

WASHRAG

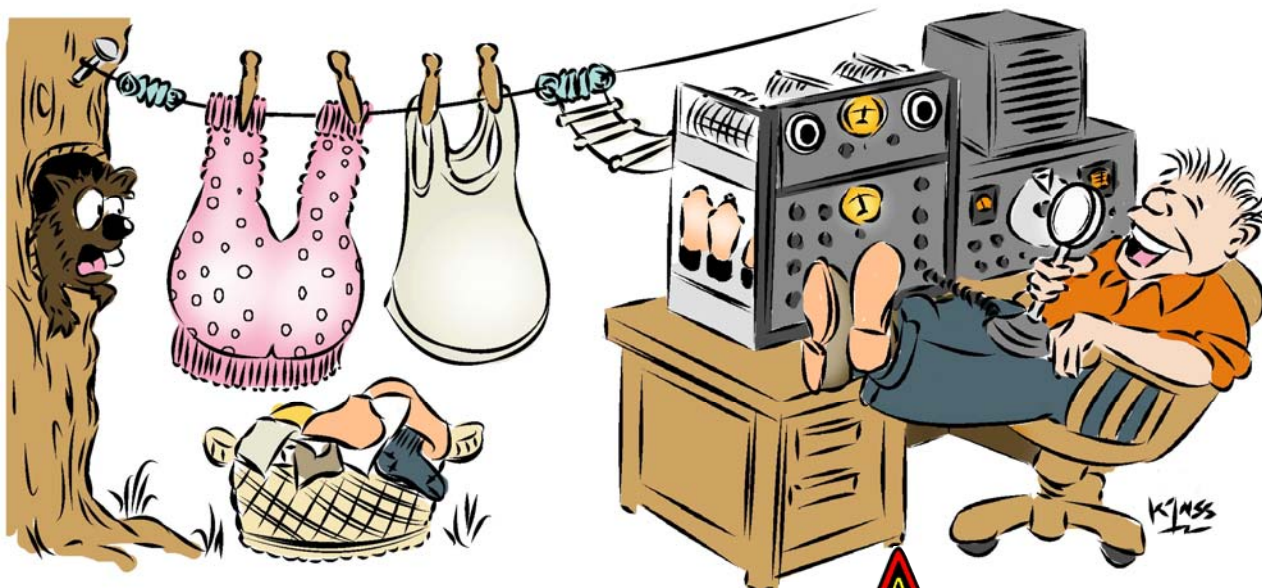
Wireless Association of South Hills

TM

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 07
JULY 2013



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 15 ISSUE 07

JULY 2013

Next Monthly Meeting: July 11th, 2013

The next meeting of the [WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.](#) will be on **Thursday, July 11th 2013**, at the [Crossroads Ministries Church](#), 88 Walter Long Road of f Route 88, Finleyville PA, starting at 7:00 PM.

Field Day wrap-up, the repeater move, summer picnic, and other plans for the summer & fall will be amongst the topics.

Our guest speaker will be Harry W3YJ to talk about NBEMS, FLDigi and related software. Bring your laptop along. If you're interested in having it loaded on your machine for you.

See you there!

Cover photo: Jim Sanford WB4GCS straightening the Flag on the Tower Trailer at Field Day. Photo ©Copyright 2013 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2013 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Carol Danko KB3GMN
VP / Secretary	Ben Williams KB3ERQ
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3BDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee	Larry Comden K3VX
WA3SH Trustee	Rich Danko N3SBF
NP2SH Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH QSL Manager	Ron Notarius W3WN
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Ron Notarius W3WN
Webmaster	Sean Sleeman N3NWR
Asst. Webmaster	Ben Williams KB3ERQ
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Glen Roberts KE7FD
WASHFest 2014 Committee	Kevin Smith N3HKQ, Chairman
	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Ron Notarius W3WN
Field Day 2013 Coordinators	Larry Comden K3VX
	Rick Bell KB3IAC

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)**

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The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** was founded on August 23rd, 1993, as the original **SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3SH-W3SRL 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.

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Carol's Comments

I would like to thank all the members who attended N3SH Field Day for all their hard work. All the radio's were up and running at 2 PM.

Then the fun began. Contacts were made by all. Everyone said they had a good time, especially at meal time. This was due to Rick and Jan's hard work in preparing the food. It was excellent. There are plans already being discussed for Field Day next year.



Bill W3WH hosted one the 13 Colony Special Event Stations representing Pennsylvania (See article Page 6). Several of our members went to his home for this event to help operate. It was a great experience for Richie and I. I have never operated with such a pile up before. It was nice to have people looking for me instead of me looking for them. Another great time on the radio.

I would like to thank everyone who attended Kevin Smith N3HKQ's Funeral. You did our club proud by showing your respect for a fellow member.

See you at the meeting.

73, Carol Dank KB3GMN
President, Wireless Association of South Hills
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Field Day Wrap-Up

Well Field Day 2013 is now officially "In The Books" and it was a hot one – literally!

Shelter 9 at Mingo Park offered some relief to the brightly shining sun but it was a true test of the love of Ham Radio that motivated everyone to raise antennas in the blazing sun poked through the tree tops.

We fulfilled most of the goals that we set for the club. As our top priority we had ALL of the stations operational for the 2 PM start time on Saturday. In fact, we could have been on the air by 1 PM.

Secondly we mobilized and raised our portable trailer mounted tower without a hitch (No pun intended). And we tested the Butternut

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WASHNet 2013 NCS Schedule

07/07/2013	Sean N3NWR	08/18/2013	Dave N3IDH
07/14/2013	Fred KB3DCO	08/25/2013	Carol KB3GMN
07/21/2013	Larry K3VX	or	Rich N3SBF
07/28/2013	Glen KE7FD	09/01/2013	Bob AB3ED
08/04/2013	(tba)	09/08/2013	Ron W3WN
08/11/2013	Randy N2QIV	09/15/2013	Bill W3WH

Saturday, June 29th was a nice early Summer morning, falling this year between Field Day & the long (for most of us) 4th of July weekend. Of course, the early birds gathered at **The Beach House** in Finleyville for the monthly meeting of **the WASH Breakfast Gang**. This month's gathering included K3HCR, W9UK, WB4GCS, KB3JHQ, KB3JHR, N3FB, KB3GMU, N3BPB and W3WN. Of course, the subject of Field Day was on 'most everyone's minds, along with AC issues, using a Gamma Match on a tower, T-Match, Inverted "L"s, 'brother nets', snakes, dipoles and baluns, the Pirates in 1st Place — really! —, putting W3PXL back on the air, FCC moving DTV channels (maybe), "I will never change my ways" (N3BPB), cutting down trees, woodworking & studio chairs... and much, much more.

We're coming up on the middle of the summer, so come help celebrate the half-way point at our next gathering on Saturday, July 28th, at **The Beach House**, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm. See you there!

