



# WASHRAG™

TM



Wireless Association of South Hills

## Power Vacuum Tube

430 lb. amplifying vacuum tube was in the highest power UHF-TV transmitter ever built.

This cut away display was donated by Taft Broadcasting in Cincinnati, where it had been on display in their lobby.

Named the Klystron, it is a specialized linear-beam vacuum tube invented in 1937 by American electrical engineers, and used as an amplifier for high frequency signals from UHF into the microwave range. Missing are the five circular electromagnets around each cavity with a total weight of 550 lb.

The tube produced 55 kW of UHF-TV power and with four tubes in the final amplifier, 220 kW was supplied to the high-gain antenna where it radiated a five megawatt TV signal.

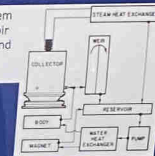
The word klystron originates from the Greek verb κλύω (klyzo) referring to the action of waves breaking against a shore, meaning the place where the action happens.

From the late 1960s era the transmitter was designed and built by the Harris Corp.

## Technical Specifications

Varian Model: VA - 953H Integral Cavity Klystron  
Frequency Range: 470 - 890 MHz  
Bandwidth: 8 MHz  
Output Power: 58 kW  
Drive Power: 550 W  
Gain: 48 dB  
Beam Voltage: 25 kVdc  
Beam Current: 8.3 Adc  
Focusing Current: 32 Adc  
Electromagnet: 150 Vdc, 32 Adc, 550 lb.  
Weight: 430 lb.  
VSWR: 1.5:1  
Cooling: Water, Vapor and Forced Air  
In Service: Channel 20, WDC-TV  
Washington, DC  
47,718 hours (1979-1985)

Klystron cooling system using a single reservoir and pump for liquid and vapor cooling.



High Power TV  
Signal Output

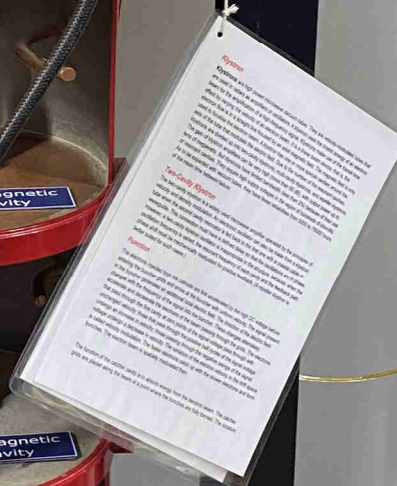
Low Power TV  
Signal In

Intermediate Magnetic Resonant Cavity

Intermediate Magnetic Resonant Cavity

Intermediate Magnetic Resonant Cavity

Input Magnetic Resonant Cavity



VOLUME 25 ISSUE 06  
JUNE 2023

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

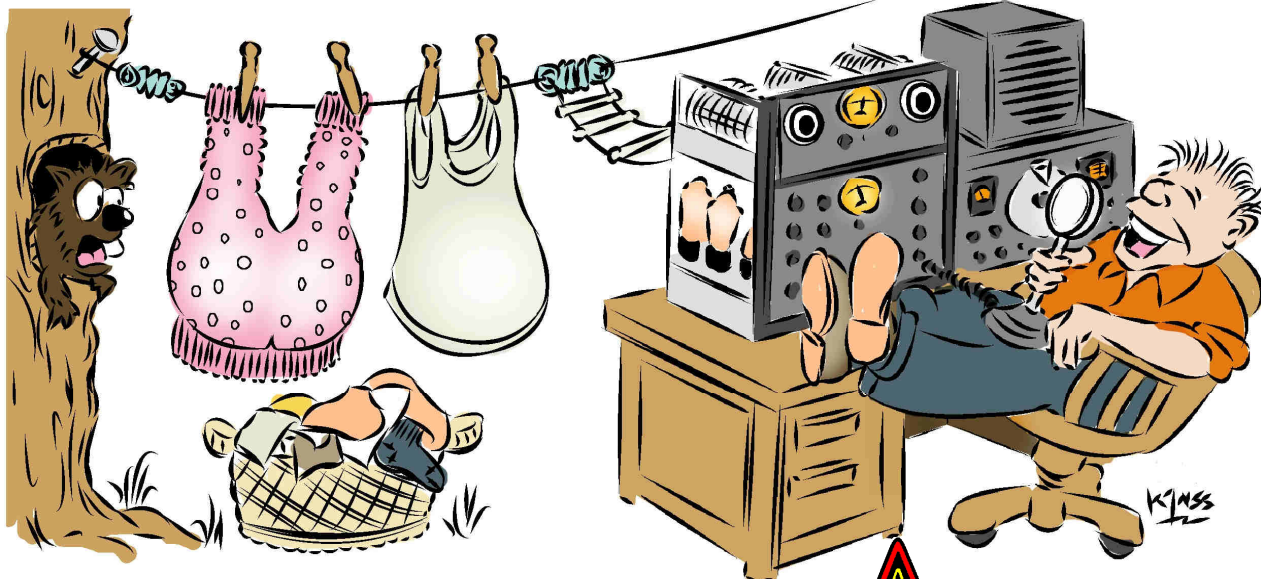


[www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)





# Wireless Association of South Hills



## WASHRAG™



VOLUME 25 Issue 06

JUNE 2023

### Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**, starting at 7 PM, at **PANERA BREAD Galleria Mall**, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA 15228. Room will be available to us starting at 6:30 PM for anyone who'd like to get dinner, or just nosh, before the meeting

Topics Include: Field Day 2023, Breezeshooters Hamfest Plans, Hamvention, and more.

See you there!

Cover: Seen at the Voice of America Museum, during the annual excursion to Hamvention

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Frank Bobro N3FB

## WASH 2023 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Curtis Turner KB3CMT
VP / Secretary	Nathan Suehr KC3GMM
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 2024 Committee	Ron Telek W3LE, Chair
	Bill Hill W3WH
	Glen Roberts KE7FD
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
Field Day 2023 Coordinators	Bill Hill W3WH
	Larry Comden K3VX
	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.

This issue is © Copyright 2023 by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

Permission is granted to other Amateur Radio publications to reprint articles in this issue, provided the original author and "The WASHRag™" are given credit. Comments, articles, and requests for copies of or information about "The WASHRag™" should be mailed to the editor:

Ron Notarius W3WN  
3395 Rosewood Drive, Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546  
e-mail: [newsletter@n3sh.org](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.org) or [w3wn@arrl.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 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 June 24<sup>th</sup>

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 11:00 AM**, at **Sunset Hills Grove, South Park**, (the WASH 2023 Field Day site). Talk-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](mailto:kgo@grant-olson.net)

Please bring the following to your test session:

- + Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)
- + Pen / Pencil / Calculator
- + Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)
- + Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)
- + Check in the amount of \$15.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Note that the FCC now only accepts FRNs as identification numbers. If you don't have an FRN, please create one in advance at <https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.doc>

Future test dates: To Be Determined

### Curtis's Reflections



Wow is it June already? That means Hamvention is over and that hopefully some folks brought some new toys home to show and tell at future meeting or Tech Talks.

