



WASHRAGTM

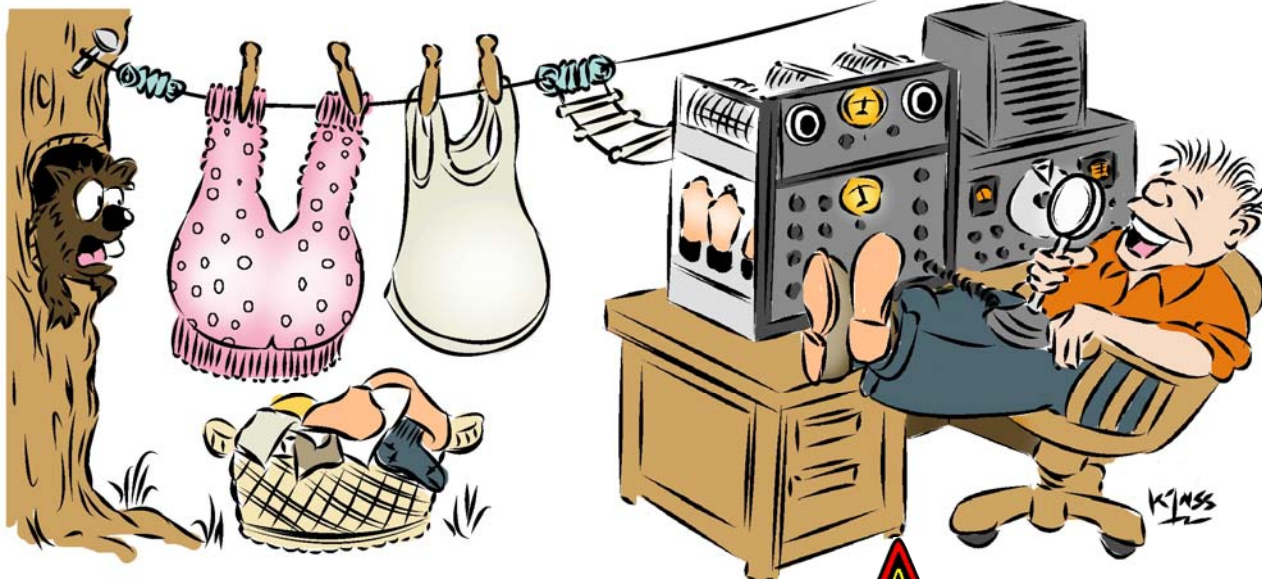


VOLUME 18 ISSUE 07
JULY 2016

Wireless Association of South Hills

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 18 ISSUE 07

JULY 2016

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, July 7th, 2016

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, July 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 Breezeshooter's Hamfest & Field Day 2016 wrap-ups, 501(c)(3) progress, updating the by-laws, Summer picnic, Pa QSO, JOTA, other club plans for 2016, and more. See you there!

Cover Photo: The Tower Trailer, loaded with antennas, greeting all to Babcock Grove for N3SH Field Day 2016

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.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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e-mail: newsletter@n3sh.org or w3wn@arrl.net

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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, its members, or its 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 its 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 Liason Ron Notarius W3WN:

Telephone (412) 572-6723 or E-Mail: 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 (tentative): October 20th, 2016

Carol's Comments

Fellow Hams, we did it again!

Several members came out to Babcock Grove our Field Day and set up the beginning of our three day event on Friday and put up some antennas to start. Saturday we were there to finish the job of getting ready for another great Field Day. We could not ask for better weather. Everyone I talked to said they had a good time. Food was good and all the radios were ready at noon. When it comes to getting things done this club does a great job. It was truly amazing to watch everyone work together. That's what Field Day is all about, setting up for communication for an emergency situation.

And I would have to say **THE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH HILLS** can do it. After all that is what Field Day is all about. It is not a contest. It is communicating with people every where. And I believe we accomplished that.

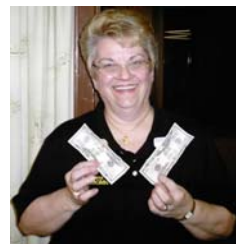
Again I would like say thanks to all who participated. I thank you for another successful Field Day.

You guys are the greatest.

See you at the meeting, July 7th.

— 73, Carol Danko KB3GMN

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



News reports this month claim that Justin Bieber has earned an Amateur Radio License.

The report is not a hoax.

However... This is not the infamous pop singer.

13 year old Justin Bieber DJ5KM is one of Germany's youngest radio amateurs, who lives in Bielefeld. He celebrated his 13th birthday on June 20, 5 days after passing his "Federal Network Agency Class A" license.

The full story can be read (in German) at http://www.nw.de/lokal/kreis/herfor_zu-Deutschlands-jueengsten-Amateurfunkern.html

Sorry gang. Due to a last minute family issue that came up, Ye Editor was unable to make the June meeting 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. The timing was such that there was no opportunity to make other arrangements to gather the usual information, so we have no report on who was there or what was said.

Don't forget that our next gathering of the Gang will be on Saturday, July 31st, 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?

Hope everyone who participated had a great time during **2016 ARRL Field Day**. Word we're hearing from other hams in the area, and other FD operations around the country, is that conditions were, at best, challenging. This happens at the bottom of the solar cycle, which we're pretty much at right now. In any event, we've got a lot of pictures from the N3SH operation, a few from some others (including a pleasant surprise). If we get any more in the upcoming days, they'll be in the August newsletter. In the meantime, though, do a web search and read **NO3M's story on a "1930's" style Field Day** op from W8CDX that he and some friends pulled off! (Thanks to Glen K9STH for bringing this story to our attention!)

Greg NB3C/5 was in town at the end of June, picking up a few things from storage to bring to his new QTH in Dallas. He sends his greetings to the club, and hopes everyone is doing well. You may not hear Greg on HF much, he tells us his new home is in an HOA and he is restricted from outdoor antennas at present. (We HAVE strongly suggested the Flag Pole Vertical, but he says, not yet)

A reminder that we have a **WASH VE Team exam** coming up in a few weeks, back on our 'traditional' July date, the third Thursday. The details are shown above, and we already have one pre-registered candidate. As always, another VE or three present would be appreciated. Also, as of July 1st, the **new & updated Extra Class Element 4 exams** are now in effect, and yes, we do have them!

So what's up for the rest of the year? **PVGP** is in a few weeks, and Corky as always needs a few more hams. (See Page 16) We will be having our **Annual End-of-Summer Picnic** soon enough. **PA QSO** will be here before you know it. Plus the usual slate of hamfests and contests and such. And as always, there are antennas to fix, replace, reposition, and experiment with; equipment to repair, new gear to dream about or even acquire... in short, don't let the summer propagation doldrums get you down!