Months like this, Ye Editor is very glad that we're no longer printing and mailing 100 or more newsletters... because it would have been VERY tough to pick & choose amongst all of the Field Day pictures we received. Thanks once again to all who submitted photos. Many of these photos are also available via the N3SH web site, thanks to the efforts of Webmaster Sean N3NWR.

And that wasn't all that was going on... the **K2M 13 Colonies Special Event Station** hosted by Bill W3WH wrapped up just in time to be squeezed in as well. Although it wasn't possible to squeeze into the article on Page 6, Bill advised us as of just before deadline that we did so well, we've been asked to host K2M again 2014 — and he's accepted!

Glen KE7FD is looking for people who'd be interested in a **QRP or QRPp mini-expedition** at the end of this month. He

has a cabin location in mind in a state park an "hour-ish" away from home, and will be bringing his Rockmite transceiver; anyone with a QRP rig is welcome to bring it as well. Antennas planned are simple dipoles. If you're interested, please contact Glen via [email](#) for more information or further details.

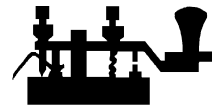


Don't forget to **bring your laptop along** to this month's meeting. Our special guest will be Harry W3YJ, who will be talking about NBEMS, FLDigi, and related software topics. Anyone who'd like to, can have Harry load and help configure the software on their machine.

Need **an inexpensive backup HT**? Ben KB3ERQ found a link on Amazon for the BaoFeng UV-5 dual band HT for... \$34.83; new & listed as in-stock (well, now). Interested? Click on [this link](#) for more information... we pass this on for informational purposes only, and the offer may expire or change at any time.

Friends Remembered: eHam's Friends Remembered SK listings now includes an entry for Kevin Smith N3HKQ (SK). If you'd like to add to it, please go to <http://www.eham.net/friends/displaystory/6329>

Silent Keys



Gerry Jackson K3BZW, 71, Swissvale, long known as "the only-est ham in Rankin", June 16th

The CQ WW committee has completely rewritten the rules for this falls CQWW SSB & CW contests. (This rewrite does not affect the CQWW RTTY contest). New "overlay" categories have been added, and rules for how you review your logs after the contest are completely revised.

More information available at <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2013 Today! Membership Application on Page 17!

Minutes, June 13th Meeting

Ben Williams KB3ERQ, VP/Secretary, **WASH**

Carol KB3GMN called the meeting to order at 19:10 hours. There were 17 members and guests in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all, followed by introductions.

A moment of silence was observed for recent silent keys and other deserving persons.

A motion was made by Bill W3WH to waive reading of the February minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Glen KE7FD and carried unanimously.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): A balance on the bank account was read & accepted.

Secretary (KE7FD): No report.

VE Team (W3WN): No report.

Repeaters (N3FB): Still repeating.

Repeater Committee (KB3IAC): Rick gave an update on the Repeater move. There is no bad news, but nothing really to report yet; things are moving slowly.

Net Report (KE7FD): The net has "netted" some new contacts.

Field Day 2013 (K3VX, KB3IAC, W3WH):

Bill: "Field day is the highlight on the HAM year." This year we are trying to approach field day with KISS principle. Smaller and more focused with the goal of operating around the clock. We hope to demonstrate that we can do HAM radio "simply" and have fun and make contacts. Ron is going to use a flag pole antenna to demonstrate that we can do things simply and have fun, and that we don't need a mega station to make some contacts. This is also to demonstrate this to guests.

Rick: We are attempting to find a compromise between craziness and over organization. We are trying to make sure people get to operate what they want and when. We are doing this by asking you to fill out your wishes on the schedule that is the N3SH website. This weekend is about a test for emergency mobilization. That is what this is all about. This is the same scenario we may be going through is we ever had an emergency here. This is more about successfully communicating then how many contacts you can make. Seeing as we are seeking to get involved in EmComm (for St Clair hospital) this is a great opportunity.

Order of station assembly was discussed. Ron W3WN was deemed the "pro" at setting up the Butternut HF6V.

Bring you favorite radio is you would like to. It needs to be DC power and have fuses in the line.

Food: Carol will bring pasta salad that she made for the Breezeshooters hamfest. Also, 12 hamburgers, ice tea, 16 hotdogs,

We need side dishes, desserts, and snack type stuff, and ice, coolers.

Rick: There are several grilles there we can cook on as well as a big fire pit.
Note: Bring paper towels, toilet paper roll, and hand sanitizers in your personal go bag.

Public Service (N3IDH): Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix in July. Glen KE7FD is going to the WPA ARES meeting in Johnstown.

Ways and Means: 50/50 tonight.

Newsletter (W3WN): Published.

President's Report (KB3GMN): Funeral service for Kevin N3HKQ is tomorrow.

Old Business:

N3RDV: Harry W3YJ will be the speaker for the July meeting. He will demo FLDIGI software; bring your laptops.

New Business: None

Good of the order: Suggestion from Gary KB3YCX that we have HAMNation do a presentation for an upcoming meeting via a live video conference. They have offered to do this for any interested club.

Ben said he would try to test the WiFi at the church to see if it would work. We would need to borrow or acquire a WebCam with a decent mike for this to work.

Motion to Adjourn by Bill W3WH, second by Glen KE7FD and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:01 hours.

WASH Spotlight: The Cook



Hamfest? No, Hamfeast! Rick KB3IAC working the grill at N3SH Field Day! More photos start on Page 12. Photo courtesy of & (c) Copyright 2013 Harold Rosenberg K3HCR

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](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.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 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

AB3ED	KB3YKL	NY9H	WASH FL	WASH OH	Silent Keys
AB3KA	KB3ZCX	W3LE	KA3UPY/M	N8DPW	
AE3DL	KC3ANX	W3RWS	W4ZE	WASH SC	K3EED
K3GW	KC4WTT	W3VFA	WASH GA	N3RNX	K3LIE
K3HCR	KE7FD	W3WH	K3OL	WASH TN	KA3NMG
K3SGT	KJ3D	W3WN	KB3IJX	KE3XB	KB3ENX
K3VX	N2QIV	W4CKR	WASH ID	N3YPB	KB3FNM
K3WJL	N3AWF	WA3BOJ	N3ZNI	WASH TX	KB3FQT
KA3TWI	N3BFB	WB4GCS	WASH NE	K3LGM	N3FZ
KB3DCO	N3DFK	Vincent	N0PEU	Jane Wagner	N3HKQ
KB3GMN	N3IDH	Polis	WASH OR	WASH VI	N3KEH
KB3GMP	N3NWR	Darryn	N0VLR	NP2JF	N3OBD
KB3GUZ	N3OVO	Sleeman	N0WPV		N3SKR
KB3IAC	N3RDV		KB3NVL		N3SRC
KB3IVX	N3SBF		KB3NVM		N3ZEL
KB3JHR	N3TIR				N3XFE
KB3MHM	N3YJJ				W3ZLK
KB3TOA	N7TDX				WA3JPP
KB3YCX	N9SOJ				

