



# WASHRAG™

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April 2004

N3SH  
WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

Wireless Association of South Hills

## BPL: Is "The Fix" In?

Recent news reports on and related to the FCC's NPRM on Access BPL are starting to paint a potentially grim picture for the future of the US Amateur Radio Service.

Of strong concern is the recent plethora of news articles praising the BPL proposal as a new way of extending Internet access to the public, while minimizing or discounting altogether fears of Amateurs and others of interference to their radio services. Some of these articles imply or otherwise indicate that at least some of the FCC Commissioners have already made up their minds to be highly in favor of BPL without regards to existing communications services (reminiscent of the Amplifier Ban, and the loss of 220-222 MHz years ago, amongst other FCC proposals that negatively impacted the Amateur Service)

Some of these articles and other comments include:

- An InformationWeek article on FCC Chairman Powell visiting a BPL site, <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=18311321>
- A quote attributed to an American Public Power Association news release, "APPA is concerned that incumbent broadband providers and others will exaggerate potential interference problems as a means of convincing the Commission to limit the effectiveness and efficiency of BPL"
- An article from Energy Central praising BPL services at <http://www.energycentral.com/global/nsar.cfm?li=p&id=0599574>
- From the Austin (TX) American Statesman: [http://www.statesman.com/metrostate/content/auto/epaper/editions/monday/metro\\_state\\_041740ec83f390a50094.html](http://www.statesman.com/metrostate/content/auto/epaper/editions/monday/metro_state_041740ec83f390a50094.html)

The Wall Street Journal had a lengthy feature article on (March 23?) about the BPL trials and impending roll out in Pen Yan, NY. The article ("In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," by reporter Ken Brown) appeared to emphasize the benefits of BPL while belittling amateur efforts in opposition to it. The article made also appeared to claim that the BPL trial had caused no interference complaints; follow-ups to the article showed otherwise. It has been reported on several reflectors that several letters (including one written by Rich W2VU, (check), editor of CQ) refuting many of the comments made by the reporter and correcting as many as eight factual and technical errors in the article have to date gone unpublished in the newspaper. And a follow-up to the WSJ article (see <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2004/04/01/3/?nc=1>) indicates that the article may have contained misquotes, and that there are no amateurs currently residing in the immediate BPL testing area.

Of even greater concern and alarm to many amateurs was a recent announcement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that attempted to "clarify" FEMA comments made in December that at the time appeared to clearly opposed BPL (see article Page 5). Many amateurs are now openly wondering if this "clarification" was orchestrated for political reasons to show a government "united front" in favor of BPL, as major opposition by FEMA could

(BPL Continued on page 6)

### Next Meeting: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 7:00 PM.

Our guest speaker & topic were not available at deadline. Sorry!

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

### Top of the Hill



Most everyone will recall that we talked at our January meeting about starting an activity night. Since WASH doesn't really have an appropriate place to meet for a second time each month, Bob McCloskey, W3RJM who is also VP of the Steel City ARC W3KWH proposed to their club that SCARC host an activity night once a month which will be open to all hams.

Well, Bob has been successful and the maiden voyage so to speak will occur on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM. The first session will be an introduction and planning session. Among the things Bob has planned are:

- Kit building
- QRP session
- ATV session
- PSK31 session
- Contesting session-led by N3LL
- Antennas

He also has the VKØIR and 3YØPI videos available. The sessions will probably all be on Saturdays with the specific schedule to be announced.

Thanks you Bob. We hope this is successful!

— 73, Bill Hill W3WH, President  
Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/B

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

April May &  
June NCS  
Stations:

- 04/04 Harold KB3CPI
- 04/11 Bell Family
- 04/18 Michael KB3HFP
- 04/25 Bill W3WH
- 05/01 Frank KB3FZU
- 05/09 Kevin N3HKQ
- 05/16 Hank KB3FNM
- 05/23 Harold KB3CPI
- 05/30 Kevin N3HKQ
- 06/06 Bell Family
- 06/13 Michael KB3HFP
- 06/20 Bill W3WH
- 06/27 Kevin N3HKQ

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:

- 1st Annual  
Mid-Atlantic  
QSO Party  
May 8 – 9
- Breezeshooters  
Hamfest  
June 6

April 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
IARU World Amateur Radio Day April 18 <sup>th</sup>				1 <i>Poisson d'Avril</i> <b>Contest</b> WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	2 Elco ARS Meeting	3 RA Erie VE Test BVARA VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net
4 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Daylight Savings Begins</i> Elwood City ARA Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	5 <i>Passover Begins</i> <i>(at Sundown)</i> Greater Pgh VHFS Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	6 Skyview RS Meeting Butler Co ARA Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net	7 Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	8 <b>WASH Meeting</b> Horseshoe ARC Meeting Beaver Valley ARA Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	9 <i>Good Friday</i> <b>WPA Section S-1 Club Presidents &amp; EC Conference</b>	10 Skyview RS VE Test Tri-County CW ARC VE Test NHARC/Breezeshooters VE 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast Nittany ARC Coffee Call
11 <i>Easter</i> QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	12 Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	13 Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Ft. Venango M&K Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Punxsatawney Area ARC Mtng WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	14 North Hills ARC Meeting Butler Co PSG Meeting Laurel Highlands VHFS Mtng Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	15 <b>WASH VE Test</b> Triple 'A' ARA Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting Cumberland Valley ARC Mtng Uniontown ARC Net	16 2 Rivers ARC Meeting Quad Co ARC	17 Mercer Co ARC VE Test North Hills ARC Elmer Net
18 <i>MS Walkathon</i> Elk Co ARC Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	19 Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	20 <i>S H B P &amp; M Meeting</i> Steel City ARC Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting McKean Co ARC Meeting Pymatuning ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting Chestnut Ridge ARC Meeting WACOM Net	21 Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	22 Uniontown ARC Net	16 <b>WASH Activity Day / SCARC Open House at W3KWH</b>	24 <b>WASH Breakfast</b> Indiana Co ARC VE Test Nittany ARC Coffee Call North Hills ARC Elmer Net
25 QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net WASH FM Net	26 Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	27 Mercer Co ARC Meeting Triangle ARC Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net GPVHFS Swap 'n' Shop Net	28 North Hills ARC Activity Nite Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	29 WACOM Board of Directors Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	30	5/1 RA Erie VE Test WPA Hilltoppers VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Elmer Net

