





The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on Thursday, March 3rd, 2022, starting at 7 PM, at Panera Breads, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA 15228. We have the room starting at 6:30 PM, for those who want to nosh and socialize before the meeting. All welcome!

Topics: 2022 planning, Field Day 2022, and more!

See you there!

Cover: A view of the 2022 Two Rivers ARC Hamfest. More photos inside! Photo courtesy of & @ 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2022 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President VP / Secretary VP / Treasurer Curtis Turner KB3CMT Nathan Suehr KC3GMM

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee WA3SH Trustee NP2SH Trustee N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager Ron Notarius W3WN NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager VE Team Liaison Webmaster Quartermaster WASH FM Net Manager WASHFest 2022 Committee

Activities & Operating Events Ways & Means WASH 2M Contest Chair Field Day 2022 Coordinator

Mark Stabryla N3RDV

Larry Comden K3VX Rich Danko N3SBF Paul Jordan NP2JF Carl Schroeder K9CS Grant Olson KC3MLC Curtis Turner KB3CMT Harold Rosenberger K3HCR Chuck Bihun KC3ELA Glenn Roberts KE7FD, Co-Chair Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair Paul Lusardi NØVLR, Co-Chair Rick Bell KB3IAC Carol Danko KB3GMN Chuck Bihun KC3ELA 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.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN

3395 Rosewood Drive, Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546 newsletter at n3sh dot org or w3wn at arrl dot net e-mail:

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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 TBA

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Saturday, February 26th**, **2022, 10:00 AM**, at **Home Economics Building, South Park**, Pavilion 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township. Talk-in on the 146.955

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!

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: <u>kgo@grant-olson.net</u>

Curtis's Reflections

Wow — is it April already?

I hope this edition of the *WASH*Rag finds everyone well and chipper. The weather is warming and things are starting to turn green in spite of the late season snow squalls. Hopefully Mother Nature settles down soon and we will see steady temps and blooming flowers abound.

With the greenery returning this is a good time to check on any wires we have through trees before the leaves can hide them away again. It is also a good time to start planning any of our antenna and shack upgrades so we can get our Hamfest wish lists together.

And, with mentioning the nicer weather, we are anticipating that our May and June club meetings will be held in South Park at the Sunset Hills Grove which will be the location for our 2022 Field Day operations. Our April 7th meeting will be in Panera at the Galleria.

— 73, Curtis Turner KB3CMT President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc. N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Amateur Radio License Fees Take Effect April 19th See Page 6 For Details. Remember: License Renewals ARE Allowed at 90 or less davs before a license will expire..

New

If your license expiration is within this window, renew NOW (or before the 19th) to avoid \$35 the fee **Reminder:** The April WASH Meeting will be held at Panera Bread, The Galleria, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon. We have the meeting room reserved starting at 6:30 PM. Panera has requested that (as a group) we order a minimum of \$50 of food and/or drinks... so please plan on getting a drink, a snack, or even dinner before the meeting as a "Thank You!" for their letting us use their meeting room!

Ye Editor thinks we're all looking forward to the April meeting at Panera... just another step in the direction of a return to "normal." (Never mind what is or isn't considered "normal" these days...)

Will the last-Saturday of the month breakfasts resume anytime soon? Let's hope that 's the case by Field Day weekend at the latest!

A few housekeeping notes...

- The weather is, finally, warming. Time to get out and **do some antenna work**! Ye Editor has plans for that 160 vertical he's stored... yes, that's a hint...
- Breezeshooter's Hamfest: Well, we didn't see the "official" flyer at the Two Rivers ARC Hamfest (and, by the way, big, big thanks to Nathan KC3GMM for printing up some WASHFest 2023 Flyers, most of which were snapped up at the TRACR 'fest) but the dates ARE on their website. We do plan on resuming the annual WASH Pot-Luck Picnic at Breezeshooters for Sunday, and we will have more on that next month.
- Of course, we can't overlook **Hamvention 2023**. Many club members are planning on being there. It would be nice to get together at some point to compare notes. Just sayin;...
- Field Day 2022 will also be here before you know it. Ye Editor will not be attending this year, due to a family event... so we're really going to have to rely on club members to take some snapshots (set up, operation, whatever) for the newsletter.
- More to come, with more hamfests, with things finally on their way to opening up again (we hope!) More to come!
- And let us not forget... **Pennsylvania QSO Party** in October! Yes, many are already making their plans! (Paul NØVLR may not be with Team N3ZK this year, but we're really hoping for him to poop up with the elusive OR multiplier!)



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

Minutes, March3 rd Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Zoom Meeting held online

Call to Order: 19:05. Presiding Officer: Curtis KB3CMT

20 members and no guests present.

Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Silent Keys and others deserving. Roll Call.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read. Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH), second by Larry (K3VX) and accepted.

Secretary: Nathan Suehr (KC3GMM): No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH), second by Tony (KB3BYA) and carried. No correspondence.

Repeaters: Jim (WB4GCS): Repeaters repeating. 2 meter repeater is receiving some noise from the West Virginia repeater.

