

WASHRAGTM

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VOLUME 25 Issue 11
NOVEMBER 2023

Wireless Association of South Hills

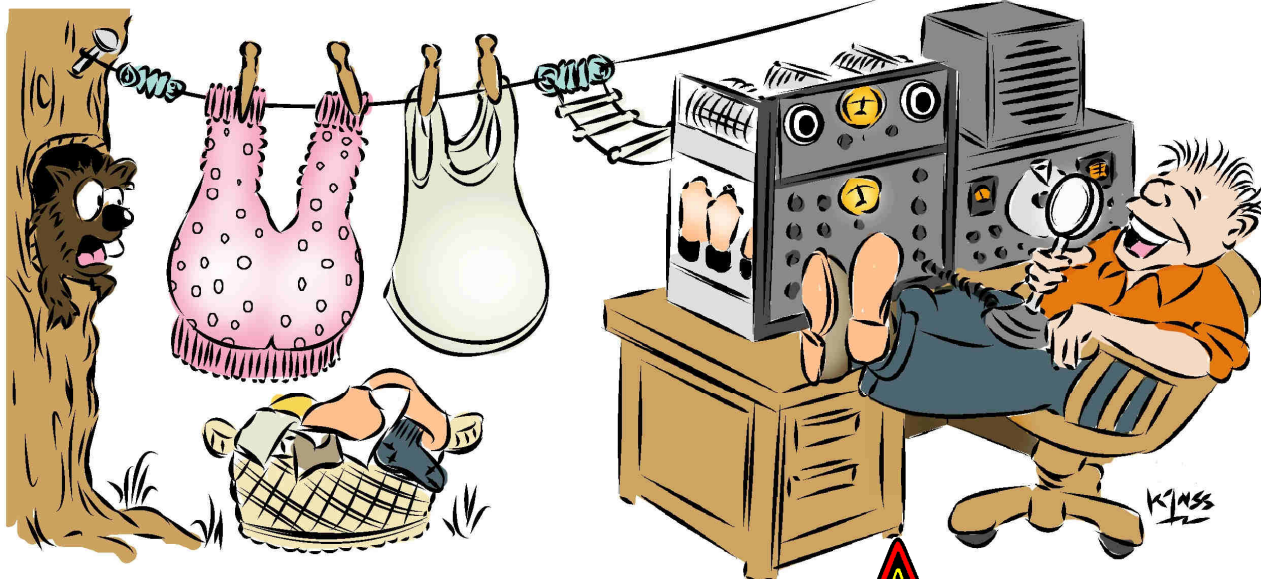
PA QSO 2023

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org



Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 25 Issue 11

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Next Monthly Meeting: **Thursday, November 2nd, 2023**

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, November 2nd, 2023**, starting at 7 PM, at the **ST. CLAIR HEALTH OUTPATIENT CENTER VILLAGE SQUARE 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, Greene County, in the 2023 Pa QSO Party

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Curtis Turner KB3CMT

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
3395 Rosewood Drive, Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546
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 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



November is here, the temperatures are turning cooler and the daylight is becoming shorter, but there are many things to be thankful for family, great friends, and frequencies to share with our extended family. Though the temps may become frightful, the 160m band will be there for some nice QSOs.

Speaking of nice QSOs it was great to work many of the club members in the PA QSO party. I have come to look forward to the PA party, although this year was not the most pleasant weather wise it was still a good weekend on the air. I operated from Ryerson Station state park in Greene county this year using a doublet with 9 radials fed by an SGC230 and a 43' vertical wire spiraled around a 40' push up pole with 9 more radials fed by another SGC230 as my secondary antenna though it got no use. In the end I was happy to have worked all 67 and also uploaded for POTA credit. I hope everyone else that participated reached their goals, learned or experienced something new.

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

You have heard about the FCC NPRM on 60 meters, right? Details are on Page 9 if you haven't.

The FCC has extended the comment periods by a month, so there is still time to comment.

While we fear, unfortunately, that the FCC may just be going through the motions (again), and 60 may get severely curtailed... even if the band is not in your wheelhouse at the moment, it is still important that you get your comments in and let them know what you desire.

Don't let others make the decisions for you. Send in your comments before the deadline!

Reminder: The November WASH Meeting location will be back at The St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square in Bethel Park!

