



# WASHRAG™

www.washarc.org



Volume 5 Issue 10

October 2003

N3SH  
WA3SH  
NP2SH

Wireless Association of South Hills

## 2 Weeks & Counting!

You should be reading this with 2 weeks or less to go until the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party. Plans have been finalized, and of course, some things have changed, so here is the latest information:

**NP2SH** The gang shipped most of their gear down to NP2JF during mid-to-late September and is just about all in place now. Keep an on eye on the DX cluster of your choice for the latest spots during the week, and watch for messages from the group or from Pilot station W3RJM. Remember during the contest to check the high bands ( 20 / 15/ 10 ) for the always rare and elusive USVI multiplier; this year you shouldn't have any trouble finding it! And remember, QSL manager for the Dxpedition is Ed N3ZNI.

**WA3SH** Because of concerns regarding evening and overnight accommodations, the WA3SH team started looking into alternative operating positions. Following some discussions and some checking, and thanks to the well-appreciated efforts by Rick KB3IAC, WA3SH will now be running out of **Heritage Reservation BSA** facility in Fayette County. The club will be utilizing two structures on the site, Keystone Lodge for the operating positions, and one of the Ryan homes on-site for meals and overnight stays. The site is about an hour's drive from downtown Pittsburgh; directions can be obtained from <http://www.gpc-bsa.org/text/heritagemap.pdf>.

Keystone Lodge is the main administrative building as you enter the site, and it sits at approximately 2180 feet above sea level.

As always, additional operators for WA3SH are needed and welcome. However, Rick KB3IAC informs us that he needs to know in advance who is planning to operate and who is planning to stay overnight; this is a requirement of the Scouts that visitors are pre-registered. (If you're not sure, pre-register anyway so that you're covered!) Contact Rick at [kb3iac@arrl.net](mailto:kb3iac@arrl.net) to pre-register or for more information.

Our thanks to Kevin M. Dowling N2PRV, Director of Camping for the Greater Pittsburgh Council BSA for arranging for our use of the facility this year!

**N3SH** This year N3SH will be operating from Allegheny County, thanks to the generosity of Frank N3XI. Frank has agreed to host the N3SH effort from his home QTH in Scott Township. This is Frank's second time as host to N3SH — we operated the first **WASH 2M Simplex** contest as N3SH from here.

In addition to being an excellent HF location, the N3XI QTH is also an excellent VHF/UHF site, so expect to see some 2 meter activity from N3SH during the contest, along with the previously announced 2 meter plans from WA3SH.

The N3SH team is being put together by Ron WN3VAW and Shawn NØPEU,

and it too can use a few more operators. Contact them by e-mail or on the repeater if you are interested in operating the "close to home" club station this year — and don't worry about your license class, just come down, operate, and have some fun!

**N3ZNI /m** Ed N3ZNI and Dave KB3GOT will again be running around WPA activating counties. As of deadline they were still working on this year's route, but they've indicated that they plan to cut back to only 5 or 6 counties this year, spending as much time as possible in each one to maximize coverage. A last minute family-related activity for Dave has cropped up, so the team will be getting a late afternoon or early evening start on the weekend's activities, but they still plan to be QRV as much as they can!

And of interest to those of our members who also belong to other area clubs:

**WA3COM** For those who need to stay close to home in the Washington area, Dave N3IDH is heading up the WACOM club station effort. WACOM plans to operate from the South Strabane #1 VFD facility at 1696 East Maiden Street in Washington. Word is that they could use a few CW operators! **WASH** members are more than welcome to help operate the WACOM station, and of course, WACOM members are also more than welcome to help operate the **WASH** club stations.

**W3KWH** The Steel City ARC Club station will also be active in this year's contest. But this year they're also the Special Event Bonus station so they'll be getting some extra attention on the bands! They also can use a few extra ops for that very reason.

**K3MJW** The Skyview Radio Society is also planning a multi-operator effort from their club house in Westmoreland county.

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

**Next Meeting: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 7:00 PM.

November Elections, PA QSO Party operations, the now under way (and almost done) NP2SH Dxpedition, and more will all be discussed.

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

**October & November  
NCS Stations:**


- 10/05 Michael KB3HPF
- 10/12 Hank KB3FNM
- 10/19 Bill W3WH
- 10/26 Bell Family
- 11/02 Kevin N3HKQ
- 11/09 Michael KB3HPF
- 11/16 Hank KB3FNM
- 11/23 Bill W3WH
- 11/30 Bell Family

**Alternates & Backups**  
Ron WN3VAW

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

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

- **WASH Christmas / Holiday Party, Al's Café, December 11th**
- **ARRL 10 Meter Contest December 13th & 14th**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WACOM Hamfest	NP2SH DXpedition To St. Johns, US Virgin Islands, October 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> QSL Via N3ZNI		<b>1</b> Uniontown ARC Meeting Penn State ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny County SKYWarr Allegheny County ARES Net Westmoreland County ARES	<b>2</b> WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	<b>3</b> Eico ARS Meeting	<b>10-4 Good Buddy Day Ca QSO Party</b> RA Erie VE Tests Beaver Valley ARA VE Tests Somerset Co ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>5 Ca QSO Party</b> Ellwood City ARA Meeting OCWA Pittsburgh Net South 1 ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	<b>6 Yom Kippur</b> Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	<b>7 S H B P &amp; M Meeting</b> Butler Co ARA Meeting Skyview RS Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net	<b>8</b> North Hills ARC Meeting Laurel Highlands VHFS Mtng. Butler Co PSG Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny County ARES Net Westmoreland County ARES	<b>9 WASH Meeting</b> Beaver Valley ARA Meeting Horseshoe ARC Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Pa QSO Party</b> SWPA Packet Group Meeting NHARC/Breezeshooters VE Test Skyview RS VE Test North Hills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast Nittany ARC Coffee Call
<b>12 Pa QSO Party</b> Indiana Co ARC Swap 'n' Shop South 1 ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	<b>13 Columbus Day</b> Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	<b>14 Chuck Yeager X-1</b> Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&K Meeting Punxsatawney AARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net	<b>15</b> Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny County SKYWarr Allegheny County ARES Net Westmoreland County ARES	<b>16 WASH VE Test</b> Triple 'A' ARA Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC Mtng. Uniontown ARC Net	<b>17</b> 2 Rivers ARC Meeting Quad Co ARC Meeting	<b>18 JOTA</b> Mercer Co ARC VE Test WPA SET Meeting for EC's North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>19 JOTA</b> WPA Repeater Council Annual Meeting & Election Elk Co ARC Meeting South 1 ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	<b>20</b> Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	<b>21</b> Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Junia Valley ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	<b>22 ITEC</b> North Hills ARC Activity Night Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny County ARES Net Westmoreland County ARES	<b>23 ITEC</b> WACOM Board of Directors Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	<b>24</b>	<b>25 WASH Breakfast</b> Indiana Co ARC VE Test Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
<b>26 CQ WW DX</b> Massillon (OH) ARC Hamfest South 1 ARES Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	<b>27</b> Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARA Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	<b>28</b> Mercer Co ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net	<b>29</b> Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny County ARES Net Westmoreland County ARES	<b>30</b> Uniontown ARC Net		<b>11/1 Sweepstakes CW</b> RA Erie VE Tests WPA Hilltoppers VE Tests WPA SET Drill Somerset Co ARC 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 NP2SH Trustee N3SH / WA3SH QSL Manager NP2SH QSL Manager VE Team Liaison Webmaster Quartermaster N3SH/WA3SH WASH Net Managers FM Net (2 Meter & 70 cm) Digital Net (10 Meter) WASHFest 2004 Co-Chairman (South Hills Hamfest) Activities & Operating Events Field Day 2004 Chairman Ways & Means Media Communications Allegheny Co ARES Representative	Steve Lane W3SRL Paul Jordan NP2JF Paul Lusardi NØVLR Ed Oelschlagel N3ZNI Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL Bob Sanford AA3FI Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI  Kevin Smith N3HKQ (open) Steve Lane W3SRL Bill Hill W3WH Bill Hill W3WH Larry Comden K3VX Carol Danko KB3GMN Kevin DeRose N3KFD Ben Williams KB3ERQ
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**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 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 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1993, as the original **SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3RNX/R Repeater System and the N3BV/R Repeater System for permitting the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes. Special thanks also to our webmaster, Bob Sanford AA3FI, and to Shawn Djernes NØPEU for providing space on-line for back issues of **"The WASHRag™"** which can be found at [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org) or [www.djernes.org/washrag](http://www.djernes.org/washrag)

## WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

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

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

Please bring the following to your test session:

Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)  
Pen / Pencil / Calculator  
Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)  
Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)  
Check or Cash in the amount of **\$12.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004

### Wireless Association's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1993 – 2003

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> 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** got together on September 27<sup>th</sup> in the back room of **King's Family Restaurant** down Route 19 at McClelland Road. Stopping by were N3SBF, KB3GMN, N3ZEL, N3ZNI, NØPEU, KB3GOT, WN3VAW, newcomer WB4GCS (welcome to the South Hills, Jim!), our soon-to-depart DX'ers K3VX & W3WH, and W8LEV. In addition to Larry modeling the NP2SH official DXpedition golf shirt, conversations included hurricane photos, the NP2SH trip, urban legends, moving, hotel & moving troubles, changes at Hoagie Haven, cable modems, WACOM Hamfest, satellite Internet access, Mother Bell's copper wiring, backup power, DSL, grocery shopping and Buy One Get Two Free, NP2SH shirt designs, Pa QSO plans, and future meeting sites for the club (see sidebar below left). And that was not even half of it!

Don't miss out on the fun & good times! The next Club Breakfast will be at **Dietz's Restaurant** in the Caste Village Shops, Grove & Baptist Roads, Whitehall, on October 25<sup>th</sup>, and we will return to **King's Family Restaurant** on Route 19 @ McClelland Road, post-Thanksgiving on November 29<sup>th</sup>! See you there!

**NP2SH** gets under way starting this weekend (as this is going to publication). This is in something new and different for a club-related activity; many of our individual members have operated from DX locations solo, but this is the first time several of us are travelling as a group to an exotic location to operate as a team! We hope it will turn out great, and it should be a lot of fun (*and yes, I wish I could go! Oh well, next year... — wn3vaw*) Good luck & good DX to the entire team!

If you're operating in the **Pa QSO Party** on the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, even if you are just operating for a few hours or as part of another club or team effort, please send a small write up (including scoring, QSO & multiplier totals) in to the newsletter. If you can get someone to snap a picture (preferably a digital .jpg file) of you in action, that's even better. Why? Well, with three club stations active — our DXpection and the two "home" teams — and lots of stories and pictures from them, normally the November **WASHRag** would be crowded. So, tentative plans are to do a special "post-contest" newsletter, which will try and feature everyone who sends something in. So all club members are not only encouraged to operate, somewhere, somehow, some way, but to also send something in for the hard-earned recognition they deserve!

The **WACOM Hamfest** is coming up this weekend (again, as this is going to publication). Several club members will be setting up either indoor tables or out in the flea market area, so try and stop by! If everything works out OK, WN3VAW is going to try and set up a vertical and attempt, propagation willing, to work NP2SH during the hamfest (and make some Ca QSO Party contacts too). Feel free to stop by and lend a hand — or work them!

The **Annual Christmas / Holiday Party** will again be at **Al's Café**. Carol KB3GMN was able to secure our meeting night, Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup> for the gathering. Cost should be the same as last year (\$15 per adult, children 3 – 10 half price, children under 3 free). We'll go over the menu and other details at the October meeting. And yes, plans are to have another "Chinese" auction similar to last year's, only better! It has the making of another great party, so start making your plans now!

**2004 Officer Elections** are coming up. Club President (1 year term) and Vice President/Treasurer (2 year term) are coming up. Nominations may be made at the October meeting, with additional nominations and voting at the November meeting. Got anyone in mind to fill these important positions? Start your arm-twisting now! (And yes, people on the NP2SH trip can be nominated... they just won't be able to decline!)

**Do you realize** that the annual club 2 Meter contest is only 3 months away? And WASHfest 2004 is just over 4½ months away? Time flies when you're having fun!

**Recognition** was to be continued this month, but we're actually out of room (and no pictures of ye editor's kids or dog, either!). Next month! Meanwhile, if you think of someone who hasn't been mentioned yet, let us know!

The ARRL WPA Section has setup several new listserves to provide a forum and to provide information to the hams within the WPA Section. Some of these listserves are restricted to a certain group of hams, but generally the listserves are publicly available.

In order to subscribe, send a message to [subscribe@wpasec.com](mailto:subscribe@wpasec.com) with the name of the listserve in either the message subject or within the body of the message

### 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Jamboree On The Air

October 18<sup>th</sup> — 19<sup>th</sup>



The 46<sup>th</sup> annual Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), which combines Amateur Radio and scouting, takes place this year October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.

JOTA offers amateurs an opportunity to offer Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts (Cub Scouts, Brownies and Girl Guides are welcome) a chance to participate in this worldwide scouting tradition, and share experiences over the air with other scouts

— ARRL Web News

### Your Help Is Requested

Several club members have recently been expressing concerns about our meeting at the Peters Township Library. While the facility itself is outstanding, it's certainly no secret (especially to anyone at the August or September meetings) that it is often quite busy, and when there's something going on at the adjacent athletic fields, parking can be a major problem (as in none). And even though the library is only a few minutes from John McMillian Church, some people have expressed concerns about getting to it.

