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The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on Thursday, June 6th, 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: Field Day 2024, Breezeshooters, Hamvention, and other 2024 Plans, and much more. See you there!

Cover: Begali Straight Keys on display at Hamvention. And yes, you were encouraged to try them out! Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Bob Greene N3RDG

WASH 2024 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President VP / Secretary VP / Treasurer Tom Galante KB3NIX Nathan Suehr KC3GMM

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee WA3SH Trustee NP2SH Trustee N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager Ron Notarius W3WN NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager VE Team Liaison Webmaster Quartermaster WASH FM Net Manager WASHFest 2025 Committee

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

Mark Stabryla N3RDV

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

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

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

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test June 27th

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on Wednesday, June 27th, 2024, 6:00 PM, at WPXI Studios, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh P, just off the Parkway North. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

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

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

Please bring the following to your test session:

- Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)
- Pen / Pencil / Calculator

Future test dates: To Be Determined

- Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)
- Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading) Check in the amount of \$15.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Note that the FCC now only accepts FRNs as identification numbers. Social Security Numbers are no longer accepted. If you don't have an FRN, please create one in advance at https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/ publicHome.doc

A Few Words

As we move into June of course our big event is the upcoming ARRL Feld Day on June 22nd and June 23rd!

For our meeting in June on Thursday, June 6th, I would like to spend some time finalizing our plans for field day and tying up any loose ends that we have remaining out there.



Also, we should discuss Field Day for 2025 particulars. in addition, I would like to discuss club activities for the rest of the year. I would also like to begin to talk about strategies for

See you all at the meeting on Thursday.

recruiting new members.

. — 73. Tom Galante KB3NIX

President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc. N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

State Bill 37 with exemptions for Amateur Radio operators, was endorsed by the PA State Senate on June 3rd, and then the PA State House It is currently awaiting the signature of the Governor, so that it may be assigned an ACT number and become State Law. Thanks to

Constable Jon Vith K3JFV for the last update!

Reminder: The June 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.

Saturday, May 25th kicked off the 2024 Memorial Day weekend, so it's not surprising that it was a beautiful day to... sleep in. Or work the CQ WPX CW Contest. However, that never stopped the intrepid members of the *WASH* BREAKFAST GANG. This month, the McMurRay EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD hosted WB4GCS, KC4WTT, N3IDH, K3SGT and Barb, KB3NIX, N3FB, KC3GMU and W3WN. The morning table talk covered new grandchildren, retirement is overrated, skipping the camera store and hitting the drum store, "I always have to be different!" (KB3NIX), the Middle East war, what is being taught on college campuses today?; the 75 Meter daily health & welfare net; solar flares; 6 & 2 meter openings during the aurora, the Swan 750CX; Tesla, Westinghouse, Edison, Maxwell, Heviside, AC & DC, and mathematics; the chemistry of steam generators; running the Hot Water 101 mobile; "just a very expensive magazine subscription" (ARRL staffer at Hamvention on why someone should or shouldn't renew, referring to QST); Ed W1RFI retired; operating 10 GHz & above, a VHF/ UHF/SHF rover station; RBN; WSPR transmitters... and we ran out of paper...

And this was just a small gathering! Hope to see you at the next one, Saturday, May 29th, at the MCMURRAY EAT'N PARK. 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD. (The weekend AFTER Field Day 2024!!) See you there!

This is always the last section of the newsletter completed, and it's always a challenge to try and squeeze everything in... so bear with us.

First, thanks to everyone who forwarded snapshots from Hamvention this year. We've tried to include as many of them as we could! Ye Editor got caught with a work activity that just couldn't be rescheduled, and a last minute ride couldn't be arranged... There's always next year, right?

Breezeshooter's Hamfest is this coming Sunday. Initial weather reports were not favorable... but this is SWPA, so you know that things may change. Regardless, plans remain to have the traditional Club Picnic in the Flea Market... which also means trying to keep the club members more or less together so that we can keep an eye out for each other (translation: ragchew while staying near our stuff!) before and after. So if you're planning to go, let W3WN know — details on Page 8. (Some of our regulars aren't making it this year, for one reason or another... like an anniversary... so coordinating everything as best we can is really important this year!

N3SH Field Day 2024 is just a few weekends away... remember, it is the FOURTH full weekend in June, NOT the last - this is one of those years when June has 5 full weekends! (And yes, it is also Little Miss Field Day's birthday that weekend, too!) The meeting minutes for May cover a lot of the details, and some more and some last minute things will be covered at the June meeting. We will try to get something out on the reflectors prior to FD just to remind everyone... but we really hope to see you there, or if you're out and about, work you on the air! To our newest hams ... remember, FD is not only a fun event, but a chance to get on the air, see how things work, and what you can do with a few watts and a couple of wires, so don't miss it!



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

Minutes, May 2nd Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:02.

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Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Silent Keys and others deserving. Roll Call. 16 Members, 0 Guests Present

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer:** Financial report provided electronically by Mark (N3RDV) and read by Nathan (KC3GMM). Motion to accept financial report by Bill (W3WH) with second by Eric (K3SGT). Voted and carried..
- Secretary Nathan (KC3GMM): April meeting minutes published in the May WASHRag. No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes by Harold (K3HCR) with second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.
- **Repeaters:** Frank (N3FB) Repeating. Filter that was removed from 2m site has been tuned and is ready to go back to the site. 100w amp is ready to replace the 60w amp.