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

October 28th dawned as a beautiful Fall morning, and brought out the best and the brightest (or at least those who woke up in time) of the **WASH BREAKFAST GANG** to gather at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. This month brought together W2RMA, K3SGT and Barb, KB3NIX, W3WH, WB4GCS, N3FB, KB3GMU, N3IDH and W3WN. Discussion topics included operating on the microwaves, how the pandemic screwed up so many things, Pa QSO 2023 preliminary results, rookie mistakes, a 1900's era farm house in Elk County, broadcast TV Translators in Indiana County, going to Philadelphia for real Philly Cheesesteaks, hospital (surgical) recovery, David Johnson on NBC (National coverage), 10 meters is open to Europe every day, 80% of VHF Contest QSOs are on 6 and 2 meters, selling commercial TV towers, keeping commercial TV transmitters QRV 24x7, airline traffic and new terminal construction at PIT... and that was just from the 'North' half of the long table!

Looking forward to seeing as many as possible post Thanksgiving / post Black Friday / post Tryptophan, on Saturday, November 25th, at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. Mark your calendars, and hope to see you there!

PA QSO 2023 is behind us! We have a few stories and pictures from some of the ops inside these pages. It's a lot of fun to work old friends every year in the contest, often with new calls or different locations. Thanks again to everyone (club member or not) who participated this year... hope you did well and had fun!

And if we get any more stories or pictures, we'll put them in the next issue!

The Fall Contest season is in full swing! Sweepstakes, CQ WW CW, and the ARRL 160 and 10 meter contests are all coming up! We have links on the calendar/events page to rules etc. for the events, for those who want to learn more and jump in!

And on that note, we should have rules for the January **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest** next month as well! That also means that **WASHFest 2024** will both be here before you know it!

2024 Officer Elections are this month. Thanks again to Curtis KB3CMT, who is stepping down after fantastic job he's done as WASH Club President the last few years. But, alas, **all good things eventually come to an end**. The floor will be open to nominations again this month, prior to the voting — 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! When you get your ballot, which you should have by now, please don't ignore it. Or vote electronically online if that suits you better. Either way: 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, October 6th Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:01.

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

Roll Call. 19 Members, 0 Guests Present

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark's (N3RDV) report delivered electronically and read by Nathan (KC3GMM). Motion to accept the report by Carol (KB3GMN) with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried.

Secretary Nathan (KC3GMM): Report read by Nathan (KC3GMM) with motion to accept by Bill (W3WH) and second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.

Repeaters: Frank (N3FB) - Repeating. Temperature event alert possibly due to AC off or malfunction.

Larry (K3VX) - Any chance of visiting 2m repeater site? Frank - Yes.

WASHnet: Nathan (KC3GMM) - Folks are checking in. Jim (WB4GCS) - Lots of good conversation and long nets. Glen (KE7FD) - Folks checking in from OH and WV.

Thursday night tech talk: Glen (KE7FD) -

- Last net was a presentation about 3D printing by a person who makes custom antenna parts. Going to post it where folks can see it. Previous month was a presentation by Curtis (KB3CMT) about POTA. Last tech talk was not well attended. Should we continue? Looking for a suggestion for November.
- Ron (W3WN) - Suggest considering hiatus for November and December.
- Jim (WB4GCS) - Topic may determine attendance. It is worth doing if any folks are attending at all.
- Kathy (KA3VXM) - Suggestion to reach out to other local clubs and ask them to promote the talks.
- Glen (KE7FD) - Is the club interested in purchasing a Zoom subscription?
- Jim (WB4GCS) - We should use the repeater as the primary communication and continue to use Curtis' account and measure how many we use to determine if it is worth it.
- *** Further discussion about benefits of Zoom. ***

Public service: Mike (WA3PYU) - SET drill tomorrow (10/6) 9AM to Noon on .09 repeater, 3.918, 3.983, and 60m band.

Newsletter: Ron (W3WN) - Out! Did everyone get it?

VE: Frank (N3FB) - Room is available if needed.

Ways & means: Carol (KB3GMN) - Can start 50/50.

Regarding the question of prize warranties as they relate to early purchases, the purchase date can be moved by the vendor for warranty purposes.

Contests: Larry (K3VX)

PA QSO party Saturday (10/14) at noon until midnight and resuming Sunday morning 9AM - 6PM. K3VX and four others at Armstrong using WA3PYU. N3ZK crew at Elk. Carol and Richie at Clarion.

California QSO Party starting Saturday (10/7).

Jim (WB4GCS) - We should consider trying the ARRL EME contest again in 2024.

New business: None

Old business: None

Good of the order: None

Nominations:

Treasurer -

- Ron (W3WN) nominates Mark (N3RDV) with second by Bill (W3WH).
- Bill (W3WH) with motion to close nomination for treasurer with second by Jim (WB4GCS).

