

# WASHRAG™

TM



VOLUME 26 ISSUE 03  
MARCH 2024

Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG  
2024

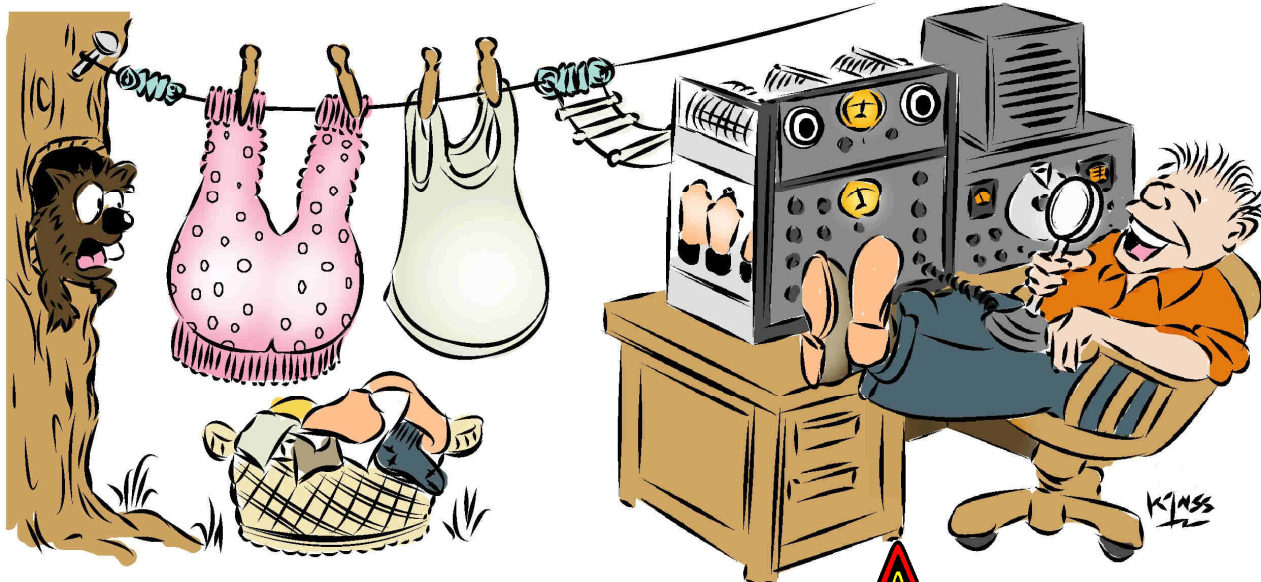
N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

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





# Wireless Association of South Hills



## WASHRAG™



VOLUME 26 ISSUE 03

MARCH 2024

### Next Monthly Meeting: **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, 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: **WASHFest 2024** wrap-up, Pizza, Field Day, Pizza, and other 2024 Plans, and much more. And Pizza.

See you there!

Cover: **WASHFest 2024**, as things were just getting into full swing! More photos inside!

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Ron Notarius W3WN

## WASH 2024 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Tom Galante KB3NIX
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
Activities & Operating Events	Glen Roberts KE7FD
Ways & Means	Rick Bell KB3IAC
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Field Day 2024 Coordinators	Glen Roberts KE7FD
	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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e-mail: [newsletter@n3sh.org](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.org) or [w3wn@arrl.net](mailto:w3wn@arrl.net)

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

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

## WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

### Next WASH VE Test TBA

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 10:00 AM**, at **Home Economics Building, South Park**, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, during **WASHFest 2024**. Talk-in on

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!

the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

**Pre-registration is encouraged. Walk-ins taken on a space/time available basis.**

If you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Grant Olson KC3MLC: [kgo@grant-olson.net](mailto:kgo@grant-olson.net)

### A Few Words



First, I'd like to thank everyone for their efforts in making our ham fest a success. Several people from Steel City, and the North Hills clubs have stated how much they enjoyed the festival and how they appreciated our hospitality.

In addition, I am bringing pizza for the meeting since I know that that is a tradition that the club has had for a number of years.

For our meeting on Thursday, I would like everyone to consider how we can effectively communicate beyond what we are currently doing please consider how we could improve our website, email list as well as any suggestions for improving our monthly meetings. Thanks!

— 73, Tom Galante KB3NIX  
President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc.  
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Despite pledges on Facebook and other social media sites that they are acquiring new funding, and will be publishing again soon, things continue to look bleak for the future of CQ Magazine.

Since the announcement several weeks ago that they had officially suspended funding, their web site, [cq-amateur-radio.com](http://cq-amateur-radio.com), has gone and remains offline. Multiple subscribers to both the print and digital editions continue to complain, especially on sites with forums like eHam.net and QRZ.com, that promised refunds have not materialized.

Some hold out hope that an Amateur with deep pockets will be willing to invest in or outright buy the magazine (or at least its intellectual assets) and return it to publication, in one form or another. But if any such efforts are in play, they remain quiet and in the background.

CQ has (had) a long history dating back decades. It is sad to see its demise and eventual disappearance into history.

**Reminder:** The March WASH Meeting location will be at The St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square in Bethel Park! Map and directions are on Page 20. Meeting begins at 7 PM.

**Don't forget that this is our traditional annual post-hamfest Pizza Night!**

February 24<sup>th</sup> was it's usual eventful morning, with upcoming site preparation for **WASHFest 2024**. (As usual) But once again, the intrepid members of the **WASH BREAKFAST GANG** got together, this month at the **SOUTH PARK EAT'N PARK, 5220 LIBRARY ROAD**. This month included K3VX, W3WH, W3LE, WB4GCS, N3RDG, KC3GMM and W3WN. Besides the hamfest, topics included independent local professional wrestling, early reservation and table sales, the "tech special" scope, going to Erie for the April solar eclipse, naval construction at Newport News, corporate layoffs, the Columbia disaster, the Apollo moon landings and fly-by-wire (and imagining it with Microsoft operating systems), current sources of technical innovations, nuclear fission and centrifuges... and more. (And then we wrapped up and headed into South Park.),

Hope you can join us at the next gathering, on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, back at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. Mark your calendars, and hope you can make it!

Well, what can we say about **WASHFest**? The weather was great, the turnout was great, the deals were great... and it was fantastic seeing most everyone again! (Ye Editor went home with some new goodies AND enough shekels to take the Boss out for dinner. By the way, anyone know if there are any "Mode B" satellites currently operational? )We have several pages of photos included... and that's before getting any from anyone else! If we get more photos, we'll toss them in to the next newsletter for everyone to enjoy!

**Any thoughts on what to improve on or do differently in 2025?** Bring those to this month's meeting. It will give us something to, ah, chew on... in addition to the **pizza**! Yes, don't forget about our traditional post-hamfest celebration!