## WASH 2004 OFFICERS

<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:</b>			
President	William R. Hill W3WH	VP / Secretary	Frank Robro KB3FZU
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV		
<b>AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:</b>			
N3SH / WA3SH Trustee	Steve Lane W3SRL	NP2SH Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
N3SH / WA3SH QSL Manager	Paul Lusardi NØVLR	NP2SH QSL Manager	Ed Oelschlagel N3ZNI
VE Team Liaison	Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL	Webmaster	Bob Sanford AA3FI
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI	WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
WASHFest 2004 Committee	Steve Lane W3SRL, Chairman		Carol Danko KB3GMN
	Bill Hill W3WH		Kevin Smith N3HKQ
Activities & Operating Events	Larry Comden K3VX		Ted Huf W4ZE
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN		Kevin DeRose N3KFD
Media Communications	Ben Williams KB3ERQ		
Allegheny Co ARES Representative			
<b>CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS &amp; BEACONS:</b>			
Mt. Lebanon	N3RNX/R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL/R	442.550 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
		Echo Link #26861 (courtesy W3SRL)	
Canonsburg	N3BV/R	443.650 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
St. Johns, VI	NP2SH/B	28.276 MHz	
<b>N3SH/WA3SH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 &amp; 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!</b>			

## 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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Ron Notarius WN3VAW  
946 Sleepy Hollow Road  
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2222  
e-mail: [wn3vaw@njdxa.org](mailto:wn3vaw@njdxa.org) or [wn3vaw@yahoo.com](mailto:wn3vaw@yahoo.com)  
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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 April 15<sup>th</sup>!

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 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, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004  
Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005

Looking for volunteers to this years MS Walk. The event will take place on Sunday, April 18, 2004

We begin around 7:30 A.M. and the event goes until about 1:00 PM.

I can accommodate individual schedules if someone must leave earlier.

I may be contacted via E-mail:

[miket@dipcr.aft.com](mailto:miket@dipcr.aft.com)

Phone: day: 412-351-2363  
evening: 412-422-8803

## WPA S-1 Club Presidents & EC Conference

The ARRL Western Pa Section S-1 Club Presidents and EC Conference will be held on Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Delmont Fire Department. Talk in will be on 145.15 Derry Repeater.

Registration Will Begin At 8:30 AM.

There will be Doughnuts and coffee in the morning, with a Buffet Lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. The Cost will be \$10 to cover food and drink.

I still have some Counties EC and Clubs Not Represented. Looks like we have 20 people confirmed so far.

This meeting requires RSVP! If you are coming, please RSVP to [N3FLR@arrl.net](mailto:N3FLR@arrl.net) ASAP!

— Frank Rossi N3FLR, DEC S-1

Catching up on past events, a beautiful morning, the day prior to **WASHFest 2004**, brought the **WASH Breakfast Gang** together at the **Your Way Café** in the Caste Village Shops, Grove & Baptist Roads, Whitehall on February 28<sup>th</sup>. In report where N3HKQ, W3SRL, N3SBF, K3VX, W3VFA, W3WH, KB3GMN, KB3CPI, WN3VAW, K3LGM, W8LEV, WB4GCS, KB3FNM and Mary Lout. Topics included the next day's events (no kidding), AO-40, campers, Baxter the Wonder Mutt, "acceptable limits," the 160 contests, DSL, amplifiers, Carolina Windoms, network security, and llamas.

March proved a little more interesting. After some discussions from "the gang" about **King's Family Restaurant**, an almost last-minute change brought us to **The Starting Line Café** (formerly The Finish Line), further down Route 19 near Race Track Road, which has begun serving breakfasts. Initial reports are that they may not have been quite ready for a group our size but that the food and company were worth it, so they're worth another try. Attendees included W3WH, W4ZE, WB4GCS and a visiting friend, Jay Gardiner, WC3O, N3ZNI, N3ZEL, KB3CPI, N3HKQ, KB3FNM and Mary Lou. Sorry, no report on the conversation(s) this time around!

You never know who's going to show up or what the topic of the morning will be, so don't miss out! The next Club Breakfast will be the **Your Way Café** in the Caste Village Shops, Grove & Baptist Roads, Whitehall, on April 24<sup>th</sup>, and we return to **The Starting Line Café** on Route 19 near Race Track Road, north of Washington, on May 29<sup>th</sup>. See you there!

**Who Says 10 Meters is Dead?** "This message is forwarded from an email I received March 29th from a ham in Illinois. Now more than ever, it seems that beacons can be an important tool for the DX-chasers out there!" — W3SRL

"Hello there. I copied your NP2SH/B beacon today at 1900 UTC on 28.275.5 559 very good and it was the only beacon heard on the entire band!! I have a beacon also (N9BPE/B) on 28.228 but it has been off the air all winter. Hope to have it running again soon. 73" — Jim N9BPE

**New WASH Activity Night!** Don't forget that our new Activity Night, in conjunction with the Steel City ARC W3KWH, will take place on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, starting at 3:00 PM, up at the W3KWH club house. W3KWH is located off McMichael Road in Collier, near Settler's Cabin Park and just a few minutes from the Parkway West (it can also be reached via I-79, the Carnegie exit, then west onto Noblestown Road). Talk-in will be available on the W3KWH repeater, 147.03 MHz (123.0 PL). Although this is being sponsored by both WASH & SCARC, it is open to all amateurs. Hope to see you there!

