

WASHRAGTM

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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 09
SEPTEMBER 2023

Wireless Association of South Hills

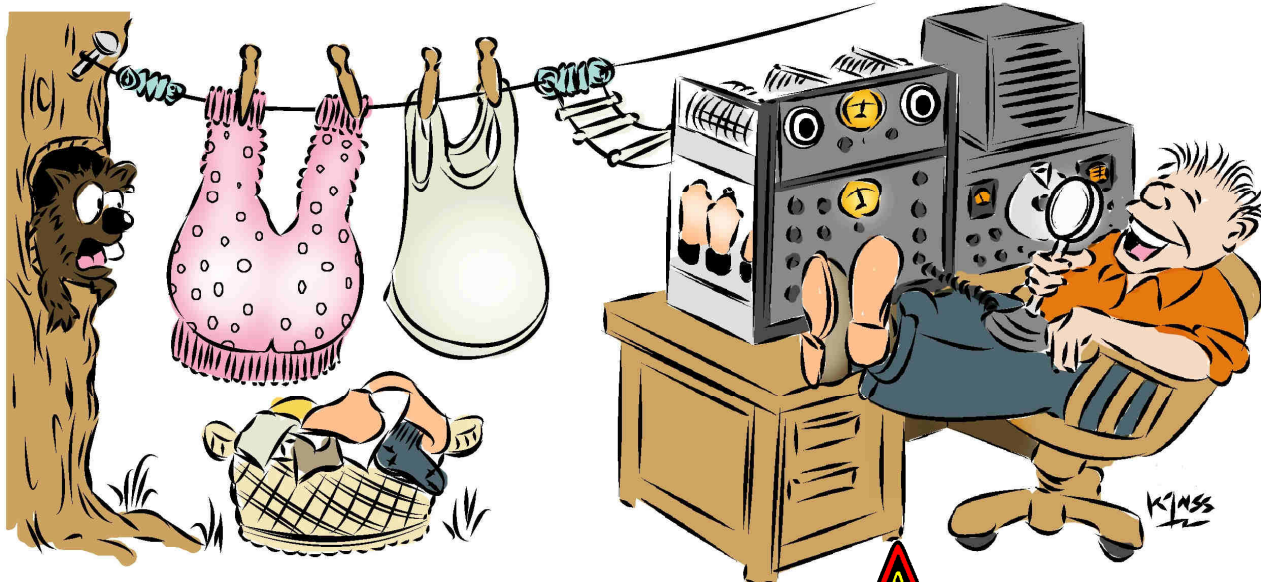
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Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 25 Issue 09

SEPTEMBER 2023

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, September 7th, 2023

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, September 7th, 2023**, starting at 7 PM, at the **ST. CLAIR HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM**, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park PA 15102, adjacent to Village Square Mall, across from South Hills Village Mall, just off US Route 19.

Topics Include: Field Day 2024, Pa QSO 2023, 2024 Officers Elections, and much more.

See you there!

Cover: A view of the Skyhooks at Skyview Radio Society, during the 2023 Swap & Shop
Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Ron Notarius W3WN

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 KB3GMM
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
Field Day 2024 Coordinators	Frank Bobro N3FB
	Bill Hill W3WH (emeritus)
	Larry Comden K3VX (emeritus)

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3SH / R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
North Side	N3SH / R	442.550 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
Canonsburg	N3FB / R	443.650 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
St. Johns, VI	NP2SH / B	28.276 MHz	Propagation Beacon
Canonsburg	N3SH	144.390 MHz	APRS Digipeater

N3SH / WA3SH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every **Monday** Night, 8:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

THE LEGAL STUFF

"The WASHRag™" (formerly "The Mariner™") is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**, a 501.C.3 not for profit organization.

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN
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e-mail: newsletter@n3sh.org or w3wn@arrl.net

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

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

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test September 28th

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Thursday, September 28th, 2023, 7:00 PM, at WPXI, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh PA 15214.** (Note: Final confirmation of date and time not available at deadline, **please confirm** with Grant KC3MLC **before** heading to the test session!)

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

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



Oh my, September is here, that means we have less than 6 weeks till the PA QSO party. I am still unsure of my final plans but I am working on finding a park, currently looking at Clear Creek State forest but still unsure. I have been hard at work in my Ham trailer preparing it to run on battery for the entire weekend. My biggest issues have been fighting EMI / RFI. That said, I hope to hear everyone during the party and hope that everyone gets a chance to participate.

And with September upon us I would be remiss to not mention the 22nd anniversary (I always feel bad using that term) of 9/11 and all that changed after that day. I thank all of those that served and hope that everyone takes a moment to reflect upon our nation and our values. We don't all see eye to eye but our foundation and values continue to bridge us and keep us ever so slowly inching forward in some manner.

I look forward to seeing those that can attend our next club meeting at St. Clair Hospital Outpatient center on the 7th!

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

Another parts retailer is closing up shop.

All Electronics has just announced that they are going out of business "after 56 years supplying surplus and new electronic parts and supplies," and they now have a Final Clearance Sale in progress to clear out their warehouse.

