



WASHRAG

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Wireless Association of South Hills

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2024

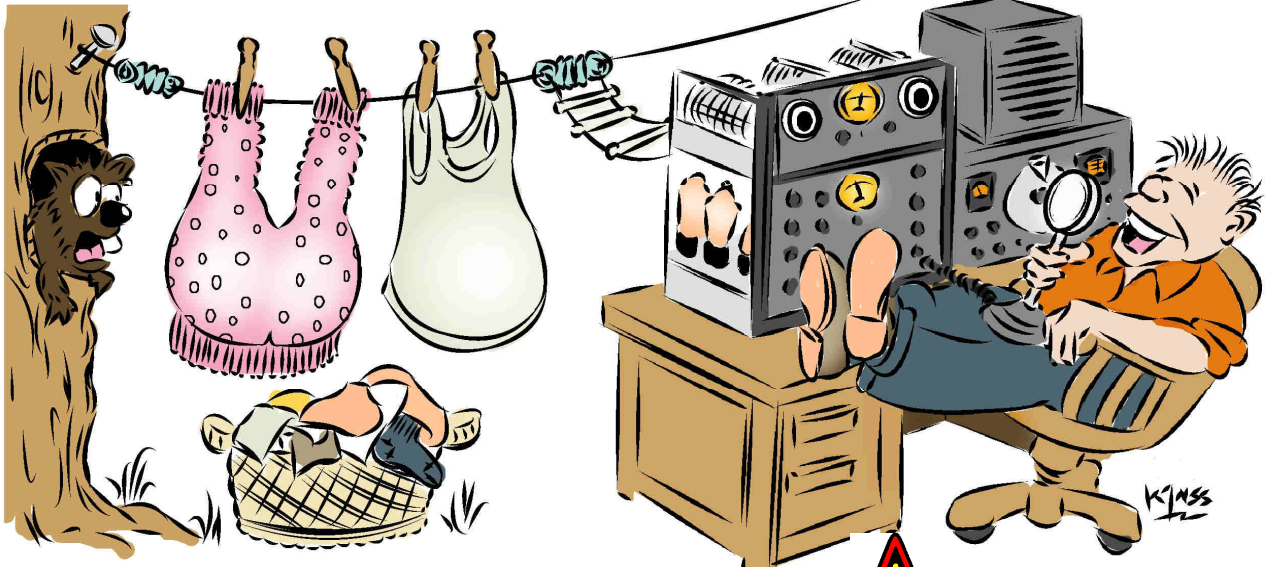


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Wireless Association of South Hills



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VOLUME 26 ISSUE 10
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Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, November 7th, 2024

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, November 7th, 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: PA QSO 2024, other 2024 Plans, and much more. See you there!

Cover: *Enjoying the table spread at the September Club Picnic in South Park!*
Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Bob Greene N3RDG

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 2025 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 KB3GMM
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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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 TBD

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

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!

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:

A Few Words

[Editor's note:

Tom KB3NIX is travelling and was not able to provide us with a few words this month.

Our October meeting has been cancelled, our next club meeting will be on Thursday, November 7th. That will also be Election Night for 2025 Officers!]

— 73, Tom Galante KB3NIX

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



Reminder:

The November WASH Meeting will be at The St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square in Bethel Park! Meeting begins at 7 PM.

Saturday, September 29th was a very pleasant early Fall Saturday... maybe a little too pleasant, as this month's of monthly gathering of the **WASH Breakfast Gang** at the McMurray Eat'N Park, 3380 Washington Road consisted of WB4GCS, W3WN, and Julie. Discussion included the event at the Trolley Museum this morning, politics, unions, alternators, deliveries, retirement planning, 10,000 attendees as the USS New Jersey commissioning, Navy Morse Code school, upcoming activities, the Pirates have (sadly) done it again, and a lot more,

Another month will fly by before you know it. Hope to see you at the next one, Saturday, October 2th, at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. See you there!

We kind of have to ask. Have the **monthly Club Breakfasts run their proverbial course?** Attendance has been somewhat hit-or-miss since resuming post-Pandemic. It was always meant to be an informal, fun, chance to get together socially without a formal meeting, pretty much taking the place of the second monthly meeting that went by the wayside years ago. But things change, people have other things going on, and not everyone thinks of it in time.... Or other plans come up. Thoughts?

Due to some unfortunate sets of circumstances, the **October meeting has been cancelled**. We should be back on track come November, and this also should remind everyone that the November meeting will or should be the annual **WASH Officer Elections for 2025**. So you have an extra month to give the matter some thought. No debates have been scheduled, and we hear that the Butler Farm Show Grounds are... otherwise occupied. And sorry to say, those of you who have formed their Political Action Committees to raise \$\$ for candidate ads in the newsletter, well... we don't take paid advertising. Now, if you want to bribe Ye Editor, a TS-890SAT would be a very nice rig in the shack... [JUST KIDDING!!!]

The 2024 Pennsylvania QSO Party is coming up, the 2nd full weekend in October. We're repeating the blurb (left) about operating plans, since there won't be a meeting to discuss it. It's ALWAYS a fun event, and even though of us in the more populated (Amateur/Activity wise) get sought after. PaQP is one of the longest running state QSO parties, and it's always been a blast! Plus the current operating committee wants to really promote the contest and encourage operators! So... Got plans? Want to participate? Let someone know! There are always multi-ops looking for an additional voice or set of hands, and many willing to share the shack with other operators!