**2024 WPA Hamfest season** has now kicked off, and we have quite a few events coming up in the next few weeks! Hope to see folks at these gatherings as well! Before you know it, the Dayton ARA Hamvention and the Breezeshooter's Hamfest will be right around the corner as well!

Followed, of course, by Field Day 2024. End of June seems so far away right now... but as we've all learned, it will be here before you know it! Fortunately, Frank N3FB and the rest of the FD Committee has things well in hand, but they can't do it all alone, so any help that can be sent their way will be appreciated!

Word out of Texas is that Greg NB3C has managed to assemble a **new shack** at his home and is back on the air! We're hoping we can talk him in to sending a few words and photos, and how he worked around his HOA related restrictions! (Yes Greg, that's a polite hint!)

On the same note, a reminder that with **Spring** weather pretty much here, it's time to start thinking about **antenna improvements** and upgrades. ( And, of course, a few pictures and words to accompany such a tremendous accomplishment are always appreciated! )



Getting the Tech Special Scope working

**Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 19**



## Minutes, February 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:00.

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

Roll Call. 20 Members, 1 Guests Present

Christine (N3LRG) from Steel City Amateur Radio Club with a presentation about the Rabid Raccoon Race taking place on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Looking for volunteers. Details at w3kwh.com.

### Committee Reports:

**Treasurer:** Financial report presented by Mark (N3RDV). Motion to accept the report by Nathan (KC3GMM) with second by Harold (K3HCR). Voted and carried.

**Secretary** Nathan (KC3GMM) anuary minutes are published in February WASHRag. No corrections to the minutes.

Motion to accept minutes by Carol (KB3GMN) with second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.

**Repeaters:** Frank (N3FB) - Things seem to be working. Will reach out to get access to 2m site and the N3SH 70cm site. Both sites will probably need new batteries.

**WASHnet:** Nathan (KC3GMM) No report.

**Thursday night tech talk:** Glen (KE7FD) – Last tech talk had an issue with his Youtube account. He is working to resolve it before the February event.

**Public service:** Mike (WA3PYU): Bob (NU3Q) organizing Pittsburgh marathon. Keep an eye out for web site to sign up. First Sunday in May. Last year had fewer volunteers than needed.

Larry (K3VX) - Last year He and Bill received parking tickets for parking Fort Pitt bridge station.

Tony (KB3BYA) - Arnold Palmer Airshow Sat Sun Aug 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. 45 operators needed.

**Newsletter:** Ron (W3WN) – Out.

**VE:** Larry (K3VX) for Grant (KC3MLC): VE session at the hamfest

**Ways & means:** Carol (KB3GMN) – Nothing.

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

**WASHFest 2024:** Ron (W3LE) - 27 tables sold. Has checks for Mark. Has all three main prizes. Other prizes still coming in. Tables are ordered and delivery arranged. Tickets are in.

- Tom (KB3NIX) - Curtis (KB3CMT) is bringing PA system.
- Carol (KB3GMN) - Need coffee pots and other items from storage. Has coffee cups and other supplies. May need 50/50 tickets. Has wristbands for vendors and regular attendees. Carol and Richie picking up donuts.
- Tony (KB3BYA) - Need bread. Nathan (KC3GMM) - Can pick up bread.
- Glen (KE7FD) - Bringing elmer badges.
- Mark (N3RDV) - Need receipts for all expenses.

### New business:

- Larry (K3VX) - Need to send letter for field day overnight permission for Babcock shelter.
- Mark (N3RDV) - Trailer registration has been renewed for five years. Registration to Frank (N3FB) and one to go to Nathan (KC3GMM).
- Frank (N3FB) - Only four meetings until Field Day. Need radios. Plan to break volunteers into small teams to handle different aspects of setup and operation. WJPA morning show does morning interviews that we may be able to take advantage of for publicity. Try and invite members and former members who don't come around often. Have something to remember silent keys that were involved in Field Day in the past.
- Tom (KB3NIX) - For next meeting would like to discuss how to improve communication such as between members and some elements on the web site. Please think about any ideas and bring to next meeting for discussion.
- Mark (N3RDV) - Will send email regarding how much food to order for dinner on March pizza night.

### Old business:

- Tom (KB3NIX) - Digital repeater conversation tabled for now
- Mark (N3RDV) - PO box renewed. Rate increase for next year
- Tom (KB3NIX) - Would like to look into the folks that have trouble hitting the repeater/checking into the net. Would like to

Continued on Page 7

## WASH Spotlight: Power of 3



Strictly speaking, this isn't all club members... but considering that this year's **WASHFest** hosted three brothers (WO3X, KB3VSP, KA3KSP), why not? (Where was KC3FCS to complete the family picture?)

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

## 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

AC3WM  
AC4KU  
AE3DL  
K3GW  
K3HCR  
K3OCT  
K3SEM  
K3SGT  
K3VX  
K6DWR  
KA3VXM  
KB3BYA  
KB3GMN  
KB3GMU  
KB3GUZ  
KB3IAC  
KB3IVX  
KB3JHR  
KB3NIX  
KB3YCX  
KC3ELA

KC3GMM  
KC3MLC  
KC3VQR  
KC4WTT  
KE7FD  
N3DFK  
N3FB  
N3FFS  
N3RDV  
N3TDV  
N3UE  
NB3C  
NL7XM  
W3WH  
W3WN  
W8LEV

WA2YEZ  
WA3PYU  
WA3VSS  
WB4GCS  
Charmel  
Spirk

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

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

### Silent Keys

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

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

Through March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2024 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

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

March 2 <sup>nd</sup> — 3 <sup>rd</sup>	ARRL DX Contest SSB	<a href="https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx">https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx</a>
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Meeting & Pizza Night	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	WEARS-FEST 2024	Greensburg Masonic Lodge, 349 Donohoe Road, Greensburg PA
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooters Groundwave Phone	8 PM—11 PM EST
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooters Groundwave Digital	8 PM—11 PM EST
March 16 <sup>th</sup> — 17 <sup>th</sup>	Rabid Raccoon 100	Brady's Run Park, 121 Brady's Run Road, Beaver Falls PA 15010 <a href="https://w3kwh.net/Rabid/">https://w3kwh.net/Rabid/</a>
March 21 <sup>st</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Third Thursday Tech Talk	146.955, 443.650 and 442.550 MHz 08:00 PM Eastern
March 30 <sup>th</sup> — 31 <sup>st</sup>	CQ WPX Contest SSB	<a href="https://cqwpix.com/">https://cqwpix.com/</a>
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Two Rivers ARC 52 <sup>nd</sup> Hamfest	Elizabeth VFD Bingo Hall, 101 South 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue, Elizabeth PA 15037
April 18 <sup>th</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Third Thursday Tech Talk	146.955, 443.650 and 442.550 MHz 08:00 PM Eastern
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
May 17 <sup>th</sup> — 19 <sup>th</sup>	Hamvention 2024	Greene County Fair & Expo Center, 210 Fairground Road, Xenia OH 45385
May 25 <sup>th</sup> — 26 <sup>th</sup>	CQ WPX Contest CW	<a href="https://cqwpix.com/">https://cqwpix.com/</a>
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	67 <sup>th</sup> Annual Breezeshooters Hamfest	Butler Farm Show Grounds, 625 Evans City Road, Butler PA 16001
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> — 23 <sup>rd</sup>	ARRL Field Day	<a href="http://arrl.org">http://arrl.org</a>
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> — 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>WASH</i> Field Day	Babcock Grove, South Park