So, what do you think? Should we continue to meet at the Peters Township Library in 2004? Or should we seek another meeting site, and if so, where? (Returning to John McMillian probably won't work as we were using the largest available room — and had pretty much outgrown it). Remember, two big factors are location and cost [be it rental cost or a "donation" for our use of the room(s) involved —and the library right now is available to us at no cost]

Bring your ideas and opinions to the next meeting and we'll hash it around, and try and come up with the best solution for everyone!

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



# Minutes, September 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Frank Bobro KB3FZU, VP/ Secretary, **WASH**

Shawn, NØPEU, **called** the meeting **to order** at 19:14 hours. There were 20 members and guests in attendance.

A **moment of silence** was observed in commemoration of 9/11, for recent Silent Keys and other deserving persons.

A motion was made to **accept the minutes** of the August meeting as published in the September newsletter. It was made by Bill, W3WH, and seconded by Carol, KB3GMN. The motion was voted on and passed.

## Committee reports:

**Treasurer (N3RDV):** read and accepted

**Secretary (KB3FZU):** No report.

**VE Report (N3ZEL):** The next VE session will be October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL):** Pete, N3RNX, the repeater is in good shape.

**FM Net Report (N3HKQ):** The Net Control Stations have been scheduled. Paul, NØVLR, will not be able to continue as a net control station. Kevin, N3HKQ, is looking for a few more volunteers to add to the rotation.

**Activities (KB3GMN):** Carol, KB3GMN, brought up the Christmas Party and said that we should book the room now. Bill, W3WH, moved that the club book the room and to set the \$15.00 dinner price at Al's Café. The 1<sup>st</sup> of December will be target date, the 10<sup>th</sup> is the alternative. Ron, WN3VAW, seconded. It was voted on and passed. A \$50.00 deposit will be needed. The Chinese auction was a success last year and Carol will try to arrange the items again. If you have any gift ideas, please let her know.

**Public Service (N3RDV):** Shawn, NØPEU, reports that there is an event on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kathy on the 09 repeater if interested.

**Contests (K3VX):** Ted, W4ZE — The ARRL announced that for ARRL official contests, they are changing the abbreviations on the Yukon, Nunavut & Northwest Territories for contest purposes to NT. Also, in contests that require a break period, the minimum break period is extended from 10 to 30 minutes.

**Newsletter (WN3VAW):** The newsletter is out.

**President's Report (NØPEU):** Shawn is looking for ideas on his antenna problem.

**Old Business:** No old business.

**New Business:** An invoice for the insurance on the repeater was presented by Pete, N3RNX. A motion to pay the bill was made by Ed, N3ZNI, and seconded by Ron, WN3VAW. It was voted on and passed.

Bill, W3WH, has the club HF radio and will make the arrangements to get it repaired.

Club operations for the PA QSO Party were discussed. In addition to the DXpedition, the club will operate N3SH in Allegheny County and WA3SH in an outlying area.

**Good of the Order:** WACOM has calendar tickets for the month of November, they are \$5.00 each. October 5<sup>th</sup> is the date of the WACOM Hamfest and it will be held at the Washington County Fair Grounds. Ron, WN3VAW, says buy your telephone modems now, because the standard 56K telephone modems are disappearing from store shelves.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Made by Bill, W3WH, and seconded by Ritchie, N3SBF. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:07.

# WASH Spotlight Breakfast at Kings



The Breakfast Gang for September included (clockwise starting from left) Rich N3SBF, Carol KB3GMN, Shawn NØPEU, Dave KB3GOT, Ron WN3VAW (hidden), Jim WB4GCS, Larry K3VX and Bill W3WH.

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2003 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Every month we're going to feature a **WASH** club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH Spotlight**. Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron WN3VAW at [wn3vaw@njdxa.org](mailto:wn3vaw@njdxa.org)

## Monthly WASH Breakfast Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

Please join us for the next **WASH** Breakfast! We usually 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 this month at **Dietz's Restaurant**, Baptist & Grove Roads in the Caste Village Shops, Whitehall, and next month at **King's Family Restaurant**, Route 19 at McClelland Road, Cannonsburg. 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	KE3XB	N3RHT	N8DPW	Misc
AA3JS	KB3GMN	KE7FD	N3RNX	W3GEL	David Delmonico
AB3AB	KB3GMO	KE8RN	N3SBF	W3HND	
K3BZW	KB3GMP	KQ3DX	N3SRC	W3JAF	
K3JDS	KB3GMU	NØPEU	N3TBK	W3RJM	<b>Silent Keys</b>
K3LIE	KB3GOT	NØVLR	N3UE	W3RWS	K3EED
K3OL	KB3GZG	NØWVP	N3UIW	W3SRL	KB3ENX
K3PCF	KB3GUZ	N2QIV	N3VEH	W3VE	KB3FQT
K3VX	KB3HFP	N3AWF	N3WPT	W3VFA	N3KEH
K3WR	KB3HVN	N3BSQ	N3XFE	W3WH	N3OBD
K9LZ	KB3IAC	N3CZZ	N3XI	W4ZE	N3SKR
KA3PPH	KB3ICC	N3FZ	N3YPB	W8LEV	W3ZLK
KA3TFB	KB3IJX	N3HKQ	N3YQY	WA3JPP	
KA3TWI	KB3IRQ	N3IDH	N3ZCG	WB3BPH	<b>Color Codes:</b>
KA3UPY	KB3IVV	N3INT	N3ZEG	WB3GTL	2003 Member
KA3WZO	KB3IVX	N3KFD	N3ZEH	WN3BOJ	2002 Member
KA3YTS	KB3QX	N3MJQ	N3ZEL	WN3VAW	2001 Member
KB3ANH	KC2JJB	N3PN	N3ZNI	WO3Z	2000 Member
KB3CPI	KC6VLV	N3QMV	N4MIS		
KB3DCO	KD3JV	N3RDV	NP2JF	Barbara	
KB3EPI					
KB3ERQ					
KB3FNM					

**Reminder:**  
2004 **WASH** Officer Nominations at the  
October Meeting  
Elections will be in November!

*Back Issues of the WASHRag have a new home on the web:*  
[www.djernes.org/washrag](http://www.djernes.org/washrag)  
Thanks NØPEU for providing the new site!

Through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# W4ZE Wins Zoning Case! Case Dismissed!

Ted Huf W4ZE

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the Chartiers Township, PA Zoning Board granted a variance to permit the Amateur Radio antennas presently installed at W4ZE.

The catch was that it only applies to the property for as long as I own it, and I have to go back and apply again if I want to put anything else up that would exceed the zoning regulations. It was specific to the antennas that I have now.

