



# WASHRAG<sup>TM</sup>

TM



VOLUME 17 ISSUE 03  
MARCH 2015



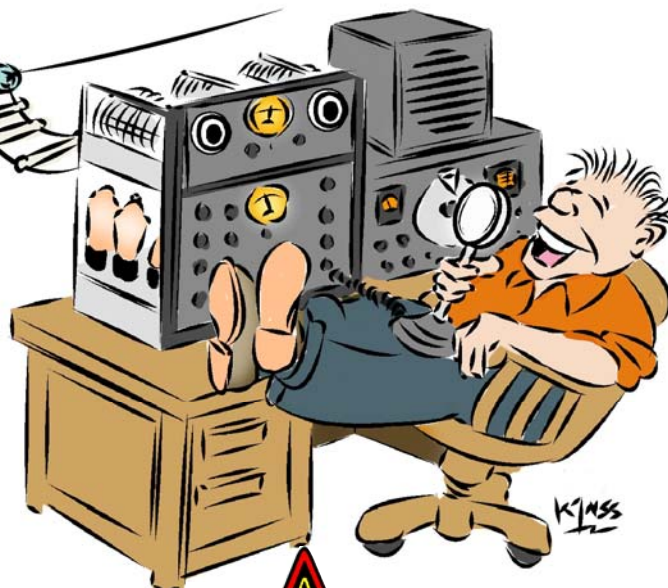
## WASHfest 2015



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org) [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)

Wireless Association of South Hills





# WASHRAG™



VOLUME 17 ISSUE 03

MARCH 2015

## Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2015**, in the Conference Room at the **St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park, by South Hills Village & Village Square** (map on the back page). The room is available at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be starting at 7:00 PM.

This month's topics include **WASHFest 2015**, pizza consumption, FLDigi programming and more. See you there!

Cover Photos: **WASHFest 2015** crowd shots. And there's many more pictures where those came from, in just a few more pages... Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN

## WASH 2015 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/B 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 2015 Committee	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Chairman
	Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Ron Notarius W3WN
Field Day 2015 Coordinators	Larry Comden K3VX
	Rick Bell KB3IAC

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

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

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

## THE LEGAL STUFF

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

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

This issue is © Copyright 2015 by the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

e-mail: **newsletter at n3sh dot org or w3wn at arrl dot net**

**"The WASHRag"**, **"The Mariner"**, **SHARCfest**, **South Hills Hamfest**, **WASHfest**, **WASHfest 2015**, **N3SH Net**, **WA3SH Net** and **WASHNet** are **™** trademarks of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

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

As always, special thanks to the owners & operators of both the N3SH/R Repeaters 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

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

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday**, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 7:00 PM, at **WPXI-TV Community Room**, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh, PA. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

**Walk-ins are accepted. However**, if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liaison Ron Notarius W3WN:

Telephone (412) 572-6723 or E-Mail: [w3wn@n3sh.org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org)

Please bring the following to your test session:

Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)

Pen / Pencil / Calculator

Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)

Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)

Check or Cash in the amount of **\$15.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates:    Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
                                   Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Location:                **WPXI Community Room**

### Carol's Comments



It is with great appreciation that I write this article to all the members that helped with the **WASHFest 2015**, especially those who were at the hall at 4 AM to help with the table set up.

And also to all those who were there throughout the day. With the cooperation of our members it ran very smoothly.

The food was great, thanks to Rick and Jan (even though she could not attend). I am sure Rick appreciated all the help he received.

Even though our attendance was lower than last year we did alright.

Our next project will be Field Day, last week end of June. There will be more info as we get closer. I am sure that will be a fun week end.

Hope to every one at our meeting this Thursday, March 12.

Happy St. Patty's Day to all. I think every one is a little Irish on that day.

— 73, Carol Danko KB3GMN

President, Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
 N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/b

The end has come for RadioShack as we knew it. RadioShack filed for bankruptcy protection on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Many stores are now closed or closing, many others will soon be converted to Sprint stores or similar outfits. Over half of the company owned stores will soon be gone. No word on how RS dealer-franchise stores will be ultimately affected, or even if the RS brand itself will survive in some form or another.

Usually, the last Saturday of February is not just the regular monthly gathering of **the WASH Breakfast Gang** at **Suzie B's**, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19 in Canonsburg, but is followed up by an hour or so of table setup for **WASHFest**. Well, due to the calendar, not this year! Instead, some of the survivors got together a week later to reminisce about the event, and a bunch of other stuff as well. This month, attendees included N3IDH, N3FB, KB3GMU, KC4WTT, WB4GCS, W3WH and W3WN. Morning topics included amazement from some that Bill W3WH actually owns a microphone (he says it's for use by guests), Pa QSO operations from N3IDH's home in the past, K1N QSL cards, upgrades, test session results, Ham Test Online, holding a Tech Plus, WW 2 veterans participating in the American Legion color guard, vertical antennas, Stepp IR vs 43 foot verticals, plans for a spring antenna party at KB3ERQ's house, repairing older radios, and plumbing issues. And a bunch of other stuff as well..

