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WASHRATM



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1
JANUARY 2018

Wireless Association of South Hills

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, January 4th, 2018

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, January 4th 2018**, 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.

Subjects for the meeting include **WASHFest 2018** and other upcoming plans for 2018. Following the meeting, Larry K3VX will use talk about Antenna Modeling software and how it can benefit you.

See you there!

Cover Photo: Something a little different to start off the new year. This is the homebrew 15 Meter Moxon beam of JT7OB

Cover Photo is courtesy of Derek Fichtner KE0EYJ/HL1ZIK & © Copyright 2017 Batkhuu Ochir JT7OB

WASH 2018 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Glen Roberts KE7FD
VP / Secretary	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
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 2018 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	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
Field Day 2018 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)**, a 501.C.3 not for profit organization.

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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, 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 February 25th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Sunday, February 25th, 2018, 10:00 AM**, at **WASHFest 2018**, South Park Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park, PA 15129. 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: **To Be Scheduled**

Glen's Musings



Thank you again **WASH** members for the vote of confidence by re-electing me as **WASH** President for 2018. I hope everyone takes good notes on what is done, not done, missed, and otherwise fumbled by your president during the next year so that the next **WASH** president will know how to make 2019 a great year!

That being said, there's lots of opportunities to grow you interests in radio like the ARRL's new International Grid Chase 2018 (<http://www.arrl.org/news/prepare-to-get-your-grid-on>) which should give everyone something to aim for, including upgrading to General (or Extra) to take full advantage of the year long event.

WASHFest 2018 is almost upon us so find your good walking shoes, backpacks and hone your bargaining skills. A pre-event thanks to Carol and Richie for everything you do to make **WASHFest** happen, and the rest of you little elves lending her a hand.

On the meeting agendas we have Larry Comden K3VX, presenting on January 3rd "Antenna Modeling", so if the software has intimidated you in the past, prepare to be enlightened. A subsequent meeting topic will cover "Controlling Coax Common Mode Currents". Then there's the **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest** on January 13th so get your game face on. This year, prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be handed out at WASHFest (winners MUST be present).

All in all, it's [still] a great time to me a HAM.

— 73, Glen Roberts KE7FD

President, Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/b

Participants in CQ Magazine's Worked All Zones (WAZ) award program will soon be able to use Logbook of the World to apply for the WAZ award and it's endorsements.

Implementation, documentation, and internal testing of the link between LotW and WAZ is complete. The system is currently in beta testing. An announcement will be made when the support for WAZ is available for everyone to use.

— ARRL, CQ Magazine

Well, we had this great end of year opening prepared to talk about this month's gathering of the **WASH Breakfast Gang**, on Saturday December 30th at **Suzie B's**, 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19) in Canonsburg. And then the unthinkable happened... ye Editor slept through his alarm. Sorry about that, so we have no report for this latest go-around.

Our next gathering of the Gang will be on Saturday, January 28th, as usual at **Suzie B's**, 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19), Canonsburg, officially starting at **8:00 AM**. 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!) See you there?

Rules for this month's **18th Annual WASH 2 Meter Simplex contest** are on Page 11 of this issue. No significant changes in the rules themselves from last year, but as some of you already know, Jim WB4GCS just hasn't had the time available, and has had to step away from running the contest. Chuck KC3ELA has offered to take it over, and we know he'll do a great job!

Of course, as you talk with other Amateurs in the area in the next few weeks, please help promote the event! It's a short little contest, and it can be a heck of a lot of fun — the more the merrier!

We are planning to hold our more-or-less **annual end-of-holidays Christmas/Holiday party** in January. It's going to be held, again, at Calabria's on Library Road (Route 88) in Castle Shannon, on January 21st. (We will have our regular January meeting, of course). Of course, everyone and their families and spouses (or significant others) are welcome! The preliminary details are on Page 16.

However... **Carol KB3GMN needs to know who is coming**, as soon as possible. We have to give the restaurant an approximate number to make sure we can hold the "party room". So please let her know, if you have not already, as soon as possible!

Do you realize that we're less than two months away from **WASHFest 2018**? Yes, time flies, and it will be here before you know it! As things get closer to the date, you'll be hearing more and more from Carol about where we stand and what we need. Suffice to say, as always, we'll need a little bit of help from everyone to pull things together and keep things running smoothly, so please plan your time for the end of February accordingly! (Remember, if everyone helps a little, no one gets over-burdened with too much to do)

If the newsletter looks a little different in spots this month, Ye Editor finally did a **software upgrade** and jumped a couple of versions of Microsoft Office. There have been a few minor formatting changes to deal with, and a learning curve with the menu being replaced by the ribbon, but overall, things went smoothly. We think.

Hey! Let's not forget to **offer congratulations** to our **re-elected officers for 2018**, President Glen Roberts KE7FD and Vice President/Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV.

And remember... keep those articles, photos, and news items coming. Why? Simple: Because Ye Editor has a **LOT of pictures of his dog** that he can start using instead (and oh yes he would!), You have been warned!



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

Minutes, December 7th Meeting

Harold Rosenberger K3HCR, Vice President/Secretary, WASH

Glen KE7FD called the meeting to order at 19:02 hours. There were 16 members & 2 guests present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of silence was observed for recent Silent Keys & others deserving, and then introductions.

Motion to waive reading of the minutes based on the minutes printed in the newsletter by Rich N3SBF, second by Bill W3WH, & passed unanimously.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): Not available.

Secretary (KB3ERQ): Minutes in the newsletter

VE (W3WN): Our next test session will be at **WASHFest 2018** in February. Rest of 2018 to be scheduled.

Repeaters (N3FB): Still repeating. Electric bill submitted, payment has been previously authorized.

WASHNet (KC3ELA): Going very well. Everyone who has been checking in has been enjoying it!

N3SH.ORG (N3NWR): No report

Public Service (AB3ED): No report.

Contests (K3VX): We are well into the depths of the contest season. Most major ones are listed in the newsletter.

WASH 2 Meter Simplex contest (KC3ELA): Jim WB4GCS has reluctantly had to relinquish the contest chair due to lack of time. Chuck KC3ELA has stepped up to assume the chair. Reminder that the event will take place on the second Saturday (local time) in January. Please talk the contest up as much as possible before then!

