VOLUME 18 ISSUE 03. MARCH 2016 #2

WASH Fest 2016 Special Edition

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Wireless Assoc

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www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org





Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, April 7th, 2016

The next meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on Thursday, April 7th 2016, 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.

Meeting topics will include the ongoing kit project, Field Day plans, Dayton Hamfention, Repeater updates, other club plans for 2016, and more. See you there!

Cover Photos: Scenes from WASHFest 2016. Well, that is kinda the point of this "extra" edition, isn't it? Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2016 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee WA3SH Trustee NP2SH Trustee N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager Ron Notarius W3WN NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager VE Team Liaison Webmaster Asst. Webmaster Quartermaster WASH FM Net Manager WASHFest 2016 Committee

Activities & Operating Events Ways & Means WASH 2M Contest Chair Field Day 2016 Coordinatora

Larry Comden K3VX Rich Danko N3SBF Paul Jordan NP2JF Carl Schroeder K9CS Ron Notarius W3WN

Sean Sleeman N3NWR Ben Williams KB3ERQ Harold Rosenberger K3HCR Glen Roberts KE7FD Carol Danko KB3GMN. Chairman Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair Rick Bell KB3IAC Carol Danko KB3GMN Jim Sanford WB4GCS **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		APRS Digipeater

N3SH / WA3SH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Monday Night, 8:00 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.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

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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 & 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 14th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday**, April 14th, 2016, 7:00 PM, at the **WPXI Community Room**, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15214. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Pre-registration is required. Walk-ins will NOT be

accepted due to limited available space. If you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Ron Notarius W3WN:

Telephone (412) 572-6723 or E-Mail: w3wn at n3sh dot 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 (tentative): July 21st, 2016 October 20th, 2016

We usually start off every newsletter with a recap of the latest escapades of **the WASH Breakfast Gang**, but since the March newsletter came out early, and the April newsletter will come out after the March gathering... so anyway, once again we gathered at *Suzie B's*, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19 in Canonsburg. This go around included WB4GCS, KB3YCX, N3IDH, N3BPB & friend (sorry Bill, we missed her name!), KB3JHR and W3WN. Topics of the morning included grandsons coming home for 2 weeks leave prior to deployment or next assignment, running 60 Amp service to the tower, today's sermon, Windows 7 vs. Windows X, using a Raspberry Pi for browsing and email, busting Verizon Wireless, dating a basketball player, getting one's own invitation to the wedding, living on the edge of the snow belt, taking Windows X off of a machine, replacing phones, having a 2 meter AM transmitter as a kid, LED lighting, the demise of the Tribune-Review home newspaper delivery service, what happened to the Observer-Reporter, general thoughts for the next day's *WASH*Fest, and more.

Sounds like a good time? Come and find out at our next get-together! Our next gathering for 2016 will be on Saturday, March 26th, as usual at *Suzie B's*, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at 19, Canonsburg. Our "usual" tables will be reserved, but <u>please</u> let Jim WB4GCS know ahead of time, so that Suzie & her crew will have enough space available for us. (We really don't want to fight the State Police for seats... we'd lose!) See you there?

The ARRL UHF Contest scheduled for this August has been cancelled.

Following input from contesters, the Contest Advisory Committee decided that this year's event should be cancelled while changes, including rescheduling it to another time of the year, are being considered



Since this is an "extra" issue of the newsletter this month, we don't have all of the usual features. What we do have, besides some news tidbits, are pictures from *WASH*Fest 2016, starting right here. Read, view and enjoy!

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!



WASHNet NCS Schedule						
03/28/2016	Carol KB3GMN	05/09/2016	Harold K3HCR			
03/28/2016	Swap Net	05/16/2016	Digital Net			
04/04/2016	Chuck KC3ELA	05/23/2016	Larry K3VX			
04/11/2016	Dave N3DFK	05/23/2016	Swap Net			
04/18/2016	Digital Net	05/30/2016	Mike WA3PYU			
04/25/2016	Fred KB3DCO	06/06/2016	Rick KB3IAC			
04/25/2016	Swap Net	06/13/2016	Bill W3WH			
05/02/1016	Glen KE7FD	06/20/2016	Digital Net			

