



# Field Day Plans

Field Day is but a few short weeks away! Here is the current status of deadline:

**Basics:**

- We are operating 3A using battery power with generator back-up.
- Bill Hill is arranging for the batteries to be available and Jim Sanford is bring his generator.
- Jim Sanford has also graciously again allowed our use of his two tents/canopies.
- There are **no facilities** at this site, so we have to bring everything we need for the weekend and of course take it out when we leave. Larry Comden has ordered a Port-O-John.
- Campers are allowed but **no alcohol of any kind.**

**Antennas:**

- 160 meter dipole (courtesy N3ZK)
- 80 meter G5RV (courtesy W3RJM)
- Butternut HF6V 80 - 10 meter vertical (clubs)
- 6 meter beam & 2 meter beam (courtesy N3HKQ)
- Tower trailer
- Coax, wire for grounding, power cables, etc.

**Antennas Still Needed:** 70 cm beam, extra HF antenna for GOTA station

**Radios:** We seem to be good here but if you want to bring a radio also feel free to do so):

- ICOM IC-738 (Club) for GOTA Station
- Yaesu FT-897 w/autotuner (courtesy N3DFK)
- ICOM IC-746 w/autotuner (courtesy W3SRL)
- ICOM IC-706 (courtesy K3VX)
- Yaesu FT-847 for 6 m, 2 m, & 70 cm (courtesy N3HKQ)

**Tables:**

- N3HKQ - one 6-ft X 30-inches and one card table
- We need more tables!

**Continued on Page 3**

## Changes Coming to ARRL Sweepstakes

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest Manager Ken Adams, K5KA, said he and the ARRL Contest Branch intend to "dramatically reduce the timeframe for producing results that are available to all ARRL Sweepstakes participants." According to Adams, the contesting community has requested that results be made available more quickly. Currently, Sweepstakes results are published six months after the contest has taken place.

"To facilitate this request, we would like to make the 2009 ARRL Sweepstakes final results available on the Web in 60 days in the form of a PDF file," he said. "If this effort proves successful, we plan to shorten this window to 30 days in 2010. This PDF would simply be the scores in each category — full write-ups and detailed analysis of the Sweepstakes contest would still appear in QST and on the Web at a later time."

To meet this aggressive schedule, Adams said that the log submission deadline will be reduced from 30 days to 15 days. For the 2009 Sweepstakes, the deadline for CW Sweepstakes logs will be 0300 UTC on Monday, November 23, 2009. The deadline for the Phone Sweepstakes will be 0300 UTC on Monday, December 7, 2009.

"The number of non-Cabrillo logs received at ARRL HQ must be reduced," Adams explained. "By receiving logs 15 days earlier, we can begin the log checking process that much

**Continued on Page 8**

### Inside this issue:

WASH Club News	3
Meeting Minutes	4
WASH Club Agenda	5
Breezeshooters Picnic Pictures	7
DX News Briefs	8
FCC News	9
WASH Classified Ads	9
Maps to Field Day Site	10

## Next Meeting: June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009

The next monthly meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Peters Township Library, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 7:00 PM.

Topics for the evening include Field Day Planning, Breezeshooter's Hamfest wrap-up, NP2SH wrap-up, summer & fall plans, and more .

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3SH/R and 443.650(+) N3FB/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

# "Seen" at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest



All photos this page are courtesy of & ©Copy-right 2009 Ron Notarius W3WN



## WASH 2009 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Larry Comden K3VX
VP / Secretary	Bob Timmins AB3ED
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
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL
Webmaster	Randy George N3ZK
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
WASHFest 2010 Committee	Kevin Smith N3HKQ, Chairman Carol Danko KB3GMN

Activities & Operating Events  
Ways & Means  
Field Day 2009 Coordinators

Bob Timmins AB3ED  
Carol Danko KB3GMN  
Kevin Smith N3HKQ  
Randy George N3ZK

### CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3SH / R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL / R	442.550 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
Canonsburg	N3FB / R	443.650 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
St. Johns, VI	NP2SH / B	28.276 MHz	Propagation Beacon
Canonsburg	N3SH	144.390 MHz	APRS Digipeater

**N3SH / WA3SH WASHNet**, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

## THE LEGAL STUFF

"The WASHRag™" (formerly "The Mariner™") is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

This issue is © Copyright 2009 by the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

Permission is granted to other Amateur Radio publications to reprint articles in this issue, provided the original author and "The WASHRag™" are given credit. Comments, articles, and requests for copies of or information about "The WASHRag™" should be mailed to the editor:

Ron Notarius W3WN  
3395 Rosewood Drive  
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546

e-mail: [newsletter at n3sh dot org](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.org) or [w3wn at arrrl dot net](mailto:w3wn@arrrl.net)

"The WASHRag", "The Mariner", SHARCfest, South Hills Hamfest, WASHfest, WASHfest 2009, N3SH Net, WA3SH Net and WASHNet are ™ trademarks of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

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 N3FB/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 Glen Roberts KE7FD of The Internet Guild for his assistance in providing space on-line for our website for back issues of "The WASHRag™" which can be found at [www.washrag.info](http://www.washrag.info)

# WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

## Next WASH VE Test July 16<sup>th</sup>

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 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@comcast.net](mailto:n3zel@comcast.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 **\$15.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
 Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010  
 (tentative) Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
 Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010

May 30<sup>th</sup> was a gorgeous morning for the last weekend in May, and once again time for the monthly gathering of **the WASH Breakfast Gang** to gather anew at **The Beach House** in Finleyville. This month's participants include K3HCR, W3LE, W3RJM & Barb, W3SRL, N3DFK, W3VFA, Mary Lou Marzina, N3HKQ & Peg, and W3WN. Discussions covered programming the Yaesu 7800, grandchildren, Breezeshooter's hamfest, Harley Museum, Wire Antennas, NP2SH, Copper thieves, VE Testing, car break-ins, the PVGP, Field Day plans, collecting Hallicrafters, hospital shifts, moving every 5 years, EchoLink, getting carded, Puppy Presents, OCF dipoles, "squeezing the duck," and not getting old. And that's just what we can read between the coffee stains!