WASHFest 2018 (KB3GMN): Things are well underway. Table sales have started. ARRL affiliation received. Carol made a motion for \$3200 to cover the costs of prizes and other expenses; receipts will be turned in to Mark as will any unused funds. Second by Bill W3WH. Short discussion; vote passed unanimously.

Ways & Means (KB3GMN): Voluntary membership contributions will be accepted after the meeting. Reminder on behalf of Mark that 2018 membership dues are now due.

Newsletter (W3WN): Out.

President (KE7FD): None.

2018 Officer Elections:

Vice President/Treasurer: Nominations open. No additional nominations. Motion by Bill W3WH, second by Frank N3FB, to close nominations. Passed unanimously. Motion by Bill W3WH, second by Chuck KC3ELA, to direct the Secretary to cast one vote to re-elect Mark Stabryla N3RDV as Vice President/Treasurer for another 2 year term. Passed unanimously.

President: Nominations open. Bob KC3DOF declined his nomination. No additional nominations. Motion by Bill W3WH, second by Carol KB3GMN, to close nominations. Passed unanimously. Motion by Gene KB3JHR, second by Chuck KC3ELA, to direct the Secretary to cast one vote to re-elect Glen Roberts KE7FD as President for another 1 year term. Passed unanimously.

Congratulations to Glen KE7FD and Mark N3RDV on their re-election for another term. (applause)

Old Business: Discussion regarding the Holiday Party. It will be held at Calabria's on Route 88 in Castle Shannon on January 21st. Carol currently has 20 people coming, we should have 30.

New Business: None

Good of the Order: None

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

Meeting adjourned at 19:35

Following a short break for refreshments, Larry K3VX narrated an old video from the South Hills Brasspounders & Modulators 1973 Field Day.



WASH Spotlight: Memories



From the dusty archives:

A snapshot from **WASHFest 1999**

Photo courtesy of and © 1999, 2018 Ed Salva W3VFA

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**

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 & 443.659 for talk-in or any last minute changes. All are welcome, **WASH** members or not, amateurs or not!

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

2018

K3CMU
KB3DCO
KC4WTT
N3BPB
WB4GCS
WO3Z

2017

AA3GM
AB3ED
AB3NM
AE3DL
AK3RG
K3HCR
K3SGT
K3VX
KA3TWI
KA3VXM
KB3GMN
KB3GMU

KB3IAC
KB3IVX
KB3JHR
KB3ORO
KB3YCX
KC3DOF
KC3ELA
KC3HNU
KC3IRH
KE7FD
N1NCZ
N3DFK
N3FB
N3IDH
N3JFQ
N3RDV
N3RHT
N3RIY
N3SBF
N3TDD

N3UE
N3YQX
NU3Q
W3LE
W3WH
W3WN
W8LEV
WA3JFL
WA3PYU
WA3VSS

WASH FL
KA3UPY/M
W4ZE
WASH NE
N0PEU
WASH OR
N0WPV
KB3NVL
KB3NVM
WASH OH
N8DPW

WASH TN
K3OL
KE3XB
N3YPB
WASH TX
NB3C
K3LGM
KB3IJX
Jane Wagner
WASH VI
NP2JF

Silent Keys

AB3KA
K3EED
K3LIE
KA3NMG
KB3ENX
KB3FNM
KB3FQT
KB3JHQ
N3CZZ
N3FZ
N3HKQ
N3KEH
N3OBD
N3RNX
N3SKR
N3SRC
N3ZEL
N3XFE
W3ZLK
WA3JPP

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

Through December 31st, 2017
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2018 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

January 1 st , 2018	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org
January 4 th , 2018	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
January 6 th , 2018	ARRL Kid's Day	http://www.arrl.org
January 13 th , 2018	WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest	http://www.n3sh.org
January 20 th , 2018	Breezeshooter's Groundwave PSK	http://www.breezeshooters.net
February 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
February 10 th	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	http://www.breezeshooters.net
February 17 th — 18 th	ARRL DX Contest CW	http://www.arrl.org
February 25 th	WASHFest 2018	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
February 25 th	WASH VE Exams at WASHFest 2018	
March 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
March 3 rd — 4 th	ARRL DX Contest SSB	http://www.arrl.org
March 10 th	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	http://www.breezeshooters.net
April 5 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
May 3 rd	WASH Meeting	St. Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
May 18 th — 20 th	Dayton ARA Hamvention	Green County Fairgrounds, Xenia OH
June 2 nd — 3 rd	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	http://breezeshooters.org



WASH "End of Season" Christmas/Holiday Party!

As has been our tradition in the past, the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS** will hold our more-or-less annual "End of the Holiday Season" Christmas/Holiday Party on Sunday, January 21st, at Calabria's Restaurant, 3107 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon PA., starting at about 5:00 PM.

The event will include a dinner buffet with a salad, choice of 2 entrees, 3 side dishes, rolls coffee & soft drinks.

Cost will be \$16.00 per person. Please contact Carol KB3GMN and let her know how many will be coming.

More details will be available at the January **WASH** club meeting.

"Seen" at the December Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2018 Ron Notarius W3WN



KB3GMN



WA3PYU & KA3VXM



KE7FD



K3VX & WO3Z



WA3JFL



W3WH



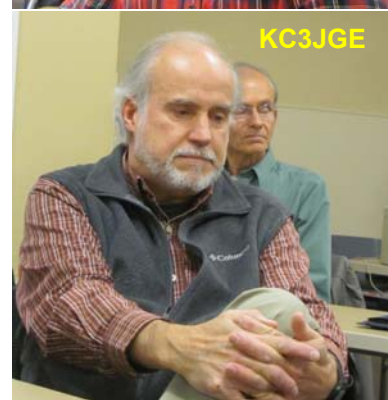
N3FB



KB3DCO



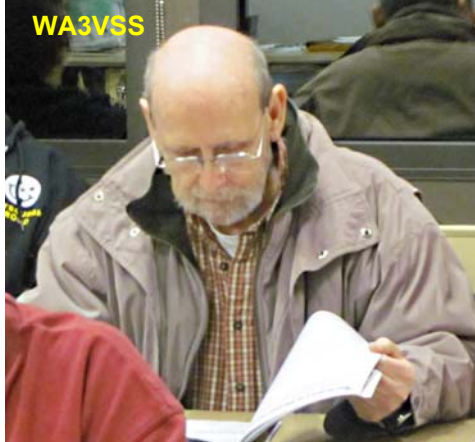
KC3ELA



KC3JGE



N1NGZ & K3VX



WA3VSS



KB3JHR

Major Change to ARRL By-Laws Proposed

by Hudson Division Director N2YBB

Bob Wilson N6TV

San Jose, Ca, December 21st, 2017 — "ARRL is a representative democracy — its members control its policies through the power of the ballot."