Time is flying by pretty fast. Before you know it, it'll be time again for our annual **2 Meter Simplex Contest**, to be followed up by **WASHFest 2025!** We hope to have the 2025 contest rules in the newsletter next month (hint hint). More details about both events will be forthcoming in the next few weeks and months!

If you are an ARRL Member, we strongly urge you to ready the articles on Pages 9 and 11. If you don't agree with what has been going on... obviously Ye Editor does not, but please do a little digging and make up your own mind... let your ARRL officers know. Let our Atlantic Division Director, Bob K3RF know how you feel, so he knows what support he has in the Division (and keep in mind that he too was subject to similar treatment under an earlier ARRL Executive staff, a few years back). Let all of the sitting Division Directors know, so they all know that members are aware of what's going on. Let the CEO and other executive staff know as well, so that they know that the Membership is watching them. ARRL IS still (at least on paper) a Membership organization, and it needs to act accordingly. But if we, the members, don't make our concerns known... some will do as they wish, and before you know it, ARRL will just be a paper organization that publishes a few magazines, prints a few books, and rakes in \$\$\$ for the benefits of the executives—but not the members. And we'd have no one to blame but ourselves.



The Pa QSO Party Committee is looking to promote activity in this year's event, and are asking for help from those planning to operate by posting their plans.

Bud Trench AA3B has requested that operators use the online form at <https://www.paqso.org/~party-plan-entry.html> to enter or update their plans for this year's event.

Reporting is optional, but is requested to help everyone understand county activation plans.

The first summary of 2024 Pa QSO Party operating plans will be provided on September 8th.

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 17

Minutes, September 5th Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 18:59.

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

Roll Call. 16 Members, 2 Guests Present

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark (N3RDV): Delivered by Nathan KC3GMM. Motion to accept by Carol (KB3GMN), second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.

Secretary: Nathan (KC3GMM): August minutes in the September newsletter. Motion to accept by Carol (KB3GMN), second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried. Motion to accept minutes by Frank (N3FB) with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried.

Public service: Mike (WA3PYU) – ARES Meeting September 14th at the Red cross at 9 AM. Great Race on September 29th, volunteers needed. Please contact Bob NU3Q or Mike WA3PYU.

Newsletter: Tom (KB3NIX) for Ron (W3WN) – Ron is stuck at work, but the Newsletter is out.

VE: Tom (KB3NIX) for Grant (KC3MLC): No exams currently scheduled.

New business:

Picnic:

- Tom (KB3NIX) - Picnic money allocated and shelter reserved. No alcohol permit. Floor open for comments regarding food and any activities.
- Larry (K3VX) - Permit is from sunup to midnight so there will be time for folks to set up portable radios as a show and tell.
- Tom (KB3NIX) - Please reach out to anybody that you know with portable radio equipment.
- Tom (KB3NIX) - Suggestion of 1PM for serving food
- Bill (W3WH) - What time is the Steelers game? That may affect attendance.
- Frank (N3FB) - Game is 4:25PM
- Bill (W3WH) - Game is an away game.
- Claude (N3RXO) - Has a portable propane grill.
- Carol (KB3GMN) - Will handle ordering chicken and check on supplies.
- Tom (KB3NIX) - Will add a signup sheet to the web site for attendance and food.
- Nathan (KC3GMM) - Will reach out to Mark and find out if he can provide ice.

EME Activity:

- Tom (KB3NIX) - October 19th may be an issue
- Jim (WB4GCS) - ARRL changed the contest rules to modify report from state/section to grid square. Many folks are threatening to not participate in the contest. This may greatly reduce our chance of making a contact and might make the difficult setup for nothing. We will also not have a high-power amplifier.
- Bill (W3WH) - Suggest postponing until next year.
- Jim (WB4GCS) - Will do more research and see if we have a chance of making a contact with 90 watts.
- Bill (W3WH) - Motion to postpone until next year. With second by Harold (K3HCR). Voted and carried.
- Larry (K3VX) - Is there an additional weekend for 70cm?

Old Business: Tom (KB3NIX) spoke with Bob (NU3Q) regarding using our repeater as a backup. He's okay with using the 70 cm repeater as is.

Good of the order: (nothing)

Motion to adjourn by Larry (K3VX) with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried..

Adjourned at 19:37
09/05/2024



WASH Spotlight: USS NJ



Jim WB4GCS and Patty KC4WTT attending the commissioning of the new US Navy nuclear submarine USS New Jersey on September 15th.

Photo courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2024 Jim Sanford WB4GCS

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

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

Monthly WASH Breakfast



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

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

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

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AC3ML	KC3ELA	NL7XM	WASH FL	WASH TN	Silent Keys
AC3WM	KC3GMM	NY9H	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
AC4KU	KC3MLC	W3LE	WASH NE	KE3XB	
AE3DL	KC3UUK	W3WH	NØPEU	N3YPB	
K3GW	KC3VQR	W3WN	WASH OH	WASH TX	
K3HCR	KC4WTT	W8LEV	N8DPW	NB3C	
K3OCT	KE7FD	WA2YEZ	WASH OR	K3LGM	
K3SEM	N3DFK	WA3PYU	KB3NVL	KB3IJX	
K3SGT	N3FB	WA3VSS	KB3NVM	Jane Wagner	
K3VX	N3FFS	WB4GCS	NØVLR	WASH VI	
K6DWR	N3JSF	Charmel	WASH SC	NP2JF	
KA3VXM	N3KFD	Spirk	N8NEU		
KB3BYA	N3RDV			AB3KA	
KB3GMN	N3RXO			AB3ED	
KB3GMU	N3SBF			AC4KU	
KB3GUZ	N3TBJ			AD3Q	
KB3IAC	N3TDV			K3EED	
KB3IVX	N3UE			K3LIE	
KB3JHR	N3WMI			KA3NMG	
KB3NIX	N8NEU			KB3ENX	
KB3YCX	NB3C			KB3FNM	
				KB3FQT	
				KB3JHQ	
				N3BPB	
				N3CZZ	
				N3FZ	
				N3HKQ	
				N3KEH	
				N3OBD	
				N3RNX	
				N3SKR	
				N3SRC	
				N3ZEL	
				N3XFE	
				W3ZLK	
				W4ZE	
				WA3JPP	