The next Club Breakfast will be Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at **The Beach House**, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm. Come down & share a cup of coffee & a good time with us!

**Please keep them in your thoughts & prayers:** New Whitehall ham John KB3RVI has not been in the best of health of late. Please keep him in your thoughts. And our condolences to Don N3HOW and his family, as we just learned at deadline that his mother recently passed.

Rumor has it that if a certain person passed her Tech, a club member was going to **announce his engagement at Breezeshooter's**. She missed by one question! Dodged a bullet? Or...

Thanks to Mike K3AIR, hams in Bradford won't have antenna zoning headaches in their new zoning ordinances. Late word is that hams in Ross Township may also need to examine their proposed new ordinances for restrictive antenna zoning against the spirit of PRB-1

- Everyone should bring their own chairs

### Computers & Logging:

- We will again use the N3FLP logging software package.
- The computers will be networked via 802.11 or 10/100 Base-T Ethernet.
- Club laptop
- N3HKQ laptop (or two if needed)
- N3ZK laptop
- W3WN laptop
- We need at least 2 others

### Food:

- Like last year, I will buy hamburgers, hot dogs and kielbasa, buns, condiments, coffee, tea sweetener and cream for about 25 people. (I will adjust for more or less people if informed.)
- I will buy paper plates & cups, plastic eating utensils and paper towels/napkins.
- We need coolers and someone to bring ice for them
- We also will need a grill & cooking utensils.
- I can buy cold drinks unless someone else is.
- As in past Field Days, everyone else is asked to bring a snack, side dish or desert.

This is just a basic list. I am sure I am missing something so if you have something to add please contact me about it. Most of all Randy and I need to know who is coming so that we plan accordingly. Please email or call us to tell us your plans or if you have questions. My cell phone at 412-953-4957.

— 73, Kevin Smith N3HKQ  
 Co-Chairman, **WASH** Field Day

**N3SH Field Day Continued from Page 1**



## WASHNet

### 2009 NCS Schedule

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 06/07 — Harold K3HCR                    | 06/28 — Bob AB3ED   |
| 06/14 — Carol KB3GMN or<br>Richie N3SBF | 07/05 — Kevin N3HKQ |
| 06/21 — Dave N3IDH                      | 07/12 — Dave N3DFK  |

**Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2009 Today! Membership Application on Page 11!**

## Minutes, May 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting

Bill Hill W3WH, Acting Recording Secretary, **WASH**

The meeting was **called to order** at 19:00 hours. There were 18 members and guests in attendance.

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

A motion was made to **accept the minutes** of the April 2009 meeting as published in the May 1 2009 newsletter. The motion was voted on and passed.

Committee reports:

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

**Secretary (AB3ED):** no report

**VE Report (N3ZEL):** We had 5 successful candidates at the April 16<sup>th</sup> testing session.

**Repeaters (W3SRL & N3FB):** The repeaters are repeating.

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

It was suggested after some discussion that the Sunday evening nets be livened up by asking a question of all check-ins to promote some interest in the net.

**Ways and Means (KB3GMN):** Show Carol the Money!

**Public Service (N3RDV):** About 130 hams participated in the revived Pittsburgh Marathon..

**Contests (K3VX):**

- Field Day will be held in South Park at the old Model Airplane Field site off of Sesqui Drive.
- We will use N3FJP software for logging.
- Setup especially for antennas will begin on Friday June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Newsletter (W3WN):** No Report.

**Tower Trailer (N3ZK):** We need a welder to add a stiffener to the rear of the tower trailer.

**President's Report (K3VX):**

- The July meeting will be cancelled in favor of a family picnic in South Park. Details To Be Announced.
- The August meeting will be devoted to Fox Hunt hidden-transmitter training, in anticipation of a joint WACOM/WASH Fox Hunt, to be held on a Saturday later in August. Details To Be Announced.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** The club voted to spend \$60 on Breezeshooter's Hamfest tickets.

**Good of the Order:** none reported

**Motion to Adjourn:** The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 19:40.

*Boise, ID, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009* — Members of the Voice of Idaho Radio Club have been working at Shafter Butte near Bogus Basin, doing work on an amateur radio repeater. Saturday, as an electrical storm moved in, lightning struck, injuring one man.

Tim Rynearson is a member of the club, but didn't go up this weekend.

"Apparently they had a thunderstorm roll through, and sounds like they had a proximity lightning strike and it apparently affected one of the guys that was working up there," said Rynearson. "He was saying it felt like he was hit in the back of the head with a baseball bat."

Rynearson says he and several members of his club are weather spotters for the Weather Service and know that in situations like this, safety is paramount. He also said that where his friends were working is exactly the place they shouldn't have been in. But tonight the weather proved to be deceiving.

"One of the things they were saying was that they were socked in by the clouds most of the weekend and they couldn't see anything that was coming at all," Rynearson said.

Rynearson says the man injured by lightning was able to drive home.

