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WASHRAG



VOLUME 23 ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2021

Wireless Association of South Hills

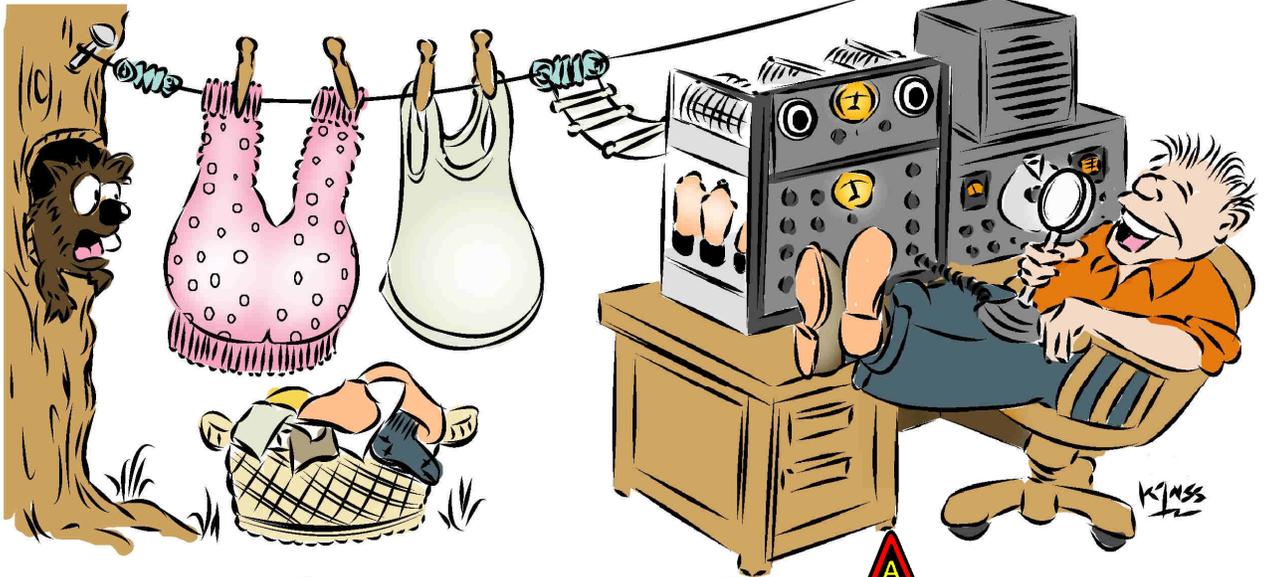


N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org



Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 23 ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2021

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, October 7th, 2021

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, October 7th, 2021**, as an online Zoom meeting. Please contact Tony KB3BYA for information on how to join the meeting.

Topics include nominations for 2022 WASH Officers, and more!
See you there!

Cover Photo: Joe N3XE demonstrating QRP operating during QRP Days at Bill NY9H's QTH. More photos on Page 9.
Cover Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2021 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Tony Romano KB3BYA
VP / Secretary	(office vacant)
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	Grant Olson KC3MLC
Webmaster	Curtis Turner KB3CMT
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
WASHFest 2022 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 2022 Coordinator	Glen Roberts KE7FD

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.

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN
3395 Rosewood Drive, Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546
e-mail: [newsletter at n3sh dot org](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.org) or [w3wn at arrl dot net](mailto:w3wn@arrl.net)

"The WASHRag", "The Mariner", SHARCfest, South Hills Hamfest, WASHfest, WASHfest 2022, N3SH Net, WA3SH Net and WASHNet are™ trademarks of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

The WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. was founded on August 23rd, 1993, as the original SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners & operators of both the N3SH/R Repeaters and the N3FB/R Repeater System for permitting the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test TBA

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Saturday, July 17th, 2021, 11:00 AM**, at **Mt. Lebanon Main Park**, Pavilion 3,900 Cedar Blvd, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15234. (The pavilion is located at the end of the parking lot) Talk

The dates and locations for upcoming VE Exams have not been set yet.

As soon as the information is available, it will be published in the newsletter and on the N3SH website.

Thank you for your patience!

-in on the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Pre-registration is encouraged. Walk-ins taken on a space/time available basis.

If you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Grant Olson KC3MLC: kgo@grant-olson.net

Tony's Musings



PA QSO... PA QSO... PA QSO...Home operators needed!!

Good luck everyone with PA QSO!!!

Well this next meeting (Zoom) we will have Club officer nominations for the upcoming election!!

We will also need some help with the WASHFest planing Committee in order for a successful Hamfest.

Hope to see ya at the meeting (Zoom)

Thanks and everyone STAY SAFE and HEALTHY!!

— 73, Tony Romano KB3BYA
President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Sir Clive Sinclair has become a Silent Key.

A pioneer in the creation of home electronics and computers, he is credited as the inventor of the first slimline electronic pocket calculator, and the Sinclair ZX-80 computer (marketed in the US as the Timex-Sinclair 1000) — in many ways the functional predecessor of today's Raspberry Pi and Arduino computer systems.

Reminder: The October WASH Meeting will be held online as a Zoom Meeting. If you would like to attend the meeting but did not receiving an invitation, please contact Tony Romano KB3BYA immediately.

If you do not have or cannot install the Zoom app, you can attend by telephone; Tony will get you the phone number.

Is this becoming the so-called "new normal"? We surely hope not. Regardless, the October meeting is back to a Zoom meeting. Had really hoped that we'd be back to the old normal by now... but...

Please, please, continue to take precautions, and to observe social distancing. No, we don't like it either.

If you haven't been vaccinated yet... please don't waste another moment, or wait until it's too late. And forget politics, or conspiracy theories, or whatever. This is your life we're talking about. We'd rather put up with talking to you via a mask, or on Zoom, or other unwelcome alternatives... than be talking to your family at or after the funeral.

Moving on...

Nominations for 2022 WASH Officers will be taking place at the October meeting, with elections in November. Due to the unfortunate resignation of K3CMU, all three club officer positions will be up for grabs... 1 year term for President, 2 year term for Vice President/Treasurer, and 1 year remaining in the term for Vice President/Secretary. Who's going to be running? (No, Who is on First... never mind) That remains to be seen. But if you've ever had an interest in helping to lead the club, and a club of pretty good people (even with [redacted] in membership! Just kidding), now is the time.

the 2021 Pennsylvania QSO Party is taking place the weekend after the meeting. It's a fun opportunity, and it's nice to for us Pa amateurs to play "rare DX" for a weekend. Plus, if you're working towards an operating goal, like WAS, this is a great chance to pick up a bunch of needed stations. It's a lot of fun! Don't miss out! (Don't have the shack or the license for it? Ask around, there are plenty of club members willing to host operators... check the club reflector!)

