



## 2+ Months to Pa QSO

As this is being prepared, the beginning of August, we have a little over 2 months to go until the annual Pennsylvania QSO Party. (Ye editor pleads forgiveness as the last two months have had him pre-occupied with the move into the new QTH — no, the antennas aren't up yet! — and related activities).

The time has come to kick into high gear our upcoming plans for the N3SH Special Event Stations for this year's contest. Our three primary operating stations & other stations stand as follows as of deadline:

**N3SH Allegheny** is being hosted by Frank N3XI. Operators are needed! At last report, Bill W3WH & Larry K3VX were going to get together with Frank to see where everything stood and what else needed done to ensure that we can operate two stations or more QRV at all times.

**N3SH Washington** is being hosted by Ted W4ZE. As many of you have heard, Ted did suffer some equipment loss in a lightning strike several weeks ago, but at last report, he remains confident that damaged equipment will be repaired or replaced in time. Again, operators are needed! Remember that this year, the Pa QSO Party will be incorporating PSK-31 and RTTY digital modes, and our plans remain that the majority of N3SH operating on these modes will be from Ted's QTH. (This does not preclude the other stations running the modes, nor does it preclude Ted's crew running SSB and CW too!)

**N3SH Fayette** is being organized by Team Captains Frank KB3FZU and Rick KB3IAC from the Heritage BSA facility. We understand that most of the WA3SH operators from the last few years plan to be at the Fayette station, but of course (need we say it again?)

**N3SH Clarion** is planned to be a small single transmitter operation hosted by Carol KB3GMN and Rich N3SBF from their cabin up in the woods. If you are interested in assisting Carol & Richie in this operation, please contact them directly.

**N3SH Mobile** will again be Ed N3ZNI and Dave K3LGM running around the countryside.

**N3SH Armstrong** has made no progress in finding a site. Randy N3ZK has brought up the possibility of operating from his family's home in Venango County, which is still under discussion.

**Shirts and related accessories** will be available from Only Good Stuff courtesy of Dan KB3HVN. He hopes to have a design by the end of the month. Further discussion on this at the August club meeting!

Sorry that there's not much more to report. But now is the time to start making plans on which operation to support so that we can demonstrate top notch first class record setting Special Event Station for this year's contest as only we can!

— 73, Ron Notarius W3WN, N3SH Special Event Station Coordinator

### Presidential Words

Wow, it's August already and I bet Ron is wondering where my monthly column is (*No, Ron is too busy getting settled in to the new QTH and trying to get this newsletter out on time!*). Well, my wife Peg and I just got through our first church festival as co-chairs this past weekend and I could not be happier that it is over. Now I can guiltlessly pursue other interests like getting back to my 10-GHz transverter. Although my mind was on this festival, I did participate with Randy, N3ZK and Larry, K3VX in a special event station at the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Star Party at AAAP's Mingo Observatory. Randy and Larry each set up their Field Day stations with Larry operating SSB and Randy SSB and SK31. Randy supplied both antennas; his "Randy Pole" and vertical Buddy Pole. Both antennas worked remarkably well.



Although there were no ISS or satellite passes during the evening, HF provided a lot of excitement for both the astronomy club and visitors. In fact one young lady made several DX contacts under Randy's tutelage. One of the astronomy club directors was so impressed with us that he invited us back to any future star party we wished to attend. Larry Comden also discussed Project Radio Jove (<http://radiojove.gsfc.nasa.gov/>) with another club director and is considering assisting with the astronomy club's outreach to school students with this project. The next star parties at Mingo are August 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. We

(Presidential Words Continued on page 3)

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### Next Meeting: August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 7:00 PM.

Topics for the night include Star Party wrap-up, Pa QSO Party planning, the tower trailer, and the Butler ARA Hamfest, along with other topics.

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RNX/R and 443.650(+) KB3FZU/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

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

NCS Schedule  
Listed On Page 3

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

**LOOKING  
AHEAD:**

- Uniontown ARC  
W3PIE Gabfest  
September 2
- Butler Co ARC  
Hamfest  
September 10
- Ca QSO Party  
October 7 & 8
- Pa QSO Party  
October 14 & 15
- WPRC Meeting  
October 15
- CQ WW DX SSB  
October 28 & 29
- ARRL CW  
Sweepstakes  
November 4 & 5
- WACOM  
Hamfest  
November 5
- ARRL SSB  
Sweepstakes  
November 18 & 19
- CQ WW DX CW  
November 25 & 26