Many of their items are already shown as "limited quantity"

More information at <https://www.allelectronics.com/>

Reminder: The September WASH Meeting location will be back at The St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center in Bethel Park! Map and directions are on Page 14. Meeting begins at 7 PM.

August 26th was off to a great start for a summer Saturday morning, as members of the **WASH BREAKFAST GANG** gathered at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. Between vacations, nice weather, and (ahem) an oversite to remind everyone, the group this month consisted of WB4GCS, KC4WTT, N3IDH and W3WN. Outside of everyone's genuine pleasure in seeing Jim up and about again, topics included cloud computing, the Little Lake theatre, power outages, going to Skyview, kid's centers and "bacon seeds", the Merchant Marine in WW 2, Iran and F14's, WW2 History & the assassination plot in Tehran, the Pearl Harbor attack, shootings in the local news, college graduations at PPG Paints Arena, buying Costco cereal in Hawaii, and more.

Looking forward to seeing as many as possible at our next gathering, on Saturday, September 30th, at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. Mark your calendars, and hope to see you there!

Yes, we have another **change in meeting venue**. The St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room is again available! We're back for September, November, and December! The room was already booked by another party for October, so other arrangements will be made... as nice as the groves were in the spring and summer, it will be nice to finally be back! Thanks to Rick KB3IAC for letting us know!

Greg NB3C was in town for a few days last month to attend a wedding. He sends his regards to all, and regrets that the timing wasn't good to be able to see more than a handful of club members.

Curtis KB3CMT has done a fantastic job as WASH Club President the last few years. But, alas, **all good things eventually come to an end**, and he's announced that he won't be running for re-election for 2024. Elections aren't for a while yet, but nominations should be coming up next month — so now is the time to start thinking about it.

If you're an **ARRL** member, you must have heard by now about the **upcoming dues increases** in 2024, as well as the surcharge for those still wishing to receive **QST** by mail. If you haven't made your wishes known on the matter to the ARRL Board of Directors, please do so. This is YOUR ARRL. They are supposed to be our representatives. So make sure that THEY know how YOU feel, and why.

Speaking of which, it's that time again for elections for the **ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director**. More information on this year's Board of Directors elections cycle is over on Page 10. When you get your ballot, please vote!

Anyone planning on going to the **Butler Co ARC Swapfest** on September 10th? (Yes, *Ye Editor* is looking to share a ride or something!)

Time wounds all heels, er, or something like that, which reminds us that the **2023 Pennsylvania QSO Party** is coming up in just over 6 weeks as this is being written. Many of our club's "remote teams" are well into their plans for the counties to activate. If you have made your plans, drop an email to Bud AA3B so that you can be added to the list that he will shortly start sending out on a regular basis (why? So that people know what you're doing, otherwise you may find another group running YOUR county right next door, because neither you nor they knew you'd both be there... and the next county a mile down the road has no one!)

If you'd like to participate, but don't know what's involved or what to do... let us know. Many of the teams are always looking for another set of hands. Or another group can be put together. This is a real fun operating event, and we hate to see anyone miss out because they didn't know where to start. (Don't worry about experience, there is no better way to get it that to join a group, learn how it's done, and join in!)

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 13

Minutes, August 3rd Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Meeting held at Babcock Grove, South Park

Call to Order: 19:07.

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

Roll Call. 20 Members, 0 Guests Present

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Report provided electronically by Mark (N3RDV) and read by Curtis (KB3CMT) Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH) with second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.

Secretary: Nathan (KC3GMM) - July meeting minutes published in August newsletter. No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Carol (KB3GMN) with second by Harold (K3HCR). Voted and carried.

Repeaters: Curtis (KB3CMT) for Frank (N3FB) – Repeating well.

WASHNet: Chuck (KC3ELA) - Reports of WashNet running well. Thanks to net control volunteers. Reach out if interested in being a net control station.

Thursday Night Tech Net Giveaway drawing to participants. Gary (KB3YCX) won handheld radio. Has JVC headset and coax jumper with Amphenol connectors for prizes. Always looking for new topics.

Curtis (KB3CMT) - Doing POTA presentation this upcoming session. Taking requests for specific questions

Public service: Mike (WA3PYU)L Nothing for August. Last Sunday in September is the Great Race.

Newsletter: Ron (W3WN): Out!

VE: Grant (KC3MLC) - Next session at WPXI for last Thursday in September. Reaching out to Frank (N3FB) for details.

Ways & Means: Carol (KB3GMN) – No report.

Contests: Larry (K3VX) – No report.

New Business: No new business.

Old business:

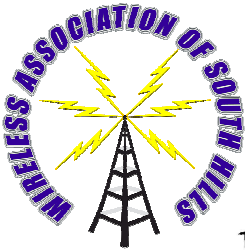
- Ron (W3WN) - Donated two Kenwood 2m radios for testing. Nathan (KC3GMM) to deliver to Jim (WB4GCS).
- Curtis (KB3CMT) - PA QSO party coming up. If you're not familiar with event, ask one of the members. Will be doing a POTA event in conjunction with the contest.