Our next gathering will be on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> (the week AFTER **WASHFest** this year) as usual at **Suzie B's**, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at 19, Canonsburg. Our "usual" tables will be reserved, but please let Jim WB4GCS know ahead of time, so that Suzie & her crew will have enough space available for us. See you there?

What else can we say about **WASHFest 2015**? It certainly was a success! It's unfortunate that we saw a drop in attendance this year, but that was expected considering the bad weather the day before; no doubt that many "regulars" (both vendors and attendees) didn't want to take a risk. Several people (including Amy of *Creations by Amy*) reported that their local streets hadn't been cleared of snow in time for them to leave. Frankly, we all knew that something like this would happen sooner or later... it could have been much worse. But enough doom & gloom... the good news is that everyone who did come had a great time, and are already looking forward to next year!

**2 Meter Contest Chair Needed:** Ron W3WN is currently editing the newsletter, running the VE team, and running the 2 Meter Simplex contest. Between the three, and everything else that goes on, it's getting to be more than he can handle, and this year's contest suffered a bit as a result. So he would like to pass the event on to someone who would have more time available to devote to it. One possible person has already been asked, someone who also is already doing a lot for the club... so if anyone else would be interested, now would be the time to step up. The event needs someone who can concentrate on it, starting in the fall. It's not a lot of work, but it does require someone who can devote the proper amount of time to do it right.

**2 Meter Net:** Glen KE7FD asks of everyone, "I want us to look ahead at the net schedule so that those assigned will be aware. If an assigned net control operator thinks that he cannot attend then please find a replacement or contact me as soon as possible. Appreciation to those who have stepped in last minute. If YOU would like give running the net a try, contact the scheduled net operator or myself. The script/preamble link is found on the left side of the page at [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org). I hope everyone checks the club web site for new stuff Sean puts out there."

You did remember that the March Meeting is **Pizza Night**, didn't you?

If you're going to **Dayton Hamvention** this year as part of NB3C's group, and haven't already done so, Greg needs your room payment ASAP.

A gentle reminder that we have a whole bunch of **new hams** popping up on the club repeaters these days. Please treat them as you wanted to be when you first got licensed (we know most of you already know this, but just in case...and there are a few 2 meter curmudgeons out there...)

The club's next two events are coming up in June. Our **annual picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest** at the beginning of the month, and **ARRL Field Day** at the end of the month. More on both of these events will be coming up in the next few weeks!

### WASHNet 2015 NCS Schedule

03/01/2015	Harold K3HCR	04/26/2015	Dave N3DFK
03/08/2015	Larry K3VX	05/03/2015	Fred KB3DCO
03/15/2015	Digital Night	05/10/2015	Glen KE7FD
03/22/2015	Rick KB3IAC	05/17/2015	Digital Night
03/29/2015	Bill W3WH	05/24/2015	Harold K3HCR
04/05/2015	Bob AB3ED	05/31/2015	Larry K3VX
04/12/2015	Carol KB3GMN	06/07/2015	Rick KB3IAC
04/19/2015	Digital Night	06/14/2015	Bill W3WH

Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2015 Today! Membership Application on Page 15!



## Minutes, January 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Ben Williams KB3ERQ, Vice President / Secretary, **WASH**

President Carol KB3GMN called the meeting to order at 19:04 hours. 18 members and guests were in attendance.

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

Motion to waive reading of the minutes based on the minutes printed in the newsletter by Bill W3WH, second by Larry K3VX, passed unanimously.

### Committee reports:

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

Secretary (KB3ERQ): No report

VE (W3WN via KB3GMN): Next VE session will be at **WASHFest** 2015. 9 pre-registrations already, so we will not be taking walk-ins. Other exam dates for 2015 are April 16<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at WPXI.

Repeaters (N3FB): Repeaters are repeating. Still waiting to talk with Steve about the WPRC paperwork, everything is ready to go.

NP2SH/b (N3BSQ): There have been intermittent reports of a chirp on the transmitter. The Beacon Coordinator says he can't hear it. Paul NP2JF is sending it back to Mike N3BSQ for repairs; he should have the parts on hand. Larry K3VX volunteered to help with any needed repairs.

**WASHNet** (KE7FD): Is netting.

N3SH.ORG (N3NWR): No report

Contests (K3VX): ARRL DX CW & Phone upcoming. Other major contests are listed in the newsletter.

Field Day 2015 (K3VX): Outlook Grove is not available for the whole weekend. Woodland Crest, across the street, is a possible alternative, if we can get permission from Allegheny County to stay there overnight

Public Service (N3RDV): No report

Ways & Means (KB3GMN): 50/50 tonight

Newsletter (W3WN): No report.

President (KB3GMN): Flyers available regarding Pittsburgh Marathon radio operators sign-up.

**WASHFest 2015** (KB3GMN):

- 48 tables sold, 24 to go
- Main prizes have arrived.
- Main Prize, Door, Black Box & 50/50 tickets are ready.
- New wristbands have been obtained.
- The hall is unavailable for setup on Saturday, so we will have to be there starting at 4 AM on Sunday.
- Jack can not do the catering after all for medical reasons. Rick KB3ERQ will run the kitchen., Preliminary menu includes meatball, hot sausage, and pulled pork sandwiches, with breakfast TBD.

