





The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on Friday, October 6th, 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: Pa QSO 2023, 2024 Officers Elections, and much more.

See you there!

Cover: KB3CMT Mobile in the 2021 Pa QSO Party Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021, 2023 Curtis Turner KB3CMT

WASH 2023 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President VP / Secretary VP / Treasurer

Mark Stabryla N3RDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee WA3SH Trustee NP2SH Trustee N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager Ron Notarius W3WN NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager VE Team Liaison Webmaster Quartermaster WASH FM Net Manager WASHFest 2024 Committee

Activities & Operating Events Ways & Means WASH 2M Contest Chair Field Day 2024 Coordinators

Curtis Turner KB3CMT Nathan Suehr KC3GMM

> Larry Comden K3VX Rich Danko N3SBF Paul Jordan NP2JF Carl Schroeder K9CS Grant Olson KC3MLC Curtis Turner KB3CMT Harold Rosenberger K3HCR Chuck Bihun KC3ELA Ron Telek W3LE, Chair Bill Hill W3WH Glen Roberts KE7FD **Rick Bell KB3IAC** Carol Danko KB3GMN Chuck Bihun KC3ELA 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 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.

The Legal Stuff

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

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

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test TBA

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on 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!)

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

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

Thank you for your patience!

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

Curtis's Reflections

Editor's Note: Curtis was unavailable to give us a few words prior to deadline.

So we will take this opportunity to remind everyone that this month's meeting is on Friday, not Thursday, due to room availability!

— 73, Curtis Turner KB3CMT President, WIRELESS Association of South Hills, Inc. N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

At the 21" International Amateur Radio Union World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championship in Liberec, Czech Republic, held August 27th through September 2rd, 2023, USA competitors won a silver medal for an individual competition, as well as two bronze team medals. ARDF, also known as radio orienteering, is a multi-skill sport that involves running and navigation using only a map and compass. Competitors use a 2meter (144 MHz) or 80-meter (35 MHz) radio receiver to locate multiple transmitters hidden in a forest, The sport directly applies to important activities such as search and rescue, wildlife tracking, airborne and seaborne anvigation, and compunications. The competition at the championship in Liberee involved

mountainous terrain, intricate navigation challenges, periods of rain, and elite racing. The USA fielded its largest team ever, including 21 athletes, with seven competing in a world championship for the

first time. The (IARU) and Czech Radio Club hosted the event in the mountainous region of North Bohemia, with 28 countries and nearly 400 racers

Reminder: The October WASH Meeting location will be back at The St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center in Bethel Park! Note tha this month, we are meeting on FRIDAY as the room is already booked by another group.

Map and directions are on Page 14. Meeting begins at 7 PM.

September 30th was an unexpectedly beautiful morning, more reminiscent of Spring than Fall. Not that that ever stopped the **WASH BREAKFAST GANG** from congregating at the McMurRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD. This month brought together W3Wh, WB4GCS, N3FB, KB3GMU, WA2YEZ and W3WN. Discussion topics included gutter antennas, moving day, no secrets, Franks' RF meter, hiring and promotion politics, PA QSO Party plans, loop antennas, bad (heart) valves requiring surgery, the Pirates season is about done,,, is the Steelers season as well?, new airport terminal construction, and a ton more.

Looking forward to seeing as many as possible at our next gathering, pre-Halloween, on Saturday, October 28th, at the McMurray Eat'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD. Mark your calendars, and hope to see you there!

PA QSO 2023 is upon us. We really hope to see as many club members on the air as is possible or practical. Teams are going out to multiple counties to operate portable, as usual, and many others are staying home and operating as they can. If you haven't made any plans and want to get involved, please speak up and let someone know! Arrangements can be made, for anyone interested! Not sure because you haven't done it before, or don't think you have the experience? A fun event like this is one of the best ways to start, so don't let that stop you!

This month kicks off the Fall Contest season. Pa QSO, Ca QSO, and a whole bunch of other State QSO Parties, Sweepstakes, CQ Worldwide... the bands will be very active for most of the next few weekends (NFL and NHL not withstanding!). Hope to see a lot of activity, and again, don't let inexperience stop you!

Which is a good time to remind you... the days are growing shorter, and it will soon be getting colder. Now is the time to work **on those outdoor antennas**, while the weather is still in a cooperating mood!

And yes, that also means that the WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest and WASHFest 2024 will both be here before you know it!

2024 Officer Elections are coming up. 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. Nominations should be coming up this month — so now is the time to start thinking about it.

If you're an **ARRL** member, you should have received by now an email from the League about the upcoming elections for the **ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director**. You can vote electronically (details in the email) or you can vote traditionally by mail. The important thing is to vote! We had hoped to have information from the candidates by now, but nothing has been sent out yet. We hope to be able to cover this by next month. In the meantime, when you get your ballot, please don't ignore it. Please vote!