It also means that Field day is just around the corner. We will be shifting in to high gear to get the rest of our planning finished and staffing transmitters.

Breezeshooters is also coming up and we have planned for our usual picnic. Please let us know when you can if you plan to attend so we can make a rough guess at food.

I look forward to seeing folks at our next meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> of June at Sunset Hills pavilion in South Park, our Field Day site for this year.

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

The next Allegheny County ARES meeting will be 9:30 AM on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at W3KWH Steel City ARC, located at 208 Mc Michael Road (15106) near Settler's Cabin Park. I will provide doughnuts. Please bring a notepad and pencil/paper - we will be doing a fun exercise!

Also - ops still needed for Westmoreland County Airshow for June 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Please volunteer here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfNheu3DmKCVmZvYxFvkjeQyKEBajmWD94C2upAzdQB53aQ/viewform>

Look forward to seeing everyone there!

— 73, Bob Mente NU3Q, Allegheny County ARES EC

## Reminder: The May WASH Meeting location will at the N3K / N3T WASH Field Day site, Sunset Hills Pavilion in South Park. Map and directions are on Page 16. Meeting begins at 7 PM.

The start of Memorial Day weekend was accompanied by the next gathering of the **WASH Breakfast Gang** on Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD, McMURRAY**, on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM. This month's bunch included WB4GCS, N3FB, KC3GMU, W3WH, K3SGT & Baarb, NU3Q, KC3GMM, KB3NIX, K8DRH, Char Spirk, and W3WN. Topics of the morning included Hamvention, the new Kenwood HT, meeting nights, the WASH FD T-Shirts, Breezeshooter's Prize Tickets, V/UHF contesting and operating on 432 MHz, the IC-9700, FT-8 on 2 meters, RF2K linears, FT-8 techniques, SONAR tails on submarines, the boxing gym at Market Square, frequency coordination at NFL games, Microsoft Surface Tablets, WWV Time Signals and KDKA-AM time tones, Chuck is working on the Railroad, Jeopardy Final Questions, 1/4 wave verticals for HF auto tuners, and a whole ton more.

Hope to see more at the next gathering, Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. (Unless we mve to the South Park **EAT'N PARK** because of Field Day!) See you there!

Wow, is there a lot to cover. The **2023 Breezeshooter's Hamfest**, is coming up in a couple of days (from publication)! Really hope to see everyone who can make it there! And yes, there WILL be a **WASH Club Picnic** again this year! Details on Page 12. Remember, for the first time in years, it will be held at the **Butler Farm Show Grounds**, Sunday only! It looks like it's going to be a big event this year! We are really looking forward to this one!

**Field Day 2023** is also coming up at the end of the month. Plans, as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle would write, are afoot! Char should have been in touch with you right now to see if you can sign up for an operating slot (for planning purposes, of course). And what do you think of the graphic she's come up with for the **WASH Field Day T-Shirt**? There WILL be **VE Testing on FD Saturday**! Plans are being finalized, with further discussion coming up at this month's meeting! It looks to be a whole lot of fun, again, but we need everyone's help to setup and operate. More details at the meeting!

Ye Editor wishes to thank **everyone who brought us pictures from Hamvention 2023**. most of which we've squeezed into the newsletter. We also have a pile of photos from the **Voice of America Museum** — one's on the cover this month — and are looking forward to an accompanying article (hint hint!) Now, if anyone has any other pictures that didn't get submitted... no problem, we'll make room.

And congratulations to **Team N3ZK** for their showing in the **2023 Pa QSO Party**. What, you say? (He's on Second). Well, you'll see when you turn the page...

Not lost on us that we're not THAT far away from the **2023 Pennsylvania QSO Party**. We'll start paying more attention to that after Field Day (as always)



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



## Minutes, May 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:08.

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

Roll Call. 17 Members, 2 Guests Present

### Committee Reports:

**Treasurer:** Report provided electronically by Mark (N3RD) and read by Nathan (KC3GMM). Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH) with second by Harold (K3HCR). Voted and carried.

**Secretary:** Nathan (KC3GMM) - April minutes published in May newsletter. No corrections necessary. Motion to accept by Carol (KB3GMN) with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried.

**Repeaters:** (Frank N3FB) Repeating. Some maintenance is still needed.

**WASHNet:** Nathan (KC3GMM): Good participation. Curtis (KB3CMT) - Going well when he has checked in. Lots of new folks

**Thursday Night Tech Net (KE7FD):** Moving May Tech Talk to Thursday after meeting due to Dayton. Reviewing new dual-band HT and giving away in prize drawing after net. Has a topic for following net. Has parts to build end fed antenna. Always open for topic suggestions.

**Newsletter:** Ron (W3WN): Out!

**VE:** No report

**Ways & Means:** Carol (KB3GMN) - Nothing to report for ways and means. Will bring 50/50 tickets to next meeting. Can someone going to Dayton keep an eye out for things to bring back for door prizes.

**Contests:** Larry (K3VX) - No report.

### New Business:

Charmel - Facebook is doing well.

Curtis (KB3CMT) - Last month for Panera Bread reserved room. Should we try and stay longer?

Frank (N3FB) - Mask mandate gone at old spot.

Charmel - Has noticed during some trips out to South Park that the Sunset Hills Grove usually available.

Ron (W3WN) - Ready for outside meetings!

Bill (W3WH) - Motion to have meeting at south park with second by Nathan (KC3GMM). Voted and carried.

Curtis (KB3CMT) - Motion for club to pay for food with second by Frank (N3FB). Voted and carried.

### Field Day:

- Larry (K3VX) - Does anyone know how to use Google Sheets? Would like to use as platform for operating schedule.
- Charmel - Is familiar with Google Sheets and explained how it works.
- Larry (K3VX) - Elected official scheduled to visit. Invitation out to Bethel Park mayor for visit as well. Has made arrangement with a scout troop at his church to visit and use GOTA station.
- Bill (W3WH) - Visited site this afternoon and made a mental plan for antenna layout.
- Larry (K3VX) - Five tables inside shelter and two out. All tables are old and worn. Bring covers.
- Charmel - Found picnic table covers that will work well.
- Carol (KB3GMN) - Need two tables for food. Hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch. Chicken, macaroni salad, and regular salad for dinner.
- Larry (K3VX) - Jeff has brought network equipment to test at the meeting.
- Gary (KB3YCX) - Will only be around for field day on Saturday but can leave his computer for Sunday if needed.
- Glen (KE7FD) - Has a laptop for logging but needs repair. Will try and put something together.
- Charmel - Would like to take an organized group photo at field day.
- Larry (K3VX) - Do we want to order shirts for field day?
- Bill (W3WH) - Show of hands regarding T-shirt interest.
- Curtis (KB3CMT) - Will look into procuring a shirt.
- Frank (N3FB) - Has trailer inventory. Would like to purchase new 200 ft. antenna rotor wire if price is reasonable. Current one too short.
- Claude (N3RXO) - Offering large roll of wire to use for rotor control cable. Will take a picture and send to Frank.
- Gene (KB3JHR) - Motion to authorize Frank to purchase rotor. Harold - Second. Voted and carried.
- Bill (W3WH) - Asking if club should buy the Field

Continued on Page 14

## WASH Spotlight: Pa QSO



Congratulations to Team N3ZK for not just winning their County and having a Clean Sweep in the 2022 Pennsylvania QSO Party, but being the top score in the category! Well Done!