The zoning ordinance permits only 15 foot tall if ground mounted and 20 foot if root mounted. I now have to figure out how to install my AO-40 satellite antennas and stay within the regulations.

I would like to thank all the WASH club members for their support, and in particular Bill Hill W3WH, who accompanied me to the meeting and was prepared to speak had it been necessary.

I would offer the following advice for anyone else facing this problem.:

1. Be prepared. In your application include a copy of Sec. 97.15 "Station antenna structures" and PRB-1.
2. Get a copy of the zoning regulations so you know their rules.
3. In my case a neighbor complained. Talk with your neighbors before they complain.
4. Point out the public service aspects of Amateur Radio.
5. Keep your cool.

ARRL Web Extra "News In Brief" Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

**NEWINGTON, CT, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003** — A New York court has dismissed a misdemeanor charge against ARRL member Richard C. "Dick" Lalone, KC5GAX, for violating §397 of that state's Vehicle and Traffic Law. That section prohibits individuals other than law officers from equipping their vehicles with radios "capable of receiving signals on the frequencies allocated for police use" without first securing a permit. The section, which also prohibits knowingly interfering with police transmissions, contains an explicit exemption for "any person who holds a valid amateur radio operator's license . . . and who operates a duly licensed portable mobile transmitter and in connection therewith a receiver or receiving set on frequencies exclusively allocated . . . to duly licensed radio amateurs."

In his nearly 1300-word decision, Judge John J. Hallet called §397 "probably the most poorly drafted section of the Vehicle and Traffic Law." While noting that the rationale behind the statute was to keep criminals from monitoring police calls, he said it was clear the legislature never intended the provisions of §397 from applying to licensed Amateur Radio operators, and he dismissed the charge August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Susan Terry, KF4SUE, a former New York assistant attorney general, represented Lalone. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist John Hennessee, N1KB, provided advice or assistance to Lalone.

*Editor's Note: Amateurs being cited under this provision has been a recurring problem in NY State. For specific reason examples, see the January 2003 issue of the WASHRag, Page 6, and the July 2003 issue, Page 3 in the Club News column. Or do a search on the [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) or [www.eHam.net](http://www.eHam.net) web sites.*

*And remember: Just because you are "in the right" or the officer doesn't understand the law doesn't mean you can't get a ticket. That's what keeps many lawyers in business!*

## Lightning Strikes

Dave Heil K8MN, "Out On A Hill near Cameron, WV"

I took some pretty good lightning damage on the morning of 8/27. At about 7:30 AM, three bolts (with simultaneous light and sound) hit around the hilltop place here. My neighbor's power line was struck, and the transformer supplying his house was ablaze.

The hit which did the most damage to my place was on a telephone line since my entry box was blackened and destroyed. There was much damage to entertainment electronics in the living room and bedroom.

The old logging computer — the one connected to the phone line for the internal modem — was undamaged but the phone line surge suppressor was ruined. Enough of the jolt got through that it traveled across a LAN cable to the next room where it blew the covers off the USB "dongle" Ethernet adapter and cooked a faster computer.

I lost my Ten-Tec Orion, Titan amp, rotor control boxes for both towers, an az-el satellite rotor, an Astron 35 amp supply and an Ameritron RCS-8V remote coaxial switch which is used for switching VHF/UHF boomers.

There is no indication that either tower took a hit since none of the damage is in the area of antenna inputs. The rotor control boxes suffered no damage in the area where the control cables enter. One has a blown fuse. In the other, the fuse cap and a metal end piece of a fuse are all that remain of the fuse holder. The portion of the holder behind the panel and the rest of the fuse have vaporized.

I disassembled the Orion to see if I could spot the damage, and found that there is a 3/16" charred hole on a board next to the power fuse.

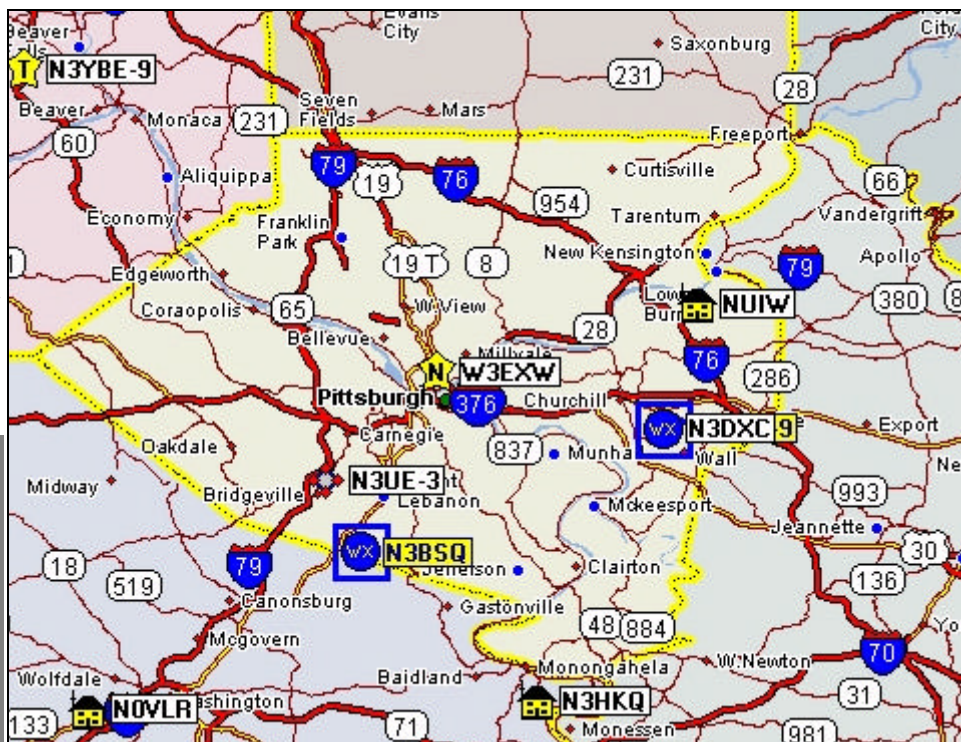
I'm going to look into obtaining a switch box which breaks both sides of the line and which has goodly spacing between contacts.

**In all large corporations, there is a pervasive fear that someone, somewhere is having fun with a computer on company time.**  
**Networks help alleviate that fear.**  
 — John C. Dvorak

## N3BSQ APRS On-Line

Mike Serowik N3BSQ has completed working on his APRS project. You can now access his web page at <http://n3bsq.no-ip.com:8080> to view APRS activity, the latest weather, or other activity.

The image to the right is a small excerpt from the screen shot available on that web site showing APRS and related activity in South Western Pennsylvania and adjacent areas.