WASHNet: Charles (Chuck) Bihun, III (KC3ELA): Going well. Nothing new to report except for several new calls.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Glen Roberts (KE7FD):

No Tech Talk last month.

- + Received suggestion to do an Elmer corner. Open to new topics or suggestions.
- + Paul NØVLR suggested "what would you do in the event of a communication outage?"
- Bill W3WH discussed the need to mentor new hams. Following discussion, W3WH made a motion to form a committee to improve our methods of mentoring new hams. Second by Jeff N3JSF. Carried. Jeff N3JSF will be leading the committee.

Contests: Larry (K3VX)

- Breezeshooters Groundwave Contests March 5th and 12th.
- + ARRL DX Phone March 5th
- + Check out the WA7BNM site for upcoming contests.

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU):

- ⁺ 100 Mile Run in Raccoon State Park on March 19th and 20th.
- + Simplex test March 23rd and 26th.
- + SET drill April 2nd, 9 AM, last minute info on 3983 kHz.
- + Pittsburgh Marathon May 1st. Contact N3NHS for more information.
- Tony KB3BYA: Westmoreland County Air Show June 11th and 12th needs volunteers; a background check is required. Contact Doc Sam for more information

Newsletter: Ron Notarius (W3WN): Published and sent.

Volunteer Examiners: Glen KE7FD for Grant Olsen (KC3MLC): Two candidates passed at the last session. Additional discussion about mentoring hams.

- Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol Danko (KB3GMN):
- WASHFest 2022 was fantastic, thanks to everyone. Good feedback from folks who attended. Already preparing for 2023, open to suggestions.
- Mark indicated our income exceeded our expenses.
- + Paul NØVLR suggested we send a Thank You to K3LR for DX Engineering's contributions

President's Report - Curtis (KB3CMT): (No report)

Old Business:

- Mark N3RDV: We need to pay our insurance. Need billing info or form to pay Bill W3WH
- + Check to Kathy and Mike for overpaid dues.
- ARRL Bill and insurance due May 1st. Motion from Bill W3WH to pay these two bills, second by Larry K3VX. Motion carried.
- + Reminder from Larry K3VX that Allegheny County needs to be listed on insurance for to be at Field Day overnight.

New Business:

- + Paul NØVLR: Frank N3FB will be the new keeper of the tower trailer.
- + Jim WB4GCS: Documentation on the trailer needed. Paul will review existing documentation
- + Harold K3HCR: Inquiry regarding trailer maintenance, has any been done, and is there a schedule. Paul indicated he is communicating this to Frank; new tires have been purchased, but wheel bearings need to be inspected after Field Day
- + Request from Bill W3WH to use both club fiberglass masts for Pa QSO Party. Motion by Jim WB4GCS, second by Nathan KC3GMM. Motion carried.
- + Richie (N3SBF) brought up that the Two Rivers Hamfest in April, does WASH need a table? Discussion. (Cost is \$15 with electric). Motion by Richie (N3SBF) to reserve a club table at the Two Rivers Hamfest. Second by Ron (W3WN). Motion carried.
- **Good of the Order:** Ron W3WN will be taking Paul NØVLR out for a "goodbye dinner" at the Golden Corral in Robins on Tuesday, March 8th, at about 6 PM, Anyone who wishes to join us are welcome

Adjournment: Motion Bill (W3WH); seconded Carol (KB3GMN). Carried

Adjourned: 20:03

WASH Spotlight: Paul

As most of you know by now, Paul Lusardi NØVLR, who's been back here with us for the bulk of the last 5 years, has accepted a promotion and as a result, has moved back to Oregon. Here's looking

forward to

seeing you

sometime soon

again,



(though probably NOT as part of the 2022 N3ZK Pa QSO Team... but 2023? All bets are off.

Thank you again Paul, for everything you've done for the club and club members in your brief time back in WPA!

(And we'll miss your ability to snap a quick selfie on the phone!)

Photo courtesy of and Copyright 2022 Paul Lusardi NØVLR

Every month we're going to feature a **WASH** club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH Spotlight**.

Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at newsletter at n3sh dot org

Monthly WASH Breakfast



Please join us for the next **WASH** Breakfast! We usually get together on the LAST Saturday of every month for a chance to informally sit down, shoot the breeze, compare notes, drink lots of coffee, and just have a good time!

Join us this month at *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 AE3DL K3GW K3HCR K3SGT K3VX K6DWR KA3VXM KB3BYA KB3CMT KB3GMN KB3GUZ KB3IAC KB3IVX KB3JHR	KB3YCX KC3ELA KC3GMM KC3MLC KC3NFV KC3OCT KC3QZY KC3RAA KC3RGV KC4WTT KE7FD NØVLR N3DFK N3FB N3IDH N3JSF	N3KFD N3RDV N3SBF N3UE N8NEU NB3C NL7XM W3LE W3WH W3WH W3WH W3WH W8LEV WA3PYU WA3VSS WB4GCS	WASH FL KA3UPY/M WASH NE NØPEU WASH OH N8DPW WASH OR KB3NVL KB3NVL KB3NVL KB3NVM WASH SC N8NEU	WASH TN K3OL KE3XB N3YPB WASH TX NB3C K3LGM K3LJX Jane Wagner WASH VI NP2JF	Silent Keys AB3KA AB3ED K3EED K3LIE K3NMG KB3ENX KB3FNM KB3FQT KB3JHQ N3BPB N3CZZ N3FZ N3FZ N3FZ N3HKQ N3KEH
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If your call should be listed here & isn't, please contact Mark N3RDV

