



# Wireless Association of South Hills

N3SH

# WASHRAG

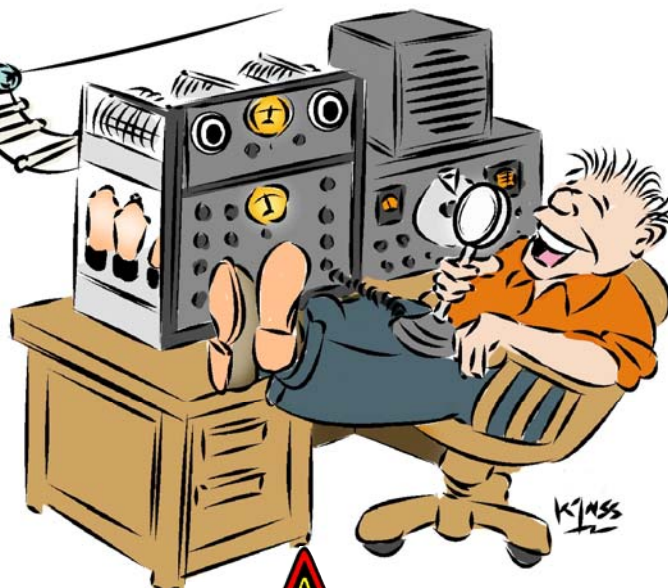
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VOLUME 15  
ISSUE 10  
OCTOBER 2013



WA3SH NP2SH/B [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org) [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)



# WASHRAG™



VOLUME 15 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2013

## Next Monthly Meeting: October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013

The next meeting of the [WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.](#) will be on **Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 2013**, at the [Crossroads Ministries Church](#), 88 Walter Long Road off Route 88, Finleyville PA, starting at 7:00 PM.

Anderson Power Pole night! The Pa QSO Party, **WASHFest 2014** and other plans for the fall will be amongst the topics. See you there!

Cover photo: A view of the N3SH set-up at St. Clair Hospital during the 2013 Simulated Emergency Test. This is what visitors to the St. Clair Emergency Department viewed, on arrival, during the duration of exercise. More coverage and more pictures on Pages 3, 7 and 9!

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2013 Glen Roberts KE7FD

## WASH 2013 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Carol Danko KB3GMN
VP / Secretary	Ben Williams KB3ERQ
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV

### 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	Sean Sleeman N3NWR
WASHFest 2014 Committee	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Chairman
	(tba), Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Ron Notarius W3WN
Field Day 2014 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 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, its members, or its 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 its members to use their repeaters for club purposes.



## WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

### Simulated Emergency Test

Rick Bell KB3IAC

The [WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS](#) and St. Clair Hospital participated in their first joint *Simulated Emergency Test* (SET) on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> 2013 along with Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, UPMC Horizon, UPMC Hamot, and a few other hospitals. The main objective of this SET was to pass free form text, and comma separated value (CSV) message files between participating hospitals on Amateur radio bands using the Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) format and the software program FLDigi.

The [WASH](#) team dispatched to St. Clair Hospital consisted of Mark N3RDV, Fred KB3DCO, Glen KE7FD, Sean N3NWR, and Rick KB3IAC. [WASH](#) mobilized their portable tower trailer to the site within 34 minutes including hook-up time.

The first operator arrived within 12 minutes of the call-out and established operational readiness immediately using a hand-held transceiver. The first "base" antenna went up in less than 5 minutes using a dual-band magnet mount antenna on a 10 foot PVC pipe tie-wrapped to a section of fence. A dual-band vertical and a 70 cm Yagi were mounted on the tower and raised by Mark in within 15 minutes. The 70 cm Yagi was pointed toward NET control for the SET and was connected to our primary station for digital traffic.

We established a second station on the dual-band vertical to run our own NET on 146.955 (N3SH) to solicit and monitor member availability and to also act as a back-up to our primary station. All radios and lap-tops utilized battery power and we maintained self-sufficiency during the entire drill.

Numerous voice traffic messages were handled on the

**Continued  
on page 9**

### Carol's Comments

First I would like to say thanks to all those who participated in our first Simulated Emergency Test with St. Clair Hospital. From what I was told it went well.