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/organization-structure>

This all could change quickly next month.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco N2YBB, the same Director who negotiated the flawed Amateur Radio Parity Act (ARPA), is now proposing a major change to the longstanding voting rules of the ARRL Board of Directors.

Instead of 15 Directors having sole voting privileges, one per ARRL Division, he is proposing to give additional voting privileges to the ARRL President (K5UR) and the three (3) ARRL Vice Presidents (KØGW, N5ZGT, KØQB), **none** of whom are elected directly by the membership.

Effectively, the Dakota Division (ND, SD, and MN) would get 15.8% of the voting power (3 out of 19 votes) even though they represent less than 3% of the ARRL membership. It also means that even if all five Directors up for election this summer are replaced, instead of a potential 8 to 7 majority in favor of more BoD openness, they would now represent an 8 to 11 *minority*.

To review, these five directors who are up for re-election (including N2YBB) all supported the revised Amateur Radio Parity Act, they all voted in favor of the flawed Code of Conduct, and they all voted in favor of censuring N6AA (the reasons for which remain clouded in secrecy)

I've published N2YBB's seven proposed motions to the ARRL By-Laws as a single PDF file here: <https://bit.ly/N2YBBmotions>

*I hereby urge our Director, W6RGG, and all other ARRL Directors, to vote AGAINST this proposal. * It's an obvious move to put more power into the hands of those who already have it, instead of leaving it the hands the ARRL membership where it belongs.

Feel free to forward these messages (to anyone who may have in interest in ARRL governance).#

Here are some proposed changes to the ARRL Articles of Association and By-Laws that have been submitted by the Hudson Division Director. Note that he has given permission to talk to anyone about it as shown in the note now at the top.

From: Mike Lisenco <n2ybb@arrl.org>

As far as I know you can talk about it to anyone. Also, why would you think the cover text is confidential. I also have no problem attaching my name especially since I wrote the damn thing.

Mike

The Secretary has received the attached seven changes to the Articles of Association and By-Laws than Director Lisenco will be making at the January board meeting. They have been received and circulated more than 30-days before the January 19th meeting.

Mike has asked that we include his brief statement (below) as part of this notification.

I am introducing a number of amendments to the Articles of Association and the By-Laws that are designed to grant voting privileges to the President and the three Vice-Presidents. They would have voting equality with the Directors on all matters with one notable exception. They would not be able to vote in elections for the officer positions.

I believe that this is long overdue. We look to elect from the Board those who we feel would be the best leaders of the Board, yet we take their vote away as the price of admission. That diminishes their authority and their ability to lead. It also makes the potential officer talent pool smaller as, perhaps, the best person for the job won't run for an officer position because they lose their vote.

It doesn't make sense to me to continue this practice. Let's get away from the "that's how we always have done it" mentality.

It make sense that we allow the officers the right to vote. Yes, it does change the political landscape but I think it's for the better and it will make the Board stronger.

I'd be interested in what you think on the matter. We have over a month to come to a consensus.

Thank you.

73 de Mike N2YBB

From: John Crovelli <w2gd@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Dec 25, 2017 at 3:37 PM

Subject: MORE Proposed Revisions to ARRL Articles and Bylaws

To: "cwops@yahoogroups.com" <cwops@yahoogroups.com>

Yesterday I received an email posted by Marty N6VI regarding proposed revisions to the ARRL Articles of Association and Bylaws. These changes will also be considered at the January ARRL Annual Meeting. It is a much more comprehensive set of bylaw changes which are *different than* those proposed by N2YBB.

I've reviewed these proposals in more detail and below are both the original N6VI email and the product of my own review. A link to the full Bylaw proposal document has been graciously provided by WA7LNM. I have also shared this material with fellow members of the Frankford Radio Club.

I personally have many misgivings regarding these proposed bylaw changes and believe other ARRL Members will feel the same way after they've had an opportunity to review these materials.

To ensure these proposals get the widest possible preview and comment in the limited time still available (just **25 days** remain before the January ARRL Board Meeting) your assistance in distributing this information to a much broader audience of ARRL Members and radio clubs is appreciated.

Regards, John Crovelli W2GD, ARRL Life Member, CWOPS Life Member

Major revisions to the ARRL Articles of Association and Bylaws will be considered at the ARRL Annual Meeting in Newington on January 19 and 20, 2018. This is IN ADDITION TO the motions proposed by N2YBB that have been reported previously.

Below are my *personal comments* based upon a cursory review of the proposed changes to the ARRL governing documents. There are many changes in the proposal to be considered next month at the ARRL Annual Meeting. Some will dilute membership privileges, others change the basic governing structure of the ARRL which has stood the test of time over many decades.

Follow the link provided by WA7BNM to view the full text of the change document. http://www.b4h.net/ARRL_2018_Jan_Redline_BOD.pdf

I want to direct your attention to a few of the changes that quickly caught my eye:

Continued on Page 8

Major Changes to By-Laws Proposed Continued from Page 7

Articles of Association -

Article 11 - gives the ARRL BoD the **NEW** ability to expel a member as allowed within the Bylaws.

Article 12 - gives the ARRL BoD the **NEW** ability to expel a Director, Vice Director Officers, etc. as allowed within the Bylaws.

Bylaws -

Bylaw 2 - For the **first time** the ARRL BoD will have the ability to vote to remove a League member. *Keep in mind if you are not a League member you cannot continue to serve as a Director.*

Bylaw 9 - revokes the current right of a licensed spouse of an SK Life Member to continue the life membership. *To me this is equivalent to breaking the contract with the original purchaser. Surviving licensed spouses presently have the right to continue life membership.*

Bylaw 41 - expands the duties of Ethics and Elections Committee.