Good of the order:

- Carol (KB3GMN)- Jim (WB4GCS) doing well after surgery. He will be recovering for at least six weeks but can be reached via email and on the repeater.
- Bill (W3WH) - Next year's Field Day chairman is Frank (N3FB). Babcock shelter is reserved but also considering other locations.
- Larry (K3VX) - Thanks to Glen (KE7FD) for building 53' end fed antennas for testing. Bill (W3WH) successfully made contacts on 40m, 20m, and 15m. Tested combination for RigExpert and Antscope software. Can demonstrate if anyone is interested.

Motion to adjourn by Bill (W3WH) with second by Kathy (KA3VXM). Voted and carried.

Adjourned at 7:23 PM 8/3/2023



WASH Spotlight: KC3GMM

With the upcoming return to the St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, we say goodbye a month earlier than expected to South Park for 2023.

And we would be remiss if we didn't thank Nathan KC3GMM for all of his efforts at this year's spring and summer "outdoor" meetings to get a grill going, one way or another, and grill up some hot dogs and such for us!

Thanks Nathan for your efforts!

Thanks to everyone else who contributed snacks, sides, condiments, and whatever else we needed!

(Picture taken at the June club meeting)

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Ron Notarius W3WN



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

Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at [newsletter at n3sh dot org](mailto: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

AA3MR
AC4KU
AE3DL
K3GW
K3HCR
K3VX
K3WPL
K6DWR
KA3VXM
KB1CKF
KB3BYA
KB3CMT
KB3GMN
KB3GMU
KB3GUZ
KB3IAC
KB3IVX
KB3JHR
KB3NIX
KB3YCX
KC3ELA

KC3GMM
KC3MLC
KC3OCT
KC3RGV
KC3TEU
KC3UUK
KC3VQR
KC4WTT
KE7FD
N3DFK
N3FB
N3IDH
N3JSF
N3KFD
N3RDV
N3SBF
N3UE
N8NEU
NB3C
NL7XM
NY9H

W3DTP
W3LE
W3WH
W3WN
W8LEV
WA2YEZ
WA3PYU
WA3VSS
WB4GCS

Melissa
Greenwald
Charlotte
Peterson
Charmel
Spirk

WASH FL
KA3UPY/M
WASH NE
NØPEU
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
KB3FQT
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 July 30th, 2023

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2023 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

September 7 th	WASH Meeting	St.Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
September 10 th	Butler County ARA Swapfest	Unionville Fire department, 102 Mahood Road, Butler PA 16001
September 16 th	Skywarn Southwest District Meeting	Zoom Meeting contact Eddie KB3YRU
September 21 st	NWS Pittsburgh Office Tour	192 Shafer Road, Corapolis 15108 Contact Eddie KB3YRU for reservation
September 30 th	Allegheny County ARES Meeting	K3JMW Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068
October 5 th	WASH Meeting	TBD
October 7 th — 8 th	58 th California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org
October 14 th — 15 th	67 th Pennsylvania QSO Party	https://paqso.org
October 28 th — 29 th	CQ Worldwide DX Contest Phone	https://www.cqww.com
November 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St.Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 4 th — 6 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
November 18 th — 20 th	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
November 25 th — 26 th	CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW	https://www.cqww.com
December 7 th	WASH Meeting	St.Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive



Butler County ARA Swapfest 2023

Sunday, September 10th, 2023, 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters

Unionville Volunteer Fire Department

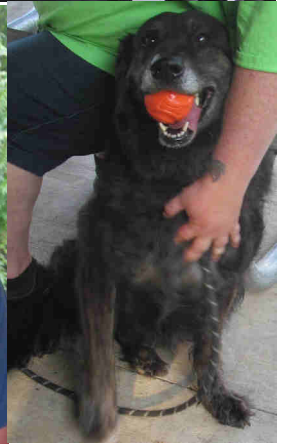
102 Mahood Road (at Route 8 North), Butler, PA 16001

Talk-in on 147.360 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

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

"Seen" at the August Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright
2023 Ron Notarius W3WN



"Seen" at the 2023 Skyview Swap 'n Shop

Photos courtesy of and ©
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Notarius W3WN



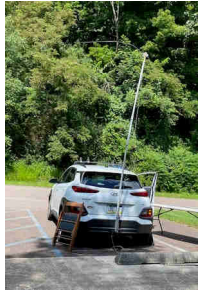
Bill Hill W3WN

A Less Than Successful Outing

Photos courtesy of and (c)
Copyright 2023 Kathy King
KA3VXM

Canonsburg, PA, August 14th, 2023 – On Saturday August 12th Mike and Kathy King, Larry and I drove to Grantsville, Maryland, to participate in the MDC QSO Party. The drive is about 90 minutes and we set up in Casselman Bridge State Park. In addition to operating in the party we wanted to test our brand new end fed antenna designed and built by Glen Roberts KE7FD.