Picture of Team N3ZK is on the next page.

Photo courtesy of Frank Bobro N3FB

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

AA3MR  
AC4KU  
AE3DL  
K3GW  
K3HCR  
K3VX  
K3WPL  
K6DWR  
KA3VXM  
KB1CKF  
KB3BYA  
KB3CMT  
KB3GMN  
KB3GUZ  
KB3IAC  
KB3IVX  
KB3JHR  
KB3NIX  
KB3YCX  
KC3ELA  
KC3GMM

KC3MLC  
KC3OCT  
KC3RGV  
KC3TEU  
KC3UUK  
KC3VQR  
KC4WTT  
KE7FD  
N3DFK  
N3IDH  
N3JSF  
N3RDV  
N3SBF  
N3UE  
N8NEU  
NB3C  
NL7XM  
NY9H  
W3DTP  
W3LE  
W3WH

W3WN  
W8LEV  
WA3PYU  
WA3VSS  
WB4GCS  
  
Melissa  
Greenwald  
Charlotte  
Peterson  
Charmel  
Spirk

WASH FL  
KA3UPY/M  
WASH NE  
N0PEU  
WASH OH  
N8DPW  
WASH OR  
KB3NVL  
KB3NVM  
WASH SC  
N8NEU

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

### Silent Keys

AB3KA  
AB3ED  
AC4KU  
AD3Q  
K3EED  
K3LIE  
KA3NMG  
KB3ENX  
KB3FNM  
KB3FOT  
KB3JHQ  
N3BPB  
N3CZZ  
N3FZ  
N3HKQ  
N3KEH  
N3OBD  
N3RNX  
N3SKR  
N3SRC  
N3ZEL  
N3XFE  
W3ZLK  
W4ZE  
WA3JPP

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

Through May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2023 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

**Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change**

June 1 <sup>st</sup>	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Butler Farm Show Grounds, 625 Evans City Road, Butler PA 16001
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Club Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Starting at about 11:30 at the club's location in the flea market
June 10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL VHF Contest	<a href="https://www.arrl.org">https://www.arrl.org</a>
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	WASH VEC Exams	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park, starting at 11:00 AM
June 24 <sup>th</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	WASH N3T Field Day 2023	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Somerset County ARC Hamfest	Somerset County Technology Center, 281 Technology Dr, Somerset, PA 15501
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	WACOM Hamfest	Washington Crowne Center, 1500 West Chestnut Street, Washington PA 15301
August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Uniontown ARC 73 <sup>rd</sup> Gabfest	W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown PA 15041
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	2023 Skyview Swap N Shop	K3MJW Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington PA 15068
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, South Park
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Butler County ARA Swapfest	Unionville Fire department, 102 Mahood Road, Butler PA 16001



Team N3ZK celebrating their 2022 Pa QSO Clean Sweep. L—R Frank N3FB, Edwin KC3QAH, Randy N3ZK, Kevin N3KFD. Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Frank Bobro N3FB

## 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!

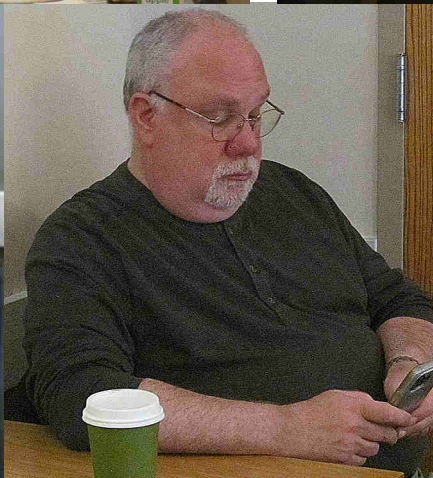
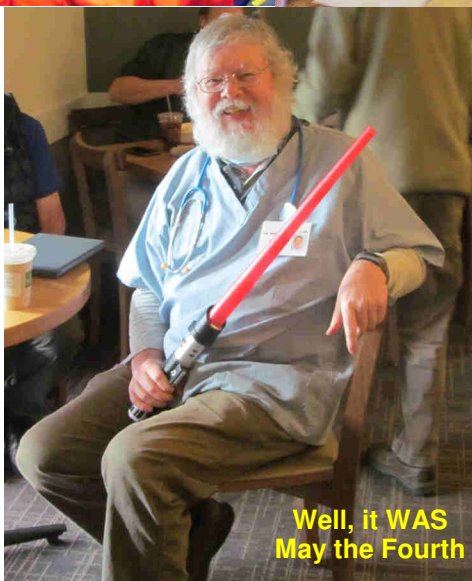
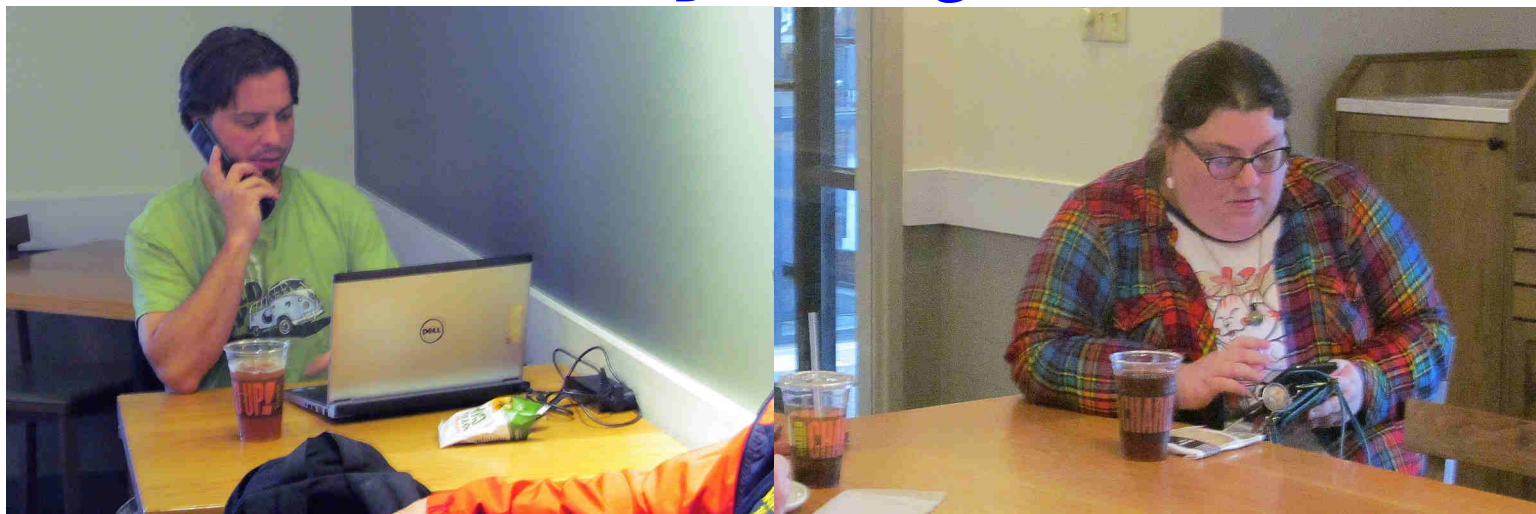
Interested? Contact Ed directly at [n3ue11@gmail.com](mailto:n3ue11@gmail.com)





