



WASHRAG

TM



VOLUME 18 ISSUE 06
JUNE 2016

Wireless Association of South Hills



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 18 ISSUE 06

JUNE 2016

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, June 2nd, 2016

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, June 2nd 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 Breezeshooter's Hamfest, Field Day2016, 501(c)(3) progress, updating the bylaws, other club plans for 2016, and more. See you there!

Cover Photo: This huge Hex Beam was mounted outside of the HARA Arena at the 2016 Dayton Hamvention.

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2016 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	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
WASHFest 2016 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	Jim Sanford WB4GCS
Field Day 2016 Coordinators	Rick Bell KB3IAC
	Bill Hill W3WH

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 **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.

This issue is © Copyright 2016 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@n3sh.org or w3wn@arrl.net

"The WASHRag", **"The Mariner"**, **SHARCfest**, **South Hills Hamfest**, **WASHfest**, **WASHfest 2016**, **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 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 July 21st

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday**, July 21st, 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 not required. Walk-ins welcome!

But 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-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): October 20th, 2016

Carol's Comments

I believe the warm weather has arrived!

Looking forward to seeing all at the Breeze Shooters Hamfest on June the 5th. We will have our usual picnic, but I am not sure exactly where we will be. All I know is that we have 3 spaces reserved.



Our June meeting is on the 2nd, just a few days before the Hamfest. We will be discussing Field Day and all we have to do for that week end. Including antenna's, radio's, food, and of course those who plan on attending. It falls on the 25th and 26th of June. It will be at the Babcock Grove in South Park. I am sure Ron will have all the info in this news letter as to how to get there.

Happy Fathers Day to all.

— 73, Carol Danko KB3GMN
President, Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/b

The Argentine **NuSAT-1** carrying the **LUXEY** (LU Satellite Experiment) Amateur Radio U/V linear transponder and 436 MHz beacon launched May 30 at 0317 UTC from China. With **NuSAT-1** on the launch was sister satellite **NuSAT-2**, which carries a 437 MHz beacon. The satellites are equipped with an imaging system operating in visible light and infrared. Signals have been reported from both telemetry beacons, and Satellogic reports, "All Systems: Nominal."

Saturday, May 28th was a cool, bright, sunny start to Memorial Day weekend. So you'd figure that a lot of folks would take advantage of the long weekend to sleep in, yet several intrepid souls managed to find their way to join this month's gathering of **the WASH Breakfast Gang** at **Suzie B's**, 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19) in Canonsburg. In attendance this time around were WB4GCS, KC4WTT, KB3GMU, KB3DCO, KB3YCX, N3IDH, N3DFK, K3SGT & Barb, and W3WN. Table topics covered Fed Ex shipping, test equipment that took a power surge, How was Dayton?, conditions of the HARA Arena, Randy N3ZK is getting married — in Pigeon Forge TN (congratulation Randy!!), the 4 KV switches, Bill's ankle, surgeries, moving to Sarasota FL, woodworking equipment, shunt loading of masts, planes trains and amateur radio... and that doesn't include the other end of the table!

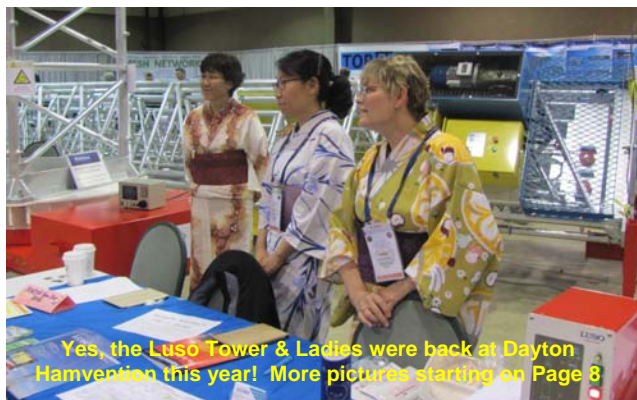
Don't forget that our next gathering of the Gang will be on Saturday, June 25th, as usual at **Suzie B's**, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at 19, Canonsburg. Our "usual" tables will be reserved, but **please** let Jim WB4GCS know ahead of time, so that Suzie & her crew will have enough space available for us. (We really don't want to fight the State Police for seats... we'd lose!) [We may also due a "split squad" at the South Park Eat N Park for those who plan to proceed straight to Field Day setup, TBD.] See you there?

On the mend: Hopes for a speedy recovery to Pat KC4WTT, who is recovering from recent rotator cuff surgery. And the same to Bill W3WH, who stepped in a 'gopher hole' in the background and broke his ankle. (Ouch!)