Bylaw 47(a) **NEW** - gives the BoD the ability to remove a Director, Vice-Director or Officer. *Note: This appears to be in direct conflict with CT law which says a Director may only be removed by recall vote of his Division's members. See: [https://law.justia.com/codes/connecticut/2012/title-33/chapter-602/section-33-1088/item\(b\)](https://law.justia.com/codes/connecticut/2012/title-33/chapter-602/section-33-1088/item(b))*

Bylaw 47(b) **NEW** - gives the BoD the ability to impose reprimands and censure *without prior notice and without affording the accused the right to be heard on the accusations.*

Bylaw 48 **NEW** - imposes binding arbitration in resolution of disputes. It would curtail current rights to bring suit.

Appendix B - Code of Conduct - completely replaces prior version without any significant changes - *in my opinion this a poorly conceived policy statement that should be completely re-written more in line with those of other non profit organizations.*

There are just **26 days** remaining before the ARRL Board Meeting. In my *personal opinion* as an ARRL Life Member (and not your FRC President), something must be done quickly to prevent the ARRL Board of Directors from adopting these changes without adequate review by the membership.

After reading the documents and considering the impact they may have upon you as a League Member and how the ARRL will likely be governed going forward, I urge you to communicate your thoughts on the proposed changes with your Division Director, all other ARRL Division Directors, the ARRL Officers, the ARRL CEO and other ARRL Members.

Note: The motions of N2YBB that were previously reported *are a separate set of issues and are not contained within this revision of the governing documents.* You should consider also expressing your thoughts about the N2YBB motions as well the changes described above.

Do not assume your comments will be distributed to all parties at the ARRL automatically. Take care to send CC copies to all intended recipients.

Respectfully, John Crovelli W2GD

ARRL Life Member

-----Original Message-----

From: Marty Woll <n6vi@socal.rr.com>

To: sccc <sccc@contesting.com>

Sent: Sat, Dec 23, 2017 10:37 pm

Subject: [SCCC] Revised ARRL Articles and Bylaws and Motion

To my fellow SCCC members..

A set of proposed Articles and Bylaws changes is being proposed by Director Norris (Delta Division), no doubt with substantial drafting by one or more attorneys on the "front row".

Note in particular the following proposals:

A change to Bylaw 2 would allow the Board to revoke a membership. I wonder how this would sit with Life Members, who paid good and valuable consideration for their life memberships – isn't that called a contract? I further wonder who among the general membership they might decide to go after?

Bylaw 11 would be changed to as a consequence of removal under the changed Bylaw 46.

Bylaw 41 would have an added provision that the Ethics & Elections Committee apply the Policy on Board Governance and Conduct.

Bylaw 47(a) would allow the Board to terminate the term of an officer, Director or Vice Director by terminating their ARRL membership (therefore rendering them ineligible to serve). This change appears to me to be inconsistent with Section 33-1088 of Connecticut State Law, which provides that, if a director is elected by a subset of the voting body (members, in the League's case), only the members of that subset can remove him or her. (Of course, I'm not an attorney; it's just that I can read and understand English.)

Bylaw 47(b) would allow a censure with no advance notice and no opportunity for the targeted individual to be heard.

Bylaw 48 would require the use of binding arbitration and prohibit legal action through the courts.

Less onerous but still likely to be seen negatively by members is the change proposed to Bylaw 9 to eliminate the transferability of a Silent Key's Life Membership to a surviving spouse who is licensed and a current ARRL member.

If this is not the direction members want ARRL to go, then they had better let their respective directors know ASAP; the Board discussion voting takes place in just four weeks.

Those of you in the Southwestern Division probably know where our Director stands on these changes, but be sure your friends in other Divisions know about this and speak up.

73, Marty N6VI

WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

Falls Creek, PA, December 31st, 2017 — Happy New Year!

As we say good-bye to 2017, we can feel a justifiable sense of accomplishment. It was a very busy year for all of us in our Western Pennsylvania Section, and Amateur Radio is the better for it!

Thank you to everyone for your dedication and hard work on behalf of our favorite hobby. We all really pulled together to serve the public, to encourage new hams and to make Amateur Radio more fun for all of us.

Great work, everyone!

As we shift our sights to the future, 2018 is a blank page -- with some spots reserved already for some really exciting radio activities. Our Western Pennsylvania Section Convention is once again going to take place at the Breezeshooters Hamfest, which is going to be a two-day event this year on Saturday, June 2nd and Sunday June 3rd! We are lining up some top-level presentations from world-famous hams to make this a truly great event for us all!

Building on the success of our SET last October, ARES leaders are planning more exercises and training to include more groups and hams. Be part of the fun as we work together to sharpen our skills and serve the public even better!

Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement during my first year as Section Manager. I have made so many new Amateur Radio friends, it's hard to count you all! But I'll keep trying!

Final Final

Have a safe and happy New Year, and if you can, get on the air for Straight Key Night (which goes on all day tomorrow too!) In any case, think of all the good things the new year has to offer and plan to be part of them!

73 and Press On!



ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 Kicks Off with the New Year

American Radio Relay League



Newington, CT, December 27th — Warm up the ham shack! The [ARRL International Grid Chase 2018](#) is here!

The Grid Chase got under way on January 1st UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones). The objective of the year-long event is to work stations on any band (except 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)).

Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your [monthly total](#).

Many hams are familiar with grid squares from the VHF/UHF and satellite realms, and everyone lives in one. An [online calculator](#) by David Levine K2DSL, can determine your grid square. Enter a postal address, ZIP code, or a call sign, and the calculator will return the grid square for that location.

Any contact you make in 2018 can count for your Chase score; as long as the other operators participate in LoTW, you'll get credit automatically when they upload their logs. This means that your contest contacts will count, as will contacts with special event stations, or other on-air activity that uses LoTW to confirm contacts. Except for 60 meters, there are no restrictions on modes or bands, as long as they are legal. Satellite contacts are valid for the Chase too. The event is open to *all* radio amateurs.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of QST. For more information, [contact](#) the ARRL Contest Branch.



Now, This Is Cool!

Derek Fichtner KEØEYJ/HL1ZIK

Seoul, South Korea, December 9th, 2017 — Wood base, and all on this Homebrew Moxon beam (cover & photo right). Isn't this great?

I recently had a RTTY QSO with JT7OB. He is in Mongolia, and I am in Korea.

Yes, people still live nomadic lives in tents, there.

He has been licensed since 2015 and has been active in several RTTY contests!