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

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2016 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change March 26th— 27th CQ WPX Contest SSB http://www.cqwpx.com/ St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, April 7th WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park WPXI Community Room, 4145 April 14th WASH VEC Exam Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA April 24th Two Rivers ARC Hamfest http://www.trarc.net/home St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, Mav 5th WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park May $20^{\text{th}} - 22^{\text{nd}}$ **Dayton Hamvention 2016** http://hamvention.org/ St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, June 2nd WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park Breezeshooter's Hamfest Big Butler Fairgrounds, 1127 New Castle June 5th Road (US 422), Prospect PA 16052 WASH Picnic @ Breezeshooter's June 25th— 26th ARRL Field Day http://www.arrl.org St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, July 1st WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park July 16th North Hills ARC Hamfest http://www.nharc.org July 17th Somerset County ARC Hamfest http://www.k3smt.org WPXI Community Room, 4145 July 21st WASH VEC Exam Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, August 4th WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park August 28th Skyview RS Hamfest http://www.skyviewradio.net St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, September 1st WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park September 3rd Uniontown ARC Gabfest http://www.w3pie.org October 1st—2nd 51st California QSO Party http://www.cap.org/ St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, October 6th WASH Meeting 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park October 8th — 9th 59th Pennsylvania QSO Party http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html WPXI Community Room, 4145 October 20th WASH VEC Exam Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA

Scenes from a Hamfest Photos this page courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Bob Timmons AB3ED



A Look Around, Later in the Morning Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Frank Bobro N3FB



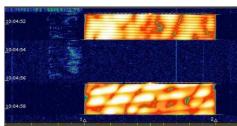
Two More... Photos below courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Bob Timmons AB3ED



Over The Horizon Radars Becoming Routine Visitors on Amateur HF Bands IARU Region 1 Monitoring System, Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (Europe/Africa) Monitoring System (IARUMS) reports a spate of over the horizon (OTH) radar signals on various Amateur Radio HF bands — exclusive and shared. Many of these signals are being heard outside of the Region 1 confines.

A 50 kHz wide Russian OTH radar has been heard in the evening on 80 meters, often in the CW part of the band. An "often long-lasting" Russian OTH signal about 13 kHz wide is being heard on the 7000-7100 kHz segment of 40 meters, while some digital traffic (FSK or PSK), and a "Codar-like radar from the Far East" are being heard in the 7000-7200 kHz segment as well as non-amateur CW transmissions.



The Australian OTH radar "JORN" (FM CW burst mode) on 21.293 MHz with different sweep rates. Screen shot by Wolf Hadel DK2OM. The same OTH radar being heard on 40 meters also is appearing on 20 meters, along with digital traffic in FSK or PSK and on CW and broadband OTH radar signals from China. Some monitoring reports are intriguing, such as this one on 14.280 MHz from IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM: "Female voice with encrypted msgs — figures — "SZRU" = Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine in Rivne — every Wednesday at 1005 UTC."

Broadband OTH radars from China, Australia, Cyprus, and Turkey have been monitored in 15 meters. On 10 meters, radars from Iran with FM CW and different sweep rates have been monitored, as well as fishery buoys on CW, and taxi operations on voice from Russia.

Voice traffic from fishing operations has been heard on all or most HF bands, as well as a variety of broadcasters, including the third harmonic of Radio Tajik (4765 kHz) on 14.295 MHz, Radio Taiwan and Myanmar Radio, both on 7.200 MHz, and Radio Hargaysa in Somalia on 7.120 MHz.

The February 2016 IARU Region 1 Monitoring System <u>newsletter</u> offers more details. There is an online <u>archive</u> of past issues

Former QSL Manager Mary Ann Crider WA3HUP (SK)

Glenn Kurzenknabe K3SWZ, Kay Craigie N3KNm and Bernie McClenny W3UR/The Daily DX Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Well-known QSL manager for DX stations and a former manager of the Third Call Area QSL Bureau Mary Ann Crider WA3HUP, of Duncannon, Pennsylvania, died on March 12th after a period of failing health. An ARRL member, she was 91. DX chasers during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s likely received QSL cards from DX stations for which she handled QSLing chores.

In 2005, the ARRL Executive Committee voted unanimously to name Crider the recipient of ARRL President's Award for her contributions to the cause of international goodwill through her long service as a QSL manager and as manager of the ARRL Third Call Area Incoming QSL Bureau. When she stepped down, the National Capitol DX Association (NCDXA) took over the bureau, with noted DXer Fred Laun, K3ZO, at the helm. At the time, Laun cited Crider's "encyclopedic knowledge of DXCC entities and call sign prefixes...built by her work in the trenches, as illustrated by her DXCC confirmed total of 360 entities."

Before she became the bureau's manager, Crider served as a sorter for 11 years. Among the DX operators she served as QSL manager was King Hussein of Jordan, JY1, and she made several trips to Jordan to visit him.

Crider was licensed as a Novice in 1967. Her late husband was W3GE (ex-W3HTO).