Our next activity will be this weekend, the 2013 Pennsylvania QSO Party contest. I certainly hope everyone will enjoy this contest. I know Richie and I will. As you all know, we will be operating from Clarion. Hope to hear many of you on the air.

Last but not least, our repeater is finally back in the South Hills! I hear people can hear it in Ohio, Union Town and all around the South Hills area.

See you at the Meeting.

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

Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> was a crisp fall morning, the end of the regular baseball season, and time for a change of pace... as [the WASH Breakfast Gang](#) headed south, for their monthly gathering to [Suzie B's](#) on Route 519 at 19 in Canonsburg. The intrepid travelers this month included KB3DCO, WB4GCS, N3FB, K3GMU, N3IDH, W3WH, KB3IAC, KB3IVX and W3WN. A change of menu accompanied discussion on Change of Venue, waking up, Pirates ticket prices, Fay is doing better, car issues, buying cars, raising buildings, work ethics & contractors who care — & show up, looking at colleges, 160 season about to start, the SET at St. Clair Hospital... and a whole lot more.

A week after the Gathering, Suzie herself contacted Jim WB4GCS to indicate how very pleased she was that we stopped by, and indicated that we are very welcome to return. So, based on the general consensus and the invitation to return, why not plan on joining us on October 26<sup>th</sup>, at [Suzie B's](#), Route 519 at 19, Canonsburg. (If you're coming, try and let Jim WB4GCS know ahead of time, so that enough space is reserved — yes, reserved! — for us) See you there!

Don't forget that [Nominations for 2014 WASH Officers](#) will be coming up at this month's meeting!

The program for the October WASH meeting is [Anderson Power Pole](#) night. We are encouraging all WASH members to standardize their 12 VDC power cables to all of their devices with the appropriate size Power Pole connectors. This will be the first but very important step in readying our equipment for use in emergency call-outs. This will enable equipment to be "swapped" on the fly at Field Day, Simulated Emergency Test, and other activities where we might have multiple operators and multiple pieces of equipment utilizing common power distribution apparatus. Rick KB3IAC has place a bulk order, based on replies to his email to the reflector last month, for genuine connectors (not cheaper knock-offs). There may be some extras, so contact Rick if you're coming to the meeting and want to get involved... or want them for future use.

Rick also reminds everyone that we are in the process of collecting contact information that will be placed in [St. Clair's MIR3 notification](#) system. This is a very powerful tool that the hospital uses to alert their personnel when they are on alert, and they would like to include us in their planning, as part of our new roles in their emergency communications system. We will also be able to use this call list for club purposes.

The list is only as good as the information that we pass on to the hospital. If you would like to participate, and we hope that everyone does (to whatever degree that they are comfortable with), please speak with Rick at the meeting or via email to have your contact information added to the system.

Don't forget that the [2013 Pennsylvania QSO Party](#) is coming up! Hope to see everyone who like to participate on the air!

### WASHNet 2013 NCS Schedule

10/06/2013	Fred KB3DCO	11/17/2013	Bob AB3ED
10/13/2013	Larry K3VX	11/24/2013	Ron W3WN
10/20/2013	Glen KE7FD	12/01/2013	Bill W3WH
10/27/2013	Randy N2QIV	12/08/2013	Sean N3NWR
11/03/2013	Dave N3IDH	12/15/2013	Fred KB3DCO
11/10/2013	KB3GMN/N3SBF	12/22/2013	Larry K3VX

NASA has selected Generation Orbit Launch Services to provide CubSat-class launches from Jacksonville, FL, starting in 2016. This will provide additional opportunities for the many CubSats awaiting launches under NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative — NASA via AMSAT News Service

**Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2014 Today! Membership Application on Page 13!**

## Minutes, September 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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

Bill W3WH (acting for Carol KB3GMN) called the meeting to order at 19:15 hours. There were 18 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 Randy N2QIV to waive reading of the February minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Ron W3WN and carried unanimously.

### Committee reports:

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

Secretary (KE7FD):

- N3SH Information on QRZ.COM is out of date... who has access to the site?
- Ben's son's Pack leader approached him about JOTA participation.
- Possible equipment show & tell for the meetings... everybody bring something (HT's being an easy option)

VE Team (W3WN): No report.