**Tower Variance Hearing:** Geno Boyd WA3IOU has been granted a variance hearing concerning his tower problems with Elizabeth Township (see last month's post-hamfest Special Edition newsletter). It will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and he is hoping that as many local amateurs as possible will attend to supply whatever support needed. More information is available on his web sites, [www.zelie.com/~geno](http://www.zelie.com/~geno) and [www.swppg.zelie.com](http://www.swppg.zelie.com), or email Geno at [geno570d@earthlink.net](mailto:geno570d@earthlink.net)

**Author! Author!** We learned at **WASHFest 2004** that our own Michael KB3HFP had just had an article printed in the weekly Pittsburgh Catholic newspaper. In addition, there was another article talking about Michael. Sorry, we never got the chance to read either piece or get the dates, so if someone has that information, we'll pass it along. Still, well done! (Now Michael, you did promote Amateur Radio in it, didn't you? <g>)

**Reward offered:** A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of Hop-a-long Capacity. This un-rectified criminal escaped from a Weston primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber. He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Milli Henry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving a dc motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass. If encountered, he may offer series resistance. The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit. He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic. (Source unknown, this version submitted by Don N3RHT — hey, if I don't get news for the newsletter... and if you think this one was bad, I can dig up worse...)

**Dues due!** Don't forget, 2004 club dues are now, er, due. And yes, Ye Editor knows he still has to pay his too!

Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2004 Today! Membership Application on Page 11!



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

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

.Bill, W3WH, **called** the meeting **to order** at 19:00 hours. There were 29 members and guests in attendance.

A **moment of silence** was observed for recent Silent Keys & other deserving persons.

A motion was made to **accept the minutes** of the February meeting as published in the March newsletter. The motion was made by Hank, KB3FNM, seconded by Dick, N3QMV. The motion was voted on and passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer (N3RDV):** Mark reports that we had a profitable hamfest.

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

**VE Report (N3ZEL):** The next VE session will be on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Repeaters (N3RNX & W3SRL):** The repeaters are doing OK. Now that the weather is getting better, a trip for a tune up will be scheduled.

**FM Net Report (N3HKQ):** No report.

**Ways & Means (KB3GMN):** Carol will hold a 50/50 after the meeting. Norma Plants was the winner of the 50/50 at the hamfest and she gave more than half of the winnings back to the club. Thank You!

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

**Contests (K3VX):** Larry and Bill began a discussion about Field Day – 30 people usually attend and about 15 usually operate – the question is why do some people not operate? Should we use both calls and two transmitters at each of two locations and run two class 2A stations? The big question is what would you like to do? There was some discussion on primary operators for say two hour or so windows. If there is a split, one of the stations could be in a more public place. More discussions ensued. The possibilities to help a few of the Boy Scouts of America achieve their radio merit badge as a part of Field Day festivities surfaced. It could be done at Mingo Park.

A motion to use Mingo Park as our Field Day site was made by Steve, W3SRL, seconded by Ron, WN3VAW. The motion was voted on and carried.

The Mid Atlantic QSO Party is Mothers Day weekend, May 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a brand new event. Does the club want to participate? It runs from Noon on Saturday to 5 or 6 on Sunday. Bill, W3WH, said that this is an open topic of discussion and we can continue it during the next meeting.

**Newsletter (WN3VAW):** The March newsletter was available just before the hamfest. A second March newsletter devoted to hamfest pictures is in the works and it should be out soon.

**President's Report (W3WH):** Stay tuned, lots to come.

**Hamfest:** Paid admission was up – table sales were in the same ball park as last year and overall it was a successful event. Thank You to everyone who helped with this success.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Steve Motioned that the club set aside 1/2 of this year's hamfest profit as seed money for next year's effort. Shawn, NØPEU, seconded the motion; it was voted on and carried. Breakfast is at Kings on the last Saturday of the month.

The monthly Open House at the Steel City ARC will be on a Friday or Saturday every month beginning in April. Bob, W3RJM, will keep us posted.

**Good of the Order:** VKØIR DXpedition tape was presented after the meeting courtesy of Bob, W3RJM.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Made by Bob, W3RJM, and seconded by Ron, WN3VAW. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:05.

# WASH Spotlight



The **WASH** Breakfast Gang at the March Breakfast.

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2004 Kevin Smith N3HKQ.

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, April 24<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!

We alternate 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 the **Your Way Café**, 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	KB3GMN	KE7FD	N3SBF	W3HND	Barbara Mistic David Delmonico
AA3JS	KB3GMO	KE8RN	N3SRC	W3JAF	
AB3AB	KB3GMP	KQ3DX	N3TBK	W3RJM	<b>Silent Keys</b> K3EED KB3ENX KB3FQT N3KEH N3OBD N3SKR W3ZLK
K3BZW	KB3GMU	NØPEU	N3UE	W3RWS	
K3JDS	KB3GZG	NØVLR	N3UIV	W3SRL	
K3LGM	KB3GUZ	NØVPV	N3VEH	W3VE	
K3OL	KB3HFP	N2QIV	N3WPT	W3VFA	
K3PCF	KB3HVN	N3AWF	N3XFE	W3WH	
K3VX	KB3IAC	N3BSQ	N3XI	W4ZE	
K3WR	KB3ICC	N3CZZ	N3YPB	W8LEV	
K9LZ	KB3IJC	N3FZ	N3YQY	WA3JPP	
KA3PPH	KB3IRQ	N3HKQ	N3ZCG	WB3BPH	
KA3TFB	KB3IVW	N3IDH	N3ZEG	WB4GCS	
KA3UPY	KB3IVX	N3INT	N3ZEH	WB3GTL	
KA3WZO	KB3QX	N3KFD	N3ZEL	WN3BOJ	
KA3YTS	KC2JJB	N3PN	N3ZNI	WN3VAW	
KB3ANH	KC4WTT	N3QMV	N4MIS	WO3Z	
KB3CPI	KC6VLV	N3RDV	NP2JF		
KB3DCO	KD3JV	N3RHT	N8DPW		
KB3EPI	KE3XB	N3RNX	W3GEL		
KB3ERQ					
KB3FNM					
KB3FZU					