And for the new hams who are just getting on the air for the first time... don't be shy, don't be nervous, please let us know. Every one of us experienced old... veteran amateurs were once just starting out too, once. We had help along the way, now is the time for us to pass on that same assistance to the next group coming in. Yes, that means you! But we can't help, if we don't know you need it, so please, let us know!

On that same note, **if you aren't getting emails from the club reflector**, please let our webmaster, Curtis KB3CMT, know about it. If you aren't getting the newsletter from THAT (new) mailing list, let Ron W3WN know. The issue can usually be easily solved quickly. If we know about it.

The 2021 WACOM Hamfest is coming up in a few weeks, and we're really looking forward to it, as usual. Ron W3WN (amongst others) is planning on having a table of junque, er, miscellaneous items that everyone needs but can't find. If you're thinking of going, and have a few items to put up for sale, let him know, and we'll find room... we always do.

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 17

Minutes, September 2nd Meeting

Tony Romano KB3BYA, Acting Secretary, WASH

Meeting held at Babcock Grove, South Park

Call to Order: 19:12. Presiding Officer: Tony Romano (KB3BYA)
 Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Silent Keys and others deserving.
 Roll Call: Members Present: 13, Guests: 0

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read. Motion to accept by Ron (W3WN), second by Bill (WA3VSS) and carried unanimously.

Acting Secretary: Tony Romano (KB3BYA): No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Bob (N3RDG), second by Larry (K3VX), and carried unanimously. No correspondence.

Repeaters: Frank (N3FB): (No report.)

WASHNet: Charles (Chuck) Bihun, III (K3CELA): Running well. A lot of new call signs.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Glen Roberts (KE7FD): Cutting back to 1 net on 3rd Thursday.

Contests: Larry (K3VX) – PA QSO Party: Home operators needed.

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU):

- + Pittsburgh Great Race scheduled for the last Sunday in September.
- + Steel City Tower safety class.
- + Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on October 2nd, on 147.09 MHz

Newsletter: Ron Notarius (W3WN): Published. Check your email to make sure you're getting it.

Volunteer Examiners: Grant Olsen (KC3MLC): (No report)

Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol Danko (KB3GMN): (No report)

President's Report - Tony Romano (KB3BYA): (No report)

Old Business: (none)

New Business:

- + Chuck (KC3ELA): FYI, a new PA system may be needed for WASHFest 2022. More information to come.
- + Mark (N3RDV): Elections: October meeting, nominations for all 3 Officers positions (note: remainder of K3CMU's term to be filled). Elections at the November meeting.

Good of the Order:

- + Larry (K3VX): Discussed a future class on how to make powerpole connectors, etc.
- + Ron (W3WN): Upcoming Hamfests including Butler,, Johnstown, and WACOM

Adjournment: Motion Mike (WA3PYY); seconded by Larry (K3VX). Carried.

Adjourned: 19:56

WASH Spotlight: W3WH

Bill W3WH won the "door prize" at the QRP Days operating event, sponsored by Bill NY9H, and hosted at his home on September 25th.

Presenting Bill with his new QRP end-fed antenna is Tom N3WS, who was kind enough to provide the prize. (Bill had the choice of the assembled antenna, or the kit... he chose the assembled one!)

Congratulations Bill, and thanks Tom for providing the prize!

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 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 **Eat'n Park**, 3380 Washington Road (US 19), McMurray. 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

AA3XY	KC3MLC	N3ZK	WASH FL	WASH TN	Silent Keys
AE3DL	KC3NFV	N7TDX	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
K3CMU	KC3NPJ	N8NEU	WASH NE	KE3XB	
K3GW	KC3OCT	NB3C	NØPEU	N3YPB	
K3HCR	KC3QAH	NL7XM	WASH OH	WASH TX	
K3JDS	KC3RGV	W3LE	N8DPW	NB3C	
K3SGT	KC3RTF	W3WH	WASH OR	K3LGM	
K3VX	KC3RZL	W3WN	KB3NVL	KB3IJX	
K3YQA	KC4WTT	WA3JFL	KB3NVM	Jane Wagner	
K6DWR	KO4EZO	WA3PYU	WASH SC	WASH VI	
K8DRH	KE7FD	WA3VSS	N8NEU	NP2JF	
KA3VXM	NØVLR	WB3CAI			
KB3BYA	N3DFK	WB4GCS			
KB3CMT	N3FB				
KB3ERQ	N3IDH				
KB3GMN	N3KFD				
KB3GMU	N3NWR				
KB3SQZ	N3RDG				
KB3YCX	N3RDV				
KC3GMM	N3SBF				

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

Through September 30th, 2021
 List compiled by
 Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

- AB3KA
- AB3ED
- K3EED
- K3LIE
- KA3NMG
- KB3ENX
- KB3FNM
- KB3FQT
- KB3JHQ
- N3BPB
- N3CZZ
- N3FZ
- N3HKQ
- N3KEH
- N3OBD
- N3RNX
- N3SKR
- N3SRC
- N3ZEL
- N3XFE
- W3ZLK
- W4ZE
- WA3JPP

N3UE Woodworking



Ed Wolf N3UE has recently taken up a new endeavor... laser engraving. (See sample)

He's currently available for plaques and signs of varying shapes and designs.

Prices vary, but are very reasonable!