This newsletter is being pushed out a mere days away from **the 2016 Breezeshooter's Hamfest** on June 6th, at it's new location, the Big Butler Fairgrounds on US 422 in Prospect, PA. The club has already paid for three 'flea market' spaces to be shared amongst club members, and this will also host our regular **WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooters**. As usual, the club is purchasing the burgers. Carol KB3GMN is handling the hot dogs, grill, charcoal, and such. As usual, we're asking all club members who are coming to bring a snack or side dish, and we need (as always) buns, condiments, paper and plastic, drinks... please coordinate with Carol during the week so that we don't run short of anything and have doubles of others. Also, don't forget to bring a chair or two to sit on... those of us setting up to sell or trade usually have extra, but a few more never hurt!

With Bill's recent injury and his limited means in getting around until he recovers, the **N3SH Field Day 2016 crew** is going to need a little bit extra help on Friday and Saturday, mainly in getting antenna wires up in the trees, and the other usual setup and such that Bill has done. Please contact co-chair Rick KB3IAC or Carol KB3GMN and let us know, if you are available, what you can do to help!

Is this year going by fast, or what? **Breezeshooters** and **Field Day** are almost upon us, and before you know it, **Pa QSO** will be here too!



Yes, the **Luso Tower & Ladies** were back at Dayton Hamvention this year! More pictures starting on Page 8

WASHNet NCS Schedule

06/06/2016	Rick KB3IAC	08/01/2016	Glen KE7FD
06/13/2016	Bill W3WH	08/08/2016	Harold K3HCR
06/20/2016	Digital Net	08/15/2016	Digital Net
06/27/2016	Bob AB3ED	08/22/2016	Larry K3VX
07/04/2016	Carol KB3GMN	08/29/2016	Mike WA3PYU
07/11/2017	Chuck KC3ELA	09/05/2016	Rick KB3IAC
07/18/2016	Digital Net	09/12/2016	Bill W3WH
07/25/2016	Dave N3DFK	09/19/2016	Digital Net

Indicates Swap Net After the Regular Net

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

Minutes, May 5th Meeting

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

Carol KB3GMN called the meeting to order at 19:10 hours. 16 members and 3 guests were in attendance.

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

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): Next test session will be July 21st at WPXI, future dates are in the newsletter. Thanks again to WPXI for the use of their community room for testing this year, & to N3FB for making the arrangements. New question pool for Extra Class is due out July 1st.

Repeaters (N3FB): Repeating. Voter in 65 needs work. Still haven't gotten up to 955. Has some ideas for the machines.

WASHNet (KC3ELA): Reminder that we will now have a monthly swap net after the regularly scheduled weekly net, on the 4th Monday

N3SH.ORG (N3NWR): No report

Contests (K3VX): Upcoming events listed in the newsletter.

Field Day (KB3IAC/W3WH):

- Four volunteers for possible FD op at St. Clair Hospital. (8 more indicated interest) Venard is in the process of getting equipment. Setback on the antenna location, due to upcoming changes with the SCH Helipad.
- Harold, Richie and Bill went to South Park earlier today to inspect the grove. Site looks more than adequate. No problem with antennas. Tower Trailer may need to be across the road from the shelter.
- Short discussion on lunch & dinner situation.

Public Service (N3RDV): No report

Ways & Means (KB3GMN): Member contributions will be accepted tonight.

Newsletter (W3WN): Out.

President (KB3GMN): Count of hands for Breezeshooter's. Those who want Field Day pins should see Bill or Richie after the meeting, they will pick them up at the Dayton Hamvention.

Old Business: Rick KB3IAC continued last month's discussion of the bylaws.

- Mark provided a 3 year breakdown of club income and expense,
- Short discussion on why we need to "restore" our articles of incorporation. Copies passed around to all members. Specific discussion on Article 9 (Disposition of Assets), which is a new article.
- Further discussion on Article 5 (Purpose) since the IRS requires an explicit statement of purpose.
- Long discussion on Article 6 (Limitations), specifically on the club not being able to take a political position as a group or as a whole.
- Article 7 (Board of Directors): Club needs 3 directors in addition to the club officers (directors CAN be the officers, but directors come first)
- Motion by Bill W3WH to accept the articles of incorporation as presented, with agreed upon modifications, as accepted by the membership at large. Second by Harold K3HCR. Motion carried unanimously.
- Carol KB3GMN thanked Rick for all of his hard work on the bylaws (applause)
- Motion by Rick KB3IAC, second by Bill W3WH, to accept the detailed Treasurer's report and to permit Mark to pay the bills as authorized. Passed unanimously.