And speaking of which...

The **59th Jamboree on the Air** is coming up 14—16 October, the weekend following PA QSO. The organizers at the BSA are urging as many Amateur operators as possible to connect with a Scout troop and try to get them on the air during JOTA. Ye Editor knows that we have at least one club member with sons currently active in Scouting... so maybe THIS is the year to consider a formal N3SH JOTA operation, in conjunction with this or other South Hills based Scout groups. What do you think? And if you agree it's a good idea, are you willing to lend a hand and help get it organized, off the ground and on the air?

WASHNet NCS Schedule

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
08/01/2016	Glen KE7FD	09/26/2016	Bob AB3ED
08/08/2016	Harold K3HCR	10/03/2016	Carol KB3GMN
08/15/2016	Digital Net	10/10/2016	Chuck KC3ELA
08/22/2016	Larry K3VX	10/17/2016	Digital Net

Indicates Swap Net After the Regular Net

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 21

Minutes, June 2nd Meeting

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

Carol KB3GMN called the meeting to order at 19:08 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, then October 20th.

Thanks again to WPXI for the use of their community room for testing this year, & to N3FB for making the arrangements.

Repeaters (N3FB): 955 is working, preamp was installed. Have custom cables we need to install if we can get access. UHF is hearing better. Need reports from varying areas. Might be a voter issue, not making the best choice.

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. Glen made a suggestion about using the St Clair station for PA QSO party. This would be as a bonus station

Field Day (KB3IAC/W3WH):

Glen is heading up a group at 10 AM on Saturday to start setup at Babcock.

Food:

- Saturday: 7 will be there at lunch time (sandwich rings)
- Dinner on Saturday - 10 (hot dogs and hamburgers, side dishes.)
- Breakfast Sunday morning- 9-10 (Eggs, pancakes, bacon.)
- Bring you own liquid refreshments. We will have coffee.
- Shirts: price depends on quantity, prices start at approx \$13 up a few dollars for bigger sizes.
- Bring your favorite chair is recommended.
- Make sure you mark you stuff (with magic marker or other method.)
- if we still need ice, give mark a call and he will get more. Don't buy ice!
- We are setting up the network again this year. It worked well last year.

Glen KE7FD floated a motion for money to fund the purchase of food \$350 and Chuck KC3ELA 2nd, passed unanimously.

Harold K3HCR put forth another motion for club to pay for food at breeze shooters. Ron W3WN 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Service (N3RDV): PVGP in July, details in the July newsletter

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

Newsletter (W3WN): Out.

President (KB3GMN): Rick demonstrated construction of a of a SDR radio kit. Really neat and not that expensive! Some discussion was had and questions were answered by Rick and Jim who thoroughly answered the questions.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Order: None

Motion to Adjourn by Ron W3WN,, second by Jim WB4GCS and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 20:05



WASH Spotlight: Visiting



George W3ANX was one of our visitors at N3SH Field Day, shown here chatting with Richie N3SBF .

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	N0WVP	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

WA3JPP

2016 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

July 7 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
July 8 th —10 th	PVGP Historics at Pitt Race	http://www.pvgp.org
July 16 th	North Hills ARC Hamfest	http://www.nharc.org
July 16 th —17 th	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Race Weekend at Schenley Park	http://www.pvgp.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	59 th Jamboree On The Air	http://jotajoti.info/
October 20 th	WASH VEC Exam	WPXI Community Room, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA
October 29 th —30 th	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	http://www.cqww.com
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
November 26 th —27 th	CQ WW DX Contest CW	http://www.cqww.com
December 2 nd —4 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 10 th —11 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 31 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org

"Seen" at the June Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



ARRL Executive Committee Relieves EPA Section Manager & NTS Eastern Area Chair of His Appointments

Newington, CT, June 21st, 2016 — The Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors has relieved ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Joe Ames W3JY, of his appointments in the ARRL Field Organization, including his position as Chairman of the ARRL National Traffic System™ (NTS™) Eastern Area. The vote came as a result of a June 16 recommendation from the ARRL Programs and Services Committee, which oversees NTS. In addition, the Executive Committee voted to declare the Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager position vacant, effective immediately.

The decision by the Executive Committee results from a determination that Ames unilaterally and repeatedly communicated with officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on behalf of NTS, making commitments on behalf of ARRL without authority and in violation of the rules and regulations of the ARRL Field Organization. Those actions were contrary to the terms of the *Memorandum of Understanding* between FEMA and ARRL, which states clearly that ARRL Headquarters staff will be the single point of contact between FEMA and ARRL. There is no independent relationship between NTS and FEMA; the ARRL/FEMA *Memorandum of Understanding* is the operative document.

In August 2015, then-ARRL CEO David Sumner K1ZZ, wrote to Ames and instructed him that, unless otherwise authorized by ARRL, any communication with FEMA with respect to NTS is to be conducted through ARRL authorized representatives. ARRL learned that Ames repeatedly acted contrary to Sumner's directive, which led to the decision to cancel Ames's Field Organization appointments and to declare the office of the Section Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania vacant.

In accordance with ARRL bylaws, and after consulting with ARRL Atlantic Division Director Tom Abernethy W3TOM, the appointment of a new Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager will be made by ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager Dave Patton NN1N. The NTS Eastern Area Chair vacancy will be filled by appointment made by the ARRL Programs and Services Committee, the committee that oversees NTS.

NTS was formally created by ARRL in 1949. It continues the long-standing tradition of formal message handling via Amateur Radio, an integral component of the Amateur Radio Service. NTS would not be possible without the thousands of volunteers who keep the distribution network running.

— American Radio Relay League

Editor's Note: The following was posted June 21st on <http://www.epa-arrl.org/w3jy-fired-by-arrl-board-of-directors/>

Dear EPA-ARRL,

Over a long running argument with the ARRL board of directors and their animus towards NTS (™) I have been relieved of all my ARRL appointments and positions effective yesterday, including Section Manager.

Please note there is no question of my performance as Section Manager whatsoever.

This is a political fight over NTS. I became its public face. I lost.

So be it.

EPA and the NTS both have many reasons to be proud. Your selflessness is unmatched and I am proud to have served you loyally and to the best of my ability as a Life Member of the ARRL and nearly as long as a member of the Brass Pounders League.

The charges used against me are absurd and I have ample documentation, written correspondence, that demonstrates a completely different situation which the board of directors disregarded. Perhaps my fate was predetermined when I accepted the position of NTS eastern area chairman with the express mandate to improve our public visibility, marketing NTS to members and trying to undo a decade of slow-death by starvation.

It did not help my case when I answered a phone call from FEMA about one year ago, looking for help with continental ham radio communications!