WASHNet: No report.

Thursday night tech talk: No report.

Public service: Mike (WA3PYU) -

- Pittsburgh Marathon is this weekend.
- Trolley museum special event station on Sunday.
- Westmoreland air show August 17th and 18th. Talk to Doc Sam.
- Kathy Vintage Grand Prix first weekend in August.
- Steel City is doing Lewis and Clark special event station.
- Red Cross PEMA drill during the day. Look for activity on 147.09 and 3990.5 or 3993.5 on May 22nd.

WASHFest: no news as per Ron W3LE

Newsletter: Newsletter is out. If anybody didn't get it, let him know and he will send a copy.

VE: Grant (KC3MLC): No report.

Ways & means: Carol (KB3GMN): Nothing.

Contests: No report.

Field Day 2024: Frank (N3FB) -

- We have enough radios.
- Tom (KB3NIX) How about antennas? Frank (N3FB) We have enough antennas and patch panel allows us to do up to seven antennas.
- Tom (KB3NIX) Computers? Frank (N3FB) Jeff (N3JSF) and Dave (N3DFK) are handling it.
- Food Carol (KB3GMN) Need drinks. Tom (KB3NIX) His wife will make pizzelles and muffins.
- Publicity Tom Reached out to Mt. Lebanon commissioners. No commitment yet but two said that they would like to attend.
- Gary (KB3YCX) Former Bethel Councilman is able to put us in touch with Ray Porter. Messenger newspaper and South Park Almanac will publish announcements.
- Glen (KE7FD) In past years we worked with somebody from YMCA. Perhaps we should reach out to the Boy or Girl Scouts.
- Larry (K3VXX) The County Rep that attended last year was re-elected. Perhaps we should invite him again. Reached out to the mayors of both Bethel Park and South Park last year and received no response. Will try again this year.
- Further discussion about elected officials visiting.
- Larry (K3VX) Do we have permission for an overnight stay? Insurance policy is due for renewal in May and a copy of the certificate needs to be forwarded to the County Parks department. Nathan to reach out to Mark (N3RDV) about insurance.
- Tom (KB3NIX) Who will stay overnight?
- Frank (N3FB) Charmel is not available this year.
- Bill (W3WH) Motion to buy grounding cables from DXE. Second by Eric (K3SGT). Voted and carried
- Larry (K3VX) suggests sign-up sheets for set-up, tear down, and daily operating by the June meeting.
- Bill (W3WH) Who has the push-up masts? Tom will follow up with Curtis (KB3CMT).
- Bill (W3WH) Can we put the CW antennas at a closer location?



WASH Spotlight: KH1



Bill W3WH showing off the new Elecraft KH1 transceiver at the May 2024 WASH club meeting.

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

AC3WMKC3GMMW3LEKA3UF1/MK3ULKE3XBAC4KUKC3MLCW3WHWASHNEKE3XBKE3XBAC3DLKC3UUKW3WNNØPEUN3YPBAB3KAK3GWKC3VQRW8LEVWASHOHNB3CAB3KAK3HCRKC4WTTWA2YEZN8DPWNB3CAC4KUK3OCTKE7FDWA3PYUWASHORKB3UXAD3QK3SEMN3DFKWA3VSSKB3NVMAD3QAC4KUK3SGTN3FBWB4GCSNØVLRWASH VIAD3QK3VXN3FFSCharmelWASH SCNP2JFKB3FNK6DWRN3SBFSpirkN8NEUNP2JFKB3HOKB3GMUN3TBJSpirkN8NEUNB2CN3FZKB3IACN3UEIf your call should be listed here & isn't, please contact Mark N3RDVN3RNOKB3YIXNIZXNIZXSisr't, please contact Mark N3RDVN3SKR						1
KB3JHR N8NEU If your call should be listed here & N3RNX KB3NIX NB3C isn't, please contact Mark N3RDV KB3YCX NI 7XM	AC3WM AC4KU AE3DL K3GW K3HCR K3OCT K3SEM K3SGT K3SK K6DWR KA3VXM KB3GWN KB3GMN KB3GMN KB3GUZ KB3IAC	KC3GMM KC3MLC KC3UUK KC3VQR KC4WTT KE7FD N3DFK N3FB N3FS N3FS N3FS N3FS N3RDV N3RXO N3RXO N3SBF N3TDV N3TDV N3UE	W3LE W3WH W3WN W8LEV WA2YEZ WA3PYU WA3VSS WB4GCS Charmel	KASUPY/M WASH NE NØPEU WASH OH N8DPW WASH OR KB3NVL KB3NVL KB3NVM NØVLR WASH SC	K3OL KE3XB N3YPB WASH TX NB3C K3LGM KB3IJX Jane Wagner WASH VI	K3EED K3LIE KA3NMG KB3ENX KB3FNM KB3FQT KB3JHQ N3BPB N3CZZ
N3ZEL N3XFF	KB3JHR KB3NIX	N8NEU				