Interested? Contact Ed directly at n3ue11@gmail.com

2021 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

October 2 nd - 3 rd	56 th California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org
October 7 th	WASH Meeting (2022 Nominations)	Zoom Meeting Online, contact Tony KB3BYA details
October 9 th - 10 th	65 th Pennsylvania QSO Party	https://www.paqso.org
October 16 th - 17 th	BSA Jamboree On The Air	https://www.scouting.org
October 30 th - 31 st	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	http://www.cqww.com
November 4 th	WASH Meeting (2022 Elections)	To Be Determined
November 6 th - 8 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 7 th	WACOM Hamfest	Washington County Fairgrounds, 2151 North Main Street, Washington PA 15301
November 20 th - 22 nd	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	http://www.arrl.org
November 20 th - 22 nd	CQ WW DX Contest CW	http://www.cqww.com
December 2 nd	WASH Meeting	To Be Determined
December 3 rd —5 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 11 th —12 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 31 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org

WACOM 2021 Hamfest

Sunday, November 7th, 2021, 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Doors Open at 6 PM Saturday, November 6th for Vendor Setup

Washington County Fairgrounds

2151 North Main Street, Washington, PA 15301

Talk-in on 146.790 & 147.390 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

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



"Seen" at the September WASH Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Ron Notarius W3WN



"Seen" at the BCARA Swap 'n' Shop

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Ron Notarius W3WN



"Seen" at the BCARA Swap 'n' Shop



Jamboree-on-the-Air

JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October; October 15th – 17th this year. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

Jamboree-on-the-Internet, or JOTI, is an annual international Scouting event sponsored by the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Each year, during the third weekend in October, October 15th – 17th this year, Scouts from around the world gather online to learn about other cultures and the activities in which other Scouts participate. They communicate with each other using Internet-enabled devices such as computers, laptops, tablets, and mobile phones. Last year, JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scouts and leaders participate in more than 160 countries!

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers.

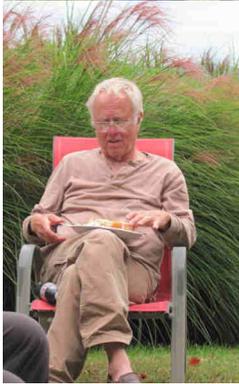
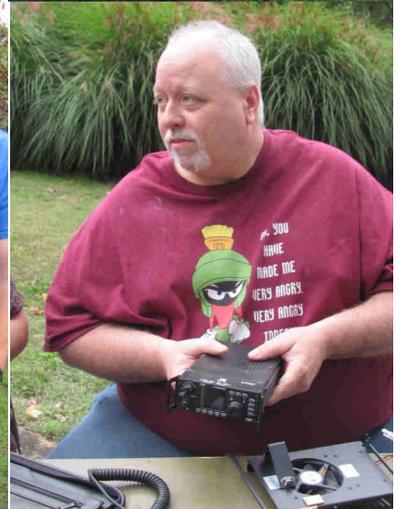
However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater).

The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

More information can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/international/jota-joti/jota/> and <https://www.scouting.org/international/jota-joti/fact-sheets/>

"Seen" at QRP Day at NY9H

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Ron Notarius W3WN



ARRL Responds to Story of Radio Amateur Told to Remove His Antenna

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 2nd, 2021 – ARRL has responded to an Orlando, Florida, [news story](#) on August 23rd, 2021 by WFTV Channel 9 alleging a radio amateur was told to remove his antenna by the management of his subdivision following a complaint made by a neighbor. (*The story is on Page 10 of the September 2021 WASHRag – ed.*)

“The news story appears to stem from a 2-year-old complaint from a neighbor who believed her insulin pump had malfunctioned due to the radio amateur’s operations ‘a few doors down,’” said ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare W1RFI. “The story is lacking any details or timeline, so I contacted the radio amateur involved for information, and volunteered ARRL’s assistance.”

Hare explained that medical devices such as insulin pumps are regulated by the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA) specifically for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) purposes and are expected to be capable of operating in all the RF environments likely to be encountered by consumers. FDA [published guidance](#) for its staff and industry defines EMC with respect to electrically powered medical devices “as the ability of a device to function safely and effectively in its intended electromagnetic environment, including immunity to electromagnetic disturbance (interference).” FDA review of EMC information submitted with a device for approval “is based on the risk associated with EMC malfunction or degradation of the device under review, as well as the use of appropriate FDA-recognized standards or appropriate consensus standards.”

Hare noted there is an FDA recall for the model number of the insulin pump in question, in approximately the same time frame. “But with so few details, there is no way of knowing whether that recall applies to the serial number used or whether the exact unit has the mechanical defect indicated in the recall notice that could cause the malfunction,” explained Hare.

It also became apparent that there is no actual evidence connecting the amateur’s transmissions to operation of the insulin pump. Hare was told that the amateur agreed to run tests to establish whether there was a cause and effect, but the neighbor declined.

Hare commented, “While there are no requirements for a radio amateur to stop transmitting due to alleged interference to a non-radio device, the preferred path with any complaint is for neighbors to work together.”



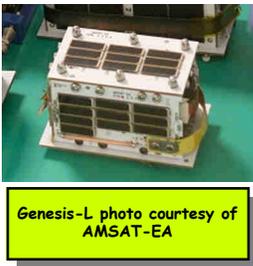
GENESIS Ham Satellites among Payloads Lost in Launch Failure

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 7th, 2021 – The GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N ham radio satellites were among several carrying amateur radio payloads **lost** following the failure of the Firefly Alpha rocket during its first launch on September 2 from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. An anomaly occurred about 2 minutes into the mission, causing controllers to destroy the launcher in flight. The anomaly has yet to be explained.

This was sad news for AMSAT-EA (Spain), as GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were the first satellites they had built themselves.

According to the AMSAT-EA website, the GENESIS satellites were destroyed after the Firefly Alpha vehicle presented an anomaly as it hit a velocity of Mach 1 and reached Max Q, a point of maximum aerodynamic pressure on the vehicle. The launch had been halted a few seconds before takeoff, but the countdown was subsequently resumed.



Genesis-L photo courtesy of AMSAT-EA

GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were to conduct a series of telecommunications-related experiments, while a ground-station analysis of the received signals would try to attain Doppler variations in order to perform orbit determination and satellite identification from radio amateur stations around the world.

Also lost in the launch failure were the Serenity, Hiapo, the Cresst Dream Comet, and QUBIK-1 and QUBIK-2 satellites, and Spinnaker-3/Firefly Capsule 1. All were designed to use amateur radio frequencies for telemetry and/or communication.

Serenity, a 3U CubeSat, was developed by Teachers in Space (TIS) to provide low-cost opportunities to test educational experiments in space. TIS has previously guided high schools and other academic institutions in developing and flying sub-orbital experiments using high-altitude balloons, stratospheric gliders, and rockets. This was the first orbital satellite mission for TIS. Serenity carried a suite of data sensors and a camera to send data back to Earth using amateur frequencies.

Hiapo was an educational 1U CubeSat developed by the Hawaii Science and Technology Museum (HSTM). The Hiapo project was intended to provide hands-on STEM curriculum for Hawaii students in grades K – 12. Part of this curriculum involved obtaining data about solar flares, solar particle events, and disturbances in Earth’s magnetic field. Data would be available for amateur operators to download directly from the satellite.