# Possible Topics?

Glen Roberts KE7FD

On the way home one night, I heard some people talking, so I jumped in and soon others joined in as well. After a few minutes the topic evolved into how our meetings (and Al's Cafe) have changed over time.

We noted the contribution the WACOM group made to the art with their recent presentation on Antennas and I think someone asked "Why don't we do that?".

After some very insightful comments from the group and with some encouragement, I (who rarely gets to come to a meeting due to a conflict) would like to ask the group two questions:

- 1) What topics are you interested in learning more about?
- 2) What topics are you comfortable presenting?

This shouldn't become a venue where anyone feels like they have to out-do the last guy, but rather these should be used as an opportunity to learn something new or update our skills. For example, I really appreciate whoever it was that did a demo of PSK-31 a couple of years ago; I'm still crashing and burning but hope to get the upper hand on that soon.

I've been assured that the club was more involved in training and updating our skills in the past. Who was it that said he'd like to see a presentation on APRS?

# Complacency

Are you complacent? Have you gotten so comfortable with the way things are going that you don't even think twice about them?

It's a normal human condition... but it's a dangerous one. And it happens to each and every one of us.

Complacency killed two space shuttles. Never mind the technical causes (faulty O-Rings that didn't work right in the cold, a hole punched in the wing by a hard piece of "foam" insulation). The real cause was that NASA administrators and senior engineers got so used to everything going well that they started to take things for granted, and forgot that they're flying 20+ year old experimental aircraft. They learned the first time, for awhile, and then got complacent again...

Complacency kills organizations — not just amateur radio clubs, but any type of group. You get used to things rolling along smoothly, so the little things get forgotten about. You forget to remind people to come to meetings. You forget to remind people to pay dues. You forget to round up new blood to supplement "the usual suspects" who always get things done. You forget to try out new things. You forget to recruit new members. And then people start dropping out, moving away, finding other things to do... and suddenly things fall apart, don't get done, and before you know it... the organization is falling apart, splitting apart, or gone, and no one quite knows exactly how it happens.

Things have gone real well with **WASH** for most of the last few years. We have a successful and established hamfest, a growing and fun 2 meter contest, all sorts of activities, and we have a lot of fun together. We have a reputation as the group that "does things" and that gets things done. It's something to be proud of, and you and all of us should be.

But...

It's easy to start getting complacent, and that's dangerous. So don't be.

Haven't been to a meeting in awhile, even years? Come to the next one.

Want to see a topic done at a meeting? Bring up the subject. Better yet, try and track down someone who knows something about it and arrange for them to be a guest speaker at an upcoming meeting.

Haven't been on the air for awhile? Dust off the rig. Need help? Ask. Never been in a contest before? Volunteer for one of the club stations for the QSO Party. Don't worry about experience or license class (or lack thereof), we'll make sure your participation is legally covered.

Irrked at someone in the club? Don't stew about it. Tell them... or tell us... but don't stay away or stay silent. It's sad how often a simple misunderstanding lasts for years because no one ever says or does anything about it.

Not happy with the direction the club is heading in? Volunteer for something. Run for office. Ask the club officers what's going on, and don't be afraid to offer help. (N3UE can't be the club curmudgeon forever, you know)

Don't like something in the newsletter, or want to see something changed or added? Tell me. I'm always looking for improvements.

Complacency is a danger, so don't get in a rut. Do something about it now.

— Ron Notarius WN3VAW

# 2003 Pa QSO Party Planned Ops As of 9/27

Compiled By Bud Trench AA3B

County	Station	Section	Station
ADA	K3EAR Looking for Ops	OH	AA8QQ Sat Only
ALL	N3KFD	SDG	W3HHD/6
	<b>N3SH</b> Wireless	VI	<b>NP2SH</b>
	Association of South Hills		Wireless Association
	<b>W3KWH</b> Steel City ARC		DXpedition
	<b>* Bonus Station *</b>		
ARM	KD8MQ/P		
BER	AA3B		
	WB3AAL QRP		
BRA	WA3CSP ?		
CAR	K3NG		
	N3GNW/P		
CHE	N3KN M/S WITH N3AO		
CMB	WA3SES/P		
CRN	N3DQU/P		
ELK	KE3FO		
FAY	K3MI		
	<b>WA3SH</b>		
	Wireless Association		
FUL	N2OCW QRP		
LAW	AA8QQ/3		
LYC	K3LYC		
	N3JIX SSB		
MER	AA8QQ/3 Tentative		
PER	K3SV		
PHI	K3ZV		
PIK	KW3U QRP		
	N3GWR/P		
POT	N3ISH/P with KA3JOI,		
	NV4Z, WA3QMJ		
SOM	K8SYH		
	KC3XD SSB, 80M - 10M,		
	6M, 2M		
SUL	K3BM		
	N3JYY/P M/S		
TIO	N3FE		
	NM3O		
	NR3K		
UNI	W3TDF/P		
WAR	N3FR/P		
WAS	<b>WA3COM</b> WACOM		
WES	<b>K3MJW</b> Skyview RS		
WYO	N3KAE M/M with N3XLS		
		<b>County Line Stations</b>	
		FUL / FRA	AD3E
		<b>Mobiles</b>	
		K4UK	35 Counties Planned
		N3ZNI	with KB3GOT
			5 - 6 Counties Planned
		N3WAV	Saturday: PER JUN
			Sunday: FOR POT
		KB3CO	with KQ3F
			CLA JEF ELK CRN CLE CEN
			POT CLI UNI NUM SNY JUN
			PER CUM DAU
		N3KT	with KZ3E & N8MKR
			LAW MER VEN CRA ERI WAR
			ELK LYC CEN ARM JUN BUT
			SUL UNI CRN CLA INN BRA
			BER MTR NUM UNI CLI CLE
			JEF
		WA3EOP	
			Saturday: BED SOM CAM BLA
			HUN FUL FRA
			Sunday: DAU LAN YOR ADA
			FRA
		WA3RA	
			Saturday: PIK MOE WAY LAC
			LUZ WYO SUS BRA SUL LYC
			MTR COL NUM UNI CLI CEN
			SNY JUN PER CUM YOR DAU
			Sunday: BER MGY CHE DCO
			PHI BUX LEH NHA CAR SCH
			LUZ LAC
		<b>Note:</b>	Information shown as reported
			via the Pa QSO Party Reflector, &
			is subject to last minute changes.

## Nostalgia

While cleaning up one of the dark and dreary (dungeon-like) corners of my basement, I ran across a February 1988 issue of a local classified newspaper. I wondered why I would have saved it.

Upon closer inspection I noted an ad which was circled. This was just 15 years ago... boy how time flies!