Carol will talk on Friday with WPA SM Tim K3LR with regards to the ARRL rep, and a DXCC/WAS card checker.

Old Business: None

New Business: none

Good of the Order: none

Motion to Adjourn by Bill W3WH, second by Harold K3HCR and carried.

Meeting adjourned 19:40.

After a short recess, and the 50/50 drawing, a demo & installation, WASHFest post cards were processed by the group, and the February Arduino project continued for those participating.



## WASH Spotlight: Grandpa

Meet Adrienne Rose, born March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:25 PM, 7 lbs 5 oz.

She's being held by the club's latest grandfather, Harold K3HCR!

Photo courtesy of & © Copyright 2015 Harold Rosenberger 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

## 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 **Suzy B's**, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19, 1 mile North of Downtown Canonsburg. .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

AB3GM  
AB3NM  
AE3DL  
K3HCR  
K3LGM  
K3SGT  
K3VX  
KB3DCO  
KB3GMN  
KB3GMP  
KB3GMU  
KB3IAC  
KB3IVX

KB3JHR  
KB3ORO  
KC3DOF  
KC4WTT  
KE7FD  
N1NCZ  
N2QIV  
N3DFK  
N3FB  
N3IDH  
N3RHT  
N3SBF  
NU3Q

W3RWS  
W3VFA  
W3WH  
W3WN  
WA3VSS  
WB4GCS

WASH FL  
KA3UPY/M  
W4ZE  
WASH GA  
K3OL  
KB3IJX  
WASH NE  
NØPEU  
WASH OR  
NØVLR  
NØWPV  
KB3NVL  
KB3NVM

WASH OH  
N8DPW  
WASH SC  
N3RNX  
WASH TN  
KE3XB  
N3YPB  
WASH TX  
K3LGM  
Jane Wagner  
WASH VI  
NP2JF

### Silent Keys

AB3KA  
K3EED  
K3LIE  
KA3NMG  
KB3ENX  
KB3FNM  
KB3FQT  
N3FZ  
N3HKQ  
N3KEH  
N3OBD  
N3SKR  
N3SRC  
N3ZEL  
N3XFE  
W3ZLK  
WA3JPP

*If your call should be listed here & isn't, please contact Mark N3RDV*

Through March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2015 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

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

March 7 <sup>th</sup> —8 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting (Pizza Night!)	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
March 27 <sup>th</sup> — 28 <sup>th</sup>	CQ WPX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.cqwp.com/">http://www.cqwp.com/</a>
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	2 Rivers ARC Hamfest	<a href="http://www.trarc.net">http://www.trarc.net</a>
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
May 15 <sup>th</sup> —17 <sup>th</sup>	DAYTON HAMVENTION	<a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>
May 30 <sup>th</sup> —31 <sup>st</sup>	CQ WPX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.cqwp.com/">http://www.cqwp.com/</a>
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.org">http://www.breezeshooters.org</a>
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Butler Farm Show Grounds / Roe Airport, Butler PA
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
June 13 <sup>th</sup> — 14 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL June VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
June 27 <sup>th</sup> — 28 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Field Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

## A Special Thank You



To ARRL WPa SEC Harry Bloomberg W3YJ (back) ,and to Allen Carpenter W8OP, the DXCC card checker for West Virginia, (front), for coming to **WASHFest 2015**,

Both of these gentlemen came through at the last moment to represent the ARRL at our event, and did not let the less than favorable weather from the day before , or concerns about the weather on Sunday, deter them.

Your efforts above & beyond are greatly appreciated!

## Operators Needed

Amateur Radio Operators are needed to help provide communications for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on Mother's Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Operators are needed for fixed points along the course, and to shadow the race officials.

The race begins at 6:30 AM, and will take place at Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park.

If you are interested in volunteering for this worth cause, please contact Bob Mente NU3Q at (412) 279-9016, or [nu3q@nu3q.us](mailto:nu3q@nu3q.us)





*"Seen" at the February Meeting*

Photos courtesy of &amp; © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN



W3WH, K3VX



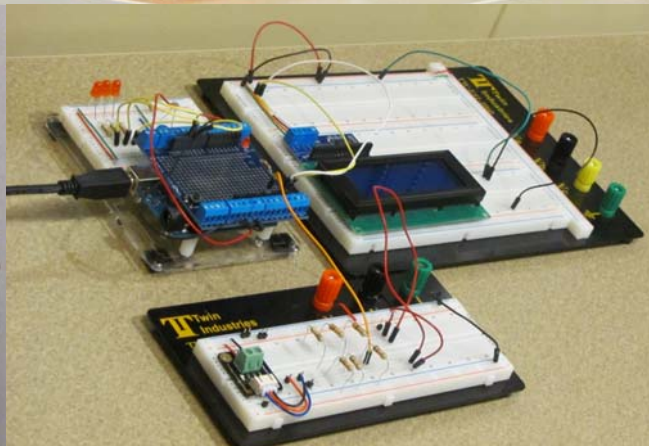
N3FB



KE7FD



K3HCR



N3SBF, N3BSQ



N3BSQ, KC3DOF



N3DFK



KB3IVX



KB3GMN



Reminder:  
2015 Dues  
Are Due!!