On that same note, don't forget to let the **ARRL Board of Directors** members know how you feel about the recent dues increase, the increase in cost of printed/mailed QST, and anything else. If they don't hear from you, they won't know how you feel, and won't take your concerns into account. There is a time to be quiet. This is not one of those times. (Not an ARRL member? Tell 'em anyway!)

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

Minutes, September 7th Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:05.

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Roll Call. 15 Members, 0 Guests Present

Committee Reports:

- Treasurer: Financial report provided electronically by Mark (N3RDV) and read by Nathan (KC3GMM). Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH) with second by Glen (KE7FD). Voted and carried.
- Secretary: Nathan (KC3GMM): August meeting minutes published in the September WASHRag. No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Jeff (N3JSF) with second by Frank (N3FB). Voted and carried.

Repeaters: Frank (N3FB) - Repeating

- WASHNet: Chuck (KC3ELA) Moving along nicely. Jim (WB4GCS) Good conversation.
- Thursday Night Tech Net Glen (KE7FD) Last winner was Jeff (N3JSF). Email asking if anybody is interested in going to NWS tour. Will come up with a topic.
- **Public service:** Larry (K3VX) Great race looking for volunteers. Event is at the end of September.
- .Newsletter: Curtis (KB3CMT) Newsletter is out and published on the web site.

VE: Curtis (KB3CMT) - Grant (KC3MLC) looking to schedule session.

Ways & Means: Ron (W3LE) - Carol (KB3GMN) has found a good deal on a prize for the hamfest but if we buy it ahead of time, the clock is ticking on the warranty. There may be deals around Christmas time. Suggesting HF rig for first prize and a generator as second prize. Looking for third and fourth prizes. Putting together budget for prizes.

Contests: Larry (K3VX) – No report.

New Business:

- Bill (W3WH) Has a backup meeting room available.
- Curtis (KB3CMT) St Clair room is booked for us for Friday, October 6th. Moving October meeting to that date.

Old business: None.

Good of the order:

- Message for the group about symptoms leading up to when he discovered heart issues.
- Glen (KE7FD) Has a Icom AH4 tuner for sale if anyone is interested.
- Larry (K3VX) Has a demo of RigExpert with AntScope as well as a cable length measurement device.
- Curtis (KB3CMT) 9/11 Anniversary. Remember and reflect and thank a service member.
- Jim (WB4GCS) Shared a reflection about his day on 9/11.

Motion to adjourn: Harold (K3HCR) with motion to adjourn and second by Jim (WB4GCS). Voted and carried.

Adjourned at 7:30 PM 9/7/2023



WASH Spotlight: N3JSF



For having the correct answer at the August TTTT, Jeff N3JSF was presented with a JBL Headset by Glen KE7FD, with Curtis KB3CMT observing. Congratulations!

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Glen Roberts KE7FD

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

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

Monthly WASH Breakfast



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

Join us this month at *Eat'n Park*, 3380 Washington Road (US 19), McMurray. Start time is about 8 AM until ???? Monitor 146.955 & 443.659 for talk-in or any last minute changes.

All are welcome, WASH members or not, amateurs or

not!

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AA3MR AC4KU AE3DL K3GW K3HCR K3SGT K3VX K3WPL K6DWR KA3VXM KB1CKF K3SBYA KB3CMT KB3GMU KB3GUZ KB3IAC KB3IVX KB3NIX KB3NIX KB3YCX	KC3ELA KC3GMM KC3MLC KC3CT KC3RGV KC3TEU KC3UUK KC3VQR KC4WTT KE7FD N3DFK N3FB N3JDH N3JSF N3KFD N3RDV N3SBF N3KFD N3RDV N3SBF N3UE N8NEU NB3C NL7XM	NY9H W3DTP W3LE W3WH W3WN W8LEV WA2YEZ WA3PYU WA3VSS WB4GCS Melissa Greenwald Charlotte Peterson Charmel Spirk	be liste isn't, conta	WASH TN K3OL KE3XB N3YPB WASH TX NB3C K3LGM KB3UX Jane Wagner WASH VI NP2JF	Silent Keys AB3KA AB3ED AC4KU AD3Q K3EED K3LIE KA3NMG KB3ENX KB3FNM KB3FQT KB3JHQ N3BPB N3CZZ N3FZ N3HKQ N3KEH N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR N3SKR
	Throug	h September 3	30 th . 2023		W3ZLK

Through September 30th, 2023 List complied by Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