# ***"Seen" at the February Meeting***

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright  
2024 Ron Notarius W3WN



# 2024 Rabid Raccoon 100

Christine Rial N3LRG  
President, Steel City ARC  
W3KWH

The Rabid Raccoon 100 Ultra race, taking place this year on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, in Brady's Run Park in Beaver County, is an ultra marathon race that has 300 runners doing a 100 mile, 100 kilometer, and 1/2 marathons over an 36 hour time frame. We need 36+ ham radio operators to man the check point and to handle communications. This year all the aid stations are indoors. There will be aid workers taking care of the runner and us operators.

The duties of the radio operators will be communicating the runner's progress back to net control, and relaying the needs of the aid station personal back to the race organizers. We will also be letting the authorities know if there are any emergencies needs. Beside the hams at the aid station they will also be manned by race volunteers that will handle the needs of the runners. Our job will be communications and supporting the aid station staff. Like last year I would like to keep track of drop out runner better. Please report all drop outs to the command station (Especially the 100k & 100 mile runners). All aid stations this year will be inside buildings {**Yes I said inside**}, but be prepared to help runner that will be outside the buildings.

The Aid Stations will be located at the following locations. The Recreation Hall will be the location for the **Start & Finish line** it will also serve as **Aid Station #4** on the loop. This aid station will see the runner loop through at least 7 times. Also located in the building will be Wolf Creek operation center and our Net Control station.

Right down the trail from the rec hall will be Brady's Lodge located in the center of the park. This will be **Aid Station #1**. It will be staffed by two radio operators to handle the needs of the runners. This aid station will see the runners 8 times during the 36 hours of the race. Moses is reporting there is no heat in this building but will be trying to bring in electric heaters. I will be bringing the SCARC electric heater for the radio operators.

The biggest Aid Station will be the Four Season lodge. **Aid Station #2 & #3** will be located there since its on the junction of two trail crossing. This station will be manned by three radio operators to make it easier to see if a runner is checking into site #2 or site #3. Operators here will see the 100 mile runner 16 times during the 36 hours of the race. This building does have heat so the operators will be much better off than previous years.

**Food** what every ham radio operators live on will not be a problem. Aid stations will be equipped with water, Hammer Nutrition's HEED Sports Drink, soda, and food such as pizza, PB&J, bagels, cookies, bananas, granola bars, candy, etc. And lets not forget the World Famous Pickle Juice the runners drink of choice. A more detail food list will be listed as we get closer to the event. Also at each aid station there will be a first aid kit to handle simple medical issues. Located at one of the aid station will be a paramedic that we will call in for the bigger issues. As a operator please report all medical issues to net control.

**Operations** your duty is to help keep track of the runners. The runners will have different color bibs for their class. I will be reporting as we get close to the event which colors will be associated with each group of runners. I will have pencils & tablets at each site this year. Please note the runners numbers for all 100 milers & 100K runners. Then once every half hour net control will request who has passed through your station. Also very important is to keep track of your drop outs. Please report all drop out to net control so that we don't lose any runners on the trail. We only keep track of the 1/2 marathoners drop out. Remember the runners are still outside in the cold!

Since this is not a state park it is not a POTA site. Your still welcoming to be bring your go kit to try out HF operations, just remember your primary job is to help communicate the runners needs. If you need to set anything up please plan to arrive early so that the operators finishing their shift don't have to wait for you.

**Aid Station Workers** will be at every aid station their job is to take care of the runner needs. Our job is to communicate their needs to Wolf Creek the race organizers. So that the aid station keep well stock with food items and other needs. It is important that we work closely with the aid workers and try to keep ahead of the station needs before they run out. {Heaven help us if we run out of Pickle Juice.} By working together they can help you keep track of which runners are passing through. Please report any issues you might have with the aid workers to the radio coordinator Christine N3LRG.

To Sign Up EMAIL Christine N3LRG At [N3LRG@W3KWH.COM](mailto:N3LRG@W3KWH.COM). Send me the location and time frame you wish to work. Also please include your club affiliation. If your having email issue try my other email [at\\_rialtech@com](mailto:at_rialtech@com). (Do not volunteer on the Rabid website)



## Meeting Minutes

Continued from  
Page 4

see how many folks there are and if they are club members and push them toward Glen's offer of equipment.

### Good of the order:

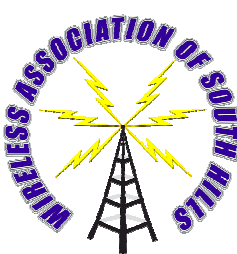
- Glen (KE7FD) - Has received 16 logs for N3SH 2m contest. Going to think about scoring for next year. Need main prize tickets.
- Glen (KE7FD) - Clubs can attract new members by using non-radio related hobbies of existing members.

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

Adjourned at 8:12 PM 2/1/2024



N3LRG making  
her presentation  
on the Rabid  
Raccoon at the  
February meeting.  
Thank you!



## 2024 WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest Results

Glen Roberts KE7FD, 2024 Contest Chair

KB3YCX	9	K3YQA	264
WO3X	9	KE3WN	323
KE7FD	10	kKB3WP	338
KC3STZ	23	N3AMK	360
K3GW	25	N3WS	360
WB3EKR	28	N3FB	392
KC3MMC	40	KC3GMM	416
K3SEM	81	KC3VHD	420
K3VX	128	KA3KSP	855
N3OVO	208	KB3ORR	1425
AB1A	234	W3OIE	3243
K3HCR	264		

"My friend George is a radio  
announcer. When he walks under a  
bridge, you can't hear him talk."  
Steven Wright





# KL7RA Future Status

Stephen Bloom KL7SB

Courtesy of the  
contest.com email reflector

*Nikiski, AK, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024* – ARRL DX CW was something else up here. Of our original 6 ops, 3 canceled at the last minute. Given that, I decided the three of us would do a M/2, since in this contest, we are mostly competing against ourselves, and the Alaska M/2 record had held for 23 years, was fairly close to the M/M record, and seemed out of reach, so might as well avoid the limits of M/S and just have fun.