— Scott Evans, KTVG News

## WASH Spotlight: Visitors



The club picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest was visited this year by WPA Section Manager John Rodgers N3MSE (l) & Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar N3LLR (r), both taking a break from representing the ARRL at the hamfest. Club members had a great opportunity to talk things over with our local leadership... as we added to the waistlines! Thanks to John & Bill for taking the time to visit with us.

Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2009 Ron Notarius W3WN

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 W3WN at **newsletter at n3sh dot org**

## 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 Fiinleyville, 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

AB3ED	KB3IVX	N9OKM	WASH FL	WASH VI
AB3EN	KB3ORR	NU3S	KA3UPY/MM	NP2JF
AB3DL	KB3SRB	W3LE	W4ZE	<b>Silent</b>
K3AIR	KE7FD	W3RWS	WASH GA	<b>Keys</b>
K3AVQ	N1NCZ	W3VFA	K3OL	K3EED
K3GW	N2QIV	W3WH	KB3IJX	(George)
K3HCR	N3AWF	W3WN	WASH NC	KA3NMG
K3SGT	N3BPB	WA3JPP	N3RNK	KB3ENX
K3VX	N3CZZ	WA3NB	WASH NE	KB3FNM
KA3TWI	N3DFK	WA3RVD	NØPEU	KB3FQT
KB3DCO	N3FB	WB3CAI	WASH OH	N3FZ
KB3GMN	N3HKQ	WO3Z	N8DPW	N3KEH
KB3GMP	N3QMV		WASH TN	N3OBD
KB3GMU	N3RDV	Mary Jean	KE3XB	N3SKR
KB3HFP	N3SBF	Senk	N3YPB	N3SRC
KB3IAC	N3TIR	Jane Wagner	WASH TX	N3XFE
KB3IRQ	N3ZEL		K3LGM	W3ZLK
KB3IVW	N3ZNI		Jane Wagner	

Through May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2009 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

*Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change*

June 11 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	Field Day Preparations
June 13 <sup>th</sup> –14 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL June VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
June 20 <sup>th</sup> –21 <sup>st</sup>	Kid's Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
June 27 <sup>th</sup> –28 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Field Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	No Regular WASH Meeting this month...	Family Picnic in South Park in lieu of regular meeting; date, time & other details to be announced
July 11 <sup>th</sup> –12 <sup>th</sup>	IARU HF World Championship	<a href="http://www.iarru.org">http://www.iarru.org</a>
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	North Hills ARC Hamfest	<a href="http://www.nharc.org">http://www.nharc.org</a>
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Somerset ARC Hamfest	<a href="http://www.k3smt.org">http://www.k3smt.org</a>
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Portage ARC Hamfest	<a href="http://hamfair.com">http://hamfair.com</a>
August 13 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	Training for the Hidden Transmitter Hunt in conjunction with WACOM, more details to be announced
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Skyview ARC Hamfest	<a href="http://www.skyviewradio.net">http://www.skyviewradio.net</a>
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Uniontown ARC Gabfest	<a href="http://www.w3pie.org">http://www.w3pie.org</a>
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	To Be Announced
September 12 <sup>th</sup> –13 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL September VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Butler County ARA Hamfest	<a href="http://www.w3udx.org">http://www.w3udx.org</a>
October 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	California QSO Party	
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	Pa QSO Party Preparations
October 10 <sup>th</sup> –11 <sup>th</sup>	Pennsylvania QSO Party	<a href="http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html">http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html</a>
October 24 <sup>th</sup> –25 <sup>th</sup>	CQ Worldwide DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com">http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com</a>
November 7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	To Be Announced
November 28 <sup>th</sup> –29 <sup>th</sup>	CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com">http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com</a>
December 4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	ARRL Straight Key Night	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

# *A Radial Plate for Cheapskates*

Bill Savage K3AN [courtesy of www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

A well-known ham antenna manufacturer sells a stainless steel plate that's designed to mount to a vertical antenna's support mast and provide connections for at least 60 ground radials. It appears to be a well-made product and has gotten good reviews here on eHam.

However it's rather expensive and considerable overkill for my Inverted-L installation, so I set out to look for something that could serve the same purpose at a lower cost. What I ultimately found is remarkably cheap, and should meet the needs of anyone who doesn't have the time, real estate, or inclination to put down more than 30 ground radials.

What is it? It's nothing more than a replacement kitchen sink strainer that you can buy at Home Depot or Lowe's for about \$2.00. It's made from stainless steel and is "pre-drilled" for 10-24 size screws. You can readily install ten screws and nuts in the outermost ring of holes, and another five in the next ring. Install two solder or crimp-type terminal lugs under each nut and there's your 30-radial capacity. Furthermore, as shown in the photo, the strainer's center hole is large enough to fit over a copper-clad ground rod. You just have to remove the rubber stopper and pull out the metal center stem.

In my installation, each screw is fastened to the strainer with a compression lockwasher and nut. Then the radial lugs are placed over the nut and secured by a second nut. To prevent "galling" or seizing up of the stainless hardware, I placed Noalox grease on the screw threads. I also placed some grease on the flat surfaces of the lugs. Home Depot and Lowe's carry Noalox in the electrical section.

Depending on how many sets of stainless hardware you buy, the total cost for the strainer, the stainless steel screws, nuts and washers, and a small tube of Noalox will be under \$10 to maybe as much as \$16. For that price there's no excuse for not sprucing up (and adding to) your vertical's radial system.



# *Pixie QRPp Transceiver - A Simple Kit*

Bill Brown KB6KBC [courtesy of www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

The Pixie is a small, direct conversion CW QRPp transceiver using just a handful of common parts and is a retail kit for \$10. Most people should be able to build it. This is a Fun little kit. However it might be harder for a first timer, but with some help you can make a working Radio. It is a cheap kit – However the \$10 price is not completely correct. \$10 for the PCB/Parts then \$3 for the Crystal (Plus shipping). Then you have to buy connectors/Wire/Sockets/Solder/enclosure. I would guess in a box with the connectors/Switches you will be closer to \$20. But worth the money just based on the learning experience.