Through July 8TH, 2013

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2013 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change

July 1 st -6 th	13 Colonies Special Event Stations	http://13colonies.info
July 6 th	North Hills ARC Hamfest	http://www.nharc.org
July 7 th	Somerset County ARC Hamfest	http://k3smt.org
July 11 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
July 13 th & 14 th	PVGP at Pitt-Race	http://www.pvvp.org
July 13 th & 14 th	IARU World Championship	http://www.iaru.org
July 20 th & 21 st	PVGP at Schenley Park	http://www.pvvp.org
August 8 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
August 25 th	Skyview RS Hamfest	http://www.skyviewradio.net/
August 31 st	Uniontown ARC Hamfest	http://www.w3pie.org/gabfest.htm
September 8 th	Butler Co ARA Swapfest	http://www.w3udx.org
September 12 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
October 10 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
October 5 th & 6 th	California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org
October 12 th & 13 th	Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html
October 21 st — 25 th	ARRL School Club Roundup	http://www.arrl.org
October 26 th & 27 th	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	http://www.cqww.com
November 2 nd & 3 rd	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 14 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
November 16 th & 17 th	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	http://www.arrl.org
November 23 rd & 24 th	CQ WW DX Contest CW	http://www.cqww.com
December 6 th — 8 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 12 th	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
December 14 th & 15 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 22 nd	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW	http://www.arrl.org

2015: K2M/W3WH 13 Colonies Special Event Station Bill Hill K2M/W3WH

2015. No that's not the year after next. it's the number of QSO's that K2M/W3WH made in this year's [13 Colonies Special Event](#). When we started this week I hoped we would log 1000 QSO's. Then I saw that we would meet that level and I hoped for 1500. Finishing up with just over 2000 exceeded my fondest dreams for the event!

This all started when radio free Bob (WC3O) asked Ron Notarius W3WN if you would be interested in being one of the three Pennsylvania special event stations in the 13 colonies event this year. Ron knew that his circumstances wouldn't permit him to give the necessary attention to it so he suggested either N3TIR or myself. It ended up that I secured the assignment, and since then I've been looking forward to this event with great anticipation.

My radio shack is in the basement, but I wanted to have the ability to put two stations on the air at one time. So I set up a second station in our sunroom. That may have been a mistake, since it really is pleasant to be on the radio in the sunroom and enjoy looking at the birds, squirrels, turkey, rabbits and deer while you're operating. In any event, we ended up with the ability to have two stations with the sunroom station using my flagpole for an antenna, and my Omni 6+ for the rig. In the usual shack we used my Ten-Tec Omni VII and Elecraft KPA 500 amplifier. The downstairs shack accrued 1600 contacts, while the sunroom shack contributed. A little over 400.

The event started at 9 AM local time on July 1 but sometimes life gets in the way of playing radio and we really didn't get started until later. Except Saturday, when we operated all day beginning at 0830 AM EDT.

We were able to achieve the 2000 contacts because quite a few people took time out of their lives to help out. They included Carol and Richie Danko, Ron Notarius, Harold Rosenberger, Rick and Jan Bell, Jim Sanford, Bud Plants and Larry Comden. It was really a privilege to have all these folks visit my home and play radio with me. Most of us know how much Carol Danko enjoys operating the PA QSO party and Field Day, but she and Ron Notarius were really in their element in this event. Carol's style is relentless, and Ron's handling of the pileups was nothing short of expert. Rick and Jan Bell came, and Rick said afterward that since he had a taste of pileups he wants more. Harold, Bud and Jim also contributed lots of contacts and I think everyone had a good time.

It was especially heartwarming to hear so many people at the end of their contact say God bless America. It certainly renewed my faith that many, many people love our country and just makes you feel good.

Band conditions were bad during the week; there were solar flares to deal with and noise levels were rather high. On Saturday morning the band was up-and-down in a way that I don't recall before. It was up-and-down so quickly that some but we would hear someone's call and then completely lose their report or vice versa. However everybody stayed with it and they were very few missed contacts as far as I know.

I certainly learned some things from this experience and if we are fortunate enough to be asked back again next year I think we can do a better job especially in terms of the way the stations are configured and antennas.

The QSL cards have already started arriving, so I have that task in front of me but it will be a pleasant one.

Thanks so much to everyone who played a role in this effort it would not have happened without you.

God bless America!



Amateur Radio Operators Needed for the 2013 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix

The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix is seeking Amateur Radio operators to work the Flag & Safety corners, and provide race communications for the 2013 events.

This year, Amateur Radio Operators are needed for these race weekends:

- The Historic Race Weekend on July 12th - 14th, at Pitt Race (formerly BeaverRun Motorsports Complex) in Beaver Falls, featuring Muscle Cars & European Racers from the 60's & 70's,
- The Vintage Race Weekend on July 20th & 21st, in Schenley Park in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, featuring sports cars from the early days of automobiles through the 1950's.

For More Information or to Volunteer, please call Corky Bennet N3MJP at (724) 217-5458



FPV: A Work In Progress

Ron Notarius W3WN



As many of you know, I've been fascinated with the idea of a Flag Pole Vertical for quite some time. Various circumstances (usually higher priorities) prevented me from going forward with the project until last year, when a small home remodeling project gave me the opportunity to put one in place.

Circumstances led to a setback, and the FPV project got temporarily shelved.

As part of this year's planning for N3SH Field Day, Bill W3WH suggested that I bring the FPV along, so that we could give it a real workout and find out if it will actually function. So I did.

Why a Flag Pole Vertical?

One of the many reasons that I've been interested in a basic FPV was its inherent nature as a stealth antenna. Like the Purloined Letter of Edgar Allen Poe fame, it has the simplicity and functionality to be accepted on sight as just what it is... a flag pole. Because it IS a flag pole.

The nice thing about a flag pole? Almost everyone likes them. A metal one is perfectly acceptable. And nobody thinks twice about what other purpose it may serve; well, nobody but another ham, that is.

This was demonstrated to me years ago, at a previous QTH. At the time, I had two verticals in the back yard, a Butternut HF6V & an HF2V. The HF2V was located adjacent to our driveway, and was very visible to neighbors walking past. One day, my wife suggested I stick a flag on top of it, just so that the antenna would look like it would "do something," so I did. I learned over the next few weeks that many neighbors had wondered what those two aluminum "sticks" in my yard were for...and that putting the flag on the '2 set their minds at ease that they were simply flag poles, nothing more.