# ***"Seen" at the May Meeting***

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright  
2023 Ron Notarius W3WN





“Seen” at Hamvention 2023

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Frank Bobro N3FB



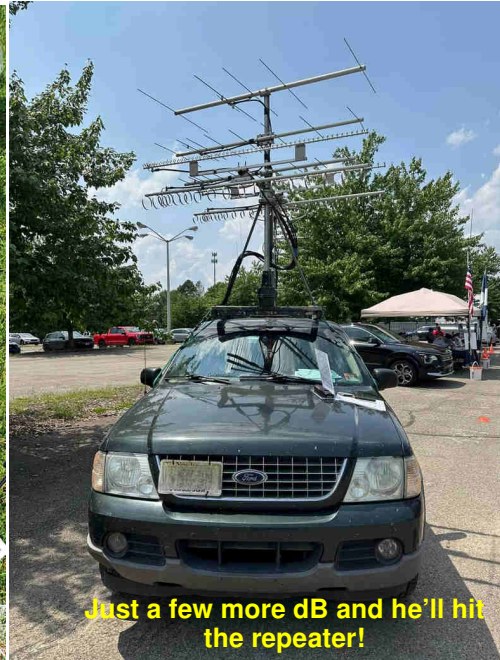


# "Seen" at Hamvention 2023

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright  
2023 Glen Roberts KE7FD



Below: Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Mike  
Lazaroff K3AIR



Just a few more dB and he'll hit  
the repeater!



# "Seen" at Hamvention 2023

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright  
2023 Curtis Turner KB3CMT



## A Talk with Xiegu

Kai Kempmann  
DM1KAI / F4VFN  
Courtesy of the  
QRZ.com forums

Freiburg, Germany, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – As I am accompanying my wife on a business trip in China, I thought it might be a good idea to have a chat with someone in charge at Xiegu about some burning ham questions.

But first we had to peel off a few layers of distributors to get hold of the actual manufacturer of the radios. As I do not have the consent to reveal the person we talked to, I will only say it was one of the higher ranks.

On the question, why the plans of the radio are not published as Icom and Yaesu do for example, we were told that they are too afraid that other companies would copy their radios.

On the question, if they plan to open service centers outside of China or if they would license repair shops we got a clear no.

On the question, how a radio could be repaired we got told that we should send the radio to the distributor and the distributor would then send it to China for repair.

Unfortunately, we could not convince them, that this is a quite unsustainable point of view.

But at least now I know what I have to expect.





## WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

Falls Creek, PA, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 –

**June 4<sup>th</sup>: WPA ARRL Section Convention & Breezeshooters Hamfest at Butler Farm Show:** We are pleased to remind everyone that the Breezeshooters Hamfest and the ARRL WPA Section Convention are

BACK!!! In a return to the popular Butler Farm Show grounds, the hamfest will take place on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>! Many informational forums are scheduled for a full day of interesting programs for active hams!

The ARRL WPA Section and Atlantic Division leaders will be present to answer questions, offer help and reveal what is new and exciting at ARRL HQ! Forum begins at 10:30.

Multiple vendors will be selling their wares, and a huge flea market is anticipated. THOUSANDS of dollars worth of MAJOR PRIZES will be awarded!!!

If you've been thinking that it's about time for a big hamfest to take place again, this is the place to be this Sunday. Don't miss it!!!

**July 29<sup>th</sup>: Pennsylvania State ARRL Convention** will be held in Western Pennsylvania at the Cumberland Valley Antique Engine grounds near Chambersburg. This is a medium-size but growing hamfest, and well worth the trip. Prizes will be plentiful, and several large vendors will be present. Stop by the family-owned Farm Markets on US-30 on your way home for fresh-off-the-tree peaches and other delicious, locally grown fruit and vegetables.

**Field Day: June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>:** If your Field Day group is setting up this year, and would like to have visitors, NOW is the time to post your information to the ARRL Field Day Site Locator page:

[www.arrl.org/field-day-locator](http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator)

While you're there, download a copy of the rules, and read them carefully to become aware of any rule changes that may affect your plans and strategies.

That's all for now. More news will follow, and it looks like a busy summer for Ham Radio in our Western Pennsylvania Section.

73 and Press ON!



## ARRL Atlantic Division News

Bob Famiglio K3RF  
ARRL Atlantic Division Director

*Media, PA, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023* – The Dayton Hamvention has come and gone and was a great experience for me. I hope many of you have the opportunity to attend someday if you have not been there. I did get to meet up with many of you on the show floor and during or after the several forums I attended or presented. Some of you left notes at the ARRL booth to meet up and I did get them.

Sorry that I did not have time enough to meet up with all of you, but as always call me to chat if you have questions or concerns you would like to share.

I am pleased to inform our Atlantic Division members that our Division website is up and running. While the address URL has been around for some time, the information available on the original site was limited. Thanks to our new Vice Director, Marty Pittinger KB3MXM, we now have a site that may be more useful to you and will collect information for each section in our division. Point your web browser to [www.Atldiv.org](http://www.Atldiv.org).

The site is a work in progress, so feel free to suggest functions and features you think would be useful for our Division and let us know. Also, please understand that a few of the links may not be entirely operational yet, but will be soon. If you have some ideas for services on the site and/or would like to help, let us know. Our goal is to integrate our Division website pointing upward to our National League site and downward to each of our Atlantic Division sections. My thanks to our Vice Director for his work on this project.

Let's also remember the purpose of ham radio's existence. In the end, it is service to our country, to the public and each other in terms of our knowledge and skills as radio operators. See the definitions of the amateur radio service in FCC Rule 97.1. Our League, which is comprised of all of you, is "Of, By, and For the Radio Amateur".

73 and I will see you on the radio.



## NASA's New AI Model Can Issue Solar Storm Warnings 30 Minutes Before They Strike

Ashmita Gupta  
TWC India

*West Bengal, India, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023* – In the modern day, there are few things as scary as losing your internet connection without warning. Whether you're struggling to meet work deadlines or waiting for your crush's reply after sending a particularly risky text, a sudden blackout can be daunting.