Great plan, which as always, lasted about 5 minutes into the contest. Hour after hour of 400-450 rates. Learned that one of my ops, Kent, KL5T is an absolute beast. Always knew he was good, didn't know that he was 220+/hour good. Our small crew of intrepid, aging, idea of a workout is getting something to drink from the refrigerator, ops decided to just take it as far as we could. I think we all set personal records for BIC time, and had 2 positions on for the vast majority of the contest. Anyway, about those records: Yes we did break that old M/2 record. Additionally, assuming error check doesn't go too badly, we also set a new overall KL7 record.

After a day of recovery after a contest, I do a post-mortem. For this specific contest, about the only thing was, we should have spent a bit more time on 160, self-spotting every 10 minutes, and tried to drag out a few more mults. At the same time, I realized that I had run out of time, doing things the way we always have. The pattern of last-minute cancellations, difficulties getting people to fly up, airfares getting insane, and remote technology advancing, is making the current model (a strictly in person, Multi Multi station) untenable. There is also the fact that, overall we're an aging demographic and the younger contesters are continually pushing the boundaries of IT and RF.

I've been talking about this for quite a while, while not doing much about it, because I was trying to, as much as possible keep things as Rich had. I also believe that nothing can ever quite take the place of a bunch of ops, hanging out before, during, and after the contest in person. In the meantime, thanks to some generous help from Dave N7NR with equipment, and the arrival of Starlink, we've finally been able to get remoting up and running with good performance. Axel K16RRN now spends a bunch of his time in Alaska and has done extensive testing, in and outside of contests, and it works quite well.

Going forward, I believe that a hybrid in person/remote approach is the only way we can get a critical mass of ops. I'll be the first to tell y'all that nobody has ever regretted coming up to operate. We try to feed people well, provide good accommodations within the limits of space within a single house, (though we also get a crazy cheap rate at a local B&B, should one want more space/privacy) and, if I may brag a bit, a location and view that defies description if you haven't been there. Still, Alaska is an ancient native word meaning "Cold place, far away from everywhere, where moose will stomp your Beverages every single \*\*x^x!! ^\_&^! year." We're never going to be W3LPL/K3LR with half of the U.S. population within a half day drive.

Now, the much less fun part... money. I've been blessed with the income and relative youth to be able to afford to carry this mostly on my own, but, as time goes on, the age is slowly rising, and the income is not so slowly dropping. Unless someone is either a mad genius engineer like Rich, who was a maestro with duct tape, or has (a lot of) money, it's just too much for one person. Electricity is super expensive (average about 600-700 per month), there is the "Alaska tax" where the cost of shipping is double-quadruple more than the lower 48, either paid directly, or if you buy local, reflected in the price. Every year, we have to fly in tower climbers from the lower 48. Put all the above together, and it is clear that it is not a sustainable model.

After taking care of my family, my highest priority is to keep the station on the air. If it ever does end, not likely that someone would be crazy enough to try again. Obviously we do this because it's fun, and a great outlet for OCD, but I also think we do provide a service to the contest community, by making Zone 1/ AK reliably available on all bands, and outside of contests, giving opportunities for modest stations with limited power/antennas. Heck, we'll even use FT8 if necessary. Going forward, it's going to require outside help. I would like to see us have a higher profile in the local community, I mean, most locals don't know about Nikiski's #1 tourist attraction! There may be opportunities to work with STEM students or do research, and we will be seeking grants. I'm also open to investors and eventually, perhaps setting up an exit path. I'd be happy to discuss further, privately. If you would like to help, here is a link to the GoFundMe ...<https://gofund.me/f93770d5>

We'll be working on adding more remote capacity, getting antenna repair work done, once it is warm enough, and figuring out how we might more efficiently use our tower space

Thank you for your consideration



**KL7RA during the CQ WW Phone contest 2013.**  
Photo courtesy of the KL7RA website

## K9EID SK

Bob Heil, the American sound and radio engineer, passed away on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the age of 83. His contributions to the world of sound engineering and music are significant.

Here are some highlights from his remarkable career:

- **Innovator in Sound Systems:** Bob Heil is best known for creating the template for modern rock sound systems. In 1966, he founded Heil Sound, a company that went on to design unique touring sound systems for bands like The Grateful Dead and The Who. These systems revolutionized live music performances, providing high-quality sound experiences for audiences around the world.
- **Heil Talk Box:** In 1973, Heil invented the Heil Talk Box, a device frequently used by musicians such as Peter Dinklage, Joe Walsh, and Richie Sambora. The Talk Box allowed artists to create distinctive vocal effects by shaping sound through a plastic tube. Remarkably, the Heil Talk Box is still in use today, leaving a lasting impact on music history.
- **Amateur Radio and Innovations:** Beyond music, Heil was an amateur radio operator (call sign: K9EID). He manufactured microphones and satellite dishes for broadcasters and live sound engineers. He also delved into home theater installations and lectured at major electronic conventions.
- **Early Life and Musical Background:** Born in 1940 in Illinois, Heil became a proficient theater organ musician at a young age. He performed at local restaurants and eventually played the Wurlitzer theater organ at the Fox Theater in St. Louis. His experience with the Wurlitzer taught him how to listen and dissect discrete tones, a skill that would serve him well throughout his career.
- **Legacy and Recognition:** Heil won multiple awards and honors for his contributions to sound engineering and music technology. In 2007, he was invited to exhibit at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, solidifying his place in music history<sup>23</sup>.

Bob Heil's impact on the music industry and his innovative spirit will continue to resonate for years to come

Courtesy Multiple Sources



Photo Courtesy Heil Sound



# 200 Foot AM Broadcast Tower Stolen Without A Trace ...

Multiple story sources.  
This version is courtesy of  
the Associated Press

Jasper, AL, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (updated) — The theft of a giant radio tower has silenced what used to be the voice of a small Alabama town and the surrounding county, the radio station's general manager said.

A thief or thieves made off with the 200-foot (61-meter) tower, shutting down WJLX radio in Jasper, Alabama. So far, no arrests have been made.

"The slogan of our station is the sound of Walker County, and right now with our station down, the community has lost its sound and lost its voice," WJLX General Manager Brett Elmore told The Associated Press. "This hurts, and it hurts our community."

The theft was discovered Feb. 2, when a maintenance crew arrived in the wooded area where the tower once stood and found it gone. They also found that every piece of broadcasting equipment stored in a nearby building had also been stolen.