However, it was clear where this was going and the powers that be are very determined to run the ARRL as they decide. It is not a surprise, only a sad realization that you can't fight city hall.

Best wishes and good luck to you all —

VY 73 DE W3JY, OVER AND OUT

Newington, CT, June 23rd, 2016 — The ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has appointed George W. "Bud" Hippisley, W2RU (ex-K2KIR), as the new Eastern Area Chair for the ARRL National Traffic System™ (NTS™) for a 2-year term, effective immediately. The appointment comes 2 days after the ARRL Executive Committee voted to remove NTS Eastern Area Chair Joe Ames, W3JY. The PSC reached out to Hippisley this week, and he accepted the PSC's request. This will be his second appointment to the Eastern Area Chair of NTS.

Hippisley has a distinguished resume of nearly a half-century of service to ARRL. He has been active in NTS and ARES® since 1955, including his continuing service as the Eastern Area Net Manager. His leadership positions with the ARRL Field Organization include Western New York Section Communications Manager (now Section Manager) and Western New York Section Emergency Coordinator. He also served as Atlantic Division Vice Director from 1982 until 1985.

"It's a privilege to be asked to take on this assignment," Hippisley said. "I look forward to working with my fellow net managers in the Eastern Area, with the other Area Staff chairs, and with N2ZZ and the entire PSC."

During his previous tenure as NTS Eastern Area Chair from 1976 until 1983, Hippisley was instrumental in merging daytime and evening systems under the NTS banner, affirming NTS practices as mode independent and inviting proponents of early digital Amateur Radio message-handling systems to demonstrate their concepts at Eastern Area Staff meetings. He is responsible for popularizing the matrix net control form still used by most Area net control stations, and he is the designer of the four-cycle System schedule that underpins NTS expandability in times of heavy traffic loads. In 2010, Hippisley received the George Hart Distinguished Service Award for his long-term contributions to NTS. George Hart, W1NJM, was the chief developer of NTS.

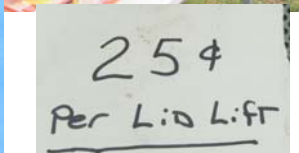
"Of great importance to me over the years of my involvement in NTS is that the third word in its name is 'System,'" Hippisley stressed. "In the long run, the objectives for a system — and agreement upon operational principles in response to those objectives — are more important than our individual desires."

Bud Hippisley holds a BSEE from MIT and has done graduate work in solid-state physics, electromagnetics, marketing, finance, and strategic planning. He lives in Penhook, Virginia.



Seen" at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest 2016

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



Seen" at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest 2016

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



This year's *Breezeshooter's Hamfest* was also this year's ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention, and was well attended by many ARRL WPA Section and Atlantic Division Staff, including Division Director Tom Abernathy W3TOM and WPA Section Manager Tim Duffy K3LR amongst many others.

Bill Dobson N3WD was present representing the ARRL 3rd Call Area Incoming QSL Bureau, selling postage-paid envelopes on behalf of the bureau. Which gives us a good excuse to remind everyone who worked one of the many W1AW stations during the ARRL Centennial in 2014 that the W1AW QSL Cards are being distributed via the bureaus, and that they are now (finally!) processed and on their way. So, if you have not already done so and would like your cards, NOW is a good time to send some Self Addressed Stamped Envelopes to the QSL bureau, to ensure that they can get the W1AW cards to you!

More information on the 3rd District Bureau can be found at <http://www.ncdxa.org/qsl.html>. (If your call is not from the 3rd district, check the ARRL web site for contact information on your district's QSL Bureau)



N3SH Field Day 2016 — Setup

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Jim Sanford WB4GCS



KE7FD



N3SBF & K3HCR



W8LEV & N3DFK



Tower Trailer & Generator



N3RDV & K3HCR



KB3IAC & K3HCR



WB4GCS, when he wasn't busy taking pictures (W3WN photo)

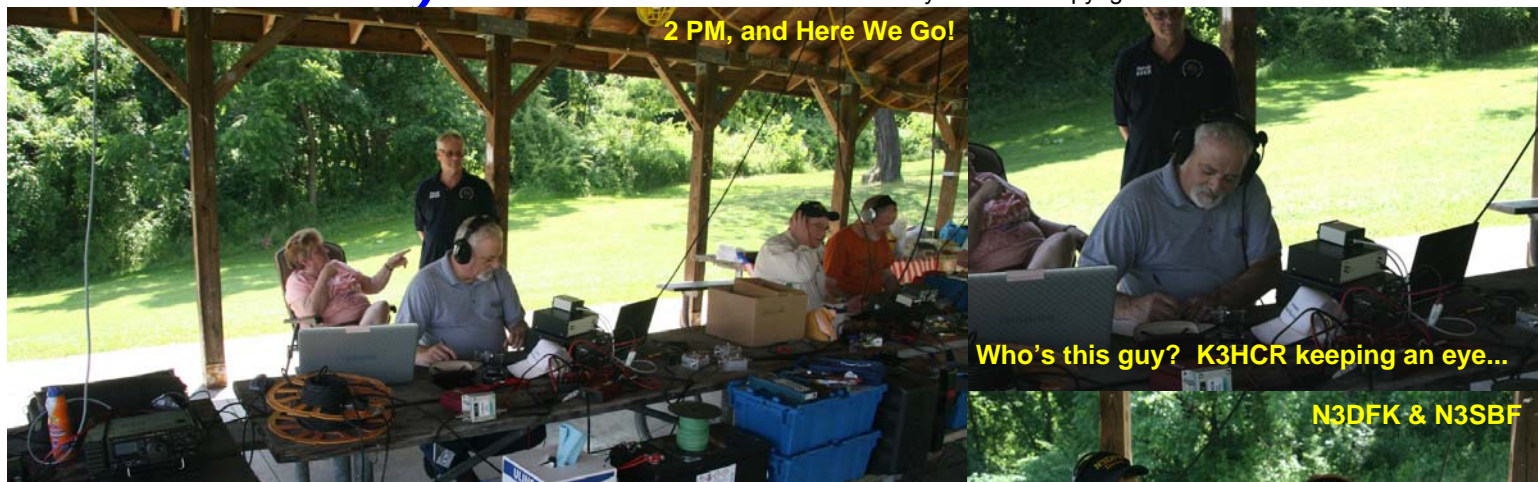


KB3GMN & N3DFK

N3SH Field Day 2016 — ORV!

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Jim Sanford WB4GCS

2 PM, and Here We Go!



N3DFK & N3SBF



Just a Few More...

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2016 Ron Notarius W3WN



N3RDV, WB4GCS & KB3IAC prepping the tower trailer



K3HCR & N3DFK setting up the CW station



WB4GCS demonstrates the Armstrong Method



Visitors W3ANX & his beautiful bride



Another visitor... We're not horsing around!