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

Through August 5th, 2024
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2024/25 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

October 3 rd	WASH Meeting	Meeting Cancelled
October 5 th — 6 th	59 th California QSO Party	http://www.cqp.org
October 12 th — 13 th	68 th Annual Pennsylvania QSO Party	https://paqso.org/
October 19 th — 20 th	ARRL EME Contest (50-1296 MHz)	http://www.arrl.org
October 21 st — 25 th	School Club Roundup	http://www.arrl.org
October 26 th — 27 th	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	https://cqww.com/
November 2 nd — 4 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 7 th	<i>WASH Meeting</i>	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 16 th — 17 th	ARRL EME Contest (50-1296 MHz)	http://www.arrl.org
November 16 th — 18 th	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	http://www.arrl.org
November 23 th — 24 th	CQ WW DX Contest CW	https://cqww.com/
December 5 th	<i>WASH Meeting</i>	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
December 6 th — 8 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 14 th — 15 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 22 nd	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW	http://www.arrl.org
December 31 st — January 1 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org
January 2 nd	<i>WASH Meeting</i>	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 6 th	<i>WASH Meeting</i>	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 22 nd	<i>WASHFest 2025</i> <i>WASH VE Exams@ WASHFest</i>	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
March 6 th	<i>WASH Meeting & Pizza Night</i>	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive

"Seen" at the September Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Carol Danko KB3GMN



Photos below courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Bill Hill W3WH

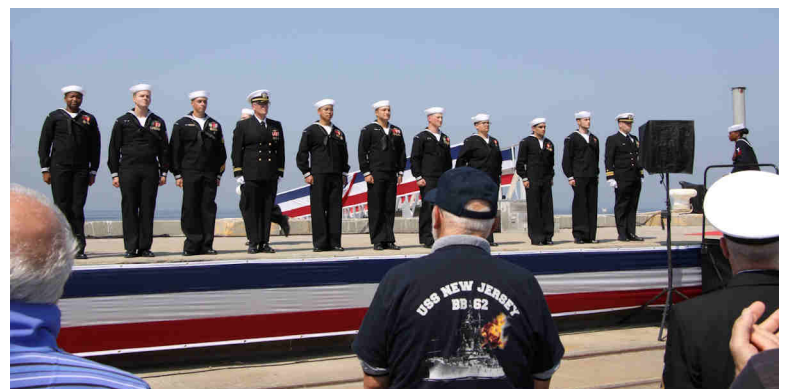
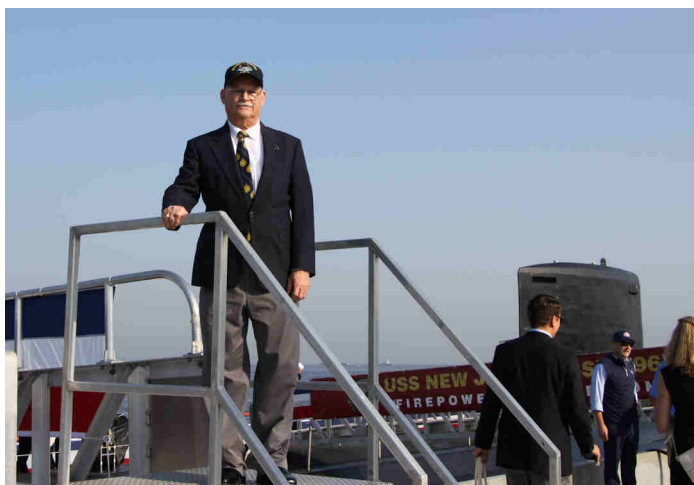


"Seen" at the September WASH Picnic

Photos courtesy of and (c) Copyright 2024 Bobby Greene N3RDG



Jim WB4GCS and Patty KC4WTT attended the Commissioning Ceremony of the USS New Jersey SSN-796 on September 15th. A few more pictures included here. A video of the ceremony can be found at <https://news.usni.org/2024/09/15/video-uss-new-jersey-commissioning-ceremony>



Seen" at the September WASH Picnic

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2024 Ron Telek W3LE



Ohio QSO Party 2024: Returning to the Scene of the Crime

Bill Hill W3WH

[Editor's Note: Last month, the wrong article was sent to us regarding the 2024 OQP operation. This is the correct article. Our apologies for any confusion!]

Canonsburg, Pa, September 3rd, 2024 — On August 24th K3VX and I returned to Jefferson Lake State Park not far from Steubenville to enter the Ohio QSO Party. We certainly had no intention to win any category but we did intend to have an enjoyable to Jefferson Lake and spend a pleasant day. We accomplished our objective. The topography of the Park and the surrounding area are quite hilly and when you first arrive at the Lake doubts about how well your signal will be heard from this location.

