



WASHRAG

TM



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 9
SEPTEMBER 2018

Wireless Association of South Hills



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 20 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2018

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, September 6th, 2018

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, September 6th 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 the 2018 Pennsylvania QSO Party, and other upcoming plans for 2018.

See you there!

Cover Photos: Seen at the 2018 Skyview Hamfest. More photos on Page 8

Cover Photo is courtesy of & © Copyright 2018 Ron Notarius W3WN

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 2019 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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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 October 18th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, October 18th, 2018, 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.net

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: February 24th, 2019
Remainder of 2019 TBA

Glen's Musings



Summer is almost officially over but as far as everyone is concerned, summer 2018 is history. With a change in the seasons comes the usual cycle of weather which for many can be devastating.

Hurricane season is coming to the coastal regions which as we all know often impacts us. A note to us all: Be prepared, even if you've never been in Scouting.

Then once you've gotten yourself secured, reach out to others. With radio that might be anything from direct participation in emergency communication to scanning the bands listening for that weak signal from a vessel stranded at sea or someone on land in need of help.

Take some time to stand down from padding the walls with certificates and awards to instead listen for a call for help this hurricane season.

— 73, Glen Roberts KE7FD
President, Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/b

September marks the 19th year for the annual Route 66 On The Air special event, running from September 8th to 16th this year.

Listen for 21 different W6 1x1 calls, W6A thorough W6U, operating from various locations along the historic highway, in some areas designated a National Scenic Byway.

Commemorative QSL Cards and Certificates are available from the sponsor, the Citrus Bell ARC of San Bernardino, CA

On August 26th, the **WASH Breakfast Gang** met at 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910), as we have for many a year... but not at Suzie B's, as the restaurant has reopened as **Vinnie's**. A new decor, a new menu... but still good food and a great group together, and that's what's important. This month's group included WB4GCS, KB3DCO, N3FB, KB3GMU, N3DFK, N3IDH and W3WN. Morning topics included Molly & the Rabbit, Assisted Living Arrangements, "picnic today, concert tomorrow", "I don't drink my coffee with a straw", slackers at work, changes at work, "what's the lottery up to?", odd phone calls at night, Google phone, "you can't fix stupid", Reality Winner sentencing, move-in day at college, Raspberry Pi-Hole, Old DARPA mentality, C2 compliance certification... and a whole lot more.

Our next gathering of the Gang will be on Saturday, September 29th, as usual at **Vinnie'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 the 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?

Pa QSO Party 2018: The new organizers of the 2018 Pennsylvania QSO Party have updated the rules for this year. The updates can be found at <http://www.pagso.org/pa-qso-party-rules.html>. There are no significant changes this year, mainly some "clarification and clean-up work", according to Goody K3NG (the Pa QSO Party Association PR Dude – that's his signature!). If you have any questions, email him at anthony.good@gmail.com. The info@pagso.org email address will soon be active, but it's not there yet.

And as he has done for many years, Bud Trench AA3B is tracking the announced Operating Plans for fixed stations, portables, mobiles, and rovers. If you want your operation to be listed, email Bud at aa3b.bud@gmail.com, let him know what call(s) you'll be using and which county(s) you'll be operating from.

The streak continues: Our own Bill Hill W3WH has never won a #1 first place hamfest prize for himself, ever. (People he's bought tickets for have been lucky, but not him). That almost changed at this year's Skyview RS Hamfest... Bill's ticket, he was told, was pulled for first prize! But, Bill had already left for the day due to other commitments, and by the time he got back in touch... he ended up with... a J Pole? Hmm. Somewhere along the line, we have had a "failure to communicate!" And the streak goes on...

If you are interested in a **WASH 2019 Pocket Planner**, give it some thought and cast your vote at the September 6th meeting. Glen KE7FD advises us that the cost for 50 pieces this year is \$1560, give or take a few bucks.

If you own a **Baofeng UV-5R**, you might be interested in the [citation issued by the FCC](#) against an importer, Amcrest Industries LLC, for marketing unauthorized devices. Essentially, the UV-5R 2+ model is capable of operating in excess of Part 90 power levels, and can be programmed in ways not authorized for Part 90.

Read that again... Part 90, not Part 97. There are several models of the UV-5R on the market, and many are authorized for Part 90 Land Mobile (or Part 80 Maritime or Part 87 Aviation) services... but others aren't. That and related marketing is what got the importer into trouble.

The important thing to know, as a Part 97 users, is that ALL models of the UV-5R are perfectly legal to use — in the Amateur bands by licensed Amateur Radio operators. Stay in band, and you're fine. Just don't let someone talk you out of a radio. And if someone asks you to take an "illegal" rig off their hands... take them up on the offer!



Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 19

Minutes, August 2nd Meeting

Harold Rosenberger K3HCR, Vice President/Secretary, **WASH**

Glen KE7FD called the meeting to order at 19:02 hours. There were 14 members & 1 guest 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 Bob N3RDG, second by Bill W3WH, passed unanimously.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): Read. Motion to accept by Rich N3SBF, second by Carol KB3GMN and passed unanimously.

Secretary (KB3ERQ): No report.

VE (W3WN): We had four candidates at the July 12th VE Session at the WPXI Community Room. Two new Techs passed: Scott KC3LVC from Pittsburgh, Curtis KC3LVD from Upper St. Clair. Congratulations to both! Thanks as always to N3FB & WPXI. Next exam session will be October 18th.

Repeaters (N3FB): Repeating!

WASHNet (KC3ELA): No report.

N3SH.ORG (N3NWR): No report.

Public Service (AB3ED): No report.

Contests (K3VX): Pa QSO is on! Bonus Station will be N3LI (call of the former PaQP chair) operated by the Nittany ARC. We have a group from the club going to Prince Gallitzin State Park in Cambria County.

Ways & Means (KB3GMN): Voluntary membership contributions underway and will be accepted after the meeting.

Newsletter (W3WN): Out. Thanks to all of the contributors!

President (KE7FD): None.

Old Business:

- Generator: Mark is getting more information from Honda, Rich is checking with Harbor Freight. Discussion regarding renting a generator when needed rather than own it. Curtis KC3LVD offered to join the committee and lend his expertise (accepted!)
- Tower Trailer: Bill reports most storage facilities are full. "No room at the inn!" One spot may be available in the Bethel Park Industrial Park at approx. \$75 per month.

New Business: Rick KB3IAC wanted to know if the club is interested in purchasing the antenna Patch Panel that we've used the last few years at Field Day. Motion from Bill W3WH to purchase the panel from Rick if the price is \$175 or less. Second by Larry K3VX. Passed

Good of the Order: Larry K3VX is writing an article about how we solved the QRM issue at Field Day, for possible submission to QST or CQ.

Motion to Adjourn by Carol KB3GMN, second by Eric K3SGT, and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 19:47



WASH Spotlight: N3RDG

Congratulations to Bob N3RDG for earning the ARRL WAS "Triple Play" award, for working all 50 US States on 3 different modes: Phone, CW and Digital Modes

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2018 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 **Vinne'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

AA3GM	KB3YCX	W3WN	WASH FL	WASH TN	Silent Keys
AB3ED	KC3ELA	WA3JFL	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
AB3NM	KC3GMM	WA3PYU	W4ZE	KE3XB	AB3KA
AE3DL	KC3KMY	WA3VSS	WASH NE	N3YPB	K3EED
K3CMU	KC3LVD	WB4GCS	N0PEU	WASH TX	K3LIE
K3HCR	KC4WTT	WB3CAI	WASH OR	NB3C	KA3NMG
K3JDS	KE7FD	WO3Z	N0WPV	K3LGM	KB3ENX
K3SGT	N0VLR	Barbara	KB3NVL	KB3IJX	KB3FNM
K3VX	N1NCZ	Udren	KB3NVM	Jane Wagner	KB3FQT
KA3VXM	N2QIV		WASH OH	WASH VI	KB3JHQ
KB3BYA	N3BPB		N8DPW	NP2JF	N3CZZ
KB3DCO	N3DFK				N3FZ
KB3ERQ	N3FB				N3HKQ
KB3GMN	N3KFD				N3KEH
KB3GMU	N3RDG				N3OBD
KB3IAC	N3SBF				N3RNX
KB3IVX	N7TDX				N3SKR
KB3JHR	NU3Q				N3SRC
KB3ORO	NY9H				N3ZEL
KB3SQZ	W3WH				N3XFE
					W3ZLK
					WA3JPP

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

Through August 29th, 2018
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2018 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

September 9 th	Butler Co ARA SwapFest 2018	Unionville Fire Department, 102 Mahood Road, Butler PA
October 4 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
October 6 th & 7 th	53 rd California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org
October 13 th & 14 th	62 nd Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.paqso.org
October 18 th	<i>WASH</i> VE Exams	WPXI Community Room, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh
October 27 th & 28 th	CQ World Wide DX Contest SSB	https://www.cqww.com
November 1 st	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
November 3 rd - 5 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
November 4 th	WACOM Hamfest	Printscape Arena, 114 Southpointe Blvd., Canonsburg PA New Location
November 17 th - 19 th	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
November 24 th - 25 th	CQ World Wide DX Contest CW	https://www.cqww.com
November 30 th — December 2 nd	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 8 th - 9 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 29 th - 30 th	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	https://www.kkn.net/stew/
January 1 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org



The North Hills Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring Technician License Classes on Mondays, 6:00 to 9:00 pm beginning September 24th through November 5th, at the American Red Cross Building, 2801 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Please register by September 17th via email to class@nharc.org — Seating is limited!