And with the Sun being especially active these days and throwing volatile solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) our way, sparking geomagnetic storms on Earth, we could be in for many such blackouts.

However, NASA, with its penchant for coming to the rescue, has devised a new computer model that combines artificial intelligence and NASA satellite data to alert us of turbulent space weather.

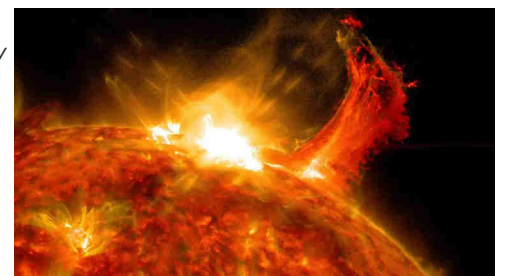
The model uses AI to analyse spacecraft measurements of the solar wind (an unrelenting stream of material from the Sun) and predict where an impending solar storm will strike, anywhere on Earth, with 30 minutes of warning!

This could provide us with just enough time to prepare for these storms and prevent severe impacts on power grids and other critical infrastructure.

### How does space weather impact Earth?

In the past year, we did witness a marked rise in the Sun's activity. And this prominent display of its ire can be attributed to the fact that we are inching closer to the peak of its solar cycle — an 11-year period during which the Sun's magnetic field does a 180 flip, causing its north and south poles to switch places.

As the Sun shoots out sparks and solar winds, solar material sometimes strikes Earth's magnetic environment (its "magnetosphere"),



Solar Flare photo courtesy NASA/SDO

Continued on Page 14



# ***Congresswoman Lesko Reintroduces Bill to Replace Symbol Rate Limit with Bandwidth Limit***

American  
Radio  
Relay  
League

Newington, CT, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced *The Amateur Radio Communications Improvement Act* (H.R. 3241) on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to require that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) eliminate the obsolete HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

After being petitioned by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® in 2013 (RM-11708) for the same relief, in 2016 the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT Docket No. 16-239) in which it agreed that the HF symbol rate limit was outmoded, served no purpose, and hampered experimentation. But the Commission questioned whether any bandwidth limit was needed in its place. Most amateurs, including the ARRL, objected to there being no signal bandwidth limit in the crowded HF bands given the possibility that unreasonably wide bandwidth digital protocols could be developed. Since 2016 there has been no further FCC action.

Congresswoman Lesko introduced a similar bill (H.R. 9664) in the 117th Congress in 2022. Read ARRL's coverage of that bill [at this link](#).

Lesko has long demonstrated an interest in supporting Amateur Radio. Earlier in 2023, she [spoke at a Hamfest in Phoenix, Arizona](#) where she met with and praised the work of ARRL Volunteers in the state.

"Increased amounts of data can be put on the spectrum due to advances in modern technology, so there is little need for the FCC to place limits on symbol rates," said Congresswoman Lesko. "That is why I am proud to reintroduce this important legislation to update the FCC's rules and increase the speed of transmission so that amateur radio operators can more efficiently and effectively transmit messages during times of crisis, such as natural disasters."

ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR hailed reintroduction of the bill, stating that "the biggest effects of the FCC's delay in removing this outdated restriction have been to require totally inefficient spectrum use on the already-crowded amateur HF bands and to remove incentives for American amateurs to innovate with new and better digital protocols. It also has necessitated multiple requests for waivers by the ARRL to facilitate communications during disasters, especially during hurricane season when corresponding amateur stations in the Caribbean, some of which have received assistance from the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for disaster communications, use faster protocols than currently allowed in the U.S. I hope that the Commission will act to remove this harmful limitation without waiting for the bill to be passed."

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton N5AUS added that "the symbol rate limit hampers experimentation and development of more efficient HF data protocols by U.S. amateurs. For all practical purposes the field has been ceded to amateurs outside the U.S., where there is no comparable limit. Removing the restriction not only will allow U.S. amateurs to use the most efficient data protocol suitable for their purpose, but it also will promote and incentivize U.S. amateurs to experiment with and develop even more efficient protocols."

ARRL extends its deepest appreciation to Congresswoman Debbie Lesko for her continued leadership on behalf of Amateur Radio licensees, and her supportive actions on communications issues that impact her constituents and the nation," said The American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) Legislative Committee. "The introduction of the *Amateur Radio Communications Improvement Act* by Congresswoman Lesko to remove the long-outdated symbol rate limit restricting the speed of amateur digital transmissions will substantially increase the ability of amateur radio to provide more timely and efficient message handling during natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and forest fires. Congresswoman Lesko's foresight in introducing this legislation will serve as a model for the elimination of regulatory barriers to more intensive spectrum sharing."

## ***ARRL and FEMA Sign Agreement Amateur Radio is as Relevant as Ever***

American  
Radio  
Relay  
League

Newington, CT, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – The agreement emphasizes the importance of skilled Amateur Radio Operators in times of crisis and the role of ARES leadership within the emergency communications space.

ARES (see the ARES fact sheet at, [www.arrl.org/ares](http://www.arrl.org/ares)) is a network of trained Amateur Radio Service licensees organized across the country to provide communications and other support to served agencies, such as local governments, hospitals, and disaster response charities.

More than 20,000 ARES volunteers actively participate in the ARRL program. In 2022, they provided more than 420,000 labor hours of service saving local officials \$13.4 million in personnel costs.

Each member of ARES has specialized training in emergency communications. Many have also completed training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) in order to integrate with local officials during an emergency response.

In March 2023, FEMA released the final version of the NIMS Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Functional Guidance, which includes radio amateurs in the response ecosystem and national emergency preparedness.

"The agreement is representative of the continued commitment and cooperation between FEMA and ARRL," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston KE5MHV. "Serving our country during emergencies is an important service provided by ARES volunteers and a principal purpose of our Amateur Radio Service. Our well-equipped volunteers bring their training, use of innovative technologies, and community partnerships together to serve before and during disasters."

FEMA announced the new agreement on Twitter stating, "We recently signed a new MOA with ARRL -- establishing our partnership with licensed, voluntary amateur radio operators to support response (and) recovery efforts. We're honored to work side-by-side to meet the needs of millions in the wake of disasters."

Former FEMA Administrator and ARRL member Craig Fugate KK4INZ, led the agency when the previous MOA with ARRL was signed in 2014. Fugate said the agreement underscores the importance of ham radio. "By incorporating amateur radio into their emergency plans, FEMA ensures that they have access to a network of trained operators who can establish and maintain communication links when traditional infrastructure fails. This collaboration between FEMA and Amateur Radio Operators allows for more robust and resilient emergency communication capabilities, ultimately contributing to effective disaster response and recovery," said Fugate.

"The ARRL Board and the Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee are committed to strengthening our resourcefulness to the EmComm (emergency communications) community," said ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR. "Our partnership with FEMA helps further ARRL's work to better serve our volunteers, partner agencies, and the country."