Fortunately we found a spot that is 1270ft. Above sea level with no nearby surrounding hills to interfere with us. The first thing we did upon arrival was to shoot a line high into a convenient tree to hold one end of our KE7FD end fed special. Well it looked great until the monofilament fishing decided to break. After three more breaks we elected to use 22' of aluminum tubing we had with us to support the end-fed wire which is 53' long and fed through a 9:1 balun and Larry's AH-4 tuner. The combination works very well and at 40 watts output we were able to work anyone we could hear. Before the party started at noon we even worked the west coast on 20 meters.

As most of you(if not all) know we work only cw. We definitely didn't set any new records during our three hours on the air but managed 19 counties and 58 Q's almost all on 40 meters. We used Larry's Icom -7100 and N3FJP for logging. The 7100 was flawless but FJP was a bit cranky from time to time.

We took pictures of our setup but they aren't real clear. It's hard to show wire antennas via photos. The antenna was about 22' high at thr far end and about 4' at the feedpoint. We had two 17' counterpoises and the antenna tuned easily on all the bands we wanted.

We hoped to have a QSO with W3WN but he had company and we shut down before he was free to get on the air.

All in all it was a pleasant way to spend the day and it was only an hour's drive. I hope we can do it again next year.



Why I Challenged My Disqualification

Jim Talens N3JT

McClellan, VA, September 1th, 2024 –

Executive Summary: A lot of my friends in the Roanoke Division asked me to run for ARRL Roanoke Director, expressing their concern that our League is no longer focused on the interests of its members and amateur radio – and that new leadership is needed. It is rumored that rather than face a fair election where the future and proper course for the League could be openly debated, the current director or his agent chose to hide behind an objection seeking to disqualify me because I have a second residence in Florida. But I have lived continuously in Virginia since 1975, pay real estate and personal property taxes in Virginia, register my cars in Virginia, have my FCC license registered in Virginia, and have my ham radio station with a 70-foot tower in Virginia. This was a plainly political decision. Nothing in the ARRL rules supports disqualification based on having two homes. More important than my candidacy, though, is the future of ARRL and amateur radio generally. The direction N2ZZ and CEO Minster are taking will convert ARRL into an authoritarian organization run by big donors -- and making transparent decision-making a historical artifact. We must support candidates like K7REX and W2GD to stand up against the forces that are trying to eliminate our member-based administration of ARRL.

The Details. I was recruited by many concerned ARRL members to run against N2ZZ for the Roanoke ARRL Director position. We all remember the efforts several years ago by ARRL management and the board to limit transparency. It is apparent now that a new, more concerted effort to quell transparency is underway. With a deep concern for ARRL and the future of amateur radio, I agreed to run. I submitted my candidacy papers and opened a GoFundMe account, which ultimately accumulated some \$5,000. (Just enough to pay for post cards.)

Apparently, the incumbent, or his shill, complained about my residency, and I was disqualified by the Ethics and Elections Committee of ARRL (“E&E”). My request for reconsideration by E&E after I provided significant proof of my residency in Virginia was summarily denied. As a result, I returned all the donations – with an explanation much like what you are reading here.

ARRL Violated its Own Rule. ARRL By-Law 42 states that a special meeting of the Board must be called if the candidate or 5 directors ask for such a special meeting. I timely requested a special meeting, but both the President and CEO/Secretary created (just for me?) a new rule requiring 8 Directors, not the five under By-Law 42. In short, no special meeting was held, nor was I provided an opportunity to argue my position to the Board.

Secrecy Again. I requested that the record of the closed and secret proceeding be released publicly. It should reveal any discussion and documents presented to the board about this matter -- and of course who complained. Despite my several requests for release of the record, nothing has been forthcoming.

My Qualification. The key provision for qualification is found in ARRL By-Law 18, which requires a candidate for director be a full member of the division. I am in Virginia about half the year, my FCC license shows my Virginia address. My long-time home of 49 years and my primary station, including my 70-foot tower, are and remain in Virginia. I pay real estate taxes in Virginia. I pay personal property taxes in Virginia. My cars are registered at my home in Virginia. The signatories to my nomination were all in Virginia. When I submitted my candidacy papers, I was a full member in Virginia, and not living in Florida.

The ARRL By-laws say nothing about having a second residence, where you vote, where you shop or where your doctors are located. Other ARRL directors have second homes in other divisions, and I have one in Florida. But the E&E Committee, relying on the complaint and its assertion that I am not a Virginia resident, disqualified me.

All of this is curious because there is nothing in By-Law 18 regarding residency -- only that you be a full ARRL member in the division where you are running. I was; I am. By law, I am both a legal resident of Virginia and Florida. The E&E wrongly concluded that one cannot be a legitimate resident of two states. E&E invented its own standard and wrongly confused residency (a word not used in the rule) with domicile, a legal term also not appearing in the rule. The courts are full of opinions considering a variety of factors in deciding where one has a domicile rather than just a residence. But E&E just made up the rules for political expediency rather than apply common sense, law, or fairness. Nor have they sought changes to the decades-old rules currently in place.

The Sad State of ARRL. The E&E decision is unfortunate because ARRL is truly in desperate condition, heading toward an authoritarian management style. New by-law provisions, policies that effectively silence directors from discussing important issues with members, and more secrecy rules have been proposed. Remember, for 114 years ARRL years has been a member-run organization, open to its membership in its decision-making processes. The description of this was on our ARRL website for decades: **ARRL is a representative democracy — its members control its policies through the power of the ballot.** In the July 2018 QST, our then-CEO presented an editorial reminding us of this theme. This long-time description disappeared from our website in March of 2024. On several occasions in the last few years, we have seen proposals to limit transparency beaten back by massive member objection.