New Business: None

Good of the Order:

Rick KB3IAC demonstrated a new QRP portable power source.

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

Meeting adjourned at 20:21



WASH Spotlight: CAP



Mike K3AIR at the CAP booth at Hamvention, discussing some of the finer points of their communications equipment.

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN

Every month we're going to feature a **WASH** club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH Spotlight**. Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at [newsletter at n3sh dot org](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 **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

AB3ED	KB3RVI	W3VFA	WASH FL	WASH SC	Silent Keys
AA3GM	KC3DOF	W3WH	KA3UPY/M	N3RNX	
AB3NM	KC3ELA	W3WN	W4ZE	WASH TN	AB3KA
AE3DL	KC4WTT	W4CKR	WASH NE	K3OL	K3EED
K3HCR	KE7FD	WA3PYU	N0PEU	KE3XB	K3LIE
K3SGT	KI5ZT	WA3VSS	WASH OR	N3YPB	KA3NMG
K3VX	N1NCZ	WB4GCS	N0VLR	WASH TX	KB3ENX
KA3VXM	N3DFK	WO3Z	N0WVPV	NB3C	KB3FNM
KB3DCO	N3FB		KB3NVL	K3LGM	KB3FQT
KB3GMN	N3IDH		KB3NVM	KB3IJX	KB3JHQ
KB3GMU	N3KFD		WASH OH	Jane Wagner	N3CZZ
KB3IAC	N3RDV		N8DPW	WASH VI	N3FZ
KB3IVX	N3RHT			NP2JF	N3HKQ
KB3JHR	N3SBF				N3KEH
KB3ORO	NU3Q				N3OBD

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

Through May 5th, 2016
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

KA3NMG
KB3ENX
KB3FNM
KB3FQT
KB3JHQ
N3CZZ
N3FZ
N3HKQ
N3KEH
N3OBD
N3SKR
N3SRC
N3ZEL
N3XFE
W3ZLK
WA3JPP

2016 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

June 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
June 5 th	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Big Butler Fairgrounds, 1127 New Castle Road (US 422), Prospect PA 16052
	WASH Picnic @ Breezeshooter's	
June 11 th — 13 th	ARRL June VHF Contest	http://www.arrl.org
June 25 th — 26 th	ARRL Field Day	http://www.arrl.org
July 7 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
July 16 th	North Hills ARC Hamfest	http://www.nharc.org
July 21 st	WASH VEC Exam	WPXI Community Room, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA
July 24 th	Somerset County ARC Hamfest	http://www.k3smt.org
August 4 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
August 28 th	Skyview RS Hamfest	http://www.skyviewradio.net
September 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
September 3 rd	Uniontown ARC Gabfest	http://www.w3pie.org
September 10 th — 12 th	ARRL September VHF Contest	http://www.arrl.org
September 11 th	Butler Co ARA Swapfest	http://www.w3udx.org
October 1 st — 2 nd	51 st California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org/
October 6 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
October 8 th — 9 th	59 th Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html
October 14 th — 16 th	Jamboree On The Air	http://jotajoti.info/
October 20 th	WASH VEC Exam	WPXI Community Room, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA
November 5 th — 7 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 6 th	WACOM Hamfest	http://www.wacomarc.org
November 12 th — 19 th	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	http://www.arrl.org

"Seen" at the May Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



ARRL "Strongly Supports" RM-11767 to eliminate 15dB gain limit on Amateur Service Amplifiers

In comments (found at <http://www.arrl.org/attachments/view/News/84458>) filed on May 26, the ARRL said it "strongly supports" a petition to the FCC seeking to eliminate an Amateur Service rule, spelled out in §97.317(a)(2), that amateur amplifiers not be able to boost the RF input signal by more than 15 dB. The *Petition for Rule Making (RM-11767)*, was submitted in April on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, [Expert Linears America LLC](#) of Magnolia, Texas.

"The *Petition* proposes relief that is in the nature of eliminating unnecessary regulatory underbrush, and it continues an effort started by the Commission on its own motion in 2004...to do precisely that," the ARRL said in its comments. "The rule proposed to be eliminated is outdated; it constituted overregulation when it was adopted long ago, and it now substantially limits the flexibility of Amateur Radio operators to experiment with the current generation of software-defined Amateur Radio equipment."