KB3ERQ



## A Code of Morals

Rudyard Kipling (circa 1890)

*Lest you should think this story true  
I merely mention I  
Evolved it lately. 'Tis a most  
Unmitigated misstatement.*

Now Jones had left his new-wed bride to keep his house in order,  
And hied away to the Hurrum Hills above the Afghan border,  
To sit on a rock with a heliograph; but ere he left he taught  
His wife the working of the Code that sets the miles at naught.

And Love had made him very sage, as Nature made her fair;  
So Cupid and Apollo linked, *per* heliograph, the pair.  
At dawn, across the Hurrum Hills, he flashed her counsel wise --  
At e'en, the dying sunset bore her husband's homilies.

He warned her 'gainst seductive youths in scarlet clad and gold,  
As much as 'gainst the blandishments paternal of the old;  
But kept his gravest warnings for (hereby the ditty hangs)  
That snowy-haired Lothario, Lieutenant-General Bangs.

'Twas General Bangs, with Aide and Staff, who tittupped on the way,  
When they beheld a heliograph tempestuously at play.  
They thought of Border risings, and of stations sacked and burnt --  
So stopped to take the message down -- and this is whay they learnt --

"*Dash dot dot, dot, dot dash, dot dash dot*" twice. The General swore.  
"Was ever General Officer addressed as 'dear' before?  
"My Love,' i' faith! 'My Duck,' Gadzooks! 'My darling popsy-wop!'  
"Spirit of great Lord Wolseley, *who* is on that mountain top?"

The artless Aide-de-camp was mute, the gilded Staff were still,  
As, dumb with pent-up mirth, they booked that message from the hill;  
For clear as summer lightning-flare, the husband's warning ran: --  
"Don't dance or ride with General Bangs -- a most immoral man."

[At dawn, across the Hurrum Hills, he flashed her counsel wise --  
But, howsoever Love be blind, the world at large hath eyes.]  
With damnatory dot and dash he heliographed his wife  
Some interesting details of the General's private life.

The artless Aide-de-camp was mute, the shining Staff were still,  
And red and ever redder grew the General's shaven gill.  
And this is what he said at last (his feelings matter not): --  
"I think we've tapped a private line. Hi! Threes about there! Trot!"

All honour unto Bangs, for ne'er did Jones thereafter know  
By word or act official who read off that helio.  
But the tale is on the Frontier, and from Michni to Mooltan  
They know the worthy General as "that most immoral man."

From a Google scan of "The Poems of Rudyard Kipling"  
By Rudyard Kipling, with a biographical sketch by Henry Ketchum  
Stanford University Libraries ©1900 by A.L. Burt Company, Publishers



Test Group 1 of 3

## WASHFest 2015 VE Exam Results

Ron Notarius W3WN, VE Team Liason

The WASH VE Team did not anticipate a large turnout for the VE Exams at **WASHFest** 2015. Since we resumed testing at the hamfest in 2013, we've only had a handful of candidates for each exam session.

Boy, were we in for a pleasant surprise.

By the week prior to the hamfest, we had 10 candidates pre-register. Another 3 contacted us on the Saturday before, and we had a pair of walk-ins as well. A total of 15 candidates sat for their Amateur Radio exams. The last time we had a turn-out that large was the year we gave exams in the "little hall" under the CSVFD building, across the parking lot.

Because of the space limitations we had in the small area that we used for testing, we ended up giving the exams in three "sessions," bringing in the next set of candidates as the previous ones completed their tests.

Of our 15 candidates, 12 succeeded in either getting a new license, or upgrading their existing one.

What was truly amazing, though... the first candidate in the first group had a perfect score. So did the second. And the third. In total, five of the six candidates in our first test session had perfect scores. One has to wonder what the odds of that happening are!

**Congratulations** to all of our successful candidates:

Mark Carsman N2CHJ	upgraded to Extra
John Keane KC3APT	upgraded to General
David Turnbull KC3DPU	upgraded to General
Harold Shearer KC3DUO	upgraded to General
David Spinnenweber KC3EKW	New Technician
Angela Toole KC3EKX	New Technician
Brandon Kelm KC3EKY	New Technician
Randy Kief KC3EKZ	New Technician
Charles Bihun III KC3ELA	New Technician
Christopher Dixon KC3ELB	New Technician
Anthony Altieri KC3ELC	New Technician
Linda Marden KE8AMQ	New General

Our thanks to all of the VE's who came and helped out, including those on "stand-by" that we didn't need to call on, this time around:

Glen Roberts KE7FD  
Gene Kern KB3JHR  
Susan Robishaw KB3JHQ  
Dave Demotte N3IDH  
Frank Bobro N3FB  
Jim Sanford WB4GCS  
Bill Hill W3WH  
Frank Sanns N3XI  
Bud Plants N3TIR  
Ron Notarius W3WN

Special thanks to Susan KB3JHQ and Gene KB3JHR, who volunteered to stay with the entire test session, permitting many of our other VE's to enjoy the hamfest.