W3ZLK

W4ZE

WA3JPP

Through June 3rd, 2024 List complied by Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2024 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

June 6 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
June 8 th — 10 ^{rth}	ARRL June VHF Contest	http://arrl.org
June 9 th	67 th Annual Breezeshooters Hamfest	Butler Farm Show Grounds, 625 Evans City Road, Butler PA 16001
June 22 nd — 23 rd	ARRL Field Day	http://arrl.org
June 22 nd — 23 rd	WASH Field Day	Babcock Grove, South Park
June 27 th	WASH VEC Exams	WPXI, 4145 Evergreen Road, Pittsburgh Contact Grant KC3MLC to pre-register
July 4 th	WASH Meeting (to be rescheduled?)	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
July 7 th	Somerset County PA Hamfest	Somerset County Technology Center, 281 Technology Drive, Somerset PA 15501
July 13 th	Northwest PA Hamfest	Greene Township Municipal Building, 9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA 16509
August 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
August 3 rd — 4 th	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Schenley Park	https://pvgp.org/
August 10 th	Uniontown ARC W3PIE 74 th Annual Gabfest	433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown
August 25 th	Skyview Radio Society Hamfest	2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington PA 15068

Meeting Minutes

Continued from Page 4

- Harold (K3HCR) Can pick the equipment up at the storage location.
- Frank (N3FB) Need a shelter team to set up shelters and tables, take pictures, and clean up afterward. Need folks to stay at site overnight Friday night and Saturday night.
- Larry (K3VX) Is anybody interested in ordering t shirts?
- Glen (KE7FD) Recently ordered shirts and received them quickly. Lighter colors attract mosquitos.
- Eric (K3SGT) Would be in favor of a more simple design.
- Bill (W3WH) Have we applied for a 1x1 call? Frank (N3FB) No. Bill (W3WH) - Will apply for a 1x1 call.
- Tom Has reached out to ARRL for materials to hand out to folks for field day. Also asked out the book set for libraries.

Good of the order: • Bon (W3WN) - A

New business: None

- Ron (W3WN) Anybody interested in getting together for dinner at Hamvention?
- Glen (KE7FD) Has a computer in his car to give to anybody who may be interested. Includes license for Windows 10. Also interested in the club's old band pass filters.
- *** Discussion about the club's old band pass filters and whether or not to sell them to Glen (KE7FD).

Bill (W3WH) - Motion to sell the club's excess band pass filters to Glen (KE7FD). Second by Frank (N3FB). Voted and carried.

Motion to adjourn by Bill (W3WH) with second by Ron (W3WN). Voted and carried.

Adjourned at 19:53 05/02/2024

Old Business: None

"Seen" at the May Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Ron Notarius W3WN



7th Area District QSO Party **Operating from the Ochoco Mountains near Central OR**

Lebanon, OR, May 28th, 2024 - I'm writing this to share a ham radio experience with my friends in the WASH club.

Each May, the 7QP contest (similar to PA QSO) is run for all of the states which cover the 7th area call district. This includes WA, ID, OR, NV, MT, MY, UT, and AZ, encompassing a whopping 258 counties. The website, www.7gp.org has all the details.

My local club here in Oregon, W7PRA - Peak Radio Association recruits a small army of hearty individuals who desire to challenge themselves with a 5.500' ASL location that routinely dishes out all 4 seasons of weather in a short 4-day weekend.

> Our expedition on this Crook & Wheeler county-line operation is at a snow-mobile warming hut high in the Ochoco National Forest and it typically takes a few weeks to plan it.

With a caravan of camp trailers and a few resilient tent campers, we journey the 4-hour commute from the milder temperatures of the Willamette Valley over the high mountain passes and into the high desert of Central Oregon.

- We set out with these goals:

 1.
 Travel, set-up, and tear-down safely

 2.
 Eat well (you know that has to be high on the list)
- З
- Compete well in the multi-multi category throughout all of 7QP area
- Beat the county (Crook and Wheeler) high scores 5

Have fun!

This year we had 8 members of the club making the journey which starts on Thursday morning and we stop for "last supper" before making the trek into the mountainous area (but all paved roads!)

Once at our operating location, we setup a temporary cell booster for limited cell coverage and some light internet connectivity - as seen on the warming hut/ cabin picture.

We spread out our campers in a vast area, some operate from the comfort of trailers whereas others opt for the warming hut with a wood stove. Thursday is our travel day with a relaxing stop as well as some light radio/ networking setup

Friday is set aside for raising antennas, setting up radios, and networking

computers

Saturday is our contest starting at 6AM and running through midnight

Sunday is teardown day and travel back home.

We bring everything with us, including own water supply, firewood, generators, camp grills, lighting, etc. The warming hut offers a common area for operating, eating, and planning.

If you feed them, they will come! I am the weekend cook, We eat well as the menu includes filet mignon, pork loin, roasted potatoes and a full NØVLR-McMuffin breakfast special.

Once launched ample amounts of rope into the 100' tall trees, it's time to get on the air! Pictured here is yours truly, running 40M phone; contributing to 369 contacts towards our score.