Now, most members of **WASH** don't have to worry about HOA's, restrictive covenants and many of the other things that some of our fellow hams in other parts of the country have to put up with to erect an antenna or three. Still, there are those (hard as it may seem

to believe) who think of certain antennas and antenna structures as eyesores. More to the point, most antennas are on top of our houses, or in our backyards. Perfectly good front yards that are otherwise perfect for placement of a $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$ vertical go antenna-less because we simply don't want to risk having a complaint from the neighbors about looking at an "eyesore."

But a flag pole? Nobody gripes about one, or about looking at one. These days, you're considered patriotic if you ARE flying the flag.

For these reasons, I've often recommended that someone who needs to put up a stealth antenna consider a Flag Pole Vertical. That said, I'm also a believer in putting your money where your mouth is... if I'm going to recommend one, certainly I should have one up to know what I'm talking about, right?

Construction

The FPV that I'm building is made out of 4 foot aluminum masts. These are military surplus tent and camouflage supports that you may have seen for sale at many hamfests, usually in the neighborhood of about \$4 a pole.

Yes. It is that simple. Well, almost.

Some hams have commented to me that they're concerned about the masts being painted an "Army" olive-drab green. Nothing to worry about. The inside of the masts are unpainted, and the top of each mast (about 6 inches or so) that fit into the base of the next mast are also unpainted. They fit, although it is a tight fit. (Which is good mechanically & electrically)

While many commercial flag poles are unpainted metal, or painted silver, many others are painted black, white, green, or other colors. So a drab-olive flag pole is not going to appear to be out of the ordinary.

For mechanical reasons, as I assembled the initial FPV, I drilled a small hole and ran a sheet metal screw in the lower base of each section. On final assembly, I'm replacing these screws with a stainless steel bolt to go all of the way through. A little touch up paint (available at most hobby or model railroad stores) will ensure that the bolt heads & nuts & washers blend right in with the rest of the mast.

Of course, if you're going to run a flag up the pole, you have to have some way of connecting the rope to the pole. I initially placed a long eye bolt on the top section. Turned out that I picked one that was way too long, so it will be replaced in the final configuration, either with a smaller eyebolt or a pulley.

Now, most flag poles have something on the top... a ball, a symbol, an eagle, a star... something. In the Field Day photos, you'll notice what appears to be a small ball. It's not. I purchased a small wooden dowel to fit into the top section, and screwed into that is a replacement wooden "elephant" chair/couch foot from a home improvement store. From a distance, you can't tell. I don't intend this to be permanent, mainly because it does add extra weight to the top section. I plan to scour some flag supply stores, or even some craft stores, for something more suitable... but this will work in a pinch.

And, of course, there needs to be a lanyard down near the bottom to hold the rope, and the rope. Those are a few dollars from a home improvement store.

Initial Placement

The first configuration of the antenna, in front of my home, used six mast sections, plus one fiberglass one that was placed in the ground (with concrete poured into the hole to hold it in place). Roughly 24 feet tall, it looked magnificent. (See photo on page 8)

It was also too big for my house. Our current home is a single story ranch house, and the FPV towered over it. It simply looked out of place. It was quickly dropped to 20 feet, which was better... but not great.

Why 24 feet? The length was inspired by the length of the aforementioned HF6V. The idea was to put in place a non-resonant vertical that could easily be loaded on 40 through 10 meters. 20 feet would probably work just as well.... but it too looked out of place. Either length would have worked well against a 2 story home, simply not near a ranch.

It appeared that 16 feet, four sections, would work. I was concerned since this would be roughly a $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$ on 20 meters, which means it would be a $\frac{1}{2} \lambda$ on 10 M... which would have an impedance near infinity, so loading would be a problem. I also didn't know how well it would load on 40, since it would be about an $\frac{1}{8} \lambda$.

I also had a concern about distance to the incoming AC power lines; I didn't want to get TOO close, just in case something unexpected happened.

However, further experimentation was halted at this time, as my wife didn't like the idea of the flag pole being so close to the new front deck.

N3SH Field Day

As mentioned, Bill W3WH asked me to bring the FPV to Field Day. I brought 5 sections, a 2 foot fiber glass mast section as an insulator,



Continued
on page 8

Flag Pole Vertical Continued from Page 7

and a rooftop 3 foot antenna tripod. The antenna reassembled quickly, though I only used 4 segments.

A short piece of coax fed the vertical at the bottom aluminum mast, which was set just above the tripod's feet, and in the fiberglass mast.

Bill brought along several pre-measured radials. These were wired to the coax shield and spread out. An SGC tuner was placed in line to make impedance mis-matches a non-issue & to simplify antenna tuning. And, of course, a flag was flown!

How did it work?

Ironically, timing was such that I never got to use my own vertical! Saturday afternoon I had a family obligation, and by the time I got back to FD, late Saturday night, other antennas were in use – one thing we had plenty of at N3SH FD 2013 was antennas! On Sunday morning, I returned to the site in time to find that since the goals for the weekend had been reached, things were already being taken down, and the FPV was one of the antennas already dismantled.

So I have to rely on second-hand reports from Bill W3WH, Larry K3VX, and others to say:

It worked great! I'm told that there was no difficulty working anyone wished on the upper bands, mainly 10 & 15, and that FD stations across the West & South were coming in hand over fist.

That it would work to some degree was expected. That it worked as well as it did is a bonus!

The future of the Flag Pole Vertical

As well as it worked, this version of the FPV will probably not make another Field Day.

Current plans are to incorporate it's permanent installation in my front yard later this summer or early fall, along with some other landscaping work (anyone who wants to help me dig in the new front steps from the driveway are more than welcome... bring your own shovel).

The changes under contemplation are...

- The fiberglass mast/insulator will place the feed point near the ground, only a few inches off. In the original configuration, the active antenna was about 2 feet off the ground, being fed at the base of the deck.
- I'm looking at roughly an 18 foot antenna. One of the remaining mast sections will be sawed in half.
- A "proper" pole ornament will be found and installed
- A "proper" anchor for the top of the flag rope will be found and installed.
- As part of the landscaping project, radial wires will be buried in the front lawn.

This is still a work in progress, so I hope to cover the final installation at a future point in time.

Costs

Why go to all this fuss? Why not just buy an FPV? Several manufacturers already offer them...

Well, one antenna manufacturer once offered a 16 foot 20 – 10 meter FPV for \$99 as a Hamvention special (I sure wish I'd bought one then!). That same vertical, from the same company (now under different ownership), is \$499, according to their web site. And the cost for each additional 4 foot section is \$49.

I bought the initial 7 aluminum sections, plus 1 fiberglass one, at the **WACOM** Hamfest in 2011 for... \$30.

Mike K3AIR was kind enough to get me another 10 aluminum sections in the Hamvention 2013 flea market. (They're for another project). He paid... \$40

Cost of the flag? \$10 at Walmart. The rope & lanyard & misc. hardware? About \$10 from a big box store, and the bag of fast setting concrete was another \$4.