W4ZE

WA3JPP

2023 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

October 6 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
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 14 th — 15 th	Nevada QSO Party	http://nvqso.com
October 14 th — 15 th	Oceania DX Contest CW	https://www.oceaniadxcontest.com
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 1 st — 3 rd	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org/160-meter
December 7 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
December 9 th — 10 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org/10-meter
December 30 th — 31 st	Stew Perry Top Band Challenge	https://www.kkn.net/stew
December 31 st — January 1 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night
January 4 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 25 th	WASHFest 2024	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park

"Seen" at the September Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright Bill Hill W3WH

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Photos courtesy of and © Copyright Glen Roberts KE7FD with a RigExpert and a cable tester resentation on testing coax gave a







Comden K3V>

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Dave Jensen W7DGJ



https://www.grz.com/trials-and-errors



Scottsdale, AZ, September 12th, 2023 - POTA activations are so much fun, but they can be stressful at times. Perhaps you'd enjoy getting up and seeing some of the park you've activated after an hour or two of those pileups. On one recent outing my fingers were blistered from hitting the push-to-talk button. I must have caught the propagation just right or maybe the park I was in was really in demand. I felt like a DX station on some rare entity, and after an hour or two I needed a break. Have you considered inserting a hike or even a snooze under a shady tree into your portable radio routine? It's entirely possible when you switch over from POTA to WSPR!

WSPR is an acronym for Weak Signal Propagation Reporter. It is a protocol, implemented in a weak-signal radio computer program written by Joe Taylor, K1JT. It's by far the easiest of the digital modes to get involved with, as it's exclusively one way transmission. It can be accomplished through a variety of very small gadgets.

Here's how I use WSPR...When I take a break from the activation, I take all my gear back to the car but leave my antenna up. I then attach one of Zachtek's tiny little WSPR transmitters to my coax, along with a cell phone battery pack. The total gear you need for this is about the size of pack of cigarettes, so you can hide it under a bush and walk away securely. (First, you set it up with a laptop in about two or three minutes). Harry Zachrisson builds these great little devices by hand over in Sweden, and they pack an unbelievable punch for about \$150.

I bought one and matched it up with my POTA whip for a couple hours of one-way beacon transmissions. I plugged it into my laptop after a hike and found out that this little transmitter of a fifth of one watt had been heard on both coasts of the USA, in Australia, New Zealand, British Columbia, and get this... Antarctica! All of this on an inexpensive Chinese vertical. I've lately been

using it with an Alpha and also with a Chameleon, and getting even more stunning results. You'll get a great map of who's hearing you from the official WSPR website, and it will inspire you once again with the thought of how cool radio can be (and how valuable a tool your portable transceiver can be for emergencies).

Even if you've had a dismal POTA outing, you'll feel good about the map the WSPR website builds that shows your antenna's performance. For that matter, along with an antenna analyzer, it's a great tool for tuning your antenna. With the right gear, WSPR can be just another fun aspect of portable ham radio.

> One of the handiest ham accessories I've ever run across is a large "bulldog clip" that will attach to just about anything, whether it be a cattle fence or a stop sign in a local park (I've done both). This clip changed my portable activations from the moment I brought it along. The Workman QRCS3 is a simple and inexpensive connector, built like a Mac truck, that allows a mount from just about any angle - vertical or horizontal. It has a big (powerful and strong) jaw that adjusts to 2.5 inches in full open; it ensures a solid connection due to all the "teeth" gripping the surface. A smoothly rotating bracket on the QRCS3 can be adjusted with an Allen wrench to any position and no matter what angle it is attached to that fence, it will hold your antenna upright.

I use this mount with a whip and coil, or it holds one end of a dipole. I've never experienced a situation where it wasn't helpful in some way. It's produced by Workman Electronic Products out of Ohio and is available from several sellers on eBay and Amazon for \$20-\$25 shipped. Like many other ham radio accessories, other companies or dealers buy and resell this as their own, so ensure you don't pay the \$50 or \$60 they are looking for (Chameleon and others will resell this device as theirs).

Another cool piece of gear that I couldn't live without is the CamJam. Used for a quick tie-down of an antenna support rope, or to tighten up one end of a dipole, for example, this device makes everything quick and easy. It's available in a couple of sizes, and both plastic and metal versions. Chris KF7P introduced me to these, and I'm now spoiled for life. You can find them on the website of KFZP Metalwerks, at KF7P.com.