Radio Amateur Receives Patent for "Cloaking" Technology

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT December 28th — Nathan "Chip" Cohen W1YW, of Belmont, Massachusetts — the founder of Fractal Antenna Systems Inc and inventor of the fractal antenna — has been granted a [patent](#) for deflective electromagnetic shielding — essentially "cloaking" technology to defend against detection by radar and similar technologies.

"Ham radio experimentation can lead to some pretty cool innovations!" Cohen said in response to a recent QRZ forum post about the patent. "Let's keep that spirit alive in 2018."

The patent covers electromagnetic cloaking/deflection of, among other things, satellites, rockets, towers, antennas, vehicles, body coverings, ships, spacecraft, and even people.

"Much time and effort has been devoted to the quest for so-called invisibility machines," the patent's background information states. "Beyond science fiction, however, there has been little, if any, real progress toward this goal."

According to the detailed description, the technology "provides one or more surfaces that act or function as shielding and/or cloaking surfaces for which at least a portion of the surface includes or is composed of 'fractal cells' (small fractal shapes, functioning as antennas or resonators) placed sufficiently close to one another, so that current present in one fractal cell is replicated or reproduced to an extent in an adjacent fractal cell. Without being limited by any theoretical explanation, surface plasmonic waves are believed to cause such replication in conjunction with evanescent waves." The resulting surface would deflect around an object.

In terms of backscatter, upon which radar systems depend, Cohen has explained it this way: "The incoming wave reflects off a boundary condition at the object. Its reflection is out of phase and phase-cancels with the incoming wave. Bye-bye, backscatter."

Fractal Antenna Systems first publicly demonstrated "person invisibility" in 2012 for a Radio Club of America audience. He also has demonstrated invisibility cloaks at Hamvention® and at the ARRL New England Division Convention. According to the company's [BusinessWire release](#), "Uses of the newly patented technology extend to commercial needs such as towers, antennas, people, and shielding, but it may also be used in defense and intelligence arenas."

According to the [BusinessWire release](#), the technology "produces the desired effects without any requirements on special orientation, composition, or shape of the object. The cloak/deflector can be very thin, and the effect can happen over a wide bandwidth."

The company noted that "cloaking" applications concentrate on microwave and infrared wavelengths, "although the technology and patents apply to visible light as well." Stated Cohen, "Cloaking at visible light has limited needs. Camouflage and projection methods are easier and cheaper at making something disappear to the eye. But at radio and heat wavelengths, the cloaking technology is an important enabler."

Cohen, 62, applied for the patent in 2012. An ARRL Life Member and active DXer, he has been a radio amateur for more than 50 years.



CQ To "Jump Start" Print Edition with January Issue November & December 2017 Issues to be Digital Only

CQ Newsroom



Hicksville, NY, December 27th — Readers of CQ magazine's print edition are well aware we have been behind schedule on printing and mailing our issues on a timely basis. We apologize for these delays, which resulted from a variety of little things going wrong, all at the same time.

Rather than trying to play catch-up over the course of the next several months, we have made the decision to allow the November and December 2017 issues to remain as digital-only issues, and to jump-start our print edition with the January 2018 issue. This will enable us to get back and stay on schedule as we move toward our 75th anniversary of serving the amateur radio community. The January issue is at the printer being processed right now. **Please note: All print subscriptions are being extended for two months.**

Anyone may access the digital editions of the November and December issues using the following links (Please view in Firefox):

CQ December 2017: <http://www.zinio.com/reader.jsp?issue=416437244&o=ext>

CQ November 2017: <http://www.zinio.com/reader.jsp?issue=416434275&o=ext>

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

More Room at the Fairgrounds for Hamvention 2018

Dayton Amateur Radio Association / Henry Ruminski W8HJR, Media Chairman

Dayton, OH, December 20th — We are pleased to announce The Greene County Commissioners and the Greene County Fair Board have approved the construction of a new building at the Fairground/Expo Center.

Greene County officials have decided to move forward with construction of a new building as it will continue to expand their presence in the region as a world class Exposition Center!

Hamvention certainly benefits from the decision to expand the Expo Center footprint. Construction is planned to be complete ahead of [Hamvention 2018](#) and will be used for the event.

Additionally, another building on the property previously known as Fairgrounds Furniture, is being vacated and will be available for use by Hamvention 2018.

More details regarding the building sizes will be forthcoming but Hamvention is told the floor space added will cover an area larger than the tents Hamvention used in 2017.

Although this decision was made to expand opportunities at the Expo Center, Hamvention is grateful for the support Greene County, Xenia Township, and the city of Xenia.



Greene County Fairgrounds (W8WWV photo)

Ron Cramer KD8ENJ, General Chair, Hamvention
Jack Gerbs WB8SCT, Asst. Gen. Chair, Hamvention
Michael Kalter W8CI, CFO/Official Spokesperson, Hamvention

18th Annual WASH Two Meter Simplex Contest

This January will mark the Eighteenth Annual **WASH** 2 Meter Simplex Contest. We've already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting! Everyone who participated in it the last sixteen years had a blast, & we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

Rules were been revised before the 2013 event, following feedback from participants, and we have a new chair & a new address for mailing your logs from years past — **please** make certain that you use this year's address!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 13th, 2018 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 14th 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

Objectives:

- To make as many contacts as possible
- To have fun!

Band, Mode & Frequencies: The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band.

- **FM** : FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM frequencies are all standard 2 Meter simplex frequencies, as per the ARRL 2 Meter Band Plan, every **15 kHz**, from **146.505 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.450 to 147.580 MHz**. Use of simplex frequencies in the "FM Experimental Simplex" band of 145.510 to 145.670 are not recommended. See list of recommended simplex channels at the end of the rules.
- **CW**: 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)
- **SSB & AM**: 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan).
- **Digital (including RTTY)**: 144.51 to 144.55 MHz. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan) Multiple digital modes may be used, and participants are free to use any generally accepted Digital mode, but only ONE Digital QSO with a given station regardless of mode

→ *Note: Listen for CW QSO's around 144.1 MHz 15 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for SSB & AM QSO's around 144.2 MHz 30 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for Digital QSO's around 144.51 MHz 45 minutes after the hour*

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

Power Limit: Maximum 100 watts output.

Exchange : Callsign, contact number, ZIP Code.

For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient — do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations will use their 6 digit postal code

Example 1: "N3ZCG from W8XK, please copy Number 3, 15347."

Example 2: "K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801"

Example 3: "W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 15137"

Contacts : Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station **once** per mode, and **once** per ZIP Code — Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations. Remember hilltops work best!