Now... are you going to tell me that the \$500 commercial antenna is worth 10 times what I'm paying to do it myself? Because if you are, there's this bridge over in Brooklyn I hold the deed to, let's talk ...

Other factors

By it's very nature, this is a non-resonant antenna. Like any $\frac{1}{4}$ wave vertical, to perform well, it needs a radial field. At least four radials to work decently. I've thought that 16 would be optimal for most situations; Jim WB4GCS has done some research on his own. He tells me that many experts say that 12 is enough.

Because of where the antenna will be placed in the front yard, with shrubbery, flower gardens, and walking paths to work around... so say nothing of that 5 foot retaining wall alongside the driveway...an ideal radial field running all the wires evenly from center will not be likely. I'll simply do the best I can.

I also have the proper twin-lead and the instructions from Don Newcomb WØDN (SK), the creator of the Butternut antennas, to duplicate the 40 – 10 meter "stub tuned radials" that you can buy commercially as part of the Butternut roof mount kit. Three or four of those will help... certainly won't hurt.

Many vertical companies will tell you that you "need" to buy a 4:1 balun to place at the feed point on their non-resonant verticals. (Just check out the ads for many 43 foot verticals for one example). Many ads also imply that you won't need a tuner if you have this balun in place. I don't believe in this. If the main purpose of the 4:1 balun is to hide an impedance mismatch. You see, your modern solid-state radio is designed for an output impedance of 50 ohms. If the antenna is, say, 200 ohms impedance on a given band, the 4:1 balun masks the real situation. Well & good for that band... but what if the next band is 300 or 500 ohms or even higher? Or, as in this case, what if the antenna is already resonant on one band, what effect does the balun have on the system?

Many radios now come with a built-in automatic antenna tuner, and manual antenna matching systems (call them an antenna tuner, a transmatch, whatever...) are easy enough to build or obtain.

No. To me, the balun is an "easy fix" but not the correct one.

Am I worried about any RF Field Exposure concerns? No. I run 100 watts. One of these days, I'm going to get around to hooking up that (pre-MFJ ownership) Ameritron AL-84 amp, which will give me... 400 watts out (that's still a 6 dB gain, mind you). Power levels should never be high enough to worry about.

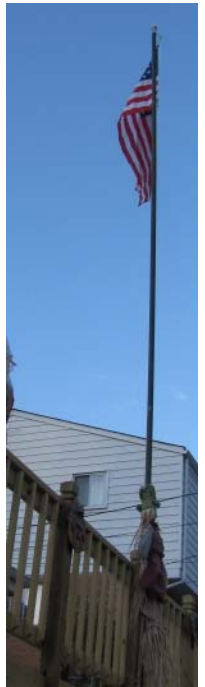
What about anyone touching the antenna while I'm transmitting? Well, the final placement of it will be in the middle of a flower garden, deep into my yard. It should not be possible for someone to "accidentally" brush up against, let alone touch or hold, the vertical. Frankly, if someone gets an RF burn while I'm transmitting, they're up to no good. So I'm not worried.

(Raising & lowering the flags? That's my job. And unless you're tying or untying the flag ropes from the lanyards, there's no reason to touch the pole while hoisting the flags. So anyone touching the pole is up to something...)

Conclusions

Simply put, the antenna works. It's inexpensive. It's easy to put together. And it will be easy to maintain.

Anyone who would like to put up a simple vertical in their yard, or who has restrictions on them that prevent easy installation of a "normal" antenna, should look into an FPV solution.



Notes from the 2013 WPA ARES Conference

Glen Roberts KE7FD

ARES Conference, 15 June 2013, Johnstown PA

- Link available/lesser used repeaters to the WAN
- Partner with local institutions: schools, hospitals, and other groups who might show interest in amateur radio as a source for emcomm, mentors.
- Guest speakers from the county emergency services
- Get acquainted with serviced agencies and become qualified to assist
- Served agencies will NOT admit non-approved hams just because they show up with a radio.
- Conduct a drill in 2013 then report results back to ARES
- In the Boston bombing, Amateur radio ops were there for the race then shifted over to emcomm
- Amateurs are NOT to self-activate but MUST be called up by the agency they are registered with and only act on credible information from trusted/confirmed sources.
- Vast majority of amateurs are clueless/with no skills in EmComm when expected to step in. When emergencies happen the hour of preparation is past. Get trained now.

Panel discussion consisting of Cambria County ARES leaders, PEMA and Red Cross

- Amateur radio viewed as hobby but time after time, event after event it emerges as an integral part of emcomm.
- Cambria county re-establishing its own Amateur Radio facility linked with local hospitals
- Skywarn reports are PRE storm critical; radar only good above 2,500 feet but cannot see at ground level. Damage reports and current ground weather provided by operators on the ground.
- Funding is being cut while events are on the rise; Amateur Radio operators sometimes get put into harms way. PEMA working on insurance coverage for registered volunteers.
- First Responders are specialists (fire, EMT, police) but hams can become specialists but need to be trained.
- Contests serve those who collect paper yet those skills do not translate to emcomm. Training is a requirement by served agencies. Drills build real world emcomm experience.
- Get acquainted with the LAPC; local area planning committee: Required by federal law.
- Hospitals required to have backup communications (FCC:2011 JCHO joint commission)

Dave Hunter ACS, Auxiliary Communications Services, Western PA

- ACS: State umbrella organization, "Volunteers - Serve your State or Local Community"
- Dropping cryptic codes like QRT going to plain language so people across all agencies can understand what's being said.
- Take training through ARRL, FEMA
- Drills should involve EOC even if it's just a hand-off (no real action)
- Fully enrolled hams only those considered; others turned away.
- Clubs can become ARES strongholds
- Still some confusion across the State because of all the Counties not on the same page. ACS is only 5 years old: Not an organization, but a coordinator

Served Agencies: American Red Cross (ARC)

- Not a taxpayer funded agency, but by donors
- Staffed by volunteers
- Seen mostly in day-to-day events like house fires and larger events then with other partners like CERT, Salvation Army, United Way, Catholic Charities.
- Red Cross Response priority: Chapter, Region, National.
- The ARC calls upon hams via other channels unless those hams are a part of the ARC.
- Immediate needs: Recovery of victims
- Sheltering (fires, tornadoes, etc)
- Short term relief
- Damage assessment.
- ARC calls upon ARES once 5 DOC (Disaster OPS Centers) go active for a given event
- ARC NOT a government agency but part of the National/State Response teams
- ARC might tap into ARES for drills
- Western P.A. Is a flood prone area (a opposed to tornado or hurricane). Repeater coverage is spotty: Relay strategy is key to success. Single point of failure is: People! Need to duplicate contacts!
- By the time the ARC reaches out to the amateur community, the ARC is already in place and needs.

Key question: Is your club contest or EMCOMM centric?