The Pixie 2 is an HF CW transceiver, with a standard two transistor transmitter. It's a Colpitts oscillator, left running, and a keyed power amplifier. There is no external mixer used to feed the audio amplifier. The mixing is done at the final amplifier itself with the audio taken off the emitter. Depending on the PA device chosen, RF power outputs of between 100mW and 500mW may be achieved (I had to cherry pick transistors, but you can get about 400 mW with a 9V Cell). The only components which are band critical are in the TX PA output, so modifying for different bands (40M to 80M) can be done. On receive, the TX PA is used as a mixer which feeds the LM386 audio amplifier. This is a bare bones transceiver there's no RIT, a simple switch and cap in parallel, between the crystal will work as an offset though and there's no volume control for the audio. The whole idea here was to make a tiny rig that worked, with room for improvements, using a minimum of parts. In some cases you may also have Hum with an external Power Supply – I'd recommend a Battery and you might also hear some BCI (Broadcast interference).

Hams have made many contacts many of them have been over hundreds of miles away. It takes some skills to make contacts, but it can be done. Not a great primary rig, but you will have some fun building and playing with it.

## **CONSTRUCTION:**

You need to be able to solder and trouble shoot a little, but it's worth the time. Also you need to know a little about reading a schematic as some of the instructions could be clearer.

You will need a low wattage soldering iron with a small tip, some rosin core solder, solder wick (for removing parts), small wire cutters, needle nose pliers. Use Eye Protection, while cutting leads.

All the components, except for U1 the LM386, are mounted vertically. I'd recommend to start at one end of the board and work to the other. There are no coils to wind, no alignment either. Once you apply power you should be able to hear the oscillator start up by listening on a near by receiver. Then check for audio at the headphones. If you run into noise/oscillation check the power. Use a new alkaline battery!

Parts kits for the Pixie 2 are available from **HSC Electronics**, 3500 Ryder St., Santa Clara, CA 95051. The cost is \$9.95 + \$2.00 shipping and handling for the PC board and all board mounted components except the crystal. Chokes will be provided for both 40 and 80 meters. Phone 1-800-4HALTED. <http://www.halted.com/>

You will need the following additional items (not supplied in the kit): 2-RCA jacks, or 3.5mm jacks for key and antenna 1-3.5 mm mono or stereo jack, depending upon your headphones 1-short piece of RG-174 for antenna connection 1-crystal socket or pair of mini-alligator clips - <http://www.amqrp.org/kits/crystals/index.html>

Also there are a lot of good resources on the Web:

<http://www.al7fs.us/AL7FS2.html>

<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/lapthorn/pixie.htm>

# *More Photos from the Breezeshooter's Hamfest Picnic*



All photos this page are courtesy of & ©Copyright 2009 Ron Notarius W3WN



## Do You Really Want to Sell It?

Al Link K4ICL, courtesy of [www.qth.com](http://www.qth.com)

The XYL says some of your old gear has just Got To Go, and you need to prove to her you are trying to sell it by placing an ad on the Internet — but you really don't want to sell it?

Here is what to do:

- Don't put any price to keep 'um confused
- Don't include a picture to keep it mysterious Include a tiny out of focus picture of a commercial ad
- Don't describe its condition so they'll think its junk
- Declare you won't ship it to significantly reduce buyers
- Require a local sale to reduce buyers even more
- Make bad grammmer and speling so tha well think yr add witten by a idiot.
- Put it in eBay and only list the eBay item number
- Require offers be made for it; that'll run some buyers off
- dont use caps or punctuation so its hard to read know what i mean
- Use confusing wording and spelling to remain vague
- Type out your ad in UPPER CASE so no one will read it
- Don't give a phone number so they can't find you
- Include a nonworking email address so thay can't contact you
- Make 'em mad; threaten to put it on eBay
- Don't list your call sign; that really ought to do it
- Tell 'em its really in good shape, for its age
- Give 'em a nonworking URL to get more info about your ad
- Tell 'em not to ask stupid questions
- Don't even think of answering any emails you get

Results guaranteed! You will not have to sell it.

## ARRL Continued from Page 1

faster, but we will need your help on the paper log issue. In 2008, the ARRL Contest Branch received more than 300 paper logs for the Sweepstakes contests. These paper logs were converted to Cabrillo format by a dedicated, yet small, group of volunteers. This took several hundred person-hours of time."

Adams said that there are plans to contact as many paper log submitters as possible and point out resources they can use to generate Cabrillo logs: "I am asking that every club have a special project and meeting this year to ensure that 100 percent of their members submit Cabrillo logs for Sweepstakes. If you have club members who don't have computers, please form your own volunteer teams to convert their logs after the contest. This would be a great excuse for a big post-Sweepstakes club pizza party, combining data entry with club camaraderie."

While the ARRL will never turn away a paper log, Adams said that the advantages of electronic log submission are critical to the success of the accelerated presentation of the Sweepstakes results. "Numerous software contest loggers exist for *Windows* and *DOS*, including the free packages *CT* and *N1MM*," he said. Entrants are also able to manually convert their own paper logs to a Cabrillo log at the WA7BNM Cabrillo Web site."