But the forces of evil are not deterred. They are reportedly already proposing yet another set of rules, relying on the supportive votes of directors like N2ZZ, who seem to think that anything the CEO wants is good for amateur radio. The latest thinking, as you may have read in QST, might convert LOTW to a fee-based service for non-members. That is just another effort by the CEO to transform ARRL into a management-run entity. There is even talk of changing governance by closing the board to only big donors, and eliminating section managers or appointing them by either directors or by management employees. All this is set against the CEO's quietly orchestrated increase in salary to \$350,000 a year plus some very generous benefits.

Many on the current board of directors appear to take instructions from the CEO, though he himself cannot vote on matters before the board and is supposed to work for the board. The E&E Committee is a subset of the board appointed solely by the president. Their actions in my case are more than suspicious. As long as directors like N2ZZ are in position, ARRL will continue its slide.

I am not alone. I should note that New England Division candidate K1VR, another good guy, was disqualified because of a truly minor technical violation. He submitted a requested attachment a matter of 27 minutes late -- when he had been away and was not able to access the request to respond in a timely way. How blatantly unreasonable is that!

There is Hope. There are two other director candidates, W2GD for Hudson and K7REX for Northwestern. They are good guys who will stand for what we all know as the membership-based ARRL of old. Support those candidacies if you can. K7REX has a Go Fund Me site and needs your help (link below).

Conclusion. So now you see how ARRL is being run, and where it is headed if we do not work to stop it. My campaign is over, and so is the campaign of K1VR, but others are out there willing to save us. Future director elections will feature similar issues. Perhaps the current CEO can be removed before his term is complete. In addition to all of the above, there are issues about ARRL you already know about, including stopping printed QST to prepaid subscribers, IT failures, stagnated response from the FCC (as a former FCC manager and attorney, I might have been helpful on that), failure to reach out to former ARRL members or to the thousands of CERT licensees who know virtually nothing about ARRL, etc.

If you are interested in reading my reconsideration request and appeal, which is short and you may find interesting, go to https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YtQ...usp=drive_link

I will not now have the opportunity to address issues critical to ARRL's future, but K7REX and W2GD are still in the running. Please support them. K7REX has a GoFundMe account. Copy this into your browser: <https://tinyurl.com/3zhenmtu>

For those who supported me, thank you! (Note: All GoFundMe and other donations have been fully refunded!)

Thanks for reading this. Many of you wanted to know what really happened. Now you do!

Update: A letter from the ARRL Ethics & Elections Committee, dated September 28th to Dan Marler K7REX ascertains that he has been disqualified from candidacy for the Northwest Division Director position. The reasons stated for the “difficult decision” involved statements that he made regarding the salary of the ARRL CEO.

The letter states that K7REX was notified of the issue on September 26th, and asked to retract or correct them within 24 hours.

The letter also states that the decision is “final.” See ARRL news item on Page 11

ARRL IT: It's Far Worse Than They Told Us

Dave Bernstein
AA6YQ
Courtesy of the
OPDX Bulletin

Wayland, MA, September 24th, 2024 — On 2024-09-19, ARRL Southeast Division Director Mickey Baker N4MB met via Zoom with the Southeast DX Club. A recording of the meeting is available here: https://sedxc.org/sedxc/zoom/zoom_09.19.2024.mp4

Mickeys presentation (delivered without slides) begins at 11:20 .

Here are the points relevant to the System Disruption

1. Backups were destroyed; either the previous IT Directors effort to shift backups to inexpensive write-mostly storage on Amazon Web Services failed, or the ransomware perpetrators found these online backups and deleted them.
2. The new IT Director hired after the incident installed a new backup appliance, but reported it to be working without ever having tested its recovery functionality or performance.
3. Decryption keys provided by the ransomware perpetrators did not decrypt the ARRLs finance system; ARRL staff are still trying to recover the database from this system. All accounting is currently manual. This is why the 2023 Annual Report has not yet been published.
4. Recovering LoTW was accomplished by hiring John Bloom the original developer who released LoTW in 2003 with no testing and no user documentation. LoTW is running on versions of Centos (Linux) and SAP MaxDB both of which have been unsupported for more than 5 years. (Duh: guess what happens when you starve LoTW of development and maintenance resources for the past 7 years).
5. An IT Advisory Committee was created and is chaired by Kristen McIntyre, K6WX - an Apple Developer with no IT Operations experience. She advocates recreating the ARRLs IT environment from scratch. This committees first 3 meeting have made no progress.
6. Since early July, Jon Bloom has been working alone to re-implement the DXCC System in Python. The system previously ran on Windows 98 and FoxPro. FoxPro wont run on any operating system after Windows 98, and the ARRL did not retain the ability to create a Windows 98 system.
7. There is no documentation of which ARRL applications and services are running on which hardware.
8. Everything is running in 3 rooms on the second floor of ARRL Headquarters, with Servers and Storage in different rooms. Its been that way for ~20 years.
9. The ARRL is still spending ~\$40K a month on recovery efforts (Finance system, DXCC system)
10. Mickey is unhappy with the approach to recovery. His offer to serve as Project Leader at no charge has not been accepted.

Bluntly, this situation is ridiculous. The complete absence of IT competence from the CEO on down is outrageous.

CEO Minsters 2021 proposal to re-implement LoTW from scratch his infamous Project X - was cancelled in 2023 as unaffordable before it ever got off the ground. Now Ms. McIntyre wants to re-implement the entire IT infrastructure from scratch? The ARRL badly needs leadership with experience in modern software engineering and iterative development.