An interesting part of radio history is the story of the first full amateur station marketed commercially to the public. The inventor and marketer of the "Telimco Complete Outfit" was an early enthusiast by the name of Hugo Gernsback. Gernsback packaged up this transmitter, receiver, and antenna and sold the entire package into the consumer market, advertising it in the pages of Scientific American beginning in the fall of 1905. The Telimco was exclusively for sending and receiving telegraphic dots-and-dashes, as it included a spark gap transmitter and a tapping-coherer receiver. His "outfit" also included four batteries to power the gear. The price? An astounding \$8.50, shipped. While (of course) that amount meant a great deal more at a time when you could buy an egg and cheese sandwich for a nickel, it still represented an incredible buy. Just imagine being one of those curious young men who got their hands on one of these back in that era (sorry YL's - the club was almost exclusively boys at that time in history). Fifty years later, crystal sets and shortwave radios were the bridge for my generation into the radio hobby, but Gernsback was clearly the one who brought the idea of an amateur radio hobby to young people a couple of generations earlier.



WIRELESS TELEGRAPH The "Telimco" Complete Outhit, comprising 1 inch Spark Coll, Strap Key, Sender, Sensitive Relay, Coherer, with Automatic Decoherer and Sounder, 4 Ex. Strong Dry Cells, all necessary wiring, including send and catch wires, with full instructions and diagrams, \$8.50. Guaranteed to work up to one mile. Send for Illust, Famphlet & 64-page catalogue. ELECTRO IMPORTING CO., 32 Park Place, New York

Gernsback was also a dreamer and writer about far-off scientific achievements, other solar systems, and topics like robots. Through that secondary passion of his for his science writing, Gernsback became well-known and is considered to be the father of science fiction. His role at the time was editor and publisher of the famous sci-fi magazine, Amazing Stories. As a publisher, he was also first to produce a quality magazine for the radio enthusiast, which pre-dated QST, called Modern Electrics. While Hugo Gernsback's radio exploits were significant, he's best remembered today through the award given annually for the best science fiction writing, the Hugo Award.



The Intrepid-DX Group is a US-based nonprofit organization that promotes amateur radio activities around the world. The Youth Dream Rig Essay Contest is designed to gather the views and ideas of young people involved in amateur radio.

Contestants must be USA or Canadian amateur radio license holders who are 19 years old or younger; must reside in the US, US territories, or Canada, and they must submit a two-page essay explaining what attracted them to amateur radio. All entries must be a plain text document, PDF, or Microsoft *Word* document and be either emailed to <u>intrepiddxgroup@gmail.com</u> or mailed to The Intrepid-DX Group, 3052 Wetmore Dr., San Jose, California 95148, USA by November 30th, 2023. Those who have previously submitted an essay may compete in this year's contest, as long as all criteria are met.



The contest winner will be announced on the group's website and Facebook page on December 15th, 2023. The winner must agree to provide a photo with their prize. For a complete list of the rules and prizes, visit https://intrepid-dx.com/news/



Washington, DC, September 30th, 2024 –The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between July 1st, 2024 and December 31st, 2024. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is November 10th, 2023. Proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and the proposal form can be found at www.ariss.org. An ARISS Introductory Webinar session will be held on October 5th 2023 at 7 PM ET. The Eventbrite link to sign up is: https://ariss-proposal-webinar-fall-2023.eventbrite.com

Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled Amateur Radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via Amateur Radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.

Amateur Radio organizations around the world with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe present educational organizations with this opportunity. The ham radio organizations' volunteer efforts provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using Amateur Radio.

Please direct any questions to education@ariss-usa.org.



Irving, TX, September 2023 – Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October, October 20th – 22nd 2023. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

Tell Me More

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, including girls. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also

be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

When Is It?

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October, October 20th – 22nd 2023. There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening.

How Can I Participate as a Scout?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at **www.arrl.org/find-a-club**. This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council using the Council locator.

If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, you can work with the council or a local unit (pack, troop, crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air.

Newington, CT, September 28th, 2023 – The 2023 Amplitude Modulation International (AMI) Jamboree will be held over the Thanksgiving weekend, starting at dusk on November 24th and ending at dawn on November 27th.

AMI Executive Director John C. McGrath N9AMI said the jamboree is not a contest but rather an AM-only operating event. "Everyone is welcome to participate, and there is a certificate available for those who contact 25 stations and submit a log," said McGrath. "Each class winner will receive a certificate, and a short biography will be posted on the AMI website. While the age of the equipment doesn't matter, there must be an AM mode selection on the radio," he added.

The preferred AM bands for operation are: 1.885, 1.900, 1.945, 1.985, 3.870 to 3.890, 7.175, 7.290,

7.293, 7.295, 14.286 and the upper end of 20 meters

More information is available on the AMI website.

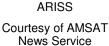
- courtesy of the American Radio Relay League





Scouting BSA







Editor's Note: Originally posted on the Discussion forums at QRZ.COM. See https://forums.grz.com/index.php?goto/post&id=6656912#post-6656912

Norco, CA, September 6th, 2023 – I've tried really hard to stay out of these discussions. I'm not and have never been an ARRL member. Because of that I don't have a say. Nor do I have any vested interest. What I do have is an unbiased view at what's going on.