"You, the members of the contesting community, have requested faster turnaround of contest results for some time," Adams said. "With every contesters' help, we can achieve this goal of dramatically reducing the time between contest and results. We have identified several other areas we hope to improve in the future, such as simplified Web access for Sweepstakes information, historical log search capability, easy access to FAQs, records and the like. We will continue to work on those goals. Thank you for your continued participation and help with the ARRL November Sweepstakes, the greatest domestic contest out there."

## DX News Briefs

This summer's **FR/G** Glorioso 2009 DXpedition team plans to operate 4 compete 800 W stations, and will try to be on as many hours as possible. Due to administrative changes, it now looks like their call will be **FT5GA** (not the FR prefix that had been used in years past).

Unfortunately, there will be no civilians on the trip, only military personnel. They also hope to be active in both the IARU HF and RSGB IOTA contests in July. More info at <http://glorieuses2008.free.fr> — F5OGL, OPDX

Starting June 1<sup>st</sup>, new prefixes are being used within Portugal. Each administrative area will have four prefix blocks (old/legacy calls that are grandfathered, new calls, club calls, and special calls). The prefix blocks now are:

<b>Portugal:</b>	Block 1: CT1, CT2, CT4, CT5
	Block 2: CR7, CS7, CT7
	Block 3: CQØ, CS5
	Block 4: CQ7, CR5, CR6, CS2
<b>Madeira:</b>	Block 1: CT3
	Block 2: CR9, CS9, CT9
	Block 3: CQ2, CS3
	Block 4: CQ3, CQ9, CR3
<b>Azores:</b>	Block 1: CU1, CU2, CU3, CU4, CU5, CU6, CU7, CU8, CU9, CUØ
	Block 2: CR8, CS8, CT8
	Block 3: CQ1, CS4
	Block 4: CQ8, CR1, CR2

Current hams will keep their Block 1 calls if they like, or submit to a new exam to have the new prefixes. New hams will have Block 2, and will be issued prefixes according to category. Category 1 will have CT 7,8 or 9, Category 2 will have CS 7,8 or 9 and Category 3 will have CR# 7,8 or 9. Club stations will have call in Block 3. Special occasion and contest calls will have Block 4 — CT1BOH

K7BV will be QRV from San Andres as **5JØBV** (instead of 5JØM as first announced) 18—29 June. He will be concentrating on 6 meter Sporadic Es, along with HF activity. QSL via K7BV (not W1JJ) — K7BV

F5PHW will be in Tahiti for 2 years starting in August. Activity will be on CW/RTTY, some SSB, 80—10 meters. He will first be QRV as **FO/F5PHW** but is applying for an FO call sign. QSL via F8BPN — F5PHW

VK4AN wishes to remind everyone that the Foundation class licenses have 4 letter suffixes (such as his son, **VK4FRAJ**). VK4FRAJ is one of the few Foundation licenses active in contests, and may be the only one on CW. He has been having problems with amateurs not familiar with the Foundation calls, which are QRP level. VK4AN asks that people listen for the Foundation licenses, and be more tolerant of their call signs — VK4AN

## QSL Routes

3D2OU via N7OU — K6GEP	OD5NJ via EA5BYP — PY5EW
3W9JR via OK1JN — TA3YJ	OX2A via OZ1ACB — K6GEP
4KØCW via DL6KVA — JA1HGY	OY9OY via ON5UR — UA3FDX
4V4JR via K4QD — W5TFW	P33W via RA3AUU — K3ZO
5T5JA via JA1BAB — JA1HGY	SU9BN via EA7FTR — PAØWRS
5U7JB via ON5NT — W4DN	T27A via W7YAO — K6GEP
5V7BR via F2VX — UA3FDX	T8CW via JHØIXE — UR5ZVP
9L1DX via EA4CEN — WO2N	TM5EL via F6KHI — KG6D
9V1YC via W5UE — W5UE	TS7C via F4EGD — KZ2I
A52DT via JA1DOT — JA1HGY	V31FB via W5JON — PY5EW
C31CT via EA3QS — JA1HGY	V63TR via K8AQM — AA5AM
CS2C via OK1RF — K6GEP	V63ZM via K8AQM — KS7S
CY9SS via VY2SS — W4DN	VP6TD via ZL2HGR — W9OL
E7/OE1EMS via DJ2MX — UA3FDX	VP8DLZ via ON5NT — W2IRT
ET3JA via OK3AA — TA3YJ	YBØDPO via K3AIR — K3AIR
FW5ZL via FR5ZL — TA3YJ	YBØECT via K3AIR — K3AIR
H4ØMS via DL2GAC — GM4FAM	YB1BA via N5FF — W4DN
HV5ØVR via IWØGPN — WA3FRP	YS1M via K9GY — PAØWRS
J88DR via G3TBK — G4GED	Z29KM via EA7FTR — W2IRT
JD1BLK via JM1LJS — MMØBQN	ZB2/AA3SN via G4KLF — K3ZO

Thanks to the NJDXA *DX News* & *DX Chat* Reflectors, the *DX-QSL* Reflector, 425 *DX News*, *OPDX News*, *Diamond DX Club News*, *ICPO Bulletin*, & *ARRL DX Bulletin* for our *DX News* information. Thanks also to Bill Moore NC1L / ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR / *The Daily DX* for confirmations & additional information.





## WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the **WASHRag**. Condition as stated, and all sales should be considered "as-is" unless otherwise noted. All subject to prior sale or withdrawal from sale at the owner's discretion. All responsibility for this information lies with the source and not the **WASHRag** or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

**HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
P.O. Box 201  
Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201  
Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881



Fax: (412) 746-5944  
gallina@usaor.net  
"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:  
Radio Equipment                      Computer Equipment  
Antennas Rotors & Towers          Computer Media & Software  
Cellular Telephones  
Mechanical Breakdown & Electrical Damage Coverage

**OGS Distributing** — Embroidered Apparel, Printed Apparel, Dash Plaques, Award Plaques, Vinyl Graphics, Cyclo Polisher, Car Detailing Supplies. Dan KB3HVN, 6571 Zupancic Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15236, Phone (412) 655-8787, Fax (503) 218-1441, or visit the on-line catalog at <http://www.onlygoodstuff.com>



### Nelson Nemes N3PN

#### Keller Williams Real Estate Professionals

190 Gallery Drive, McMurray, PA 15317  
724-941-9400 x121  
412 443 7010 Cell  
724 941 4969 Fax  
nelson4u@kw.com



#### DeRose Marketing International

"Healthy Living Technologies"  
Featuring *Living Air*, *Living Water*, & the new *LaundryPure*. Suffering from Allergies, Asthma, Headaches, Pet Odors, Smoke, or Bad Tasting Tap Water? Call for a FREE in-home demo and 3-day trial of *Living Air* and *Living Water*.

Kevin F. DeRose N3KFD  
1-866-754-1331 Toll Free Overview  
1-724-348-6892 Office  
kfderose@ecoquestintl.com  
[www.ecoquestintl.com/kfderose](http://www.ecoquestintl.com/kfderose)



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

The Ferry Building, 127 S. McKean St., Butler, PA 16001  
Phone: 724-431-0400      Fax: 724-431-0401  
[mlazaroff@murrinlaw.com](mailto:mlazaroff@murrinlaw.com)

## FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Bill Cross W3TN, a staff member in the FCC's [Mobility Division](#), and Laura Smith, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Enforcement, spoke at the FCC Forum on Saturday, May 16 at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention®. Cross opened by explaining just where [Amateur Radio](#) falls in the FCC's bureaucracy: "In the [Mobility Division](#) [part of the [Wireless Telecommunications Bureau](#)], we handle the day-to-day administration of the Amateur Service and some of the rulemaking activities that affect Amateur Radio. The Division also has staff members in our Gettysburg, Pennsylvania office. Our Gettysburg staff handles most of your applications and the licensing matters and deals with the Universal Licensing System, or [ULS](#)."



Cross offered some general comments on the Commission and its priorities, then went on to discuss topics that he said "keep coming up in questions we receive in articles that appear on Web sites and in columns in newsletters and the like. I'm not going to spend a lot of time talking about Commission decisions that have been issued, because most of these have been reported on the ARRL or other Web sites."

Cross went on to say that he does hear from Riley Hollingsworth, who retired as Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division in July 2008; Smith replaced Hollingsworth earlier this year. Saying he received an e-mail from Hollingsworth that asked his opinion whether he should get an amplifier or 260 feet of hardline, Cross said that was an easy question to answer: "Get both! Two hundred and sixty feet of hardline. Okay. Thirty feet through the house, 30 feet out to the tower and 200 feet straight up. That sounded pretty reasonable. But then I found out that what he was thinking about was 230 feet across the back yard and 30 feet up. So, I've still got some work to do there."

As for the FCC Administration, Cross said that "the relationships between the Commissioners are very collegial." Cross pointed out that earlier this year, President Obama nominated two people to fill Commissioner vacancies: [Julius Genachowski](#) for Chairman and [Mignon Clyburn](#) to fill the seat held by Jonathan Adelstein. Adelstein has been [nominated to head up](#) the [Rural Utilities Service](#), of the United States Department of Agriculture. "The last I read was that their confirmation hearings would be held after Memorial Day, and beyond that, we really don't know what's planned," Cross told the crowd. "So maybe by the end of the summer, sometime during the summer, the Commission will be back up to its complement of five Commissioners and we will have a new Chairman, too."

A topic that keeps popping up, Cross said, is business use of Amateur Radio, specifically transmitting messages on behalf of an employer. "Section 97.113 answers this question straight on: 'No amateur station shall transmit communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules.' There are two exceptions. There are exceptions for teachers who are using Amateur Radio as the control operator of a station in an educational institution as part of a classroom thing and control operators of club stations in certain cases. A station is also not allowed to transmit communication in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. There is an exception to that rule that allows you to transmit communications that are commonly referred to as "swap nets," but eBay seems to have reduced the need for these nets. And you're not allowed to transmit communications on a regular basis which could reasonably be furnished through other radio services."

Cross said that Section 97.113 is in the rules for two reasons: It meets a statutory requirement and it is there to protect your frequencies from becoming the business radio alternative voice overflow, or "BRAVO Service." Because your spectrum is so valuable, if you let users such as businesses, TV stations, the National Weather Service or other users — be they for-profit or non-profit — use your frequencies to meet their communications needs, your frequencies will become their frequencies. All it takes is an allocation proceeding with the FCC, and your spectrum is gone. And you will be left whining about it in Internet chat rooms."

Cross pointed out the ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, "had an editorial on this on April 1, 2009 in QST ["It Seems to Us: Keeping the 'Amateur' in Amateur Radio," page 9]. That's probably not the best day to date something, but you should read it. And I have plagiarized from that greatly because it is very elegant and spot on."

The bottom line, Cross said, is "that when any of us are on the air as amateurs in the ham bands, we are not pursuing financial gain for ourselves or our employers. The 'no pecuniary principle' has been reflected in the FCC regulations since 1928. It distinguishes us from commercial services."