**Color Codes:**  
2004 Member  
2003 Member  
2002 Member  
2001 Member  
(2000 and earlier members no longer displayed)

### Silent Keys



Seth Ward KC3YE, 81, Upper St. Clair, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Pierre Goral K17UA, co-founder, SGC, February 12<sup>th</sup>  
Bill Fisher W4AN, Owner, [www.eHam.net](http://www.eHam.net) & [www.contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com), April 4<sup>th</sup>

Through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

## ARRL Uges "Thoughtful, Considered Comments" on Proposed BPL Rules

ARRL Letter Vol. 23 Number 12, Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Comments on the FCC Broadband over Power Line (BPL) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37 are due by Monday, May 3. The deadline for reply comments--comments on comments filed by others--is Tuesday, June 1. The ARRL will comment by the deadline on the FCC's proposals to amend its Part 15 rules to adopt new requirements and measurement guidelines for so-called "Access BPL" systems that provide broadband access via electric utility power lines. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the League recommends that members read the NPRM and develop their own thoughtful, considered comments that specifically address the FCC's BPL proposals, reflect positively on the amateur community and, if possible, offer alternative recommendations. He asked amateurs to keep four things in mind, however.

"First, this is not a proceeding to 'permit' or 'authorize' BPL," he said. "BPL is already permitted under the existing Part 15 rules."

Second, Sumner pointed out, the NPRM reaffirms that licensed services must be protected from harmful interference and are not required to protect BPL systems. "This is good, but we can't take it for granted that the principle will be honored in practice," he said.

"Third," Sumner went on, "the NPRM proposes additional, new constraints on BPL to protect licensed services. The FCC did not go far enough, but at least the proposals aim in the right direction."

Finally, while the League continues to believe firmly that BPL is "a very bad idea," arguing that the FCC should ban BPL "will not get us anywhere," he concluded. Instead, Sumner says, amateurs must document beyond any doubt the levels of protection that must be given to over-the-air services, then leave it for others to decide whether BPL is feasible within those limits. "We need to prove that the risk of interference is significantly greater than the BPL proponents say it is," Sumner said.

He also asserted that the FCC's proposed "interference mitigation" requirements fall far short of providing real protection from harmful interference, and that the Commission is ignoring the practical problems that will arise when Amateur Radio transmissions disrupt BPL systems.

Carrier current systems like BPL are subject to the FCC's Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices, and the FCC has acknowledged that "amateur operations are likely to present a difficult challenge" to BPL deployment, especially in the case of hams--an estimated 150,000 of them--who use high-gain antennas sited near power lines. The proposed rules remain silent on the issue of mitigating BPL interference to the estimated 70,000 Amateur Radio HF mobile stations.

Interference mitigation for mobile stations "is clearly impractical," Sumner asserted. "Since BPL systems operating at the present Part 15 limit cause harmful interference to mobiles, the only solution is an absolute limit on radiated emissions that is lower than the present limit." He said the ARRL was in the process of determining scientifically what the limit must be.

Sumner further noted that the NPRM does not mandate a publicly accessible BPL database to facilitate interference mitigation for fixed stations. In addition, the League wants the FCC to establish performance standards for BPL interference mitigation. "There must be severe enforcement penalties for failure to resolve a complaint in real time and for failure to maintain the database," he said.

The League encourages anyone, particularly radio amateurs, who has actually experienced BPL interference to file detailed comments documenting the interference. "BPL proponents claim they are not getting interference complaints," Sumner noted. "If we let them claim their systems are 'clean' when we know they aren't, shame on us."

Interested individuals and organizations may file comments via the Internet, using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. In an unusual move, the FCC has added another docket number to the BPL proceeding. That could complicate filing comments and may lead to some confusion. Although the original FCC BPL Notice of Inquiry last April bore ET Docket 03-104, the recent BPL NPRM carries an additional docket number--ET Docket 04-37. The ARRL advises those posting comments to use the main ECFS page and file their comments on both proceedings--ET Docket 03-104 and ET Docket 04-37.

When submitting a comment or viewing filed comments, ECFS users should type "03-104" or "04-37" (without quotation marks but including the hyphen) in the "Proceeding" field of the ECFS on-line form. Do not use the NPRM's FCC document number when filing or searching for comments. The ECFS permits attaching a file containing detailed comments prepared off-line.

## FEMA APPEARS TO BACKPEDAL IN BPL "CLARIFICATION" LETTER

ARRL Web Extra Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

After expressing "grave concerns" to the FCC last fall about the interference potential of Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) now appears to be backing away from that strong stance.

Now a part of the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA filed comments December 4 in response to the FCC's April 2003 Notice of Inquiry in ET Docket 03-104. Many have cited those remarks in their own comments opposing BPL deployment. In a January 8 letter that's now part of the BPL Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Docket 04-37, Michael D. Brown, the US Department of Homeland Security's under secretary for emergency preparedness and response, told FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell that FEMA wanted to "clarify the record" to ensure that its filing was not "misunderstood or misconstrued."

"We have become aware that certain distinct approaches to BPL may have the potential to cause interference to FEMA's high frequency radio communications system," Brown said in his January letter. "However, we continue to study the BPL proceeding and have not concluded that there is a material interference problem or that all of the distinct technological approaches to BPL pose a risk of interference."