"To break into my building and steal all my equipment, and the tower?" Elmore said. "Hell, leave me the tower — that's the most expensive thing to replace."

Elmore said he suspects that the tower's guy wire was cut first, which would have brought the structure to the ground. Then he believes it was cut into smaller pieces and hauled away. "Some pretty simple tools you could get from Home Depot could cut this up in no time," he said.

The station had no insurance on the tower or the equipment, and he estimates that it will take \$60,000 to \$100,000 to rebuild. "We're a small market, and we don't have that kind of money," he said.

Elmore has heard from people around the nation hoping to help, and a GoFundMe page has been launched online to raise donations. He said he was reluctant to start the fundraiser, but a friend told him to put his pride aside if people are willing to help. More than \$1,100 had been raised by early Friday afternoon.

The AM station has been on the air since the mid-1950s, and Elmore's quarter-century in the radio business carries on work his father did at the station before him.

"It's more than a job and radio," he said. "This is just a part of who I am."

Jasper police are investigating, spokeswoman Rachel Karr said Friday. In a statement, police said the theft was reported to police on Feb. 2, but the date and time of the crime is not known. Police are seeking tips from the public.

Elmore now hopes to somehow get back on the air.

"We're going to make it," he said. "I have to keep the faith that we're going to make it."



This image provided by Brett Elmore shows WJLX radio's tower in Jasper, AL ("before").

## ... Or... Was it?

Prosperity, PA, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 — Many of us that have had any broadcast radio experience were highly suspicious following the reports of this "stolen tower" incident.

This is a link of a video of some curious guy who drove down there and did some looking about. <https://youtu.be/78PvIGCqM84?si=WvDzBh2dYoOSU7oX> It CERTAINLY add fuel to the case for a bunch of fraud.

This is not yet the " REST OF THE STORY".....

73, Bill Steffy NY9H courtesy of the N3SH E-Mail Reflector

Mansfield, TX, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 -- Here's my take on this:

1. If you watch the YouTube video via the link above, it looks like the transmitter site hasn't been visited in at least a year. The transmitter building has the entry door hanging by one hinge, the power meter on the outside is long gone, the guy wires are rusty, the fence is mangled with weeds growing through it, not to mention that it is no longer surrounding the property, there's a layer of dust coating the inside of the hut, etc.
2. So is this guy trying to tell me that not one listener called the station to say "Hey! What happened to your AM signal?"
3. If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound? DARN TOOTIN' IT DOES. So does a 200' broadcast tower when the guys are cut. Thieves work quietly so as not to attract attention to what they're doing. So, nobody at the poultry plant heard a loud boom and came out to investigate?
4. If the tower truly was stolen, where are the tire tracks located at? Like I said the site looks abandoned and has been for at least 6 months if not longer. See the video link below.
5. No engineer worth his salt is NOT going to be monitoring the signal ONCE in a while, at the very least. If my boss came to me and said "Psst. I'm gonna cut the guy wires on the AM tower and let it fall down but don't tell anybody, ESPECIALLY the FCC", my answer would be "Bite me. You're not going to jeopardize MY license."
6. Who in their right mind, as an owner of an AM broadcast station, would NOT insure the tower, the transmitter and anything else at the site? It's the bread-and-butter of the station. No signal, no ad revenue being generated. I'm sure a new Harris 1KW transmitter is probably worth at least 5 grand, plus the antenna (I have no idea what that would cost), the hut and anything else inside it. NO INSURANCE? Come on.....
7. From the looks of the power meter, it looks like it came in from the top, and then fed into the building from the bottom. See the conduit dangling from the bottom? Looks like it plugged into that hole a few inches away from it. Where are the power lines? Looks like the WIXI-AM transmitter site a half-mile north of it has a pole on the property carrying power to the site.

There's no way thieves just drove up to the transmitter site, cut the guy wires, and proceeded to cut the tower into little sections so they could haul it away. The transmitter site is adjacent to a poultry processing plant. If the cops have half a brain, they would simply go to the plant and quiz the employees who work there: "Have any of you people who work here noticed anything funny? Like coming to work one day and the tower is there, and the next day it's gone?" A broadcast tower is a pretty significant landmark. I think I would notice if it was here today, gone tomorrow....

BTW: If you go to Google Maps and search for Mar-Jac Poultry, Jasper AL and go to the satellite view, you'll see a boomerang shaped piece of land. It's located at about the 4:00 position from the pin Google places on the poultry plant. You'll see a little silver dot on it. Zoom in on it and you'll see that it is the transmitter site, and you can also see the antenna and the shadow it is throwing in the direction of the poultry plant. I don't know how old this view is but I remember that I could see my tower in Kennedy Township many years after it was long gone.

Continued on Page 10

# An ARRL Elections Ethics Violation?

Ria Jairam  
N2RJ

Sussex, NJ, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 -- <https://www.arrl.org/arrrl-rules-regulations> states:

"Articles by or about, or photos of, an incumbent director, or a candidate, will not be published in an issue of QST that will appear during the campaign period." New England Director Fred Kemmerer AB1OC and his wife, Anita AB1QB, received an award from Orlando Hamcation. Maybe they deserved it, but that is not the issue.

The issue is that QST published an article about it, in apparent violation of the rules, on Page 74 of March 2024 QST. In fact, in that article he was covered for two whole paragraphs, much more so than the others who also received awards.

In 2021, David Minster, the CEO, made the decision to tell the organizers of QSO Today Ham Expo to not allow myself (*then the incumbent ARRL Hudson Division Director – ed*) and Mike Ritz W7VO to speak at the QSO Today Ham Expo. He cited election rules. He himself made this arbitrary decision. I was not informed of this decision until Ritz had asked QSO Today why he wasn't allowed to speak.

Enforcement of this policy seems rather arbitrary and inconsistent.

But this does beg the question - are the rules being creatively circumvented? The rule states, "campaign period." When is the campaign period? Usually the candidates aren't certified until August, with the call for nominations being in July. But many candidates begin campaigning well before that. In fact, the rules frame elections within a full year. Given the context of the QSO Today interference by Minster, one can conclude that a "campaign period" could encompass a full year.