N	Score -	270,522	Points	
D				

Contes	t: 7QP	QSOPART	Y		
Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mul	Pt/Q
3.5	LSB	106	212	0	2.0
7	CW	157	468	0	3.0
7	LSB	480	960	8	2.0
14	CW	108	318	1	2.9
14	USB	876	1744	39	2.0
21	USB	284	568	15	2.0
28	USB	12	24	0	2.0
Total	Both	2023	4294	63	2.1
Score:	270,5	22			
1 Mult	= 32.	1 Q's			

- CW PH DIG Score Mlt QSO QSO QSO QTH Operators,
- 261576 63 244 1710 0 ORCRO/WHE NOVLR,W7PEB,W7RIS,WA7SKG,NH6Z, KF7GGN,AE4JL (hp) N7RXL,K7MZ (1p) 193725 63 787 357 185157 63 687 439



My distinct pleasure was working Frank N3FB late into Saturday night when the band (and our 5-by-1 signal) stretched far enough to reach Washington county PA! Frank claimed to use an amplifier but I see him clearly operating barefoot!

The statistics

Our last years' effort took first place in the County Line Multi-Multi Expeditionary category as well we obtained first place in each of the 2 counties with 155K points. This year we set a new personal record and achieved first place with 261K points. In addition, we worked all 50 states and contacted 126 of the 258 7th area state/county combinations during the 18-hour contest.

Note: there has never been a clean sweep of all 258 counties in the history of this contest; 208 was the all-time record.

From the www.7qp.org website for 2024 contest results.... We achieved first place in all 8 states for the 7th area county-line expedition multi-multi operations on >100W - beating out number 2 place by almost 68k points operating on 100W.

The weather...

No good propagation goes without some cost.... On Saturday night as the contest was wrapping up and we were all exhausted and then we hear the faint sound of light rain - no big deal, right?

> That rain turned very quietly into snow really fast and as a result, we woke up to 9" of wet snow - with all of our antennas, coax and yes, even some outdoor gear all getting buried.

Pictured left is NØVLR's abominable camper and pickup -







Paul Lusardi

NØVLR

Continued on Page 8



Continued from Page 7



complete with 33' vertical antenna icicle (yes it was frozen in the open position) before the weather... Pictured right... after...

In addition, we submitted our logs to POTA website and earned this award entirely during the 18-hour contest.

All in all – we put the "expedition" into this expeditionary operation once again.

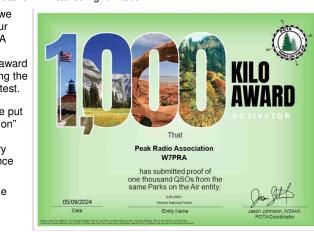
Certificate of Achievement

Presented To

W7PRA

The common comment was "Field Day will be a simple walk in the park after this event!"







After the article was written, the below four certificates were awarded to the W7PRA team. Congratulations!

Certificate of Achievement

2024 7th Call Area QSO Party

Presented To

W7PRA



WASH Picnic at Breezeshooters 2024



together, and compare what they spent their \$\$ on, and relax for a few minutes... the picnic is NOT open to the public. Seems every year we have someone who insists on "donating" to the cause for a hot dog, and we do not wish to upset our hosts or their vendors by even the appearance of inappropriate behavior!



The tradition continues!

Certificate of Achievement

2024 7th Call Area QSO Party

Presented To

As we have done every year for more years than most of us want to admit. WASH will have a small, informal picnic for club members, friends, and invited guests, starting at about 11:30 AM at the WASH area in the Breezeshooter's Hamfest Flea Market (no, we don't know exactly where we will be yet!)

This is a "pot luck" picnic. Traditionally, the club has supplied burgers and hot dogs, and we've asked those attending to contribute something towards the rest... buns, condiments, side dishes, desserts, drinks, paper and plastic, ou name it.

If you are coming to Breezeshooter's, you're more than welcome. Please contact Ron W3WN (at the June club meeting, or email his call at n3sh dot org) and let him know what you can bring, so that we can coordinate appropriately — 10,000 spoons when all you ned is a knife is a great song lyric for Alanis Morissette, but not a lot of fun when it happens for real!

We do have to remind everyone that while this is a lot of fun for everyone to get





Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Frank Bobro N3FB



Hamvention 2024

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Bob Greene N3RDG



It's almost a rite of passage... getting your Yaesu cap at Hamvention!



Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Bob Greene N3RDG



Photos below courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Kevin F. Derose N3KFD



Hamvention 2024

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Gary Robbins KB3YCX

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS





Hamvention 2024

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Curtis Turner KB3CMT



Hamvention 2024 Sets Record

Jim Storms AB8YK, General Chairman

Huber Heights, OH, May 24th, 2024 – Hamvention General Chairman, Jim Storms, is proud to announce the 2024 event had a record setting official attendance of 35,877.

We thank everyone that attended and hope you had a wonderful time. Friday morning's rain appeared to not put a damper on attendance. Saturday and Sunday weather was outstanding. There was a lot of activity all across the event. People attended from all around the world and others from close by. You are the ones why we work to provide this event. Hopefully, you found the hardware/ software and forums you desired.