For more information, please visit the club website: www.nharc.org or email to info@nharc.org.

- Students under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.
- Classes are FREE but purchase of Licensing Materials is strongly recommended.
- License examinations for class attendees will be held November 5th by ARRL Volunteer Examiners.

Silent Keys

Paul Plants W3PLP, 66, Washington, PA, August 4th

Lewis Dan Briner, 73, Canonsburg, PA, August 8th

"Seen" at the August Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2018 Ron Notarius W3WN



N7TDX, WA3VSS



WA3VSS, K3GMU, KB3BYA, N3DFK



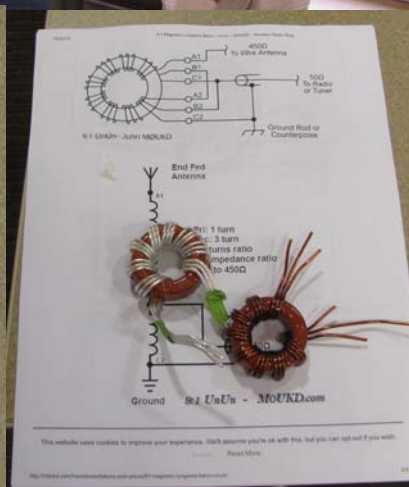
N3RDG



KB3GMN, K3SGT



N3DFK



KE7FD



K3SGT, N3SBF, W3WH, K3VX



New US Submarine Forces Commander: W4HFZ

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 10th, 2018 — US Navy Vice Admiral Charles A. "Chas" Richard W4HFZ, [assumed command](#) of US submarine forces during a change-of-command ceremony on August 4th, held aboard the submarine USS *Washington* (SSN-787). He assumed command from Vice Admiral Joseph Tofalo.

An ARRL Life Member, Richard, 58, is well-known in the AMSAT and APRS communities. He had been serving as the deputy commander of US Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.

A radio amateur since 1974, Richard said on his [qrz.com](#) profile that he is active on 6 and 2 meters, as well as on HF when the VHF bands are closed. He also enjoys digital satellite operations.

Richard has been on active US Navy duty since 1982



3 Days in August

James A. Sanford WB4GCS, Captain, US Navy (retired)

Eighty Four, PA, August 26th, 2018 — The date of 3 August 2018 will always be special to me. Patti and I had the honor of attending a Change-of-Command ceremony at which Vice-Admiral Charles A. Richard became the Commander of all US Navy submarine forces – COMSUBFOR. It was a great day, with the Chief of Naval Operations and former Director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion as the guest speaker. I was reminded of the culture and history of the Submarine Force. During World War II, a small minority of the United States Navy inflicted the majority of the damage on the enemy in the Pacific and suffered the majority of the losses. The surface navy, in which I served, cannot say anything like that, and I still grieve over the 17 Sailors who died in their racks. "A SACRED obligation of Command is that you bring everybody home." We failed.

So, it was good to get reminded of the culture of the submarine force, which I studied as a kid.

After the change-of-command ceremony, I had the opportunity to tour USS WASHINGTON, a VIRGINIA class submarine. The switches, displays, and the "Christmas Tree" that I grew up with and you can see onboard USS REQUIN in Pittsburgh are all gone. The ship is driven by touch screens operated by a "pilot" and "co-pilot". In my day job I have been supporting the VIRGINIA class since before VIRGINIA went to sea, but never been aboard. I finally was.

OK, so why does this matter, and why do we care? Well, VADM Richard is also known as Chas W4HFZ. We met quite by chance, 3 decades ago on 144.230 USB. I was running a net which spanned the east coast from Georgia to Connecticut which I assumed when he who got me on weak signal modes went SK. Chas, who was operating on AO-10 and AO-13, heard the noise and checked it out. We had a short QSO, and quickly QSY'd to the landline. We have been close friends ever since. He pushed me over the edge to actually get on the satellites, which I'd wanted to do for a long time. He pushed me to build the low noise preamps which I'd modeled and designed. Chas is one of the smartest people and greatest strategic thinkers that I've ever known. I am proud and honored to call him a friend, and grateful that talent like his is defending us against all enemies foreign and domestic.

Where's the other 2 days? Well, of course, we time with the grandson!!!!



KC4WTT, Lisa Richard KD7SCW, Vice-Admiral Chas Richard, aka W4HFZ, and WB4GCS on the occasion of W4HFZ taking command of all United States Navy Submarine Forces, 3 August 2018

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2018 Jim Sanford WB4GCS

New ARRL Chief Executive Officer Elected By Board of Directors

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 27th, 2018 -- The ARRL Board of Directors has elected Howard E. Michel WB2ITX, of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, to be ARRL's new Chief Executive Officer, starting on October 15th. Michel (his name rhymes with "nickel") is currently Chief Technology Officer at UBTECH Education, and Senior Vice President of UBTECH Robotics, a \$5 billion Shenzhen, China, artificial intelligence and robotics company. As the Chief Technology Officer at UBTECH Education, Michel helped build this company from a startup in China to \$100 million in valuation.

"I have Amateur Radio to thank for starting me on a very successful career, and I'm excited about the opportunity to further ARRL's goals as CEO. Leading the League will allow me to 'give back' to a great community and provide similar opportunity for future generations," Michel said. "I have been a licensed ham for 50 years, and I've seen many changes in the hobby. One of my top priorities as CEO will be to develop new products and services so all licensed hams, whatever their license class or interest, find value in League membership," he added.

Michel was first licensed as WN2ITX when he was about 16 years old and upgraded to General and Advanced within a year. He earned his Amateur Extra-class license in 2000. He notes that he has always had a strong interest in building and repairing radio equipment. "I've operated CW/AM/FM/SSB/digital on 80/40/20/15/10/2 on equipment that I have either built, repaired, or modified."

ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR, said, "We are excited to have someone of Howard's qualifications to lead this organization. Howard's management experience, along with his experience at leading a membership-driven association, makes him an ideal person to move this organization forward."

In 2015, Michel was the volunteer president and CEO of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a volunteer-led IRS 501(c)(3) association advancing technology.

"In any large membership-led organization such as ARRL, its members and volunteers are its greatest asset, and a good staff-volunteer relationship is crucial to its success," Michel said. "I intend to build on this relationship and multiply and amplify the efforts of both staff and volunteers in furthering ARRL's goals to advance the art, science, and enjoyment of Amateur Radio."

Michel is a retired US Air Force officer, having served as a pilot, satellite launch director, engineer, and engineering manager, including a tour in the People's Republic of China where he served as a senior US government technical representative enforcing technology-transfer control plans and procedures during two satellite launch operations.

He notes that during his time in the military, wherever he could set up an antenna, he took the opportunity to operate.



"Seen" at the Skyview Hamfest

Photos Courtesy of & © Copyright 2018
Ron Notarius W3WN



Generators: Some Thoughts, A Recommendation, and a Request

James A. Sanford WB4GCS, PE

Eighty Four, PA, August 27th, 2018 — Several months ago, we had a good discussion at a WASH meeting about making some capital investments to improve the WASH infrastructure. In that discussion, I recommended purchase of a generator for the tower trailer.

Since then, I know that there has been some conversation, but not focused discussion. I spent some time thinking about the issue and came up with some focal points.

First, how much generator do we need? I spent some time postulating:

- ◇ 1KW for incandescent lighting (Probably won't happen, LED lights don't attract bugs.)
- ◇ 1KW for a coffee pot (we might do better with a Kuerig and a bunch of K-cups)
- ◇ Four 100-watt transmitters at 30% efficiency ==> 1200 watts
- ◇ Four fans at 20W each ==> 80 watts
- ◇ Az-El rotor for satellite antennas ==> 100 watts

The low duty-cycle of SSB and CW means that the 1200 watt estimate above is conservatively high.

I read that as 3380 watts, well within the capability of a 4KW inverter generator. Inverter generators have the advantages of being quiet, generating near sine wave, and can be paralleled if we decide we need more power.

SO, I recommend purchase of a 4KW inverter generator, which range in cost from \$500 to \$1000, with one caveat.

The caveat: These generators use switching technology to turn DC into AC. This can generate a lot of RF noise which will have to be managed. A few years back I purchased a sine-wave inverter, to operate a rotor off of the batteries we typically use. I then built jigs with which to measure its noise performance. Not great, but can be managed — I haven't had the chance to build an enclosure to shield and filter the RF noise. I will.

Before we commit to buying an inverter generator, I recommend we make some tests, using equipment I have. So, here's the request: If anybody already has one, I'd ask to borrow it long enough to make some measurements. The resulting data would then be used to refine the above recommendation.



Chinese Amateur Radio Satellites Receive OSCAR Designations

Drew Glasbrenner KO4MA via AMSAT News Service and ARRL

New Port Richie, FL, August 21st, 2018 -- AMSAT has announced that it has granted OSCAR designators for the Chinese DSLWP-A and DSLWP-B microsatellites, successfully launched on May 18th into a lunar transfer orbit by a CZ-4C launch vehicle.