## Who Voted No?

Richard F. Di Donna  
NN3W

Vienna, VA, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – (From the ARRL Board 2024 Meeting Minutes):

39. Moved by Director Famiglio with a second by Director Stratton:

**WHEREAS**, Thomas J. Abernethy W3TOM is the immediate past Director of the ARRL Atlantic Division;

**WHEREAS**, Thomas J. Abernethy W3TOM after retiring as Director in January of 2023 has continued to actively and vigorously support the ARRL by traveling to numerous official member gatherings, conventions and hamfests to represent, promote and support our League tirelessly as an ambassador of ARRL goodwill in our Atlantic Division and across the entire country;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy became a licensed Amateur Radio Operator in 1972, advancing through the Amateur ranks to Amateur Extra Class;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy was elected as the Section Manager of the Maryland/DC Section of the Atlantic Division on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, and served with distinction in such capacity until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006;

**WHEREAS**, on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, Mr. Abernethy was elected as Vice Director for the ARRL Atlantic Division and served continuously in such capacity until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015;

**WHEREAS**, on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, Mr. Abernethy was elected Director of the ARRL Atlantic Division and has served in such capacity until his retirement as of January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023; **WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy, a Life Member, has served continuously in elected office for the ARRL for almost twenty-two years;

**WHEREAS**, while Director, Mr. Abernethy was elected to the Executive Committee of the Board and was elected as a Director of the ARRL Foundation, and served tirelessly on its Scholarship Committee.

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy has also served in the appointed positions of Official Bulletin Station – beginning in 1975, Official Emergency Station - Starting in 1998, MDC Section Emergency Coordinator 1980-1985, and Emergency Coordinator for several counties in Maryland at various times in the past;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy has always selflessly donated his time and skills for the advancement of Amateur Radio generally and specifically the promotion of the ARRL as the leading representative of Amateur Radio Operators; **15 WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy is an AMSAT Life Member, Potomac Valley Radio Club member (PVRC), having joined in 1972 and having served as PVRC Vice President (1985) under President David Siddall K3ZJ, the ARRL's present FCC counsel.

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Abernethy assisted the US Pentagon and US State Department by obtaining and sharing critical logistical intelligence during the first student takeover of the American Embassy Compound in Tehran, Iran in 1978, was responsible for leading the Amateur Radio response to the downed Florida Flight 90 crash into the Potomac River (1982), and was responsible for organizing the critical Amateur Radio response for the attack on the US Pentagon during the 911 Attack on September 11th, 2001, and was responsible for organizing the extensive Amateur Radio response to the LaPlata, Maryland F-4 Tornado. (April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002);

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that in recognition of Thomas J. Abernethy's contributions to Amateur Radio and to The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated the ARRL hereby confers the title of Director Emeritus upon Mr. Abernethy with all the rights, privileges, and recognition the position provides.

The motion was **APPROVED, 12 Aye, 3 No.**

I mean, seriously, who votes no on a thing like this?

## ... or ... was it?

Continued from Page 9

In other words, I don't know how frequently Google updates their satellite view maps. I think I read somewhere where people saw a satellite view that did not show the tower still up in the air. Check out the video though in the link below. Very informative. Not only that but the antenna base in relation to the transmitter house matches up with the satellite view you'll see in Google Maps. So apparently the kids who did the video were at the right spot.

This one smells funny. If the cops find out he's lying, he's gonna be hurtin' for certain. Same goes for the FCC. If they find out he's lying the only station he'll be able to own is a CB station. I'm sure GoFundMe would have something to say also, if this turns out to be fraudulent.

Now it is possible that it COULD'VE been stolen and he is NOT lying, but if it was transmitting a signal (the station was certified for 1000 watts unlimited), what do you think would've happened to those thieves when they touched the tower? RF burns? Bad shock? Death? I've heard that the entire tower is the radiator for an AM signal. I would appreciate if someone can confirm that.....

From what I've read, a lot of broadcast engineers out there also question this theft.

Watch the video; very informative. 73, Greg Babin NB3C via the N3SH E-Mail Reflector

See Also: Radioworld.COM "[Skpetics Question Disappearance of Alabama Radio Tower](#)"



A still from the YouTube Video("after").



# WASHFest 2024: Hall Setup

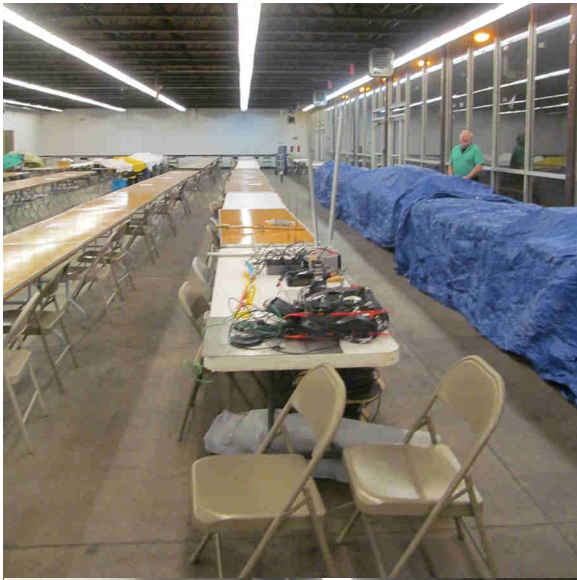
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# WASHFest 2024

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# WASHFest 2024

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Our Black Box Winners



# WEARS-Fest 2024



Westmoreland Emergency Amateur Radio Service, Inc.  
Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:00 AM— 1:00 PM

## Greensburg Masonic Center

349 Donohoe Road, Greensburg, PA 15601-6988

Talk-in on 147.180 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

More Information at <http://wc3ps.org>

# Two Rivers ARC 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hamfest

Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:00 AM—Noon

## Elizabeth VFD Bingo Hall

101 South First Avenue, Elizabeth, PA 15037

Talk-in on 146.730 — Mobile Check In 146.52

Admission \$5

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



# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri-State Radio Fest

Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 8:30 AM—2:00 PM

Center State Banquet Hall

1495 Old Broadhead Road, Monaca, PA 15061

Flea Market Sales 8:30—Noon

Auction Lots check-in 9 AM Through Noon,

Auction Announcements Start at 11:30 — Cash Only

More information: Bob Knowlton (412) 600-7939 or Bob Pleva (412) 279-9067

<http://www.pittantiqueradios.org/>



# 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Butler Farm Show Grounds

625 Evans City Road, Butler, PA 16001

Site of the 2024 ARRL WPA Section Convention

8:00 AM—2:00 PM

More Information at [breezeshooters.org/ns/hamfest](http://breezeshooters.org/ns/hamfest)

Or email [hamfest@breezeshooters.org](mailto:hamfest@breezeshooters.org)



# Jarvis Island 2024

Don Greenbaum N1DG  
Dateline DX Association

Derry, NH, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 – The Dateline DX Association is pleased to announce it has received permission from the US Fish & Wildlife Service for a DXpedition to Jarvis Island National Wildlife Reserve this August. Jarvis is ranked Number 18 on Clublog's global most wanted list. It is Number 9 in Europe. Jarvis Island is 450 miles from Palmyra Atoll and 1500 miles from Hawaii.