N3FZ N3HKQ N3KEH N3OBD N3RNX N3SKR N3SKR N3SKC N3ZEL N3XFE W3ZLK W4ZE WA3JPP

Through April 3rd, 2022 List complied by Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2022 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

WASH Meeting	Panera Breads, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA	
World Amateur Radio Day	www.iaru.org	
PARS Tri-State Radio Fest	Center Stage Banquet Hall, 1495 Old Broadhead Road, Monaca PA 15061	
City of Pittsburgh Marathon	The Pittsburgh Marathon .com	
WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive at Texas Road, South Park	
Susan G. Komen More Than <mark>Pink</mark> Walk & Race For The Cure	Schenley Park, Pittsburgh PA	
Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Exercise	DoD MARS	
Hamvention	Greene County Fairgrounds & Expo Center, Xenia, OH	
CQ Worldwide WPX Contest CW	https://www.cqwpx.com	
WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive at Texas Road, South Park	
Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Big Butler Fairgrounds, 1127 New Castle Road, Prospect PA 16052	
ARRL Field Day	http://www.arrl.org/field-day	
WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive at Texas Road, South Park	
IARU World HF Championship	www.iaru.org	
WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive and Texas Road, South Park	
Uniontown ARC Gabfest	W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown PA	
	World Amateur Radio Day PARS Tri-State Radio Fest City of Pittsburgh Marathon <i>WASH</i> Meeting Susan G. Komen More Than Pink Walk & Race For The Cure Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Exercise Hamvention CQ Worldwide WPX Contest CW <i>WASH</i> Meeting Breezeshooter's Hamfest ARRL Field Day <i>WASH</i> Meeting IARU World HF Championship <i>WASH</i> Meeting	

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 <u>n3ue11@gmail.com</u>

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS



American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, March 24th, 2022 – A Public Notice released by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on March 23rd, 2022, in **MD Docket No. 20-270**, announced that new application fees for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau applications will become effective on April 19th, 2022. The new fees, mandated by Congress, apply to applications for Amateur Radio licenses including those associated with filing Form 605, the Amateur Operator/Primary Station Licensee Application.

Effective April 19th, 2022, a \$35 fee will apply to applications for a new Amateur Radio license, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call signs.

Anticipating the implementation of the fee in 2022, the ARRL Board of Directors, at its July 2021 meeting, approved the "ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program." Under the program, ARRL will cover a one-time \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC). Qualified candidates also would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC. ARRL is finalizing details for administering the program.

ARRL had filed comments in opposition to imposing a fee on Amateur Radio license applications. The FCC initially proposed a higher, \$50 fee. In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29th, 2020, the amount was reduced -- the FCC agreeing with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications."

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) Manager Maria Somma AB1FM explained that all fees are per application. "There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. The fees will be the responsibility of the applicant regardless of filing method and must be paid within 10 calendar days of FCC's receipt of the application. For applications filed by a VEC, the period does not begin until the application is received by the Commission, a ULS file number assigned, and an email sent by the FCC directly to the applicant."

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at license exam sessions. New and upgrade candidates at an exam session will continue to pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the new, \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system (CORES - Login).

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or explanation of other action. The link will be good for 30 days.

Somma also explained that applications that are processed and dismissed will not be entitled to a refund. This includes vanity call sign requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. "The FCC staff has suggested that applicants for vanity call signs should first ensure the call signs requested are available and eligible for their operator class and area, and then request as many call signs as the form allows to maximize their chances of receiving a call sign."

Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC at www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee. Details for the ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program will be similarly posted there, when available.



American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, April 1st, 2022 – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will not apply to most license modifications, including those to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign. As previously announced, the new fees take effect on April 19th, 2022.

"We are pleased that the FCC will not charge licensees the FCC application fee for license upgrade applications," said ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma AB1FM. "While applicants for a new license will need to pay the \$35 FCC application fee, there will be no FCC charge for future upgrades and administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. Most current licensees, therefore, will not be charged the new FCC application fee until they renew their license or apply for a new vanity call sign."



ARRL previously <u>reported</u> that the new \$35 application fee for amateur radio licenses will become effective on April 19th, 2022. Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC at <u>www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee</u>.

NASA ON The Air Special Event Stations Pat Kilroy N8PK courtesy of the AMSAT News Service

Washington, DC, April 2nd, 2022 – There is an Amateur Radio club established at many NASA field centers across the USA. Their members gather together to highlight NASA milestones the way such events are done best. That is, through radio. These club members are made up of civil servants, contractor personnel, retirees and recognized community members. Some clubs are large and well supported, some are small and struggle. But they have a common goal to show their support to NASA and space fans everywhere by highlighting the history of some amazing accomplishments.