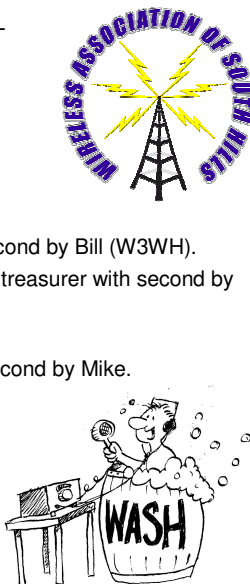
President -

- Glen (KE7FD) nominates Tom (KB3NIX) with second by Mike.
- Larry nominates Nathan (KC3GMM) with second by Gary (KB3YCX).

- Bill (W3WH) with motion to close nominations for president with second by Carol. (KB3GMN)

Motion to adjourn by Bill (W3WH) with second by Patty (KC4WTT). Voted and carried.

Adjourned at 7:47 PM 10/6/2023



WASH Spotlight: PaQP



Mike WA3PYU and Harold K3HCR operating from Armstrong County as WA3PYU in the 2023 Pennsylvania QSO Party.

More pictures and article on Page 6

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 Bill Hill W3WH (was the photographer Kathy King KA3VXM? We're not sure)

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

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

Monthly WASH Breakfast



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

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

All are welcome, **WASH** members or not, amateurs or not!

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AA3MR	KC3ELA	NY9H	WASH FL	WASH TN	Silent Keys
AC4KU	KC3GMM	W3DTP	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
AE3DL	KC3MLC	W3LE	WASH NE	KE3XB	AB3KA
K3GW	KC3OCT	W3WH	N0PEU	N3YPB	AB3ED
K3HCR	KC3RGV	W3WN	WASH OH	WASH TX	AC4KU
K3SGT	KC3TEU	W8LEV	N8DPW	NB3C	AD3Q
K3VX	KC3UUK	WA2YEZ	WASH OR	K3LGM	K3EED
K3WPL	KC3VQR	WA3PYU	KB3NVL	KB3IJX	K3LIE
K6DWR	KC4WTT	WA3VSS	KB3NVM	Jane Wagner	KA3NMG
KA3VXM	KE7FD	WB4GCS	N0VLR	WASH VI	KB3ENX
KB1CKF	N3DFK		WASH SC	NP2JF	KB3FNM
KB3BYA	N3FB	Melissa	N8NEU		KB3FOT
KB3CMT	N3IDH	Greenwald			KB3JHQ
KB3GMN	N3JSF	Charlotte			N3BPB
KB3GMU	N3KFD	Peterson			N3CZZ
KB3GUZ	N3RDV	Charmel			N3FZ
KB3IAC	N3SBF	Spirk			N3HKQ
KB3IVX	N3UE				N3KEH
KB3JHR	N8NEU				N3OBD
KB3NIX	NB3C				N3RNX
KB3YCX	NL7XM				N3SKR

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

Through September 30th, 2023

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

WA3JPP

2023/24 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

November 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 4 th — 6 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
November 5 th — 11 th	Air Force MARS 75th Anniversary Special Event	community.pan.org
November 18 th	Allegheny County ARES Meeting	Steel City ARC W3KWH, 208 McMichael Road, Carnegie
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 Health Outpatient Center Village Square 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 Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 17 th — 18 th	ARRL DX Contest Phone (SSB)	https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
February 25 th	WASHFest 2024	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
February 25 th	WASH VE Exams at WASHFest 2024	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
March 2 nd — 3 rd	ARRL DX Contest CW	https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
March 30 th — 31 st	CQ WPX Contest SSB	https://cqwpw.com/