Again, I want to thank my hard-working Committee Chairs and their Assistant Chairs along with the approximately 700 volunteers. There are several functions that occur before and after the show. However, a large number work during the show for a minimum of six hours, and some individuals work much more than that. In some cases, they work so much that they do not have a chance to see much of the event. I am especially appreciative of those efforts.

We thank the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) for holding their National Convention in conjunction with Hamvention.

Cyber Attack Cripples ARRL Systems

Newington, CT, May 16th, 2024 – We are in the process of responding to a serious incident involving access to our network and headquartersbased systems. Several services, such as Logbook of The World® and the ARRL Learning Center, are affected. Please know that restoring access is our highest priority, and we are expeditiously working with outside industry experts to address the issue. We appreciate your patience.

Update: May 17th, 2024 – Some members have asked whether their personal information has been compromised in some way. ARRL does not store credit card information anywhere on our systems, and we do not collect social security numbers. Our member database only contains publicly available information like name, address, and call sign along with ARRL specific data like email preferences and membership dates.

Update: May 22nd, 2024 – We are continuing to address a serious incident involving access to our network and systems. Several services, such as Logbook of The World® and the ARRL Learning Center, are affected.

We have heard from many LoTW® users, asking about the status of the service and its data. This is not an LoTW server issue, and LoTW data is secure.

Our editorial and production team is preparing the July issue of QST magazine, which is still going to press. It may be delivered a few days late to members who receive print subscriptions. The digital edition should be published on time.

We appreciate your continued patience as our staff and others work tirelessly to restore affected systems.

Update: May 29th, 2024 – This update includes information about the status of several services as we continue to respond to a serious incident involving access to our network and systems.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) has resumed the processing of Amateur Radio License applications with the FCC. A more comprehensive update on the status of ARRL VEC services is available here.

There has been no interruption to visitor operating at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station. The station resumed voice bulletins on Thursday, May 23rd. All other scheduled transmissions, including Morse code practice, and code and digital bulletins, will resume on Thursday, May 30th. Please refer to the regular operating schedule at www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule.

After last week's distribution of the ARRL Letter, our e-newsletter service has resumed. Current editions of ARRL Club News and The ARES® Letter have also been distributed.

ARRL Store orders have resumed shipping. Orders are being fulfilled from earliest order dates to the latest. Please allow additional time for our processing.

There has been no disruption to the @arrl.net email forwarding service, though forwarding email addresses and aliases cannot be modified at this time.

Our telephone system is unavailable at this time.

We appreciate your patience as we continue working on restoring access to affected systems and services.

Update: May 31st, 2024 – Our phone system has been returned to service. ARRL may be reached at 1-860-594-0200 or 1-888-277-5289 (toll-free in the US), Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 7 PM Eastern Time, and until 5 PM on Fridays. Members can also email general inquiries to hq@arrl.org.

The ARRL International Digital Contest is this weekend, June 1st - 2nd, 2024, and the ARRL June VHF Contest is June 8th - 10th, 2024. The ARRL Contest Portal will be available with limited functionality at contests.arrl.org. Log submission pages will continue to be available at contest-log-submission.arrl.org, and logs received can be viewed at contests.arrl.org/logsreceived.php. The log submission links are also available on the contest landing pages at www.arrl.org/arrl-digital - contest and www.arrl.org/june-vhf.

YOUR COMPUTER HAS BEEN LOCKED!

This operating system is locked due to the violation of the federal laws of the United States of Americal (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8; Article 202; Article 210 of the Criminal Code of U.S.A. provides for a deprivation of liberty for four to twelve years.) Following violations were detected:

Your IP address was used to visit websites containing pornography, child pornography, zoophilia and child abuse. Your computer also contains video files with pornographic content, elements of violence and child pornography? Spam-messages with terrorist motives were also sent from your computer.

This computer lock is aimed to stop your illegal activity.

To unlock the computer you are obliged to pay a fine of \$200.

You have 72 hours to pay the fine, otherwise you will be arrested.

You must pay the fine through To pay the fine, you should enter the digits resulting code, which is located on the back of your in the payment form and press OK (if you have several codes, enter them one after the other and press Members are reminded that the June 2024 issue of QST magazine, the special ARRL Field Day edition, can be viewed online. Members may also access digital editions of QST dating back to 2012. Access to archives for QST issues older than 2012, which are accessed through the ARRL website, is not presently available. For On the Air, QEX, and NCJ magazines, members may access the current issues and previous issues back to 2020. Visit www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines for links to all four magazines and to download the ARRL Magazines app.

Work is continuing to publish the July 2024 issue of QST magazine. We anticipate an on-time delivery of the digital edition, and delayed delivery for those who subscribe to the printed magazine.

We have heard from members asking if they can renew their membership at this time. Members can renew online at www.arrl.org/join or by phoning ARRL.

As reported earlier this week, ARRL Store orders (www.arrl.org/shop) have resumed shipping.