Our exam sessions for the remainder of the year will be at the WPXI Community Room at the WPXI-TV studios, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup> & October 15<sup>th</sup>. Our thanks again to Frank Bobro N3FB for making the arrangements to permit us to use the WPXI facilities for our upcoming exam sessions.

— 73, Ron Notarius W3WN  
WASH VE Team Liason



Test Group 2 of 3



Test Group 3 of 3



# ***WASHFest 2015***

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN



Hall Setup 6:52 AM



Hall Setup 6:53 AM



Hall Setup 6:57 AM



Hall Setup 6:58 AM



Kitchen Setup 7:10 AM



Hall Setup 6:58 AM



WASHFest 2015

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN





**WASHFest 2015**

Photos courtesy of &amp; © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN



Above:

Bill W3WH [L] really enjoyed calling the winner of the 9:30 AM door prize... a very pleasantly surprised Joe N3WH [R]



WASH @ WASHFest 2015

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN



N1NCZ



N2QIV



KC3DOF



KB3ERQ, KB3GMU, N3FB



KE7FD



K3SGT



K3AIR



N3SBF



N3KFD, N3BSQ, K3WR



WA3NB



N3KFD



## North Korea QRV in 2016

Col McGowan MMØNDX courtesy of [DX World.Net](http://DX-World.net)

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 — On February 28<sup>th</sup>, DX-World.net [broke the news](http://www.dx-world.net) that Dom 3Z9DX had written permission to operate amateur radio from a VERY wanted DXCC entity.

Today, we can reveal that entity is **North Korea (P5)**.

Dom 3Z9DX explains he has received a further letter from authorities in Pyongyang inviting him to a final meeting to discuss [and for he to accept] rules by the North Korean military and the relevant telecommunications department.

This meeting will take place in December, with activity planned for January or February 2016.

According to P5 telecoms, Dom will be permitted only three bands (20-15-10) likely using a multiband vertical from a secured place in Pyongyang with two government supervisors over-looking 24/7.

Activity will last for 5 days.

At the moment, this is a solo expedition to the #1 Most wanted entity, using SSB only. He is working hard behind the scenes to get one more op (CW) to join him.

Please realize this project is a work in progress and try to understand that it may only be Dom who operates from P5.

More updates / website throughout 2015.

Any questions via Press Officer, Col MMØNDX.

— 73 Col MMØNDX for "P5-2016 Project" by 3Z9DX.

The Board of Directors of the Yasmé Foundation is pleased to announce that it has elected Ken Claerbout, K4ZW, and Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, to the Board, effective with the forthcoming Annual Meeting at Visalia, California. This action brings the number of Directors to nine.

Mr. Claerbout was first licensed in 1977 and is an active DXer and contester. He was the founder of the popular webinar program, initiated while he was serving as President of the Potomac Valley Radio Club. Mr. Claerbout has been instrumental in working with the students of the ET3AA club station who regularly activate Ethiopia on the HF bands.

Mr. Blondeel Timmerman was first licensed in 1980. He served as IARU Region 1 President for six years beginning in 2008 and is President and Board Member of the European DX Foundation. Mr. Timmerman is an active DXer and contester and has operated from 80 DXCC countries.

The Yasmé Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to amateur radio, including DXing (long distance communication) and the introduction and promotion of amateur radio in developing countries. For additional information about The Yasmé Foundation, visit our website at [www.yasme.org](http://www.yasme.org).

— 73, Ward Silver, NØAX, President

The 7QAA Malawi DXpedition is all set to be QRV on 11 or latest 12 March 2015 (depending on antenna-build). Visit our website at <http://www.malawidx.org/index.html> for the latest updates.

A reminder that we're trying a different approach with two teams for this DXpedition. Team one will operate from 11-22 March and focus on CW (3 stations), plus RTTY (1 station). Team two will take over and operate until 1st April covering SSB (plus the WPX contest), RTTY and PSK. This maximizes propagation opportunities and antenna availability for each mode.

We'll be offering Club Log (including the leader board function), paper QSLs and LoTW and will cover 160 through 10 meters, with 6 meters if condx allow, (only on CW and phone). QSL via N7RO.

This DXpedition is dedicated to Charles "Frosty" Frost K5LBU, who became a silent key on 14 February 2015

— 73, 7QAA DXpedition

## DX News Briefs



A very short video of the recent **K1N** Dxpedition can be found on YouTube, courtesy of Valerie NV9L: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51xqfySAOB8#t=78>

F5IVC is now QRV as **5V7SM**. He will be there for at least 4 or 5 years, reports DX World. At the moment, he is only active on 10 meters, but will soon have antennas up for other bands as well. QSL as directed on QRZ.COM — DX World

**E51IOU** will be QRV 9 – 21 March, HF, Holiday style. QSL via ZL1IU – ZL1IU

**9QØAR** will be QRV 10 – 25 March by the Italian DXpedition Team. More information at <http://www.i2ysb.com/idi> QSL via I2YSB -- I2YSB