DSLWP-A is Lunar-OSCAR 93 (LO-93), and DSLWP-B is Lunar- OSCAR 94 (LO-94). Telemetry signals were received from both satellites soon after launch, although DSLWP-A was lost the following day.

On May 25th, DSLWP-B was successfully placed into lunar orbit and has continued transmitting GMSK and JT4G telemetry, including SSDV digital images, and a short message relay service.

More than 40 Amateur Radio operators around the world have successfully received signals from the satellite. AMSAT granted the designations upon request of the Harbin Institute of Technology, which built the spacecraft. "We congratulate the owners and operators of LO-93 and LO-94, thank them for their contribution to the amateur satellite community, and wish them continued success on this and future projects," an AMSAT bulletin said.

Subsequent to this announcement, a request was made to the Amateur Radio community by KO4MA: "Recently there has been a DMR signal QRM'ing the AO-92 uplink on 435.350 or close by. Hotspots, repeaters, terrestrial simplex (anything not satellite) should not be in 145.8-146.0 or 435-438 by international band plan. Please QSX these radios ASAP."

Further reports indicate that the allegedly problematic signals may be coming from the south western US. It is not clear if the signals are from users in the Amateur Radio Service, from another service that we share that part of the band with (including the military), or an unlicensed Part 15 user.

It should be kept in mind that all Amateur Radio Operators share our frequency allocations, within the limits of our individual licenses. No one owns a frequency.

With that in mind, though, one must also take into consideration the very limited spectrum available to the Amateur Satellite Service and it's users.

It is considered good amateur practice for stations not operating in the Amateur Satellite Service to avoid using the SatServ allocations for other purposes, simply to avoid unintentional interference to the Satellites and their users, which are almost by definition weak signal work.

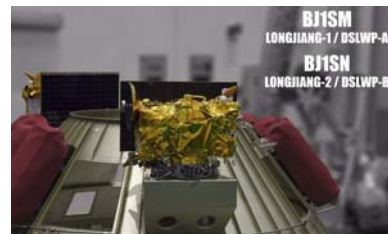


Photo courtesy of Nader Omer ST2NH

Fallbrook, CA August 30th, 2018 -- Murrieta Police Department today announced the arrest on Aug. 29th of Curtis Krueger, 30, and Ashlie Stapp, 27, in 29 Palms in connection with the death of Henry Stange WA6RXZ. They were booked into Cois Byrd Detention Center for Homicide and Conspiracy and were each being held today on \$1 million bail.

Back on June 2nd, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department assisted the National Park Service with investigating a shallow grave site and attempting to hide his remains at Joshua Tree National Park that contained partially covered human remains that were later revealed to be of Henry Stange, 54.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department conducted a follow-up investigation on New Clay Street in Murrieta where a crime scene was discovered and the investigation was handed over to the Murrieta Police Department. Investigators did not specify when he went missing, or whether he was killed at his home.

A possible motive also was not disclosed, and there was no word on how the suspects were connected to Stange.

— Jeff Pack, Valley News

W2CC Receives Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award

Carver Washburn W2TF/AAA2RD via the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 15th, 2018 -- A New Jersey radio amateur and Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) member has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from President Donald Trump. ARRL Charter Life Member Dave Popkin W2CC/AAR2BU, was recognized for his extraordinary contributions as a MARS volunteer.



"On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank you for your lifetime of service to your fellow Americans and those most in need," President Trump said. "Through at least 4,000 hours of service, you have ensured the continuation of America's unparalleled commitment to improving the lives of others. You have served as a model of the American spirit. Your many hours of service have strengthened the bonds of cooperation and trust that bring people together, while helping to address some of the greatest challenges of our time."

MARS Region 2 Director Carver Washburn W2TFM/AAA2RD, said Popkin's "long and distinguished" history as a volunteer extends over 56 years with US Army MARS, averaging some 2,000 hours a year.

"Dave is particularly noted for his MARS leadership roles, mentoring, and training initiatives," Washburn noted. "It all started with his inspiration and his motivation to take positive action that, to this day, has

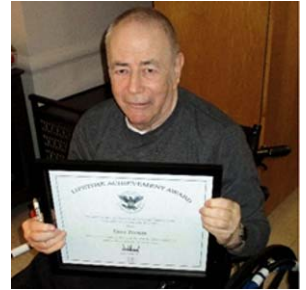
fundamentally enhanced the ability of [the Department of Defense] to achieve its goals under the most dire of circumstances, such as occurred in Puerto Rico during Hurricane Maria in September 2017."

Washburn said Popkin served as net control for MARS radio nets in Region 2, and has served as MARS New Jersey State Director.

"Also evident were his unique talents to train and mentor these team members, substantially expanding the strength of the organization," Washburn said. "Dave made a difference in innovative ways through this role. He worked on the HQ senior staff for many years as well. Chief Army MARS Paul English and I are most grateful for his long and valued MARS service."

A former FCC field inspector who also served as an ARRL Official Observer, Popkin has made similar contributions to Amateur Radio, Washburn said, citing Popkin's years of leadership with the New Jersey Phone Net and with the Englewood Cliffs (New Jersey) Amateur Radio Club's ARRL Field Day operation. He also has held ARRL Field Organization appointments as Official Relay Station, Net Manager, Official Bulletin Station, Official Emergency Station, Emergency Coordinator, and Local Government Liaison.

The President's [Volunteer Service Award](#) is a civilian honor bestowed by the President of the United States. Established by executive order by George W. Bush, the award was established to honor volunteers who give hundreds of hours per year helping others through the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The award can be granted to individuals, families and organizations in the US to recognize more than 4,000 hours of extraordinary service as a volunteer.



N1IN Receives Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award

the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 27th, 2018 -- Bill Sexton N1IN/AAR1FP, of Sarasota, Florida, who served for many years as US Army MARS Public Information Officer, has become the second of five MARS members to be presented with the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award.

The President's [Volunteer Service Award](#) is a civilian honor, established to honor volunteers working through the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The Lifetime award recognizes more than 4,000 hours of extraordinary volunteer service. Army MARS Program Chief Paul English WD8DBY, conferred the award earlier this month during a teleconference.

"It is with great pride and pleasure that I announce that Bill Sexton, N1IN/AAR1FP, is one of five MARS members receiving the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award," said MARS Region 1 Director Robert M. Mims WA1OEZ. "Bill has spent countless hours as National Public Information Officer and unofficial historian for the Army MARS program. Thanks, Bill, for all you have done and continue to do for the MARS Program." Sexton also wrote *An Unofficial History: Army MARS at 90, Helping Protect the Homeland*.

Other US Army MARS members awaiting formal presentation of the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award are, Steve Hajducek N2CKH; Neal Morris KØTIV, and Orlo Brown K6SUJ.



New ARRL CEO (Continued from page 7)

Michel earned his bachelor's degree in electronic engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology, a master's degree in electronic and computer engineering from the University of Massachusetts, and a master's degree in systems management from the University of Southern California. He holds a PhD in computer science and engineering from Wright State University.

His noteworthy academic background further includes current service as a visiting professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Science at the University of Johannesburg in South Africa. Previously, he was on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and of the University of Dayton.

Michel says that some of his favorite activities include attending hamfests to find old stuff to repair or repurpose, contest operating, and DXing, especially on 80/40 meters. He adds that he is a Life Member of the Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association.

Michel will succeed Barry J. Shelley N1VXY, who had been serving as ARRL's CEO since January of 2018 following the resignation of Tom Gallagher NY2RF. Shelley had been ARRL's Chief Financial Officer since January of 1992.



FCC Launches Podcast



The FCC has launched a new podcast series, [More Than Seven Dirty Words](#), that will feature interviews with FCC officials and staff in addition to others in the communications arena. The podcast aims "to share untold stories, explain important policy issues, and maybe even do the impossible — make telecom interesting," the FCC said in announcing the new media outlet.

"One of the wonderful things about the digital age is the many ways to share information, so we're excited to launch this new FCC podcast," said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, who shares some banter in a brief introductory segment with program host, FCC Policy Advisor Evan Swartztrauber. Guests will share their personal stories behind FCC news headlines and break down various telecommunications-related issues. The podcast's title is drawn from the first episode's introductory discussion, which touches on the court fight over George Carlin's "Seven Dirty Words" and the fallout from the 2004 Super Bowl halftime show.

The first podcast, ["Puerto Rico se Levanta"](#) runs 22 minutes and focuses on the FCC's response to the 2017 Puerto Rico hurricane disaster.

Episodes will be available at [fcc.gov](#), as well as on iTunes, and Google Play.

NIST FY 2019 Budget Requests Shutdown of WWV, WWVH and WWVB

Thomas Witherspoon K4SWL / The SWLing Post

Online, August 11th, 2018 — Many thanks to a number of SWLing Post readers who have pointed out the NIST 2019 Presidential Budget request [which has now been posted online](#) and includes a desired reduction of:

“\$6.3 million supporting fundamental measurement dissemination, including the shutdown of NIST radio stations in Colorado and Hawaii”

I've always considered WWV and WWVH to be the heartbeat of the shortwaves here in North America—a constant, timely companion and brilliant gauge of HF propagation. Indeed, on a personal note, WWV was actually the first station I ever remember hearing on shortwave.