The Cresst Dream Comet was a 3U CubeSat developed by the University of Cambridge as a small satellite for technology demonstrations.

QUBIK-1 and QUBIK-2 were picosatellites developed by the Libre Space Foundation, a nonprofit association developing PocketQube picosatellite technology. They were built following the [1P PocketQube](#) form factor. The mission of these satellites was similar to that of the GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N satellites.

Spinnaker-3 was a collaboration between the Cal Poly CubeSat Laboratory, Purdue University, and NASA. It was designed to provide rapid de-orbit capability for the second stage of Firefly Alpha’s launch vehicle, using frequency shift keying (FSK) on 70 centimeters for communications. Firefly Capsule 1 consisted of nontechnical items from around the world, including photos, artwork, and books.



Firefly Alpha photo courtesy of ARRL



The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 1 Monitoring System (IARUMS) [August newsletter](#) reports that Radio France International was active daily between 2100 and 2200 UTC on 7205 kHz. The report says splattering appeared “massively” down to 7186 kHz, which IARUMS called “an untenable condition.”

IARUMS said that the “especially well-known intruders” included Voice of Broad Masses (VOBM) on 7140 and 7180 kHz from Eritrea. “From time to time, China Radio International was heard on 14,000 kHz (and intermodulation of 13,855 kHz and 13,710 kHz).”

The usual players among the over-the-horizon radar (OTH-R) systems were active almost daily. These included the Russian “Contayner” system, the British “Pluto” from Cyprus, and the “Foghorn” OTH-R from China.

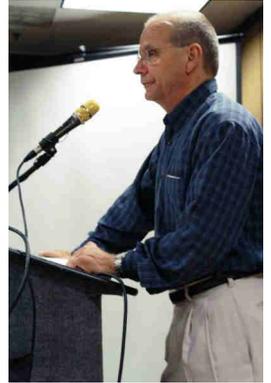
Intruders monitored in Region 1 may be causing problems elsewhere in the world.

August 2021 Volunteer Monitor Program Reports

Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, VM Program Administrator

Gettysburg, PA, September 9th, 2021 – The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the VM Program Report for August 2021.

- + Licensees in Pawcatuck, Connecticut; Wamego, Kansas; Valley Cottage, New York; Long Valley, New Jersey; Columbia, South Carolina, and Maryville, Tennessee, were sent Advisory Notices concerning operation on frequencies that were set aside for Haiti earthquake emergency communications by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Emergency Coordinator.
 - + Licensees in Prineville, Winston, Silver Lake, and Roseburg, Oregon; Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Houston, Texas, were sent Advisory Notices concerning failure to identify, as required by Section 97.119(a) of the FCC Amateur Radio Service, pursuant to a nationwide rule compliance review of operations on 3.819 MHz and 3.953 MHz.
 - + A former licensee in Seabrook, Texas, was sent an Advisory Notice concerning operation with an expired license.
 - + An FT8 operator in Orion, Michigan, was sent to an Advisory Notice reminding him of the 200 W power limit on 30 meters.
 - + A licensee in New Caney, Texas, was sent a final notice that his case was being referred to the FCC for license revocation or deletion of voice privileges from his license.
 - + A Good Operator commendation was sent to an operator in Roseville, California, for Exemplary Amateur Procedure on May 21st, 2021, during the 40-meter California Rescue Communications Net.
- The revised total for VM monitoring in July was 5,746 hours — the highest number of hours monitored since the inception of the VM Program.
The IT staff at ARRL Headquarters completed work on an automated system for Volunteer Monitors to report monthly monitoring hours and Incident Reports.



ARRL Board of Directors Bestows Awards

American Radio Relay League



Newington, CT, September 9th, 2021 – The ARRL Board granted several awards at its July 2021 meeting.

- + The ARRL Doug DeMaw W1FB Technical Excellence Award went to Steve Franke K9AN; Bill Somerville G4WJS, and Joe Taylor K1JT for their July/August 2020 QEX article, “The FT4 and FT8 Communications Protocols.” The DeMaw award honors the author of an article or article series judged to possess the highest degree of technical merit in ARRL periodicals for the past year.
- + John Levo W8KIW, of Hillsboro, Ohio, was designated as the recipient of the 2021 ARRL Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award. This award honors a Public Information Officer who successfully promotes all aspects of Amateur Radio that enhance the understanding of Amateur Radio’s contributions to education, public safety, and recreation. The Board said Levo’s efforts over time have captured “the many avenues of opportunities of Amateur Radio as a hobby, an education tool, and a service for public safety.”
- + The 2021 ARRL Technical Service Award 2021 award recipient is James Baxter KØUA, of Branson, Missouri. The Board said Baxter “exemplifies the spirit of this award due to his diligent work assisting hundreds of hams get on the air, particularly with FT8, and by spending countless hours on web sessions with them to work out their configuration issues, show them best practices, and to help track down RFI issues.”
- + The Board bestowed the 2021 ARRL Technical Innovation Award on Steve Haynal KF7O; Wojciech Kaczmarek SP5WWP, and Roger Clark VK3KYY. Haynal was cited as the instrumental and driving force behind the Hermes Lite 5 W HF SDR transceiver as a fully open-source hardware and software project. Kaczmarek was recognized for developing the open-source digital radio communication protocol M17, leading to the development of *DroidStar* (an Android application) by Doug McLain AD8DP. Clark was cited for spearheading a successful effort to augment a low-cost handheld radio for use by visually impaired operators, significantly lowering the cost of entry for such amateurs.
- + The 2021 Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award went to David Ritter ND4MR. ARRL sponsors this award in conjunction with the Lake County Indiana Amateur Radio Club in Brier’s memory to recognize superior Amateur Radio instruction and recruitment. An ARRL Member for nearly 40 years, Ritter is an ARRL Registered Instructor and a full-time faculty member at Wilkes Community College in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, where he’s been the lead — and sole — Technician licensing course instructor since 2010.