# August 2006

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri                              | Sat  |
|---|--|---|--|---|----------------------------------|--|
|   |  | <b>1</b><br>Butler Co ARA Meeting<br>Skyview RS Meeting<br>WACOM Net<br>North Hills ARC Net<br>SATERN Net<br>GPVHFS Swap m' Shop Net  | <b>2</b><br>Uniontown ARC Meeting<br>Steel City ARC Social Night<br>Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net<br>Allegheny Co ARES Net<br>Westmoreland Co ARES Net                            | <b>3</b><br>WACOM Meeting<br>RA Erie Meeting<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Uniontown ARC Net                                 | <b>4</b><br>Elco ARES Meeting    | <b>5</b><br>RA Erie VE Test<br>Somerset Co ARC Breakfast<br>NHARC Elmer Net  |
| <b>6</b><br>Ellwood City ARA Mting<br>OCWA Pittsburgh Net<br>North Hills ARC Teen Net<br>Somerset Co ARC Net<br>WASH FM Net                     | <b>7</b><br>Greater Pgh VHF Meeting<br>Breezeshooters Net<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Triple 'A' ARC Net<br>Beaver Co Public Service Net                                | <b>8</b><br>Foothills ARC Meeting<br>Coke Center ARC Meeting<br>Nittany ARC Meeting<br>Punxsatawney Area ARC Mtg<br>WACOM Net<br>North Hills ARC Net<br>GPVHFS Swap m' Shop Net | <b>9</b><br>North Hills ARC Meeting<br>Butler Co PSG Meeting<br>Laurel Highlands VHF Mtg<br>Steel City ARC Social Night<br>Allegheny Co ARES Net<br>Westmoreland Co ARES Net | <b>10</b> WASH Meeting<br>Horseshoe ARC Meeting<br>Beaver Valley ARA Meeting<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Uniontown ARC Net | <b>11</b>                        | <b>12</b><br>NHARC Elmer Net<br>NHARC/Breezeshooters VE<br>Foothills ARC Breakfast<br>2 Rivers ARC Breakfast<br>North Hills ARC Breakfast<br>Quad Co ARC Breakfast |
| <b>13</b><br>OCWA Pittsburgh Net<br>North Hills ARC Teen Net<br>Somerset Co ARC Net<br>WASH FM Net  | <b>14</b> <i>Bum of the Month Lunch</i><br>ARL Lawrence Co Meeting<br>Breezeshooters Net<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Triple 'A' ARC Net<br>Beaver Co Public Service Net | <b>15</b><br>Steel City ARC Mtng<br>S H B P & M Meeting<br>Tri-County CW ARC Meeting<br>Juniata Valley ARC Meeting<br>Chestnut Ridge ARC Meeting<br>WACOM Net                   | <b>16</b><br>Huntington Co ARC Meeting<br>Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net<br>Allegheny Co ARES Net<br>Westmoreland Co ARES Net  | <b>17</b><br>Triple 'A' ARA Meeting<br>Somerset Co ARC Meeting<br>Greene Co ARC Meeting<br>2 Rivers ARC Net           | <b>18</b><br>Quad Co ARC Meeting | <b>19</b><br>2 Rivers ARC Family Picnic<br>NHARC Elmer Net   |
| <b>20</b><br>Elk Co ARC Meeting<br>OCWA Pittsburgh Net<br>North Hills ARC Teen Net<br>Somerset Co ARC Net<br>WASH FM Net<br>Warren (OH) Hamfest | <b>21</b><br>Steel City ARC VE Test<br>Monessen ARC Meeting<br>Breezeshooters Net<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Triple 'A' ARC Net<br>Beaver Co Public Service Net        | <b>22</b><br>Mercer Co ARA Meeting<br>WACOM Net<br>North Hills ARC Net<br>SATERN Net<br>GPVHFS Swap m' Shop Net   | <b>23</b><br>Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting<br>Steel City ARC Social Night<br>North Hills ARC Net<br>Allegheny Co ARES Net<br>Westmoreland Co ARES Net                             | <b>24</b><br>Uniontown ARC Net  | <b>25</b>                        | <b>26</b> WASH Breakfast<br>SWPA Packet Group<br>Meeting<br>NHARC Elmer Net  |
| <b>27</b><br>OCWA Pittsburgh Net<br>North Hills ARC Teen Net<br>Somerset Co ARC Net<br>WASH FM Net<br>Skyview RS Hamfest                        | <b>28</b><br>Breezeshooters Net<br>2 Rivers ARC Net<br>Triple 'A' ARC Net<br>Beaver Co Public Service Net  | <b>29</b><br>WACOM Net<br>North Hills ARC Net<br>SATERN Net<br>GPVHFS Swap m' Shop Net  | <b>30</b><br>Steel City ARC Social Night<br>Allegheny Co ARES Net<br>Westmoreland Co ARES Net  | <b>31</b><br>WACOM Board of Directors<br>Meeting<br>Uniontown ARC Net   |                                  |  |

## WASH 2006 OFFICERS

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

President Kevin Smith N3HKQ  
VP / Secretary Paul Lusardi NØVLR  
VP / Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV

**AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:**

N3SH / WA3SH Trustee Steve Lane W3SRL  
NP2SH Trustee Paul Jordan NP2JF  
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH QSL Manager Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI  
VE Team Liaison Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL  
Webmaster Bob Sanford AA3FI  
Quartermaster Harold Rosenberger K3HCR  
WASH FM Net Manager Kevin Smith N3HKQ  
WASHFest 2007 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  
Mobile Tower Project Paul Lusardi NØVLR  
Randy George KB3KGP  
Ron Notarius W3WN  
Pa QSO Party SES Coordinator Ron Notarius W3WN

**CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS & BEACONS:**

|               |          |                                   |          |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 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    | KB3FZU/R | 443.650 MHz (+)                   | PL 131.8 |
| St. Johns, VI | NP2SH/B  | 28.276 MHz                        |          |

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

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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 KB3FZU/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 19<sup>th</sup>

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006, 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 **\$14.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 (tentative) Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007

*(Presidential Words Continued from page 1)*

The regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will drop slightly starting with applications received by the FCC on or after Wednesday, September 6.