**3W2JK** will be QRV from AS-130, 11 – 17 March, holiday style, 40 – 10, SSB RTTY & PSK-31. QSL via SP5APW – SP5APW

**5X1XA** will be QRV 11 – 18 March, 80-10, CW only. QSL via G3SWH – G3XAQ

**A35JR** will be QRV from OC-049 12 – 16 March, 30 – 10 CW & SSB. More information at <http://pandasan.iimdo.com> QSL via JAØHQ. – JAØHQ

ZS6AYU will be QRV as **A25GF** 20–22 March, 40–10 meters, CW. Possibly some 6 meters as well. QSL via ZS6AYU — ZS6AYU

**5JØB** will be QRV from San Andres Island NA-033 21 March – 4 April, 160 – 6, SSB & Digital modes. QSL via LU1FM – LU1FM

DL1RNT will be QRV as **8Q7NT**, holiday style, 25 March–2 April. He will be QRV on 40–10, CW RTTY & PSK-31. QSL via DL1RNT — DX World

Look for **9M2M** (ex 9M2SM) 28 -29 March during the CQ WPX contest. QSL direct – KB8NW

**5T2MM** will be a special call 17 – 20 April by 5T0JL. More information at <http://www.grz.com/db/5T2MM>. QSL via PY4KL – F3JL

**FP/NY4G** will be QRV 15 – 21 June, holiday style, 80-10, CW & RTTY. QSL via NY4G – KB8NW

RM2D/SM6LRR will be active as **XV2D** 23 Nov – 5 Dec, holiday style, with activity during the CQ WW CW contest. Primarily CW & SSB, possibly some digital. QSL via SM6LRR – SM6LRR

A multi-national team will have Palestine QRV during March 2016 as **E44Y**, with **E49Y** in use during the CQ WPX SSB contest. They will be on 160 – 6, CW SSB & RTTY. More information at <http://palestine.ig9y.com>. QSL via EB7DX – S59M

## QSL Routes

3Z2ØPMU via SP5PMU - OPDX	OR5T via ON4ALY - OPDX
4K7Z via RU3SD - OPDX	PJ7C via EB7DX - OPDX
6Y5/VE8DX via LY5W - OPDX	PQ45ØRIO via PY1AA - OPDX
AH2/AB2RF via JJ2RCJ - JA1HGY	SE2I via SA2BRN - OPDX
CM8AKY via RW6HS - OPDX	TO4R via FG1PP - JA1HGY
D44TBE via IK5CRH - W4DN	VI8ANZAC via VK1WIA - OPDX
E51HDJ via DJ5IW - JA1HGY	VK8NSB via M0URX - OPDX
E51UFF via LA5UF - OPDX	VP2ERJ via KG2A - JA1HGY
E51XW via DJ5IW - JA1HGY	XV2RZ via OH4MDY - OPDX
H91T via HP2BWJ - OPDX	XX9R via EB7DX - JA1HGY
HB125FMS via HB9OCR - OPDX	YP1ØEURAO via YO9KYO - OPDX
HG21IAS via DL2JTE - OPDX	YT45CW via YU1MM - OPDX
HP3/NL8F via K8NA - OPDX	YT6T via YU7CM - OPDX
HVØA via IØFVC - W4DN	Z81X via OHØXX - W4DN
J48TSL via SV2DGH - JA1HGY	ZD8O via OHØXX - W4DN
KH8Z via JH1AGT - JA1HGY	ZF2BH via OH2BH - OPDX
LZ137LO via LZ1KZA - OPDX	ZL1SLO via EA5ZD - OPDX
LZ386SKI via LZ1KCP - OPDX	ZS8Z via ZS1LZ - LU2DKN

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.**

### HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.

P.O. Box 201

Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201

Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944

[bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com](mailto:bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com)

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

Radio Equipment	Computer Equipment
Antennas Rotors & Towers	Computer Media & Software
Cellular Telephones	
Mechanical Breakdown & Electrical Damage Coverage	



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Attorney at Law**

The Cingolani Building

300 North McKean Street, Butler PA 16001

Phone: 724-283-0653

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)!

Shop for Dash items at his online store on Café Press, [www.cafepress.com/shopdash](http://www.cafepress.com/shopdash)



## FOX-1A CubeSat Ready for Launch

AMSAT News Service

Following successful vibration and thermal/vacuum testing, **AMSAT-NA's** Fox-1A CubeSat now sits in a clean environment awaiting launch. AMSAT Vice-President-Engineering Jerry Buxton NØJY, said that NASA, the launch provider, now is reviewing several required reports. Fox-1A completed its Mission Readiness Review at **Cal Poly** in San Luis Obispo, California, on February 24 before a review board of Cal Poly and NASA representatives, he said, adding that Fox-1A delivery and integration has been set for March 25.

"From there, we won't see her again, but certainly look forward to hearing from her again," he said.

Fox-1A will include a Mode B (U/V) FM transponder and capabilities similar to the **AO-51** satellite, which went dark in late 2011. The first phase of the Fox series 1-Unit CubeSats will allow simple ground stations using hand-held transceivers and simple dual-band antennas to make contacts. The **Fox-1** CubeSats also will be able to transmit continuous telemetry during normal transponder operation.