Newington, CT, September 23rd, 2021 – CEO Michelle Thompson W5NYV, reports that Open Research Institute (ORI) received an advisory opinion from the US Commerce Department Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) on September 2. The letter confirmed that public internet posts regarding open-source amateur satellite communications work are not subject to Export Administration Regulation (EAR). ORI was founded in March 2018 by Bruce Perens K6BP, in order to provide a formal structure for open-source amateur satellite work. Prior work by ORI established that open-source amateur satellite communications work was free of International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

“This is a significant regulatory success for open-source amateur satellite work and open source in general,” Thompson said. In a later post on the ORI site, Thompson said ITAR and EAR have had a dramatic effect on both commercial and amateur satellite work since the 1990s. “The regulations are blamed for a significant decline in US market share for satellite systems and halted highly successful international amateur collaborations,” she wrote.

Open-source work that is published as it is created and is freely available to the general public at no cost is not subject to ITAR or EAR, Thompson said.

ORI’s work was funded by ARDC, with legal assistance provided by Thomsen and Burke LLP. [All documents and links to presentations](#) about the work are available.

“Thank you to those who have supported and assisted ORI during the many stages of this successful regulatory endeavor,” Thompson said. “ORI will build upon this work to advance the aims and purposes of open-source amateur satellites.”

Some ORI projects include:

Phase 4 Ground Station — Digital microwave broadband communication system for space and terrestrial amateur radio use.

Phase 4 Space — Digital microwave broadband communication system for space. 6U, GEO and interplanetary. Both Phase 4 projects rely on an open source version of DVB-S2/X and polyphase filter banks, with FDMA uplink at 5 GHz and TDM downlink at 10 GHz.

M17 Project — M17 is a new alternative digital radio protocol. Headed by Wojciech (SP5WWP) in Poland, a team of several other amateur radio operators is involved.

Visit the ORI website’s “Getting Started” page to get involved.

Open Source Amateur Satellite Work Not Subject to Export Administration Regulation

American Radio Relay League

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ARRL, RSGB Announce Joint Events to Celebrate Centenary of Ham Radio Transatlantic Success

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 23rd, 2021 – ARRL and the Radio Society of Great Britain will jointly sponsor events to celebrate the achievement of transatlantic communications by radio amateurs 100 years ago.

In December 1921, ARRL sent Paul F. Godley 2ZE as its representative to listen for amateur signals from North America during the Second Transatlantic Tests. Setting up his listening station in Ardrossan, on the west coast of Scotland, Godley received the signals of more than 2 dozen US amateur radio stations, the first on December 12th (UTC) from 1BCG in Connecticut, operated by members of the Radio Club of America. The message read: “Nr 1 NY ck 12 to Paul Godley, Ardrossan, Scotland. Hearty Congratulations. (Signed) Burghard Inman Grinan Armstrong Amy Cronkhite.”

These successful transatlantic tests and the ones that followed would spur technological advances and new global wireless distance records. Several amateur radio operating events this year and next will commemorate the centenary of these significant milestones that heralded the dawn of two-way international amateur radio communication.

ARRL and RSGB will activate special event stations for 6 hours (0200 – 0800 UTC) on December 12th for the 160-Meter Transatlantic Centenary QSO Party. The RSGB will activate GB2ZE from Scotland, with a team of stations from the GMDX Group sharing operating duties. ARRL will activate W1AW. The stations will operate only on CW. If transatlantic propagation holds up, the stations may continue to operate beyond 0800 UTC.

The GMDX Group of Scotland will award a *quaich* — a traditional Scottish drinking cup representing friendship — to the *first* stations in North America and the UK to complete contacts with both W1AW and GB2ZE during the QSO Party. A commemorative certificate will be available for download.

The RSGB and ARRL are also organizing an international amateur radio marathon on the HF bands to commemorate transatlantic tests held between 1921 and 1923. The Transatlantic Centenary Marathon will take place in December 2022. The objective will be to mark these historic events by encouraging all radio amateurs to get on the air. Event details are pending.

ARRL and RSGB have assembled a list of stations and groups that are also organizing events and activities to celebrate 100 years of amateur radio transatlantic communication. For more information, visit arrl.org/transatlantic and rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests. **The sites also include links to many previously published articles and presentations covering the historic tests.**

Additional events and commemorations include:

Radio Club of America (RCA) Transatlantic QSO Party, 1200 UTC on November 13th to 0400 UTC November 14th, 2021 (16 hours total). The QSO Party commemorates the contribution of members of the Radio Club of America, who constructed and operated the 1BCG transmitter site in Greenwich, Connecticut, that sent the first message received by Paul Godley 2ZE in Scotland.

W1AW Commemorative Transatlantic QSL Card. Stations making contact with Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW between December 11th, 2021, and December 31st, 2022, qualify to receive a commemorative W1AW QSL card. US stations should QSL with a SASE; international stations should QSL via the Bureau.

The 2021 ARRL 160-Meter Contest, 2200 UTC on December 3rd – 1559 UTC on December 5th. This 42-hour CW-only contest is most similar to the original Transatlantic Tests of the early 1920s. Stations in the US and Canada work each other as well as DXCC entities. The RSGB is planning to activate one of the original call signs used in the Transatlantic Tests, with up to seven different prefixes from the UK and Crown Dependencies. Look for G6XX (England); GD6XX (Isle of Man); GI6XX (Northern Ireland); GJ6XX (Jersey); GM6XX (Scotland); GU6XX (Guernsey), and GW6XX (Wales).

Special Event GB1ØØ2ZE, December 1st – 26th, 2021. The Crocodile Rock Amateur Group (CRAG) based near Ardrossan, Scotland, will activate the special event station GB1ØØ2ZE to commemorate the successful reception of amateur transatlantic signals by Paul Godley 2ZE in 1921. The RSGB encourages stations in the UK and Crown Dependencies to append the suffix “/2ZE” to their station's normal call sign throughout the period, as authorized by UK regulator Ofcom.



HamSCI Founder W2NAF Awarded \$481,260 NASA Research Grant

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 8th, 2021 – Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](#)) founder Nathaniel Frissell W2NAF — an assistant professor in The University of Scranton's Physics and Engineering Department — has been awarded a \$481,260 grant through the NASA Space Weather Applications Operations Phase II Research Program. Frissell will serve as principal investigator for a research project entitled, "Enabling Space Weather Research with Global Scale Amateur Radio Datasets." He'll collaborate with Philip Erickson W1PJE, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Haystack Observatory and Bill Engelke AB4EJ, at the University of Alabama.

"This grant includes significant funding for participation of Scranton undergraduate students in this research, as well as support for new computation resources," Frissell said. He explained that the grant will fund "the development of an empirical model for the prediction of traveling ionospheric disturbances (TIDs) in high-frequency radio communications while investigating the geophysical drivers of these disturbances." The grant will cover 2 years of work.