Here is my unbiased opinion, only looking at what's been presented on these forums. Again, I'm not in the ARRL, so I don't get anything from them. I only hear about these issues from all of you. Take that into consideration when you read the rest. These thoughts are based solely on all of your posts.

As much it may suck to hear and may be hard pill to swallow, they're trying to get rid of you. When I say "you" I loosely mean the print subscribers. Print is dead. Print is a financial and logistical burden. They know it, National Geographic knows it, every publisher knows it. Print has gone the way of the Dodo bird like it or not.

The increased fee is not to cover costs, it's to get you to stop subscribing to it. That's what they want, they want you to stop subscribing to it.

The increased print fee is arbitrary in the sense of revenue. But it is not arbitrary in the sense of effectiveness. Meaning, I'd bet they picked a figure that they thought wouldn't be grossly over the top that would be obvious what they were doing, but would hopefully be enough to get at least 50% of subscribers to opt out of. That's what they want, people to stop subscribing to it. My guess is they'd probably be happy if they lost 50% of print subscribers. That's probably their goal, to get at least 50% to bail on the print.

Then, as someone else pointed out in one of the other numerous threads dealing with this topic; in 5 to 10 years, they hope that 50% of those 50% that had opted in, through attrition or otherwise will be gone. At that point they're maybe dealing with a few hundred hold outs to close the door on. That will be much less backlash then than now and they will close the door on print forever.

That's the sad fact guys. I know it's a hard pill to swallow, but you have to read to writing on the wall. Look at the last 2 months of multiple threads about the ARRL, in particular its magazine. They're giving you a consistently crappier product and charging you more for it. You're a burden on them. It's obvious that many of you care more about the magazine than they do. Not to mention, it's a well known fact that all several of you do is complain about it anyways. I've never seen a group of people look so forward to a magazine that based on your posts, you don't even like.

I hate to say it, and you can blast me for it or criticize me all you want. As an outsider looking in, reading the writing on the walls and taking everything into consideration; it seems they want you gone.

The views expressed in this article are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Wireless Association of South Hills or it's members.



American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 22nd, 2023 – Thursday, September 21st, 2023, marked 50 years since the ARRL Foundation was formed. As a partner with ARRL, the ARRL Foundation stewards philanthropic support for amateur radio through scholarships, club grants, and other programs to ensure a strong and vibrant future for the avocation.

The total assets of the nonprofit entity measured nearly \$8M at its most recent annual audit, but it grew from humble beginnings. In September 1973, several members of the ARRL Board of Directors worked to establish the charity. Larry Shima WØPAN, was the Director of the ARRL Dakota Division at the time and did a lot of work to get the Foundation started. Shima is very pleased with the Foundation's success, stating, "We started off with \$1,000, and just look at it now!"



Shima says the original intent was to support future generations of radio amateurs. At the time, space and satellite communications were cutting-edge, and they were the focus of ARRL Foundation activities, though scholarships were also high on the list. "I was thrilled when I got the recent issue of *QST* that had the photos of the scholarship recipients in it. That is exactly what it was intended to do; we wanted to provide scholarships for young people," he said.

Gifts from generous donors support The ARRL Foundation, but it also works to help other charitable groups extend their reach. In an address to donors delivered over the summer, ARRL Foundation President David Norris K5UZ highlighted a recent grant the Foundation received. "The recent support the Foundation has received from Amateur Radio Digital Communications, or ARDC, has been transformational. We have been able to dramatically increase the funding of scholarships through their generosity and are working through a program of club grants, where more than \$500,000 was distributed to clubs looking to take on new projects or sustain their organizations – and to share their learning with others," he told the crowd.

Shima was just 35 when the ARRL Foundation was formed. He is the only surviving founding member of the Foundation Board. Fifty years later, he believes that hams who have done well in life have an obligation to support amateur radio by giving generously to ARRL and the ARRL Foundation. Ongoing financial support enables ARRL to promote and protect amateur radio while our Foundation supports the future generations of hams.

That generous support will have a tangible reach. More than 100 scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$25,000, will be awarded in 2024. Thank you to the many donors for making this work possible, and congratulations to the numerous scholarship recipients who have benefited from their generosity.

To learn more about the ARRL Foundation, please visit the Foundation website at http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-foundation. To learn how to make amateur radio a part of your charitable giving, contact the ARRL Development Office at http://www.arrl.org/contact-us.