The 15 dB provision came into the rules during an era when the FCC initiated various actions to rein in a major interference problem resulting from the use of illegal 11 meter amplifiers during the Citizens Band radio boom of the 1970s. "In its effort to address that problem, the Commission enacted a series of largely redundant and overlapping regulations that, in their overall effect, unnecessarily (and inappropriately) penalized the wholly innocent Amateur Radio operators," the League asserted. "There was created a plethora of restrictions on manufacturers of external RF power amplifiers."

The ARRL noted that while the FCC eliminated some of the unnecessary regulations in 2004, others remain, including the 15 dB gain restriction. The rules adopted in 1978 also called for type acceptance (certification) of manufactured RF power amplifiers operating below 144 MHz, including a 50 W minimum drive power requirement and a ban on amplifiers capable of operation between 24 and 35 MHz.

"Indeed, precisely the same rationale for elimination of the 50 W minimum drive power rule in 2006 applies to the elimination of the 15 dB gain rule for amateur amplifiers," the ARRL said in its comments. "There is no continued justification for retaining the 15 dB gain limitation."

The League agreed with the petitioner that a current generation of low-power Amateur Radio transceivers, including software-defined designs, cannot drive an amplifier to full legal power given the 15 dB limitation. "It should not be necessary to configure an Amateur Radio station to include an additional amplifier stage in order to make use of current SDR technology in the Amateur Service," the ARRL said.

After 2-1/2 months of intense negotiations, ARRL has reached an agreement with the Community Associations Institute (CAI) — the national association of homeowners associations — concerning amended language of the [Amateur Radio Parity Act](#). This will allow H.R. 1301 to proceed to what is hoped will be passage of the bill in both houses of Congress this year.

"We express support for H.R. 1301, the Amateur Radio Parity Act, as proposed to be amended," the CAI statement said.

ARRL, working with CAI and Congressional staff, agreed on an amended bill that would allow every amateur living in a deed-restricted community the ability to install an effective outdoor antenna.

"We are pleased with the agreement with CAI over new proposed language in the legislation, and thank CAI and the Congressional staffers who helped make this happen," ARRL Hudson Division Director and Legislative Affairs Committee Chairman Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, said. Lisenco stressed that, while the agreement with CAI is significant, there is still much work to be done.

"This agreement with CAI is a big step forward, but getting the Amateur Radio Parity Act signed into law remains a long process. ARRL will still need to call upon the membership to contact their elected officials and ask for their affirmative vote on this bill," he said.

[More information](#) on the Amateur Radio Parity Act is available on the ARRL website.



Part of the ARRL Expo at the 2016 Dayton Hamvention



Youngsters at St Thomas More Cathedral School in Virginia remain optimistic that their [STMSat-1](#) CubeSat, deployed on May 16 from the International Space Station, will begin transmitting a signal. The CubeSat was rebooted from the ground just after 0400 UTC on May 24. Helping in the search is the Space Science Center at Morehead State University in Kentucky, which is using its 21 meter dish to scan multiple frequencies for the spacecraft's signal. STMSat-1 is supposed to transmit on 437.800 MHz FM and transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) pictures back to Earth.

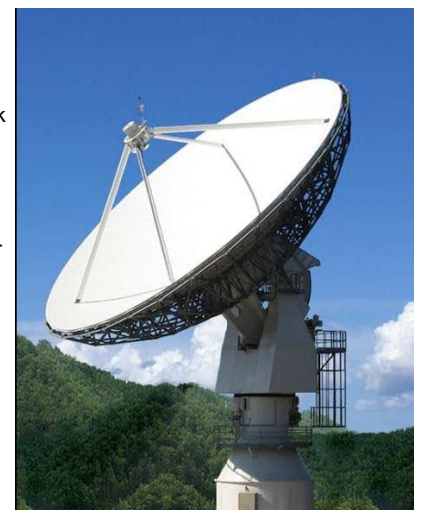
"Morehead University picked up something within our frequency range last night," STMSat-1 Education Manager Emily Stocker said May 25 in response to an ARRL inquire. "It may have been us; it is possible it was [MinXSS](#)." The University of Colorado's MinXSS was deployed from the ISS at the same time as STMSat-1. Stocker said they were trying to determine if Morehead State picked up a beacon, which probably would suggest a MinXSS signal, or SSTV data, which would likely confirm a signal from STMSat-1. In addition, JA0CAW posted a tweet reporting a signal heard on 437.800 MHz at 1225 UTC on May 25.

The signal to reboot STMSat-1 was scheduled after the satellite had not been heard from for 7 days. STMSat-1 was supposed to turn itself on once its batteries were fully charged and its mechanized antennas deployed.