"Seen" at the October Meeting

Photos courtesy of and ©
Copyright Ron Notarius W3WN



Pa QSO 2023: Team WA3PYU

Bill Hill W3WH

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2023
Bill Hill W3WH

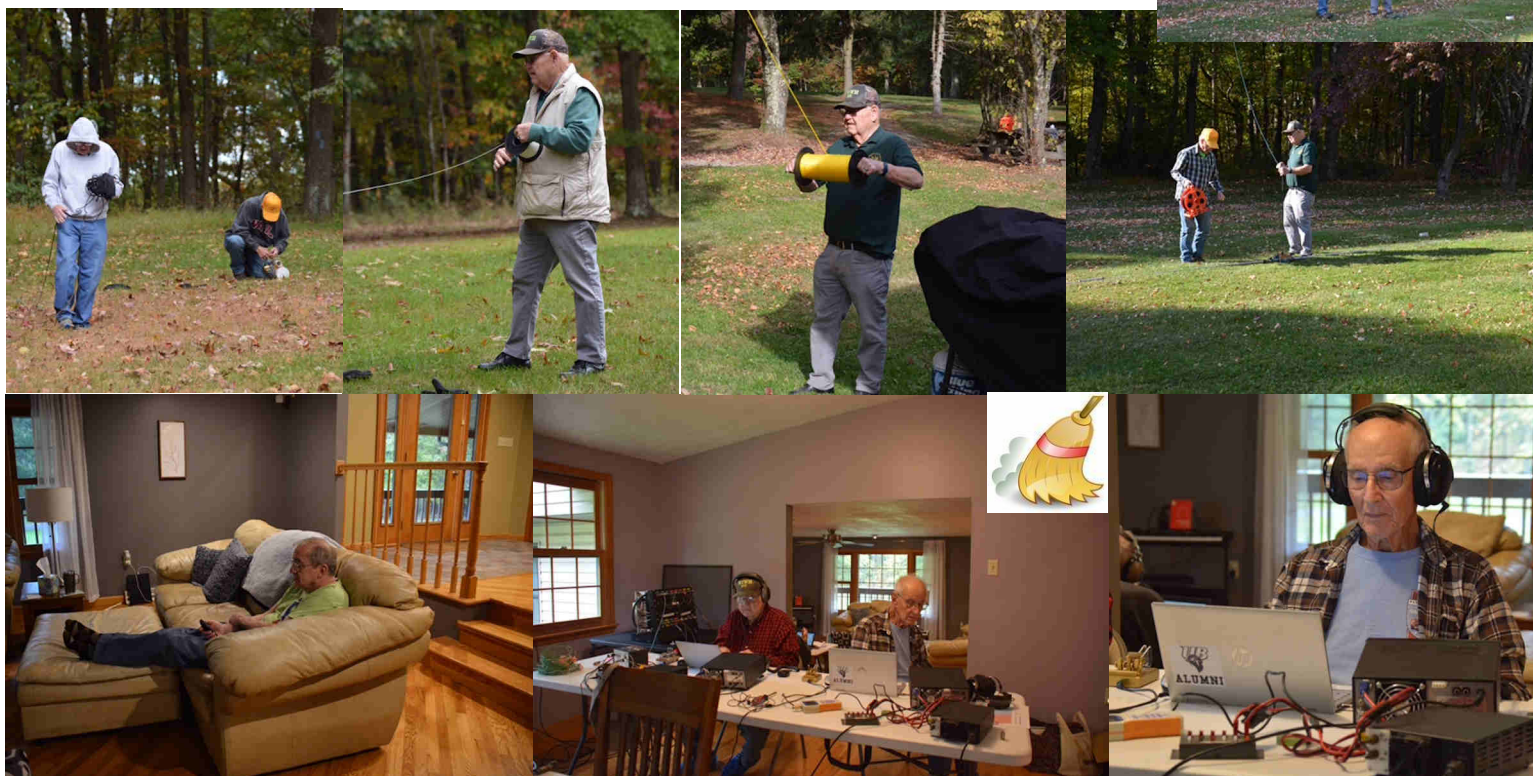
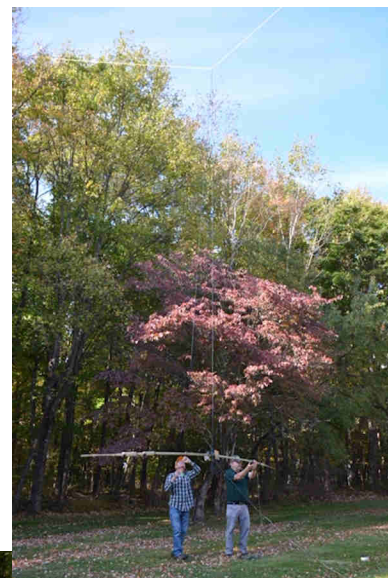
Canonsburg, PA, October 30th, 2023 – This year our group decided to try Armstrong County instead of Potter County. It was a somewhat difficult decision since in Potter we had good accommodations and great meals at the Susquehanna Lodge all at a good price. Instead we settled on an AirBnB in Adrian. The house is wonderful and it was pretty easy to put up our antennas. We were able to get the phone dipoles up 50 feet and they really performed very well. The CW antennas were up only 30-35 feet but they worked reasonably well. We also used the former driven element from a tri-band beam on 20, 15 and 10 meters.

Our group is comprised of Kathy and Mike King, Harold Rosenberger, Larry Comden and myself Bill Hill. It was Mike's turn to use his call WA3PYU and due to the great phone results we got a sweep again this year. Kathy brought a mountain of food for us so we certainly didn't suffer. We had Steaks one evening and Salmon on another with loads of snacks and Larry brought Jean's Chili which was delicious.

As usual 40 meters was the go to band and we made a rookie mistake causing interference to each other. This is the first time we experienced serious interference since the Club purchased high quality bandpass filters and installed them on a custom patch panel. We probably would have eliminated the problem if we remembered to reduce power a bit but amazingly no one thought of it. In spite of shooting ourselves in the foot so to speak we achieved the sweep around noon on Sunday.