2009 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix  
Schenley Park, Oakland  
July 18<sup>th</sup>—19<sup>th</sup>  
Operators Needed!  
No Experience Necessary!  
Contact Corky N3MJP 412-851-9374

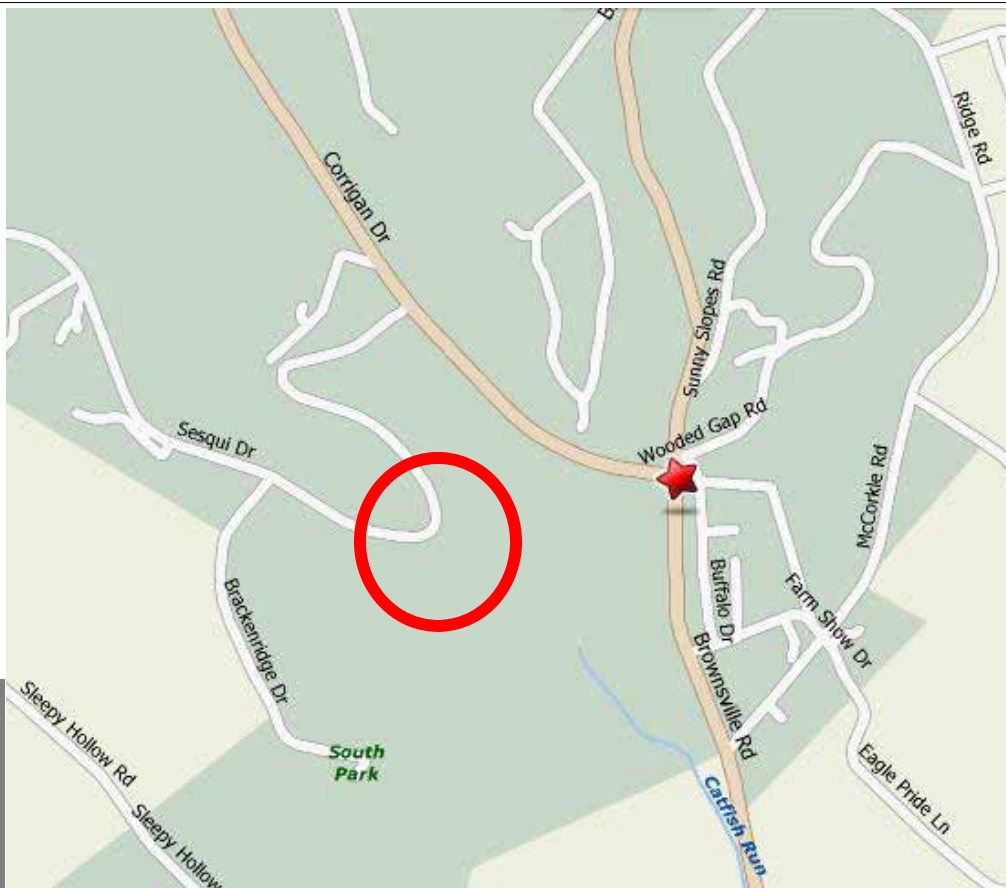
Has Roadway found the tower yet?

Directions to the South Park Model Airplane Field...

From the West side of South Park: Take **Library Road (SR 88), South Park Road, or Baptist Road** to **Corrigan Drive** (Park entrance by the South Park Shops). Proceed about 2 miles. Turn **RIGHT** onto **Sesquil Drive**. Follow the signs

From the East side of South Park: Take **Brownsville Road** to **Corrigan Drive** (by the fairgrounds & park headquarters.) Proceed about a mile or so. Turn **LEFT** onto **Sesquil Drive**. Follow the signs.