The first NASA On The Air (NOTA) special event of the year will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, through Wednesday, April 27th, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo 16 mission to the moon. Different NASA radio clubs will go on the air at different times to make two-way contacts with fellow space enthusiastic ham radio operators.

For the list of suggested frequencies, modes, points scoring, rules, certificates, procedures and news, please visit NasaOnTheAir.wordpress.com each day.

Be sure to watch for posts on Twitter.com/NASARadioClubs (a Twitter account is NOT required to view) for late breaking news updates -- and don't forget your favorite spotting network -- for NOTA activity live and in real time.

For QSL card information, please check the QRZ.com page for each individual NASA club callsign.







"Seen" at the Two Rivers ARC Hamfest

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN



"Seen" at the Two Rivers ARC Hamfest

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Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN







WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

Falls Creek, PA, April 1st, 2022 – WPA Hamfest Season is here, and several are already scheduled

- The Pennsylvania State ARRL Convention will be held at the Harrisburg Firecracker Hamfest, Saturday, July 2nd at the Harrisburg Postal Service Shooting Range. The Chambersburg Hamfest is slated for Saturday, July 30th at the Antique Engine and Machinery
- The Chambersburg Hamfest is slated for Saturday, July 30th at the Antique Engine and Machinery showgrounds.
- The 72nd Annual Uniontown Gabfest is scheduled for Saturday, August 13th at the W3PIE Clubhouse and grounds.
- The Skyview Swap N Shop is scheduled for Sunday, August 28th at the Clubhouse and grounds.

There are six other groups that used to have hamfests, but they have not applied for ARRL sanction and prize donations, nor have they been in touch with me to help publicize them. Even if your group is planning a scaled-back event this year, please be sure to apply for the free ARRL sanctioning at least three months in advance, so you can receive valuable prizes to give away, get free notices in the ARRL Website Hamfest Locator, and have our Section set up and staff the ARRL exhibit.

The latest WPA ARES Directory has been published. Find it and download the latest copy at wpa-arrl.org/ares/directory

The new FCC \$35 fee for amateur radio application filing begins on Tuesday, April 19th. If your license expiration date is between now and July 17th, be sure to file your renewal application no more than 90 days in advance of the expiration date to avoid the new \$35 filing fee! There is no charge for administrative updates, such as address and name changes.

Everyone should note that Volunteer Examiners and the ARRL or other VE Coordinator will NOT collect the new \$35 fee. The new fee must be submitted online directly to the FCC, beginning April 19th.

The ARRL.ORG website is now back online after a complete overhaul. There may still be some bugs lingering in the corners, so please be patient while they are found and eradicated.

73 and Press ON!



American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, March 10th, 2022 – The 2022 running of the Armed Forces Day (AFD) Cross-Band exercise will be held on May 14th, 1300 – 2200 UTC. A complete list of participating stations, modes, frequencies, times, and other details will be announced on April 1st. The event is open to all radio amateurs. Armed Forces Day is May 21st, but the AFD Cross-band military-amateur radio event traditionally takes place 1 week earlier, in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton Hamvention®. During the exercise, radio amateurs listen for stations on military operating frequencies and transmit on frequencies in adjacent amateur bands.

Military and amateur stations have taken part in this event for more than 50 years. It's an exercise scenario, designed to include ham radio and government radio operators alike.

Per previous announcements: "The AFD Cross-band Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service, as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario that does not impact any public or private communications."

Military stations in various locations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific ham band frequencies they are monitoring.

An AFD message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) serial PSK waveform (M110), followed by MIL -STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY), as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. The AFD message will also be sent in CW and RTTY.





Seen at the 2022 Two Rivers ARC Hamfest...

Rich K3RWN, Richie N3SBF, Rich K3SOM. (We don't know who the fourth Amateur is... could it be... another?)

Photo courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2022 Nathan Suehr KC3GMM



ARMED

FORCES



Because Babcock was not reserved far enough in advance for 2022, we will at Sunset Hills Grove for Friday through Sunday, June 24th through 26th.

The shelter and surrounding area is at the junction of 100 Acres Drive and Texas Road, with access from either road.

Lots of trees and open space to adapt to our use. Hard surface parking near the shelter, and also far enough away for the Tower Trailer.



— Larry Comden K3VX



Volunteer Monitor Program Cautions Against Operating Beyond License Privileges American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, March 3^{d} *, 2022* – Many of the Advisory Notices sent out each month by the ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program go to stations heard operating outside the operator's license privileges.

Typical cases often involve operators holding Technician- or General-class amateur licenses being heard on a frequency or band not permitted by their license privileges. Most recent incidents have frequently entailed FT8 digital mode operation by Technician licensees on 20 and 40 meters. Technician licensees do not have any operating privileges on 20 meters, let alone digital privileges, and FT8 is a digital protocol.

Technicians (and Novices) may operate CW between 21.025 and 21.200 MHz on 15 meters, from 7.025 and 7.125 MHz on 40 meters, and from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, but they do not have *any* digital (data) mode privileges on these bands.

ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH said licensees who need a refresher course regarding their operating privileges may refer to Section 97.301 of the rules. ARRL also has a convenient chart on its website that details privileges available to all license classes, from Novice to Amateur Extra.

As monthly Volunteer Monitor reports indicate, some General-class operators have lost their way on some bands too, and Advisory Notices have gone out to those operating outside of the General-class phone subbands. For example, on 20 meters, Generals may operate phone from 14.225 to 14.350 MHz, but occasionally, General-class operators are heard outside of that subband. On 40 meters, the phone and image subband open to General licensees is 7.175 to 7.300 MHz. Of course, Technician- and General-class licensees may operate CW on any subband on which they have operating privileges, although operation within the CW subbands is preferred by band plan.

On 10 meters, Technicians have RTTY and data privileges — including FT8 — from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and SSB phone privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, and may operate on CW over the entire 28.0000 – 28.500 MHz segment. Technicians may enjoy all operating privileges at 50 MHz and above.

The ARRL Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL monitor the airwaves and report evidence that may be used to correct errant operation or to recognize exemplary on-air operation.

Ukraine Maintains Ham Radio Silence

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, March 3rd, 2022 – Radio amateurs in Ukraine appear to be diligently maintaining radio silence as the state of emergency declared there just prior to the Russian military invasion remains in effect. A February 24th decree from President Volodymyr Zelensky included "a ban on the operation of amateur radio transmitters for personal and collective use." The Ukraine Amateur Radio League (UARL/LRU) reported this past week that it has received many messages of encouragement from the worldwide amateur radio community.

"The LRU informed international amateur radio organizations about Russia's military invasion of Ukraine," said the message from UARL Vice President Anatoly Kirilenko UT3UY. "To date, there have been many reports from radio amateurs around the world in support of Ukraine."

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has adopted a neutral stance. "IARU is an apolitical organization focused on promoting and defending amateur radio and the amateur radio services," the IARU said. "The amateur radio service is about self-instruction in communications and friendship between people." IARU Region 1 has said it continues to monitor the development and expects all radio amateurs "to follow their national laws and regulations."

IARU Region 1 also re-posted part of an advisory from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) HF Committee on February 27th. "Any radio amateur currently transmitting from Ukraine is risking his or her life. If you hear a Ukrainian station, do not broadcast its call sign, location, or frequency — whether on the band, in a cluster, or on social media. You may be putting lives at risk." The DARC's overarching advice: "In the current situation, the best we can do is listen."

Ukraine's assigned amateur radio call sign prefixes include EMA – EOZ and the more commonplace URA – UZZ. Some stations with Ukrainian call signs may still be active, because an exception to the amateur radio ban was made for stations in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine (eastern Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), which have special legal status owing to Russia's occupation since 2014.

In a Facebook post, Poland's IARU member-society PZK has offered available Winlink nodes in Poland for any licensed refugees. If you are a licensed amateur radio operator, you can send information by email to your relatives in Poland or Emergency Services via the Winlink system. Polish Winlink nodes are active on 160, 80, and 20 meters: SR5WLK, 3.5955 MHz USB; SR3WLK, 14.111 MHz USB, and SP3IEW, 1.865 MHz USB.

W9IMS, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club — known for its special events commemorating major races at the Speedway — has posted a statement on its QRZ.com profile expressing its concern for well-known QSL maker Gennady V. Treus UX5UO. The statement reads in part, "His last email to us said: 'This moment we are safe, but we hear strong explosions near Kyiv. Do not know what will happen in nearest hours/days.' We have not heard from him for days now. We are greatly concerned for Gennady and his family along with all the other citizens of Ukraine."

Newington, CT, March 9th, 2022 – A study reported in Nature, "Satellite mega-constellations create risks in Low Earth Orbit, the atmosphere and on Earth," in *Scientific Reports* (May 2021) by Aaron C. Boley and Michael Byers, says the rapid development of mega-constellations risks multiple tragedies of the commons. That could include tragedies to ground-based astronomy, Earth orbit, and Earth's upper atmosphere. The study asserts that international cooperation is urgently needed, along with a regulatory system that takes into account the effects of tens of thousands of satellites.

"[T]he connections between the Earth and space environments are inadequately taken into account by the adoption of a consumer electronic model applied to space assets," the authors said. "For example, we point out that satellite re-entries from the Starlink mega-constellation alone could deposit more aluminum into Earth's upper atmosphere than what is done through meteoroids; they could thus become the dominant source of high-altitude alumina."

The authors say their study shows that untracked debris will lead to potentially dangerous on-orbit collisions on a regular basis due to the large number of satellites within mega-constellation orbital shells. The total cross-section of satellites in these constellations also greatly increases the risk of impacts due to meteoroids. De facto orbit occupation by single actors, inadequate regulatory frameworks, and the possibility of free-riding exacerbate these risks.

According to Boley and Byers, in 2 years, the number of active and defunct satellites in low-Earth orbit (LEO) has increased by over 50%. "SpaceX alone is on track to add 11,000 more as it builds its Starlink mega-constellation and has already filed for permission for another 30,000 satellites with the [FCC]."