We ended up with 624 q's of which 374 were phone and 250 cw. We had 116 mults of which 49 were ARRL sections and the balance Pa. Counties. Because we had the interference dilemma our CW total was down a bit but we got the sweep so who cares. LOL.

We all look forward to this ham radio weekend and if you are reading this and haven't tried this QSO party, you owe it to yourself to do so next October.



The next Allegheny County ARES meeting will be on Saturday November 18th. It will be held at the Steel City ARC clubhouse (208 McMichael Road, Carnegie) at 10am.

It will be the last meeting for 2023.

If you want to do a presentation, please let me know.

— Bob Mente NU3Q, Allegheny County ARES EC



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

Pa QSO 2023: Team N3ZK

Frank Bobro N3FB

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright
2023 Frank Bobro N3FB

Scenery Hill, PA, October 22nd, 2023 – The N3ZK team went to Elk county this year to operate in the PA QSO party. We achieved success with all of our goals which were to have a good time, get all 67 counties, score more points than the county record and learn something new.

So, we did get all 67 counties, 64 sections and about 266,138 points. We had 1539 Qs, 449 of those on CW, 10901 on SSB. That score was a personal best for our team. We will see what the final numbers are early next year after official scoring. The previous record for a multi-multi operation from Elk county was 138,056.

The operators are N3ZK, Randy George; N3KFD, Kevin DeRose; KD2ZKR, Don Rowland; and N3FB, Frank Bobro.



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.

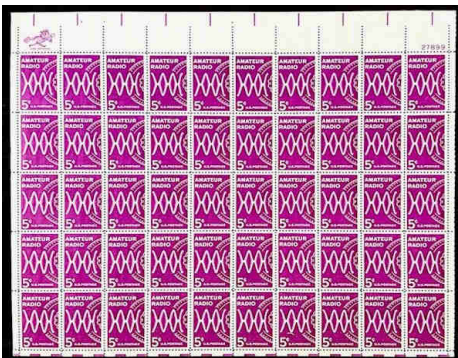
The purple vertical stamp was designed by Emil J. Willett of Hartford, CT and combines a radio broadcast sine wave with a partial radio dial. Nearly 60 years later, these are cherished by amateur radio operators around the world.

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



ARRL Urges Comments to FCC on 60 Meter Band

American Radio Relay League

Update October 30th, 2023: The FCC has extended the public comment period until November 28th, 2023, with replies to comments due December 28th, 2023.

Newington, CT, October 12th, 2023 – ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® is asking that all radio amateurs urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue the existing use of the 60-meter band. A public comment period is open until November 28th, 2023. Replies to comments are due December 28th, 2023. ARRL encourages expressions of support to the FCC for the current 100 W ERP power limit (instead of reducing the power limit to 15 W EIRP) and continuing secondary access to the current channels.

ARRL has assembled a web page with instructions on how to submit your comments, as well as background information on the issue: www.arrl.org/60-meter-band.

To submit a filing of your comments for the FCC's consideration in the rulemaking process, go to the FCC web page for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking's (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/docket-detail/23-120>.

If you wish to directly enter your comments, select the button labeled **SUBMIT AN EXPRESS FILING** or if you are uploading a document that contains your comments, select **SUBMIT A STANDARD FILING**. When submitting your comments, be sure the correct proceeding's docket number, 23-120, is included on the form. Your name and comments will be entered into the official public record of the proceedings and will be viewable by anyone who visits the docket web page.

While radio amateurs are encouraged to include any comments they would like in their submissions, they're especially encouraged to draw upon their personal experiences using the 60-meter band for public service purposes and for its location between the amateur 80- and 40-meter bands, which is critical to ensuring signal propagation to certain geographic areas during variations in time and the solar cycle. For example, ensuring radio amateurs have a continuum of communication capabilities across the 7 MHz, 5 MHz, and 3.5 MHz bands is valuable for emergency communications, especially between the US and Caribbean nations during hurricane season

Some of the main points to comment on for this NPRM are:

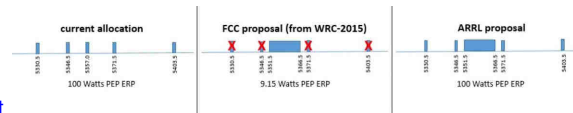
- Urging the FCC to keep the four existing channels allocated to amateur radio on a secondary basis.
- Urging the FCC to keep the 100 W power limit for the four existing channels and the new 15 kHz subband.

ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop W5DX underscored the importance of commenting, urging members to speak up. "ARRL members make up the strongest voice in matters of amateur radio spectrum defense," said Harrop. "Your membership and participation in the rulemaking process both ensure ARRL continues to make the difference when our band privileges are threatened. Please join us in effort to protect our 60-meter band privileges."

Currently, Radio Amateurs in the US have use of five discreet channels on a secondary basis, on which they are permitted an effective radiated power (ERP) of 100 watts ERP.

In the NPRM, the Commission solicits comment on reducing the secondary allocation to 15 kHz of contiguous spectrum between 5351.5–5366.5 kHz, with a power limit of 15 watts EIRP (equivalent to 9.1 Watts ERP).

The lesser spectrum and reduced power limit was adopted by the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) — *graphic courtesy of ARRL*



Air Force MARS 75th Anniversary Special Event

Air Force
MARS Press
Release



Celebrating 75 Years of Air Force MARS Operation from November 5th through 11th! Many of our 700+ stations will be calling CQ in the Technician and General portion of the 160 – 6 meter bands. SSB, CW, and digital modes.

See <https://tinyurl.com/5859r4vj> for e-certificate, information.

Special Event Calls W1A through W1K, representing every AF MARS Communications Wing (see chart right). Bonus Stations K4AF (Pentagon) and KE6UEU (Travis AFB)

More information at <https://community.apan.org/wg/air-force-military-auxiliary-radio-system-afmars/afmars-75-years/>



AF MARS Organization	Region	Call Sign
1st AFMARS Communications Wing	1 MA NH VT CT MA RI	W1A
2nd AFMARS Communications Wing	2 NJ NY	W1B
3rd AFMARS Communications Wing	3 DE MD DC PA VA WV	W1C
4th AFMARS Communications Wing	4 AL FL GA KY MS NC SC TN PR VI	W1D
5th AFMARS Communications Wing	5 IL IN MI MN OH WI	W1E
6th AFMARS Communications Wing	6 AR LA NM OK TX	W1F
7th AFMARS Communications Wing	7 IA KS MO NE	W1G
8th AFMARS Communications Wing	8 CO MT ND SD WY UT	W1H
9th AFMARS Communications Wing	9 AZ CA NV HI	W1J
10th AFMARS Communications Wing	10 AK OR WA ID	W1K
Pentagon MARS Station	3	K4AF
Travis AFB AFMARS Station	9	KE6UEU

NCDXF Supports TJ9MD

Craig Thompson
K9CT, Vice
President, NCDXF



Tivoli, IL, September 20th, 2023 – NCDXF is pleased to announce their financial support for the Cameroon DXpedition in early November. This is a solid group, the Mediterraneo DX Club which recently had success in Djibouti. We decided to match the operator contribution of \$2000 as we feel we want to be a partner in their DXpedition team.

They have a website at <https://www.mdxs.support/tj9md/> and share valuable information that will help DXers work them. Highlight will be the addition of 2m EME from Cameroon. They will be on all bands from 160 to 2 meters.

The mission of NCDXF is to provide necessary financial support for well-organized DXpeditions to desirable DXCC entities and to support advances in DXpeditioning skills, technology, and infrastructure. Those funds come from the contributions of our supporters in the DX community.

INDEXA Supports XW4DX

Bob Schenck
N2OO President,
INDEXA



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

3Y0K Bouvet 2025?

Rumors began to float around, especially on eHam.net and QRZ.com forums, that another group is attempting a Bouvet Island DXpedition. Allegedly, a post on Facebook and another post on DX World existed but have since been deleted.

So are these images a real harbinger of another attempt, or just a well crafted hoax?



We're going Back!
Info coming soon



DX News Briefs



CQ WW CW Contest (25 – 26 November) Operations:

7A2A	QSL via YB2DX
9M6NA	QSL via LotW
EA8/HA5PP	QSL via HA5PP
FS/K0CD	QSL via K0CD
FY5KE	QSL via F6FVY
HO2T	QSL via KU9C
IR0A	QSL via OM2FY
P40W	QSL via N2MM
PJ4K	QSL via KU9C
TI7W	QSL via M0URX
TO0T	QSL via KB9DVC
V47N	QSL via W2RQ or LotW
WP3A	QSL via EB7DX

A25R is QRV through 11 November. More information at rudxt.com/a25r. QSL via ClubLog OQRS or as directed.