# BREEZESHOOTER'S HAMFEST

And ARRL WPA Section Convention

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

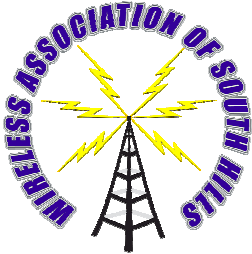
**Butler Farm Show Grounds**

625 Evans City Road, Butler PA 16001

(site of the Hamfest for years prior to 2016)

Talk-In on 147.300 (+) PL 131.8

More Information at <http://breezeshooters.com>



## ***Annual WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest***

*A Club Informal or Formal Tradition at Breezeshooters for over 20 years (Pandemic Not Withstanding)*

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the WASH Flea Market Spaces, from  
approximately 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

*(Exact Location To Be Determined, but we will shoot for our "traditional" spots  
down by the grandstand)*

Spend the morning meeting your fellow WPA & Regional Hams, buying or selling stuff & dodging  
roving golf carts full of Breezeshooters — then join your fellow **WASH** members and our invited  
friends for lunch, friendship, bragging rights, and (if set up and operational) operating N3SH/3  
from the Flea Market!

This will be a "Pot Luck/Covered Dish" Picnic — The Club has traditionally provides the burgers and  
hot dogs; we're asking everyone coming to bring buns, soft drinks, water, a side dish, snacks, fruit,  
cookies, dessert, ice, or whatever they can.

Contact Ron W3WN [w3wn@n3sh.org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org) to coordinate who's bringing what.

There is no charge to attend (outside of bringing something to share) but the picnic is not open  
to the general public, only **WASH** members (including their families), friends & invited guests.



## SOMERSET COUNTY HAMFEST

Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 AM— 1:00 PM

Sponsored by the Somerset County ARC K3SMT

**Somerset County Technology Center**

281 Technology Drive, Somerset, PA 15501

Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8      General Admission \$5

More Information at <https://k3smt.org>





## WACOM HAMFEST

Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM

**Washington Crowne Center Mall**

1500 West Chestnut Street, Washington PA 15301

**Free Admission — Free Tailgating**

Talk-in on 147.790 No PL

More Information contact Tom Wright N3WS [tom.n3ws@protonmail.com](mailto:tom.n3ws@protonmail.com)



## UNIONTOWN ARC 73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GABFEST

Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 AM—???

Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

**Uniontown ARC W3PIE Clubhouse**

433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown, PA 15401

Talk-in on 147.045 PL 131.8

More Information at <http://www.w3pie.org>



## 2023 SKYVIEW SWAP 'N' SHOP

Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM

Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

**Skyview Radio Society K3MJW Clubhouse**

2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068

Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.skyviewradio.net>



## Butler County ARA Swapfest 2023

Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters

**Unionville Volunteer Fire Department**

102 Mahood Road (at Route 8 North), Butler, PA 16001

Talk-in on 147.360 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.w3udx.org>



# NASA AI

Continued from Page 10

creating geomagnetic storms. The impacts of these magnetic storms can range from mild to extreme, but in a world increasingly dependent on technology, their effects are growing ever more disruptive.

NASA cites the example of the destructive solar storm that caused electrical blackouts across Quebec for 12 hours in 1989, plunging millions of Canadians into the dark and closing schools and businesses.

Another great example of such an event is the 1859 Carrington Event. The most intense solar storm on record, it sparked fires at telegraph stations and prevented messages from being sent. Had the Carrington Event happened today, it would have even more severe impacts, like widespread electrical disruptions, persistent blackouts, and interruptions to global communications. Such technological chaos could cripple economies and endanger the safety and livelihoods of people worldwide.

## How NASA's AI model will help with solar storm prediction

NASA's new computer model, DAGGER (Deep Learning Geomagnetic Perturbation), has been using AI to look for connections between the solar wind and geomagnetic disruptions or perturbations that wreak havoc on our technology.

The researchers used an AI method called 'deep learning', which can train computers to recognise patterns based on previous examples. And the team of researchers used the technology to identify these patterns between solar wind measurements from solar missions.

These heliophysics missions consist of space probes carefully placed to create a vast array of sensors so they can work together to study the Sun.

The team tested DAGGER against two geomagnetic storms in August 2011 and March 2015. And the system was able to quickly and accurately forecast the storm's impacts worldwide in each case.

"With this AI, it is now possible to make rapid and accurate global predictions and inform decisions in the event of a solar storm, thereby minimising – or even preventing – devastation to modern society," said lead author Vishal Upendran of the Inter-University Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics in India.

# DX News Briefs



**5Z/UA4WHX** is currently QRV, length of stay unknown, HF, mainly CW. QSL via UA4WHX.

**VP2MKP** is currently QRV through 6 June, HF, mainly CW with some digital. QSL via K5PI or LotW.

**V47JA** is presently QRV through 7 June, 160 – 6, SSB & FT-8. QSL via W5JON

**TF/PD9DX** is currently QRV through 9 June, HF, SSB & FT-8/4. QSL via MØURX

**D44DX** is currently QRV through 13 June, 80 – 10, CW & SSB. QSL via the bureau.

**V7/N7XR** is presently QRV until the end of June from **Kwajalein Atoll**, 160 – 6, CW RTTY & FT8. QSL via OQRS.

**CO7WT/6Y** is currently QRV through August. As he is on a business trip, he operates in his spare time, 40 – 6, SSB and FT-8/. QSL via IK2DUW.

**V63WJR** is presently QRV until September, 10 – 20, CW SSB & FT-8, as time permits. QSL via WA7WJR

**T31TT** will be QRV for 10-12 days starting on 1 June. More information at the Rebel DX Group websites.

**JY7RW** is a special call to celebrate the wedding of the Crown Prince of Jordan, HRH JY2A. All Jordanian Radio Amateurs may use this special call 1 – 4 June. QSL as directed.

**VP6A** is scheduled to be QRV 10 – 24 June from **Ducie Island**, with 5 stations, 160 – 6, CW SSB and FT-8.

**CEØY/XQ3PCN**, **CEØY/CA3YMR** and **CEØY/CE3KEY** will be QRV from **Easter Island** 12 – 18 June, 20 – 10. QSL via home calls or as directed.

**8Q7KB** will be QRV 13 – 21 June, mainly higher bands, CW SSB & Digital. QSL via DL2SBY

**PJ7/PE5B** will be QRV 7 – 14 July, HF, SSB & RTTY. QSL via LotW

**JG8NQJ/JD1** will be QRV from **Minami Torishima** on or about 20 July, mainly CW and some FT-8.

**9Q3WX** will be QRV 15 August – 3 September, HF, CW SSB & Digital. QSL via IZ8CCW

**5WØLM** will be QRV 1 – 14 October, HF and 6 meters (no 60 meters), with a focus on CW and SSB, FT8. QSL via 9A3MR

**W8S** will be QRV 4 – 17 October from **Swains Island**. The 10 man team will operate CW SSB RTTY & FT-8 on "all bands" with six stations spread over two sites. QSL as directed.