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American Radio Relay League







67th Annual Breezesshooter's Hamfest



Sunday, June 9th, 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 Or email hamfest@breezeshooters.org

SOMERSET COUNTY ARC HAMFEST



Sunday, July 7th, 2024, 8:00 AM— 1:00 PM Sponsored by the Somerset County ARC K3SMT Somerset County Technology Center

281 Technology Drive, Somerset, PA 15501

Talk-in on 147.195 & 443.250 PL 123 General Admission \$5 More Information at https://k3smt.org

UNIONTOWN ARC 74TH ANNUAL GABFEST



Saturday, August 10th, 2024, 8:00 AM—??? Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

Uniontown ARC W3PIE Clubhouse

433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown, PA 15401 Talk-in on 147.045 PL 131.8 More Information at http://www.w3pie.org

2024 Skyview Swap 'n' Shop



Sunday, August 25th, 2024, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

Skyview Radio Society K3MJW Clubhouse

2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068 Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8 Admission \$5 More Information at http://www.skyviewradio.net



Xenia, OH, May 19th, 2024 -- DL8HCZ/CT1HZE, Joachim Kraft, of Hamburg, Germany; K3LR, Tim Duffy of West Middlesex, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.; and the late K2MGA, Richard A. Ross, have been inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

DI8HCZ/CT1HZE, Joachim Kraft, has been an enthusiastic amateur radio operator since 1980 and has been committed to the technical development of amateur radio and research into propagation phenomena in the VHF/UHF and microwave bands since 1989 by publishing the English-language amateur radio magazine DUBUS with a team of specialist authors from all over the world working on a voluntary basis. In particular, this magazine researches and analyzes DX successes on the 6M, 2M, and higher bands. The evaluation of, and statistics on, sporadic-E DX QSOs in the 2M band, which Joachim painstakingly compiles and updates annually, spans 50-plus years and is probably unique worldwide. DUBUS was founded in 1972 by a group of radio amateurs from Berlin, and was already being used to exchange technical and DX information across all national borders at the time of the Iron Curtain. For over 35 years, Joachim has been involved in this magazine together with other radio amateurs, and for almost a quarter of a century he has been its publisher. Today, it is read in over 50 countries.

K3LR, Tim Duffy, already a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame since 2006, is being inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame because of his lifetime achievements that far transcend his contesting accomplishments. As a contester, Tim has hosted over 160 different amateur radio operators from around the world to his superstation - 11 operating positions and 14 towers - since 1992. He has been the moderator of the Hamvention Antenna forum for 36 years, and has served as chairman of Contest University (15 years), the Dayton Contest Dinner (29 years), and the Top Band Dinner. He also co-coordinates the Contest Super Suite (37 years) in Dayton during the yearly Dayton Hamvention. He also founded the popular RFI reflector (RFI@contesting.com), and has moderated it since 1999. Tim serves on the board of directors of the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF) as Chairman and is President Emeritus of the Radio Club of America (RCA). Tim is multiyear President of the Mercer County Amateur Radio Club (W3LIF/W3JTV). He received the RCA Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio service award in 2010, Hamvention Amateur of the Year in 2015, and the YASME Excellence award in 2016. Professionally, Tim is the Chief Executive Officer of DX Engineering.

K2MGA, Richard A. Ross, who passed away on April 27th at age 84, was president of CQ Publishing. He was editor, then publisher of CQ Magazine, and at one time, published 11 magazine titles as well as books, calendars, and an extensive video library. Dick was also a huge supporter of contesting, DXing, and many other aspects of the amateur radio service. He believed strongly in celebrating his fellow amateurs for their exemplary achievements in these endeavors.

Dick Ross has now been inducted into all three of the CQ Halls of Fame – Amateur Radio, Contest, and DX – in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the amateur radio service and to his fellow amateurs.

News release courtesy of https://dxnews.com and the OPDX mailing list



Hagan, Norway, June 1st, 2024 – We have temporarily suspended Donations. Existing sailboat contract have been cancelled and **there will be no January 2025 operation**. We are currently negotiating the contract for a large expedition vessel + helicopter operation to take place 2027.

The team plans to activate Peter I Island in **February 2027** with a team of 19 operators. We have signed a financial agreement with a private group about sharing the cost for this DX-pedition. The DX-pedition budget and our share is around \$825,000, of which we must deposit \$340,000 in 2024.

It should be noted that the total cost of this expedition is approximately \$2,000,000, including all logistics, marine, aviation, insurance, safety and rescue, and Antarctica permits. However, the synergies with the small private group and with the Spirit of Sydney Expedition Company (detailed below) have provided enough cost sharing to make this Peter I expedition affordable, albeit still expensive. This is a rare opportunity to activate Peter I and without these unique opportunities to share costs, Peter I would not be possible. At the time of activation in 2027 it will be 21 years since the last DX-pedition to this island, and cost is the primary reason. We have a unique occasion to bring Peter I back on the air. Please support us. Donations may be sent via donate@3y0l.com

We are looking for more SSB/CW operators for the Peter I Island DXpedition.. The dates are confirmed from January 28th to February 26th, 2027. We have received entry permission from the Norwegian Polar Institute and are currently negotiating the boat contract. This DXpedition team will be made up of 19 operators; currently we are 10 operators. We are now looking for 3 or 4 additional operators for this expedition in a short time. Please contact us at *admin@3y0.no* if interested.