VP9/AA1AC will be QRV 4–8 November, on "all" HF bands. QSL via AA1AC

W8X will be QRV on or about 5 November 2023, through 26 November. More information at <http://timor-leste-dx.de/> QSL via DJ4MX

AT23JCB will be QRV 18 – 19 November from Mousuni Island, 20 and 40 meters. More information at www.wbrc.in. QSL via teamofwbrc@gmail.com

FJ/KB3DVB will be QRV 22 – 29 November, holiday style with emphasis on CW and SSB. QSL via KB9DVB

The **FT4GL** team decided to postpone Operation Glorioso 2023 scheduled for December. They report that the postponement was due to a ruling by the advisory committee of the Glorieuses des Terres Australes et Antariques Françaises (TAAF) nature reserve; a scheduling incompatibility issue with their initial request generated an unfavorable opinion. The team is hopeful that they can reschedule for March 2024, when one of the operators will be returning to Glorioso in a professional capacity.

TX5S will be QRV 18 January – 1 February from Clipperton Island. The team is planning to activate 60 meters and FT8 for the first time from there. They will have two primary operating campsites. More information at <https://clip.pdxg.net/>. QSL via M0URX OQRS.

P4/DL4MM will be QRV 19-31 January. During the CQ 160 CW contest, look for **P40AA**. QSL via DL4MM

Due to changes in flight schedules, **H40WA** has been rescheduled to be QRV 22 February – 7 March 2024. QSL via M0URX OQRS

QSL Routes

3G0Y via CE2ML	FG4KH via F1DUZ	OX3LX via OZ00J
4L2M via EA7FTR	FR5FC via EA7FTR	OY6A via EB7DX
4L5EE via 4L5EE	GB2JSA via GJ4ODX	P40W via N2MM
4L50 via N3SL	GM5G via MM0TGH	PA6S via PC2KY
4L8A via M0OXO	H44RH via OE1JUN	PD50VOP via PD0ARI
6Y1V via LZ1YE	HF800SMICZ via SP6VE	PE00T via PA2TMS
7A2A via YB2DX	HH2AA via EB7DX	PJ4K via KU9C
8P5A via HA1AG	HK3C via M0URX	PZ5TW via PY8WW
9A30T via 9A2EU	HO2T via KU9C	SE0X via SM0MDG
9M6W via 9M6ZAE	HQ9A via VE3DZ	SE4E via SM4DQE
A41NN via A61BK	IR0A via OM2FY	SJ3A via SK3PH
AM25UPCT via EA5K	IR4JOTA via IQ4AX	SN2JOTA via SP2ZIE
AX37EUDXF via SP7WT	J62K via K9HZ	SX520A via SV1AHH
B0A via BA4TB	J68HZ via K9HZ	TC100YR via TA2AJ
C6AXX via NN2T	JW5X via LA5X	TM17FFF via F4GFE
CQ8Q via PT2FM	JW9DL via LA9DL	TO5A via WA6WPG
CR2B via EA1BP	KP2B via EB7DX	V26T via K3MTT
DL0KJ via DF1WR	KP3J via EB7DX	V47T via W2RQ
DL100TC via DL4CQ	LN8W via LA6YEA	V49R via N2HX
DP375WF via DL4YAY	LP7D via LU4AA	V55JOTA via V51Q
DP9S via DK8ZM	LX9S via HB9AOF	V63CB via JJ2CJB
DU3/F4EBK via F4EUO	M2G via M0OXO	VP2MDM via K2DM
E2A via E21EIC	MD4K via G3NKC	YB0ECT via W2FB
E51JAN via SP9FIH	NP4Z via N4AO	YJ0YY via NC7M
EI10JOTA via EI3ISB	OG5N via OH1CQ	ZF2B via NN3W
EP2C via EA5GL	OH3Z via OH1NX	ZF2MJ via N6MJ

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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Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

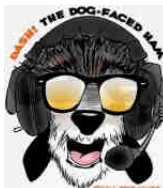
Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

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



708AD and **708AE** will be QRV from Yemen 3 – 16 November. 708AD will be QRV on CW and FT8; 708AE will be QRV on SSB. 160-10, using vertical antennas sourced locally, at the beach, running 100 W (no amplifiers due to weight restrictions). Media Officer/Pilot will be N2AJ stevousa@aol.com, all inquiries should be directed to him as the operators will not be answering any emails, as they will have no internet access. QSL via MØOXO OQRS – log will be uploaded after the DXpedition is completed. Paypal address for OQRS is kenneth@opskar.no

After the trip has completed, Ken LA7GIA will be making a humanitarian donation to UNHCR Yemen, and he asks that others wishing to make similar donations use the same Paypal address, labeled as "Humanitarian aid"

N3UE Woodworking

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



FCC News

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, October 27th, 2023 -- ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® welcomes news of a scheduled vote by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to **consider removing symbol rate restrictions** that restrict digital modes, foster inefficient spectrum use, and dampen incentives for innovation.