Don't like it? Engage with your ARRL Director! Contact information is here: <http://www.arrl.org/divisions>

ARRL Systems Service Disruption

American Radio Relay
League

Newington, CT, (Updated) September 25th, 2024 – Two major systems that have not been returned to service include DXCC and our accounting system. Most other systems have returned to full service, and we are working to clean up the stragglers.

DXCC System

Our DXCC software was written some 20 years ago. Although an attempt was made 8 years ago to reprogram it to function in a newer environment, that effort was unsuccessful, so the old system remains running today. The complication with bringing it back to service is that it runs on an older version of Windows that is not supported, and more importantly, we cannot purchase adequate protection to return it to service on an internet-based network.

We have created an air-gapped network to run the system on and have it operating in a test, using a different method for connecting it to Logbook of The World and online DXCC -- the web service that runs the online DXCC application. This configuration is being tested and we expect it can go into production soon. We will work to process the backlog as quickly as possible.

New DXCC?

There were statements made by an ARRL Director about work on a new DXCC system. That is not factual. While we have ideas for merging DXCC and LoTW into a single ARRL Radiosport platform, this concept has not been fully spec'd out or put into development.

ARRL Financials

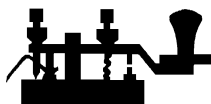
The system we use for accounting was hit hard by the cyber-attack. Currently, the system is fully operational and the ARRL Foundation books are in place. ARRL's corporate books are current as of 6/30/23, and we are working to load the balance of the data through 12/31/23. Once we are certain that the books tie to the audited 2023 financials, we will move to load the 2024 transactions, which are in digital and paper formats. That will take some time, but we will have all the data current in time for the 2025 Annual Meeting and the annual audit.

Backups

Another statement made was about ARRL's backups of our IT environment. There was an effort last year to move all of our backups into the cloud. That was completed mid-2023. There was a routine discipline of backups that went through mid-May 2024 when the cyber attack occurred. Unfortunately, the entire cloud infrastructure was penetrated, and all of the environments were deleted. Not encrypted. This caused us to revert to other backups that had been made and stored in other places. As a result, we were largely able to continue all of our major services especially publishing our 4 magazines and keeping book projects, like ARRL Handbook 101, on schedule.



Silent Keys



Michael Valentine W8MM, 74, formerly of R.L. Drake and founder of Cincinnati Microwave, September 16th

Today, ARRL is using a proprietary system to backup systems and data locally and to the cloud. We are also continuing to use air gapped, off-site backups in specific areas and are expanding that for disaster recovery purposes. The new IT environment is currently being rolled out, so the assertion that there is something wrong or staff are incompetent is not factual.

ARRL Northwestern Division Director Candidate Disqualified After Voting Begun

American Radio Relay League



Newington, CT, September 30th, 2024 – Dan Marler K7REX, the challenger seeking the position of ARRL Northwestern Division Director, was declared disqualified Saturday by the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee (E&E). Marler was running against incumbent Mark Tharp KB7HDX. Due to the disqualification, the committee has declared Tharp elected.

ARRL’s election rules state, “All matters concerning campaigns, including remedies for issues that arise, will be conclusively determined by the Ethics and Elections Committee.” According to Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB, writing as Chair of and for E&E, the committee responded to a complaint received from a member of the Northwestern Division involving inaccurate claims made by the candidate that violated ARRL’s election rules. The rules state that the “standard of truth applies to all campaign material by a candidate” and that candidate statements must be “in all material respects, truthful and not misleading.”

On September 26th, Marler was notified by E&E that a candidate statement he issued contained material that the committee deemed was not in compliance with the rules. Baker said Marler agreed to correct certain statements and issue retractions where necessary to comply with the rules.

On September 27th, Marler was reminded and instructed that the corrections must be made within 24 hours.

On the evening of September 28th, Baker e-mailed a letter to Marler on behalf of E&E, noticing him of the decision to disqualify him. Baker said E&E concluded that Marler rejected the committee’s requests as determined from an additional campaign statement that repeated the previous incorrect claims despite being told otherwise.

As voting has already started for the 2024 election cycle, ballots cast for Northwestern Division Director will not be considered. Since Tharp is the only eligible candidate, E&E has declared him elected.

AMSAT-UK To Provide FUNcube Lite Payload for Jovian-1 Satellite

AMSAT News Service
ANS-273

Washington, DC, September 29th, 2024 -- AMSAT-UK has announced it will provide a FUNcube Lite payload for the Jovian-1 satellite, featuring a U/V FM voice transponder. Jovian-1, a 6U CubeSat, is being developed by Space South Central, a space cluster in the UK. The project is a collaboration between industry and academic institutions aimed at supporting the region’s space sector.

Jovian-1 is part of the JUPITER program, which stands for Joint Universities Programme for In-Orbit Training, Education, and Research. The program involves the universities of Surrey, Portsmouth, and Southampton and offers students direct experience in the space sector. JUPITER prepares participants for careers in space, with a focus on practical training in satellite design and operations.

The FUNcube Lite payload will collect telemetry data from the satellite’s subsystems, including radiation sensor readings and GPS information. The data will be transmitted to schools and colleges using the FUNcube data format. This will help track radiation levels across the satellite’s orbit and assess radiation effects on onboard electronics.

Students from Space South Central will design, build, test, and launch the Jovian-1 satellite. The satellite will use commercial S and X bands for its main communication, through a ground station at Surrey University. The FUNcube Lite payload will operate on UHF and VHF amateur radio frequencies. When not gathering telemetry, it can switch to a U/V mode FM voice transponder, enabling communication for radio amateurs.

