being "too busy" and "not interested" in these cards, so they are being trashed. Do not QSL these stations via the bureau — W2AY

On Line Logs for the current **TX4CG** operation on Marquesas can be found at <http://digilander.libero.it/i2ysb/marquesas/logs.htm> — W4YCH

Now QRV is **S92UN**, mainly on 12,15 & 40 meters with dipoles. 10 meter activity is possible when Duarte has time, since this is a work assignment and he only operates at the end of his day. QSL via CT1CPP (home call), but patience; cards will be answered when he returns home — CT1END, VA3RJ

Industry Canada has authorized special prefixes from May 24th through July 27th to honor the 50th anniversary of the Library of Canada. Substitute CK's for all VE's, CJ for VA's, CY for VO's & CZ for VY's — RAC, VA3RJ

An updated version of the DXCC entity list is available on the Central Oregon DX Club site, www.codxc.org, courtesy of W2IOL and K2DI — K2DI

K5ZE reports he is not now nor ever was the manager for **4L6AM** — K5ZE

HSØZCW is QRV now through June 15th. Thai amateurs are not allocated the WARC bands, and 80 & 160 meters are only allocated occasionally — K4VUD

I26DSQ says that paperwork for **TXØAT** has been submitted to ARRL & the QSL cards are due back from the printer soon — K16HT

The Sir Francis Drake Report:

"**7O/G3KMA/A**" was reported in mid-April. Slim in action again — W3UR

W4NW reports that Slim is using his call on the cluster network to post nasty messages about VK9XI and other amateurs. Anyone with information regarding Slim's true identity is asked to contact W4NW — W4NW

QSL Routes

3C2MV via VE6JO — W4CHY
3XA8DX via DJ6SI — KD9KD
5R8FU via SM5DJZ — K9RT
5R8GZ via G3SWH — W9OL
5WØDA via F6JOB — W2AY
5X1DC via DL7AFS — K1NU
6W1RT via VE2XO — K4KU, KØJN
9G1MR via IK3HHX — W9OL
C53CW via YL3CW — KZ2I
C98DC via DL7AFS — K1NU
DP1ANF via RK1PWA — WC6DX
EP2MKO via UA6HCW — KUØA
FR/F6KDF/T via F5NOD — KRØI
HSØZCW via K4VUD — K4VUD
IRØN via IKØNFV — IKØLNN
J75PA via PA5ET — K4KU
K8T (KH8) via GWØANA — K4KU
MW5A via G3TXF — W9OL
NL7RT via AC7DX — NL7RT
OD5ØK1MU via OK1TN — W9OL
OK5W via OK1AEZ — W9OL
S21YY via JM1HZU — K4KU
SX6A via SV1CIB — K4KU
V44KJ via WB2TSL — K5AQ
VP2MPA via PA5ET — K4KU
XF1K via N6AWD — W9IXX
XU7ACE via ES1FB — N1NK
ZD7SM via W1ZT — KØØAL
ZØ8Z via VE3HO — KS4YT
ZK1EPY via F6JOB — W2AY

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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<http://www.onlygoodstuff.com>



For Sale:

- 1) Yaesu FT-50RD with desk charger, two batteries, speaker mike, whip, charger, ADMS disk and cable. Radio has some minor cosmetic damage from the good service it gave me, I have all the parts. \$300 OBO
- 2) D-Link DWL-713P Cable/DSL Router/ 802.11b Access Point / Print Server w/DWL-650 PCMCIA WiFi card for laptop. The router and card work great but I want to upgrade to 802.11a/g soon here. \$150 OBO
- 3) PowerMac 8500/132 AV w/ 15-inch monitor, keyboard, mouse, OS 8.6, 1.2 GB SCSI HD and the video capture board. \$175/OBO
- 4) PC Chips BookPC BK810 system. \$275/OBO

Contact Shawn Djernes NØPEU shawn@djernes.org

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, April 17th, 2003— The FCC has sent advisory notices to four enthusiasts of what's become known as "enhanced SSB"—the practice of engineering transmitted single-sideband audio to approach broadcast quality. Letters went out earlier this month to amateurs in Illinois, Florida and New Jersey who are aficionados of enhanced SSB, also known as "upper wideband" and "lower wideband."



"The Commission has received numerous complaints regarding the operation of your station," FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth wrote Paul Christensen, W9AC, John Anning, NU9N, Anthony Latin, W4NSG, and Sareno Salerno, W2ONV, on April 3. Hollingsworth said complaints to the FCC alleged that the bandwidths of the stations' enhanced SSB emissions were "wider than necessary and contrary to good engineering practice."

"Wideband overly-processed audio, especially when coupled with the high intermodulation levels of certain amplifiers, results in the use of bandwidths extremely inconsiderate of other operators," Hollingsworth said. Such transmissions may violate FCC rules and may be at odds with what Hollingsworth described as "the expectation that the Amateur Service be largely self-regulated."