Frissell said that the predictive, empirical TID models will be developed using data collected by the Reverse Beacon Network, WSPR, and PSKReporter — automated, global-scale radio communication observation networks operated by the amateur radio community. Undergraduate students will help the faculty researchers to create algorithms used for the model development.

This new NASA award complements a 5-year National Science Foundation grant of more than \$616,000 that Frissell received in 2020. That investigation aims to understand the source of TIDs observed in amateur radio and other scientific datasets.

In 2019, Frissell received a \$1.3 million National Science Foundation grant to fund a 3-year initiative to measure modulations produced in the Earth's upper atmosphere. The grant supports a collaborative team to develop the HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station, a modular, multi-instrument, ground-based space science observation platform used to study variability in the coupled geospace system and to better understand HF radio propagation.

This is Frissell's second NASA grant. A space physicist, he is among the researchers working on a NASA Living with a Star Program ([LWS](#)) project, "Wave-Driven Asymmetries in the Ionosphere-Thermosphere due to Asymmetries in the Northern and Southern Polar Vortices." That project is being led by Richard Collins of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute.



Microsoft Releases Windows 11

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, October 5th, 2021 – Today (October 5th) is the official release date for the new [Windows 11](#) operating system, Microsoft has announced, but it will be a slow reveal. Radio amateurs may be eager to learn if it will run the station software they're running under Windows 7 or Windows 10, and if they'll need new device drivers.

"We are not too concerned," said Tom Wagner N1MM, of the widely popular, free logging software that bears his call sign — *N1MM Logger+*. "One member of the team and one end user has tested with Win 11 and not reported issues. We will fix them if they arise."

The WSJT-X Development Group is similarly unconcerned. "A few *WSJT-X* users have been running on the beta Windows 11 releases without any issues," said Bill Somerville, G4WJS. "This seems reasonable evidence that there should be no serious problems."

Microsoft said that the free upgrade to Windows 11 has begun rolling out to eligible Windows 10 PCs, and PCs that come pre-loaded with Windows 11 will start to become available for purchase on October 5th. A prompt to upgrade to Windows 11 will come to newer devices first, with all [eligible](#) devices to receive their updates by next summer, according to [Gear Patrol](#).

Windows 11 has higher technical requirements than Windows 10, which will be deprecated in 2025. Microsoft no longer supports Windows 7 or earlier iterations. Machines will need to have a 64-bit CPU, 4 GB of RAM, and 64 GB of storage, and have Trusted Platform Module (TPM) v 1.2 or later enabled.

Aaron Woodman, General Manager of Windows Marketing at Microsoft, told *The Verge*, "We expect all eligible devices to be offered the free upgrade to Windows 11 by mid-2022."

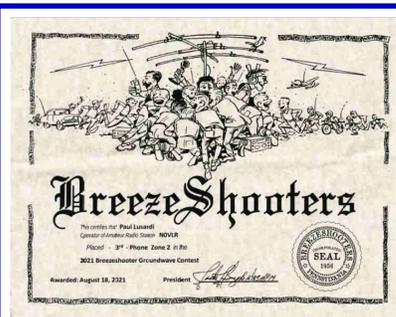
The Verge recently reported that Microsoft not only clarified its minimum system requirements for Windows 11 but revealed a workaround for computers that don't meet them. [You can install Windows 11 on any hardware](#) using an ISO method, as long as the PC has a 64-bit, 1 GHz processor with two or more cores, 4 GB of RAM, 64 GB of storage, and at least TPM 1.2. If you use a workaround to avoid the TPM requirement, however, your PC will be in an unsupported state and might not be able to access Windows updates and security patches.

Noting the TPM requirement to load Win 11, Wagner advised, "You need to turn on security features on the motherboard that some older computers may not have. We still have users who want to continue to run [Windows] XP."

On existing Windows 10 PCs, Windows Update will let people know when the upgrade is available for Windows 11. You can also check to see if your device is eligible for the Windows 11 upgrade through Windows Update.

Not all of Windows 11's announced features will be available on October 5th. Microsoft is bringing Android apps to Windows 11 in partnership with Amazon and Intel, but this will happen down the road, possibly in 2022.

If your PC isn't fully compatible with Windows 11, Microsoft will continue to support Windows 10 until October 14th, 2025.



Paul NØVLR has been a busy Ham...

Left: Congratulations to Paul for his 3rd Place Certificate in the 2021 Breezeshooter's Groundwave Contest... "Not too bad for half-hearted effort and a compromised antenna!" (Ed. Note: *Get a Solarcon A-99!*)

Right: End of September, Paul gave Andrew KC3SDJ the "nickel tour" of his shack, including the IC-7300 logging program with CAT interface basics, which included a "door prize" of a 10 -80 M G5RV antenna.

Photo & Image courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Paul Lusardi NØVLR



New AN Prefix: VPØ

Alan Armstrong VK6CQ / VKØLD / VP8PJ via OPDX

Perth, Western Australia, October 1st, 2021 – Due to an administrative oversight in the new Falkland Islands Communications Ordinance implemented way back in 2017, new VP8 licenses for use in the former Falkland Islands Dependencies have not been available for some years now. This has caused considerable difficulty to major DXpeditions and others wishing to operate from these remote regions, including the recent VP8PJ South Orkneys operation.

After several months of protracted negotiations with Ofcom (the UK equivalent to the FCC), the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator and the Governments of both South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands and British Antarctic Territory, there has been a major break-through and Ofcom has finally authorized the use of a new prefix for these former Dependencies as a solution to this oversight.

The new prefix is VPØ (Victor Papa Zero), and once legislation is enacted in the near future, it will be applied to the two British Overseas Territories of South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands and the British Antarctic Territory. The existing VP8 prefix will then apply exclusively to the Falkland Islands only.

The new VPØ prefix will apply to the following DXCC entities:

1. British claimed sector of the Antarctic mainland, including the Antarctic Peninsula & nearby islands
2. South Orkney Islands
3. South Shetland Islands
4. South Georgia
5. South Sandwich Islands

It is proposed that the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator will administer these licenses on behalf of the governments of British Antarctic Territory and South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands. It is also proposed that licenses under the new prefix will only be assigned three-letter suffixes (as opposed to the more usual method of first assigning callsigns with one or two-letter suffixes). For example, VP8yz would be re-assigned as VPØxyz, not the expected VPØyz. The reasons for this rather odd proposal remain unclear, given the very small number of stations active from these regions.