In the draft Commission decision, the FCC would replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. The Commission also announced that it will consider a Further Notice in which it will propose eliminating similar restrictions where they apply in other bands and consider relying on signal bandwidth limits. If both actions are adopted by the Commission, there will be a period for public comment on the Further Notice issues.

In announcing the proposed Commission actions, FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel said that "We're bolstering amateur radio. We will vote on a proposal to incentivize innovation and experimentation in the amateur radio bands by removing outdated restrictions and providing licensees with the flexibility to use modern digital emissions."

ARRL requested and strongly supports replacing the symbol rate limits on the HF bands with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. ARRL also supports eliminating the symbol rate limits in favor of the already-existing bandwidth limits where they apply on the VHF and UHF bands and eliminating the similar limits 2200 and 630-meter bands.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston KE5MHV said the changes will result in a tremendous time savings during disasters, when every second counts. "We will be very pleased to have the FCC remove the restrictions on symbol rate for the amateur bands. This will eliminate the need for temporary waivers during an event and provide the ability to train and exercise using the higher symbol rate, allowing increased data capability to our served agencies and partners."

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

The Congresswoman subsequently addressed the issue with Chairwoman Rosenworcel in a Congressional oversight hearing. The changes are supported by many state emergency management officials.

US Amateurs by Class as of October 31st, 2023

Novice	6,932
Technician	428,257
General	201,389
Advanced	36,178
Extra	163,932
Club	12,386
Total	849,074
All-Time High	07/11/2023 851,443

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	5,537
	Callsign Changes	1,835
	Class Changes	2,652
	No Longer Licensed	5,805
	All Updates (*)	24,558

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of October 31st, 2023

Group A	AC3KT
Group B	KF3EV
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3WWJ

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

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

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

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



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 = _____

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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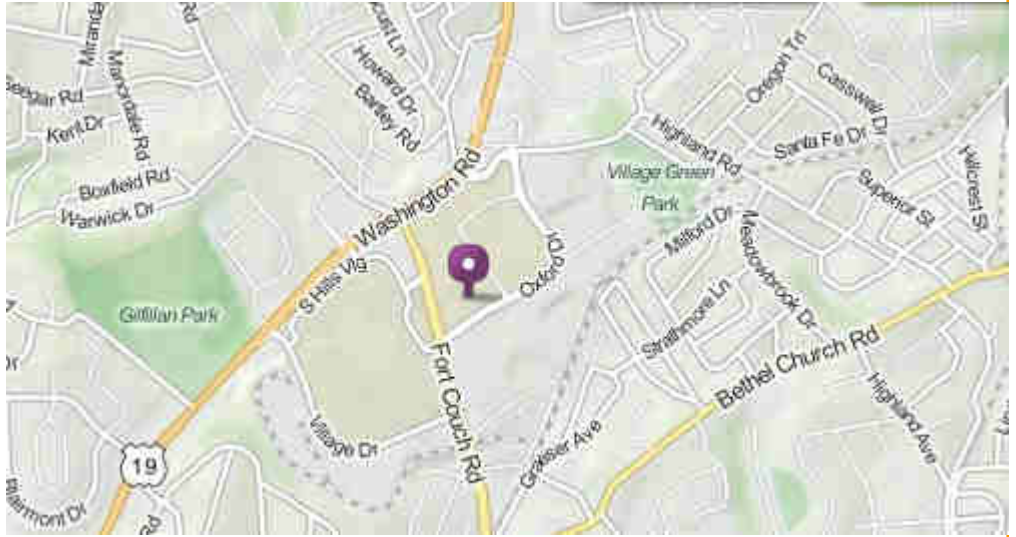
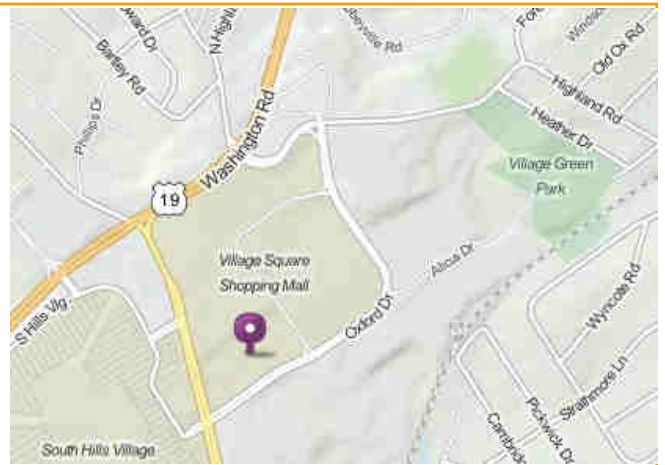


2023 WASH Meeting Location

St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square 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



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