Fair Lawn, NJ, September 3rd, 2023 -- Join with thousands of your fellow amateurs as part of the largest crowd-sourced contest for ham radio scientific exploration ever!

The SEQP is for learning more about how the ionosphere works. Use any mode, any band for all or part of each day! Participation can be from everywhere – you need not be near the path of either eclipse to contribute valuable data by participating.

For details on the SEQP contest and rules go to www.hamsci.org/contest-info.

For the Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge using CW, WSPR and FST4W modes go to www.hamsci.org/contest-info.

For more information about HamSCI, please visit the HamSCI website. For more information about the Festivals of Eclipse lonospheric Science educational opportunities for the amateur community and the public please visit our information pages. — Ed Efchak WX2R, Public Information Officer, HamSCI



Scott Callahan K6GP



Clipperton 2024 Team

Press Release #6, October $3^{\prime d}$, *2023* – Clipperton is #28 most wanted in Europe and #37 most wanted globally. FT-8 and 60m have **never**

been activated from Clipperton. We expect the pileups to be deep and energetic, we will do our best to meet the demand.

The campsite design was finalized, there will be two operating locations separated by approximately 500 meters. CW/ Satellite/EME/Digital will operate from the main campsite SSB/Digital will operate from the distant campsite. Each will have a full complement of antennas for their designated

bands. The main campsite includes the dining (kitchen) tent, Starlink / local area network HQ and sleeping tents, the camps will be linked by

Wi-Fi. A toilet and shower will be located close to the main camp. Each camp will have a generator shed, a supply of fuel, and drinking water.

Marine Protected Area: Since the last major DXpedition in 2013 a "Marine Protected Area" (MPA) was established around Clipperton. In 2016 the French government enacted legislation to further restrict and protect Clipperton and its surrounding waters. While the government recognizes amateur radio as a legitimate endeavor, the legislation does not explicitly identify amateur radio as an approved activity. https://www.facebook.com/natgeopristineseas/videos/ france-protects-waters-of-clipperton-island/10153847108150378/

The landing permit process is long, and of significance is the requirement for bona fide scientific content, with French representation. DX-peditions combined with sufficient scientific content will be considered. Our team includes two French scientists and one French environmentalist who each will conduct studies on the island.

- Social Media:
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tx5s2024
- Website: https://TX5S.net
- Questions to: info@pdxg.net



Tuckerton, NJ, September 20th, 2023 - We are pleased to announce that INDEXA, the International DX is supporting the upcoming XW4DX DXpedition to Laos, November 16th -27th , 2023.

This 5 member French team has solid experience doing DXpeditions.

We invite you to visit their web page at https://xw4dx.f4bkv.net

Please look at their operation plan to see the frequencies that they will be active on.

We wish the XW4DX team a safe and successful DXpedition!



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.

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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



DX News Briefs

T32AN will be QRV 4 - 11 October, 40 - 6, Holiday Style SSB and CW. QSL via EB7DX

YB2/IK1TTD will be QRV 8 - 22 October, Holiday



Style, from OC-186, mainly on 20 meters. QSL via OQRS or as directed. E51JAN will be QRV 12 October - 6 November from North Cook. More

information at https://e5n.dxpeditions.org/ QSL via SP9FIH or ClubLog OORS

YJØCA will be QRV 22 October – 5 November, including the CQ WW DX Contest SSB. QSL via VK2YUS or as directed on his QRZ.COM page

CQ WW SSB Contest (28 - 29 October) Operations;

٠	4L2M	QSL via EA7FTR
٠	8P5A	QSL via HA1AG or LotW
٠	8P9A	QSL via GU4YOX
٠	IH9/OK1M	QSL via OK1M
٠	IRØA	QSL via OM2FY
٠	J62K	QSL via K9HZ
٠	LX8M	QSL direct or via LotW
٠	MD4K	QSL via G3NKC
٠	PJ2T	QSL TBA.
٠	PYØF	QSL via PY7RP
٠	V47NT	QSL via W2RQ or LotW
٠	V49R	QSL via N2HX
٠	WP3A	QSL via EB7DX
٠	ZF1A	QSL via ClubLog OQRS

VK9QO will be QRV 3 – 7 November from Cocos (Keeling) Island, 80 – 6 plus satellites, CW SSB RTTY FT4 FT8. QSL via JI1LET

CQ WW CW Contest (25 - 26 November) Operations;

٠	FS/KØCD	QŠL via KØCD
٠	HO2T	QSL via KU9C
٠	TI7W	QSL via MØURX
٠	V47NT	QSL via W2RQ or LotW
٠	WP3A	QSL via EB7DX
•	ZF1A	QSL via ClubLog OQRS

J73BH will be QRV 17 - 24 January 2024, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via FM5BH or ClubLog OQRS

J79AN will be QRV 17 – 24 January 2024, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via F8AAN or ClubLog OQRS

V44/K1ZN will be QRV 25 February – 04 March 2024. QSL via K1ZN

The EI DX Group will be activating Lesotho as 7P8EI sometime in "early 2024." Dates, website, QSL route, other details to be announced.