In the meantime, all existing VP8 callsigns as previously assigned under the old Falkland Islands Communications Ordinance for use in the former Dependencies (such as VP8PJ) remain valid for use until the associated licenses are revaluated and assigned new VPØ callsigns.

For further details, see the draft policy available for download on the Government of South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands website at: <https://www.gov.gs/amateur-radio-licences-policy-consultation/>

Members of the Amateur Radio community are invited to comment on the draft policy, and have until 18th October to do so via a link on the webpage.

There is no information regarding the matter presently available on the British Antarctic Territory Government or Falkland Islands Communications Regulator websites.

Newington, CT, September 16th, 2021 – ARRL has awarded a Colvin Grant of \$5,000 to Amateur Radio DXpeditions (ARD), the Norwegian non-profit organization that is sponsoring the 3YØJ DXpedition to Bouvet Island next fall. Co-leaders for the effort are Ken Opskar LA7GIA; Rune Øye LA7THA, and Erwann Merrien LB1QI. A Colvin Grant in the same amount was returned after the Intrepid-DX Group had to drop its plans for an early-2023 Bouvet DXpedition that would have used the same call sign.

The multinational team plans to activate Bouvet in November 2022. A dependency of Norway, Bouvet is a sub-Antarctic island in the South Atlantic and the second-most-wanted DXCC entity, behind North Korea. The last Bouvet activation was 3YØE, during a scientific expedition over the winter of 2007 – 2008.

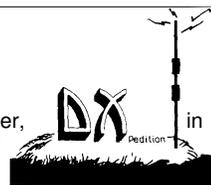
Amateur Radio DXpeditions would field a team of 12 operators for a 20-day stay on Bouvet, setting up at Cape Fie in the southeastern part of the island, which the DXpedition organizers called “the only feasible part where a DXpedition can safely set up camp on rocky ground; we will not set [up] camp on the glacier.” The DXpedition has set a goal of 120,000 contacts during its stay.

The Colvin Award is funded by an endowment established by the legendary DX couple Lloyd Colvin W6KG, and Iris Colvin W6QL, both now deceased. The Colvin Award is intended to support amateur radio projects that promote international goodwill in the field of DX. Grantees must be groups with a favorable DX track record and with experience directly related to the proposed enterprise. The proposed project must have as a goal a significant achievement in the field of DX. Preference is given to multinational groups, all of whom are members of their own national IARU member-societies.

In August, the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) donated \$100,000 to the 3YØJ DXpedition. The NCDXF is now the DXpedition's lead sponsor.

Visit the 3YØJ DXpedition website or [Facebook page](#) for more information or to donate to the effort.

DX News Briefs



JG8NQJ/JD1 is QRV from Minami Torishima (Marcus Island, OC-073) for three months through mid-December, his spare time. He will be mainly on 17 meters, but will be on other bands as time permits. QSL via JG8NQJ

3B9FR has informed his QSL manager that he has weathered some “rough patches” and is again QRV. “I am not QRT, nor dead, as them commented yesterday in the cluster.” QSL via EA1CS

DL8KX is now QRV as 8Q7KX through 11 October from North Male Atoll (AS-013), as time permits. QSL via DL8KX, ClubLog, or as directed.

9X2KP is the new call for 9X/KP2S, QRV primarily SSB. QSL as directed.

EP2MRK can be found regularly on 20 SSB from 1530 – 2030 Z. QSL via RW6HS

3E2ØØP is QRV through 30 November, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Panama's independence from Spain. QSL via ClubLog or as directed.

EY8/K4ZW will be QRV through 7 October, as timer permits. QSL via K4ZW.

F5NVF is QRV as C5C through 19 November, 60 – 10, CW & SSB. QSL via F5RAV

GØVJG has cancelled his 8Q7CQ operation, and will now be QRV as 3B8/GØVJG 2 – 16 October, 80-10, SSB and digital modes. QSL via MØOXO

ZL4TE has cancelled his planned E51RMP operation from South Cook Islands, due to COVID related travel issues. He is planning to reschedule for 2022.

OH3WS is currently QRV as OJØWS from Market Reef (EU-053) through 9 October, multiple HF bands, CW. QSL via OH3W.

FY/KC5CW will be QRV 8 October – 3 November from multiple locations, 160 – 6 on multiple modes. QSL via LotW or ClubLog, or as directed.

HL1WD/5 will be QRV from Saryang Island 9 – 11 October, in his spare time, primarily CW and FT-8. QSL via EA5GL, ClubLog, or as directed.

VYØERC will be QRV from 12 October – 22 November, from the Eureka Weather Station in Nunavut, in the spare time of operators VE1RUS and VE3TKB. More information at <https://twitter.com/vy0erc> QSL via MØOXO, ClubLog, or as directed.

LX/ON4EI will be QRV during the CQ WW SSB contest, 30 – 31 October, single op, low power, all bands. QSL via LotW.

KP3RE will be QRV from Vieques Islands 25 – 27 February. QSL via EA5GL

QSL Routes

3B9FR via MØOXO	DV1IIV via IK2DUW	OO21WCC via ON3AR
3D2TS/P via MØOXO	ED1R via EC1KR	PX8L via PY8WW
4J88ØNZM via 4K4K	EP2ABS via RW6HS	R6ØANT via RZ3EC
4L8A via MØOXO	EP2C via EA5GL	RA6ØANT via RZ3EC
5Q2J via OZ2JBC	EP2MRK via RW6HS	RB6ØANT via RZ3EC
5R8FX via N4GNR	EP4HR via IK2RZQ	RC6ØANT via RZ3EC
5T5PA via PA5X	ER/UTØU via UT2UB	RG6ØANT via RZ3EC
7X5JF via DJ8QP	FP5CJ via K9OT	RT6ØANT via RZ3EC
8Q7KX via DL8KX	HCLM via EC5R	RU6ØANT via RZ3EC
9J2BO via EA5GL	HF35BLP via	S13ØTA via S51TA
9K2BM via EC6DX	SP7MJX	S13ØWU via S51WU
9K2BS via EC6DX	HF5PUZ via SP5KVV	S23ØOW via S52OW
9K2OD via EC6DX	HP1ELV via HP1ALX	S593ØAA via S59AA
9K2YM via EA5KB	HS18IARU via	SX2ØØBOH via
CP4BT via IK2DUW	E21E1C	SV2BOH
CR3W via DL5AXX	IQ6KX via IW6ATQ	TM3Z via F4DSK
CR6K via CT1ILT	IQ9SZ via HE9ERA	YL44WFF via YL2SW
CR6T via CT1ESV	LX5MF via LX1KQ	Z21GC via K3IRV
CX9AU via EA5GL	LZ6C via LZ2UW	
D6ØAC via SP9FIH	OC2ØØP via OA4O	
D6ØAD via SP6CIK	OL5GMA via OK3EQ	
DQ2C via DL2CC		