The FEMA official said his agency expects that there may be ways to provide BPL's benefits "without compromising the emergency communications capabilities available to FEMA."

The January letter stands in stark contrast to FEMA's predictions last December that "the introduction of unwanted interference from the implementation of BPL technology into the high frequency radio spectrum will result in significant detriment to the operation of FEMA radio systems." Saying such interference could "directly impair the safety of life and property," the agency also had recommended the FCC beef up its Part 15 rules to ensure no increase in interference levels to existing FCC or NTIA-licensed communication systems.

"The purported benefits of BPL in terms of expanded services in certain communications sectors do not appear to outweigh the benefit to the overall public of HF radio capability as presently used by government, broadcasting and public safety users," FEMA asserted last December in comments filed on the agency's behalf by Chief Information Officer Barry C. West.

BPL also could render such "essential communications services" as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) useless, FEMA said. FEMA and ARRL are signatories to a Memorandum of Understanding that focuses on how Amateur Radio personnel may coordinate with the agency to support emergency communications functions. FEMA's December comments also referenced ARRL's "Interference to PLC systems from Amateur Radio Operation."

Brown's January letter conveys a much milder, conciliatory tone. "We know that the FCC shares our appreciation for the importance of reliable communications in the context of disaster recovery and are confident that the Office of Engineering and Technology's technical assessment, as well as the Commission's regulations implementing BPL, will be sensitive to this issue," he concluded. "FEMA stands ready to assist in any way the Commission might find helpful."



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(BPL Continued from page 1)

have derailed some or all of the proposed NPRM provisions in BPL's favor.

Amateurs have been concentrating on the potential QRM issue from BPL. Have we left unaddressed an even bigger problem? Marco Ciocca KY4MC relayed these comments on BPL from William L. Fuqua WA4LAV, the chief engineer of the electronics lab at the University of Kentucky Department of Physics:

*I have been trying to tell people that the real danger to amateur radio is not the interference to hams from BPL. At the last minute the BPL people can (by a snap of their fingers) program the systems not produce signals in the ham bands and the FCC will then toss out all of the ham's responses to their inquires.*

*The real danger is when the ham transmits and the RF signal picked up by the power line overwhelms the ADC in the BPL transceivers and shuts down a large piece of the the network. NO TEST have been done on the effects of Amateur Radio Transmissions on BPL. Most are not concerned about it and the FCC and Power Companies prefer that we remain distracted by the interference issues of BPL to Ham radio.*

*If BPL is deployed and hams start shutting down peoples VoIP telephone networks and pay per view movies.... then there will be a great outcry from the communities to shut down these hams that are keeping their communication networks from working. The end result is that we may only have VHF privileges or very reduced power limits on HF.*

So the question becomes, is "the fix" in? Are government entities being asked to go along with the FCC's BPL proposals for political reasons, despite technical reservations? Is the mass media being influenced to promote BPL as a panacea, while glossing over the downside, and painting concerned amateurs as modern-day Luddites? And what can be done about it?

## FAR Fall-Fest Cancelled

Paul Courson WA3VJB courtesy of [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

After struggling to rebuild attendance from two relocations the past four years, organizers in Maryland have cancelled the 2004 descendant of what was once the popular "Gaithersburg Hamfest" that dated back to the 1950s.

*"There appears to be no support for this event from the member clubs of the Foundation or their respective members,"* wrote Dan Blasberg, KA8YPY, president of the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR).

The group consists of a coalition of ham radio clubs in the Maryland, Washington, and northern Virginia region, and has used hamfest revenue to fund scholarships. In recent years it co-sponsored the event with one of its member clubs, the Columbia Amateur Radio Association (CARA).

Expressing his dismay that only two people had stepped forward from FAR to help stage the hamfest that had been scheduled for Sept. 11-12 2004, Blasburg, in a note tentatively calling off the event, said the lack of volunteer help is "not fair" to "carry the burden of a project of this magnitude and scope." Blasburg concluded "it has been decided by the leadership of FAR and CARA to cancel Fall-Fest 2004 (due) to lack of volunteer participation."

Blasburg's email, sent to members of an email reflector involved with FAR activities and subsequently circulated more widely, suggested member clubs were not fulfilling their obligations to the Foundation. He said "If at some point the Foundation does happen to get any support from its member clubs pursuant to the Foundation by-laws and the membership sheet that all club officers have signed, then the Foundation will be more than happy to continue with this event."

To clarify wording that indicated the decision had already been made, Blasburg replied to a query on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and held out hope that volunteers would indeed step forward to save the event. He said in this follow-up email that a "final" decision will be made April 19<sup>th</sup>.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, after this story was initially written, a FAR source at the Timonium (Md.) Hamfest told several people that the Fall-Fest had indeed been cancelled, and that the site reservation has been released and subsequently booked by a non-ham radio event. The event has been dropped from a CARA website.

The Gaithersburg Hamfest was cancelled only once in its history, in the late 1970s, when the Maryland state tax authority, acting on an interpretation of the rules, threatened to check for tax collection among all vendors at the fleamarket.

The "vendors," regardless of whether selling from the back of an Oldsmobile or a formal ham radio business, would have needed a certificate or sales license to "do business." Eventually hams made appeals to state lawmakers to affirm the informal nature of the deals going on, and an exemption for fleamarket-style sales was then created by the General Assembly at Annapolis.

Most recently, the hamfest has been in an unfortunate slide for several years. FAR officials in 1998, citing rising site costs, decided to forego holding the hamfest at the popular and long running location of the Montgomery County (Md.) Fair Grounds in Gaithersburg. Attendance until then had been growing so much that the event went to two days in the 1990s, affirming the status of the "Gaithersburg Hamfest" as one of the largest in the mid-Atlantic region. A dramatically scaled-back version of the hamfest continued 1999-2001 from a move to the parking lot surrounding the new "Baysox" baseball field in Bowie, (Md.) near the Radio History Society which now operates its own all-vintage ham radio station as W3R.