I assumed both stations would be some of the last to go silent on the shortwaves.

No doubt, I find this budget request very disappointing. Let's hope, somehow, this does not come to fruition. We will certainly post any/all updates here on the SWLing Post. Follow the tag: [NIST](#)

UPDATE: I've received a number of questions about Fort Collins-based station WWVB and if it would also be included in the closures. As the budget states, it includes: **“the shutdown of NIST radio stations in Colorado and Hawaii.”** At the budget's current iteration, this implies **all** NIST radios stations including WWVB.

I've pointed out WWV and WWVH in particular as they're the shortwave time stations of the NIST. WWVB, on the other hand, provides a continuous 60 kHz carrier wave that, among other things, is used by self-setting “atomic” clocks used by consumers and industry.

August 20th -- Regarding the [NIST FY2019 budget which includes a request to shutdown WWV, WWVH, and WWVB](#), many of you have been asking if there has been an update.

We will keep you posted as this budget moves through the process, but in the meantime I'll share the feedback and links provided by Gail Porter, Public Relations Director for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Ms. Porter writes:

We are proud of the time and frequency services we provide through our radio stations and understand that these services are important to many people.

As you likely know, the President proposes budgets for executive branch agencies and then the Congress considers that request before determining funding levels for each agency and passing an appropriations law to implement a budget for a given year.

The President's full NIST FY 2019 budget request to the Congress is available at the link below, including a brief description of why the shutdown of the radio stations is proposed: <http://www.osc.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY19CBJ/NIST and NTIS FY2019 President's Budget for 508 comp.pdf> see page NIST-25.

[...]The sentence below, which appears on page NIST 25, is the best description we have available to respond to your question.

“To consolidate and focus work on NIST efforts in quantum science, while maintaining essential core capabilities in measurement science research and measurement dissemination NIST will eliminate efforts that have been replaced by newer technologies, measurement science work that lies outside of NIST's core mission space, and programs that can no longer be supported due to facility deterioration.”

[...]Here is [a link to the NIST Budget Table for the FY2019 Presidential Request](#).

Also, in case these are of interest, here are links to press releases issued in May and June 2018 by the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate Committees' on Appropriations about the FY2019 budget process: [House](#) [Senate](#)

Hope this information is helpful.

Many readers have been asking if all NIST stations are included in these cuts—the answer is yes. If this budget passes as written, WWV, WWVH, and WWVB will all be closed.

August 23rd -- I've just received the following formal response from the [National Institute of Standards and Technology \(NIST\)](#) regarding the [President's NIST FY 2019 budget request](#):

(Source: NIST)

NIST has a long-standing history of providing time and frequency services through our radio stations and we appreciate that many people use these services. NIST's WWV is the longest continuously-operating radio service in the U.S. At the same time, the proposed NIST budget for FY 2019 required difficult choices about budget priorities.

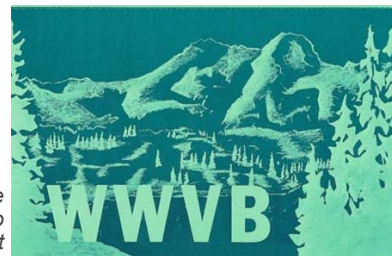
*The President's full NIST FY 2019 budget request to the Congress is available at the link below, including a brief description of why the shutdown of NIST's time and frequency radio stations is proposed. The proposal includes shutdown of NIST's three radio stations, WWV, WWVH, and WWVB, which communicate with consumer clocks, watches, broadcasting systems and other devices. **It is important to note that no changes to NIST services have occurred, and if the proposal were to be implemented, public notice would be provided.***

<http://www.osc.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY19CBJ/NIST and NTIS FY2019 President's Budget for 508 comp.pdf> See page NIST-25.

Here is a link to the [NIST Budget Table for the FY2019 Presidential Request](#).

Also, for context, it may be helpful to view links to press releases issued in May and June 2018 by the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate Committees on Appropriations about the FY2019 budget process. [House](#) [Senate](#)

This response leaves no room for debate: all three NIST radio stations—WWV, WWVH and WWVB—are included in the proposed cuts.



Brief Chronology of N. B. S. Standard Frequency Broadcasts
 Mar 1923—First scheduled broadcasts of WWV—Washington, D.C.
 Jan 1931—Crystal controlled broadcasts—WWV—College Park, Md.
 Apr 1933—WWV gets first 20 kw transmitter—Beltville, Md.
 Jan 1943—WWV relocated to Greenbelt, Md.
 Nov 1948—WWVH commenced transmissions—Maui, Hawaii
 Jan 1950—WWV added voice announcements
 Jul 1956—WWVB (KZXE) began 60 kHz broadcasts—Boulder, Colo.
 Apr 1960—WWVL started 20 kHz broadcasts—Sunset, Colo.
 Jul 1963—WWVB began high power broadcasts—Ft. Collins, Colo.
 Aug 1963—WWVL began high power broadcasts—Ft. Collins, Colo.
 Jul 1964—WWVH added voice announcements
 Dec 1966—WWV relocated to Ft. Collins, Colo.
 Jul 1971—WWVH relocated to Kauai, Hawaii
 Jul 1972—WWVL scheduled transmissions discontinued
 Feb 1977—WWV discontinued service on 25 kHz and 20 kHz from WWVH

**WWV, WWVH, WWVB,
 WWVL, WWV 1940 and NIST
 Chronology images courtesy
 of the National Institute of
 Standards and Technology
 website**



Ten-Tec Update

Mike Dishop N8WFF



Bellefontaine, OH, August 2nd, 2018 (adapted from online posts) -- I have been manufacturing RX340 and RX331 circuit boards in Ohio and taking them to our rented location in Sevierville for final assembly into finished goods that are shipped to commercial customers worldwide. I've also been manufacturing boards for Alpha for our amps manufactured in Colorado in the same way - boards from Ohio go to Colorado where they are turned into finished product by AEØQ, W2CO and company. Amplifiers are IN stock on the company store. Now I know there are some people slandering the company and saying we don't manufacture anything and I don't really know how to address such out and out lies other than to have Glenn post pictures of stuff we make which he has done. So each of you has to make a decision of who to believe - the people who own the company and work there, or someone on the internet who obviously has an axe to grind for no reason. If you want to understand all this hoopla about Ten Tec you need to look back to three years ago when the know-it-alls shot off their mouth about Ten Tec being finished, swirling the drain, the great demise, etc, etc, etc and realize that it takes a very big man to admit he is wrong and swallow his words, and a very tiny excuse of a man to spread lies and refuse to admit he is wrong. Well, we are still here, we are still manufacturing, things are improving and will continue to do so. I will be the last man standing in this game as long as my health holds out and I continue to breath. Ten Tec isn't going away.

Last week [we took the TEN TEC \(online\) store live](#). You can order microphones and cords, etc on line. The next step in the store will be to send your repair invoices automatically as items you can pay for and check out just like we do at Alpha. We've been doing this for over a year at Alpha and it works great with no complaints. Ten Tec store has not been active because I'm not ready to sell TT amateur products just yet. However we are working on the store so that should tell you something! The time is getting close! #

I stated that the updated Omni 7+ will be the first thing brought back. We've finished the sheet metal work and will place ten units up for sale sometime in the last quarter of this year. I will see how they sell and decide what to do next. A lot of people have said to me that if I make them available they will buy one. I'm doing my part to do what I said I will do. Now I will see if others will keep their promise to me.

We have been working the living daylight out of the Eagle + software and features! If it looks promising that you will buy them I'll make a run of them.

Of course Ten Tec stuff is more expensive than some other suppliers. I read a lot of comparison to Elecraft. Their prices are as high or higher than ours for their American made transceiver. Is there a reason we should not be entitled to the same? Personally I think the Ten Tec equipment sounds better and hears better. In my personal opinion, I don't think anyone has a better DSP system or AGC than TenTec at any price. There is a reason most of the high speed CW ops prefer TT. The Sherwood chart is only a measure of close in dynamic range, which is a function of essentially an off frequency adjacent station in the desired pass band. It tells you nothing of SNR, S+N/R, comfort of listening, how much artifact is present because of DSP or a host of other things like how the AGC performs on 50WPM full break in, etc.

The only way to truly judge a radio is for an individual to set them down and operate them side by side and decide what he or she likes best. For example how many times do we read in the forums people lamenting how much better their Orion II is over their K3 or whatever? The point being once a certain level of dynamic range is achieved, that is a certain level of performance, it all becomes meaningless numbers because of the transmitted adjacent phase noise from cruddy older transmitters, and due to general noise conditions on HF. It has been demonstrated many times that 12 and 14 bit SDRs work exactly as well on HF as 16 bit units with much more expensive ADCs...It is the old argument of using a hammer to drive a tack.

The point I want to make is use the radio you like and are comfortable with. The ergonomics and sound quality are going to far outweigh a hypothetical number on a chart. That is probably why people keep their Ten Tec's and keep wanting us to service them even if some of them are thirty years old. Personally I am going to keep using my Orion II until I can make a better sounding, better performing radio with comfortable ergonomics, because that is what I like. After more than ten years I've certainly gotten my money's worth out of the radio and it still sounds as good as the day I got it.