As it turned out the antenna worked very well but the Party part of our day was a flop. It seemed that there was little to no activity (at least none we could hear). Mike and Kathy worked sixteen stations on 40 phone but I don't think any were in Maryland or DC. Larry worked a seven CW stations (very few) and I worked a grand total of one Maryland call, N3QE from Montgomery County who had a bodacious signal.



Admittedly Saturday morning is prime lawn mowing and chore time with radio delayed until later in the day but we really thought we would work lots of stations. Mike and Kathy worked stations all over the Northeast and Canada so the new wire performed well even though it was only about 20 feet high at the high end of the sloper.

We also tried hamsticks set up as a dipole and two 108 inch mobile whips configured as a dipole. The Icom AH-4 tuner mad Larry's Icom 7100 happy with whatever antenna we threw it's way. It's a wonderful piece of gear but it didn't help us hear or be heard better. Looking at the 3830 website quite a few stations reported activity but most of the activity was on phone and we don't know when they were in the air.

Even though we didn't do well we enjoyed ourselves being outside in a beautiful summer day and hopefully we can get out again soon.



NWS Moon Township Tour Rescheduled for September 21st

Eddie
Misiewicz
KB3YRU

courtesy of
Bob Mente
NU3Q

Carnegie, PA, August 22nd, 2023 – Hello everyone! I Am Very Pleased To Announce that the NOAA National Weather Service Pittsburgh Pa Weather Service Office Tour, In Moon Township, has been Rescheduled for Thursday Evening, September 21st, 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

There will be a brief SKYWARN talk, including:

- The role of Amateur Radio in the NWS SKYWARN Program.
- A Weather Balloon launch should take place at 7 PM
- Tracking the Weather Balloon and Observing the Data from it
- Demonstration and Tour of the WX3PIT Amateur Radio Station located at the NWS Office, by WX3PIT Trustee and Allegheny County ARES EC Bob Mente NU3Q



Note: Again, if there is a possibility of Severe Weather forecasted on the day of the tour, the tour may need to be postponed. Hopefully this will not happen!

The office is located at 192 Shafer Road, Coraopolis PA 15108

Please RSVP by Email, Phone, or Radio. (Club members going as a group, please provide a head count of the number attending, and contact information) to:

Eddie Misiewicz KB3YRU, SKYWARN Amateur Radio Operations Coordinator, Southwest District Of Western Pennsylvania misiewiczzedward@yahoo.com (724) 989-5214

Also: Our Next Southwest District Skywarn Team Zoom Meeting Is Scheduled For Saturday Morning, September 16TH, At 10 AM. We will be discussing The Past Weather Event And Skywarn Activations

We Are Planning A Net Control Station And Net Operations Training Class To Be Conducted In The Very Near Future.

ARRL Files Comments Against "Seriously Flawed" HF Rules Petition

American
Radio
Relay
League

Newington, CT, August 2nd, 2023 – ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®, as part of its mission to protect Amateur Radio, has filed [comments](#) against a proposal that would introduce high-power digital communications to the shortwave spectrum that in many instances is immediately adjacent to the Amateur HF bands.

The "Shortwave Modernization Coalition" (SMC), which represents certain high-frequency stock trading interests, filed the [petition](#) with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). ARRL responded on behalf of its members and the 760,000 licensees of the Amateur Radio Service in the US.

The ARRL Laboratory performed a detailed technical analysis over several months to determine if the proposed rules would affect operations on the bands allocated to Radio Amateurs that are inter-mixed with the Part 90 bands in the spectrum in question.

ARRL's analysis determined that, if the proposed rules are adopted, the new operations inevitably will cause significant harmful interference to many users of adjacent and nearby spectrum, including Amateur Radio licensees. Ed Hare W1RFL, a 37-year veteran of the ARRL Lab and internationally recognized expert on radio frequency interference, was the principal investigator on the study. Hare concluded the petition should not be granted. "This petition seeks to put 50 kHz wide, 20,000-watt signals immediately next to seven different amateur bands with weaker protections against interference than required in other services," said Hare.

Continued on Page 9

Letter to the Editor

August 4th, 2023, via Email:

Thanks for forwarding.

The editorial has outrageous accusations that are not based in fact. Those look like rumors off the Internet and it is disappointing you'd actually publish something like that.

Very 73. David Minster, NA2AA

Response

An Editorial

Ron Notarius W3WN

Pittsburgh, PA, September 4th, 2023 – It is disappointing that the concerns raised in last month's editorial are so summarily dismissed out of hand with no further explanation.

The most important aspect is the \$25 annual surcharge for those who still wish to receive QST in the mail. This may not seem important... but it is. It is a membership benefit that dates back to the beginning of the organization. Allegedly the ARRL "lost" about \$1.6 Million on this benefit last year. But... so what? Since when was the membership journal supposed to be a money maker? No, I'm not saying that the League should spend money hand over fist to provide the publication, but a relatively small "loss" for a membership benefit shouldn't be that important.