Disqualification: Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels below 146.505 MHz.
- Intentional interference to non-contesters, nets, & QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators
- The committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty.

Scoring: Each Contact:

Phone (FM, SSB, AM): 1 point
CW: 2 points
Digital (any mode): 2 points

Multipliers:

Locations:
Power:

Number of different ZIP Codes
X 3 Stations running 10 Watts or Less
X 2 Stations running 10—30 Watts
X 1 Stations running over 30 Watts

Final Score: Total Points x Locations x Power

After the Contest: Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets are now available for download from the **WASH** web site, www.n3sh.org, no later than January 1st.

Submit Log Sheets: Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: **** NEW ADDRESS FOR 2018 ****

WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Charles Bihun KC3ELA
1910 Woodward Avenue, Apartment 2
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Enclose a #10 SASE for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2018

Each log submitted on or before the deadline will receive one (1) main prize ticket to WASHFest 2018 on February 25th

Logs submitted with an SASE will have their ticket mailed to them, otherwise, the tickets will be available at the **WASH** Club table

Recommended FM Simplex Frequencies:

146.505 MHz	146.580 MHz	147.510 MHz	146.520 MHz (*)
147.450 MHz	147.525 MHz	146.535 MHz	147.465 MHz
147.555 MHz	146.565 MHz	147.495 MHz	147.570 MHz
			147.540 MHz
			146.550 MHz

Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(*) The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520 MHz, may be used. However, many stations use 52 for casual conversation or as a calling frequency. If the frequency is in use or becomes used by non-participants, please permit them to use the frequency unimpeded. To avoid interference to other contestants and other users of the bands, please do not operate on 5 or 10 kHz "offsets" from these recognized FM channels.

3YØZ Press Release #10

Bob Allphin K4UEE

Marietta, GA, December 29th, 2017 — We recently reached yet another milestone in our quest to activate Bouvet Island.

DAP, the Chilean company that owns and operates the M/V Betanzos and the helicopters has satisfied the last contractual requirements, prior to departure. We submitted to them a "fit for purpose" checklist with 120 items as part of our contract. They have satisfied all the checklist items, and we will be transferring almost ½ million US dollars to them in the next few days.

So, we are happy to report that we are on schedule for a January 13th, 2018 departure to Bouvet Island, the World's most isolated island and the number two most wanted DX entity. All team members will meet in Punta Arenas, Chile no later than January 10, 2018. We will attend a one and one-half day marine safety course, purchase last minute supplies and then fly across the Drake Passage to King George Island in the South Shetlands. There, we will board the newly refurbished Chilean vessel M/V Betanzos, and begin our 9 to 11-day voyage to Bouvet. The team feels confident knowing that the ship's captain and many of the crew have been with the vessel for eight years, and have extensive Southern Ocean experience. The Captain reports he has previously been to Bouvet.

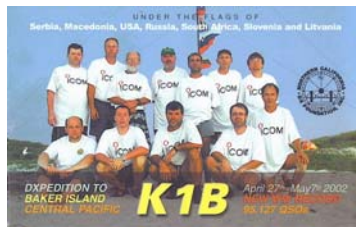
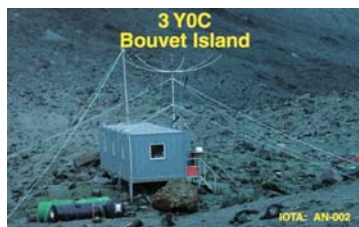
Sea ice has been reported along a direct route to Bouvet, and that may dictate we take a more northerly course, before turning East to approach Bouvet. That may add day or two to our transit time.

Our two helicopters have completed their 100-hour inspections, and are ready for service. There has been a thorough review of landing procedures and shelter and antenna layouts. We have three alternative anchoring systems to secure the shelters and antennas to the ice on the surface of Bouvet.

So, the plan remains unchanged. We will have two stations on every open band whenever humanly possible, gain and directional antennas where possible, high power stations and a propagation-driven operation. The primary modes will be CW, SSB and RTTY. FT8 will be utilized if it is the only productive mode. Anyone preparing to utilize FT8 must read the 3YØZ FT8 protocol on the Band Plan page of the DXpedition website #

Complete information on band plans and frequencies, propagation predictions and QSL procedures are available on the DXpedition website: www.bouvetdx.org. You will find strategically placed "donate" buttons if you want to help with our substantial costs. I hope you share in the excitement of this great undertaking. We anxious to get underway!

— Bob Allphin K4UEE, Ralph Fedor KØIR, Erling Wiig LA6VM



The Dateline DX Association is pleased to announce the callsign for its DXpedition to Baker Island in June 2018.

The Association already has the callsign KH7Z so we will identify our location and call as **KH1/KH7Z**.

Visiting a remote DX location like Baker Island is an expensive undertaking. Our budget is over \$400,000 and 50% of this cost is being underwritten by the team members. That still leaves a large amount of fundraising.

Do you need KH1 for an ATNO? This is the first DXpedition to Baker and Howland Islands since 2002. The FWS ruling that allowed this trip prevents another DXpedition for 10 years. Please help make this happen by donating at our website Baker2018.net.

Please remember that NCDXF members may direct donations above \$250 through the Northern California DX Foundation to qualify for a tax deduction. The specific details as well as general donation instructions are on our website at <http://www.baker2018.net/pages/donate.html>

Thanks for helping make this happen.

— The Dateline DX Association

Don Greenbaum N1DG, Tom Harrell N4XP, and Kevin Rowett K6TD co-leaders

DX News Briefs

The [Perseverance DX Group](#) has announced plans to activate Ducie Island — a marine protected area — in October and November of 2018. The last Ducie Island DXpedition was **VP6DX** in 2008. Ducie is currently the 27th most-wanted DXCC entity according to ClubLog. The 2018 DXpedition would operate as **VP6D**.



"Landing permission, visas and radio license have been issued," PDXG said in a 4 December news release. "A team of 14 operators will be on the island for up to 14 days. (They currently have 1 open position) The team will depart from Mangareva, French Polynesia aboard the expedition ship *Braveheart*. Seven operating positions are planned for 160-10 meters, SSB/CW/Digital, including FT8." More information available on the [PDXG Website](#) or at info@vp6d.com — K5GS

A group of Philippine operators will be QRV as **DUØDM** from Corregidor Island, OC-244, 13-14 January, 40—10 meters, CW SSB & Digi.