CY9C St Paul Island: WØGJ, WØPR and WA4DAN had a very productive work session preparing for the CY9C DXpedition. 'We unboxed and tested all seven of the new Honda EU-2200i generators. We ran the generators with a substantial load and checked the voltage on each



generator. All seven generators were right at specifications. We then inventoried and organized the guy ropes for the Spider Poles. We inventoried the low band antennas and hardware needed for those. Next, we inventoried all of the bandpass filters. During the afternoon work session, we installed one of the new operating tents. This was exciting as we were very impressed with these new tents. We were so impressed, we will order a fourth tent for the DXpedition. We tested the new operating tables and chairs inside the tent for the optimum configuration.

The second work day was spent cleaning and working with the Yagi antennas. Each antenna was washed and thoroughly cleaned as these Yagi antennas were used on our CYØS DXpedition. During the afternoon session, we assembled and erected each antenna for testing. Each antenna exhibited a VSWR of under 1.5:1.

The CY9C team continues to seek financial support for the DXpedition. Contributions can be made on our website at: https://t-rexsoftware.com/cy9c"

V47JA will be QRV through 13 June, 160 - 6, SSB & FT8. QSL via W5JON

 $\ensuremath{\texttt{C91AHV}}$ will be QRV through 15 June, 40-10, SSB CW and FT8 from various locations. QSL via EA5GL

HQ9EB will be QRV 5—11 June, mainly on 6 meters, from the HQ9X QTH. QSL via AB5EB

GB4DDL will be QRV 7 – 9 June to commemorate the 80^{th} anniversary of the D-Day landings. QSL via MØOXO

 ${\color{blue}505K}$ will be QRV 8 – 20 June, SSB CW FT8 and FT4. QSL via ClubLog or IK2DUW

VK9LA will be QRV 14 – 24 June from Lord Howe Island. More information at https://lral.lv/vk9la/index.html. QSL via YL2GN

 $\mbox{CS5POTA}$ will be QRV 19-20 July, 80 - 10 & 2 M, FM SSB and digital from IOTA EU-040. QSL via CT1REP

ZD7W will be QRV 26-27 October and 23-24 November during the CQ WW DX contests. QSL via W6NV

The Pacific Islands DXPedition Group will be QRV from Rotuma 3D2/R 15 November to 4 December, call TBA. More information pending

QSL Routes

4L7T via K6VHF 4U1UN via HB9BOU 4U29MAY via 9A2AA 4X2DS via 4Z5TT 4X76HQ via 4X4HQ 4X76TT via N4GNR 4X76VF via 4X1VF 5P7F via OZ7FOC 7S2A via SA2SAA 7X2ET via EA5GL 9J2BO via EA5GL 9M4IOTA via 9W2FOR 9M4VM via 9M2HUS 9V1YC via W5UE A2NEW via EA7FTR A71WW via EA7FTR A92EE via EC6DX AM575BUH via EC5BUH AN42CA via EA8URU AN775DX via EB7DX A0175HCJ via EA1HCJ A0175YO via EA1YO A0275AZ via EA2AZ A024AJC via EA5J A0275RH via EA2URC AO375RKM via EA3RKM AO675EE via EA6EE A0775RCV via EA7RCV AO875ED via EA8ED AO8EU via EA3RKF AX5PAS via MØOXO C21TS via MØOXO CP7DX via LU1FM

DAØBCC via DL2JRM DKØA via DH8IAT DK5ØFFW via DK2BK DLØTXL via DM4EAX DQ4W via DK9TN E7Ø1BFF via E75HZ E790 via E73Y EF5D via EA5BWR EG1SBO via EA1URL EG8FMR via EA8URV EJ6KP/P via M5KJM FM5DN via KU9C GBØAEL via MIØHOZ HA5ØHK via HA3HK HFØLOK via SP9KAG HF1CHO via SP1KZE HF65X via SQ9S HG3IPA via HA3JB HG60 via HA6OA HG73WTD via HA1KHJ HP1XV via EA5XV HVØA via IKØFVC II3AAV via IQ3VI II5CECI via IQ5AAR II9IABJ via IT9YBL IQØJY via ISØFRV IQ5VK via 9A5URI J88IH via VP2EIH LT4RCA via LU4AA LY2ØEU via LY2QT LZ44IZ via LZ1KCP OG3G via OH1ND OK8CX/P via DL7CX

OK8MA/P via SP9MA OL4N via OK1AXA OM6NM via OM2FY OS5C via ON9CBA OT25PRAL via ON8JJ PF99MILL via PF9W PI45IPARC via PI4IPA PYØFZ via PY7RP S57ØCST via S59CST S77SARA via S76P SK1ØØKTH via SKØBU SQ34PP via SP3PDO SO65P via SQ9S SP8ØHONKER via SP3PGR SU1SK via N200 TM1COX via F4ILN TM1FOB via F6KUQ TM13JO via F5SDD TM17FFF via F4GFE TM24FO via F6CUK TM25FO via F5KMY TM33GAME via F6KNL TM4ØFLO via F6DZU TM53JO via F6KSU TM55A via DL1GI TX5S via MØURX XR7D via CE7NXQ YR9F via YO9FNP YT7A via YU7GMN Z3ØGOCE via Z37RSM ZC4GW via MWØBRO ZC4RH via DK6SP ZL100AC via ZL2CAZ

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.