Occupying more bandwidth than necessary in a heavily used amateur band, Hollingsworth wrote, is contrary to the requirement that amateurs cooperate in using the frequencies allocated to them and make the most effective use of the spectrum. Such "shortsightedness" on the part of those transmitting enhanced SSB signals not only could lead to ill will among operators but to petitions asking the FCC to establish bandwidth limits for amateur emissions.

The FCC defines bandwidth as "the width of a frequency band outside of which the mean power of the transmitted signal is attenuated at least 25 dB below the mean power of the transmitted signal within the band." It imposes no specific bandwidth limits on various amateur modes, however.

Hollingsworth cited §97.307(a) of the Amateur Service rules that requires the signal of an amateur station to not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice." Some amateurs have complained that enhanced SSB signals can take up 8 kHz or more of spectrum, cause splatter and unnecessarily interfere with other stations.

"The Amateur Service is *not* a substitute for the Broadcast Service," Hollingsworth said, citing §97.101, General Standards, "and the frequencies allocated to the Amateur Service were *not* allocated for a 'broadcast quality' audio emission or sound."

Hollingsworth acknowledged that the FCC encourages amateurs to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, but he recommended that the enhanced SSBers do so in a way "that does not have a negative impact on other amateur stations or their operations." He suggested they might accomplish this by operating at times when the bands are less busy or on bands that are not heavily used.

The many complaints the FCC has been getting--as many as 20 per week--leads to the conclusion that the stations' enhanced SSB operation is having "a negative impact" on the Amateur Service, Hollingsworth said. "In conclusion, no frequencies in the Amateur Service are designated as 'wideband audio' frequencies, either by Commission rule or in any informal band plans," he wrote.

He requested the four amateurs to "fully review the rules" and make sure their stations conform to them.

Follow up: In e-mail correspondence with the Ten-Tec reflector on April 17th and afterwards, one of the amateurs cited for the so-called "wide band" operation on 17 meters expressed dismay and disbelief at his being cited.

Paul Christensen W9AC Esq. found the FCC citation "absolutely fascinating" since, he states, he has not only not participated in the alleged 17 meter operation, but has not operated sideband "of any kind" since October 2002.

W9AC states he is primarily a CW operator, spending less than 1% of his time on SSB. "The fact that I authored some of the audio enhancement mods may have contributed to the issuance of the official Notice. So, where is due-diligence on the part of the FCC when and where it's needed? I am an advocate of the mode (one band, on one frequency), but not the manner in which the FCC is arbitrarily issuing Advisory Notices based on one man's personal opinion rather than on a Notice based on a legal memorandum of law."

In a subsequent e-mail, W9AC indicated that he will ask the FCC for copies of all correspondence containing complaints about his alleged operation (both from within and without the FCC) and will press for them under the Freedom of Information Act if they are not provided. He also indicated that he is mostly disappointed with the manner in which the situation was handled as opposed to the root issue itself.

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 W3UDX/R 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

For more information & updated list of 2003 Hamfest Prizes please go to

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

ICOM Representatives Will Be EXCLUSIVELY This Weekend At

The Breezeshooters Hamfest to Demonstrate Their Latest

Equipment & Answer Your Questions!!



Fifth Annual WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 1st, 2003 from approximately 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

At the *WASH* Location Somewhere in the Flea Market

(Look for us in the vicinity of the Grandstand — the Hex Beam will be up, weather & location permitting!)

Spend the morning meeting your fellow WPA & Regional Hams, buying or selling stuff & dodging

roving golf carts full of Breezeshooters — then join your fellow *WASH* members for lunch,

friendship, bragging rights, and (if operational) operating N3SH/3 from the Flea Market.

This will be a "Pot Luck/Covered Dish" Picnic — The Club will be providing Burgers, Hot Dogs, and Soft Drinks, and we're asking everyone coming to bring a side dish, snacks, dessert, ice, or whatever they can. Contact Ron WN3VAW wn3vaw@arrl.net to coordinate who's bringing what.

There is no charge to attend (outside of bringing something to share) but the picnic is not open to the general public, only *WASH* members (including their families), friends & invited guests.

18th Annual North Hills ARC Hamfest

Sunday, July 13th 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Northland Library, Cumberland Road, Wexford

Talk-in on W3EXW/3 147.09 MHz



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:

- Fighting City Hall (Again)!
- PSK-31 Demonstrations!
- PSK-63 QRV...say what?
- Photos from Pittsburgh Marathon!
- "How To" Donate a Rig Overseas!
- **New Meeting Location**

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



“Congrats Again!”

Paul NØVLR received this certificate from the Nittany Amateur Radio Club awarding N3SH/3 First Place (M/M) for Clarion County in the 2002 Pennsylvania QSO Party. Certificates, results, and coffee mugs from the '02 event should be in the hands of the deserving by now! (Including the WA3SH certificate, we hope!) Congratulations again to all of the operators! Scan courtesy of Paul Lusardi NØVLR

The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.
Ron Notarius WN3VAW, Editor
946 Sleepy Hollow Road
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2222



N3SH / WA3SH
www.washarc.org

Reminder!
We Now Meet At the
Peters Township Library