**For Sale:** New Commodore 128D, 2002 monitor. Comes complete with all manuals, cables, system diskettes, etc. Still under warranty. Asking \$600. Must sell. Has built-in drive; 100% C-64 compatible. Great way to upgrade. 847-xxxx after 5.

In the same issue was a commercial ad for an AT Compatible Computer, 10 MHz Turbo, 40 MB hard drive and 1.2 MB Floppy drive; with monochrome monite \$1599, with CGA \$1839, and with EGA \$2050. Also an 80 column dot matrix printer, \$150 with any system. I think I still have one around somewhere, that I would gladly sell for \$6, if someone would come around and dig it out!!!

— The Grump W3TDF

# Official Rules, 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party

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

**OPERATING PERIODS** - 1600Z October 11<sup>th</sup> to 0500Z October 12<sup>th</sup>, and 1300Z October 12<sup>th</sup> to 2200Z October 12<sup>th</sup>

### FREQUENCIES:

**SSB:** 1850, 3980, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28310, 50.125, 146.55 (12, 17, 30 meter and Repeater QSOs **NOT** permitted.)

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

**160 METERS** - Try at 0300Z Sunday. Follow 160 Band Plan, CW - 1.800-1.830, SSB - above 1.850

**HIGH BAND ACTIVITY PERIODS** - Saturday & Sunday: 10m - 1800z, 15m - 1900z, 20m - 2000z, SSB on the hour, CW on the half hour.

**MOBILE WINDOW** - 5 KHz below listed frequencies. KEEP CLEAR FOR WEAK MOBILES.

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

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

**MULTIPLIERS** - Pennsylvania Stations: ARRL sections + RAC sections + PA Counties + 1 for DX. (152 total) Out-of-State Stations: Pennsylvania Counties (67 total)

### FINAL SCORE

Total Points X Total Multipliers

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

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

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

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

**MOBILE & ROVER DIVISIONS** - Mobile stations must be truly mobile. Rover division stations **MUST** use a portable antenna and must travel more than 5 miles between stops. 10 QSOs from each location/county worth 500 point bonus for each. Submit summary for each QTH as well as an aggregate summary. Stations should identify by using /M or /R on CW and by adding "ROVER" or "MOBILE" on SSB. Only single transmitter entries eligible for awards. Remember, many county lines are on tops of mountains.

**BONUS POINTS STATION** - Each year, a different Pennsylvania Club will set up and operate a special event station as part of the contest. The **Steel City Amateur Radio Club** (SCARC), **W3KWH**, is this year's special event station. **W3KWH** will operate on 160 through 10 meters from the SCARC clubhouse. Add 200 points to your final score for each QSO with **W3KWH** after all other bonuses have been taken.

### ENTRY DIVISIONS

- Single op medium power (150W)
- Single op QRO
- QRP (5W)
- CW ONLY (single op, 150 watts max)
- Multi-single
- Multi-multi
- Portable (single op or multi-single only)
- Novice/Technician
- Mobile
- Rover

### NOTES:

- QRP is defined as all contacts on any radio running 5 Watts or less.
- Single ops and multi-single – ONLY ONE SIGNAL on air at one time!

### AWARDS

### Plaques:

- Top scorers in all entry divisions
- Single operator, Out-Of-State (OOS)
- Eastern, Central, and Western Time zones
- OOS Medium Power
- OOS QRP
- Top Canadian entry
- Single op medium & high power EPA
- Single op medium & high power WPA
- "Rover" (if enough entries)
- Novice/Tech (if enough entries)
- Others as warranted.

Certificates to County and Section winners.

Trophy to Club winner.

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

**SPECIAL PLAQUE FOR WORKING ALL 67 COUNTIES** - If you work all 67 counties during the Party, a special plaque will be awarded in recognition of that feat. QSOs will be verified by the committee from log information. **To order, submit a special summary sheet (in addition to your entry summary) listing county, call of station worked, date and time of QSO and numbers sent and received.** Please enclose a check for \$25.00 made payable to "NARC".

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

**\* NEW! \* PARTICIPATION T-SHIRTS** - Anyone who sends in an entry for the Party is eligible for a PA QSO Party participant T-shirt. To order, submit a log and a check for \$10.00 made payable to "NARC". Be sure to indicate your shirt size.

**ENTRY MATERIALS** consist of log and dupe sheets and must be submitted with an official summary form or reasonable facsimile. One hundred points will be deducted for each dupe found. All materials can be downloaded from the web site. **ENTRY MATERIALS must be sent by November 15, 2003 in one of three ways:**

- 1) **Paper copies** of all materials may be sent via US Mail to:
  - PA QSO Party 2003
  - c/o NARC
  - P.O. Box 614
  - State College, PA 16804-0614
- 2) Materials on IBM formatted **Computer Media** (floppy disk or CD) may also be mailed to the above address.
- 3) **\* NEW! \*** Materials may be submitted **Electronically** via e-mail to [paqsolog@nittany-arc.org](mailto:paqsolog@nittany-arc.org)

**PA STATIONS MUST submit a completed paper summary form via US Mail regardless of the method used to submit log and dupe sheets.** All non-PA stations may submit their summary on paper or electronically.

**A DONATION** of \$2.00 or more with your entry will help defray the costs of mailing, printing, etc. and would be greatly appreciated.

**PA QSO PARTY WEB SITE** - <http://www.nittany-arc.org/paqso.html> For latest info!

**THE PA QSO PARTY REFLECTOR** - To subscribe, send a two word message "subscribe paqso" to [majordomo@QTH.net](mailto:majordomo@QTH.net)

**Check out the Latest info on portables, mobiles and activity: Friday night, Oct. 10 at 8:00 PM Eastern Time, 75 Meter SSB - 3910 LSB +/-**

## The Incoming Buro: An Appeal

Jay Smith W5DN

I am the letter "I" sorter for the W5 Incoming QSL Bureau and have been just a few months now. When I took over this letter I was appalled at how many good DX cards that are unclaimed in my files. Man, there are some goodies too, some that I was surprised to see come via the Bureau to be honest. I would like to appeal to all of you to keep up with your stuff at the Bureau. A quick online look once in a while, <http://www.okdxa.org/buro/> for the W5 Bureau, could cause the system to flow a little better than it does I am sure.

I'm not saying the QSL Bureau is bad, not for a second, in fact I sent out about 800 cards or so this week for the one letter, but I'd would LOVE to see everyone who has a card coming get it! I have a backlog of perhaps a thousand cards, I am not sure how many, but some of these folks have been contacted over and over and what to do with their cards and many if not most have not answered. Just this week I emailed several and several returned their answers and are sending envelopes to get these cards. To me these are like "trophies", some come easy and some can be very hard and a long time process to get them.