Fox-1A is scheduled to launch in late August from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, as part of the NASA Educational Launch of Nanosatellites (**ELaNa**) program, which offers free launches to educational entities and encourages science missions. Fox-1A will host a Penn State student experiment with micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS) detectors."

Meanwhile, AMSAT and University of Iowa have agreed to include the University's High Energy Radiation CubeSat Instrument (HERC) radiation-mapping experiment on the Fox-1D CubeSat. Fox-1D is a flight spare for Fox-1C, but AMSAT has said that if the CubeSat is not needed for that purpose, it would be ready for launch on any available slot.

## FCC FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 — "The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015" - H.R.1301 - has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions. US Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced the bill March

4 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle - seven Republicans and five Democrats. Kinzinger also sponsored "The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014, which died at the end of the 113th Congress. H.R. 1301 is an essentially identical piece of legislation.

"The introduction of H.R. 1301 with so many original co-sponsors, so early in this session of Congress, is very encouraging," said ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. "Several additional members of Congress already have agreed to be co-sponsors. This bill has momentum, but introduction is only the first step. Many of the next steps will be taken as ARRL members contact their US Representatives urging co-sponsorship and thanking them as they sign on to the bill."

If Congress approves the legislation, and it is signed by the president, H.R. 1301 would require the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply the three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs). At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances. The FCC has been reluctant to extend the same legal protections to include such private land-use agreements without direction from Congress.

H.R. 1301 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel's Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure. The League had worked with Walden on the 2014 bill during the 113th Congress.

Among H.R. 1301 initial co-sponsors is Rep Joe Courtney (D-CT), who attended the ARRL National Centennial Convention last summer to speak with League officials and those attending the event about the earlier bill.

Craigie encouraged ARRL members to urge their US House members to sign on to the bill as a co-sponsor. The ARRL has an H.R. 1301 resources page on its website at, <http://www.arrl.org/hr-1301>. If the House member is already a co-sponsor, call the member's local office or send an e-mail via the member's official website to express their thanks. She called on League members to encourage other hams to do the same, and to be sure to refer to the bill by its number, H.R. 1301.

"Remember what those pile-ups on the W1AW portable stations sounded like last year?" Craigie said. "Let's be that avid in calling for even greater support in Congress for this essential legislation."

Comments are due by April 6 on an FCC proceeding that could lead to expanded spectrum for various radar applications in the 76-81 GHz band, which Amateur Radio shares with other services. The band

77.5-78 GHz is allocated to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services on a primary basis, and to the Radio Astronomy and Space Research services on a secondary basis. The FCC released a detailed Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Reconsideration Order (NPRM&RO) in ET Docket 15-26 on February 5. The Commission said the proposals include allocation changes as well as provisions "to ensure that new and incumbent operations can share the available frequencies in the band."

The FCC NPRM&RO was in response to a 2012 Petition for Rulemaking (RM-11666) from Robert Bosch LLC and to two petitions for reconsideration of the Commission's 2012 Report and Order (R&O) addressing vehicular radar systems in the 76-77 GHz band. ET 15-26 incorporates earlier proceedings. Among many issues, the FCC seeks comment on the possibility of reallocating the Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite services from 76-81 GHz, and it asks for suggestions on "alternative spectrum that we might make available in this general region."

Bosch's 2012 Petition sought to modify the FCC's Part 15 rules to expand the operation of unlicensed vehicular radar systems from 76-77 GHz to the 76-81 GHz band to develop short-range radar (SRR) applications. Noting that it "has previously recognized evidence of potential interference conflicts" between Amateur Radio and vehicular radar systems in the 76-77 GHz band, the FCC said it believes the potential for "similar compatibility issues" could exist above 77 GHz. More than 10 years ago the FCC suspended Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite operation in the 76-77 GHz segment and recently extended the suspension.

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



# WASHFest Main Prize Winners

First Prize: Kenwood TS-590S Tim Zinn KC3AUY  
 Second Prize: LDG AT-200 Pro Kurt Badstibner N3JPQ  
 Third Prize: Kenwood TM-281A Tim Zinn KC3AUY  
 1<sup>st</sup> Black Box: Chuck Davis N3UUZ  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Black Box: John Grazulis WO3X  
 50/50: Norma Plants N3YJJ

Center Photo: KB3GMN & KC3AUY, courtesy of and © Copyright 2015 Glen Roberts KE7FD