As far as I know there were never any customers who paid for goods that did not receive them. Certainly not under my command! In fact the first thing I did at Ten Tec was to make sure everyone who had open orders that had paid deposits got what they had contracted for. This was mainly in the commercial arena. I also made sure that everyone who had sent in a radio that was waiting for repair got their radio back and not just back but REPAIRED and back, and some of those radios had been sitting there over a year!!!! There were no investors of mine that were shortchanged and I do not know of any of the previous organizations investors being shortchanged. I have heard informally that some of the previous organizations suppliers were not paid. I had no control of that and no visibility to it. I can absolutely guarantee that under my tenure here absolutely NOTHING of that nature has occurred and never will. I don't spend money I don't have, and I don't take money for something I don't deliver. Period.



As far as I can tell the real complaint is that I'm not turning things around fast enough and that I'm not communicating to the public what I am doing here. Well I'm sorry I can't tell you about products before they are ready to be released. I learned my lesson with the DX2400 Solid state amplifier that I showed at Dayton enough times to convince people that solid state amplifiers are viable and build my competitors up by disclosing what I'm doing. Sorry it just isn't going to happen again. Next time we show a new product it will be available in the store to buy.

I'd like to counter the point that we are a specialty manufacturer of one offs. Look at the surface mount facility article. We have the capability of producing thousands and thousands of units. It is all a question of supply and demand. I said ten units of the Omni 7+ because that is what I have built up right now. I've got material to build a hundred more. Is it worth it to build them if the ten don't sell?

I went through the RX340 business with the same logic. Test the market. If they sell build more. I'll do the Eagle after that. Our Eagle+ is quite a nice radio. It is QUIET. It plucks the signals out against a nearly noiseless background and you can listen to it all night without developing a headache.

OK, one sneak peak. Right now we are working hard on the High Speed Sweep Board or HSS as we call it. HSS is a self contained SDR type unit that can essentially put a live panadapter inside the Omni7 and maybe Orion II. We are making it retroactive so it can be fitted to existing models and when it is ready we'll be happy to put it in your radio. You've heard about the HSS for years before me and now you are going to get it because it is my priority to do it.

We are working on the future which is new transceivers unlike anything you've ever seen or thought of. If you support us and buy the products that we are improving then we will have the resources to finish them and really get you some exciting stuff. If somebody wants it right away and wants to have the first one and have all of their ideas put into the product so it will be just what they want - well if someone wants to put in a half million or a million dollars so we can get it done I'll do it. But if you want me to do it on my own money you'll just have to be patient and wait for me to come up with the money to do it. Right now the only way I have to do that is to sell RX331 and RX340 and soon the Omni7+, Eagle + and Argonaut+ with the "missing" bands. I will put them in the store in that order as I have the money to build them.

Don't forget at Ten Tec and Alpha we are doing out part to make America great again, even if it is only one amplifier or radio at a time. Rome did not burn in a day and Rome was not built in a day. Even God Almighty spent seven days on Creation. Every single day I get up and do the best I can do with what I have to work with. I can't give any more than I do. I can't do any better. I've always said a person can be a part of the solution or part of the problem, so decide which camp you want to be in. Tearing down other peoples efforts makes one look like nothing but a bully. If someone wants to step up and help or thinks they can do it better come on down to the front row. I'll take all the help I can get. To the GREAT people helping me - THANK YOU!

Consent Decree Settles FCC Noncompliant Drone Transmitters Marketing Case

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 22nd -- The FCC Enforcement Bureau has entered into a [Consent Decree](#) with Horizon Hobby, LLC to resolve a case involving the marketing and sale of noncompliant audio/video (A/V) transmitters intended for use on drones. The *Consent Decree* was attached to an FCC *Order* released on August 16th. The Enforcement Bureau said the transmitters violated the FCC's equipment marketing and Amateur Radio rules.

"These laws ensure that radio frequency devices comply with the Commission's technical requirements and do not interfere with authorized communications," the Enforcement Bureau said. "Because the noncompliant A/V transmitters could operate in bands that are reserved for important operations, including Federal Aviation Administration Terminal Doppler Weather Radar, they must not be marketed or operated by anyone. Moreover, entities that rely on amateur frequencies in operating compliant A/V transmitters must have an amateur license and otherwise comply with all applicable laws for such operation."

In the *Consent Decree*, Horizon Hobby concedes that it marketed A/V transmitters that did not comply with FCC equipment marketing rules. The company has agreed to implement a compliance plan and to pay a \$35,000 civil penalty.

On December 20th, 2017, the Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a *Letter of Inquiry (LOI)* to Horizon Hobby, directing it to respond to a series of questions relating to its marketing of A/V used with drones in the US. "The investigation revealed that some of the A/V transmitters Horizon Hobby marketed were capable of operating outside of the authorized Amateur Radio Service bands, but were not certified or otherwise compliant with the Rules. These A/V transmitters are considered intentional radiators and must comply with the Equipment Marketing Rules."

The FCC said that after it received the *LOI*, the company stopped marketing the noncompliant A/V transmitters.

A privately held limited liability company, Horizon Hobby advertises and sells fully assembled drones through several websites, as well as parts and accessories for those systems.



US Coast Guard Warns of LED Interference to Marine Radios, AIS Reception

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 21st, 2018 --The US Coast Guard says it's received reports from crews, ship owners, inspectors, and other mariners regarding poor reception on VHF radiotelephone, digital selective calling (DSC), and automatic identification systems (AIS) when in the vicinity of LED lighting systems. This could include interior and exterior lighting, navigation lights, searchlights, and floodlights found on vessels of all sizes.

"Radio frequency interference caused by these LED lamps [was] found to create potential safety hazards," the Coast Guard said in an August 15th [Marine Safety Alert](#). "For example, the maritime rescue coordination center in one port was unable to contact a ship involved in a traffic separation scheme incident by VHF radio. That ship also experienced very poor AIS reception. Other ships in different ports have experienced degradation of the VHF receivers, including AIS, caused by their LED navigation lights. LED lighting installed near VHF antennas has also shown to compound the reception."

ARRL has determined a wide range of interference-causing potential from consumer lighting devices.

"While some are relatively quiet, other devices — even those that meet the required FCC emissions limits — can still cause harmful interference," said ARRL Electromagnetic Compatibility Engineer Mike Gruber W1MG. "My best recommendation is to try LED lights before you buy, especially if there is a possibility that the device will be used while you're operating. "Once you have determined that a particular LED device is quiet, then purchase as many as you need from that same store."

"Several recent FCC enforcement actions involving LED manufacturers have been encouraging," Gruber said. "These actions can and will make a difference. I would also like to emphasize that the ARRL remains committed to working with both the FCC and manufacturers help facilitate that positive difference in any way it can. It is possible for LED and other lighting technologies to coexist with both amateurs and other users of the radio spectrum."

The Coast Guard said that, while radio interference from LED sources may not be immediately evident, it's possible to test for it through several steps, including turning off all LED lighting systems on board to see if the interference disappears. The Coast Guard suggested adjusting the VHF radio's squelch just to the point where it cuts the audio on a vacant channel. If the noise returns, LED lights have raised the noise floor.

If this is the case, the Coast Guard said, it's "likely" that shipboard VHF radio and AIS reception are being degraded by LED lighting. The Coast Guard has asked mariners experiencing this problem to report their experiences to the [Coast Guard Navigation Center](#), selecting "Maritime Telecommunications" from the menu on the left and providing details on the online form.



ARISS Packet System Revives

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 27th, 2018 -- Similar to the AO-7 satellite resurrection several years ago, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) packet radio system on the International Space Station (ISS) has begun working again. NASA ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom N5VHO, said that reports he'd received indicated that the NA1SS packet signal returned in mid-August.

"It appears it indeed has started working as of about 11 days ago," Ransom said. "No idea how long it will last, given the degrading state of the current hardware. The longer it lasts, the better." Ransom said the revived system will fill the gap until a replacement packet module goes up later this year on a *Progress* supply vehicle and is installed by the crew on a time-available basis. Satellite enthusiast Patrick Stoddard WD9EWK, in Arizona reported via the ISS Fan Club site that the ISS packet system was operating on August 25th at 1915 UTC during an 8° pass over the continental US. "I got my position packet through once, no QSOs this pass," he said in a post.

The packet signal on 145.825 MHz has been copied in Europe, South America, India, and elsewhere. In another August 25th post, Mark Pisani KK6OTJ, reported copying the packet system during an 18° pass over southern California and said he worked KB6LTY through the system. "Heard over Patagonia Argentina!" Francisco Rodriguez LU2WBA, enthused in a post on August 24th at 2323 UTC. "Welcome back!" An August 17th post from Marco Antonio PU2MUS, in Brazil indicated that the system was not active at that time.

Earlier this summer, ARISS hardware team members on the ground reported that they were able to locate a functional duplicate of the ISS packet module that had been in use on the ISS for 17 years before it failed more than a year ago. The packet module has been manifest on the *Progress* 71P spacecraft launch now set for October 31st, with docking on November 2nd. ARISS said the subsequent installation will depend on the crew's busy schedule, but expressed hope that the new packet system hardware could be online again by the end of November.

WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

Falls Creek, PA, September 3rd, 2018 — **Major Changes to ARES and OO Programs**



The ARRL Public Service Enhancement Working Group has completed its two-year project to re-tool the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) to meet the requirements of partner agencies, nationwide. The new program will consist of ARES Members who are "organized, trained, qualified and credentialed" to better serve our partner agencies.