The new fee will be \$20.80 for the 10-year license term.

This year promises to be a big one for vanity call sign renewals, since the initial round of vanity grants under the current system occurred in 1996. Licensees who want to retain vanity call signs issued under the current (post-1995) system must pay the regulatory fee when renewing.

may propose attending one of the later August dates at the next meeting. Pictures from the evening can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

One of the items we talked about at the last meeting was offering to host the 2007 AMSAT Annual Meeting and Symposium. After a long discussion about what is involved, it was voted in the last meeting to authorize me to make a proposal to AMSAT to host this event in the Pittsburgh area. A date after the 2007 PA QSO party weekend will be proposed. Patty Sanford, KC4WTT and I will make the initial inquiry and prepare a proposal. There will be more news to come on this soon.

At the last meeting we also talked about how to expedite the transportable tower project. Our latest stumbling block is the transportation charge of almost \$1000 to ship a Force 12 telescoping tower from California to Western PA. In subsequent email discussions among the tower committee, we discussed going back to the modified boat trailer and crank-up tower concept. In any event we need to move on this because one of our benefactors, Comcast, is asking about our progress. We need to show progress soon. If you know of the availability of a boat trailer or a 30 to 40-ft crank-up tower, please let Paul NØVLR or Randy N3ZK know ASAP.

Finally our annual picnic will be hosted again by Jim and Patty Sanford at their home in 84, PA. This year the picnic will be Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. As usual the club will spring for beverages and meat but club members should bring everything else. More on that in my next column and the reflector.

— 73, Kevin Smith N3HKQ, President  
 Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
 N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

**You know it's time to find another hobby when:  
 You complain that your ICOM IC-2AT  
 is too difficult to program  
 — John Geiger W5TD**

Somewhere, in a box yet unpacked, sits the notes from the July 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **WASH Breakfast Gang** at **The Beach House** in Finleyville. Ye Editor's dim memory recalls that in attendance this month were Larry K3VX, Dan KB3HVN, Harold K3HCR, Ron W3WN, Hank KB3FNM and Mary Lou... if his memory is wrong, apologies and corrections will be made next month! Some of the topics of the day included moving horror stories, PVGP memories, retirement, Field Day and Pa QSO, and a heck of a lot more that he just doesn't remember!

Our next breakfast, and your chance to harass Ye Editor so that he doesn't lose his notes will be on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006, 8:00 AM, at **The Beach House**, on Library Road / Route 88 in Finleyville, just south of Trax Farms and adjacent to Mineral Beach. See you there!

**Field Day Pins:** W3WN handed out some Field Day pins prior to the July meeting in K3VX's absence. Larry has the remaining pins, so if you are still in need of one, please contact him immediately!

Dan KB3HVN looking cool and in charge at corner 18 of the 2006 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix.

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Ron Notarius W3WN



## July 20<sup>th</sup> VE Test Results

Our latest VE session was held on July 20<sup>th</sup> VEC at the Peter's Township Library. We had two candidates:

|                 |            |        |
|-----------------|------------|--------|
| Michael Lusardi | Technician | KB3NVL |
| Anthony Lusardi | Technician | KB3NVM |

Thanks to the VEs that help with this session, couldn't have done it without you:

Randy, N3ZK  
 Bob, KB3IN  
 Ed, N3ZNI  
 Frank, KB3FZU

— 73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

## WASHNet 2006 NCS Schedule

|       |                                 |            |                                 |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 08/06 | Michael KB3HFP                  | 10/29      | Frank KB3FZU                    |
| 08/13 | Hank KB3FNM                     | 11/05      | Dave N3DFK                      |
| 08/20 | Paul NØVLR                      | 11/12      | Bill W3WH                       |
| 08/27 | Frank KB3FZU                    | 11/19      | Kevin N3HKQ                     |
| 09/03 | Dave N3DFK                      | 11/26      | Harold K3HCR                    |
| 09/10 | Bill W3WH                       | 12/03      | Carol KB3GMN<br>or Richey N3SBF |
| 09/17 | Kevin N3HKQ                     |            |                                 |
| 09/24 | Harold K3HCR                    | 12/10      | Michael KB3HFP                  |
| 10/01 | Carol KB3GMN<br>or Richey N3SBF | 12/17      | Hank KB3FNM                     |
|       |                                 | 12/24      | Paul NØVLR                      |
| 10/08 | Michael KB3HFP                  | 12/31      | Frank KB3FZU                    |
| 10/15 | Hank KB3FNM                     | Alternates | — Dave N3IDH                    |
| 10/22 | Paul NØVLR                      |            | — Ron WN3VAW                    |

# Minutes, July 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Kevin Smith N3HKQ, President, **WASH**

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

Moment of silence for recently departed silent keys, followed by introductions. Committee Reports:

Treasurer – Mark, N3RDV – Read & Accepted

Secretary – Paul, NØVLR – not present so N3HKQ will take minutes.

Tower Trailer committee report - Randy N3ZK — Contributed \$90.00 from wooden call signs and names made recently. The fund is currently inadequate to purchase anything new and ship. Shipping alone is anywhere from \$700 to \$1,000 depending on weight and distance.