The math is simple. Presume ARRL membership stays at about 160,000 members, give or take. Presume there is a QST printed and mailed for each one. So that "loss" is what... \$10 per member per year? Yes, I know the details matter and there are lot of factors not in play. But we're talking \$10 per member per year.

Why is a printed QST important? Well, the *faux pas* on the original September 2023 cover (right) is a perfect example. See it? Talk about "wireless" communications. OK, I know the photo was taken (and staged by) the students, and it was a simple mistake. It happens. But the photo could and should have been easily cropped before publication to "cover" this simple mistake. And it was... AFTER the printed edition went out. So those seeing it electronically won't see it. And that's my point... what other changes could be made to electronic publications after the fact, if something really important (to the membership) comes to light, that someone decides should now be covered up?

So no, I don't believe a surcharge is warranted or acceptable. An annual dues increase? Overdue. But a surcharge for a membership benefit? No.

I also disagree that this "surcharge" will be put into effect across the board on January 1st. Anyone whose membership has not expired prior to that date has an implied agreement with the ARRL that in return for their dues (be it per year, multiple years, or a Life Membership) they will receive QST — unless they choose to opt out, as is their prerogative. Imposing the surcharge on CURRENT members after the fact is an implied breach of that agreement. Whether or not it is a legal one is not the point... it is an ethical one.

So exactly what was based on "internet rumors"? That the survey was a sham? (See <https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/arrrl-now-59-per-year.873769/> Post #1914) The monetary "loss"? (See K1OIK video on the August 26th, 2023 Hamxposition https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kwIPG2qZC_c&t=4s)? The 2017 disqualification of K3RF for an alleged "conflict of interest"? (<http://www.myarrrvoice.org/wp-content/uploads/Cummulative-Chron-Corresp-re-EE-K3RF.pdf>)

I am still a believer in the ARRL. But I do not like the direction I see the organization going towards. This is supposed to be a membership organization to benefit the members in particular and the Amateur Radio Service in general. But just as started to happen (and was stopped) a few years ago, it seems some are intent on changing it into something else... an organization that the members are not the focus of, but merely the people who pay money every year. And to the benefit of whom?

I would be remiss as a Member not to ask questions and point out what I don't like and think is wrong.

The views expressed in this Editorial are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Wireless Association of South Hills or its other members.



"Petition" Continued from Page 8

In its formal opposition, ARRL stated, "That destructive interference would result if operations commenced using anything close to the proposed maximum levels."

ARRL's filed comments highlight flawed analysis and incomplete data submitted by the petitioners. It noted the petitioners "...significantly understate the harmful interference that is not just likely, but certain, if the rules proposed by SMC are adopted as proposed. It is noteworthy that SMC's proposed rules would provide less protection than the much-lower power amateur radio transmitters are required to provide Part 90 receivers." ARRL's opposition also noted that there was no reported tests conducted with Amateur or other affected stations, but referenced a spectrum capture in the Comments filed with the Dayton Group that showed actual interference into the Amateur 20-meter band from one of the High Frequency Trading experimental stations.

Part 90 HF rules currently authorize a maximum signal bandwidth equal to a voice communications channel, at up to 1000 W peak envelope power (PEP). The petition seeks multiplication of signal width, greater transmitted power, and weaker rules that protect users of adjacent spectrum. ARRL's comments expose the likely fallout:

"Incredibly, notwithstanding the significant increase in potential interference that would result from using digital schemes with 50 kHz bandwidths and 20,000 watts of power, SMC also proposes to substantially lessen the protections required to protect adjacent and neighboring licensees. SMC proposes [out-of-band emissions] limits that offer less protection than the existing Part 90 limits and would actually permit no attenuation (0 dB) at the edge of adjacent allocations, many of which are bands allocated to and heavily used in the Amateur Radio Service. Consistent with lessening protections while increasing the potential for harmful interference, SMC also proposes a lower limit for spurious emissions. SMC would reduce the existing protection of -73 dB for the applicable 1000-watt power limit to just -50 dB protection for their proposed 20,000-watt limit. Due to the much wider 50 kHz proposed bandwidth, the resulting interference would penetrate deep into the adjacent Amateur bands."

The proposal has been assigned FCC Docket No. RM-11953. While the period for commenting on the petition has now closed, replies to comments in the record may now be submitted.

Hundreds of licensed Radio Amateurs filed comments in the Docket, expressing overwhelming opposition to the proposal. Those interested may read ARRL's full comments and the results of the technical analysis, which are included in the filing. "If granted as written, this would be devastating to Amateur operation for many tens of kHz into our bands," said Hare.

Candidates Named for ARRL Director and Vice Director Elections

American
Radio
Relay
League

Newington, CT, August 21st, 2023 – The ARRL has announced that the candidates for the 2023 ARRL

Division elections are now official. ARRL members will choose between two candidates for Director in the Great Lakes Division, and two candidates for Vice Director in the Atlantic and Dakota Divisions.

In the Atlantic, Dakota, Delta and Midwest Divisions, incumbents for Director are unopposed.