Repeaters (N3FB): Still repeating.

Repeater Committee (KB3IAC): We are scheduled to do the move this weekend. 955 will go down at noon Friday, should be back up at St. Clair by Saturday afternoon.

WASHNet (KE7FD): Glen has requested that a new NCS be appointed. Sean N3NWR offered to take the position and was appointed.

Contests:(K3VX): The big one coming up for the club is the Pennsylvania QSO Party, the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October. It is second only to the California QSO Party the weekend before.

WASHFest 2014 (KB3GMN): Carol has begun working on the hamfest. She would like a co-chair to assist her. Door prizes are taken care of. A vote was taken as to whether the main prizes should be cash or a radio; members voted for radios. She has asked people to email her with suggestions for the main prizes. We will need to review our address lists for accuracy at the next meeting.

Public Service (N3RDV): SET is coming up October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mark has volunteered to take over the Public Service appointment from Dave N3IDH. A volunteer is needed to represent us as NCS for the Allegheny County ARES Net.

Ways and Means: 50/50 tonight.

Newsletter (W3WN): Comments made that the newsletter "Looks Great!" We are looking at transitioning the club reflector & newsletter list from Yahoo Groups to Google Groups due to recent changes.

President's Report (KB3GMN): Discussion on who is bringing what to the club picnic on Sunday. Reminder that annual elections are coming up. Nominations for 2014 officers will be in October, the elections will be in November.

Old Business:

New Business: Frank N3FB invited anyone interested to join him on the trip to Forest county for the Pa QSO Party.

Good of the order:

- Rick is talking about the SET with Venard at StCH. He offered for us to help the hospital participate in the SET on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- We are going to have to develop a call tree. The EOC should only have to call one person and then our tree calls out the other members of our club.
- We also need to have a survey about who (members) can be willing and available to be alerted.
- At the program for next month, we would like to get everybody standardized on Anderson power pole. We need to take an inventory of how many we need and what rating etc. and we will make a bulk purchase.

Motion to Adjourn by Carol KB3GMN, second by Bill W3WH and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:09 hours.



## WASH Spotlight: SET 2013



The N3SH SET operators, being observed by St. Clair Hospital staff. Story on Page 3, more pictures on Pages 7 & 9. And... thanks to ALL who participated across WPA!

Photo courtesy of & (c)Copyright 2013 Rick Bell KB3IAC

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	N9SOJ	WASH FL	WASH OH	<b>Silent Keys</b>
AB3KA	KB3ZCX	NY9H	KA3UPY/M	N8DPW	
AE3DL	KC3ANX	W3LE	W4ZE	WASH SC	K3EED
K3GW	KC4WTT	W3RWS	WASH GA	N3RNX	K3LIE
K3HCR	KE7FD	W3VFA	K3OL	WASH TN	KA3NMG
K3SGT	KJ3D	W3WH	KB3IJX	KE3XB	KB3ENX
K3VX	N2QIV	W3WN	WASH ID	N3YPB	KB3FNM
K3WJL	N3AWF	W4CKR	N3ZNI	WASH TX	KB3FQT
KA3TWI	N3BFB	WA3BOJ	WASH NE	K3LGM	N3FZ
KB3DCO	N3DFK	WB4GCS	N0PEU	Jane Wagner	N3HKQ
KB3GMN	N3IDH	Vincent	WASH OR	WASH VI	N3KEH
KB3GMP	N3NWR	Polis	N0VLR	NP2JF	N3OBD
KB3GUZ	N3OVO	Darryn	N0WPV		N3SKR
KB3IAC	N3RDV	Sleeman	KB3NVL		N3SRC
KB3IVX	N3RHT		KB3NVM		N3ZEL
KB3JHR	N3SBF				N3XFE
KB3MHM	N3TIR				W3ZLK
KB3TOA	N3YJJ				WA3JPP
KB3YCX	N7TDX				

Through October 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2013 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