Looking for suggestions on other funding. One idea is to have produced an N3SH 2006 PA QSO Party Bonus Station pin or coin. See [www.dxcoins.com](http://www.dxcoins.com). Randy, N3ZK to investigate.

Another idea is to propose WASH members to donate any amount they want. Kevin, N3HKQ to send an announcement out to the reflector.

VE – Jacque, N3ZEL – VEC session July 20, 2006 at 6:30 PM at the Peter's Township Library. There are 4 VE's recruited to conduct the session.

QSL manager – Ed, N3ZNI – Montserrat DXpedition is up to 5,113 QSL's.

Website – N3HKQ proposal to be the focal point for receiving material for the website to send to Rick Bell. "Send me your stuff!" Another person will be recruited to assist updating website as needed.

Repeaters, APRS Digipeater, & NP2SH beacon – Pete, N3RNX/Steve, W3SRL/Frank, KB3FZU – KB3FZU remote site in Scenery Hill is still down but arrangements are made to access the site and swap remote's.

Club FM Net – Kevin, N3HKQ – Nothing new to report.

Public Service – Mark, N3RDV/Dave, N3IDH — Grand Prix is this coming weekend, additional help with communications is always welcome. Allegheny County Public Service Net needs a **WASH** representative to check in and take net occasionally. See Mark, N3RDV if interested.

Contests – Ted, W4ZE was struck by lightning again. Radios and related equipment is being repaired.

Activities – Field Day – Larry K3VX was not present; Kevin N3HKQ passed along some of his thoughts. A \$60 donation to the Library Sportsman's Club was approved on a motion by Hank KB3FNM, second by Dick N3QMV. Kevin, N3HKQ will write a thank you letter to the club President to accompany the check.

Quartermaster – Harold, K3HCR – nothing to report.

Newsletter & PA QSO Party Bonus Station Status – Ron, W3WN is making plans to move into his new house. PA QSO Party has had to be put on the back burner this month. Rich KB3IAC has put us in for Heritage BSA for the Fayette station. Ideas were discussed to have different color golf shirts made for each bonus station location. To be discussed more next month.

Ways and Means – Carol, KB3GMN the 50/50 receipts will be donated to the trailer fund. This year's Christmas/Holiday party will be at the new Party Room at **The Beach House**.

President – Kevin, N3HKQ — Club approved motion by Dave N3IDH, seconded by Ron W3WN, to have a proposal prepared to host the 2007 AMSAT Symposium. Will not conflict with Pa QSO Party. Need to make a proposal to AMSAT very soon. Kevin, N3HKQ and Patty, KC4WTT make initial inquiries.

AAAP 2006 star party special event stations July 22 and August 26, 2006 to be set up. K3VX, N3ZK, and N3HKQ volunteered to participate. All others are welcome.

Old Business: Summer picnic will again be hosted by the Sanford's on Sunday, September 17, 2006 (motion by Dave N3IDH, second by Randy N3ZK). Details will be announced at September meeting

New Business: none

Good of the order: W3WN would appreciate any available help in moving!

Meeting adjourned 8:17 PM on motion by W3WN, second by K3SGT.

# WASH Spotlight: New Hams



It is safe to say that Dad (NØVLR) and Mom (NØWPV) are proud of their sons' double accomplishments. (L to R) Anthony KB3NVM, age 12, and Michael KB3NVL, age 14, passed their Technician test on the first try! Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Paul Lusardi NØVLR.

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 at yahoo dot com](mailto:wn3vaw@yahoo.com)

## Monthly WASH Breakfast

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!



Join us this month at **The Beach House**, on Route 88 in Finleyville, just south of Trax Farms and adjacent to Mineral Beach. Start time is about 8 AM until ????? Monitor 146.955 & 443.650 for talk-in or any last minute changes.

All are welcome, **WASH** members or not, amateurs or not!

## Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

|                          |  |   |  |  |   |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| 2006<br>K3EED<br>(Cindy) | KE7FD<br>NØVLR<br>NØWPV<br>N2QIV<br>N3AWF<br>N3CZZ<br>N3DFK<br>N3HKQ<br>N3IDH<br>N3KFD<br>N3QMV<br>N3RDT<br>N3RHT<br>N3SBF<br>N3UE<br>N3XI<br>N3ZEL<br>N3ZK<br>N3ZNI | W3RJM<br>W3RWS<br>W3SRL<br>W3VFA<br>W3WH<br>W3WN<br>W4ZE<br>W8LEV<br>WA3JPP<br>WA3RVD<br>WA3WMB<br>WA3YFQ<br>WB4GCS<br>WO3Z | KB3DCO<br>KB3EPI<br>KB3GUZ<br>KB3IAC<br>KB3IRQ<br>KB3IVW<br>KB3IVX<br>KB3LIX<br>KE8RN<br>NØPEU<br>N3BSQ<br>N3PN<br>N3RNX<br>N3TBK<br>N3VEH<br>N3ZCG<br>W3GEL<br>KA3NMG<br>W3HND<br>W3JAF | WASH /MM<br>KA3UPY<br>WASH GA<br>K3OL<br>KB3IJX<br>WASH NE<br>NØPEU<br>WASH NY<br>KE3XB<br>N3YPB<br>WASH OH<br>N8DPW<br>WASH TX<br>K3LGM<br>WASH VI<br>NP2JF | Silent<br>Keys<br>K3EED<br>(George)<br>KB3ENX<br>KB3FQT<br>N3FZ<br>N3KEH<br>N3OBD<br>N3SKR<br>N3SRC<br>N3XFE<br>W3ZLK |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|

**Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Depot (NOARD) has closed its doors and gone out of business, according to an announcement on their web site at [www.noard.com/index.html](http://www.noard.com/index.html)**

Through August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# NIMS Training in Washington

Jeffrey A. Yates, Director, Washington County Department of Public Safety

The Washington County Department of Public Safety Presents: National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction IS-700

Upcoming classes and their locations:

Thursday, August 10, 2006, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm, Burgettstown V.F.D., Main Street, Burgettstown, PA 15021

Tuesday, August 15, 2006, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm, Chartiers Township Building, 2 Buccaneer Drive, Houston, PA 15342

Wednesday, August 16, 2006, 8:30 pm – 12:30 pm, Washington County E.O.C., 100 West Beau Street, Washington, PA 15301

This is the required course that has been promoted by PEMA. FEMA has mandated NIMS compliance in order to be eligible Federal funding. To register for any of these sessions, please call Tina at 724-228-6811, or by email to [clemenst@co.washington.pa.us](mailto:clemenst@co.washington.pa.us). There is no charge for this program.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

# CW Operators Needed for Research

Dalia Balsamo [balsamo.dalia@medstudent.pitt.edu](mailto:balsamo.dalia@medstudent.pitt.edu)

I am a medical student at the University of Pittsburgh, who is currently conducting a summer research project in the laboratory of Dr. Fiez. She is a professor in both the Psychology and Neuroscience departments.

A focus of our lab involves gaining a better understanding of language and memory processing. We have recently turned to Morse code as a potential investigating tool due to its unique linguistic properties. Consequently, our lab is examining the differences between processing Morse code and speech in a simple memory task.

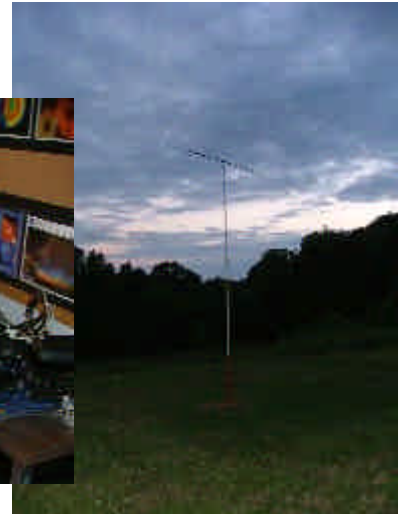
As you may already know, it is not easy to find people who are proficient in Morse code. For this reason, we believe that local radio clubs may be a valuable resource that can help us recruit people with this rare skill. Your involvement would create a unique opportunity to investigate this unexplored area of research.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would circulate this information to all of your members. Participants will be compensated 25 dollars, and will also be refunded for parking. They will be asked to hear and remember letters. The duration of the study is approximately one hour and thirty minutes. If there is interest, we can discuss any further details. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dalia Balsamo, University of Pittsburgh, 718 LRDC, 3939 O'Hara Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 Phone: 412-624-6898

# July AAAP Star Party

all photos courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Kevin Smith N3HKQ



## ZL Hams Refuse to Pay New Repeater Fees

Stuart Watchman ZL2TW, Acting President, NZART  
Courtesy of the Southgate ARC website [www.southgatearc.org](http://www.southgatearc.org)

Most of you will be aware that New Zealand's regulator MED, in implementing a free annual license fee for radio amateurs, had decided to recoup the costs of administering the amateur service by introducing a \$50 fee for each of our repeaters, beacons and links.

Nearly all of these licenses are under the name of NZART, the fee to NZART and its members would come to approximately \$16,000 p.a. As NZART members make up around 39% of N.Z. amateurs, the remaining 61% would be 'carried' as far as the cost of running the amateur service goes.

During our AGM in Christchurch NZART members passed the resolution unanimously not to pay any invoice when it arrives, see the latest Break-In for the exact details.

NZART has received the first of the repeater invoices for the 2006/2007 year.

In accordance with the instructions from our membership, we will advise the MED that the payment will not be made and we will dispute the same. We are also preparing an updated submission for the appropriate Parliamentarians

Bruce Douglas ZL2WP will advise you of developments on his return from the IARU Region 3 Conference.

## LCRA Columbia QSL Bureau QRT

Oscar A. Gaviria HK6DOS courtesy of Graham Ridgeway M5AAV

The Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (LCRA) was established in 1935 and for many years was an important and respectful organization with a good number of members. It's bureau service worked well for decades, providing an excellent service for all its associates.

For the last 5 years now, it has been losing importance, that is members, activity and management. Today, nobody really knows the whereabouts of their QSLs, inbound or out.

For this reason many Colombian amateurs currently have a QSL manager.

Please be informed that the Colombian Bureau service is out of service for hams outside of the 3rd colombian zone (HK3) who have not had information on the bureau status for many years now and you should not waste your money or time, as the LCRA has cancelled this service to its members and international bureaus, we are therefore regretfully advising the DX community to refrain from sending QSLs via our LCRA bureau.