KB3GMN



The Midnight Shift



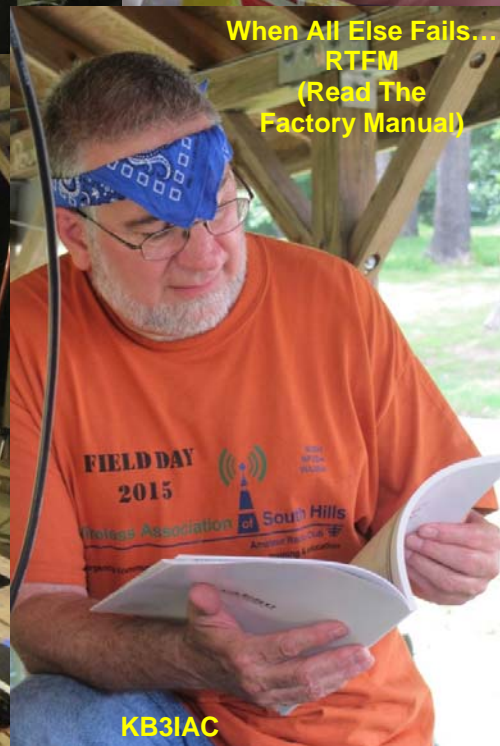
K3HCR



K3HCR



???? & KC3ELA



When All Else Fails... RTFM (Read The Factory Manual)



N3RDV

KB3IAC

Not Your Usual Field Day

Bill Hill W3WH

This year I participated in Field Day (sort of) while sitting in my usual chair in front of my TS-990S. It wasn't my choice but due to a broken ankle my Doctor begged me not to go wandering around South Park with crutches or a walker. It wasn't all bad because after all I enjoyed all the comforts of home(including air conditioning) for the entire event and my good friend Jack Layton, W9UK, joined me for a couple of hours Saturday evening. The Kenwood TS-990S really worked well. The receiver is excellent and it really wasn't hard to copy signals even though the band (esp. 40) was very crowded. Looking at the bandscope showing all those signals was really nice. Indeed Ham Radio is alive and well.

I ended up with 400 Q's of which 20 were PHONE! I worked a few SSB signals just to be fair. Maybe one of these days I'll try digital. I worked 65 of 84 ARRL sections. Noteworthy by it's absence were Delaware, Louisiana and Mississippi. Maybe those guys don't do CW. Our sister club, WACOM, was set up in the North Strabane Municipal Park which is probably about two miles from my QTH as the crow flies but I didn't work them until fairly late on Sunday morning. I found them by looking for an obscenely strong signal on the bandscope and voila! there thy were.

Suffice to say that being in Class 1D was convenient because there was no work to get ready. That doesn't mean it's the best because I don't think so. I really missed setting up the stations and being with many of my friends for more than just an hour at a Club meeting. I missed the sunshine (but not the bugs) and breaking bread with each other. I missed the satisfaction of successfully working lots of stations from a temporary set-up. I missed working Hawaii on 40 meters while the stars and moon are still out. It's just not the same from your home QTH. I missed seeing other's gear. I missed trying out a different type of antenna like the CRANKIR. that I've had for a couple of years now but have never really given it a chance to do it's thing.

I certainly didn't miss the shortage of CW ops and fighting the interference among stations. I never heard if that was a problem this year. I didn't miss explaining to the South Park police that we really did have permission to be in the Park all night. I didn't miss sweating, the porta john, the chance of rain and the 40 minute drive back and forth from home. All these things being said if I was able to choose home versus South Park, South Park would, win hands down.

Long live Field Day!



W7PRA Field Day

Paul Lusardi NØVLR/7

Hope all is well with all in WPA section....

Was hoping to contact you guys on the bands but someone forgot to bring the propagation. I am the chairman (el presidente) of the Peak Radio Association here in Corvallis OR. Our club has 18 linked repeaters that connect WA/OR border to OR/CA bordermostly.

W7PRA, 6A, OR – set up at local RV park that was closed a few years back – even got a permit for alcohol – hence the smiles in pictures.

Had a tri-band beam on tower and a variety of portable stations and antennas – not sure of final QSO count but was really down from previous years. Lots of foot traffic – scooped up 2-3 new club members in the process.



The west half of the operation includes digital modes, and the dude in the truck camper has rotor, tower, with a beam



Me supervising a tower descent



My DX Spatula... CQ Food Day

This year, I focused on food and provisions and made a handful of contacts.

They all ate well!

Yep, that is a PA QSO party t-shirt – I believe JEF county.

Miss you guys – send regards at next meeting!

N3SH Field Day Preliminary Stats:

QSO's	CW	243
	Phone	184
	Digital	100
	Total	527

QSO Points 870

QSO's		
by BAND	80m	90
	40m	333
	20m	96
	15m	8

Sections 71
States 46
Bonus Points To Be Determined

Operators 14

Rick Bell - KB3IAC, Program Committee



Yet Another FD operation:
NU3Q 1E from Collier Township.
IC-7000 on Battery Power

KB7QPS 2017 Air, Space & Technology Operating Event

Seattle, Washington, June 22nd – Greg Magone KB7QPS of Maple Valley, Washington, is pleased to announce the 2017 KB7QPS Air, Space, and Technology Operating Event. One special event station each month will commemorate a historical event relating to air, space, or technology. The special event stations will be operating from Boeing Employee Amateur Radio Society club station located at the Museum of Flight in Seattle, Washington.

Beautiful, full color QSL cards are made available to those successful in making a contact with the special event station. A full-color certificate is available after the conclusion of the operating event for those working one or more special event stations.

Donations for QSL cards are accepted and appreciated. Certificates are available for \$5. Any monies collected will be used to offset the cost of printing certificates and QSL cards. Should money received exceed the cost of printing and distributing cards and certificates, a donation will be made to the Museum of Flight's Inspiration Begins Here! fund, which aims to inspire today's youth in air, space, and technology through their education programs.

Youth are especially invited to operate in the event. During the event, many youth only opportunities will be made available to work the special event station.

The stations will be operating during the dates in the table below. Specific operating times are dependent based on operator availability and will be announced approximately one to two weeks prior to each special event station.

Frequencies will be 20 meters primarily, focused around 14.250 and 14.275. Should a major contest be taking place the same weekend, the station may opt to use 17 meters in lieu of 20 meters.

Further information is available at the website airspace technology.webs.com. Questions may be directed to Greg Magone at greg.magone@gmail.com

The 2017 KB7QPS Air, Space, and Technology Operating Event



AMSAT has been informed that the launch period for Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D has been moved. It is now commencing on September 1st, 2016 and ending on November 30th, 2016.

Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D will be integrated onto the Spaceflight SHERPA platform for its maiden flight aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 launching into a sun-synchronous orbit from Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D carry university experiments from Pennsylvania State University-Erie, Vanderbilt, University of Iowa, cameras provided by Virginia Tech, as well as amateur radio voice repeaters capable of U/V or L/V operation.



— AMSAT News Service & Paul Stoetzer N8HM

DX News Briefs



Thus far our ARRL Third Call Area Incoming Bureau has received **W1ØØAW**, **W1AW/KG4** and **W1AW/3 DC** cards to distribute to our Bureau users. We anticipate that as the ARRL Headquarters staff finds the time to do so, cards for the other W1AW/x operations will now be gradually forthcoming.

The on-the-air ARRL Centennial celebrations were far more popular than even the most optimistic ARRL staffers predicted, so the resulting administrative load on the staff has been daunting. — Fred Laun K3ZO, Manager, NCDXA/ARRL Third Call Area Incoming QSL Bureau

3Z9DX has received confirmation from the North Korean government to make a return trip to **P5** and operate amateur radio with equipment for up to 5 days. The dates of activity **are not yet known**, but he will receive a very short notice. When Dom receives the short notice, he will have just a few days beforehand to gather his luggage and radio equipment for his stay in P5 land. Dom was told that this would be a single band SSB only operation (possibly on 20/15/10m) -- OPDX

KCØW, currently QRV as **5WØCOW** as part of his "Cows Over The World" solo DXpedition, has been issued **T3ØCOW** for his Kiribati operation 24 September—24 October. Due to circumstances beyond his control, his planned operation from Tokelau has been postponed. He has added several additional stops to his itinerary:

♦ Western Samoa	Now through 17 July
♦ Tuvalu	19 July to 18 August
♦ Vanuatu	20 August to 21 September
♦ Kiribati	24 September to 24 October
♦ Fiji	25 October to 24 November 24
♦ Return to Samoa	25 November to TBA
♦ Tokelau	(To be announced)
♦ Solomon Islands	(Exact date depends on Tokelau)
♦ Temotu Province	(Depends on Tokelau)
♦ Bangladesh	(To be announced)
♦ Nepal	(To be announced)
♦ Bhutan.	(To be announced)

Dates and itinerary subject to change. QSL all via KCØW — KCØW

JR2GAG will be QRV as **V63GG** 6-10 July, from Pohnpei Island, holiday style, 40—6 meters. QSL via JR2GAG — DX World

W2JHP will be QRV as **V31A** from NA-123 23 July—12 August. Limited activity on SSB, possibly some on PSK. QSL via EA5GL — DX World

DK9PY will be QRV as **6Y6N** from the 6Y5WJ station 6—20 August, 160—10, CW Only. QSL via DK9PY — DX World

QSL Routes

3ZØBGL via SP8BGL – DBØSDX
 3ZØMCI via SQ9MCI – DBØSDX
 3ZØMK via SP7PZS – DBØSDX
 5WØCOW via KCØW – KCØW
 5WØRX via HB9EXA – KB8NW
 6Y6M via NN7AZ – KB8NW
 6Y6R via NN7AZ – KB8NW
 8Q7YC via W5UE – DBØSDX
 9MØS via DF8AN – JA1HGY
 AT5P via NI5DX – JA1HGY
 B7M via BG7LHY – DBØSDX
 CR5U via C7AJL – DBØSDX
 DØB via RW6HS – LU2DKN
 E51EXA via HB9EXA – KB8NW
 E6AC via JAØJHQ – JA1HGY
 ED7O via EA7EU – DBØSDX
 ED7R via EA7IZJ – DBØSDX
 EE3X via EA3KX – DBØSDX
 EE5M via EA5GF – DBØSDX

EE5O via EA5URO – DBØSDX
 EE5T via EA5URT – DBØSDX
 EFØF via EA4UTE – DBØSDX
 EMØI via UT2IZ – DBØSDX
 EP2A via YL2GN – LU2DKN
 ET7L via USØLW – JA1HGY
 EX9T via EX8MLE – DBØSDX
 HG44FY via HA8FY – DBØSDX
 MD2C via MDØCCE – DBØSDX
 OM4X via OM4SX – DBØSDX
 OV2T via PAØABM – DBØSDX
 SØ1WS via EA2JG – W4DN
 SV2RSR via SV1RP – JA1HGY
 TM6V via F5KDR – DBØSDX
 UE4ØSA via GMØWRR – LU2DKN
 VK9L/G7VJR – MØOXO – JA1HGY
 XX9TGM via PG5M – DBØSDX
 YB8O via YB8RW – DBØSDX
 YL44WFF via YL2SW – DBØSDX

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.**

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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

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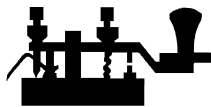
The 2016 IARU HF World Championship not only marks the very first entry of the Kosovo Amateur Radio Association (SHRAK) as a new HQ multiplier, but the week also represents multiple other valuables for Kosovar hams.

In a major outing, the SHRAK youth delegation headed by Driton Sadiku Z61DX, with Elona Shatri Z63ESC, Edona Sela Z63ESB, and Blindon Krasniqi Z63BKA, will travel to the IARU YOTA conference in Austria. Their selected team will meet their initial instructors Hans PB2T, and Martti OH2BH, as a kick-off for their first trip outside Kosovo.

The majority of the 50+ new hams in Kosovo come from the ranks of the Technical University of Pristina, leading to another interesting link taking place on the professional front. The local university rarely receives visiting teachers, and thus Dr. Kim Östman, OH6KZP, will give a lecture on the latest trends in RF microelectronics circuit development. This session is hosted by the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering (FIEK) at the Technical University of Pristina.

— Vjollca Caka Z61VB, President, SHARK

Silent Keys



Larry E. Danko KA3TYO, Mt. Lebanon, 74, June 11th

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!

FCC FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, June 22nd, 2016 — The FCC has denied the petition of an Arizona radio amateur, who had petitioned for lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, had filed his *Petition for Rule Making (RM 11760)* with the FCC last November, and the FCC invited public comments in February. Krotz wanted the FCC to revise § 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder's lifetime, instead of for the current 10-year term. Hundreds of radio amateurs commented on the petition, but the FCC was not swayed by those favoring the idea.

"Based on our review of the record, we are not persuaded that the petition discloses sufficient grounds for the requested rule change," the FCC said in a June 21 *Order*. "Krotz's primary argument is that extending the term of amateur licenses to the lifetime of the holder would reduce the Commission's administrative and personnel costs, but it is not clear to us that the proposal actually would enhance administrative efficiency." That's because the vast majority of license renewals are submitted online and processed automatically by the Universal Licensing System (ULS), "with minimal staff involvement," the *Order* said.