In the Delta and Midwest Divisions incumbents are unopposed for Vice Director and the sole candidate in the Great Lakes Division for Vice Director is unopposed.

Declared Elected without Opposition:

- In the **Atlantic Division**, Director Robert Famiglio K3RF, who has held the seat since January 2023.
- In the Dakota Division, Director Bill Lippert ACØW, who has held the seat since 2021.
- In the Delta Division, Director David Norris K5UZ, who has served in the role since 2012, and Vice Director Ed Hudgens WB4RHQ, who has served in the role since 2013.
- In the Great Lakes Division, candidate Roy Hook W8REH, will be the next Vice Director, being unopposed for the seat to be vacated by Vice Director Scott Yonally N8SY.
- In the Midwest Division, Director Arthur Zygielbaum KØAIZ, and Vice Director David Propper K2DP, both of whom assumed the roles in 2021.

Contested Seats:

- In the **Atlantic Division**, Vice Director Martin Pittinger KB3MXM will face challenger Robert Weinstock W3RQ for the seat.
- In the Dakota Division, Vice Director Lynn Nelson WØND will face challenger Matthew Holden KØBBC, who has previously held the positions of Director and Vice Director.
- In the Great Lakes Division, Vice Director Scott Yonally N8SY will run against Michael Kalter W8CI for the position of Division Director.

Balloting for contested seats will take place this fall. Votes will be counted, and successful candidates announced, in November.

Candidates declared elected will assume their roles for terms beginning January 1st, 2024.

DX News Briefs



BP9GB will be QRV 8 -14 September, 60 meters and up, CW & SSB up about 30 kHz from the "segment edges". QSL via N9GB or as directed.

The Rebel DX Group will be QRV as **T22T** 21 September through 9 October, running up to 10 stations simultaneously. QSL as directed.

5X3K will be QRV 28 September – 8 October, CW SSB RTTY and FT8. More information at https://www.facebook.com/groups/1472348776313779/?hoisted_section_header_type=recently_seen&multi_permaLinks=3492955147586455 QSL as directed.

The Uruguay DX Group will be QRV from Christmas Island as **T32AN** 4 – 11 October, holiday style, using primarily CW and some SSB 40 – 6 meters. QSL via EB7DX

T2C should be QRV on or about 10 October, with half the operators departing on or about 24 October, and the rest on or about 30 October, including the CQ WW SSB Contest. This will be a "light weight" DXpedition. More information at <http://t2c.mydx.de>. QSL via DL4SVA or OQRS.

TO8FH will be QRV from Mayotte 10 – 22 October, CW SSB & FT8 with up to 7 active stations. More information at <https://to8fh.wordpress.com/> QSL via F5GSJ.

E51JAN will be QRV 12 October – 6 November. More information at <https://35n.dxpeditons.org>. QSL via ClubLog OQRS or as directed.

CQ WW SSB Contest (28 – 29 October) Operations:

- ♦ **CR2B:** QSL via EA1BP
- ♦ **HP1XT:** QSL via KU9C
- ♦ **LX8M:** QSL direct via LotW
- ♦ **PJ2T:** QSL as directed.
- ♦ **V49R:** QSL via N2HX
- ♦ **V85RH:** QSL via JO1RUR or LotW

4W8X will be QRV starting 05 November, rescheduled from 2020 due to Covid, by the Lagunaria DX Group. They will be QRV through at least the CQ WW DX CW contest, 25 – 26 November. QSL via DJ4MX or as directed.

TX7L will be QRV 4 – 19 November from the Marquesas Islands. More information from <https://tx7l.com>. QSL via F6EXV or OQRS on ClubLog ONLY.

PJ4A will be QRV 25-26 November during the CQ WW CW Contest. QSL via K4BAI

TI7W will be QRV 25-26 November during the CQ WW CW Contest. QSL via MØURX

The Perseverance DX Group will be QRV as **TX5S** from Clipperton Island (NA-011) for 16 days starting on or about 17 January 2024. More information at <https://clip.pdxg.net/>. QSL via MØURX or OQRS.

QSL Routes

For Sale:

Full sheet of 50 (fifty) historic 1964 US Amateur Radio Postage Stamps. (More Than One Available)

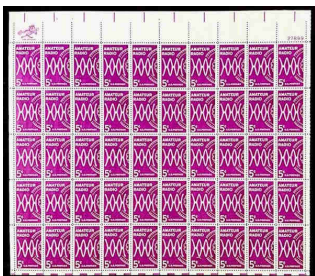
Originally issued on December 15th, 1964 these Postage Stamps were specifically commissioned to honor the nation's 250,000 hams. The release fell on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Radio Relay League, (ARRL) and was first made available for purchase in Anchorage, Alaska where amateur radio operators played an important role in the aftermath of The Great Alaskan Earthquake on March 27th of that year.

The purple vertical stamp was designed by Emil J. Willett of Hartford, CT and combines a radio broadcast sine wave with a partial radio dial. Nearly 60 years later, these are cherished by amateur radio operators around the world.