Jarvis was last on the air in 1990 and permission to visit has been difficult to obtain. We have worked very hard for the past few years on this permission and after demonstrating the success of the RIB concept with remote operators from various locations in 2023 we have received a permit that allows 4 operators on the boat to visit Jarvis with 6 stations on land.

The small team of four, consisting of George AA7JV, Don N1DG, Tomi HA7RY and Mike KN4EEI, will install 6 RIB stations on Jarvis, operating on 160 to 6 meters, using CW, SSB and FT8 modes. The on-island team will be augmented by 25 remote operators from Asia, Europe and North America, running CW and FT8. FT8 operations will use the Fox/Hound mode.

The RIB equipment, which makes an efficient small footprint operation possible, was developed with the support of the NCDXF.

We will be accompanied to Jarvis by a team of 3 USFWS biologists conducting science.

Call sign, website and additional information will be announced shortly. We wish to thank the staff of the USFWS in Hawaii for their hard work in approving this minimally invasive operation on Jarvis Island NWR.

— 73 George AA7JV and Don N1DG, permit holders for the Jarvis Island NWR  
2024 DXpedition.



## DX News Briefs



**CY9C:** "Planning continues to go well for the CY9C DXpedition scheduled for 26 August 26 - 5 September. The team will be active on 160 - 6 meters including satellite and EME. The team plans to employ two helicopters to help facilitate the transporting of all of the gear and team members. One of the two helicopters will be used for heavy lifting and will be deployed before the DXpedition to transport the heavier items to the island. All operations will be from the Northeast Island of St Paul. This island has a small footprint and has no trees. There are no docking facilities on the island and the rocks surrounding the island present a significant challenge for a boat." More information at [cy9c.net](http://cy9c.net)

**H40WA** is now QRV through 6 March. More information at <https://intrepid-dx.com/h40wa/>. QSL via MØURX or via OQRS

**TY5C** is now QRV through 29 March. Solo operator through 14 March, then up to 4 stations QRV. QSL as directed.

**II4CPC, IQ4DJ, CB6I** and **CB6CPC** will be QRV 4 – 10 March to commemorate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chilean city of Capitan Pastene. QSL II4CPC & IQ4DJ via IQ4DJ, CB6I and CB6CPC via CE6TRA

**J38R** will be QRV 4 – 16 March, three "high power" stations 10 – 160. More information at <https://rockall.be/> QSL via MØURX

**XQ7UP/9** will be QRV in his spare time 6 – 12 March from King George Island, South Shetland Islands (AN-010), 40 – 10. QSL via XQ7UP or OQRS.

**HI8/VA2VKG** will be QRV 15 March – 12 April, 40 20 & 10, CW & SSB. QSL via VA2VKG

**T44DX** will be QRV 21-25 March from NA-056, 160 -10 plus 2 M and 70 cm. QSL via RW6HS

**T11T** will be QRV 29 – 31 March during the CQ WW DX Contest. QSL via T12CC

**TM4J** will be QRV 1 – 4 April from Noirmoutier Island EU-064. QSL via EA4NF

**VP6G** will be QRV 4 – 14 April, 40 – 10, CW and FT8. More information at <https://dx.to/vp6g/> QSL via MØOXO

**A80K** will be QRV 5 – 19 April, 160 – 6 SSB CW RTTY PSK and FT4/8. QSL via OK6DJ or OQRS

**ZS6/PB5X** will be QRV 12 – 21 April, holiday style. More information on the [ZS6/PB5X](https://dx.to/pb5x/) QRZ Page. QSL via PA1AW

**8Q7KR** will be QRV 19–31 May, 10 M SSB @ 30 W output only. QSL via DO4RKR

## WASHFest 2024 VEC Exams

Grant  
Olson  
KC3MLC

The WASH ARRL VEC Team successfully tested four candidates at **WASHFest 2024**:

New Technician:

John Grumloine

Upgrade from Tech to General:

Mark Barnes KA9JKU

Thomas Hurley KC3UWK

Karen Valley KC3PNW

[ Karen was prompted to upgrade because her 13 year old grandson was excited about Amateur Radio, and just got his own General license! ]

Thanks to all of our club VE's who participated in the testing process, including Dave N3IDH, Gene KB3JHR and Bill WA3VSS, as well as those who were available if needed.



## QSL Routes

5B4AMM via UT5UDX  
5P1OT via SP1OT  
5X70 via DJ6TF  
8R7X via MØOXO  
A61Q via EA7FTR  
AO1ØØRADIO via EA4URE  
AO5PAZ via EA5URV  
AT3SM via VU2XE  
AU2HT via VU2ZMK  
AU2RS via MØOXO  
AX3HAG via VK3HAG  
AX3JL via VK3JL  
AX3JRP via VK3JRP  
CR2X via OH2BH  
CR50 via CT7AJL  
CT9/NZ1C via DD5ZZ  
D4PM via IZ4DPV  
DAØBCC via DL2JRM  
DFØRE via DK2YCT  
DL2Ø24EM via DL3EBB  
DQ6ØSG via DD3JN  
DR5Z via DJ5RE  
ED1YCA via EA1URA  
EE6DSA via EA6SB  
EF1A via EA1X  
EG1ØPDL via EB7AA  
EG3PAU via EA3RCI  
EG8CGC via EA8EE  
EH5AAW via EA5N  
EH5ANT via EC5JC  
HB9IPA via HB9FND

HBØDX via HBØHF  
IIØLOVE via IQØTE  
II4TENC via IQ4FE  
IP3X via IK2WAD  
J62K via K9HZ  
NP4G via NP3O  
OE6ØRRDXA via OE6VIE  
OI3V via OH3KAV  
OL2T via OK2TC  
OL3Z via OK1HMP  
OL4ACF via OK1AR  
OM7K via OM7RU  
OP4W via ON4BWT  
OP7B via ON7BJ  
OR1Z via ON6IX  
OR5T via ON4ALY  
OR7T via ON7YD  
OR8A via ON8VA  
OT5Q via ON4KNP  
OZ11A via OZ6ABA  
OZ24FX via OZ1ACB  
P4ØAA via DL4MM  
PA24CC via PA2TMS  
PA6AA via PB7Z  
PI4CG via PD2GSP  
PB24BP via PA3EFR  
PJ7PF via DM2PF  
PJ7PH via DM7HB  
PZ5DX via UA2FM  
S77SARA via S76P  
SC5ØAG via SM2CEW