## New Canadian Postage Rates for 2007

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Canadian postage to the US goes from CDN\$0.89 to CDN\$.093, overseas from CDN\$1.49 to CDN\$1.55. (Domestic mail goes from CDN\$.051 to CDN\$0.52). Other related services are also expected to go up.

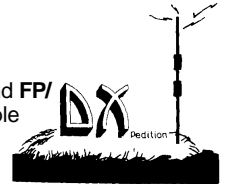
Remember: These prices are in Canadian Dollars, so depending on the currency exchange rate, it is very possible that US\$1 will no longer be sufficient to cover QSL postage from DX stations and managers in Canada.

Information courtesy of Nenad Stevanovic VE3EXY

Monte WB3CCN of North Belle Vernon & his family lost almost everything in a house fire on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Herb KA3WSO is collecting donations to help Monte and his family out, so that they can get relocated and replace whatever they can.

If you would like to help, please contact Herb KA3WSO [ka3wso@verizon.net](mailto:ka3wso@verizon.net) for more information.

## DX News Briefs



"VE1AAO and WV2B will be active as **FP/VE1AAO** and **FP/WV2B** August 10-13. We will have 100 watts and simple verticals only. We will be on the island of St. Pierre, and may have some line noise etc. from the city. We will be on various bands and CW/SSB, but likely mostly 20, 30, 40 meters. QSL FP/WV2B direct to manager KA3QLF, and FP/VE1AAO direct via address on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com)." — WV2B

Members of the SouthWest Ohio DX Association will be QRV from new DXCC entity **Montenegro** as **4O6DX**, for about 7 days starting on or about August 13<sup>th</sup>. They will be operating from the Sky Contest Club YT6A station. They will be QRV 160—6 meters, CW, SSB & PSK-31. QSL via K8LEE, SASE Please! — W8GEX

The latest **KH8SI** operation from new entity Swains Island is now QRT. No information yet on on-line logs. QSL via JA1BK — JA2JSF, JA1BK

AC3A is now QRV as **9G5SE**, 40—6 meters — OPDX

AC8G is recruiting additional operators for a contest operation in **Grenada** from 25 October through 2 November. Interested parties should contact him at [hflasher@dayton.net](mailto:hflasher@dayton.net). Airfare is currently relatively inexpensive due to an American Airlines promotion! — AC8G

G3SWH recently became the QSL manager for **G3XAQ/6Y5** from 1992, 1995, 1996 and 1999. Phil reports that because the logs are on paper, they will not be uploaded to Logbook of the World at present. QSL direct with SAE & 2GS preferred, although he will QSL via the bureau — G3SWH

The **VK8 QSL Bureau** requests that QSL's for VK8AV be sent to his manager, UA9XC. He does not QSL via the bureau, which is "drowning" in his QSL cards — VK8DK

ND9M / KG4JC is in the process of returning to Diego Garcia as **VQ9JC** for another four month tour of duty with the Military Sealift Command. On his previous tour last winter, he worked ~ 15K QSO's: 84% CW, 11% SSB, 5% digital. QSL KG4JC & VQ9JC via ND9M; cards will be forwarded to him by his XYL, so turn around can take awhile! — ND9M

JM1LJS is currently in Macao and planned to be QRV once again as **XX9TJS**, 30—2 meters SSB FM & CW (No digital). QSL via JM1LJS — JM1LJS

QSL **YI9KT**, QRV through January, direct only to SP8HKT — SP8HKT

## QSL Routes

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 3D2AV via 6K2AVL — JQ2GYU  | KG4OX via W4OX — WV1K        |
| 3DAØNW via K9NW — WV1K     | KG4RN via W9RN — K3WI        |
| 3V8DLH via DJ3FK — K3WI    | KH5/KH6ND via K2PF — JJ1BDX  |
| 3W9HRN via DL1HRN — JJ1BDX | KH8/N5OLS via N5JA — KUØA    |
| 4S7DUG via JQ3DUE — EU1SA  | MJØDEU via DL3HQJ — KZ2I     |
| 5F5ØKD via EA7FTR — M5AAV  | OA4/DL5YWM via DL5WM — W2IRT |
| 5R8GA via G3SWH — W9OL     | OHØE via OH2MM — NN3W        |
| 5Z1A via PA1AW — K3WI      | PYØFF via W9VA — K3WI        |
| 5Z4DZ via PA1AW — JJ1BDX   | R1ANF via Rk1PWA — W2IRT     |
| 9G5UR via UY5ZZ — K3WI     | R1ANN via RZ3DJ — W2IRT      |
| 9H3LEO via IK1PMR — WA3FRP | S92RI via CT1APE — W2IRT     |
| 9H3MR via IK1PMR — W9OL    | SV5/MØDOV via 4Z4DX — 4Z4DX  |
| CEØZ via N2OO — WA3FRP     | STØRM via T93Y — WV1K        |
| C91CF via K5LBU — WW5L     | T3ØCXX via WØCXX — K3WI      |
| C91H via ZS6JR — WW5L      | T18CBT via EA7FTR — NKØS     |
| C91HQ via K5LBU — WW5L     | TY4TW via GM4FDM — NKØS      |
| C91JR via N4PJ — WW5L      | TY5LEO via IK1PMR — WA3FRP   |
| C91TK via NQ7R — WW5L      | TY5MR via IK1PMR — W9OL      |
| C91TL via WW5L — WW5L      | XR9A/mm via N2OO — KE3D      |
| D2DX via OH2BAD — W2IRT    | UN8FE via IK2QPR — ON7YX     |
| EY8CQ via DL8MM — KZ2I     | V47KP via K2SB — K3WI        |
| H4ØHL via HL1XP — K7ACZ    | VK9NM via JQ3DUE — EU1SA     |
| HQ9F via OH3JR — EU1SA     | VP2V/G6AY via G3SWH — K3WI   |
| ISØU via IN3QBR — K9RT     | WHØW via JP1JFG — KE3D       |
| J5UTM via HA7TM — W2IRT    | YJØADX via DL9NDS — K3WI     |
| JT1T via JT1CD — JT1CD     | ZF2AH via W6VNR — K3WI       |