A service is set for Saturday, March 19th

Fox-1C and Fox-1D Satellites Ready for Payload Integration

AMSAT News Service Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

<u>AMSAT</u> reports that its Fox-1C (Fox-1Cliff — renamed in honor of the late AMSAT pioneer and benefactor Cliff Buttschardt K7RR, who turned Cal Poly into Cubesat central and caused the explosion of cubesats onto the worlds) and Fox-1D satellites are ready for delivery to Spaceflight Industries for integration into the Sherpa payload dispenser which will be making its maiden flight. Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D successfully finished environmental testing on February 8. Launch is set for later this year on a SpaceX Falcon 9.

Until delivery, the CubeSats will be sealed in anti-static bags, opened occasionally to charge the batteries so they will be fully topped off for delivery. Launched into sun synchronous orbits,

Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D will carry the same FM repeater as Fox-1A (AO-85), in addition to a Virginia Tech camera experiment that will take images of Earth for high-speed downlink. Fox-1Cliff will also contain a radiation experiment from Vanderbilt University ISDE, like the one in AO-85, and Fox-1D will host the University of Iowa High-Energy Radiation CubeSat Instrument

Left: The boards of Fox-1Cliff Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 AMSAT

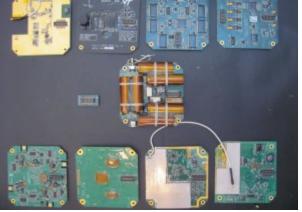
The Fox Engineering Team now has shifted its focus to RadFxSat/Fox-1B, currently set to launch in January 2017.











A View From the Aisles

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Bob Mente NU3Q



The "Last Man Standing" Amateur Radio Club KA6LMS is a Class Act

Robert L. Moses Jr. AC5RM courtesy of QRZ.COM

.A few weeks ago, I saw on facebook that the TV show "Last Man Standing" had activated its own club and were on the air. I was lucky enough to work them literally moments after they began.

My nine year old daughter was beside herself to hear this and to hear the station, since she- and I, I must admit- are huge fans of the show. I was the coolest Dad on the planet when I talked to them.

I wrote out a card to send so I could get a card back, mainly to give to her. But I was out of stamps, so I left the opened card lying on the desk.

The next day, armed with stamps, I set out to send it in, only to find that my little rat had snuck a note to "Mike Baxter", asking about her favorite character, Eve, and whether she had a license. I left the note in the envelope and sent it.

Today, Chey got the mail and saw we had a card. When I opened it and discovered it was from the show she instantly got interested.

Then we saw the two additional cards they sent- one of "Mike Baxter"s cards with a personal note to her signed "Mike" AND Mandy's "KFØXIE" card for her personal collection! That little girl was so excited she cried and danced around. It truly made her day, and now she's determined to get HER license too, so she "might get to talk to Eve."

I just wanted to publically say thanks to the club if any members happen to read this. You made a little fan VERY happy, and excited about ham radio, so by extension, you made one fat old Daddy very happy!

(Editor's note: Would you believe that some hams have actually applied for the KAØXTT and KFØXFE calls under the vanity program? 2x3 calls with an "X" as the first letter of the suffix are "Group X" calls assigned to the Experimental Service and are not available to the Amateur Radio Service.)





at 8 pm/7c on

WASHFest 2016: Setup



Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN

Sauder Electronics Setting Up

K3VX & WE3U chatting

KB3GMN & KE7FD Prepping the Club/Prize Table













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Out & About at WASHFest 2016

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN





This year, we had 11 candidates pre-register for ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Exams prior to *WASH*Fest 2016. 9 actually arrived and sat for new or upgrades; 8 passed their exams for new or upgraded licenses.

Congratulations to: Charles Bihon KC3ELA, Upgrade to General Chris Wilson KC3GIQ, Upgrade to General Justin Maier KD2KOI, New Technician Charles Brockhoff KC3GRH, New Technician Michael Salvitti KC3GRI, New Technician Keegan McCormick KC3GRJ, New Technician Warren Leung KC3GRK, New Technician Matai Zhonnate KC3GRL, New Technician

Our thanks to all of the VE's who took time out of the hamfest to assist the VE session:

Glen Roberts KE7FD, Dave DeMotte N3IDH, Gene Kern KB3JHR, Ken Frackenberry AA3GM, and Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI. Also thanks to Bob Mente NU3Q, who was available but needed, and Jin Sanford WB4GCS, who was present but not available due to a potential conflict of interest.

And our apologies for the less than ideal conditions, as the back "store room" was the only space available. Hopefully this condition will change at future hamfests!