In 2002 and 2003, FAR officials attempted a joint hamfest with one of its member clubs, the Columbia Amateur Radio Association, (CARA) which serves a Maryland community suffering severe antenna restrictions. CARA runs several FM repeaters. Sources inside both clubs have said there were problems merging the respective organizational philosophies over the hamfest. The final site, at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Md., had been booked for years by CARA for its local hamfest, and officials agreed to try to expand and include yet another relocation for the FAR event.

It's still not too late to comment on the BPL NPRM. I urge you not only to do so, but do so with your eyes open, with what facts are at your disposal (that means do some research, both on the ARRL and other web sites — see also <http://w4ovh.org/bplinfo.htm> & <http://www.qrpis.org/~k3ng/bpl.html> — not wild speculation or blindly repeating what others have written or suggested you write.

And write your Senators and Congressmen to insist that they use their oversight to ensure that the FCC Commissioners make this decision with truly open minds, in the best interests of all communications services affected, and not with the current appearance of impropriety. When the Commissioners act as virtual cheerleaders for the BPL industry, one must question how objective they truly can be.

—73, Ron Notarius WN3VAW, Editor

# Rules, First Mid-Atlantic QSO Party



**OBJECT:** To contact as many stations in the Mid-Atlantic States of Delaware, Maryland-DC, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia in as many Counties within these States as possible.

**DATE:** May 8-9, 2004.

**CONTEST PERIOD:** 1600 UTC Saturday until 2400 UTC Sunday. (12 noon EST Saturday until 8 P.M. EST Sunday)

**BANDS:** All MF/HF bands (except WARC bands) and 50, 144, 222, and 440 MHz. No cross-mode/cross-band/net/repeater contacts permitted.

**MODES:** SSB/FM and CW only.

**CATEGORIES:** SINGLE OPERATOR, (one operator only) - QRP (up to 5W output power), STANDARD POWER (5W – 200W output power), MULTI-OPERATOR (*includes Clubs*), MOBILE (One operator call used. Operators in same vehicle may NOT work each other for contest credit.) Maximum output power is limited to 200 watts for all categories, except QRP.

**CONTEST EXCHANGE:** Stations Within Mid-Atlantic States - Send serial number plus QTH group. QTH group consists of 5 characters where the first 3 are the county and the last 2 are the state. Stations Outside Mid-Atlantic States - Send an exchange consisting of a serial number and the QTH group composed of either the 2 character U.S. state identifier, or the 2 or 3-character Canadian province/territory identifier, as applicable. DX Stations will send a serial number and 'DX' as their location identifier. Puerto Rico, U. S. Virgin Islands, are DX. **ALL STATIONS MUST USE the QTH Group shown in the MAQP list or the QSO will be deleted and considered a BUSTED QSO.**

**WHO WORKS WHO?:** Stations in Mid-Atlantic states work any station, anywhere, for points. Stations outside the Mid-Atlantic states region work only stations in Mid-Atlantic states for points.

Mobile stations can be worked again, for points **and multipliers**, as they activate new Counties. **Multiplier logging/scoring must meet the criteria stated within the MULTIPLIERS section of the Rules.** A mobile station is defined as one that can be operated while in motion, is fully independent of external sources of power, and does not utilize any antennas not attached to the vehicle.

Portable/'rover' stations are considered fixed stations for scoring purposes.

Serial numbers shall start with 1 and increase sequentially in increments of 1. No penalty will be assessed for non-sequential or duplicated serial numbers. Mobile stations are allowed to maintain a continuous sequence of serial numbers for all contacts, or may begin with serial number 001 for each separate County they activate.

**QSO POINTS:** Phone - one point, CW - two points, Mobile - three points, regardless of mode. All stations worked count for contact points. The 3-points for working a mobile station are credited to the station that CONTACTS the mobile.

**MULTIPLIERS:** Multipliers can be counted for credit ONLY once. For DX multiplier scoring purposes, multiplier credit will only be earned for the first DX contact worked, however, each succeeding DX station worked will count for contact points. Multiplier lists for U. S. States, Canadian (VE) multipliers along with MAQP County check-off sheets are provided within these rules.

Stations within the Mid-Atlantic region - All U. S. States, Canadian Provinces & Territories, any one DX country, and each County within the Mid-Atlantic States of DE, MD, PA, NJ, NY, VA, and WV count as multipliers. Washington, D.C. and Baltimore City count as valid multipliers for Maryland.

Stations outside of the Mid-Atlantic States - Only the Counties within the Mid-Atlantic States of DE, MD, PA, NJ, NY, VA, and WV count as multipliers. Washington, D.C. and Baltimore City are valid multipliers for Maryland.

**SCORING:** Final total score is total QSO points multiplied by the total number of multipliers worked.

**SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:** Suggest starting 50 kHz up from the bottom of the band, or band-segment, within which the chosen mode is permitted. Take care to avoid those frequencies which are normally devoted to specific purposes (e.g. SSTV, digital, scheduled nets, etc.) While no amateur 'owns' the right to use any frequency, there are modes/operations that have a LONG history of use of a frequency. Attempt to foster 'good neighbor' relations by maintaining a sufficient frequency spacing interval when operating near the edges of their traditionally known and operated frequency ranges.

**LOGS/SUBMITTAL/REPORTING:** LOGS - ALL log formats, regardless of

category, shall show date, time (UTC), band, mode, callsign of station worked, and full exchange sent AND received. Multipliers shall be clearly marked. All stations must submit the required overall summary sheet with each entry. This summary sheet shall show a summary list of all multipliers worked. **MOBILES MUST BE LOGGED AS '/M' in order to be counted as 3-point contacts!**

**SUBMITTALS** - Logs submission deadline is **June 10, 2004**. ELECTRONIC submission of logs is **PREFERRED** using either the CABRILLO format, or a comma-delimited ASCII file format. Electronic submittals shall be sent as an attachment to the EMAIL address provided on the website or via a floppy disk mailed to the MAQP address.