**E6AM** will be QRV 10 – 27 October, 160 -10, CW SSB RTTY & FT-8. QSL via LZ1GC or OQRS

**E6AJ** will be QRV 3 – 10 November, Holiday Style, HF, CW & Digital. QSL via DF8AN

**H4ØWA** will be QRV 15 – 29 November with an 8 operator team from the Intrepid DX Group. QSL via MØURX.

# Meeting Minutes

Continued from Page 4

Day T-shirts. Harold (K3HCR) - Motion to buy T-shirts for anyone who participates in Field Day with second by Ron (W3LE). Voted and carried.

- ◆ Charmel - Offer to design shirt
- ◆ Curtis (KB3CMT) - Will work out details about shirts. GOTA station will be near parking lot. Invite anyone that you can think of to come operate GOTA station.
- ◆ Larry (K3VX) - Should we put a sign at Hundred Acre Dr for field day?
- ◆ Curtis (KB3CMT) - We will figure it out next meeting.
- ◆ Glen (KE7FC) - Randy is able to make signs.
- ◆ Charmel - Do we have an emergency contact list for family members of folks at field day?
- ◆ Curtis (KB3CMT) - Grounding?
- ◆ Frank (N3FB) - Still putting it together.

**Old Business:** None

**Good of the order:**

- ◆ Ron (W3WN) - Breezeshooters Hamfest - Back at Butler Farmshow grounds. Past 25 years we've had a picnic there for club. Would like to resume picnic. Club to provide burgers and hotdogs. Will try and get previous spot near bleachers.
- ◆ Jeff (N3JSF) - Motion for club to pay for burgers and hotdogs with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried. Picnic budget will include reservation fee for space.
- ◆ Ron (W3WN) - Picnic is for members and friends of members. We cannot accept money due to issues with food vendors.
- ◆ Charmel - Can she have permission to post other hamfests on club Facebook?
- ◆ Ron (W3WN) - Suggestion that if it is a local club and they reciprocate then yes

**.Motion to adjourn** by Bill (W3WH) and second by Carol (KB3GMM). Voted and carried.

Adjourned at 19:54 PM 05/04/2023



# QSL Routes

4F1DY via EA5GL	GBØAEL via MIØHOZ	P3C via 5B4AOF
4J1ØØHA via DC9RI	GBØIWM via G4PEO	PA1ØØPCG via PBØANL
5P1KZX via OZ1KZX	GB23C via MØOXO	PA6MILL via PF1B
9A3ØT via 9A2EU	GB85FOC via G3SWH	PA6MM via PD3EM
7X4LV via F6FZG	HG73WTD via HA1KHJ	PA6RYS via PA2AM
A61DI via EA7FTR	HFØP2L via SP6DX	PJ4KY via MØURX
A65PX via K3YR	II1A via IK1SPR	PR2E via PY2AA
A91GCC via EC6DX	II1CAI via IQ1NO	RP78P via RK9LWA
CR3DX via OM2VL	II1TTR via IZ1ETD	RU1A via RW3RN
CW5W via CX6VM	II2VNG via IQ2VA	S515SOTA via S58R
CX1VH via EA7FTR	II3RCT via IQ3TS	SE3X via SA3BYC
D44PM via IZ4DPV	II7LEG via IQ7AF	SG6T via SM6WET
DLØLBS via DL5ANS	IQØAAI via ISØWHQ	SP122WP via SP3PDO
DL1ØØRADIO via DF2NU	IR2X via IK2WAD	T41DX via RW6HS
DL164ØY via DL3CQ	LI8MAI via LA5YJ	TM17CNR via F4KKY
DL65ØKR via DL2EF	OE6YHOTA via OE6TTF	TM35ØDA via F4GFE
DM775NB via DM6RAC	OG3B via OH3RB	TM45KOP via F5GSJ
DP375WF via DL4YAY	OHØV via OH6LI	TM5I via F5PTI
ED1R via EC1KR	OJØ/LB5SH via EA5GL	TM5LCY via F5KPO
EE3Ø via EA3Ø	OL1ØØRADIO via OK1MP	TM5ØCRP via F6HRP
EE4Y via EA4GOY	OL23RADIO via OK1MP	TM62CNR via F4KIS
EF6B via EA6BF	OL75ØHOL via OK1MR	VP2ETE via W3HNNK
EH8DDC via EA8RCB	OO7Z/P via ON6KZ	YT26IARU via YU1SR5
EI2EWM via EI5EAB	OQ95RCL via ON3AR	ZQ2HRH via ZB2BU
EJ6KP/P via M5KJM	OP2ØCW via ON6YH	ZS4JAN via EA5GL
FR8UA via F4FTV	OT4ØPRA via ON8JJ	ZX2E via OH2MM
	OU5U via OZ3FD	

Thanks to DL1SBF, KB8NW, NG3K, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, DX Coffee, DX World.Net, ICPO Bulletin& ARRL DX Bulletin for our DX News information. Thanks also to the ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR /The Daily DX for confirmations & additional information.





## WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the **WASHRag**. Condition as stated, and all sales should be considered "as-is" unless otherwise noted. All subject to prior sale or withdrawal from sale at the owner's discretion. All responsibility for this information lies with the source and not the **WASHRag** or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

### HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.

P.O. Box 201  
Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201  
Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944

[bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com](mailto:bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com)

"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:

Radio Equipment      Computer Equipment  
Antennas Rotors & Towers      Computer Media & Software  
Mechanical Breakdown & Electrical Damage Coverage



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

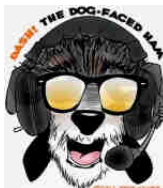
Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law  
277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056  
Phone: 724-352-4905

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

Find the online cartoons and stories of Dash the Dogfaced Ham & more at <https://www.jeffk1nss.com> !

Shop for Dash items at his online store on Café Press, [www.cafepress.com/shopdash](http://www.cafepress.com/shopdash)



### US Amateurs by Class as of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Novice	7,114
Technician	429,585
General	200,450
Advanced	36,580
Extra	163,290
Club	12,414
<b>Total</b>	<b>849,433</b>
All-Time High	04/29/2023 849,476

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	7,802
	Callsign Changes	1,956
	Class Changes	3,107
	No Longer Licensed	6,503
	All Updates (*)	29,875

(\*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of [Hamdata.com](http://Hamdata.com)

### Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Group A	AC3KC
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3WEO

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of [Hamdata.com](http://Hamdata.com)

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

Just send an email to [w3wn73@gmail.com](mailto:w3wn73@gmail.com) and we will take care of the rest!

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**



## FCC News

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – President Joe Biden announced three nominees for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023. The President will nominate Anna M. Gomez for a vacant FCC seat. Two sitting Commissioners, Geoffrey Starks and Brendan Carr, will be nominated for new terms at the same time.