Brand new and never hinged with full gum adhesive, this Scott # 1260, 5 cent Amateur Radio Sheet is in absolute Collector condition. Makes a memorable Birthday. Absolutely suitable for framing!

\$29 +\$2 for USPS First Class shipping to any 50 US. Check, M.O., Zelle, PayPal (**F&F only**) ok.

Write to PeteTheGreek at: NL7XM@arrl.net



1A0C via EA5RM	EP6DSP via WA3FRP	PA5150EVH via PF1SCT
3W1T via XV1X	HBØDX via HBØHF	PA60UD via PD8F
321K via SP1KRF	HB75ZRH via HB9LBC	PD33ZDOGE via PD4L
4K5ØDHC via 4K4K	HFØWFF/P via SP5ZIM	PE55TEX via DK8ZZ
5K1ARC via HK3LRB	HF5ØF via SP2FAP	PF44FF via PHØNO
5K5ARC via HK3LRB	HI3K via EB7DX	PF2Ø23GP via PF1B
5P5T via OZ1FDH	HL78V via 6KØMF	PG1ØØN via PA7DA
5P6MJ via OZ6MJ	HSØZOA via EB7DX	PI5ØRAG via PI4AAG
9Q2WX via IZ8CCW	HZ1SK via IZ8CLM	PI9TP via PE5ENJ
A44A via EC6DX	I1IL via IQ1GE	RI41POL via RN3RQ
A6ØAP via EA7FTR	II4GAR via IQ4FE	SD7M/6 via DF93M
A61DI via EA7FTR	II6POPE via IZ6BRJ	SN2B via SP3CGK
AP5ARS via IK2DUW	II7P via IK7RWE	SP88YL via HB9FFM
AT2G2Ø via VU2UUU	IMØC via IK5WWA	SK9W via MØKYR
AT3MOON via VU2UUU	IQ9VH via IT9WRZ	T88HV via JH6JWE
C21TS via MØØXO	IR3Z via IN3XUG	TC1ØØYR via TA2IJ
CS2MD via CS5NRA	KL7/ABØG via DK7PE	TMØW via F2CT
CS2P via CT1ARR	LZ28MS via LZ1KCP	TM2LW via F4ELJ
CX9ØRCU via CX1AA	LZ8E via LZ2BE	TM5CVA via F5TLF
CW5X via CX2ABC	OE4C/P via OE4RGC	TM44CDXC via F5CWU
DAØCW/P via DF6EX	OE4ØXTU via OE1XTU	TM5ØCCLV via F6KJX
DAØLCC via DH4HAN	OJØJR via OH3JR	TM62TLG via F4AHN
DFØSX via DL1CW	OP25VRA via ON7EN	TM63TDFP via F4RLW
DL1ØRG via DL2VFR	OP45IH via ON4RAT	YR2Ø23SIMPO via YO3CZW
DQ125LH via DL6KWN	ØØØQ via ON6VDS	YT8A via YU1EA
DQ5ØAMSAT via DK3ZL	ØØ7Z via ON6KZ	ZS1AFS via N4GNR
DU9/ZS6BR via ZS6BR	ØP1ØKF via ON6HC	ZS9V via MØØXO
E73ØS via E77AR	ØP6Y/P via ON6YP	
E75ØESP via E76AA	ØQ4U via ON4AMX	
ED1R via EC1KR	ØS8A via ON8VK	
EG1RCC via EALIQM	ØZØROM via DK1VK	

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.**

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

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Antennas Rotors & Towers Computer Media & Software
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Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

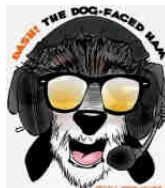
Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

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



For Sale:

BRC N-2000 5db gain mobile antenna with a 5" mag mount. \$30.00

10 meter "L" antenna with mount and 30' of rg-8X coax \$50.00

New Isotron 40 & 20 meter combination with harness to run 1 coax \$80.00

More information call Ted WA3BOJ at 412-983-7256

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



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 and we will take care of the rest!

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



FCC News

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 30th, -- **ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®** has received approval from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for an emergency waiver to facilitate amateur radio emergency communications for hurricane relief.

The request, filed by the ARRL Washington DC Counsel on August 29th, 2023, seeks a waiver of HF symbol rate restrictions.

Trained radio amateurs involved with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other communications support groups are working with federal, state, and local emergency management officials and relief organizations to assist with disaster relief communications in anticipation of the arrival of Hurricane Idalia at the Florida coast. Their equipment includes radio modems and computers that are capable of data transmissions that exceed the regulatory baud symbol rate limit yet use the same or less bandwidth as slower-speed protocols that are permitted. The higher data rates are critical to sending the anticipated relief communications, including lists of needed and distributed supplies, etc. Many other amateur stations involved in disaster relief communications are able to use the higher-speed emissions from their stations inside and outside the anticipated landfall area or involved areas to assist in the communication efforts.