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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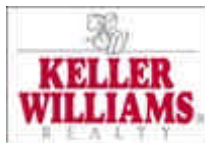


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## FCC News

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

*Newington, CT, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006* — The FCC has initiated a hearing proceeding against Robert D. Landis, N6FRV, of Atascadero, California, who was convicted on two felony counts in 1991, fined \$10,000 and sentenced to 11 years in prison. The hearing will determine whether Landis will be allowed to continue to hold his Advanced class license, which is due to expire on November 1. The *Order to Show Cause* released August 1 was in response to a complaint pointing out Landis's conviction for lewd behavior involving a minor. For several years now, the FCC has applied character standards once reserved for broadcast licensees to Amateur Radio licensing and renewal cases.

"Thus, felony convictions, especially those involving sexual assault on children, raise questions regarding an amateur licensee's qualifications," the FCC said in this week's *Order*. Section 312(a)(2) of the Communications Act provides that the Commission may revoke any license if conditions come to its attention that would warrant refusal to grant a license on the original application, the FCC noted.



"The foregoing makes plain that Mr Landis's felony convictions raise serious questions as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to be and to remain a Commission licensee and whether his captioned license should be revoked."

The FCC ordered Landis to show cause why his authorization for an Amateur Radio license should not be revoked, although the Enforcement Bureau will bear the burden of proof with respect to the issues raised. An Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) presides at such hearings, at which evidence and witnesses may be presented and heard.

If Landis fails to respond to the *Order* within 30 days or otherwise waives his right to a hearing, the ALJ will issue an order terminating the hearing proceeding and certifying the case to the FCC.

The FCC served notice July 14 on two other Amateur Radio licensees that their respective applications would be designated for hearing. Both cases involve apparent misrepresentations to the Commission. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth told Gordon D. Young, WB6NKJ, that his Amateur Extra upgrade application would be designated for hearing to "determine whether you are qualified to remain a Commission licensee, and, if so, whether your Extra class application should be granted."

The FCC alleges that Young made misrepresentations to the Commission regarding repairs to his transmitter after he received a *Warning Notice* for allegedly operating on a frequency not allowed to Advanced class licensees.

The Commission plans to designate the Amateur Radio Technician class application of Frank C. Richards of Mooers, New York, for hearing because of unresolved circumstances surrounding his 2004 filing of applications to change the address and call sign on a license that apparently belonged to a man of the same name in Florida.

After Richards submitted the license for KG2IJ for cancellation in June 2004, the FCC said it contemplated no further enforcement action. The Commission said, however, that it would review the circumstances of the applications should Richards ever apply for an Amateur Radio license in the future.

Richards passed the Technician exam last March and applied for a license in late June.

In an unrelated case, the FCC threatened to suspend the Advanced class license of Eusebio S. Rodriguez, WB2SEB, of New York City, for failing to reply to a June *Warning Notice*. The FCC said the US Postal Service returned the letter as "undeliverable" and "unable to forward." The *Warning Notice* regarded complaints of deliberate interference to a repeater system and alleged refusal to heed a request to stay off the repeater.

Hollingsworth notified Rodriguez on July 20 that his license would be suspended effective 15 days from the date of attempted delivery of the suspension notice for "the remainder of the license term or until a valid mailing address is provided." Rodriguez filed a correct mailing address with the FCC on July 25, thus avoiding the threatened suspension.

## Silent Keys



Harry S. Kzesinski WB3BGH, Fredrick, MD (formerly of Pittsburgh),  
89, July 13<sup>th</sup>

## FCC Denies Reconsideration Petitions on BPL

NEWINGTON, CT, August 3rd, 2006— An FCC that's still optimistic and enthusiastic about BPL met August 3 to consider and unanimously adopt a *Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)* in response to several petitions for reconsideration of its BPL rules -- including one from ARRL. But one commissioner stressed that the FCC has an obligation to protect Amateur Radio operators from BPL interference and to respond promptly to interference complaints. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, were on hand for today's meeting during which the FCC suggested it was attempting to strike a balance between interference to licensed services and the BPL industry's needs.

"This rule making proceeding was initiated to provide regulatory certainty that will encourage investments in BPL, particularly so that consumers can reap the benefits," an FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) official told the commissioners. "Equally important, the Commission sought to ensure that licensed radio services are protected against harmful interference." The OET said the Commission also wanted to provide guidance so compliance measurements "are made in a consistent manner with repeatable results."