Pupils at the school built STMSat-1 during a 4-year-long project, and the satellite was launched to the ISS last December. After being placed in orbit (it is [object 41476](#)), the CubeSat initially continued roughly in the same orbit as the ISS and of other satellites deployed on May 16, but it's been moving away a little bit each day. The youngsters have been tracking its orbit.

The satellite is designed to transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) images (Robot 72) of Earth on 437.800 MHz FM. Stocker advised all those interested to follow the STMSat-1 [Twitter](#) feed, @STMSat11, to stay up to date.

The satellite is the first to be designed and built by grade schoolers, who were supported by NASA technical advisors and local radio amateurs. NASA's Technology Demonstration Office provided the school with a mobile "clean room" for the construction and a ground-station antenna. The agency has been advising the school on tracking the satellite and finding its signal.



Morehead State's 21 Meter dish, which is being used to help locate the satellite

Seen" at Hamvention 2016

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



Jeff K1NSS of Dashtoons



Mike K3AIR swapping war stories with Jack K4PIH at the MARS Booth



Vibroplex was doing a brisk business all weekend



Dave N3IDH at the WACOM tables



Lori KB3GMU and Frank N3FB



The new Elecraft KX2. Displayed by owner Bill NY9H



Mike Dishop N8WFF (left), owner of Ten-Tec, Dishtronix and as of June 1st, Alpha Amplifiers, discussing his plans



One of the Quicksilver Radio young ladies... standing by a certain sign



Think Yaesu brought enough hats to give away this year?



Hamvention is not just for North American hams! A lot of hams from all over the world were spotted.

Seen" at Hamvention 2016

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



Above and left:
Just a small sample of the
equipment seen inside the
arena and in the flea market

Below:
Ah, how can we put this
politely? Call these photos
"People of Hamvention"?

Yes, Lemon James was there again this year



Ah, frankly, I didn't dare ask...



Personally, I think I'll stick with my HT



More From Hamvention



HI3TEJ, always a solid signal from the Dominican Republic, spotted lurking at the Yaesu exhibit



John AD8J (center), formerly of the WPA DX Association, resting prior to the DX Forum at the Dayton Hamvention.

Dave K3LP (Left) and Paul N6PSE (right) talking about the 2016 VP8SGI/VP8STI DXpedition at the start of the DX Forum



If you've downloaded the **WASHRag** from the N3SH web site, or picked up a copy from a friend... you can sign up to have the PDF copy sent directly to your email. You **do NOT** have to be a member of **WASH**!

Just send an email to wa3sh-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and the automation should take care of the rest!

DX News Briefs



On Tuesday 17 May **V44KAI** lost all his test and radio equipment in his workshop, along with those stuff he had there working on for hams, due to a FIRE. Nothing was saved. A very great loss to him and others. Let us sympathize and support him in his losses in whatever way we can, 27 years of equipment accumulation isn't easy, (no insurance)

He has lost everything. test equipment and all. nothing left. except his log (it was on a flash drive in car). He does NOT have PayPal & can only take help by postal money order. sending him equipment will require him to pay a duty tax to customs. it will take him YEARS to get back where he was. Anyone in a position to help, please contact me. I'll make him out a postal money order & send when it gets to looking like that's all that's coming. Thanks! — W5TFW

"**VU2TS** has asked me to spread the word that he is **NOT** active on CW. His beam is down and is only working PSK and JT65 using a co-linear antenna." — KA2PBO

JA6WFM is now QRV as **A31MM**, OC-049, through the end of 2017, 160—6. QSL via EA5GL — OPDX

FY/F6CKD will be QRV through 15 June, primarily on 20 & 17 meters. QSL via F6CKD — F6CKD, OPDX

KK7PW is QRV as **5X10** through 8 July. He is limited to 40, 20, 15 & 10 meters, QRP, between -0300 -0430Z. QSL via EA5GL — OPDX

9H3G will be QRV 28 June—4 July, 40—10 "holiday style" on CW SSB RTTY & PSK. QSL via JH3FUK — OPDX

MMØGOR will be QRV as **MM1E** during the IOTA contest, 30—31 July. QSL via MMØGOR — MMØGOR

OM6NM will be QRV as **SV8/OM6NM** during the IOTA contest, 30—31 July. QSL via OM6NM — OM6NM

VE3LYC/KL7 will be QRV from NA-172 Cooper Island 1—5 August, 40—10, CW & SSB. QSL via VE3LYC — VE3LYC

CY9C will be QRV from St. Paul Island NA-094 19—29 August. They recently announced that they have added satellite capability. More info at <http://www.cy9dxpedition.com/> QSL via WA4DAN — CY9C