Right Photo: N3UUZ, courtesy of and © Copyright 2015 Ron Notarius W3WN



## WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest Results

Non Member							Member						
Call	PH Q	CW Q	DG Q	ZIP	PWR	Score	Call	PH Q	CW Q	DG Q	ZIP	PWR	Score
<b>K3FS</b>	30	0	0	21	<b>1</b>	630	<b>K3HCR</b>	48	0	0	23	<b>1</b>	1104
N3BPB	11	0	0	10	1	110	WB4GCS	9	2	0	8	1	104
WO3X	4	0	0	3	1	12	<b>N3FB</b>	28	1	0	20	<b>2</b>	1200
<b>N3LZV</b>	4	0	0	3	<b>2</b>	24	KB3GMU	15	0	0	12	2	360
<b>KA3KSP</b>	37	0	0	15	<b>3</b>	1665	KE7FD	14	0	0	11	2	308
							KA3YCX	14	0	0	8	2	224
							<b>N3RDV</b>	4	0	0	4	<b>3</b>	48
Non Member Mobile							Member Mobile						
Call	PH Q	CW Q	DG Q	ZIP	PWR	Score	Call	PH Q	CW Q	DG Q	ZIP	PWR	Score
AB3PJ	25	0	0	20	1	500	KB3IAC	77			28	2	4312

Power Levels:  
 1 High Power  
 2 Low Power  
 3 QRP (HT) Power

*Just a few more pictures...*







# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application/Renewal for 2015



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 2015 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: \_\_\_\_\_





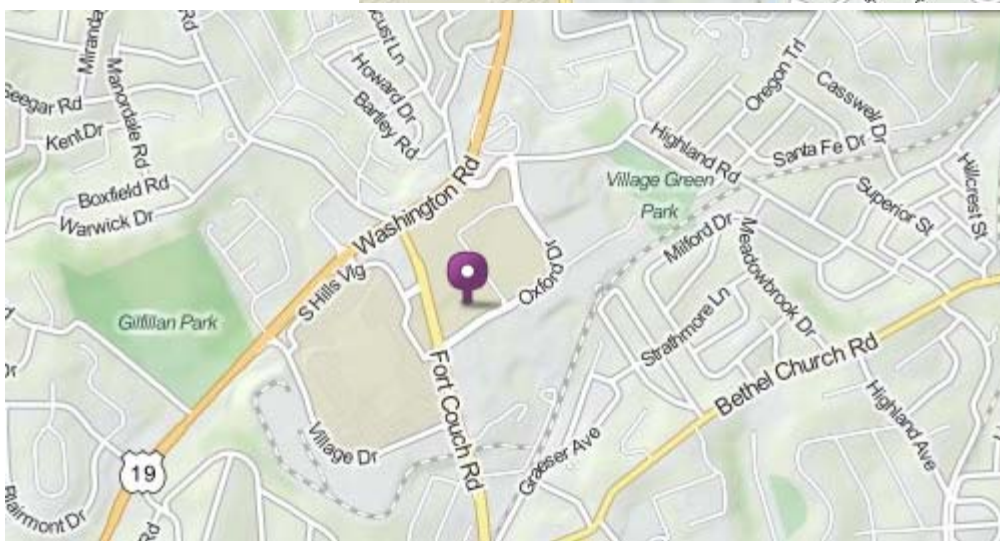
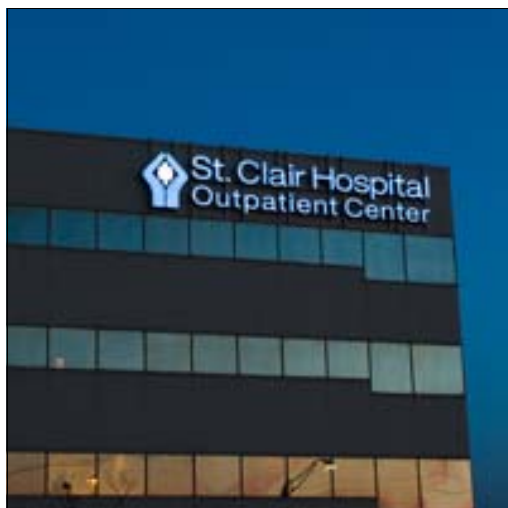
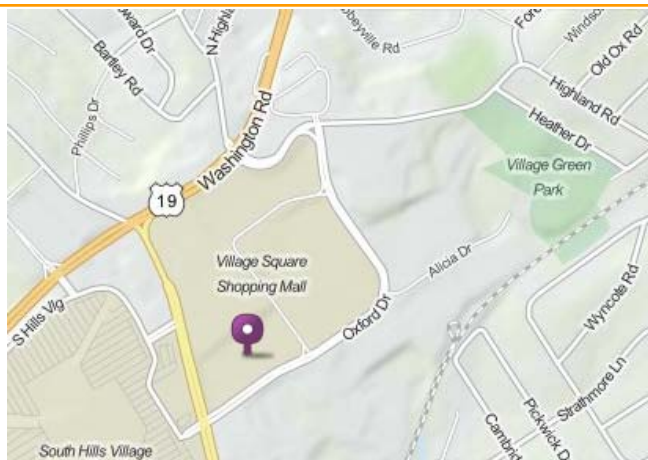
# 2015 WASH Meeting

## Location

### St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room

2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park PA 15102

Adjacent to Village Square Mall, across Ft. Couch Road from  
South Hills Village Mall, just off of US Route 19



## The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor

3395 Rosewood Drive

Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

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



KOHS 26—28 March

**Remember:  
March Meeting  
Post-WASHFest  
Pizza Night!!**