More than 12,000 trackable debris pieces are already in low-Earth orbit, typically 10 centimeters in diameter or larger, the study asserts. Including sizes down to 1 centimeter would raise the debris count to about a million inferred debris pieces that could threaten satellites, spacecraft, and astronauts due to their orbits crisscrossing at high relative speeds.

Simulations of the long-term evolution of debris suggest that LEO is already in the protracted initial stages of a mushrooming collision scenario, but that this could be managed through active debris removal. The addition of satellite mega-constellations and the general proliferation of low-cost satellites in LEO stresses the environment further, the study posits.





3YØJ DXPedition to Bouvet Island, Press Release #9

Ken Opskar LA7GIA, Rune Oye LA7THA, Erwann Merriene LB1QI

Oslo, Norway, April 3'^d, 2022 – Today it is 9 months until the operators travel to South America to board Marama and go to Bouvet. We're getting closer!

We can announce the last operator on the team that will be Pete NØFW. We're extremely happy to have Pete on the team with his experience and knowledge. Pete is a well know DXpeditioner, he has been on more than 16+ DXpeditions, some quite rare ones, and he is a lowband enthusiast for a long time with 322 confirmed current DXCC on 160m - so he has great ears!

In 3 weeks' time we will perform a 4-day vessel inspection in Itajai in Brazil. Marama that has completed several trips to Antarctica this winter season will undertake some maintenance during her stay in Brazil. At the same time this

allows us to do a detailed inspection of the vessel. Another purpose of the trip to Brazil is for us to complete the vessel loading plan. The team have worked hard to detail out all the equipment we will bring to Bouvet, and amongst other during this trip each equipment will be allocated a space in the vessel. The purpose of creating this plan is to make sure we have a smooth loading of the zodiac once we go ashore Bouvet. We have at this stage planned how to sequence all the equipment in a specific predetermined order from vessel to zodiac, and how to build the camp slowly. The detailed



plan to build up the camp indicates that we will be able to setup a camp on Bouvet even with short weather windows down to 80-120 min that will take only 4 zodiac trips. We're quite determined to go ashore when the first opportunity arise!

April will be a busy month for us as all team members gather in Oslo April 28th. For 4 days the team will perform a system integration test where we will do a thorough test of the radios, amplifiers and antennas in a real environment like what we can expect at Bouvet. During this event team members will practice on the installation and familiarize with it. A lot of equipment will undergo it's final testing and packing and be stored until the container leaves Oslo in September 2022.

Going to Bouvet is a huge undertaking financially and it would simply not be possibly without the support from the vendors, clubs, foundations and individual sponsors. We're currently missing \$120,000 out of our \$690,000 budget to be able to go to Bouvet. As we now prepare for the next vessel deposit, we need your support to close the gap.

If you want to have the opportunity to work the rare #2 DXCC Bouvet island, please consider supporting us by donating upfront.

You can follow our plans from our website and the 3YØJ Facebook pages: http://www.3y0j.no

https://www.facebook.com/groups/3093983840726129

Thank you!



Derry, NH, April 3rd, 2022 — We received 98 entries this year: a NEW RECORD!

All entries have been declared winners. Over 60 entries were in the "100" Category...it is going to be interesting buying and mailing that many rolls of Charmin, but a deal is a deal. I am expecting a few "logs" to come by mail in the next couple of days, so the final tally will be a little higher than the amount received thus far, which is (drum roll): \$11,082.91 (very loud cymbal crash, loud cheering)

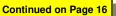
Along with the matching funds committed by Tim Duffy K3LR, we raised over \$22,000 in 3 days to help DM9EE provide assistance to Ukrainians who are suffering.

Allow me to share a little bit about our man on the ground, Carsten DM9EE. He owns a hotel in Holzminden, Germany. The pandemic has really hurt his business, but he is getting by.

When I announced this project, I told the story of how Carsten loaded up his van and trailer a few weeks ago with supplies and drove them to the SP-UR border where they were passed along to people who needed them.

A few days ago, there was a report that police in a nearby town had discovered 67 Ukrainian refugees living in a single room, sleeping on the floor, sharing a single toilet (all 67 were women and children). The authorities were trying to find temporary housing for them until they can be settled

somewhere. When Carsten heard this, he contacted the



DX News Briefs

DL22PEACE is a special event station, drawing attention to "all wars in the world 2022 (Give Peace a Chance)" QSL via DF8RJ

PJ5/SP9FOW, PJ5/SP9MQA and PJ5/SP9FIH are

QRV through 7 April from Sint Eustatius (NA-145), various HF bands, CW, SSB and Digital. More information at http://pj5.dxpeditions.org . QSL via ClubLog's OQRS system.

 $\ensuremath{\text{CP1XRM}}$ will be QRV through 22 April, in his spare time, 160 – 10 SSB and FT8. QSL via EA8RM

3A5M will be QRV in April and May 2022 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the death of Prince Albert the First of Monaco; various HF bands, CW SSB and Digital. QSL via the 3A Bureau

JX7QY is now QRV through October. More information not currently available, due to his work schedule.