The new program features three levels of ARES membership, which are matched by three levels of required training and certification. The training requirements will be met by members completing free, online courses including NIMS IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800 and the newly revised ARRL EC-001, which will be provided free of charge to ARES members. Additional training is required for all ARES leadership appointees ("ECs").

The ARRL Board has opened a public comment period which runs until October 31. ARRL requests your comments to be sent through your Section Emergency Coordinator <sec@wpa-arri.org> and Section Manager <sm@wpa-arri.org> only. The Board will review all comments and vote on the final program at the January 2019 ARRL Board Meeting.

The current OO program will end, and be replaced by a new Volunteer Monitoring program, administered by ARRL HQ, working closely with FCC. All current OOs will be invited to apply for the new program, which will concentrate on major enforcement issues the FCC requests. The goal is to provide more rapid enforcement response to significant, developing on-the-air violations rather than more minor operating and technical issues.

Much more information about these developments is available online at www.arri.org and in upcoming issues of QST.

2018 Summer Recap

What a busy Hamfest Season we have had! Our WPA Section Convention and the first Pennsylvania State ARRL Convention in many years were well attended and widely appreciated.

Public Service Activity reports have been pouring in every month. Our WPA Section hams have been very active indeed! Nice work, everyone!

Our Section Staff officials have been busy making plans to keep serving our section better and better. **ASM Dr. Juan Manfredi NAØB** has embarked on a mission to rejuvenate College Radio Clubs across our section. **SEC Bud Plants N3TIR** and **ASEC Steve Fazekas K3FAZ** have been working overtime to implement the new, enhanced ARES program, develop a wider cooperation with Western PA Red Cross, and building plans to expand ARES communications capabilities, including the 60 meter band and digital messaging across the WPA Section.

Section Traffic Manager Herb Gilliland W3YNX reports that an increasing number of WPA hams are making their presence known on the Public Service Honor Roll. **Section Youth Coordinator Bruce Gibson K3BEG** is working with schools and scouts with plans for amateur radio activities that support educational and operating activities for young hams everywhere in our WPA Section.

Upcoming Events

Our WPA Section always has something going on, and here is what is happening next!

- ◇ September 9th Prospect, PA: Butler Hamfest
- ◇ October 6th WPA Section: Simulated Emergency Test
- ◇ October 13th & 14th PA: 62nd Pennsylvania QSO Party
- ◇ October 19th – 21st – Worldwide: Scouting Jamboree On The Air
- ◇ November 4th Canonsburg, PA: WACOM Hamfest
- ◇ November 4th Canonsburg, PA: South 1 ARES Meeting @ WACOM Hamfest



In Conclusion

If you're looking for a program for your club meetings, why not put together some activities for new hams and those who are interested in Amateur Radio? Demo the latest entry level radios like the ICOM IC-7300 and the Yaesu FT-991A (for example), have some Advisors available to answer questions, have a show and tell about DXing, digital modes, SDR, signal location... the list is endless.



Advertise it as much as you can, especially in schools, colleges, on bulletin boards at work, on your nets, and in person to the hams in your communities who recently got licensed. It doesn't have to be perfect — it just has to be done. Who knows, you might make the difference needed to gain some **active** new members!

Above all else, **go out of your way to make new hams feel welcome and respected!** We want to make good amateur radio friendships in the best 100+ year tradition of Amateur Radio!

Still looking for more ideas for meeting programs? Drop me an invite or a request for a visit by any of our section staff. We are available to travel to your group, and can discuss a variety of very interesting Amateur Radio topics.

73 and Press On!



PA QSO Party News

Pa QSO Party Association

- ◆ 2018 Rules are posted on the web site: <http://pagso.org/pa-qso-party-rules.html>
- ◆ Certificates & Awards updated list posted at: <http://pagso.org/awards-certificates.html>
- ◆ We are pleased to announce that the Bonus Station for the 2018 Pennsylvania QSO Party will be the Nittany Amateur Radio Club (NARC), operating under the call sign of former PAQP Chairman, Mike Coslo N3LI, recognizing his years of service and dedication to the PA QSO Party. The NARC N3LI bonus station will be a multi-multi operation located in Centre County.

More details will be disseminated as the event draw near. We look forward to continuing the tradition of the bonus station and recognizing Mike's contributions over the years leading, administrating, and enhancing the PAQP.



ARRL Comments in "Strong Opposition" to Part 15 Modification Petition Affecting 5 GHz

American Radio Relay League



Newington, CT, August 7th, 2018 -- ARRL has [commented](#) in "strong opposition" to a [Petition for Rulemaking](#) by RADWIN Ltd. that seeks to amend certain Part 15 rules to permit point-to-multipoint (P2MP) communication services in portions of the 5 GHz band, at power levels now permitted only for point-to-point unlicensed systems. ARRL has focused its concern on proposed high-power P2MP operation in the band 5.725 – 5.850 GHz, but points out that the entire 5.650 – 5.925 GHz allocation has been "subjected to a continuing series of overlays domestically" for more than 2 decades. Amateur Radio is secondary to military radars on the band.

ARRL said the Amateur Radio national "weak-signal" calling frequency of 5.760.1 GHz already has experienced a "very substantial" rise in ambient noise in many areas that has significantly affected Amateur Radio operation in the 200 kHz centered on that frequency, where extremely weak received signal levels are typical. Only low-density usage and the low-power levels permitted for unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII) devices have sustained "a good deal of compatibility" between Amateur Radio and U-NII devices at 5 GHz, ARRL said.

"It is quite obvious that RADWIN's proposal for simultaneous point-to-multipoint transmission, with higher input power and [effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP)], using an electronic steerable antenna system, presents an exceptionally high interference potential to ongoing, weak-signal Amateur Radio Service communications," ARRL said in its comments filed on July 30th. With users located "at all points of the compass from the distribution point," ARRL said, the potential for interference to Amateur Radio "is *much* greater." Greater yet, ARRL noted, is the potential of interference to users of RADWIN's system.

ARRL said the FCC "has no idea at all" about aggregate noise levels in the 5 GHz band in general, while Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite users have reported increased ambient noise levels in the band, especially near 5.760 GHz. "Both the *Petition* and the technical statement accompanying the *Petition* are silent on potential interaction between P2MP simultaneous transmission systems operating at high power, and any Amateur Radio facility," ARRL said. "As a result, the petition is fatally flawed and should be dismissed, relative to the 5.725 – 5.850 GHz band."

ARRL asserted that the FCC lacks jurisdiction to authorize Part 15 device operation by rule, "absent a specific finding that the device will not predictably cause interference." Unlicensed, very low-power Part 15 devices may not cause interference to licensed services and must accept any interference caused by a licensed station and must shut down if notified by the FCC that the device is causing harmful interference.

ARRL said RADWIN's *Petition* not only is flawed, but fails to address the issue of compatibility between the proposed high-power P2MP Part 15 operation and individual stations in incumbent primary and secondary services.

"It is long past time that petitioners such as RADWIN provide in their rulemaking petitions dealing with Part 15 rules enough data to allow the Commission to make an evaluation that fulfills its obligation under the Communications Act," ARRL concluded. "RADWIN's *Petition* must be dismissed as one which fails to provide an adequate justification for the relief requested."

ARRL President Speaks at WV State Convention

Jim Damron N8TMW / Amateur Radio Newsline

Jackson's Mill, WV, August 31st, 2018 --The 60th annual West Virginia State ARRL convention was held August 25th in Central West Virginia at the WVU Jackson's Mill Conference Center near Weston. A highlight of the convention was an address by ARRL president Rick Roderick K5UR.

In his 45-minute keynote speech to a capacity crowd, president Roderick asked:

"Are we even relevant anymore as ham radio operators? Well, let's see: We're world communicators. We provide public service. We help in emergencies and disasters. We help save lives. We talk to the jungles of Africa...to the beaches of the South Pacific. We bounce signals off the moon. We talk to astronauts. We promote technology. We do positive things. So absolutely, we are relevant!"

I asked him: "What about change in the hobby?"

He replied:

"We've got to accept change and we've got to adapt if we're going to bridge that gap to that next generation. So the question that I have here that I have challenged my colleagues at ARRL with is this: is it time to rebrand ham radio? Maybe we need to rebrand the American Radio Relay League. That's a pretty profound statement."

Roderick offered a closing challenge:

"Well I think we ought to get out there and stir things up.

That's what I think we ought to do. I think you ought to go back and rejuvenate your club. Over the next year, get somebody into ham radio.

The second thing I want you to do....I want you to help a ham that needs your help. And the third thing I want you to do is if you're not a member of the American Radio Relay League, you need to join today, because you know that whether you like us or not, we're all you've got; ain't nobody else in Washington DC helping us. I want you to ask yourself this question: don't you think it's time to give something back? Now I believe as a group, if we all did that we'll make a difference in this hobby as we go forward. Be a champion of ham radio.

Let's work together and get it done. Thank you very much! "##

The Start of Solar Cycle 25?

David Dickinson, Universe Today

Online, August 29th, 2018 — What's up with the Sun? As [we've said previously](#), what the Sun *isn't* doing is the big news of 2018 in solar astronomy. Now, the Sun sent us another curveball this past weekend, with the strange tale of growing sunspot AR 2720.