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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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



US Amateurs by Class as of October 1 st , 2021		
	Novice	7,954
	Technician	427,777
	General	194,393
	Advanced	38,363
	Extra	159,196
	Club	12,496
	Total	840,179
All-Time High	09/28/2021	840,311
Last 90 Days:		
	New Amateurs	6,146
	Callsign Changes	2,279
	Class Changes	3,740
	No Longer Licensed	3,888
	All Updates (*)	27,918

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.
Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of Hamdata.com

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls Issued as of October 1st, 2021:

Group A	AC3HW
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3SWH

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of Hamdata.com

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Just send an email to w3wn73@gmail.com and we will take care of the rest!

FCC NEWS **FCC News**

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 2nd, 2021 – In an August 30th **Order**, the FCC granted a temporary waiver sought by ARRL to facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The waiver also applies to relief communications directly related to any future hurricane within the next 60 days. The waiver permits radio amateurs handling hurricane relief communications on HF to use any protocol that would comply with the FCC's rules but for the symbol rate limits.

In its request, ARRL said that Section 97.307(f) of the FCC's Amateur Service rules prevents the use on HF of certain protocols capable of higher data rate emissions that many amateur stations are capable of using while active in emergency communications preparedness. ARRL asserted that higher data rates can be critical to timely transmission of relief communications, such as lists of needed and distributed supplies. ARRL noted that radio amateurs are working with federal, state, and local emergency management officials to assist in the communications efforts.

On August 28th, the FCC orally granted ARRL's request to immediately facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The FCC has granted temporary waivers in the past to allow faster protocols to be used for disaster relief communications, including Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Maria, typhoon relief communications in Hawaii, and Hurricane Dorian.

The Commission noted that the waivers are necessary because Section 97.307 (f) limits the symbol rate at which the carrier waveform amplitude, frequency, and/or phase is varied to transmit information for HF amateur radioteletype (RTTY)/data transmissions to 300 baud for frequencies below 28 MHz (except on 60 meters), and 1,200 baud on 10 meters: "The digital code used to encode the signal being transmitted must be one of the codes specified in section 97.309(a) of the FCC's rules, but an amateur station transmitting a RTTY or data emission using one of the specified digital codes may use any technique whose technical characteristics have been publicly documented, such as CLOVER, G-TOR, or PACTOR."

"We conclude that granting the requested waiver is in the public interest," the FCC said. "Hurricane Ida has caused significant damage, including disruption to electricity and communications services. Thus, to accommodate amateur radio operators assisting in the recovery efforts, we grant ARRL's waiver request for the period of 60 days from the date of this **Order**. The waiver is limited to amateur radio operators in the US and its territories using publicly documented data protocols that are compatible with FCC rules, with the exception of the data rate limit waived here, for those directly involved with HF hurricane relief communications."

London, England, UK, October 4th, 2021 – The oft-cited figure of 3 million radio amateurs worldwide may need updating. That number was what the International Amateur Radio Union (**IARU**) published in 2000 for the global head count. The IARU once regularly collected amateur radio population statistics, but stopped the practice around the point when the worldwide amateur radio population began to decline.

Data available elsewhere for a few major countries shows a steady decline in radio amateurs since 2000, with the exception of the US, where ham licenses — not necessarily licensees — number some 780,000 to date in 2021. Japan's ham radio population has dropped by more than 600,000 over the past 2 decades; as of 2015, it was 435,581, according to JARL. China boasts more than 174,000 radio amateurs as of 2021. According to 2018 statistics, Thailand has 101,763 hams; the UK has 75,660, and Canada has 70,198.

But, the specific size of the worldwide amateur radio population remains open to speculation, although a 2021 figure of 1.75 million may be closer to the truth. — *Courtesy of Southgate Amateur Radio News & other sources, via the American Radio Relay League*



Backyard view from Bill NY9H's QTH

(Don't worry, the tower and antennas are to the right, out of frame!)

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021 Ron Notarius W3WN

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



WASHfest 2022

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

Sunday, February 27th, 2022
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

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

Donation \$5



(800) 545-8881



Breakfast & Lunch will be available!



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

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

First Prize: To Be Announced

Second Prize: To Be Announced

Third Prize: To Be Announced

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, 40 for \$50, 90 for \$100

All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 n3sbf@comcast.net
E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2022.

Reservations received after February 1st, 2022 must include payment in full.

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

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X \$15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X \$12.00 = _____

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

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
WASHFEST 2022
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN
4246 Seton Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application, New or Renewal



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

(check quarter _____) →
(check one)

1st Qtr Jan-Mar **2nd Qtr** Apr-Jun **3rd Qtr** Jul-Sept **4th Qtr** Oct-Dec

- (F1) Full Membership: \$20.00 \$15.00 \$10.00 \$5.00
- (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50
- (A1) Associate Membership: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

License Class: _____

City, State: _____

Expires On: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Birthday: _____

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

ARRL Member? Yes No Family ARRL Member? Yes No

Date: _____

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

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____

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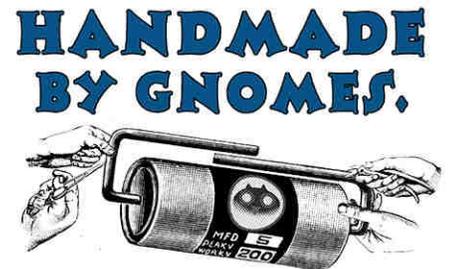
Send an email to bernie@dailydx.com or go to www.dailydx.com

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



Arhhh!
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Directions to the Octo-

ber Meet-

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

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

From Corrigan, turn onto McConkey (opposite side of the light is Maple



Springs Drive), head towards the Wave Pool.

At the entrance to the Wave Pool parking area (on

ZOOM MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT KB3BYA FOR DETAILS!



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