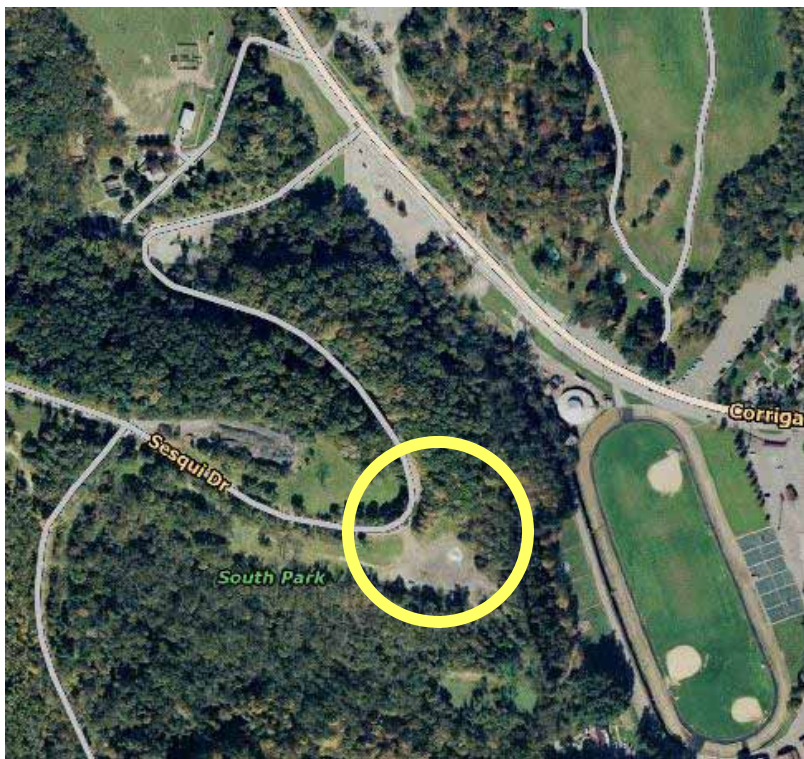
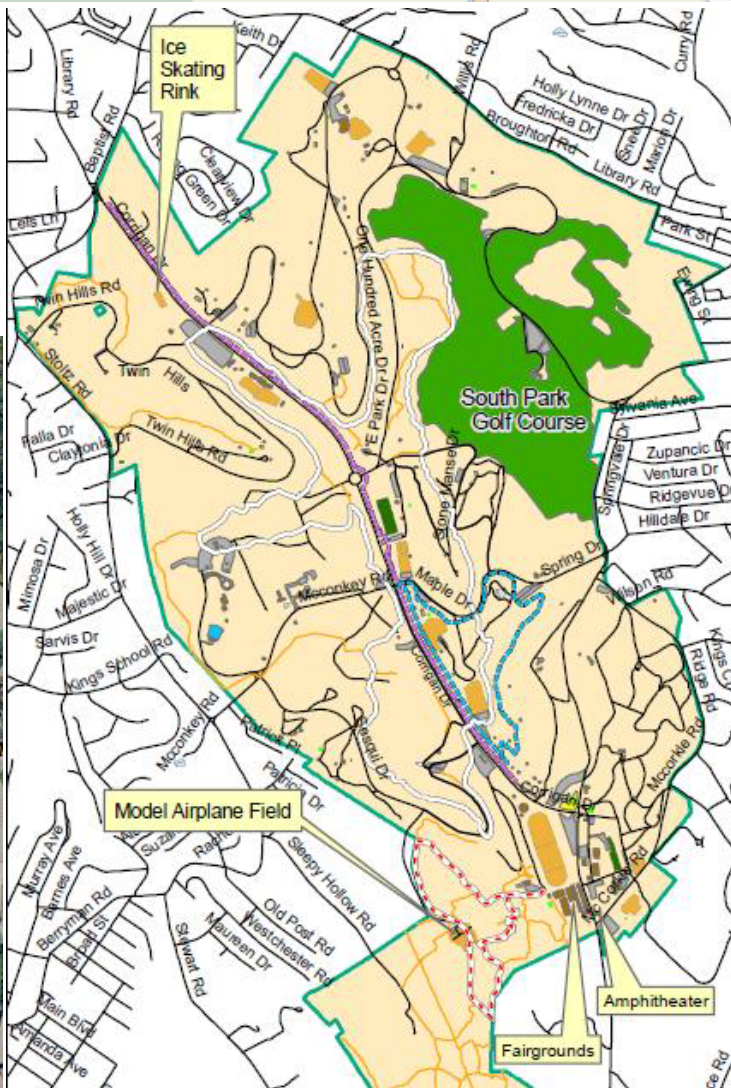
Talk-in on N3SH/R 146.955 & N3FB/R 443.650 MHz (131.8 PL)



# Three Views of our N3SH Field Day 2009 site

Street & Aerial Maps courtesy of Mapquest.com

Trail Map courtesy of Allegheny County GIS Department





# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2009



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

(check quarter →  
(check one))

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

- |  |         |         |         |        |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| <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 (\$3.00 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*



## Join the American Radio Relay League or Renew Your Membership through the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.



Members of the [WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS](#) can start a new membership or renew an existing membership in the American Radio Relay League, the National Organization of Radio Amateurs, through the club. Benefits for you: Joining and participating in everything the League has to offer, including a QST subscription. Benefits for the club: A few more shekels for our coffers.

Just fill out the form below, include a check or money order made out to WASH/ARRL, and return all 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*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check the Appropriate One-Year Rate:

- \$39 in US  
 Age 65 or older, \$36 in US  
 Age 21 or younger, \$20 in US (only if you are the oldest licensed amateur in your household)  
 Canada \$49  
 Elsewhere \$62  
 Other (including Blind, Life, QST by First Class Postage — please contact ARRL for rate

Additional Family Members at the same address (\$8 per family member)

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

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

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

Dues subject to change without notice

# Inside This Issue:

- **Breezeshooter's Hamfest Picnic Photos!**
- **Maps and Directions to the N3SH Field Day Site!**
- **ARRL Changes SS log deadline!**
- **Do you REALLY want to sell that rig?**
- **How much was that radial plate?**
- **Have you thought about QRPp?**

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

A new "Xtreme" category is being added to the CQ World Wide DX Contest to encourage the development of new technologies in amateur radio communications in general and contesting in particular.

According to CQ WW Contest Director Bob Cox K3EST, this new category has been established to allow amateurs to participate in the CQ WW contest while experimenting creatively with Internet-linked stations and other new technologies.

"Contesters are often early adopters of new technologies," said Cox, "and we want to encourage this as a continuation of ham radio's pioneering spirit. However, many of these technologies are not currently permitted in any existing CQ WW categories. The Xtreme category will allow these stations to compete, but only with other stations using new technologies."

Scoring for logs submitted in the new category will be a mix of standard CQ WW scoring plus a more subjective score for level of innovation and originality, as determined by a panel of judges on the CQ WW Contest Committee. The highest-scoring entries in the single-operator and multi-operator categories will win the John Kanzius K3TUP, Memorial plaques, sponsored by Tim Duffy K3LR. Kanzius, a prominent contester, was also an experimenter who developed a potentially ground-breaking approach to cancer treatment in the course of his own, ultimately unsuccessful, battle with the disease.

The new category will take effect with the 2009 CQ World Wide DX Contest this fall. It was introduced to contesters at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention® and received an immediate positive response. Complete details of the Xtreme category are in the June issue of CQ and are on the CQWW page of the CQ magazine website, <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/>.

## The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor  
3395 Rosewood Drive  
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

[www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)  
[www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)  
[www.washrag.info](http://www.washrag.info)