If submitted via EMAIL, the **SUBJECT** line shall contain the submitting station's callsign with the words '2004 MAQP LOG' and the attached file name will contain the appropriate callsign. ONLY 3.5" disks are acceptable. If a disk is mailed, the title '2004 MAQP' and the entrant's callsign shall be written on the disk. Summary sheets shall be produced using MS WORD 6.0 or greater (or any format that can be imported into AND read by MS Word 6.0 or greater) and included with the submittal EMAIL or disk.

Submittal of LEGIBLE hardcopy (printed) logs is permitted as long as they follow the format noted under **LOGS/SUBMITTAL/REPORTING**. If, in the judgement of MAQP Committee, a logged QSO entry is unreadable, it shall be deleted without any additional penalty being imposed. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES** - Stations may be worked only once, per mode, per band. No methods using cross-mode, cross-band, net, or any form of relay (repeater, digipeater, satellite, etc.) shall be used for contacts. CW contacts shall not be made in the phone band segments.

A '**BUSTED**' QSO is defined as a QSO where any part of the exchange entered is incorrectly logged. A **NIL** ('Not In Log') QSO is defined as a QSO where one log shows that a station was logged as being worked but the other corresponding entrant's log does not show the QSO as having been logged.

If a log is found to contain either a 'BUSTED' or a 'NIL' QSO then that QSO will be deducted, without additional penalty, (subject to the greater-than-5% rule) prior to any final scoring being made for that log. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

If a log shows a TOTAL BUSTED/NIL quantity of QSO's GREATER than five percent (5%) of the TOTAL QSO's submitted, then a penalty of deducting an additional QSO for each BUSTED/NIL QSO will be applied to the aggregate total of BUSTED/NIL QSO's found in the entrant's log. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

Logs may contain duplicate QSO's. No penalty will be incurred and duplicate QSO's will not affect score computation. No points will be given for duplicate QSO's.

**ENTRY SUBMITTAL NOTES** - EMAIL date/USPS postmark date will determine 'postmark' for the purposes of inclusion into the MAQP results. MAQP SHALL NOT be responsible for problems causing an entry to be misplaced, misrouted, delayed, or lost via any means. Mailed logs must be postmarked by the **June 10, 2004** deadline in order to be included for judging in the MAQP AND also to be considered for awards. The decisions of the MAQP Committee are final.

All stations that enter in the Multi-operator/Mobile category shall include a complete list of names/calls of all participants who operated with them.

All submitted materials, regardless of method submitted, become the property of the MAQP Committee and will not be returned.

**AWARDS:** Stations within the Mid-Atlantic region - Certificates will be awarded to the top scorer in each category in each of the Mid-Atlantic States.

Stations outside of the Mid-Atlantic region - Certificates will be awarded to the top scorer in each U.S. State, Canadian province, and DXCC country for each category for which a valid entry is received.

Worked all Counties - Any station, which succeeds in working every County in ANY Mid-Atlantic State, will receive a certificate.

Plaques - A number of special plaques will also be awarded to top scorers.



(Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Rules Continued from page 7)

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Web site is at <http://www.qsl.net/maqso>. Check there for information on MAQP activity, contest software information, County abbreviations, contact information, and other useful information. MAQP results will be posted on the web site when they are complete. A listing of 'logs received' will be posted to the website.

**SOFTWARE:** See the MAQP website for locations of various suppliers of logging software.

**DISQUALIFICATION (DQ):** Entries that, in the judgement of the MAQP Committee, exhibit evidence of attempting to improperly inflate, 'game', or change the submittal shall be considered as being liable for consideration as either a 'checklog' (invalid for consideration for awards) OR DQ. Such stations will be listed at the end of the MAQP results with a note of 'checklog' or 'DQ' as warranted by the decision of the MAQP Committee. Stations whose entries that are being considered for DQ action MAY be contacted for clarification, but this is at the sole discretion of the MAQP Committee.

Stations who are DQ shall be ineligible to submit any logs for the MAQP immediately following the one for which their entry was DQ.

All decisions of the MAQP Committee are FINAL.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** To contact the MAQP, via email, please select the following EMAIL address which meets your needs:

**GENERAL INFO:** [generalmaq@yahoo.com](mailto:generalmaq@yahoo.com)

**LOGS:** [maqlogs@yahoo.com](mailto:maqlogs@yahoo.com)

**FEEDBACK:** [feedback@yahoo.com](mailto:feedback@yahoo.com)

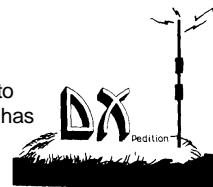
'SNAIL MAIL' --To contact the MAQP via U.S. mail, write to:

Mid-Atlantic QSO Party (MAQP)  
Attn: Chuck Reville K3FT  
6400 Baltimore National Pike 131  
Baltimore, MD. 21228

MAQP website URL - <http://www.qsl.net/maqso/index.html>

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## DX News Briefs



As this newsletter goes to deadline, the **3B9C** DXpedition to Rodrigues Island sponsored by the 5 Star DX Association has been going strong for several weeks, with several more to go. The operators have already broken the 125,000 QSO mark and stand a good chance of setting an all-time record. WPA DX'ers indicate that the team has been relatively easy to contact on many HF bands. During their last weeks of operation, expect to see PSK31, SSTV, 6 meter, satellite, EME, and possibly other exotic modes emanating from the island for the first time. On-line logs are updated daily and can be accessed via their web site at <http://www.fsdxa.com/3b9c/online-logs.html>. QSL direct to 3B9C, P.O. Box 73, Church Stretton, SY6 6WF, United Kingdom. You can also request on-line a QSL via the buro — 3B9C web site, K7ACZ