The project emphasizes the role of regional space clusters in advancing the UK space industry. Space South Central represents over 170 space-related businesses in the region. The mission allows students to conduct satellite operations from the University of Surrey’s ground station, bridging academic study with hands-on experience.

More information about the Jovian-1 mission and the FUNcube Lite payload will be shared at the AMSAT-UK Colloquium on October 12-13, 2024. The event will provide detailed updates on the satellite’s development and its technical components, offering insights for anyone interested in amateur radio and satellite communications.

For more information:

- Space South Central: spacesouthcentral.com
- University of Surrey: surrey.ac.uk
- University of Portsmouth: port.ac.uk
- University of Southampton: southampton.ac.uk

[ANS thanks Dave Johnson G4DPZ, Honorary Secretary, AMSAT-UK, for the above information]



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



"Seen" At the 2024 BCARA Swapfest

Photos courtesy of and (c) Copyright 2024 Ron Notarius



Jim Breakall WA3FET Receives Major Award from the Radio Club of America

Edward Etchak
WX2R

Courtesy of the
QRZ.COM
Newsroom

Jupiter, FL, September 21st, 2024 – Jim Breakall WA3FET, a long-time member of HamSCI, has recently received the Dr. Ulrich Rohde Award for Innovation in Applied Radio Science and Engineering from the Radio Club of America (RCA).

Established in 2023, this award recognizes significant contributions to innovation in applied radio science and engineering in the wireless industry to inspire future generations of wireless professionals.

'Dr. Jim' as he is known, received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Penn State University and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. He has over 50 years of experience in numerical electromagnetics and antennas. He was a Project Engineer at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL-Livermore, CA), and an Associate Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPGS-Monterey, CA). He is currently a Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering at Penn State.



He began his career as a graduate student at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico, working on antenna analysis and radar probing of the ionosphere. At LLNL, he and his group worked on the development of the Numerical Electromagnetics Code (NEC), the first sophisticated antenna modeling program. Other significant projects that he has worked on were the designs of the HAARP facility in Alaska, both HF facilities at Arecibo, and the Kinstar low profile AM broadcast antenna. Dr. Breakall (electrical) and Tim Duffy K3LR (mechanical) designed the very popular Ham Radio Skyhawk Yagi antenna, and Dr. Breakall is the inventor of the Optimized Wideband Antenna (OWA).

Dr. Breakall is a member of several IEEE societies, Eta Kappa Nu, International Union of Radio Science Commission B, and the IEEE Wave Propagation and Standards Committee. He has been an editor for several journals. He is a frequent speaker at the Dayton Hamvention Antenna Forum.

He received the RCA Sarnoff Citation and is a Life Fellow of IEEE and an RCA Fellow. He serves as an RCA director and as the Co-Chairman and later Chairman of the RCA Technical Symposiums. He also serves on the RCA Scholarship Committee, Education Committee and Awards Committee, and Innovation Council.

HamSCI serves as a means for fostering collaboration between professional researchers and amateur radio operators. It assists in developing and maintaining standards and agreements between all people and organizations involved. Its goals are to advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities, encourage the development of modern technologies to support this research and provide educational opportunities for the amateur community and the public.

ARRL Club Grants Will Be Awarded in November

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, August 30th, 2024 – Applications for the 2024 ARRL Club Grants program are now being reviewed (the application period closed July 26th, 2024).

ARRL Field Services Manager Mike Walters W8ZY said 110 grant applications have been received and the awards will be announced in late November. "Grants are available up to \$25,000 and emphasis is given to projects that are transformative in nature," said Walters.

Examples of projects include but are not limited to getting on the air projects, ham training and skills development through mentoring, STEM and STEAM learning through amateur radio, station resources for use by the ham community, and emergency communications and public service projects that emphasize training.



"Since 2022, \$500,000 has been distributed to amateur radio clubs," said Walters. "With this year's awards, that total will increase to \$1,000,000 awarded.

The ARRL Club Grants are administered by [The ARRL Foundation](http://TheARRLFoundation.com).



3YØK 2026 Update

Ken Opskar
LA7GIA

Hagan, Norway, September 17th, 2024 – This is a logistically challenging project, where ships and helicopters have to be coordinated, contracts have to be made well in advance. We have studied several offers for ship and helicopter services, in line with the scope of this project.

Due to the postponement from 2025 to 2026, we also had to renegotiate the terms. We are now in the final stage of negotiating the ship and helicopter contracts for the 3YØK DXpedition to Bouvet Island planned for 2026 (www.3yOk.com). We have agreed on the important price elements in these contracts and will publish more information once we have all the full details.

For now, our goal is to fully fund this trip in advance. This is a major DX expedition where we are also partnering with a small private group to share the cost and risk of this expedition. In addition, funding for this trip is highly dependent on us building a team of 20 operators to fund the budget. We are 14 operators and are actively looking for another 6 operators to complete the team.

As we approach the final stage of negotiations, we are again asking for anyone who would like to join our team to take part in this once in a lifetime adventure. We estimate that we will stay on the island for 21 days and the total duration should be around 40 days. If you would like to join our team, please contact (admin@3y0.no) or Cezar VE3LYC directly.

For Peter I, we are still looking for another 3 operators before the team is complete.

C21MM Update

Team C21MM

Grevesmuehlen, Germany, September 30th, 2024 —The C21MM team is looking forward to its next adventure. This DXpedition to Nauru is already the most expensive and complicated expedition ever for us. Hopefully we won't encounter any more nasty surprises.