The FCC said it had further reduced its overhead by no longer routinely mailing out paper licenses. "[I]f license terms were extended to the holder's lifetime, we likely would receive more cancellations on account of the licensee's death, which are labor-intensive, because staff must carefully verify the deceased's identity and licenses in order to guard against erroneous cancellations," the FCC said in its *Order*, signed by Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Deputy Mobility Division Chief Scot Stone.

Krotz argued that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, but the FCC said that's not a comparable situation, because an Amateur Radio license is both an operator's license and a station license, "and there is no Commission precedent for issuing a lifetime station license."

In 2014 the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2. The FCC pointed out in its *Order* that this was done to address the concerns of commenters that a licensee who had not renewed also may not have maintained or expanded his or her knowledge and skills.

An **FCC Enforcement Advisory** released in late May seems to state the obvious: All FCC-authorized equipment must be used in compliance with laws and rules, and that people or businesses violating federal law or FCC rules are subject to enforcement action. A closer look, however, suggests that the prominently emblazoned advisory is aimed at illegal "off-label use" of radio transmitting devices. Before such equipment may be used, manufactured, sold, marketed, or imported into the US, the FCC generally requires that it first receive a grant of equipment authorization, demonstrating that it meets congressionally mandated Commission technical standards, which include requirements to minimize a device's potential to cause harmful interference.

"This equipment ranges from small devices like your smartphone and WiFi-enabled thermostat to powerful transmitters used by broadcasters and wireless carriers," the FCC advisory explained. This also can include such Amateur Radio equipment as linear amplifiers, and transceivers with scanning receivers; most ham radio equipment does not require a grant of authorization for use in accordance with Part 97 regulations.

"Even if a device has an authorization, however, it may not be used indiscriminately," the advisory continued. "Authorized equipment must be used in a manner that complies with federal law and the Commission's rules." This does not apply to devices and systems the government uses on its own frequencies, the advisory pointed out.

"For licensed services, authorized equipment also must be used in a manner that complies with the terms of the license," the Commission said. "Federal law prohibits the use of any authorized equipment in a manner that is inconsistent with the terms of its equipment authorization or that is in violation of the Communications Act or the Commission's rules." The FCC said an equipment authorization only signifies that a device meets FCC technical standards; it is not an authorization to use a device in any possible way."

The FCC offered some examples of authorized equipment being used in an unlawful manner:

- The use of authorized WiFi equipment to intentionally disrupt the lawful operation of neighboring WiFi networks.
- The use of authorized broadcast transmitters to operate unlicensed or "pirate" radio stations.
- The use of authorized Unlicensed National Information

**Continued
on Page 16**

Has Roadway found the tower yet?

Confirmed Tornado Damages W3LPL Contest Station

Newington, CT, June 23rd, 2016 — A confirmed Fujita scale EF-0 tornado touched down for up to 20 minutes in Howard County, MD, on June 21st, the first full day of summer, taking down a tall AB-105 tower at the contest superstation of Frank Donovan W3LPL. The tornado was just part of a spate of strong storms to hit the region, dumping heavy rain that caused flooding, and high winds that toppled trees and utility poles. Donovan's station is one of the premier multi-multi contest sites in the US. He told ARRL that his location was "Ground Zero" for the twister.

"The storm was extreme," Donovan said in a post to the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVR) reflector. "I've never experienced anything like it before. Essentially all of the trees in the front of the house and along the driveway are gone. Several power poles on Hobbs Road snapped. The 200 foot tower adjacent to the house collapsed, everything on it was destroyed."

News media accounts said the tornado, which hit at approximately 1:30 PM in western Howard County, had top winds of 80 MPH — at the high end of the EF-0 range. The tornado was some 1500 feet across and traveled nearly 13 miles, according to the National Weather Service. No injuries were reported. Power was out to thousands in the area for several days afterwards.

The NWS said that properties in the vicinity of the tornado's touchdown "sustained tree damage with multiple trees snapped, uprooted, and topped in multiple directions." Along its path, the twister "caused nearly continuous tree damage, with large trees and tree branches snapped, uprooted, and topped in multiple directions. The trees downed many power lines and blocked multiple roads. Some trees and large branches fell on homes and garages," the NWS said.

The felled tower at W3LPL supported a 6 element 10 meter Yagi on a 48 foot boom at 200 feet, three stacked 9 element G0KSC 6 meter LFA Yagis on 52 foot booms at 48, 76, and 104 feet and a pair of 2 element 80 meter quads at 170 feet



— American Radio Relay League

FCC News Briefs

continued from Page 15

Infrastructure (U-NII) devices on unauthorized frequencies or, on certain frequencies, without a dynamic frequency selection (DFS) radar detection mechanism enabled.

- The use of authorized WiFi routers on unauthorized channels or on authorized channels at unauthorized power levels.
- The programming and use of Private Land Mobile Radio devices (Part 90 radios) to operate on unauthorized channels.

Revised FCC rules require manufacturers to prevent end-user modification of such devices as WiFi routers in such a manner that the device could operate outside of its authorized parameters and possibly cause harmful interference. For some time now, hams involved in broadband WiFi networking activities have been modifying commonplace routers for use on Amateur Radio frequencies — and this remains a legal activity, although the new requirements for manufacturers could make this more difficult, if not impossible.

It is not legal, however, to use a radio transmitting device that has been authorized in one radio service under the provisions of another radio service for which it has *not* received required FCC authorization. This would include such activities as using an Amateur Radio transceiver on the Family Radio Service. And recent FCC enforcement proceedings have involved the illegal use of devices possibly authorized for other purposes, to block cellular telephone signals.

The advisory suggested that anyone wishing to complain about off-brand use of authorized devices or otherwise used in a manner that violates FCC rules or the Communications Act can [complain](#) to the Commission.

Amateur Radio Operators Needed for the 2016 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix



The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix is seeking Amateur Radio operators to work the Flag & Safety corners, and provide race communications for the 2016 PVGP events.

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

The Historic Race Weekend on July 8th - 10th, at Pitt Race (formerly BeaverRun Motorsports Complex) in Beaver Falls, featuring Muscle Cars & European Racers from the 60's & 70's,



The Vintage Race Weekend on July 16th & 17th, in Schenley Park in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, featuring sports cars from the early days of automobiles through the 1950's.

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





FCC Technological Advisory Council Initiates Noise Floor Inquiry

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, June 17th, 2016 — Radio amateurs frequently complain about increasing noise from a variety of sources, so it should be welcome news that the FCC Technological Advisory Council (TAC) — an advisory group to the FCC — is investigating changes and trends to the radio spectrum noise floor to determine if there is an increasing noise problem, and, if so, its extent. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) [announced](#) the TAC study this week in a *Public Notice* and [invited comments](#) and answers to questions that the TAC has posed in the notice. The comment deadline is August 11. The TAC said it is trying to determine the scope of any noise issues and has invited “quantitative evidence” of noise problems, as well as recommendations on how to perform a noise study.