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

October 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	California QSO Party	<a href="http://www.cqp.org">http://www.cqp.org</a>
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
October 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup>	Pennsylvania QSO Party	<a href="http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html">http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html</a>
October 21 <sup>st</sup> — 25 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL School Club Roundup	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
October 26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.cqww.com">http://www.cqww.com</a>
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	WACOM Hamfest	<a href="http://www.wacomarc.org">http://www.wacomarc.org</a>
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
November 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	CQ WW DX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.cqww.com">http://www.cqww.com</a>
December 6 <sup>th</sup> — 8 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
December 14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	Straight Key Night	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

2014

January 9 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest	<a href="http://www.n3sh.org">http://www.n3sh.org</a>
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Groundwave PSK31	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>
February 15 <sup>th</sup> — 16 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL DX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	WASHFest 2013	<a href="http://www.n3sh.org">http://www.n3sh.org</a>
March 1 <sup>st</sup> — 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ARRL DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Groundwave SSB	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>



## 146.955 Repeater Move Phase 3: This is N3SH!

Rick Bell KB3IAC

Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> ended a journey that started some years ago as the 146.955 repeater found its way back to Mount Lebanon. After five and a half months of negotiations and planning, the N3SH repeater was successfully moved and installed to its new home at St. Clair Hospital. Some weeks before the move the equipment rack, antenna, feed line, and UPS were installed and tested.

Friday afternoon, September 13<sup>th</sup>, Rick KB3IAC, Frank N3FB, and Lori KB3GMU made the trip to the WPGH site to remove the 2 meter repeater and associated equipment. Carefully disconnecting the repeater all of the equipment was packed and loaded for the trip to the new site. The 440 machine, W3SRL, remains at the WPGH site and it was checked and operational before we left. And being Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> it just had to start pouring down rain as we tried to load the van.

Bright and early Saturday morning the installation crew of Rick KB3IAC, Frank N3FB, and Jim WB4GCS arrived at the hospital and were greeted by Venard Campbell who is our liaison at the hospital. After a few trips through the hospital and up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor penthouse equipment room all of the tools and equipment were moved into position. Everyone had plenty to do and for the next few hours all went about their duties. Around 11:30 AM, and after some preliminary testing, the first call went out on the air! Everything sounded good and "looked" good on all of the testing and monitoring equipment.

Before we left for the day Frank and Jim took measurements and configurations with the intent of replacing all of the interconnecting RF cables. Most of the cables were too long and many of the connectors looked questionable.

We are into our fourth week on the air at the new location and all of the comments from WASH members and repeater users have been positive. The new RF cables were ordered and they are in. At some point over the next few weeks we will make another trip to the site, install the cables, and perform some testing and "tweaking" of the system.

A big "Thank You" to all that have contributed to making this journey home possible.

Welcome home N3SH/R!

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2013 Rick Bell KB3IAC





2013 SET at St. Clair Hospital

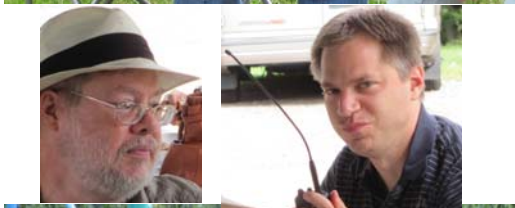
Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2013 Glen Roberts KE7FD





# *"Seen" At The WASH Picnic*

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2013 Ron Notarius W3WN





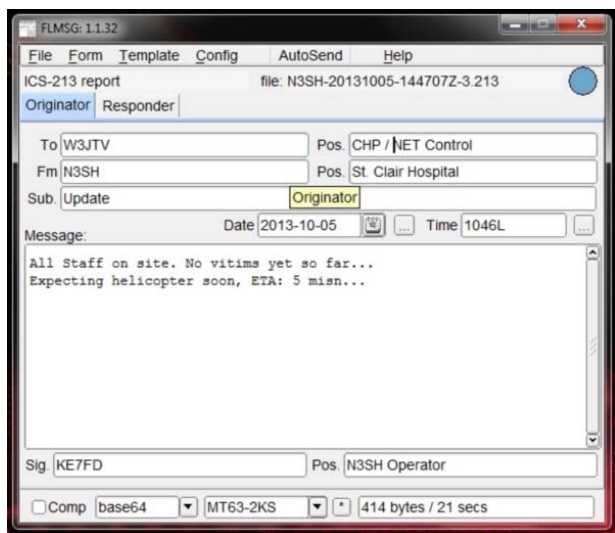
## 2013 Simulated Emergency Test continued from Page 3

primary station and as expected there were no problems in that mode. We successfully copied all of the digital transmissions and originated 5 digital messages to NET control that were all copied successfully by the intended recipients.