EA3BT & EA3WL will be QRV as **S9BT** and **S9WL** from AF-023 26 September—1 October, 40—6 meters, primarily SSB with some RTTY & CW. QSL via EA3BT — EA3BT, OPDX

ZL7G will be QRV from Chatham Island OC-038 27 October—10 November, 160—10 CW SSB & RTTY. Up to four stations will be QRV at any one time. More info at <http://www.6gw.org.uk> — 6G Team

QSL Routes

4U6F via S57DX — S53R
 4XØA via 4X1VF — KB8NW
 4W/JI1AVY via JJ2VLY — JA1HGY
 5JØP via SP6IXF — LU2DKN
 5X10 via EA5GL — KK7PW
 5WØXG via JA1XGI — JA1HGY
 8P5A via NN1N — W2SC
 C6AKV via WAØUSA — WAØUSA
 CN2AA via UA2FM — KB8NW
 CR3W via DL5AXX — DL2CC
 D4Z via HB9DUR — KB8NW
 D41CV via D4C — YL2KL
 EG9LH via EC7DZZ — KB8NW
 HC2AO via RC5A — UA4WAE
 JV5A via WV6E — LU2DKN
 LX/OO9O via OO9O — ON7SS
 P4/WJ2O via N2ZN — W4DN

PJ7/WJ2O via N2ZN — W4DN
 PWØFN via OHØXX — JA1HGY
 R1PV via UA4WHX — SV1DPI
 RI44ANT via UA4WHX — NR6M
 RIØKV via UA4WHX — SV1DPI
 RIØQV via UA4WHX — SV1DPI
 S9BK via HB9BEI — JA1HGY
 SU9VB via UA4WHX — LU2DKN
 TIØDX via TI2SW — JRØAMD
 TK/SP7VC via SP7VC — W4WN
 TO2EE via K2HVN — JA1HGY
 TY1AA via I2YSB — LU2DKN
 VE7ACN/7 via RWØCN — W3AWU
 VP8SGI via KU9C — LU2DKN
 VP8STI via KU9C — W4DN
 YN/WJ2O via N2ZN — W4DN
 Z36T via DJØLZ — N6TA

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News Reflector, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, DX Coffee, DX World.Net, ICPO Bulletin, & ARRL DX Bulletin for our DX News information. Thanks also to the 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

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

Radio Equipment	Computer Equipment
Antennas Rotors & Towers	Computer Media & Software
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 !

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



A donation of \$29,000 on behalf of the Don Wallace Museum Foundation (DWMF) was recently given to NCDXF.

After 30 years the DWMF is closing down, as the area of the famous W6AM Rhombic Ranch in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, has succumbed to residential property development, announced board chairman Joe Locascio K5KT. "The donation comes with NO restrictions or caveats. As I strongly suspect, Don (the original) W6AM would favor such a donation to an organization dedicated to DXing!"

Former notable members of the DWMF include the Honorable Barry M Goldwater K7UGA as Honorary Chairman, John Alexander K6SVL, John Vanderlip (Son of Frank Vanderlip - early developer of Palos Verdes), Ken Dyda, former founding Councilman of Rancho Palos Verdes and current sitting Mayor as well as several others that were dedicated to the memory of Don C. Wallace W6AM and Radio here on Palos Verdes.

Mr. Locascio states, "We are in the last efforts in closing down the Don Wallace Museum Foundation, Inc... now after nearly 30 years of existence. The W6AM Radio Club will continue as long as needed to support the W6AM call sign."

"We, the board of directors of the DWM Foundation, make this donation on behalf of previous donors, many of which were DXers and were looking forward to some Radio activity with respect to the old W6AM Rhombic Ranch here in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. Unfortunately, we the BOD, were not able to achieve our long term goal of an actual Museum with an active Radio station on the property. However, there is an 18" X 24" Bronze Plaque that is attached to a BIG, heavy Palos Verdes rock that is placed at the entry way to the Wallace Ranch (see SEP '15 QST, page 20), where 83 homes are now placed entirely (if not mostly) on the ~24 Acres of property owned by W6AM at the time of his death in May of 1985."

"This large grant to NCDXF is our way of letting the donors to the museum know the funds were passed to a charitable foundation whose goals are consistent with the museum goals."

The NCDXF board of directors has assured the DWMF that the donated funds will be carefully used to support DXpeditions to the most wanted entities, which tend to be the most expensive.