Gomez is an attorney with decades of experience in domestic and international communications law and policy. Gomez currently serves as a Senior Advisor for International Information and Communications Policy in the State Department's Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy, where she has been leading US preparations for the monthlong WRC-23 conference that will commence on November 20<sup>th</sup> in Dubai. **ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®** has represented the interests of US radio amateurs in preparation for the conference, and ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling WB3ERA, has been appointed to the US delegation to WRC-23. ARRL also actively supports the work of the **International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)**, which, as a member of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector, participates in conference preparatory work and whose representatives will also attend WRC-23 by invitation as observers in an advisory capacity.

Earlier in her career, Gomez served for 12 years in various positions at the FCC, including Deputy Chief of the International Bureau and Senior Legal Advisor to then-Chairman William E. Kennard. From 2009 to 2013, she served as the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Deputy Administrator. Gomez also briefly served as Counsel on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Communications, as well as Deputy Chief of Staff of the National Economic Council during the Clinton Administration. Prior to joining the State Department in 2023, Gomez was a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm Wiley LLP. Gomez also was Vice President for Federal and State Government Affairs at Sprint Nextel and an Associate at the Arnold & Porter law firm.

Senate hearings on all three nominees are expected to be held in June.

## Sylvia Storm Francine Lusardi

Paul Lusardi NØVLR

Lebanon, OR, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – My son Anthony KB3NVM and his wife had their first child, Sylvia Storm Francine Lusardi in February 2023

"Storm" because she was born during a 100-year storm as was her mother in '96. And since then, each time she had something major to overcome, epic weather was always present.

"Francine" is a nod to my mother who was always present in Anthony's life

However, Sylvia was born with only 2 valves in her heart and through all of medicine and science, 80 days later she passed away. More info is here if interested: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/sylvialusardi>

Sylvia was in intensive care her whole life, never leaving the hospital - both families were privileged to meet her and spend some time with her just before she left us.

Besides the 300-person memorial service this past Sunday, Sylvia touched many lives along her short journey on earth.

Photo is a tattoo with "Sylvia Storm" in Morse code, as well as her heart, her actual EKG readout, and the lightning (within her lower heart) that appeared over Seattle Childrens hospital 10 minutes before she passed away.







# WASHfest 2024

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

Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

First Prize: To Be Determined

Second Prize: To Be Determined

Third Prize: To Be Determined

**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:

Ron Telek W3LE at (412) 831-4886 [w3le@comcast.net](mailto:w3le@comcast.net)

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too! [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)

**Please Note:** Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Reservations received after February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance thirteen 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 2023**  
c/o RON TELEK W3LE  
3065 Aljean drive  
Bethel Park, PA 15102

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Members Only:

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires On: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Family ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*N3RDV has requested that all membership requests and renewals include an application so that his information is up to date*

Please make your check or money order payable to the club treasurer, Mark Stabryla.  
The Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals.  
Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to:

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.  
c/o Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer  
1120 McKnight Drive  
Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456



## 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 you of all the DX news!



Send an email to [bernie@dailydx.com](mailto:bernie@dailydx.com) or go to [www.dailydx.com](http://www.dailydx.com)

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



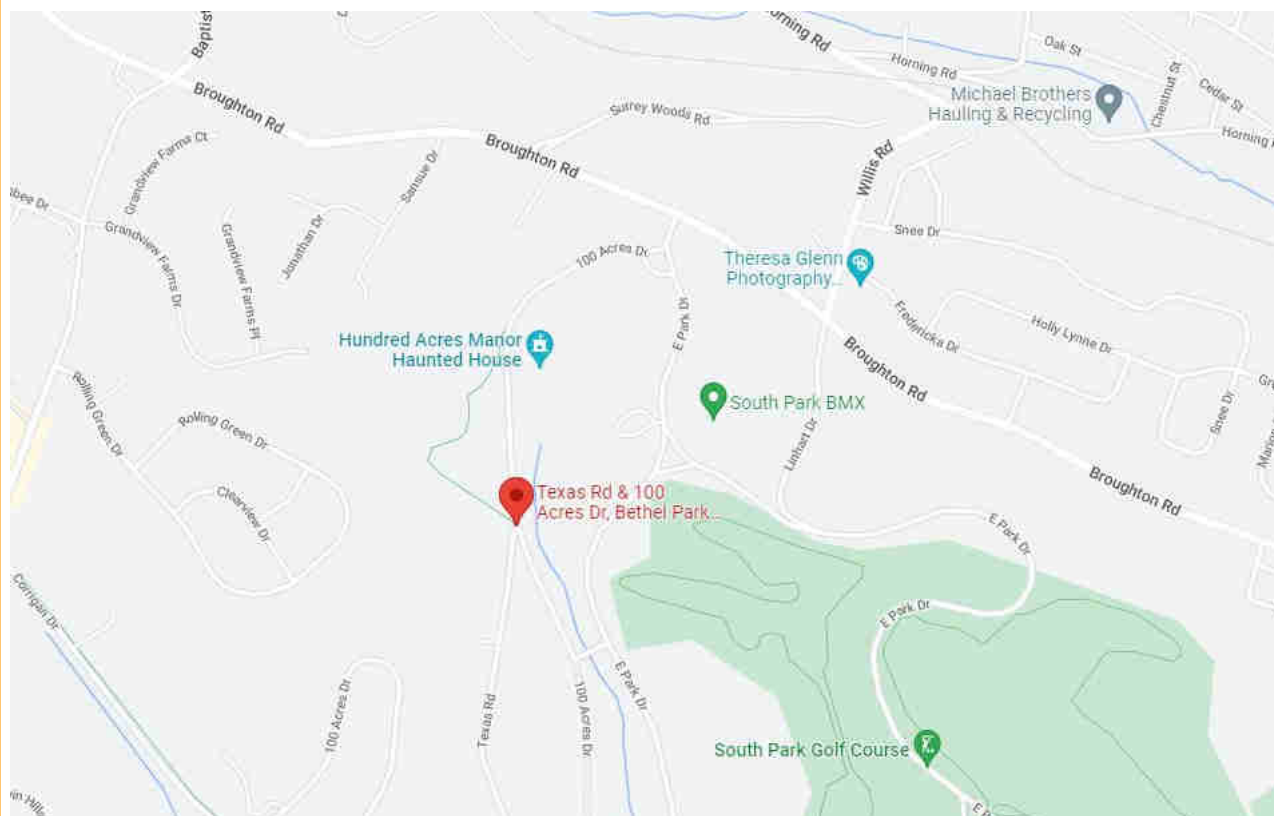
**Arghh!**  
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?

**K1NSSDESIGN**  
CUSTOM QSL ART  
HAM GRAPHICS  
WEB COMICS  
[www.dashtoons.com](http://www.dashtoons.com)  
k1nss@dashtoons.com





# Directions to Field Day / June Meeting Site



The June meeting will be held at our 2023 Field Day site: Sunset Hills Grove, Texas Road at 100 Acres Drive, South Park.

100 Acres Drive can be accessed from both Broughton Road and Corrigan Drive.

Meeting starts at 07:00 PM EDT.

See you there!

## 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](http://www.n3sh.org)  
[www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)