The FCC adopted its current BPL rules-- under a new Subpart G of its Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices -- in October 2004.

### Radio Amateurs "Deserve Better"

Commenting after the OET's presentation of the *MO&O*, Commissioner Michael J. Copps reiterated that the FCC must also ensure that BPL providers protect existing spectrum users from interference.

"This applies with special force to Amateur Radio operators whose skills and dedication once again proved so valuable in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina," Copps remarked. "Amateur radio serves the public interest in so many ways that we must be always mindful of its needs."

Copps said he believes the FCC's *MO&O* "strikes an acceptable balance," but added that the Commission "must be available and positioned to respond to interference complaints with alacrity. Amateur operators shouldn't have to wait for months to get complaints resolved -- they deserve better."

### Most Reconsideration Petitions Denied

Addressing the various reconsideration petitions, the OET's Anh Wride noted that the BPL industry asked to extend the deadline for equipment compliance and to modify public BPL database requirements. Licensed services such as Amateur Radio, on the other hand, wanted the FCC to keep BPL providers from using certain frequencies-- the HF ham bands in the case of the ARRL's petition.

The Commission denied the industry's request to extend the effective date to meet equipment certification requirements, but it did create a limited exception. "Because BPL equipment manufacturers are only now submitting equipment for certification under the new rules, the *Order* includes a measure of relief to permit the continued operation of existing systems," Wride said.

BPL systems now will have another year to continue installing or replacing equipment "that otherwise meets the Part 15 rules" in their present coverage areas. "This relief is a reasonable accommodation that will limit the proliferation of non-compliant equipment," Wride said.

The *Order* also denies the BPL industry's request to drop the 30-day advance notification requirement for the public BPL database. "The advance notification to the BPL database ensures that other licensed users are aware of new BPL

deployments in their area in advance of the start of BPL operations," Wride said.

The *Order* also turned down requests by licensed users, including Amateur Radio operators, to exclude the use of certain frequencies for BPL operations.

"The American Radio Relay League and a number of individual Amateur Radio licensees request that all BPL deployment be prohibited pending the adoption of a definition for 'harmful interference,' the completion of all ongoing studies of BPL and the initiation of further studies of BPL interference characteristics," Wride continued.

In addition, Wride said, the FCC denied requests to keep BPL signals off overhead medium-voltage lines and to impose more stringent technical restrictions and measurement requirements on BPL operations.

"The Commission has taken a proactive approach regarding the protection of licensed radio services in the [2004] *Report & Order* by placing additional technical and operational restrictions on BPL systems," Wride asserted. She said the OET believes the requirements the FCC adopted in 2004 regarding emission levels and notching "are adequate to fully protect amateur operations." She said going along with ARRL's request to reconsider, rescind and re-study the BPL rules in further proceedings could leave radio amateurs with less protection than they now have.

The FCC did grant a request from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to expand BPL exclusion zones in the vicinity of certain radio astronomy systems.

"We continue to believe that the interference concerns associated with the operation of these systems are adequately addressed through the adoption of Access BPL rules in Part 15, particularly as a new generation of BPL equipment that complies with our rules becomes available," Wride concluded.

### Cheerleading

As his predecessor Michael Powell did before him, FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin led the cheering squad for BPL, which, he said, "holds great promise as a ubiquitous broadband solution that would offer a viable alternative to cable, digital subscriber line, fiber, and wireless broadband solutions."

His Republican colleague Deborah T. Tate echoed Martin's enthusiasm, calling the FCC's goal of ubiquitous broadband deployment in the US "an exciting prospect." She went on to say that the FCC will continue to find an appropriate balance between regulation to mitigate potential negative 'side effects' that accompany BPL "and a hands-off approach that gives BPL the room it needs to develop in a free market." She said the *MO&O* "strikes the right balance with minimal regulatory burdens."

### Another BPL Item Deferred

At the last minute, the FCC deferred another BPL-related item, to consider the United Power Line Council's *Petition for Declaratory Ruling* (WC Docket 06-10) regarding the classification of BPL Internet access service as an "information service."

The FCC released a public notice to report its August 3 BPL-related actions. The *MO&O* it adopted is not expected to become available to the public for a few weeks.

# WACOM Hamfest

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 2006, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Washington County Fairgrounds, Washington, PA

For More Information contact Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI at [n3zni@arrl.net](mailto:n3zni@arrl.net) or (724) 746-9235

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# Inside This Issue:

- Star Party Photos! (N3SH Was There!)
- Yes, it's true. Two More Lusardi's are QRV! (At least they're not Zero's!)
- Pa QSO Party Bonus Station Planning in the works!
- The FCC rules on BPL... kind of
- Fire hits local ham

**All this & much more... waiting for you right inside these pages!!**



## *PVGP, Sunday ~ 10 AM*

Dan KB3HVN, along with a member of the Coarse Crew and the driver, look over a vintage race car "black flagged" & parked at Corner 18 (the driver ran past the end-of-race checkered flag... in 4 years of racing the course, it's the first time his car ever completed all 10 laps — when the flag went out, he didn't know what to do!)

Thanks to all [WASH](#) members and area Radio Amateurs who helped participate in this year's Race Communications net  
Photo courtesy of & Copyright ©2006 Ron Notarius W3WN

## The *WASH*Rag

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