QSL Routes

4X7R via 4X6OM 7S2A via SA2SAA 8Z93ND via HZ1SAR A71VV via MØOXO AO6URB via EA6ZX C91CCY via K3IRV CB8E via CE8EIO CR3DX via OM2VL CR3W via DL5AXX CT9ABN via OM2VL DL1ØØTC via DL4CQ DL6ØKIRN via DJ7PI DL75BRD via DL2VFR DP6A via DL8OH DP7D via DF1QR DR45HAAN via DL7ET E2A via E21EIC E75ØESP via E76AA EG4ØRUB via EA1FGX EG5VNB via EA5CP EG7BSP via EA7URF EG7FFM via EA7DK EH1OSM via EA1UVR EH3ARRL via EA3W EP3GMR via RW6HS FY5KE via F6FVY

GB2HEM via MØHEM GB2KDR via MMØHVW HBØA via HBØFL HF8ØØNYSA via SP6PNZ HF9ZZ via SP9TCZ HI3SD via EC6DX IB2BGBS via IQ2CP II1DCI/ISØ via IK1GPG II4CGD via IQ4FE II8IHBC via IU8CEU IL3P via IU3EDK IQ8XF via IZ8IBC IT9FRX via IT9DQM JW6VDA via OH6VDA LA1ØØK via LA1K LY787A via LY5A LZ/OP4L via ON4LDK MD7C via MØOXO OG1F via OH1F OHØR via OH2PM OHØRY via PA2A

PA3ØSPARC via PE5ENJ PF99MILL via PF9W PI4ØNWG via PA3GKB PJ4SON via MØURX PT5J via PP5JR PY4BZ via EA7FTR S515SOTA via S58R SN15PRR via SP9PRR SN5ØGUC via SP2GUC SN5X via SP5GRM SO4R via SP4CUF SO84PPP via SP3PDO T71SNM via T7ØA TM17FFF via F4GFE TM2ØKGN via F8KGN TM3Z via F4DSK TM4HV via F5PTA TM8MBH via F5ADR XF2C via IT9EJW XF3H via IT9EJW XF3M via IT9EJW XF30 via IT9EJW Z36T via DJØLZ ZW2RA via PY2UTU

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.

OK8CX/P via DL7CX

OK8MA/P via SP9MA

International Association

N2OO. President

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WASH Classifieds

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

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

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

DL7DF, DK1BT, DL4WK, DL6SAK, DL7BO and DL7UFR will be active from Tahiti, French Polynesia as **TX6D** during October $2^{nd} - 15^{ln}$, 2023. They will be active with up to five stations from 160m through 10m on CW, SSB and digital modes. After the recent permission of the 5 MHz band in France and the French territories, the team will also activate 60m. More information at http://www.dl7df.de/fo/ QSL via DL7DF





Ed Wolf N3UE has 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

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

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







American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 22nd, 2023 – The US Senate confirmed Anna Gomez as the fifth commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission on September 7th, 2023. Gomez thanked President Biden for the nomination and the Senate for her confirmation.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve," she said in a statement on her LinkedIn page.

Gomez is an attorney with decades of experience in domestic and international communications law and policy. She served for 12 years in various positions at the FCC, including Deputy Chief of the International Bureau and Senior Legal Advisor. She most recently served 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 month-long World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-



23) that will commence on November 20th in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Steve Lang will replace Gomez as head of the US delegation to WRC-2023. Lang is a longtime state department official serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Information and Communications Policy. Lang has been working closely with Gomez on US WRC-2023 delegation preparations.

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 for WRC-23. ARRL also actively supports the work of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which, as a member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radiocommunication Sector, participates in conference preparatory work and whose representatives will also attend WRC-23 by invitation as observers in an advisory capacity.