Success story: Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh: How to get people into a class?

Lunch and Learn: FEED them!

Partner with with another group to do a drill

WAN – Wide Area Network

www.wanrepeater.net

- Lined repeaters from Canada down the eastern seaboard.
- Uses Linux VoIP PBX software.
- The WAN is a great way to re purpose your expensive time-pieces (Think about it, your repeaters sit there unused reporting the time).

Whither Navassa?

Don Cisson N4GNR courtesy of <http://www.qrz.com>

You thought P5 North Korea was going to take a long time to activate for a DXpedition ?? You very well may be waiting a long time for **KP1 Navassa**...

I was on the 1988 DXpedition to KP1 with K2SG and company. It was a very great trip... please read on as to what holds up KP1 from activation.

I have read about the trials and problems of other groups to try to get back on Navassa.. So, I have always wanted to go back to what is now either # 1 or #2 in the world for "most hams". I have worked KP1 2 times since. KP1 is strictly off limits to the public, since it is controlled by the USFWS, out of Puerto Rico.

Navassa has been designated a National Wildlife Refuge by the USFWS. I recently chased down the chain of command at the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and one human called me back, Ms Susan Sulander-(may be spelled wrong; I got many answering machines- you would expect that at the federal level-huh)

I told her the concerns I had about being on the island, since we had a few problems with Haitians that occupied the island, making and setting fish traps, and tending to the wild goats on the island. These Haitians row the 29 miles from Haiti to Navassa in very small "canoe-looking" boats.

I shall not comment on the problems we had with the Haitians, for I have found out those situations are small when compared to what Ms Sulander told me.

The USFWS lacks manpower just as most federal agencies do. Any trips to KP1 and KP5 would require law enforcement to accompany the DXpedition. Ms Sulander said that drug routes have been proven in the islands around KP5. And she can only assume that KP1 is likely to be involved.

The next thing she told me really floored me. Ms Sulander said along with the drug problems, a major problem exists with human trafficking.

Years ago, I was told how dangerous it was to get to Spratly...now its the same with KP1 and KP5.... The one thing that I will never forget about Navassa, the slaves dug a VERY DEEP well on the island pretty close to the lighthouse. I chunked a big rock into that well,, and NEVER heard it hit bottom. Any danger on KP1, you may never be found !!!

I only speculate that the most likely situation to get KP1 and KP5 active would be to pay the law enforcement salaries.

But then, who would have control — the thugs? Or would there be enough USFWS law enforcement. to seize safety for a 10 day DXpedition ?

So, you very well MAY work P5 before KP1 !

Orion II Discontinued



"On a rather sad note, about the time you read this message, we will have sold out of the last 566 Orion II transceiver.

Unfortunately, due to the availability of some very critical parts plus skyrocketing prices for difficult components, the staff at TEN-TEC decided to discontinue this product.

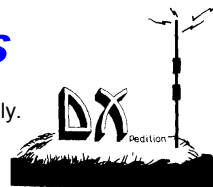
This does not mean we will not trade or sell used and demo Orion's and Orion II models. We will continue service and support this product as we have done in the past with all TEN-TEC products.



Is a new Orion III on the horizon? There are plans for several new TEN-TEC products lined up for the future but at this time no concise decision has been made for another Orion transceiver."

— Jim Wharton NO4A

DX News Briefs



Members of ARMI Taranto & The 599DX Team will be QRV as **IJ7T** from EU-073 San Pietro Island 26 -28 July. They will be QRV on HF, 6 & 2 meters, SSB CW & Digital, and will be participating in the IOTA contest. QSL via IK7WDS. More info at <http://www.qrz.com/db/IJ7T> — DX World

D2CT is QRV until 26 July, mainly on PSK. QSL via CT2HPM — DX World

JJ2NYT will be QRV as **9H3N**, 40 - 10 CW & SSB "Holiday Style", 2 - 5 August. QSL via JJ2NYT — JJ2NYT

The Locust's trip to Barter Island, AK NA-050 as **K6VVA/KL7** scheduled for 6 - 8 July has been postponed for the third time. A combination of issues, including recent solar flare activity & the plane crash at SFO (causing rerouting of flights in & around San Jose) are cited as contributing factors. More information at <http://www.k6vva.com/iota/na050/> — The Locust

UT6UD will be QRV as **FO/UT6UD** from Hiva Oa OC-027 in **FO/M Marquesas** through 13 July, then Rurutu OC-050 in **FO/A Austral Islands** 14 - 22 July, 30 - 10 M CW SSB & RTTY. QSL via UT6UD — UT6UD

KV1J is currently QRV as **FP/KV1J** through 16 July, 160 - 6, primarily SSB & RTTY with some CW & PSK31. More info at <http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July13.html> QSL via KV1J — KV1J

6V7S will once again be RK4FF, 10 - 16 July. He will be QRV on HF, and he will next be in Senegal 22 October - 27 November. QSL via RK4FF — RK4FF

OX2DX will be activated by WW2DX, W2RE, and N2IEN 11 - 15 July, 40 - 6 meters, SSB & CW. They plan to be active in the IARU contest. QSL via LotW — DX World

YF1AR will be QRV as YF1AR/3 from OC-237 Madura Island 25 - 29 July. He will be QRV in the IOTA contest. More information at <http://www.yf1ar.com/> — YF1AR

CQ9D will be QRV from Desertas Island AF-046 26 - 29 July, 40 - 10, CW & SSB. They will be QRV in the IOTA contest. QSL via CT3KN — CT3KN

Another IOTA entry will be **RIØNZ** courtesy of UAØLCZ from Popov Island AS-066, 22 - 29 July, 80 - 10 CW. He works split, QSX up 1 to 5. QSL via UAØLCZ — UAØLCZ

PH2M will be QRV as **PJ4M** from Bonaire SA-006, 13 -26 September, on all HF bands. QSL via PH2M — PH2M

TO7CC is planned for 5 - 17 February 2014 from northern **Reunion Island** by a team from the F6KOP radio club. They plan to be QRV on all bands & modes, with emphasis on low bands & RTTY — DX World

QSL Routes

3B9DX via EA5GL — JA1HGY	HKØ/F6BFH via F6BFH — KG4W
4K12SONG via 4K4K — KG4W	JX9JKA via LA9JKA — LU2DKN
5M2TT via I2YSB — W4DN	P29NO via EA5GL — JA1HGY
5U9AMO via MØURX — JA1HGY	PJ4/SP9FIH via SP9FIH — JA1HGY
5V7TT via I2YSB — W4DN	PTØS via HA7RY — LU2DKN
6V7S via RK4FF — RK4FF	RIØNZ via UAØLCZ — UAØLCZ
7P8ZM via JO1CRA — LU2DKN	SX5KL via SV2FWV — JA1HGY
9H3N via JJ2NYT — JJ2NYT	T2GM via GM4FDM — JA1HGY
9M4SLL via MØURX — W4DN	TA1/JHØCJH via JHØCJH — JA1HGY
A3EAQ via SP5EAQ — JA1HGY	VK9CZ via N3SL — LU2DKN
A35JP via JAØRQV — JA1HGY	VK9NN via IK1PMR — IK1PMR
CQ9D via CT3KN — CT3KN	VP2EMR via IK1PMR — IK1PMR
FH/DL7BC via DL7BC — JA1HGY	VP2ETE via W3HNK — PAØWRS
HI3/N2YDD via N2YDD — KG4W	XX9SW via KU9C — KU9C