Please guys, if you have not looked at the QSL Bureau web page in a while, take a look and claim what is yours. If you are low on envelopes with the Bureau, send a few in and use the directions on the Bureau page for your area. We prefer 6 X 9 envelopes with one unit of postage. If there is postage due (if you have many cards) you can pay the extra when you receive the package. This way, no one sends too much and no one in reality sends too little. If you send the right sized envelope by the way, it is not so likely to get lost in the files (some have sent regular business sized envelopes and they can get misplaced).

I have some fellows who have 50 or more cards waiting and no envelopes. Some I have mailed requests to and some I have emailed with the information and have hit dry holes both ways. We take no pleasure in holding or storing these great cards. Our pleasure is in seeing that they are delivered. Please tell your ham friends about this too and try to stir them up to send in their envelopes if they do not have any at the Bureau. It would be MUCH appreciated.

**We are very few in AP land in this hobby and that too only in SSB mainly on 20/40 meters using dipoles, as HAM equipment is not readily available in this part of the world.**

**I have been active for the last two and half years and was lucky to get a log periodic on 10/12/15/17/20 meters. I also got into digital modes and CW and put a wire antenna for 30/40/80/160 meters also. The result is about fifty thousand plus QSO's, with 234 DX entities worked and 130 confirmed. I have three states left for Worked All States, and QSL from three zones is awaited for Worked All Zones.**

**I have been trying to reply to all direct QSL whether or not a Green Stamp or IRC is received. A lot is received via bureau and that too is replied as early as possible.**

**Some QSL cards with green stamps do get lost. Ask your friends to send QSL cards directly or via bureau and to e-mail if reply is not received in due course of time. Hopefully they will be getting QSL cards from my side as early as possible.**

— Ijaz Akram AP2IA courtesy of Phil Florig W9IXX

## 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 "2<sup>nd</sup> 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 "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" logos to choose from. The patch will be sewn directly onto the jacket; additional embroidery if desired at a small additional cost.

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

## DX News Briefs



K4UEE & KØIR have announced that they have organized a DXpedition to **Peter I Island (3YØ/P)**. The 15 person team is scheduled to depart from Argentina on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 and arrive at Peter I on approximately January 9<sup>th</sup> (+/- weather). They will build the camp infrastructure and install all antennas before going QRV. This will be a high power DXpedition with an international team of experienced operators and multiple stations on all HF bands covering SSB, CW, & RTTY modes. The team hopes for a 3-week stay on Peter I, weather permitting. Additional details including QSL information, website and the team roster will be forthcoming. Several operator positions are available. Contact Bob, K4UEE at [k4uee@arrl.net](mailto:k4uee@arrl.net) for information. — N4AA, K4UEE, KØIR, OPDX, 425 DX

Veteran QSL Manager NØJT has retired due to health concerns. Taking over for him is WC4H, effective September 4<sup>th</sup> (John will forward mail for a reasonable time). Stations affected include **3E1AA, 3E1CW, 3E1DX, 3E5ØØXVH, 3F2XVH, EL2RR, FS5PL, HH2/N3SIY, HI8FHD, HJØQGL, HKØØEP, HP1MM, HP1XVH, J3/KBØQNS, J3/N3SIY, LX1RQ, MØADG, MQØADG, PT1TF, TO9PL, XE1/W6EFR** — NØJT

KE3A reminds everyone that published reports to the contrary, he is not the QSL manager for **6Y5IC** and has not been since 1986 — KE3A

The **2003 DX Magazine "most wanted" survey** is under way. The deadline is October 15<sup>th</sup>. The survey ([http://www.dxpub.com/dx\\_survey2003.html](http://www.dxpub.com/dx_survey2003.html)) helps DXpeditioners decide where to go next. Not all DXCC entities are listed — just the most likely ones. Respondents are asked to select entities they do not have confirmed for DXCC. There's an opportunity to comment, where respondents may list needed countries not appearing on the list. The results will be released in early 2004. — The Daily DX via ARRL Web News

LU1DZ, /LU6UO & LW2DX, are going to operate from "rare" San Juan Province, from October 2<sup>nd</sup> — 6<sup>th</sup>. They will have the calls **LU1DZ/P, LU6UO/P** and **LW2DX/P**, where "P" stands for San Juan Province, due to LU regulations. They plan to operate in all HF bands, as well as all the available modes. — LU6EF

AC7DX has recently come across old logs for **VKØHM, VU2ACD** (contest only 1978), **XW8FA** (1972-74), & **ZK2VE** (19/3/79 to 6/5/79). He's still going through boxes of old logs including some from W7PHO, more may turn up — AC7DX

K5ZE is not now nor has he ever been the manager for **4L6AM** — K5ZE

**XU7ACE** cards are now being sent out — ES1FB

### The Sir Francis Drake Report:

According to the GO List, all logs for **HV3SJ** have been destroyed. Any reported operation under this call is a pirate — 425 DX News

K2VUI has been receiving cards for **VP9/K2VUI** on RTTY. He reports that he has never operated RTTY from VP9 — G3SWH

**T77GL** is a pirate station. Current legitimate callsigns from San Marino are listed at <http://www.arrsm.org> — T77C, 425 DX News

Cards are arriving at the Russian QSL Bureau for **RZ4N** worked during the 2003 Russian DX Contest, but this is Slim again. There are also reports of this call repeatedly being pirated on 40 meters — RA4NAJ, F6BUM, 425 DX News

## QSL Routes

**3D2RW** via ZL1ANO — KA2BZS  
**3XY7C** via DL7DF — W9IXX  
**4G6A** via VE7DP — W6YOO  
**5H9IR** via ZS6EZ — N1NK  
**5T5PBV** via JA1PBV — KA2BZS  
**6W1RD** via KZ5RO — AA3VD  
**7P8DA** via K4YL — W9OL  
**9H3Q** via PAØRDY — PAØRDY  
**9N7AS** via JH3PAS — JQ2GYU  
**A61AJ** via N4QB — KZ2I  
**CN2R** via W7EJ — RA3SL  
**DX4CN** via VE7DP — W6YOO  
**FR/FØKDF/T** via F5NOD — RA3SL  
**H4ØV** via JA1PBV — K8SIX  
**H74C** via N6AWD — JQ2GYU

**HZ1HZ** via N7RO — N1NK  
**KG4LH** via WA4ET — JQ2GYU  
**LX7I** via LX2AJ — W9OL  
**OA4WW** via OHØXX — W9OL  
**PYØFF** via W9VA — N1NK  
**T31BB** via DF6FK — K4HB  
**TG9NX** via N4FKZ — K4MQG  
**UK8IZ** via IK2QPR — W9OL  
**V8A** via JH7FOK — K5CON  
**XU7ACE** via ES1FB — ES1FB  
**XZ1N** via W1XT — RA3SL  
**YIØN4WW** via KU9C — KU4BP  
**VE9DX** via K2NJ — W9OL  
**ZA1B** via OH2BH — NW7E  
**ZC4VG** via GØUVX — RA3SL

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

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# FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

**NEWINGTON, CT, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003**—The ARRL has strongly objected to FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy's suggestion that Broadband over Power Line (BPL) technology will contribute to what she described as "broadband Nirvana."