TM4ØAMRA will be QRV 2 - 26 April, to celebrate their 40th anniversary. More information at http://www.amra57.org. QSL via F8EFU

ZW2F will be QRV through 10 April from Comprida Island (SA-024), 10 - 40, SSB CW and FT8

XT2MAX will be QRV 7 - 20 April, holiday style, CW Digital. QSL via EA5GL

VP2V/N2IEN will be QRV 10 - 16 April. QSL via N2IEN or as directed

V47JA will be QRV from 20 – 28 April, 160 - 6, SSB and FT8. QSL via W5JON direct ONLY.

LB5SH will be QRV as **OHØ/LB5SH** "sometime during the Spring or Summer", various HF bands, SSB and Digital. More information at https:// lb5sh.no/expeditions. QSL via LB5SH

The **ZS8W** operation for April 2022 has been cancelled. YL2GM has been unable to join the annual supply ship. Operations from Marion Island is usually limited to April, when the Antarctic station team is changing personnel. LB5SH reports that his planned activity as **JX/LB5SH** in late June is "at risk" of being cancelled, due to a lack of reservations. More information at https://lb5sh.no/2022/03/23/expedition-to-jan-mayen-at-risk

GB1EA will be QRV for Epilepsy Awareness 4 – 31 July. More at at https:// www.justgiving.com/fundraising/john-o-toole7. QSL via MØHEM, email only

FO/W1GXI will be QRV for the month of November from both Austral and Marquieses Island. More information on his website, https://ja1xgit.wixsite.com/austral2022. QSL via JA1XGI

The Italian DX Team has announced the **TL8AA/TL8ZZ** DXpedition has been postponed until November, at the end of the rainy season. They were prevented from travelling for their original dates (27 March – 9 April) due to an outbreak of Meningitis. More information at http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/QSL via I2YSB or as directed.

QSL Routes

3D2TS via MØOXO 5B4AMX via LZ3SM 6W1TG via EA4R 6Y5MS via EA5GL 7X2TT via EA5GL 8P1W via KU9C 9G1SD via ABØGC 9K2JJ via EA5GL 9K2K via EC6DX A61AS via YO3FRI A71AE via EC6DX AM5ØØTOR via EA7URF BI4MBC via BA4MY CP1XRM via EA8RM CQ8Q via PT2FM CQ84AS vis HB9CRV CR3DX via OM2VL CX7CO via EA5GL D6ØAB via K6ZO DA22WARD via DL2VFR DL22PEACE via DF8RJ DQ5R via DK7UY EI9ØIRTS via EI6AL EP2HAM via MØOXO FM8QR via F5EAN

FR5FC via EA7FTR G4FOC via G3SWH HC3RJ via EC5R HC5F via HC5VF HC7AE/1 via EA5GL HF21DKS via SP9CJM HG1222BA via HA4KYB HG2ØØDO via HA8TQ HG2ØØIR via HA8RJ HG2ØØOT via HA8RD HG2ØØPS via HA8RD HI3A via EB7DX HI3K via EB7DX HI8DL via NK4Q HL5KY via W3HNK HP3AK via W4JS HZ1CY via A61BK HZ1HZ via N7RO HZ1SK via IZ8CLM HZ1TT via A61BK IF9A via IT9ATF IQ8DO via IW8EAS IQ8WN via IZ8DFO J2ØMR via EA5GL LB1G via LA9HW

LN2T via LA2T LN8W via LA6YEA LZ475GJ via LZ1KCP MM2N via MMØGPZ OE6MBG via EB7DX PI4ZUT via PDØJMH PJ4/KK9A via WD9DZV PJ4K via KU9C PJ4RF via EA5GL PP1KV via EA7FTR SM9X via SMØOEK TC18MART via TA1BX TM24PVJ via F8GGZ TM5IB via ON7ZM TO3Z via F6HMQ UK8OK via EA7FTR VE2CSI via MØURX VK9NT via MØOXO VP8BTR via MØOXO XIØX via XE1KK YJ8RN via NZ4DX YV4ZZ/5 via EA5GL ZF2CH via VO1IDX ZF2PG via K8PGJ ZF2WB via LU8EOT

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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The **WASH**Rag Masthead is courtesy of Jeff Murray K1NSS, creator of DASHToons & Dash the Dog Faced Ham!!

Find the online cartoons and stories of Dash the Dogfaced Ham & more at $\underline{https://www/jeffk1nss.com}$!

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

US Amateurs by Class as of April 2 nd , 2022		
	Novice	7,722
	Technician	428,879
	General	195,982
	Advanced	37,867
	Extra	160,580
	Club	12,503
	Total	843,533
All-Time High	03/21/2022	844,051
Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	7.332
·····	Callsign Changes	2,379
	Class Changes	3,324
No Longe	er Licensed	5,801
	All Updates (*)	30,646
(*) Includes renewa	le address changes	etc

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of April 2 nd , 2022:				
Group A	AC3IR			
Group B	KF3EU			
Group C	(none available / all issued)			
Group D	KC3TVG			

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

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

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





Washington, DC, April 4th, 2022 — The Federal Communications Commission today announced that its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) has undergone a system upgrade which will help enable expanded features and functions to be introduced into ECFS in the coming year. Today's update transitions ECFS to a cloud-based platform, which will make the system scalable and more agile. In addition, reCAPTCHA functionality has been added to the system.