— Glenn Johnson WØGJ, NCDXF Vice President

FCC FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, May 26th, 2016 — An Arizona radio amateur has been unsuccessful in convincing the FCC to take a 1 x 2 vanity call sign away from its present holder and grant it to him. In the process, Joshua Babb, K6FZ, may have learned not to rely on informal advice from FCC staffers. Babb, of Maricopa, Arizona, had been trying to get the initial-suffix call sign W3JB since 2014, and he was briefly successful. The prior holder of W3JB, John K. Birch, had died, and the 2-year waiting period was set to end on August 18, 2014. Babb filed an application for W3JB in July 2014, however, claiming an exemption to the 2-year waiting period on grounds that he was the deceased licensee's nephew, and the FCC granted it. Subsequently pressed to document that relationship, Babb indicated that Birch actually had been his great-great uncle, the FCC recounted in an Order on Reconsideration released on May 25 — a relationship that did not qualify for an exemption.

"Because you did not qualify for the exemption, the [Mobility] Division concluded that you should not have been granted call sign W3JB during the 2-year waiting period," the FCC told Babb in its Order.

The FCC proposed to modify Babb's license by replacing W3JB with KD7HLX, but in September of 2015, Babb filed to swap W3JB for the available K6FZ, which was granted the following month. Under Commission rules, when a call sign is granted in error after the normal 2-year waiting period has ended, it becomes unavailable for 30 days after the erroneous grant is rescinded. The FCC informed Babb of this provision at the time it granted K6FZ, telling him he could reapply.

Babb sought clarification of the W3JB availability date from an FCC staff member, who calculated that it was November 2, 2015. Babb filed two preference-list applications for W3JB on that date as well as one on November 3 and another on November 5. The FCC instead granted W3JB to Scott Phillips of Plano, Texas, who had filed a competing November 3 application and was granted through the FCC's "standard lottery process." The FCC staffer subsequently informed Babb that his advice had been incorrect, and that November 3 was the correct date.

On December 1, 2015, Babb file a Petition for Reconsideration of the grant to Phillips, arguing that, based on his prior staff communication, the call sign should have become available on November 2. The FCC said such a petition "must identify a material error, omission, or other reason that justifies further consideration" and that Babb's Petition failed to do so. The FCC said its Universal Licensing System (ULS) had processed the applications correctly.

"[E]rroneous staff advice is not grounds for reconsideration," the FCC said in its denial Order. "Licensees are obligated to know the Commission's rules. It is well established that an applicant acts on staff advice at his own risk." In any case, the FCC pointed out, Babb nonetheless had filed an application on the correct day.



Silent Keys



Elmer "Bud" Frohardt W9DY, 93, March 22nd. He was the inspiration for "Elmer" the mentor of new hams, as first described by Rod Newkirk W9BRD(SK)

Has Roadway found the tower yet?

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

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.skyviewradio.net>



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 State Route 51 & US 119 or State Route 43), 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



Butler County ARA Swapfest 2016

Sunday, September 11th, 2016, 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters

Unionville Volunteer Fire Department

102 Mahood Road (at Route 8 North), Butler, PA 16001

Talk-in on 147.360 PL 131.8

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.w3udx.org>



WACOM Hamfest 2016

Sunday, November 6th, 2016, 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Vendors Setup starting at 6 AM

Washington County Fairgrounds

2151 North Main Street, Washington, PA 15301

Talk-in on 146.790 PL 131.8

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.wacomarc.org>



62nd Annual BreezeShooters Hamfest & Computer Show

Sunday, June 5th, 2016 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
at the Big Butler Fairgrounds, 1127 New Castle Road (US 422), Prospect PA
\$5 Per Person Admission Donation

Indoor Tables & Tailgate / Flea Market Spaces Available

Flea Market spaces \$10 for the first space, \$5 for each additional space

Farm Show Grounds open at 5 PM May 31st for Vendor & Tailgate Setup

Indoor Tables \$20 per table and may be reserved by contacting
Bob Benna N3LWP (412) 366-0488

Or mail reservations to 1010 Willow Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15237

Table reservation cut-off date May 20th, 2015

More information on prizes and tables, please contact:
Jim Heiles KB3IYS (412) 600-1979 kb3iys@hotmail.com

Download directions & the latest flyer from the BreezeShooters Web Site at
<http://www.breezeshooters.net>



Eighteenth Annual WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 5th, 2016
from approximately 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
At the **WASH** Club Location
Somewhere Out in the Flea Market

(We have 3 spaces together, exact location to be determined)

*A tradition at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest for over 28 years on & off,
and a WASH formal or informal activity for the last 17!*

Spend the morning meeting your fellow WPA & Regional Hams, buying or selling stuff & dodging roving golf carts full of Breezeshooters — then join your fellow **WASH** members and our invited friends for lunch, friendship, bragging rights, and (if set up and operational) operating N3SH/3 from the Flea Market!