Information shown here is as supplied to the

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Contact: Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire

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

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

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

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

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 if interested.

US Amateurs by Class as of June 1st, 2024

,		,	
	Novice	6,595	< 1%
	Technician	425,272	50%
	General	202,140	24%
	Advanced	35,270	4%
	Extra	165,783	20%
	Club	12,320	1.5%
	Total	847,380	

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of AE7Q.com

PA Amateurs by Class as of June 1st, 2024: Novice 299 1.1% Technician 12,055 45% General 6,010 25% Advanced 1,388 5% Extra 5,594 22% Club 437 1.7% **Total** 26,933

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of AE7Q.com

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of June 1st, 2024 Group A AC3MM Group B KF3EW Group C (none available / all issued) Group D KC3ZFA

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of AE7Q.com





Federal Communications Commission Public Notice

Washington, DC, May 24th, 2024 – The Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau wants to know if you noticed any impacts to radio communications during the storm. In a public notice, the FCC wrote:

To better understand the impacts of the geomagnetic storm on the U.S. communications sector, the Bureau is requesting information from communications service providers and the public regarding disruptions in communications between May 7 and 11, 2024, that it believes to be a result of the storm. The Bureau is encouraging commenters to provide any available evidence, particularly electromagnetic spectrum analyses, imagery, or chronological logs relating the storm's impacts. Where possible, the Bureau asks that commenters include the description of the impacts; make and model of affected communications equipment, which could include transmitters, receivers, transceivers, switches, routers, amplifiers etc.; make, model, and type of affected antennae and their composition; frequencies affected; type and composition of cable adjoining communications equipment and the antennae, if applicable; duration of the impact; and any residual effects observed in the hours following restoration.

The public notice can be found at https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-seekscomment-impact-geomagnetic-storm-communications (PDF, DOCX, and TXT formats). Comments may be submitted using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs and referring to PS Docket No. 24-161. ARRL's guide to filing comments is at this link: https://www.arrl.org/arrlguide-to-filing-comments-with-fcc

Elmhurst, IL, April 30th, 2024 — In a Product Change Notification (PCN) published on April 15th, Zilog (now owned by Littelfuse) announced the End of Life for a range of Z80 products, specifically virtually all of

the Z84C00 range. This also includes the peripherals, such as the Z84C10 range of MPUs. These are currently already marked as EoL on stores like Mouser, with Littelfuse noting that the Last Orders with them can be placed until June 14th, 2024.



After the Last Order Date, you'll have to try your luck with shady EBay sellers and a lucky box of old-new-stock found in the back of a warehouse.

See also https://hackaday.com/2024/04/19/end-of-life-for-z80-cpu-and-peripherals-announced/

- Gregory Beat W9GB



Ed Wolf N3UE has taken up a new endeavor... laser engraving. (See sample)

He's currently available for plaques and signs of varying shapes and designs.

Prices vary, but are very reasonable!

Interested? Contact Ed directly at n3ue11@gmail.com



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

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

Has Roadway found the tower yet?





X \$12.00 =

Tables WITHOUT Electricity:

8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!



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Membership Application, New or Renewal



I would like to join WASH! I am interested in the following type of membership:

□ New Membership □ Membership Renewal □ 1st Qtr □ 2nd Qtr □ 3rd Qtr □ 4th Qtr С

(check quarter) (check one _)	☐ 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	☐ 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	☐ 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	□ 4th Oct-De
□ (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
\Box (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
□ (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

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

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Address:	License Class:
City, State:	Expires On:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:
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New Members Only:	ARRL Member? 🗌 Yes 🗌 NoFamily ARRL Member? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
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Signature:



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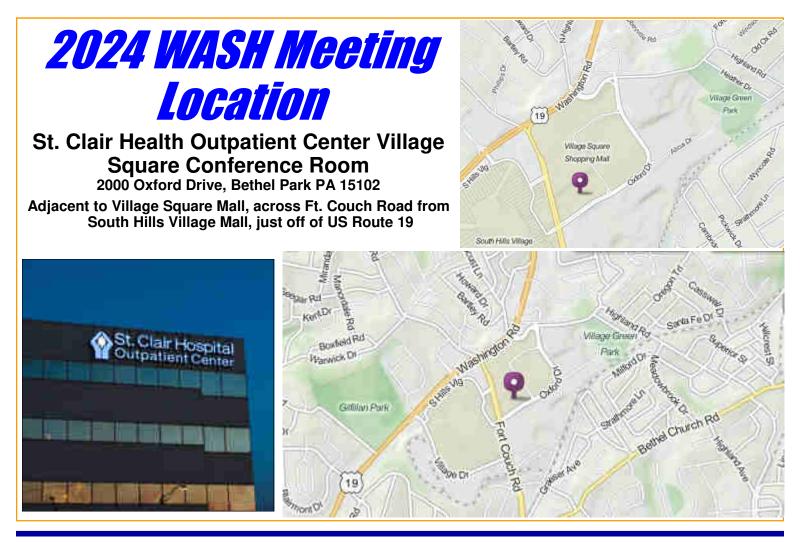
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