"Our comment filing system is a critical avenue for public input that we need to keep up-to-date," said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. "Today's effort is a start to do just that and I want to thank the FCC staff and contractors who have made this possible."

The comment system is an important part of the FCC's legal process and a critical portal for public engagement in our proceedings. This first phase of the multi-phase ECFS upgrade effort will enable development of new functions that take advantage of the upgraded technology platform.

To access the Electronic Comment Filing System, visit https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/.

New Amateur Radio License Fees Take Effect April 19th. See Articles Page 6 For More Information

2022 YASME Foundation Excellence Award

Ward Silver NØAX, President, The YASME Foundation

St. Charles, MO, March 31st, 2022 – The Yasme Excellence Award is presented to individuals and groups who, through their own service, creativity, effort and dedication, have made a significant contribution to amateur radio. The contribution may be in recognition of technical, operating or organizational achievement, as all three are necessary for amateur radio to grow and prosper. The Yasme Excellence Award is in the form of a cash grant and an individually-engraved crystal globe.

The Board of Directors of The Yasme Foundation is pleased to announce the latest recipients of the Yasme Excellence Award:

Dan Marler K7REX



When the COVID pandemic led to cessation of in-person meetings, training sessions and gatherings, Dan converted a small limited-membership Zoom platform to the open

resentation forum known as RATPAC. In the subsequent two years, RATPAC has hosted over two hundred online presentations that have been viewed by thousands of radio amateurs. Among the wide-ranging topics, half focus on public-service communications, while the rest address technical, operating, scientific and general-interest topics offered by a host of presenters. The recordings of these sessions are available for public viewing and constitute a valuable resource for the amateur radio community.

Dr. Gordon Gibby KX4Z

Gordon is a retired emergency-room physician turned high school science teacher who demonstrates how amateur radio can benefit our communities in a wide variety of ways. As an ARES leader in Northern Florida, Gordon promotes and teaches all aspects of preparedness for disasters, from planning and exercises to building and repairing communication hardware to understanding official responders' needs, methods and organization. He advocates cognizance of the amateur's role and its limits, building trust and relationships, and constantly improving our individual skills. He is known around the country for his informative and carefully thought out responses to the many questions from other amateurs seeking to improve their local disaster-response capabilities.

The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to support scientific and educational projects related to amateur radio, including DXing (long distance communication) and the introduction and promotion of amateur radio in developing countries.

For additional information about The Yasme Foundation, visit our website at www.yasme.org.





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No Family ARRL Member?
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No 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 Date: [If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out] Amount Enclosed: \$ Signature: 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. N3RDV has requested that Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to: all membership requests and renewals include an WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. c/o Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer application so that his 1120 McKnight Drive information is up to date Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456 **DXers have a choice!** Get a free two week trial of The Daily DX and The Weekly DX and decide for yourself which one best fits your needs for informing

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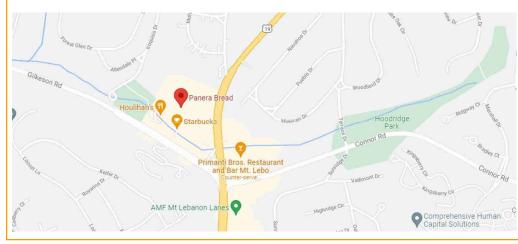








Directions to the April Meeting Site



The April meeting will be held at Panera Breads, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA 15228, upper level, at the mall entrance to the upper parking lot.

The Galleria can be accessed from Washington Road south, or Gilkeson Road West.

Meeting starts at 7 PM. If you're grabbing a bite first, we have the room starting at 6:30 PM

2022 Poisson d'Avril

continued from Page 12

authorities and said "I have a hotel. Give me 25 of them." Then he asked his local community for donations of clothing, medicines, and other supplies. And they stepped up.

This is the guy we are supporting.

Some people were a little confused by this project and thought it was just an April Fools joke. Ummm...no.

Anyway, the "certificates" will be purchased and shipped this week.

The P d'A is now over for this year. If you missed the opportunity to enter, I suggest that you consider making a donation to the charity of your choice that is helping in Ukraine. One option worth considering is the World Food Programme. S53R/ST2AR/9N7AA, ON6TT, and 9A3A work there now or have worked there in the past, so there is a ham radio connection. Doctors without Borders (Medecins sans Frontiers) is another excellent choice – not sure if any hams work there, but it is a very efficient low-overhead operation doing good work.

Thank you all for making this the best Pd'A ever, and my happiest birthday ever.

almost every year for the annual Poisson d'Avril, except one... K1DG Always Wins. Except this year...

The rules vary

entrants were asked to make a donation to assist refugees, and Doug decided to send in a check-log instead.

It's a fun little April Fools tradition, with a purpose this year.

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