Venard Campbell, our liaison at St. Clair Hospital, intently monitored the entire operation. We also had the pleasure of a visit from Frederick Peterson Jr. the Regional Manager for The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania which is a state agency. Both Fred and Venard stayed for the complete drill and were able to "see" the digital messages as they came across the airwaves. Fred was very interested in the whole concept.

All-in-all it was a very successful first SET. We have not completed our internal assessment of the event, as there is always room for improvement, but we did meet our primary objectives.

If you would like to learn more about readiness and participation for future SET's, please contact me at [rickbell@db2-llc.com](mailto:rickbell@db2-llc.com).



Left: One of the actual messages sent via FLDigi

BRAND NAME	QUANTITY
Adrenocort	2
Atropine	2
Calcium Chloride	4
Calcium Gluconate	3
Dextrose 50%	1
Epinephrine	5
Aprexone	2
Solu-Cortef	1
Narcan	2
Luminal	2
Sodium Bicarbonate	4
Sodium Chloride	6
Sodium Chloride 0.9% 250 ml Bag	4
Sterile Water	4
Narcuron	2

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2013 Rick Bell KB3IAC



# WACOM HAMFEST 2013

## Washington County Fairgrounds

2151 North Main Street, Washington PA

Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Setup at 6:30 AM

Talk-In on 146.790 (No PL)

Vendors contact:

Bud Plants N3TIR [bud@n3tir.com](mailto:bud@n3tir.com) 724-350-6745

WACOM, c/o Norma Plants N3YJJ, 236 Chambers Ridge Rd, West Alexandria PA 15376



First Prize:  
Second Prize:  
Third Prize:

Ameritron 811 HF Amplifier  
Flat Screen Hi-Definition TV  
to be announced

**VE Testing at 10:00 AM**

Black Box:

What is it? It's a Mystery!

— Only 50 Tickets Sold! —

iPad Drawing:

— Only 2000 Tickets Sold! —

**Main Prize Drawing at 1 PM**

Winner Need Not Be Present To Win

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



# Shutdown Delays K9W Wake Island DXpedition

John McCormick — [Bloomberg News](#)

For anyone questioning the reach of the federal government shutdown, consider Wake Island.

Not much more than military-plane refueling and classified operations occur on the unincorporated U.S. territory, a coral atoll located between Hawaii and [Guam](#), about 6,700 miles (10,780 kilometers) from the legislative standoff in [Washington](#).

That was about to change this week with the arrival of a dozen ham-radio operators who thought they'd won approval for a two-week commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World War II massacre of almost 100 U.S. civilian contractors on Wake Island by the Japanese on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1943.

Instead, after months of preparation, the trip is on ice because of a paperwork delay the group attributes to the partial federal shutdown, which started Oct. 1 as Republicans and Democrats failed to agree on a stopgap spending measure.

"They made it sound like it was just unfortunate timing," said [Craig Thompson](#), 61, one of the expedition's leaders. "At the level that it was at, they were focused on what they had to do to shut down government, to prepare their budgets and deal with all of the other changes that were going on."

The operation was of special interest to tens of thousands of ham operators inside and outside the U.S. The hobbyists collect contacts with all countries and islands in a practice known as DXing. Because Wake Island hasn't had a major radio [expedition](#) since 1998, there's great demand for its confirmation of a contact there.

## Missing Signature

All the paperwork was in place, except for final travel orders that needed one last Pentagon signature, said Thompson, an electronics company owner from central [Illinois](#) who is a veteran of radio expeditions to other remote locales, including Midway Island and Swains Island in the [Pacific Ocean](#).

"Due to the U.S. Government shutdown, the Wake Island K9W Forgotten 98's Commemorative DXpedition is now on hold pending a revised schedule," a notice posted on the group's [website](#) says in a reference that includes its special call sign.