73, Ron Notarius W3WN, VE Team Liason

Photos courtesy of & Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN

Main Prize Winners

1st Prize: 2nd Prize: 3rd Prize: 4th Prize: 1st Black Box 2nd Black Box 50/50

Yaesu FT-991 Yaesu FT-2900R Clear Speech Speaker 440 MHz Beam Bruce Bailey KC3GIR Cathy Freehling KB3OYS Richard Lococo W3DVE

Rick Pierce N2QPQ Rick Bell KB3IAC Mike Ackerman WZ8F George Syner WA3OGQ

First Prize being presented



arol KB3GMN announcing the main prize winners

Ah, not exactly a

hearty handshake



Two Rivers ARC 45th Annual Hamfest Sunday, April 24th, 2016, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

The Spectrum

6001 Smithfield Street, Boston, PA 15135 (Off PA Route 48) Talk-in on 146.73 Mobile Check-In 146.52 Admission \$5 More Information at http://www.trarc.net

62nd Annual Breezeshooters Hamfest **ARRL Western PA Section Convention**



Sunday, June 5th, 2015, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM New Location! **Big Butler Fairgrounds** 1127 New Castle Road (US 422), Prospect PA 16052 Admission \$5

More Information at http://www.breezeshooters.org



Skyview Radio Society Swap'n'Shop

Sunday, August 28th, 2016, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA Talk-in on 146.640 PL 131.8



Uniontown ARC GabFest 67th Annual Hamfest

Saturday, September 3rd, 2016, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM Setup Time at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road just off Route 51 & US 119, Uniontown

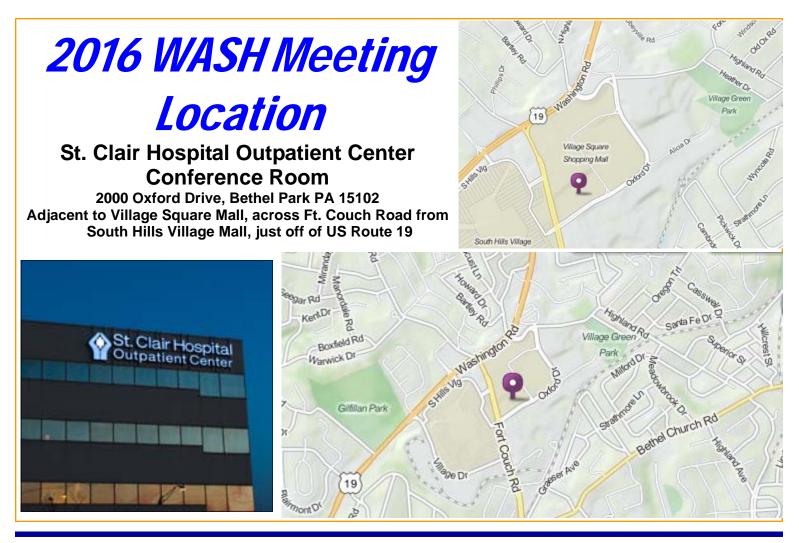
Talk-in on 147.045 PL 131.8 Free Admission — Free Parking — Free Swap-N-Shop Setup With Registration More Information at www.w3pie.org/gabfest.htm



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. Membership Application, New or Renewal



I would like to join WASH! I am interested in	the following type	e of membership:	New Membershi	o 🗆 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
\Box (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 f	amily members):	\$		
Name(s):				
Name:		Call Sign:		
Address:		License Class:		
City, State:		Expires On:		
lome Phone:		Work Phone:		
Email Address:		Birthday:		
New Members Only:		ARRL Member?	🗆 Yes 🗆 No Famil	y ARRL Member? 🗆 Yes 🗆 No
 I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailin [If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you cl 		Date:		
		Amount Enclose	d: \$	
Signature:	_			
information is up to date			; PA 15102-2456	NATION
Join the Amer	ican Rad	dio Relay	League o	SOCIATION OF
Renew Your	Membe	rship thro	ugh the	5
WIRELESS ASSO	OCIATION	of South	HILLS, INC	· ·
Members of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION membership in the American Radio Relay I Benefits for you: Joining and participatin Benefits for th	League, the Nations in everything th	onal Organization of F	Radio Amateurs, thro r, including a QST s	bugh the club. 🌱 🎜 🏳
Just fill out the form below, include a chee	ck or money orde treasurer or r		/ARRL, and return a	ll to the club
c/o M	SS ASSOCIATION O	of South Hills, Inc. DV, VP/Treasurer ht Drive		
Name:				
Address:				
City, State, ZIP:				
Please Check the Appropriate One-Year Rate:				
			Family Members at th	e same address (\$8 per family member)
□ \$49 in US				
Age 21 or younger, \$20 in US (only if you are the oldest licer Canada \$49	nsed amateur in your	household) Nar	ne & Call Sign:	
Elsewhere \$62		Nar	ne & Call Sign:	
Other (including Blind, Life, QST by First Class Postage — ple	ease contact ARRL fo			
Dues subject to change without notice		Nar	ne & Call Sign:	



The WASHRag

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



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