Addressing the United Powerline Council's annual conference September 22 in Arlington, Virginia, Abernathy expressed unabashed enthusiasm for BPL and recommended a combination of regulatory restraint and the elimination or substantial modification of existing rules as steps along the "path to Enlightenment." In a terse response faxed today on behalf of the League's 155,000 members, ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, asserted that Abernathy overlooked some significant issues in her Nirvana analogy.

"Nightmare is more like it," Sumner declared. "The technical showings submitted by the ARRL and others in response to the Commission's *Notice of Inquiry* in ET Docket No. 03-104 clearly establish that BPL is a significant source of radio spectrum pollution. It cannot be implemented without causing harmful interference to over-the-air radio services."

Sumner told Abernathy that while BPL industry groups, such as the one she addressed this week, prefer to deny the evidence, the FCC is obliged to work to a higher standard.

In its remarks, the League characterized BPL as "a Pandora's Box of unprecedented proportions" and said the Commission's Part 15 rules "should be modified so as to prevent interference to users of the HF and low VHF spectrum" from the outset and "to prevent consumers' reliance on BPL as an interference-free broadband delivery system."

Abernathy's speech, "Reaching Broadband Nirvana," never broached the topic of BPL's potential to interfere with other radio services. Recently, the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) — which regulates spectrum allocated to federal government users — expressed "broad concerns" about interference to government users and launched an extensive modeling, analysis and measurement program for BPL. In his letter, Sumner reminded Abernathy that the radio spectrum is a precious natural resource.

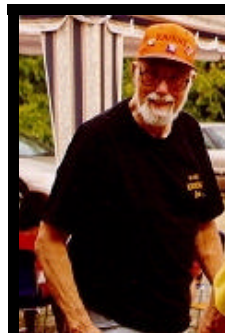
"To squander that resource, simply to add a redundant, unnecessary, and relatively poorly performing 'last mile' connection for consumers, is unconscionable," He said. Sumner expressed the hope that Abernathy will give the League an early opportunity to explain its BPL concerns to her in person

In her remarks to the UPLC gathering, Abernathy contended that it's been regulatory restraint rather than heavy-handed regulation that has allowed nascent platforms such as direct broadcast satellite (DBS) to become competitively viable. "When the Commission completes this rulemaking," she said, "I expect that we will eliminate many existing rules and substantially modify others; the central question is the degree of regulation that will remain during the transition to a more robustly competitive market."

Abernathy said many of the FCC's "old rules" not only become unnecessary as markets evolve but "they can be fatal to new services that need room to breathe."

The FCC provides two routes for individuals to e-mail Abernathy: Via her FCC web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/commissioners/abernathy/mail.html> or email her directly at [kabernat@fcc.gov](mailto:kabernat@fcc.gov). The text of her prepared remarks is also available on the FCC web site at [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-239079A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-239079A1.doc).

The League's initial 120-page package of comments and technical exhibits is available on the ARRL Web site.



**KB3ENX (SK) From the 2002 WASH picnic**



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

## Silent Keys



Savina Roxas, wife of Richard Roxas W3NCC, 86, Mount Lebanon, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Joseph A. Noel KB3ENX, 81, Carnegie, September 28<sup>th</sup>

# WACOM HAMFEST 2003

Free Coffee Courtesy of Ham Radio Insurance Associates

Washington County  
Fairgrounds

Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Setup at 6:30 AM

Talk-In on W3CYO/R

145.490 & 443.300 MHz

**VE Testing starting at 10:00 AM**

Contact Jacque Gosselin, N3ZEL 724-746-9235, n3zel@fyi.net

First Prize: ICOM 706 MKIIG transceiver

Second Prize: MFJ Antenna Analyzer

Third Prize: ICOM 2100 H 2m Transceiver

Check [www.wacomarc.org](http://www.wacomarc.org) for updates



**Admission: \$3.00**

Table Indoors \$10.00 — Additional Tables at \$5.00 each

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For More Information: Jack Dayton, KA3ZLR @ 724-746-4669

Or: Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI @ 724-746-9235 n3zni@arrl.net

## Train Show Greensburg, PA

Hose Company #1, McLaughlin Drive

Sponsored by the Foothills Amateur Radio Club

Train Layout by The Allegheny Northern Railroad

October 12th, 2003 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Admission \$2.00

Children 12 & Under Free

Great Hot Food Available!

8 Foot Table Space \$10.00 Each

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

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

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New Members Only:

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

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

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

ARRL Member?  Yes  No    Family ARRL Member?  Yes  No

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

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

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

Please make your check or money order payable to the club treasurer, Mark Stabryla.  
The Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals.  
Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to:

*Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.*  
C/O Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer  
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## Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

# Order Form for "The TLC Embroidery Company"

## Embroidered Shirts and Hats

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

<u>Available</u>	<u>Cost (S M L XL)</u>	<u>Cost (2X 3X 4X)</u>
Golf Shirts	\$20.00	\$22.00
Rugby Shirts	\$20.00	\$20.00
Light Jackets	tba	tba
Lined Jackets	tba	tba
Hats	\$10.00	\$10.00

Club logo is not currently available on the hats due to size limitations. Contact TLC Embroidery for more information.

Prices, availability & available colors subject to change without notice.

Use additional sheet(s) if necessary

Make checks payable to Sharon Cox  
Mail to: The TLC Embroidery Company  
366 Dry Ridge Road  
West Alexander, PA 15376

Phone: 724 - 484 - 7703



## Inside This Issue:

- NP2SH Starts This Weekend!
- N3SH & WA3SH need **You** for the Pennsylvania QSO Party! (Official 2003 Rules Included!)
- W4ZE can keep his "4 Square!"
- N3BSQ's been busy...
- An FCC Commissioner speaks to industry on BPL (you may not like it!)

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



### **Are You Ready for the 2003 Pennsylvania QSO Party?**

It's two weekends away as this is written, and those who are planning to operate are psyched! Want to join us and have some fun? There's still time!

Photo: From the archives...Part of the 1999 [WA3SH](#) Clarion County Expedition posed in front of the WACOM trailer (thanks again WACOM!) Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, about 8 AM, outside the Bob Evans Restaurant in Cranberry. Shown: (L - R) Paul NØVLR, Ron WN3VAW, Bob W3RJM, Bill W3WH. Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 1999, 2003 Steve Lane W3SRL

## The WASHRag

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