Not to be forgotten, also now QRV is the **T33C** DXpedition to Banaba, which has also been relatively easy to work for many WPA DX'ers. More information at <http://www.dx-pedition.de/banaba2004/index.html> — K8YC, W4ZE

Program schedule for the 2004 International DX Convention (aka Visalia) is now available on-line at [www.scdxc.org/visalia](http://www.scdxc.org/visalia) — N6DZH

OH2BH has announced the "The First Albania (ZA) DX Convention" to take place June 19-20, 2004. More information is available at [www.za1a.com](http://www.za1a.com), [www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/10/2/?nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/10/2/?nc=1) or <http://darc.de/> — OH2BH

"There are still some people who are struggling with **CYØDX** (1997) QSL cards. Please be advised that VA2EU call has been re-issued to another owner in 2001, and he is NOT handling CYØDX QSL cards. The original manager is now licensed as VE3NZ. As all other VE/VA addresses you can find them at: <http://www.rac.ca>" — VE3EXY

Frosty K5LBU is still seeking additional operators for an IARU contest operation in Botswana (**A22**). More information at [www.dxsafari.com](http://www.dxsafari.com) and [www.k5lbu.com](http://www.k5lbu.com), or email him directly at [frosty1@pdq.net](mailto:frosty1@pdq.net) — K5LBU

Logs for the recent **5V7C** DXpedition can be found at <http://5v7c.free.fr/searchlog.php>. And logs for the recent **ZK3SB** DXpedition can be found at <http://www.qsl.net/i2ysb/zk3/logs.htm> — W4YCH

North American stations QSL **LZ9W** via AA3AX — W3SB

W5UE is now the manager for **HC8L** for all past and future activity — W5UE

The QSL Database for the DX Cluster software packages has been updated and can be obtained at <http://www.qsl.net/oz7c/qsl> — OZ7C

Logs for **C56JJ** should be available at <http://www.qsl.net/c56jj> — PA9JJ

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

Thailand amateurs have just been notified that the RAST will be permitted to operate a special event station, **HS72B**, from mid-April through the end of the year, to celebrate the queen's 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday. This will not be a continuous operation, and it will include operations from SEANET Control, the **HSØAC** headquarters club station, and (for the first time) operations on the WARC bands. QSL manager to be announced — RAST, W3PP

JE3MAS is back in Tanzania for another year, QRV as **5H3HK** (ex 5H1HK). QSL via home call or as otherwise directed — JA3FYC

## QSL Routes

<b>1AØKM</b> via IKØFTA — W4YCH	<b>J68AS</b> via N9AG — W4YCH
<b>4U1UN</b> via HB9BOU — K7ZD	<b>LZ9W</b> via AA3AX — W9OL
<b>4V2ØØYH</b> via DL7CM — KS4YT	<b>OZ9Y</b> via OZ1KRF — W2IRT
<b>4W6GH</b> via CT1EGH — W9IXX	<b>S9SS</b> via N4JR — KS4YT
<b>5T5HC</b> via JAØHC — XE1ZW	<b>SU9BN</b> via EA7FTR — WB6RSE
<b>8Q7ZZ</b> via G3SWH — RA3SL	<b>T3ØM</b> via YT1AD — KC5YKX
<b>9VØA</b> via VK4AAR — KS4YT	<b>T32WW</b> via N2WW — N9BOR
<b>9XØA</b> (RDX98) via DL5WM — N2JTX	<b>TJ3G</b> via G3TXF — DL9RCF
<b>C5P</b> via YL2GN — K4KU	<b>TR8CA</b> via F6CBC — VA5DX
<b>CO2CI</b> via WD4OIN — W9OL	<b>TT5XZ</b> via N5XZ — W4YCH
<b>EG9IC</b> via EA4URE — RA3SL	<b>VP8DBN</b> via GØKTH — RW4NM
<b>H4ØV</b> via JA1PBV — N1NK	<b>YA8G</b> via LA4YW — KS4YT
<b>HP1AC</b> via EA5KB — W9OL	<b>YI9ZF</b> via SM1TDE — K4UTE, W3SB
<b>J28EW</b> via F5LDY — RA3SL	<b>YIØM</b> via OM6TX — W8CNL
<b>J49Z</b> via IK8UND — JF1LZQ	<b>ZD8A</b> via N6CW — W2IRT

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.

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!

## WASH Apparel Updates!

Dan KB3HVN & OGS 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 6 – 7 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. The patch will be sewn directly onto the jacket; additional embroidery if desired at a small additional cost.

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





# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2004



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

(check quarter \_\_\_\_\_ →)  
(check one ↓)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Members Only:

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

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

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

ARRL Member?  Yes  No    Family ARRL Member?  Yes  No

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

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

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

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

## Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

# Order Form for "The TLC Embroidery Company"

## Embroidered Shirts and Hats

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

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

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

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

Use additional sheet(s) if necessary

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

Phone: 724 - 484 - 7703

# Inside This Issue:

- More BPL News... It's Not Looking Good, People!
- ARRL Urges Amateurs Be Careful in Their BPL Submissions!
- FEMA "Clarifies" Their BPL Stance (can you say "politics?" It is an election year!)
- Complete Rules for the First Mid-Atlantic QSO Party!

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



## ***Waiting for Pizza (Or Something Like It...)***

**“The Gang” at the March 2004  
*WASH* Club Meeting, in the  
downstairs meeting room at the  
Peter’s Township Library.**

Photo both courtesy of & ©Copyright 2004 Paul  
Lusardi NØVLR

## The *WASH*Rag

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



N3SH / WA3SH  
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www.washarc.org