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News & DX Chat Reflectors, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, DX World.Net, 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.**

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Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

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

Murrin, Taylor, Flach, Gallagher & May
110 East Diamond Street, Butler PA 16001
Phone: 724-282-3141 mlazaroff@murrinlaw.com

Custom Decals, Signs, Plaques and Woodworking from **Randy George N3ZK**

More information at his web site, Randy George Woodworking <http://www.randygeorgewoodworking.com/>

See his eBay store for special deals at http://stores.shop.ebay.com/Randy-George-Custom-Signs_W0QQ_armrsZ1

The **WASHRag** Masthead is courtesy of Jeff Murray K1NSS creator of DASHToons & Dash the Dog Faced Ham!!

Find the online cartoons and stories of Dash the Dogfaced Ham & more at www.dashtoons.com !

Shop for Dash items at his online store on Café Press, www.cafepress.com/shopdash



Canada has proposed creating a new MF Amateur Radio band at 472-479 kHz. The 7 kilohertz sliver of spectrum would be available to hams on a secondary basis.

The new 630 meter band was proposed in a [Consultation](#) released in June by Industry Canada, the nation's radiocommunication regulator. It proposed numerous revisions to Canada's table of allocations warranted in the wake of World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12). Last year the ARRL asked the FCC in 2012 to carve out the same band for US hams.

As the ARRL noted in its Petition for Rule Making, the issue of a domestic LF or low MF Amateur Service allocation first arose in 1979 as the FCC prepared for that year's World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), which resulted in the creation of the 30, 17 and 12 meter bands. Last November the FCC released a [Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order](#) (ET Docket 12-338) proposing the creation of a new LF ham band at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. Canadian hams already have such an allocation.

As Industry Canada observed, "The main interest of the amateur service in the 500 kHz (600-metre) band lies in its unique propagation properties, which are different from those in the 135 kHz and 1800 kHz bands."

Assuming the new band is approved north of the border, the maximum allowable equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) of Amateur Radio stations could not exceed 1 W. Amateur Radio stations "shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, stations of the aeronautical radionavigation service [ARNS]," Industry Canada noted.

— ARRL Web Extra



FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT July 8th, 2013 — The ARRL is calling on the FCC to deny a [Petition for Rule Making \(RM-11699\)](#) seeking to permit the encryption of certain amateur communications during emergency operations or related training exercises. Don Rolph AB1PH, of E Walpole, Massachusetts, petitioned the Commission in March to suggest an additional exception to §97.113, which currently prohibits "messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning."

"While Mr Rolph has concisely stated his argument, it is ARRL's considered view that there is no factual or legal basis for the assumption that encryption of transmissions...is necessary in order to continue and enhance the utility of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications," the League said in its [comments](#), filed today with the FCC. The ARRL also turned away Rolph's assertion that the current prohibition in §97.113 "has impacted the relationship of Amateur Radio volunteers and served agencies and significantly limited the effectiveness of amateurs in supporting emergency communications." The League said it's unaware of any evidence that served agencies have been reluctant to utilize Amateur Radio as part of their emergency or disaster relief communications plans because of the encryption restrictions in Part 97. The Amateur Service rule is based on a similar prohibition in international telecommunication law, the ARRL noted.

The League characterized as "erroneous" and "unfounded" Rolph's assumption that encryption of certain information may be required under the provisions of HIPAA — the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. "This mistaken assumption leads to the conclusion that the inability of Amateur Radio operators to encrypt the content of their transmissions in order to obscure the meaning of the transmissions renders Amateur Radio less (and decreasingly) useful to served agencies than it would be if encryption of those transmissions was permitted," the ARRL said. The League also said it was unaware of any instance in which state statutes have been cited by any served agency or group as a reason not to employ Amateur Radio for emergency communication.

Radio amateurs, the ARRL countered, are not "covered entities" under HIPAA, which applies only to health care providers, health plans and health care clearinghouses. And, the League added, there is no expectation of privacy in Amateur Radio communications.

The ARRL said it's not possible to determine the validity of the claim "that health care agencies subject to HIPAA are or might be unwilling or reluctant to utilize Amateur Radio in emergency communications and disaster relief planning" because of any lack of privacy inherent in Amateur Radio. "Permitting encryption might remedy the concern as a practical matter, if the concern exists," the League continued, but "the complete dearth of even anecdotal evidence of the existence of that concern" makes it impossible to justify the proposed rule change on that basis.

"It is extremely important to insure that Amateur Radio remains useful to served disaster relief and emergency communications agencies, which include health care facilities," the League stressed. "It is just as important to insure that regulatory impediments to that volunteer work be minimized to the extent consistent with the nature of the Amateur Radio Service." Amateur Radio's utility to served agencies in supporting emergency communication, the ARRL continued, "is high indeed, and is at the present time unfettered by the inability to encrypt transmissions."

However, the ARRL said that should it become necessary in the future for radio amateurs to protect the privacy of individuals whose medical data may be transmitted by Amateur Radio during or after an emergency or disaster, "the Commission may be asked to revisit this matter."

"It is urgent that Amateur Radio continue to be an essential component of disaster and emergency communications planning," and that served agencies, including medical facilities, perceive the utility of Amateur Radio as unhindered by regulations that prohibit encryption, the League emphasized.

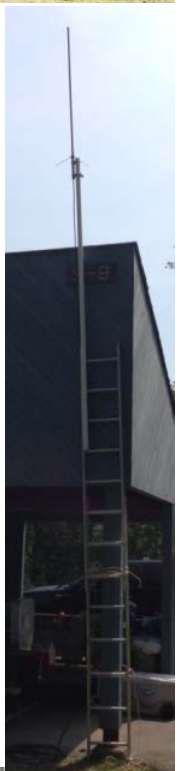
More than 200 comments were filed on RM-11699, most of them tending to support the ARRL's arguments.



Has Roadway found the tower yet?