“The TAC is requesting input to help answer questions about the study of changes to the spectrum noise floor over the past 20 years,” the announcement said. “Noise in this context denotes unwanted radio frequency (RF) energy from manmade sources. Like many spectrum users, TAC members expect that the noise floor in the radio spectrum is rising as the number of devices in use that emit radio energy grows.”

The ARRL representative on the TAC, Greg Lapin, N9GL, co-chairs the TAC Spectrum and Receiver Performance Working Group with Lynn Claudy of the National Association of Broadcasters. Lapin also serves as chairman of the ARRL RF Safety Committee.

The TAC said that its search for “concrete evidence of increased noise floors” has turned up only “limited available quantitative data” to support its presumption of a rising noise floor. The TAC said it wants to find ways to add to the available data so it can “answer important questions” on the topic for the FCC.

The TAC noted that many types of devices generate radio spectrum noise. In the case of *incidental radiators* — devices not designed to emit RF but do so anyway — there is little regulation governing such noise. “Most electric motors, light dimmers, switching power supplies, utility transformers, and power lines are included in this category,” the TAC announcement explained.

Devices designed to generate RF for internal use, or send RF signals to associated equipment via connected wiring, but which are not intended to emit RF energy, are called *unintentional radiators*. This category includes computers and many portable electronic devices, as well as many new high-efficiency lamps. FCC regulations limit the levels of emitted RF energy from these devices.

A third group of devices categorized as *intentional radiators* (unlicensed and licensed) and *industrial, scientific, and medical (ISM) radiators* — are designed to generate and emit RF energy by radiation or induction. Intentional radiators include cellular phones and base stations, unlicensed wireless routers, Bluetooth devices, broadcast TV and radio stations, and radar systems. Amateur Radio transmitters also fall into this category. Microwave ovens, arc welders, and fluorescent lighting are examples of ISM equipment.

“Such emitters contribute to the noise floor with emissions outside of their assigned frequencies,” the TAC said. “These are sometimes generated as spurious emissions, including, but not limited to, harmonics of desired frequencies and intermodulation products.” FCC regulations permitting the operation of these devices specify emission limits outside of the device’s licensed or permitted operating frequencies.

The TAC said that responses to the questions it has posed in the *Public Notice* will help it to “identify aspects of a study to determine trends in the radio spectrum noise floor.” The [Public Notice](#) includes information on all methods of responding to the inquiry. The ARRL is planning to comment.

For more information, [contact](#) Greg Lapin, N9GL.

The FCC has [denied](#) the 2015 petition of a Missouri radio amateur seeking to have the Commission authorize low-power experimental activity on Amateur Radio frequencies. James Edwin Whedbee NØECN, of Gladstone, sought to amend FCC Part 97 Amateur Service rules to let radio amateurs conduct experiments on all amateur radio bands, subject to certain limits on duration, power, and bandwidth. The FCC declined to seek comments on the petition.

“[T]he Commission’s rules contain numerous provisions for experimentation and development of new radio equipment and techniques,” the FCC said in a June 9 letter to Whedbee. “The Experimental Radio Service (ERS) rules contained in Part 5 permit a broad range of experiments, including in the Amateur Service, and prescribe the manner in which the radio spectrum may be made available to experiment with new radio technologies, equipment designs, characteristics of radio wave propagation, or service concepts related to the use of the radio spectrum.”

The letter pointed out that the FCC “recently revised and streamlined” its Part 5 rules “to provide additional flexibility to innovators” and noted that Whedbee did not discuss in his petition whether those rule changes might address his concerns.

In the same stroke of the pen, the FCC denied a 2016 petition from Whedbee seeking to delegate to the chiefs of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) authority to dispose of certain requests for exemptions, waivers, and rulemaking regarding new technologies or new application of existing technologies.

“The Commission has already delegated to WTB and OET authority to act on applications, waiver requests, petitions, and even some rulemaking matters, so long as they do not raise novel questions of law or policy which cannot be resolved under outstanding Commission precedents and guidelines,” the FCC told Whedbee.

“[W]e conclude that [both] petitions present no evidence of an existing problem or other evidence meriting a rule change, and we dismiss the petitions,” the FCC concluded. “Both petitions’ underlying premise is that the Commission’s current processes for granting experimental licenses, rule waivers, and other authorizations for use of new technological developments are burdensome and impede innovation. In neither petition, however, do you provide an example of an experiment or technology that was unduly delayed by the existing rules and would have been expedited by your proposed procedural changes. Nor do you demonstrate that your proposed changes would have a substantial effect.”

Whedbee is no stranger to the FCC petition process. Earlier this year he [petitioned](#) the FCC to designate Morse (radiotelegraphy) Amateur Radio band segments as “symbol communication” subbands, and the FCC invited public comment on his request ([RM-11769](#)). In 2012, the FCC turned down Whedbee’s request that the FCC declare homeowners associations’ covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs) unenforceable.

FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) Chief Jon Wilkins has announced his intention to appoint Suzanne Tetreault as deputy bureau chief. Tetreault is currently deputy general counsel in the Office of General Counsel.

“Suzanne’s legal expertise and extensive experience as a senior leader at the FCC will make her an outstanding addition to our team,” Wilkins said.

The WTB develops and executes policies and procedures for the licensing of all wireless services, ranging from Amateur Radio to mobile broadband services, overseeing nearly 2 million licenses.

Gee... anyone hear from Laura Smith lately? (ed)





ICOM America Enters Consent Decree, Agrees to Pay \$20,000 Civil Penalty

Federal Communications Commission

Washington, DC, June 21st, 2016 – The Enforcement Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission has entered into a Consent Decree with ICOM America, Inc. to resolve its investigation into whether or not ICOM imported and sold marine radios into the United States that did not include “all the public safety features required by the Commission’s rules.”

The rules, specifically Section 302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act) and Sections 80.225(a)(4) and 80.1101(c)(2)(ii) of the Commission’s rules, mandate that these marine radios include the full range of features recommended by the Radiocommunication Sector of the International Telecommunication Union to enhance emergency and safety-of-life communications from and between maritime vessels.

ICOM admits that, by failing to include these features, its radios did not comply with the Commission’s rules and agrees to pay a \$20,000 civil penalty and implement a compliance plan to prevent future violations.