The U.S. [Air Force](#) manages Wake and access is restricted. The group was to fly commercial on Oct. 2 to Honolulu, where they would have then boarded a military flight today to Wake.

The decision to cancel was made late on Oct. 1 after determining the group probably wouldn't get final approval in time to catch the second flight, flown once every two weeks.

## Anniversary Date

"They believed in the commemoration of these 98 people," Thompson said of the military. "Unfortunately, we are going to lose the significance of the Oct. 7 date, because that was actually when it happened."

Wake Island was annexed by the U.S. in 1899 for a cable station for trans-Pacific communications, according to the Central Intelligence Agency's [World Factbook](#). An air and naval base was built during 1940 and 1941, and in December 1941, just after the attack on [Pearl Harbor](#), the island was captured by the Japanese and held until the end of the war.

Some of the contractor prisoners of war killed on the island have yet to be identified and were interred in a military cemetery in Honolulu, Thompson said. Publicity about the expedition has already caused international attention and some people have brought forward DNA samples in hopes of repatriating the remains of missing family members, he said.

Since 1974, the island's airstrip has been used by the U.S. military, as well as for emergency landings. There are about 150 military personnel and civilian contractors on the island charged with maintaining the airfield and communications facilities, according to the [Factbook](#).

## Trip Budget

Sometimes those workers are ham operators, although one person isn't able to make the tens of thousands of contacts the expedition was planning during its around-the-clock operation.

The trip's budget is about \$140,000, Thompson said, with

## DX News Briefs



**XRØZR** to Juan Fernandez Island is set to depart on 6 November. They plan to be QRV late evening on 8 November. They are requesting that operators refrain from duplicate QSOs so that everyone has a chance. Internet access will be sporadic, but they will try to upload to ClubLog once per day. More information at <http://www.juanfernandez2013.com/> QSL via OQRS or IV3DSH — XRØZR

The Aitana DX Group are now QRV as **H7H** from the YN2N shack thru 16 October. More info at <http://nicaragua2013.com/> QSL via EB7DX — EB7DX

**TO2TT** is now QRV from Mayotte through 17 October. Details on their operations at <http://www.i2ysb.com/joomla5/> . QSL via I2YSB — I2YSB

**IZ1MHY** is QRV as **S79MHY** from AF-024 through 17 October, 10 15 & 20 M. QSL via IZ1MHY — IZ1MHY

**F4BDG** is QRV on all HF bands as **TO4FM** from Martinique NA-107 through 20 October. QSL via EA5GL — F4BDG

**PY3MM** will be QRV from Fernando de Noronha 18 - 28 October. He will be **PYØF/PY3MM, PRØF** (40 M only) during the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via PP5VB — PY3MM

**W6HGF** and **W4WV** will be QRV from the USNS Guantanamo Bay club station as **KG4HF** & **KG4WV** 11 - 25 October. Focus will be on RTTY & Digital modes, with some CW as time permits. More information at <http://www.qsl.net/w6hgf/KG4HF.html> . QSL KG4HF via W6HGF, W4WV via KG4WV — W6HGF

**IWØHEU** will be leaving for Mario Zucchelli Base, Terra Nova Bay, AN on 14 October. He will be QRV as **IAØMZ** in his spare time starting sometime in November, through 31 January 2014. QSL via IWØEFA — I1HYW

**9L1JT** will be QRV 14 - 22 October, 160 - 10 with focus on WARC & Low Bands. QSL via N4WDT — N4WDT

**JA1UII** will be QRV from Ogasawara 1 - 4 November as **JD1BON**. QSL via JA1UII — JA1UII

**Irriki Isalnd, Vanuatu** will be QRV 1 - 11 November. QSL **YJØAU, YJØCJ** & **YJØTE** via JA2ATE. QSL **YJØZS** via JA2ZS — DX World

A team of operators will be QRV as **YE5R** from OC-108 10 - 20 November. QSL via YB4IR — YB4IR

**Burkina Faso** will be QRV 17 - 26 November, by **OK6DJ** as **XT26DJ**, and **OK1FCJ** as **XT2FCJ**. More info at <http://www.grz.com/db/XT26DJ> QSL both via OK6DJ — DX World