The waiver, which was granted August 30th, is for a 60-day relief period from the rules, based upon the immediate need related to the threat of Hurricane Idalia. It would cover use directly related to any additional hurricanes that may develop within the 60-day period. Only messages related to these hurricanes would be permitted to be sent via the higher-speed modes, and only publicly documented modes would be allowed.

Read the waiver (PDF)

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston KE5MHV said the rate increase will help response abilities. "The increased symbol rate provides for faster more efficient message transmissions for digital communications. These modes such as WINLINK are used to send forms for served agencies and other data that can be vital during a disaster," he said.

Johnston and volunteers of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) are closely coordinating with ARRL Sections in Florida. The ARRL Northern Florida Section is activated in preparation for Hurricane Idalia. ARES volunteers are staffing the auxiliary communications position at the Florida Emergency Operations Center, which was activated at 7:00 AM on August 29th.

Several other hurricane-related amateur radio nets were active ahead of the storm. Hurricane Idalia strengthened into a category 4 storm briefly in the overnight hours of Wednesday, August 30th before being downgraded to category 3. The storm made landfall in the Great Bend region of Florida's Gulf Coast with sustained winds of 120 miles per hour.

US Amateurs by Class as of September 1st, 2023

Novice	6,989
Technician	428,487
General	201,248
Advanced	36,297
Extra	163,775
Club	12,386
Total	849,182
All-Time High	07/11/2023 851,443
Last 90 Days:	
New Amateurs	5,923
Callsign Changes	1,731
Class Changes	3,206
No Longer Licensed	6,028
All Updates (*)	24,418

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of September 1st, 2023

Group A	AC3KQ
Group B	KF3EV
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3WRR

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



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 25th, 2024

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

E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

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

Reservations received after February 1st, 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)

	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Qtr Oct-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

New Members Only:

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

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

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

Signature: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

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

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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

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

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



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Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?

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HAM GRAPHICS
WEB COMICS
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k1nss@dashtoons.com

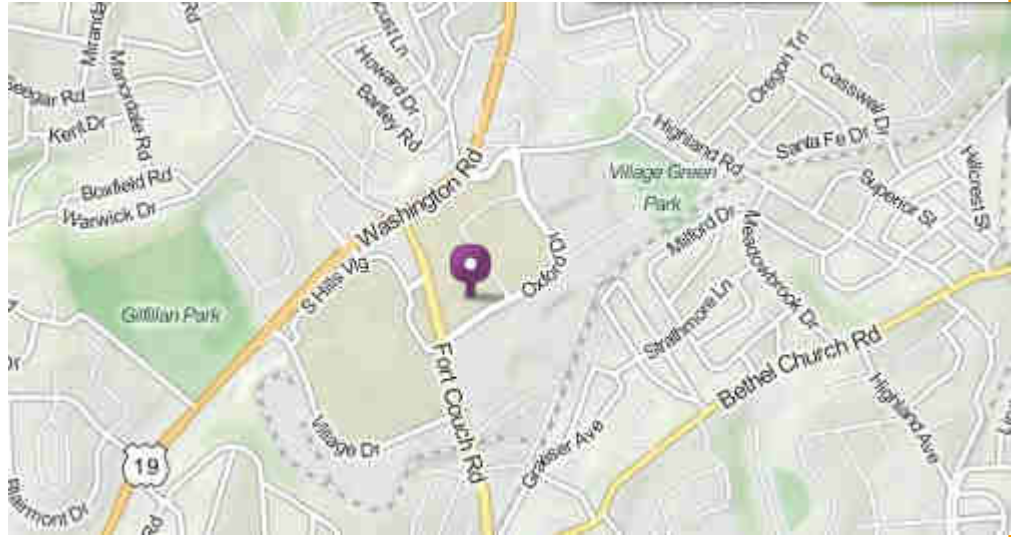
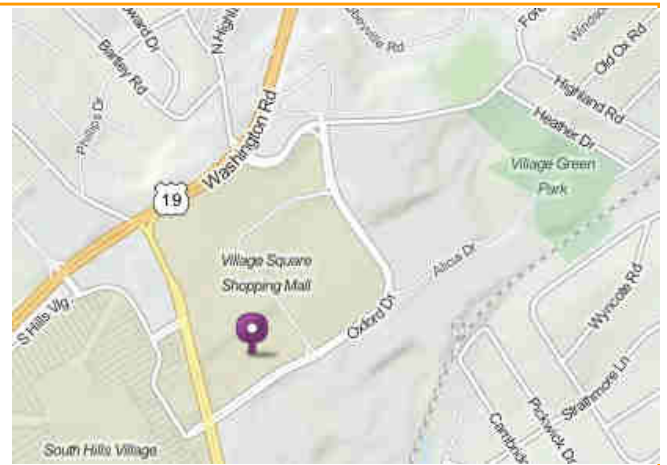


2023 WASH Meeting Location

St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room

2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park PA 15102

Adjacent to Village Square Mall, across Ft. Couch Road from
South Hills Village Mall, just off of US Route 19



The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor

3395 Rosewood Drive

Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH
NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org
www.washarc.org