This will be a "Pot Luck/Covered Dish" Picnic — The Club has traditionally provides the burgers and hot dogs; we're asking everyone coming to bring buns, soft drinks, water, a side dish, snacks, fruit, cookies, dessert, ice, or whatever they can.

Contact Ron W3WN [w3wn at n3sh dot org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org) to coordinate who's bringing what.

There is no charge to attend (outside of bringing something to share) but the picnic is not open to the general public, only **WASH** members (including their families), friends & invited guests.



WASHfest 2017

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

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

Sunday, February 26th, 2017

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

Home Economics Building, South Park

3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, PA 15129

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

Donation \$5



(800) 545-8881

Breakfast & Lunch will be available!



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

**NEW
LOCATION!**

Due to tentatively scheduled major renovations,
we regret that the Castle Shannon VFD
Memorial Hall will not be available to us in 2017

**NEW
LOCATION!**

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

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

All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 n3sbf@comcast.net

E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2017. Reservations received after February 1st, 2017 must include payment in full. Reserve now... we have sold out in advance seven 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 \$12.00 = _____

5 Or More Tables w/o: _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
WASHFEST 2017
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, New or Renewal



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

(check quarter _____) →

(check one) ↓

☐ **1st Qtr**
Jan-Mar

☐ **2nd Qtr**
Apr-Jun

☐ **3rd Qtr**
Jul-Sept

☐ **4th Qtr**
Oct-Dec

☐ (F1) Full Membership:

\$20.00

\$15.00

\$10.00

\$5.00

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

\$10.00

\$7.50

\$5.00

\$2.50

☐ (A1) Associate Membership:

\$10.00

\$7.50

\$5.00

\$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

New Members Only:

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List

[If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out]

Signature: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

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

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

N3RDV has requested that all 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

North Hills ARC 31st Annual Hamfest

Saturday, July 16th, 2016, 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Parkwood Presbyterian Church

4289 Mt. Royal Blvd, Allison Park, PA 15101

Talk-in on 147.09 PL 88.5

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://nharc.org>



Somerset County ARC Hamfest

Sunday, July 24th, 2016 (new date), 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Somerset County Technology Center

281 Technology Drive, Somerset PA 15501

Talk-in on 147.195 & 443.250 PL 123

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.k3smt.org/hamfest/hamfest.htm>



Directions to the N3SH Field Day 2016 Site

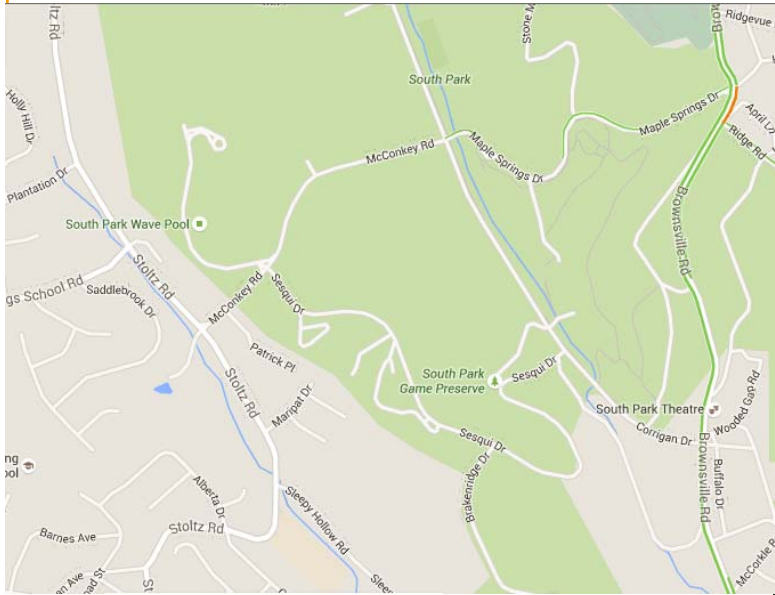
Babcock Grove is located on Sesqui Drive in South Park. (See map below left)

Enter South Park (from either Library Road or Brownsville Road) and proceed to Corrigan Drive.

From Corrigan, turn onto McConkey (opposite side of the light is Maple Springs Drive), head towards the Wave Pool.

At the entrance to the Wave Pool parking area (on the right), turn LEFT onto Sesqui Drive

Follow Sesqui Drive to Babcock Grove (on the right side)



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
www.washarc.org