**N3DXX** will be QRV from Tortola BVI as **VP2V/N3DXX** 19 - 29 November, including the CQ WW CW. QSL via NR6M — N3DXX

## QSL Routes

5WØTH via JP1TRJ — JA1HGY	HQ8S via KD4POJ — K4WSB
5X1NH via G3RWF — W4DN	HU2DX via DH7WW — W4DN
CX1AA via W3HNK — W4DN	HVØA via IKØFVC — LU2DKN
EJØPL via EI5JQ — JA1HGY	P29NO via EA5GL — LU2DKN
D2QR via RW6HS — W4DN	PTØS via W6OAT — K3BEQ
H4ØIOTA via NR6M — JA1HGY	T2YY via DH7WW — PAØWRS
H44IOTA via NR6M — JA1HGY	TT8JT via E73Y — W4DN
HD8A via HC2AQ — JA1HGY	T6LG via LZ1CNN — VE5RA
HK1X via EA7FTR — W4DN	VK9AA via DK2BJ — W4DN
HK1XX via EA7FTR — W4DN	VKØJJJ via K7CO — JA1HGY
HQ3W via KD4POJ — K4WSB	XW4XR via E21EIC — AA6AM
HQ8D via KD4POJ — K4WSB	YW5X via DM4TI — W3AWU
HQ8R via HR2RCH — AA5AM	ZK2C via DL7AN — W4DN

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.

Continued  
on Page 11





## 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.

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"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:

Radio Equipment	Computer Equipment
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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](mailto: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\\_armrS1](http://stores.shop.ebay.com/Randy-George-Custom-Signs_W0QQ_armrS1)

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](http://www.dashtoons.com) !

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operators investing a minimum of \$9,000 of their own money. Costs include reimbursing the government for the Boeing DC-8 flight from Honolulu to Wake.

"This was actually revenue neutral to the government," Thompson said. "All it would have done was make their flight more efficient. We were filling seats that wouldn't have been filled."

## FCC FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 — The FCC remains closed, as the Federal Government shutdown continues. All FCC websites, including the Universal Licensing System (ULS), are offline until further notice. The Commission's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, facility, which handles all Amateur Radio licensing transactions, is shuttered as well.

Here's how the FCC shutdown will affect Amateur Radio licensing application transactions and VE-administered examination sessions.

- The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) is open and conducting business as usual, within the constraints of the FCC shutdown (telephone number 860-594-0300).
- No VECs are able to file any applications with the FCC, nor can they research anything on an FCC online database.
- The FCC CORES registration system to obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN) is unavailable during the shutdown.
- During the period that Commission's electronic filing systems are unavailable, electronic filing requirements cannot be satisfied through manual filing, with or without a request for waiver of filing requirements.
- The ARRL does not expect the FCC to resume granting any Amateur Radio-related applications until it is again open for business (in other words, the FCC likely will not reopen immediately after shutdown ends; it will take some time to ramp up operations). If the FCC is unable to restore electronic filing systems on the day the government reopens, it may issue a Public Notice further extending filing deadlines.
- Volunteer Examination sessions may proceed as scheduled, at the discretion of the VEC and session sponsors; examination applicants should be made aware that application processing will be delayed.
- The ARRL VEC will receive and hold for filing any exam session applications and paperwork. VE session paperwork requires batch filing and an FCC filing number, but no VECs can file any applications or paperwork until the FCC reopens.
- Radio amateurs whose licenses expire between October 1 and the day after normal FCC operations resume may continue to operate until then, even if they have not yet filed a renewal application. Pending an official FCC announcement that states otherwise, applicants should apply for renewal no later than one day after the FCC reopens, if they want to continue to operate.
- Amateur Radio applicants who passed an upgrade examination may still operate with their new privileges, even if their applications have not been accepted for filing by the FCC. Applicants must have a Certificate of Completion of Examination (CSCE), issued by the VE team. Follow the identification instructions on the back of the CSCE.
- If the closing date for comments on an open FCC proceeding falls during the shutdown, comments will be considered timely filed on the day after the Commission reopens for business.
- The FCC's filing window, mail room, and all electronic filing systems will be unavailable until normal government operations resume. This unavailability of systems will impact the work of any entities requiring access to such systems/information, such as VECs and individual filers.
- Materials sent to the Commission by private delivery services may be returned to the sender. In this event, any materials will be due on the business day following the day of return to normal operations. (For example, if the shutdown stalemate ends on a Monday, the FCC would resume normal operations on Tuesday morning, and filings would be due on Wednesday.)
- The ARRL VEC is still processing International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) applications.
- It is still possible to reserve a 1 x 1 special event call sign, since that is not an FCC function.
- Only one "senior management official" in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau — which oversees Amateur Radio — was scheduled to be on duty for the extent of the shutdown.
- The FCC refers anyone calling regarding an emergency "affecting the safety of life or the protection of property" to a Washington, DC, number, 202-418-1122, or an e-mail address.