N3SH Field Day 2013

Pictures courtesy of an ©Copyright 2013 Ben Williams KB3ERQ



N3SH Field Day 2013

Photos courtesy of & ©Copyright 2013 Jim Sanford WB4GCS



N3SH Field Day 2013

Photos courtesy of & ©Copyright 2013 Sean Sleeman N3NWR



N3SH Field Day 2013 Photos courtesy of & ©Copyright 2013 Glen Roberts KE7FD



N3SH Field Day 2013

Photos courtesy of & ©Copyright 2013 Harold Rosenberg K3HCR



A FD Word from W3KWH...



Field Day week end was the best one Steel City has had for a long time. There were more members here for the event than in then the past.

We had 3 stations and a GOTA station on the air. There was someone on the radio's at all times. From what I was told all had a good time. They said it was the best ever and the food was good as well.

They also liked their Field Day shirts!

— Rich Danko N3SBF

W3KWH also got a nice write-up in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, which included a quick reference to N3SH Field Day! You can find the article at <http://triblive.com/neighborhoods/yourcarlynton/yourcarlyntonmore/4256455-74/radio-amateur-ham#ixzz2Y1B1OpFI>

Field Day continued from Page 3

antenna on the tower with much success.

We were able to have 24 hour coverage at the site but not all three of the stations were manned continuously overnight. And even though we had six or so antennas in the air we were somewhat "Antenna Poor" during the event. So next year we need to rethink some of our Field Day strategies.

As far as contacts we pushed at the very end to get 400 CW contacts – Job well done. And phone contacts were at a respectable 234. The "Digital Gang" came through with another 126 contacts. So we definitely had an impact on the airwaves.

And, as our Field Day survey proved – Food and Fellowship were a key ingredient for the event. As Jim Sanford alluded ".... We definitely won the party".

We have room for improvement next year with some solid suggestions and a "To Do" list that is already taking shape.



For those who participated in any way we thank you. For those that didn't please try to carve out some time for next year. Field Day 2013 gives us a good solid foundation to build upon.

— 73, Rick Bell KB3IAC
Co-Chair, N3SH Field Day 2013

After uploads, edits and more edits to the website- copy paste, crop... solicit help, more issues, errors – coffee break- take a break, research other

options.....grumble....find something stronger than coffee... sleep...then repeat for a few days.....

I decided on a different approach...and am please to let you know, the WASH Field Day 2013 Photo Album is now available. Visit: www.N3SH.org

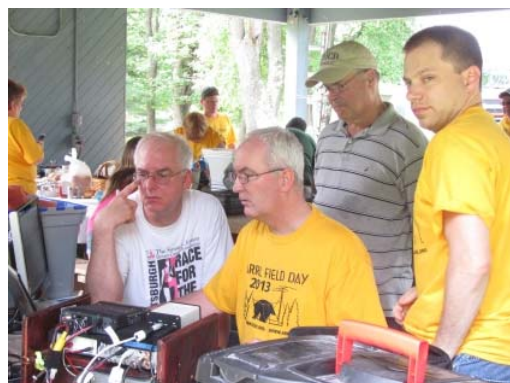
Thank you to all who participated in Field Day, contributed photos and provided support....and most of all...thank you to the Planning Committee!

— Sean Sleeman N3NWR

I had a ball on CW and had a good run on phone on Sunday morning -- actually got up to a rate of 98/hour, not that it was sustained.

The last 6 CW contacts were painful ... few I hadn't already worked, and a few that I heard loud, but did not hear me. We did get 400 CW contacts!

— Jim Sanford WB4GCS



Just a couple more... These photos are courtesy of and © Copyright 2013 Ron Notarius W3WN

Thanks to everyone who participated in N3SH Field Day 2013, Field Day anywhere, and to everyone who contributed pictures or articles to this special edition of the **WASHRag**!





WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application/Renewal for 2013



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**
Jan-Mar

☐ **2nd Qtr**
Apr-Jun

☐ **3rd Qtr**
Jul-Sept

☐ **4th Qtr**
Oct-Dec

☐ (F1) Full Membership:

\$20.00

\$15.00

\$10.00

\$5.00

☐ (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:

\$10.00

\$7.50

\$5.00

\$2.50

☐ (A1) Associate Membership:

\$10.00

\$7.50

\$5.00

\$2.50

☐ (FM1) Family Membership (\$3.00 x No. of household family members): \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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]

Signature: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Family ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

N3RDV has requested that 2013 membership requests and renewals include an application so that his information is up to date

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: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Please Check the Appropriate One-Year Rate:

☐ \$39 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)

Dues subject to change without notice

Call Sign: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

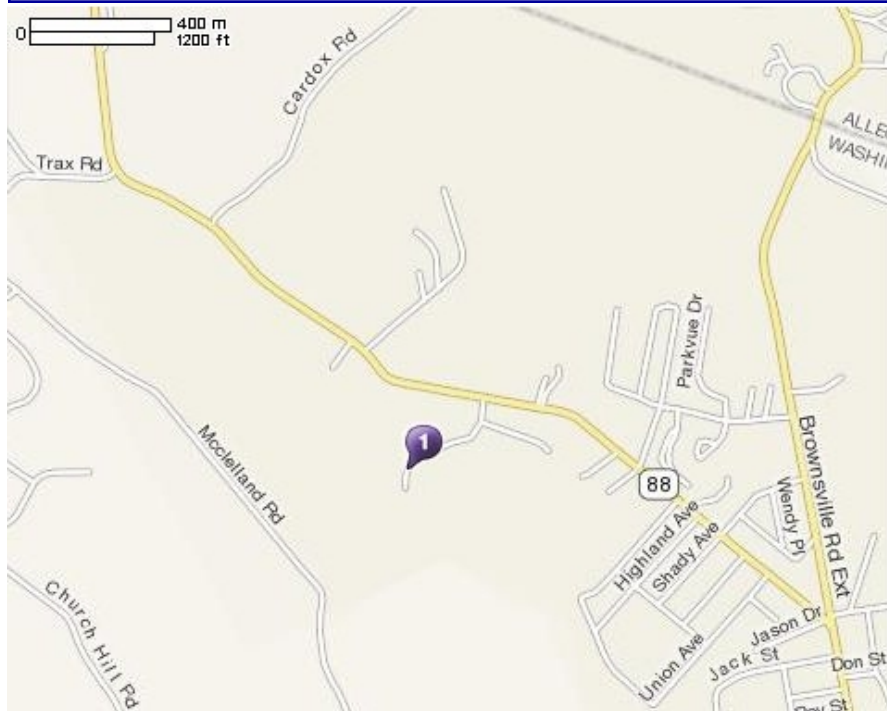
☐ Additional Family Members at the same address (\$8 per family member)

Name & Call Sign: _____

Name & Call Sign: _____

Name & Call Sign: _____

Directions to Crossroads Ministries Church



Take Library Road / State Route 88 to Walter Long Road (just past Mineral Beach & The Beach House), North of Finleyville. Turn onto Walter Long Road, follow it back to the church (which should be visible from the road).

The *WASH*Rag

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
www.washarc.org