We're currently headed towards a solar minimum, forecasted to arrive in 2019 as [the Sun](#) switches over from Solar Cycle 24 to Solar Cycle 25. As it comes to a close, Solar Cycle 24 is now the most scrutinized period in solar astronomy... but it has been anything but normal. First, the transition period from Solar Cycle 24 to Solar Cycle 25 was deep and profound, the deepest in over a century. 2008 featured 268 spotless days, and when Cycle 24 finally arrived it was sputtering and lackluster at best, only producing a few notable sunspots.

Or will it?

The growth of active sunspot region AR 2720 defied the overall trend for 2018 before it rotated around the solar limb and out of view, begging the question: has solar cycle #25 arrived?



4U1UN Makes Major Moves To Return to the Air

American Radio Relay League (courtesy of *The Daily DX*)

Newington, CT, August 17th, 2018 -- United Nations Amateur Radio Club President James Sarte K2QI, said on August 16 that their club station, 4U1UN, is several steps closer to getting back on the air after a long absence.

"Dmitri Zhikharev RA9USU, along with Adrian Ciuperca KO8SCA, have been working with me behind the scenes to get the station operational again," Sarte said. Generous donations from Zhikharev, Ed Kritsky NT2X, and others, he said, enabled the station to obtain a rack-mounted K3, ACOM 2000 linear, and associated network-enabled control hardware. Another K3 to act as a remote head came from the estate of Tony Japha N2UN, via his widow (4U1UN will operate from a remote operating position on UN grounds).

"Finally, Adrian has been doing a lot of behind-the-scenes networking and legwork with his counterparts to help get things done from within the United Nations," Sarte recounted.

An additional milestone took place on August 15th, Sarte said, as he and Ciuperca erected a new SteppIR BigIR vertical antenna on the Secretariat (the UN executive arm) building's roof. "All that remains is to connect and lay the ground radials, fine-tune the rack-mounted devices, and set up and configure the remote K3," he said. "Once done — and after almost a decade off air — we can finally call 'CQ 20 de 4U1UN.'"



Korea Post has issued a postage stamp in recognition of the 19th [Amateur Radio Direction Finding \(ARDF\) World Championships](#), being held September 2nd – 8th in Sokcho City, Gangwon Province, Korea. The Korean Amateur Radio League ([KARL](#)) will host the event. Representatives of at least 30 countries, including the US, are expected to participate. Events will include formal ARDF competitions on 2 meters and 80 meters, plus sprints and foxoring. Each country may have up to three persons per age/gender category on its team, in accordance with International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) [ARDF rules](#). Nine men and three women have been preparing to represent the US in Korea.



ARDF World Championships take place every 2 years, as hams from around the world compete to determine who is best at on-foot hidden transmitter hunting. The US has been represented at every ARDF world championship since 1988.

In Korea, hidden transmitters will be scattered in a forest that might encompass 1,000 acres or more.

Sokcho is located along the coast near the northeast corner in the Gangwon-do province of South Korea. Participants and visitors will arrive in Sokcho on Sunday, September 2. The next day will include short practice courses and opening ceremonies. [Foxoring](#) events take place on Tuesday, followed by the first classic event on Wednesday. The [sprint](#) event will be on Thursday morning, followed by a cultural excursion in the afternoon. The second classic event will be Friday, followed by the farewell party.

This marks the second time that ARDF Team USA has competed in Korea. In 2008, [Korea hosted the World Championships](#) near Hwaseong. That year, in the 2-meter competition, George Neal KF6YKN, became the second Team USA member to stand on the winners' podium by capturing bronze in the M50 age category.

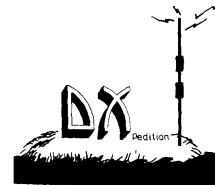
The US has earned at least one medal in every World Championship since 2006. The greatest number of medals the US team brought home from a foreign competition was [2012 in Serbia](#), when team members won five medals in the World Championships and eight more in the associated World Cup competitions for individuals.

DX News Briefs

On August 28th, ClubLog updated it's "DXCC Most Wanted Entities" list. The Top 10:

1. P5 DPRK (North Korea)
2. 3Y/B Bouvet Island
3. FT5/W Crozet Island
4. BS7H Scarborough Reef
5. CEØX San Felix Islands
6. BV9P Pratas Island
7. KH7K Kure Island
8. KH3 Johnston Island
9. VKØM Macquarie Island
10. FT5/X Kerguelen Island

— ClubLog



The Amateur Radio Association of the Republic of San Marino will be running 3 Special Event Stations from the Three Towers of San Marino, a group of towers located on the three peaks of Monte Titano in the capital, on 15 & 16 September. The stations will be QRV only 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. Look for [T71A \(Guaita\)](#); [T71B \(Cesta\)](#); and [T71C \(Montale\)](#). QSL all three via T7ØA -- ARRSM

[A5A](#) will again be QRV 4 – 14 September, 40 – 10, CW SSB & FT8. QSL via JH1AJT – JH1AJT

[AA3B](#) will be QRV as [V26B](#) 8 – 17 September from NA-100, HF, CW. QSL via AA3B – AA3B

[ZD9CW](#) will be QRV 20 September – 22 October, 40 – 15, possibly 80 M. Look for him primarily on CW & RTTY, with some SSB. QSL via LZ1JZ – G4EDG

[ON5UR](#) will be QRV as [Z68UR](#) 20 – 30 September – 22 October from the border near Albania. More information at <http://www.united-radio.be/kosovo/> QSL via MØURX – ON5UR

[T88HS](#) & [T88WM](#) will be QRV 4 – 9 October, 160 – 6 meters. QSL [T88HS](#) via JA6KYU, [T88WM](#) via JQ6FQI – DX World

[LA7GIA](#) has "finally" obtained his visa and will be QRV as [TT8KO](#) 9 – 21 October. Look for him on HF, primarily CW (maybe some SSB) but no digital. QSL to be announced – LA7GIA

[ZL5A](#) will be QRV during the 2018-2019 winter season from Scott Base, AN, in his spare time. More information at <https://www.adamcampbell.co.nz/> QSL via ZL4ASC – ZL4ASC

Also active during the 2018-2019 winter season will be [VKØHZ](#) from Davis Station, AN, also operating as time permits. More information will be available later this year – VK5HZ

A "15 man team" will again be QRV as [XX9D](#) 11 – 26 February 2019. More information at <http://xx9d.mydx.de/>. QSL via DL4SVA -- GDXXF

QSL Routes

4W6VA via K7TRB	G8W via G6DOD	SQ9S via SQ9JKS
5P2C via DL8UD	GB25ØC via GØBPK	SX1ØHF via SZ2T
5P5T via OZ1FDH	HF37B via SP7PB	SX2IMA/P via SV2JAO
5W7X via JF1OCQ	HG7T via HA7TM	TC2F via TA7AZC
5WØTB via JF1OCQ	J88PI via GW4DVB	TK/DJØTP via DJØTP
9H3HZ via TA1HZ	JG8NQJ/JD1 via JA8CGY	TM64YL via F4GDI
9M61MB via 9M4CHS	KH8/W1VX via JF1OCQ	TM89SRV via F5KCC
A35JLL via DL7JLL	LY782QT via LY2QT	TM9A via F6KFH
A5A via JH1AJT	MJØCFW via MØCFW	V47FWX via MØURX
C4II via MØSDV	MJ5Z via MØCFW	VYØBRR via VE2XB
CN2JT via EA7JTT	OH7Z via OH3NJZ	VI7ØMI via MØOXO
DF4T via DL4VCM	OJØC via OH3JR	XR1SDC via EA1AUM
DLØHSC via DK7VW	OL13FORT via OK2NO	XR2Ø8A via CE5PRD
DM7A via DL4DTU	OT2X via ON6YX	XR2Ø8B via CE5PRD
DQ8T via DL8NCG	OX3LX via OZ1DJJ	XR2Ø8D via CE5PRD
DUI1ST/9 via JA1HGY	PF2Ø18DOK via PAØMBD	XT2BR via F8FUA
EH1LSI via EA1AUO	PF2Ø18HAR via PAØMBD	YL7X via YL2LY
EJØDXG via MØOXO	RI1ANW via RN1ON	YQ6A via YØ6BHN
EM9WFF via EA5HPX	RT65KI via UA3AKO	YUØWFF via YU7CM
EXØPL via SP9KAT	SN1ØØS via SP3KQV	YUØWFF via YU1SRS
FG/HGØR via HAØNAR	SN7Ø via SP7IVO	Z3/I25YHD via I25YHD
		Z68HZ via TA1HZ
		ZW8T via PS8HF

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

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.



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- * Kenwood TS-2000X, approx. 1 year old, extremely clean, never has transmitted. With Box, instructions, power cable, and extras including Heil Goldline mic, Heil boom with deskmount, shock mount, cable, Yaesu SP-2000 speaker (with cables), ARCP-2000 software, Astron SS-35M power supply, Outbacker 80 – 10 mobile antenna with a tripod for the base station: Everything you need to get on the air, just add coax, a desk, and a chair! Entire package \$1500 including free shipping.
- * Timewave PK-232C with software & a valid key, \$300 shipped from TX.
- * Heathkit SB-301/401 receiver/xmitter combo, with speaker, Microphone. \$250 shipped from TX
- * Astron RS-35M. \$85 shipped from TX.