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**





# WASHfest 2014

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **NINETEENTH** big year!

Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall

3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA

Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL



**(800) 545-8881**

**DXCC Card Checking Available!**

Thanks Art Lund NQ3A

Breakfast & Lunch provided  
by **JACK'S CATERING**  
of Peters Township

*FREE Coffee for the entire Hamfest*  
courtesy of **HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES**  
of Canonsburg, PA

## MAIN PRIZES — You've Got to Play to WIN!



1<sup>st</sup> Prize: 100 W HF Radio (To Be Determined)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Comet CMX 2300  
HF/VHF SWR/Power Meter

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Clear Speech Speaker

**Additional Hourly Door Prizes! Special Black Box Prize**  
**(Separate Drawing)!**

**Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20**

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 [n3sbf@comcast.net](mailto:n3sbf@comcast.net)

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too! [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)

**Please Note:** Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Reservations received after February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 must include payment in full. Reserve now... we have sold out in advance four years running!

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Tables WITH Electricity: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to:  
**WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS**  
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:  
**WASHFEST 2014**  
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN  
4246 Seton Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!



# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2014



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

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

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

☐ (FM1) Family Membership (\$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: \_\_\_\_\_

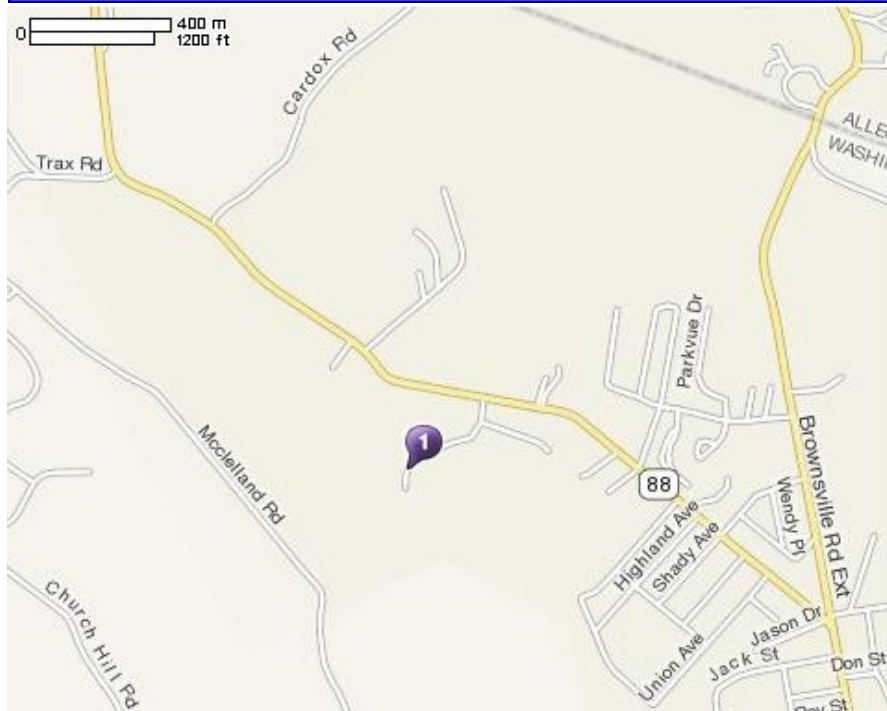
Name & Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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