The FCC statements indicated that “The policy underlying the Maritime Services Rules is to require that marine radios incorporate the most current internationally-accepted features for providing emergency communications from and between maritime vessels. In this case, the Maritime Service Rules radios are required to provide the following features that were incorporated by reference to ITU-R M.493-13: (1) a timer indicating the time that has elapsed since a call was received; (2) if no acknowledgement is requested, the option to send a duplicate DSC message without the need to re-enter the message text; and (3) if an acknowledgement is requested, the option to re-send a duplicate DSC message without the need to re-enter the message text.

In October 2014, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau referred a complaint to the Enforcement Bureau for investigation and possible enforcement action concerning ICOM’s marketing, after January 1, 2013, of a marine radio, model IC-M412, that did not comply with the Maritime Services Rules and the revised standard. The Enforcement Bureau sent the LOI, and ICOM responded on July 30, 2015. In its LOI Response and subsequent correspondence, ICOM argued that the wording of Section 80.225(a)(4) was vague, in that it appeared to ICOM that manufacturers could comply with either ITU-R M.493-13 or IEC 62238, but admitted that the marine radio did not comply with various aspects of ITU-R M.493-13. ICOM also admitted that it continued manufacturing, importing and marketing the noncompliant marine radio until June 22, 2015. Before receiving the LOI, however, ICOM discontinued marketing the model.”

The full decree (DA-16-597A1.docx) can be downloaded from the FCC web site at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/ICOM-america-inc-consent-decree>

In March 2015, ICOM was denied a request for a waiver of Section 80.225(a)(5) of the Commission’s rules, with regards to the manufacture, importation, and sale of handheld, portable Digital Selective Calling (DSC) marine equipment that had been built to a prior technical standard. The new technical standard had been adopted in WT Docket 00-48 in 2006, and at that time, “significant grandfathering protections” had been incorporated to permit the continued manufacture, importation, and sale of these devices through March 25, 2015.

In denying the waiver, the FCC found that “ICOM has failed to demonstrate that it should be granted a waiver of the Section 80.225(a)(5) requirement that, beginning March 25, 2015, handheld, portable Class D DSC radios may not be manufactured, imported, or sold unless they comply with IEC 62238, including the standard’s mandate for dual receivers. The primary purpose of the rule — to promote maritime safety — would not be frustrated by its application to ICOM, and we are not persuaded that waiving the rule for ICOM would serve the public interest. In addition, ICOM has not explained why it is uniquely or unusually burdened by the need to comply with the rule, and has not provided any information that would permit us to assess the nature and extent of the claimed burden.”

The full text of the denial (DA-15-371A1.docx) can be found at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/ICOM-request-waive-deadline-sell-certain-marine-radios-denied>



The Washington County Emergency Communications vehicle.

WACOM used it at Field Day.

In addition to all the public safety/first responder radios in it, it has amateur HF, VHF, and UHF.

You can also see the pneumatic telescoping mast on the back.

We hung dipoles from it. Worked great!

— Mike Lazaroff
K3AIR

The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully launched several satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads.

Satellites put into orbit include Swayam-1, a 1U

CubeSat that carries a digital store-and-forward messaging system for use by the Amateur Radio community.

“We are eagerly waiting for your reception report of the CW beacon at 437.025 MHz. You can also get the decoded beacon data by entering ‘beacon’ in Swayam beacon signal decoder available on our website,” said Rupesh Lad, VU2LRD/VU2COE of the College of Engineering Pune CSAT team.

Swayam-1 is in a low-Earth polar orbit. It operates on 437.025 MHz with a power output of 1 W.

Other satellites on the launch that carried Amateur Radio payloads include BEESAT-4 (435.950 — 4800 bps GMSK, CW); BIROS (437.525 — 4800 bps GMSK; Max Valier (145.860 MHz down, 145.960 MHz CW beacon), and Sathyabamasat (145.980 — 2400 bps BPSK).

— Southgate Amateur Radio News



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>





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) ↓

	<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 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>



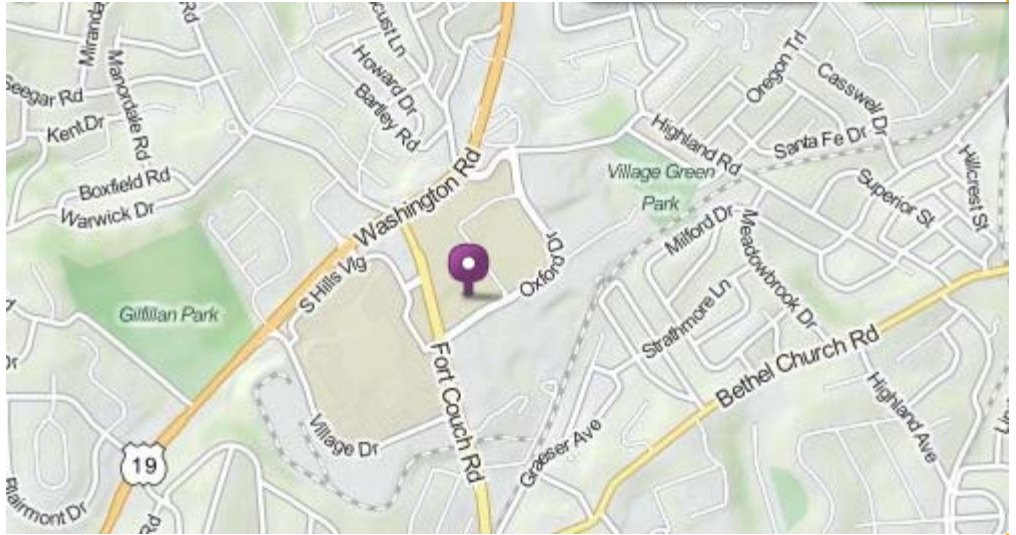
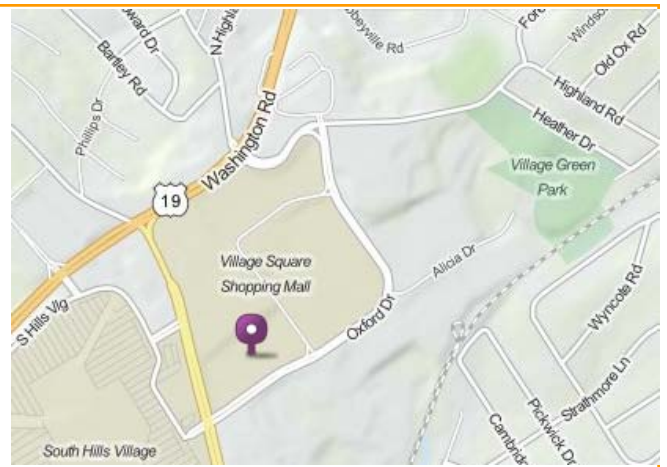
2016 WASH Meeting

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
www.washarc.org