The operation will be dedicated to "the heroes of Bataan and Corregidor." QSL via DU1MS — DX World

W2JHP is again QRV as **V31TA** from Turneffe Island NA-123, through 10 January. Expect limited activity on SSB and possibly some PSK. QSL via EA5GL or LotW — W2JHP, DX World, OPDX

N2IEN is now QRV as **A52PD** through 14 January, HF, CW & Digi. QSL via N2IEN — DX World, DX Coffee, OPDX

LA7GIA and KO8SCA are QRV as **6060** through 15 January, 160—10, CW SSB RTTY & FT8. The operators are paying for all DXpedition expenses & that any donations or money raised will be donated to Doctors Without Borders. Donations can be sent via PayPal to 6060@la7gia-com QSL via MØOXO & OQRS. — OPDX

Several Italian amateurs will be QRV as **D68I** 28 January—10 February, 80—10, CW SSB & Digi. QSL via IK5CRH — IK5CRH, OPDX, DX World

Look for **CEØY/DF8AN** from **Easter Island** 21—28 February, HF, CW & Digi. QSL via DF8AN — DX World

ON6DX will be QRV as **TY1TT** 20 February—2 March, 30—10, CW SSB & RTTY. QSL via ON6DX — OPDX

Members of the Russian Robinson Club will be QRV as **C96RRC** 29 April—3 May from Mozambique Island AF-088, and **C98RRC** 5-9 May from Inhaca Island AF-066. More info at <https://dxpedition.wixsite.com/mozambique> QSL via R7AL or ClubLog.— DX World

QSL Routes

3D2JS via WB2TJO	D68I via IK5CRH
3YØZ via N2OO/SJDXA	DM1517L via DL5AWI
3ZØXMAS via SP6IEQ	DM5ØØRT via MØSDV
4B4B via XE1B	E51DXX via AG1LE
4JØSFR via 4K4K	H44DA via VK4KHZ
5B4XMAS via IZ4AMS	HF2Ø18HNY via SP2PBM
5P8VW via DJ8VW	OF3Ø77F via OH3JF
6O6O via MØURX	OUØPOLIO via OZ1ACB
6Y6Y via W8YCM	OU5U via OZ3FD
7X5FG via F6FZG	TC63ØMECCA via TA3X
9A161NT via 9A7R	TK/NZ1C via DD5ZZ
A52PD via N2IEN	TY1TT via ON6DX
A7ØX via MØOXO	TZ4AM via WØSA
AT6MIT via VU3BUN	UN7ECA via DL7EDH
CE2/W9XY via W9XY	UN7TE via RW6HS
CE2AWW via N7RO	VK8NSB via MØURX
CT7/DJ7PR via DJ7PR	WØN via KRØP
CT9/DL8DBW/P via DL8DBW	XW3DT via RK3DT

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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Phone: 724-352-4905

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 <https://www.jeffk1nss.com> !

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



Plumbing the Spectral Depths

David Bowman GØMRF, reports that he and Dave Riley AA1A, have completed what is believed to be the first transatlantic contact on 630 meters since the MF band was released to US radio amateurs this past fall. They used JT9 digital mode to complete the more than 5,160 kilometer (approximately 3,200 miles) contact during the early hours of December 23rd.

On the UK end, GØMRF was running a modified Icom IC-7300 with a filtered preamp and a 60-W amplifier to a 250-foot wire configured as an inverted L. AA1A benefited from his near-Atlantic Coast location in Marshfield, Massachusetts, Bowman said.

Elsewhere, Dex McIntyre W4DEX, continues to extend the limits of what is possible at VLF by achieving two significant results at 8.270 kHz. A record transatlantic message length of 42 characters resulted from an overnight transmission on December 25th/26th, received by Paul Nicholson in Todmorden, UK. The distance covered was 6,194 kilometers (approximately 3,840 miles), and the information rate of 24.6 bits/hour was reported to be about 70% of the channel capacity (signal bandwidth was 0.133 Hz).

The following night, a three-character message ("QRZ") from W4DEX was received in Cumiana, Italy by Renato Romero IK1QFK, achieving a new world record distance of 7,173 kilometers (approximately 4,447 miles) for message decoding at VLF. The signal-to-noise ratio on the Italian end was on the order of -70 dB. W4DEX operated with an ERP of just 100 µW. The mode used was *EbNaut* coherent BPSK with transmitter and receivers phase locked to a GPS-derived timing signal. McIntyre needed no license to transmit in that region of the spectrum, since the FCC has not designated any [allocations](#) below 9 kHz — a region known as "the Dreamers' Band."

In June 2014, running on the order of 150 µW ERP, W4DEX transmitted the first sub 9-kHz transatlantic message by a radio amateur, also detected by Nicholson. W4DEX and IK1QFK already hold the world record distance for VLF signal detection, and this latest result extends that to message decoding.

In Newfoundland, inveterate VLF experimenter Joe Craig VO1NA, has been transmitting the letter S using *EbNaut*, starting at 2100 UTC each evening on 8.2700075 kHz. Craig told ARRL that the very low power signal has been copied in England, Germany, Poland, Russia, and Italy, "where the guy who sent the first S across the pond was born!" Craig quipped. "I wonder what amazing things the new year will bring."

— Thanks to David Bowman GØMRF; Paul Nicholson, & Joe Craig VO1NA



FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, December 19th, 2017 — The FCC has imposed a \$180,000 civil penalty on a Sarasota, Florida, company that had been marketing noncompliant audio-visual transmitters intended for use on drones in violation of the Commission's Amateur Service and marketing rules. In an [Order](#) released on December 19th, the FCC explained that Lumenier Holdco LLC (formerly known as FPV Manuals LLC) was advertising and marketing uncertified AV transmitters capable of operating on both amateur and non-amateur frequencies, including bands reserved for federal government use. Some of the transmitters also exceeded the 1-W power limit for Amateur Radio transmitters used on model craft, the FCC said.

"Moreover, entities that rely on amateur frequencies in operating compliant AV transmitters must have an amateur license and otherwise comply with all applicable laws for such operation," the FCC said in the *Order*. The FCC said that while it generally has not required amateur equipment to be certified if it operates solely on Amateur Radio frequencies, certification is required if a device can operate outside of the ham bands.