ZL3CW plans to be QRV from Wallis Island 20 – 30 November, from the QTH of FW1JG. Look for FW5N during the CQ WW CW Contest, FW2CW before and after the contest. Operation will be CW only, with focus on the WARC bands, outside of the contest. QSL via OQRS or LotW

CBØZA will be QRV from Robinson Crusoe Island (SA-005 (in the Juan Fernandez Archipelago 13 – 20 February 2024. The will be QRV 160 – 2, including 60, SSB CW RTTY FT8 and EME. More information at http://cb0za.com/ QSL via HA1AG



1	US Amateurs by Class as of October 1 st , 2023			
I		Novice	6,952	
I		Technician	428,434	
I		General	201.371	
I		Advanced	36,221	
I		Extra	163,869	
I		Club	12,384	
I		Total	849,231	
I	All-Time High	07/11/2023	851,443	
I				
I	Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	5,639	
I		Callsign Changes	1,746	
I	Class Changes		2,624	
I	No Longer Licensed All Updates (*)		7.222	
I			24,632	
-	(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.			
	Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of Hamdata.com			
	Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of October 1 st, 2023			
	Group A AC3KT			

Group A AC3KT Group B KF3EV Group C (none available / all issued) Group D KC3WUL

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

The S	South Hills Hamfest	- Now in our Twenty EI	GTH bia vear!
8:00 AM un Home Econe 3735 Behind the Talk-Ir	ay, February 25 th , til 3:00 PM Rain or Shin Dmics Building Buffalo Drive, South Park Te Allegheny County Police Sta n on 146.955(-) and 443 Donation \$5	e (or Snow!) South Park ownship, PA 15129 ation on Brownsville Road 3.650(+) 131.8 PL	KING AND SAFE-SABEL
Breakfast & Lunc available		FREE Coffee for the courtesy of HAM RADIO INS of Canonsbu PRIZES	e entire Hamfest SURANCE ASSOCIATES Irg, PA
	First Prize:	To Be Determined	1
	Second Prize:	To Be Determined	i
Additional Hourly Door Main Prize tickets are \$2.00	Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full <u>on or before</u> January 31 st , 2024. Reservations received		
For Table Reserv Ron Telek V E-mail us directly at <u>wash</u> a	after February 1 st , 2024 must include payment in full. Reserve now we have sold out in advance <u>thirteen</u> years running!		
		e PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATIO	
		mail:	
		Phone: ()	
Call Sign: Tables WITH Electricity: Tables WITHOUT Electricity:		WIRELESS ASSOCIAT PLEASE MAIL R <i>WASH</i> F C/O RON T 3065 Alj Bethel Par	checks payable to: TION OF SOUTH HILLS ESERVATION TO: EST 2023 TELEK W3LE ean drive k, 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 □ 1st Qtr □ 3rd Qtr 4th Qtr (check quarter -□ 2nd Qtr (check one I) Jan-Mar Apr-Jun Jul-Sept Oct-Dec □ (F1) Full Membership: \$20.00 \$15.00 \$10.00 \$5.00 \Box (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50 □ (A1) Associate Membership: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50 (FM1) Family Membership (\$3.00 x No. of household family members): \$ Name(s): Name: Call Sign: License Class: Address: City, State: Expires On: Work Phone: Home Phone: Email Address: Birthday: New Members Only: ARRL Member?
Yes
No Family ARRL Member?
Yes
No I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List Date: [If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out] Amount Enclosed: \$ Signature: Please make your check or money order payable to the club treasurer, Mark Stabryla. The Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals. N3RDV has requested that Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to: all membership requests and renewals include an WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. c/o Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer application so that his 1120 McKnight Drive information is up to date Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456 **DXers have a choice!** Get a free two week trial of The Daily DX and The Weekly DX and decide for yourself which one best fits your needs for informing

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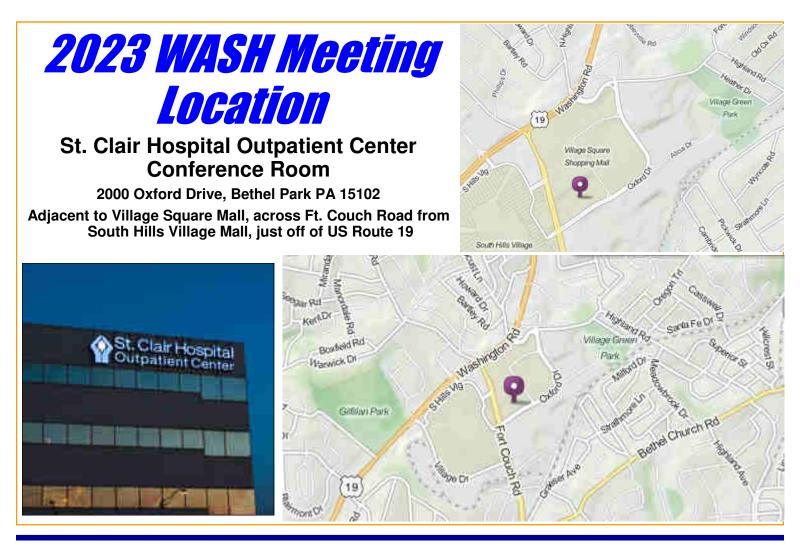
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The WASHRag

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