SE2P via SM2MTR  
SE6R via SM6RSE  
SK1ØØKTH via SKØBU  
SK5A via SM5GMZ  
SN3F via SP3FYX  
SN5ØGUC via SP2GUC  
SP15ØWW via SP3PDO  
SX1QANK via SV1AHH  
TM1ANT via F8DHE  
TM2T via F6KDF  
TM2ØVM via F6KSM  
TM21AAW via F8DVB  
TM26PVJ via F8GGZ  
TM4S via F6HBI  
TM4Y via F6KGL  
TM5ØKRR via F6KRR  
TM7M via F1UVN  
TX8GC via LZ1GC  
VI6ØIOTA via MØOXO  
VJ6X via VK6CQ  
VK9DX via VK2DX  
YQ6A via YO6BNH  
Z66BCC via DL2JRM  
Z68XX via DL2JRM  
ZD7Z via IK2DWW  
ZF2ØØ via WB2REM  
ZF2PG via K8PGJ  
ZL7D via EA3FLW  
ZW5L via PY5DCL  
ZX4F via PY4Y  
ZZ2I via PY2MAM

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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Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201

Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944

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

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



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

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

Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law

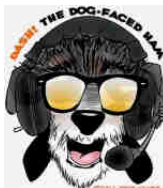
277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056

Phone: 724-352-4905

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

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

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



**For Sale:** Shift "Lightblast" entertainment projector for PCs and game devices. Allegedly projects an image 10' wide. Bought online by my daughter, found that she could not use it nor could she return it. Advertised as "new" but appears to be used.

As-is. Best offer over \$35 (plus S/H). Email Ron W3WN [w3wn@n3sh.org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org) if interested.

### US Amateurs by Class as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Novice	6,740
Technician	426,834
General	202,102
Advanced	35,678
Extra	164,856
Club	12,376
<b>Total</b>	<b>848,586</b>

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com)

### PA Amateurs by Class as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024:

Novice	305
Technician	12,130
General	6,836
Advanced	1,393
Extra	5,902
Club	442
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,008</b>

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com)

### Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Group A	AC3LM
Group B	KF3EV
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3YOK

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com)



## FCC News

American Radio Relay League

Selected News Briefs, gathered from FCC Daily Digests over the past few weeks:

- On February 8<sup>th</sup>, the FCC made it illegal for AI-Generated voices to be used in Robocalls. This will permit State Attorney Generals to pursue further legal action. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400393A1.pdf>
- On February 15<sup>th</sup>, the FCC adopted rules to empower consumers to stop Robocalls and Robotexts. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400522A1.pdf>
- On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, as part of robocall mitigation, the FCC decertified two business entities and "all intermediate providers and voice service providers" to cease accepting calls. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-152A1.pdf> <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-153A1.pdf>
- On February 26<sup>th</sup>, the FCC approved Wi-Fi Management systems to operate in the 6 GHz band. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400722A1.pdf>
- On February 27<sup>th</sup>, the FCC found that the application for T-Mobile for additional spectrum at 2.5 GHz was in the public interest, convenience, or necessity. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-171A1.pdf>
- The FCC has also proposed fines or other actions against multiple individuals operating non-licensed FM broadcast stations. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-24-19A1.pdf>, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400390A1.pdf>, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400881A1.pdf>, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-400882A1.pdf>, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-398773A1.pdf>, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-398774A1.pdf>



## 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](mailto:n3ue11@gmail.com)



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

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

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**



# WASHfest 2025

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

Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

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: TBA

Second Prize: TBA

Third Prize: TBA



**Additional Hourly Door Prizes! 2 Special Black Box Prizes (Separate Drawings)!**

**Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20, 40 for \$50, 90 for \$100**

**All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes**

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

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

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

**Please Note:** Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Reservations received after February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance fourteen 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



## DXers have a choice!

Get a free two week trial of The Daily DX and The Weekly DX and decide for yourself which one best fits your needs for informing you of all the DX news!



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

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



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

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k1nss@dashtoons.com

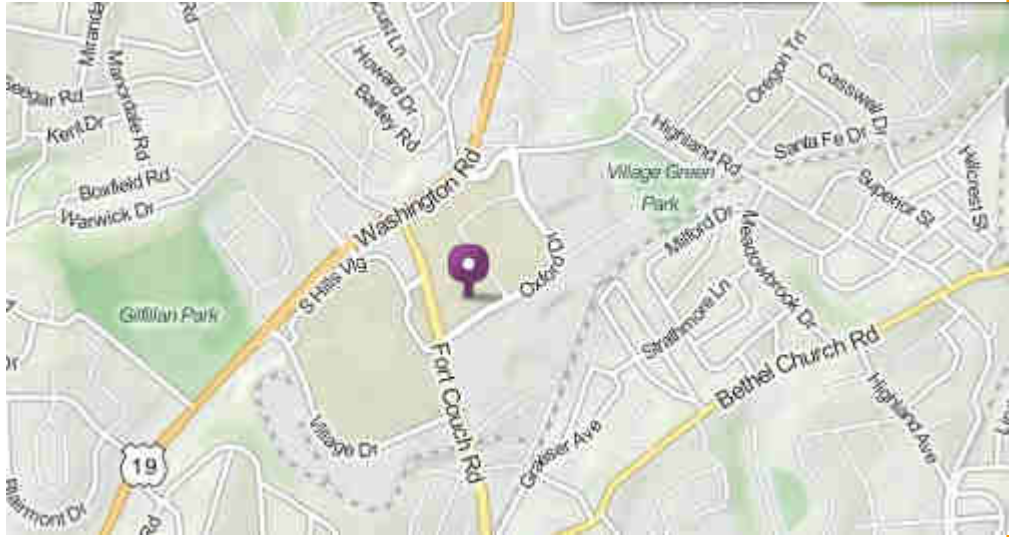
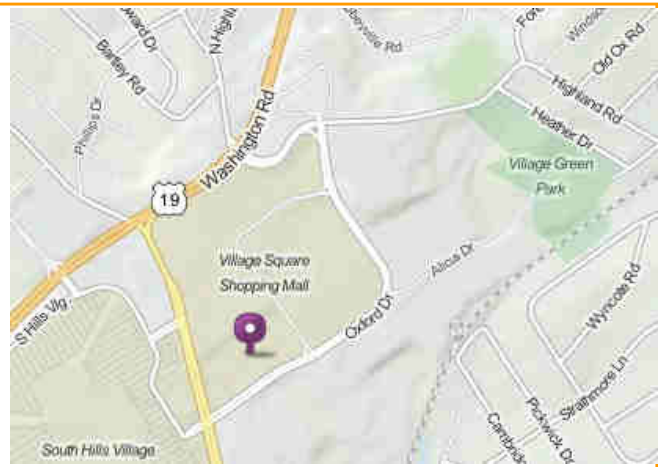


# ***2024 WASH Meeting Location***

## **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



N3SH / WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

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