Last January, in what it called an ["extremely urgent complaint"](#) to the FCC, ARRL targeted the interference potential of a series of audio/video transmitters used on unmanned aircraft and marketed as Amateur Radio equipment. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay W3KD, said those transmitters used frequencies intended for navigational aids, air traffic control radar, air route surveillance radars, and global positioning systems.

In addition to paying a civil penalty, Lumenier, which has admitted to marketing the noncompliant AV transmitters, will enter into a *Consent Decree* with the FCC to settle the enforcement proceeding and terminate the investigation.

The case stemmed from complaints received by the Enforcement Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division. "The investigation revealed that some of the AV transmitters marketed by Lumenier were capable of being operated outside of the authorized Amateur Radio Service bands, including on frequencies reserved in whole or in part for federal agencies, but were not certified or otherwise compliant with the rules," the FCC said in its *Order*. "These AV transmitters are considered intentional radiators and must comply with the Commission's Equipment Authorization and Marketing rules."

The FCC said that Lumenier ceased marketing the noncompliant transmitters after receiving a *Letter of Inquiry* from the FCC last April. The *Consent Decree* accompanying the FCC *Order* requires Lumenier to admit that it violated equipment authorization and marketing rules and establish a compliance plan to ensure that the company complies with FCC rules in the future.



KQV SK

One of the few US broadcast stations east of the Mississippi that sport K-prefix call letters — KQV Pittsburgh — will go silent as the new year arrives on January 1st after nearly 1 century on the air.

"It's a sad day for broadcasting and for the news business," KQV Station Manager Bob Dickey Jr, [told](#) the Pittsburgh *Tribune Review*. The family-owned news-talk station operates on 1410 kHz with 5,000 W into a five-tower array that provides separate day and night patterns.

Unofficial accounts indicate that KQV started out as "special amateur station" 8ZAE, to be used by the Doubleday-Hill Electric Company primarily for two-way communication with another station in Washington, DC. (Doubleday-Hill also sold radios.) In October 1921, the Federal Radio Commission issued the station a "limited commercial license," randomly assigning the KQV call letters. The practice of issuing K-prefix call letters to western and W-prefix call letters to eastern stations predated commercial radio broadcasting.

Pittsburgh stations KQV and KDKA both have claimed the distinction of being the first to commence regular broadcasting.

Dickey cited declining ad revenues and audience and increasing costs at KQV, which has been on the market.

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!

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



WASHfest 2018

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **TWENTY THIRD** big year!
Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 25th, 2018
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

Behind the Allegheny County Police Station on Brownsville Road

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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*

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

First Prize: ICOM-7300 100 W HF+6M Transceiver
Second Prize: Yaesu FT-7900R Dual Band V/UHF Transceiver
Third Prize: LDT AT200 Pro2 Automatic Antenna Tuner
Fourth Prize: Yaesu FT-65R Dual Band V/UHF Handheld



Additional Hourly Door Prizes! 2 Special Black Box Prizes (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

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2018.

Reservations received after February 1st, 2018 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance eight years running!

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

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 2018
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



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Send an email to bernie@dailydx.com or go to www.dailydx.com

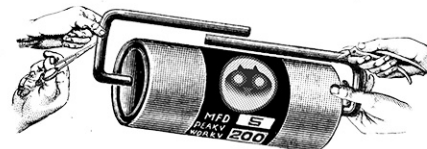
The Daily DX, 3025 Hobbs Road,
Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.

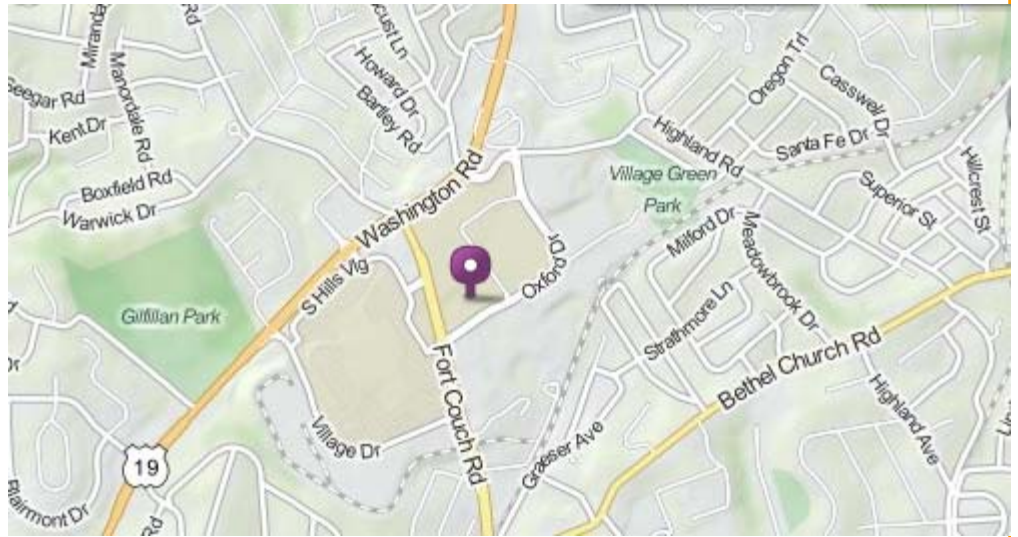
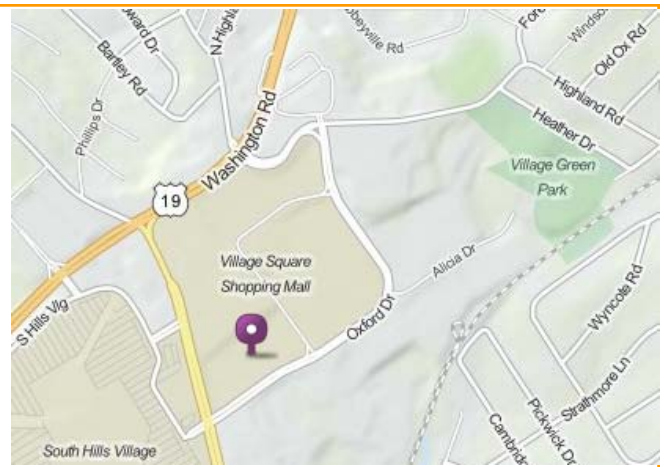


2018 WASH Meeting Location

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