73, Greg NB3C/5, kq3dx@hotmail.com

- * MFJ-989B Tuner - \$150 - belts recently replaced. Extras included.
- * Vibroplex Key - late 60's/early 70's serial #. \$100 / OBO.

Chuck Mills W3YNI w3yni1@gmail.com

Reorganized and updated FCC Personal Radio Services (PRS) Part 95 rules have been **published** in *The Federal Register* on August 14th. Among other things, the PRS covers the Family Radio Service (FRS), General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS), & the Citizens Band Radio Service (CBRS).

The revised rules allot additional FRS channels and increase the power on certain FRS channels from 0.5 W to 2 W. FRS channels are in the 462.5625 – 462.7250 MHz range.

Effective September 30th, 2019, it will be illegal to manufacture or import handheld portable radio equipment capable of operating under FRS rules and under other licensed or licensed-by-rule services. The FCC no longer will certify FRS devices that incorporate capabilities of GMRS capabilities or of other services. Existing GMRS/FRS combination radios that operate at power levels of less than 2 W ERP will be reclassified as FRS devices; existing GMRS/FRS radios that operate above that power level will be reclassified as GMRS devices, requiring an individual license.

Radios that can transmit on GMRS repeater input channels will continue to be licensed individually and not by rule.

Once the new rules are effective, CBers will be allowed to contact stations outside of the FCC-imposed (but widely disregarded) 155.3-mile limit.



FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 22nd -- The FCC Enforcement Bureau has entered into a **Consent Decree** with Horizon Hobby, LLC to resolve a case involving the marketing and sale of noncompliant audio/video (A/V) transmitters intended for use on drones. The **Consent Decree** was attached to an FCC **Order** released on August 16. The Enforcement Bureau said the transmitters violated the FCC's equipment marketing and Amateur Radio rules.

"These laws ensure that radio frequency devices comply with the Commission's technical requirements and do not interfere with authorized communications," the Enforcement Bureau said. "Because the noncompliant A/V transmitters could operate in bands that are reserved for important operations, including Federal Aviation Administration Terminal Doppler Weather Radar, they must not be marketed or operated by anyone. Moreover, entities that rely on amateur frequencies in operating compliant A/V transmitters must have an amateur license and otherwise comply with all applicable laws for such operation."

In the **Consent Decree**, Horizon Hobby concedes that it marketed A/V transmitters that did not comply with FCC equipment marketing rules. The company has agreed to implement a compliance plan and to pay a \$35,000 civil penalty.

On December 20th, 2017, the Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a **Letter of Inquiry (LOI)** to Horizon Hobby, directing it to respond to a series of questions relating to its marketing of A/V used with drones in the US. "The investigation revealed that some of the A/V transmitters Horizon Hobby marketed were capable of operating outside of the authorized Amateur Radio Service bands, but were not certified or otherwise compliant with the Rules. These A/V transmitters are considered intentional radiators and must comply with the Equipment Marketing Rules."

The FCC said that after it received the **LOI**, the company stopped marketing the noncompliant A/V transmitters.

A privately held limited liability company, Horizon Hobby advertises and sells fully assembled drones through several websites, as well as parts and accessories for those systems.

In an August 24th **Order**, the FCC denied a request by William F. Crowell W6WBJ (ex-N6AYH) of Diamond Springs, CA, for permission to file an appeal that would exceed the page length prescribed by FCC rules.

"We find that Crowell has not shown good cause for exceeding the prescribed page limit," said the **Order**, signed by Linda L. Oliver, Chief of the Administrative Law Division in the FCC Office of General Counsel. "Crowell's request indicates that he intends to appeal the order by Chief Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Richard L. Sippel **dismissing his renewal application** for Amateur Radio license W6WBJ and terminating the proceeding. Under the Commission's rules, appeals of an ALJ's dismissal order are limited to 25 pages."

Crowell explained in his July 30th request that his appeal "involves approximately 16 important issues of Constitutional, statutory, and regulatory interpretation applicable to the Amateur Radio Service, which have never been decided by the Commission or by the courts." He argued that 25 pages would be insufficient and asked for an additional 10 pages.

According to the **Order**, under FCC rules, requests to exceed prescribed page limits are not routinely granted. "Our examination of the ALJ's brief, six-page **Order**, which Crowell seeks to appeal, does not suggest that the issues involved here are unusually complex," Oliver said. "His conclusory assertions to the contrary do not persuade us otherwise."

In a July 9th **Order**, Sippel terminated Crowell's decade-old license renewal application upon a motion by Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary C. Harold. Sippel's **Order** followed Crowell's refusal to appear in Washington, DC, for a hearing to consider not just his license renewal but related enforcement issues dating back 15 years or more.

Crowell was fined \$25,000 in 2016 for intentionally interfering with the transmissions of other radio amateurs and transmitting prohibited communications, including music. The FCC said Crowell did not deny making the transmissions but argued, in large part, that those transmissions were protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution. The FCC turned away that assertion.

Sippel stayed the renewal case on the basis of the pending **Forfeiture Order** proceeding, but said he was later informed that the US Department of Justice had decided not to prosecute the case.

Crowell may continue to operate until the final disposition of his license renewal application. His license expired in 2007.

Has Roadway found the tower yet?

Butler County ARA Swapfest 2018

Sunday, September 9th, 2018, 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>



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September 28th, 29th & 30th 2018

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Sunday, November 4th

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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Talk-In on 146.790 (131.8 PL)



First Prize: ICOM IC-7300 HF & 6 M Transceiver
Second Prize: Yaesu FTM-3200DR 65 W 2 Meter FM Mobile Transceiver
Third Prize: Yaesu FTM-3200DR 65 W 2 Meter FM Mobile Transceiver
Fourth Prize: Yaesu FTM-3200DR 65 W 2 Meter FM Mobile Transceiver
Other Prizes To Be Announced

Main Prize Drawing at 1 PM

Winner Need Not Be Present To Win

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— Only 50 Tickets Sold! —

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[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
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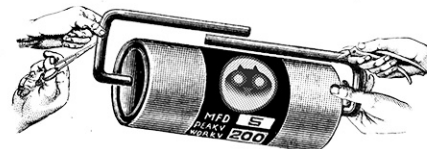
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Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.

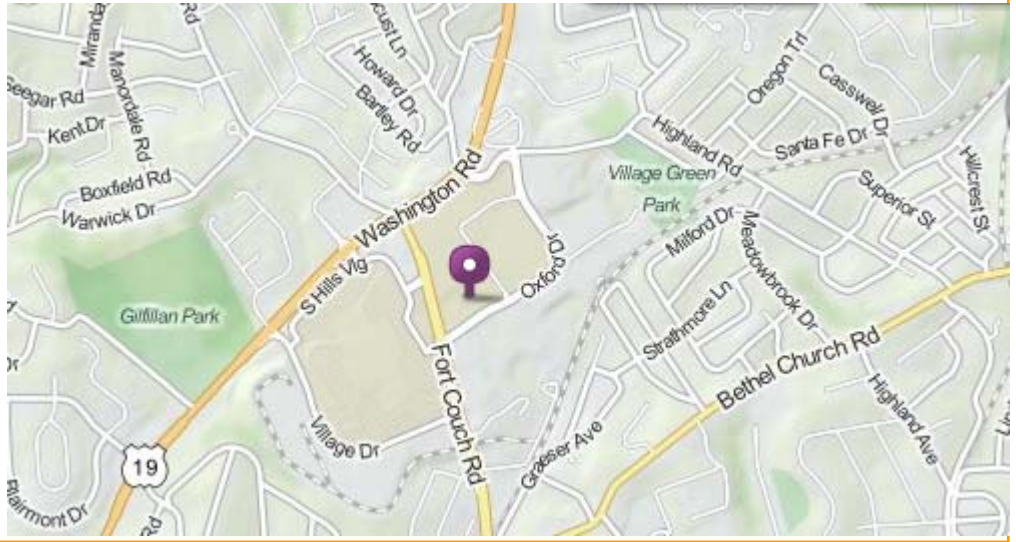
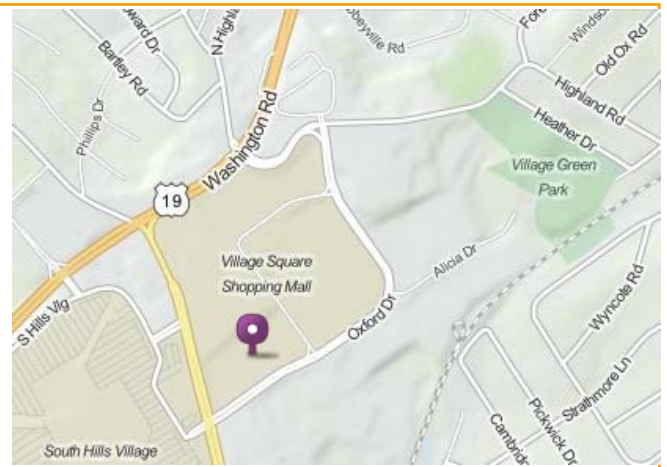


2018 WASH Meeting Location

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



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