In a few days, on October 7th, the first six team members will leave Germany and plan to arrive on Nauru on October 10th, after an overnight stay in Brisbane, Australia. After their arrival there are still some things to organise, so limited operation (high bands only) will take place. Full operation with 5 stations 24/7 can be expected starting October 15th in the evening (local time, UTC +12). We will pay special attention to our sunrise and sunset for low band openings.

The whole team is grateful for the generous donations from early supporters. Thank you! Our QSL manager has received the LoTW certificate for C21MM. QSLs and LoTW confirmations will be sent out after our return in November.

Further news and pictures will be published on our website. Please make sure to follow us on X: https://x.com/C21MM_2024.

More information at <https://c21mm.mydx.de/>

We are looking forward to working you! If you have any hints during the DXpedition, please drop us an email at c21mm.info@mydx.de. (Please note this email address is not for QSL queries). QSL via DL4SVA or ClubLog OQRS

NL7RR/KH9 will be QRV from Wake Island 22 October—5 November, 20 Meter SSB, as time permits. Listen around 14200 kHz between 0600—0800 Z. QSL via NL7RR or LotW

Members of the Association of the Union of Radio Amateurs of Western Peloponnese (<http://erdyp.gr/>) will activate the special event station **SV9/SX8ØFF** (Fallen Firefighter's) from Crete Island (EU-015) 1 - 31 October.

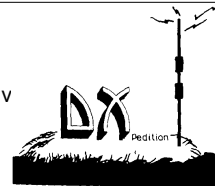
The purpose of the Special CallSign is to honor the fallen Greek firefighters and aerial firefighting crews who fell in the line of duty for their country and their neighbors. QSL only via LoTW or eQSL.

5WØTE will be QRV from 3 until 10 October, holiday style, CW SSB FT8 and DStar. Congratulate him on his silver wedding anniversary trip (and his wife had no objection to his operating during the trip!) QSL via ClubLog OQRS or ZL4TE

The Rebel DX Group reports that for their future trip to Nigeria, Authorities have changed their callsign from 5N5N to **5N9DTG** due to QTH changes

TX9A will be QRV from Tubuai, Austral Islands (OC-152) 25 April to 7 May 2025. Activity will be on various HF bands using the "human modes" with some FT8/FT4. QSL via DK8ZZ or as directed

DX News Briefs



C21TS is presently QRV through February 2025. QSL v MØOXO

5H1WX is presently QRV through 6 October, 80 – 10, CW SSB & Digital. More information at <https://www.mdxc.support/5h1wx> QSL via I8KHC or OQRS

5H3MB will be QRV 10 October – 11 November, 80-10, CW SSB & Digital. QSL via IK2GZU or ClubLog

C21MM will be QRV 10 – 29 October, with up to 5 stations 160 – 6, CW SSB RTTY and FT8. More information at <https://c21mm.mydx.de/> QSL via DL4SVA or ClubLog

8R1TM will be QRV 12 October – 24 November, all bands, CW SSB & Digital. QSL via PY1SAD

YJØVV will be QRV 16 – 29 October including the CQ WW SSB Contest. QSL via K4NHV or ClubLog

ZF2XX will be QRV 20 – 25 October from Grand cayman Island, primarily CW QRP with possibly some FT-8. QSL via AE6Z

7Q2T will be QRV 21 – 28 October, various HF bands, primarily CW. QSL via LotW

V47T will be QRV 26-27 October during the CQ WW SSB. QSL via W2RQ

ZS/KF8UN will be QRV 1 & 2 November, primarily 20 SSB, possibly some CW and some 40 & 17. QSL via KF8UN

ZF2KM will be QRV 5 – 12 November, holiday style, CW & Digital modes, focusing on the WARC bands. QSL via W9KM

3D2TP will be QRV 8 November – 12 December, QRP, SSB & CW. His ticket is good through August 2025. QSL via PA3CBH

T88DT and **T88RC** will be QRV 14 – 20 November, 160-10, CW SSB RTTY and multiple digital modes. QSL T88DT via JH1OLB, T88RC via JH1FFW

C8K will be QRV 17 January – 2 February 2025 160 – 6 including 60 meters, plus various satellites, SSB CW RTTY FT8 FT4 and PSK. More information at <https://www.cdxc.cz> QSL via OK6DJ or ClubLog.

6W7/ON4AVT will be QRV 2 February – 10 April 2025, 80 – 10, SSB Digital and some Satellite. QSL via ON4AVT or ClubLog.

3B8DJ will be QRV 23 March – 5 April 2025, 80 – 10, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ or ClubLog

QSL Routes

3W9A via KU1CW	HG5CMH via G7AUF	SE4E via SM4DQE
3Z6ØØWOL via SP3ZHP	HVØA via IKØFVC	SF50 via SM5EØS
4V1SAVANNAH via N2ØØ	HZ1TT via A61BK	SNØWOLF via SP2KFQ
4X7M via 4Z4AK	HH2AA via EB7DX	SP85NWS via SP3PØD
5A21MB via EC6DX	II2Q via IK2PFL	T2M via OH7Ø
5H1WX via I8KHC	II3F via IV3ZYB	TC93HARP via YM9EKE
5P6MJ via OZ6MJ	II4ØTSR via IQ4FE	TI5CDA via EA5GL
5Q7DX via PA7JWC	II6COTA via IZ6FUQ	SP85BGB via SP7PRM
5WØBP via KD6XU	II8IHBC via IU8CEU	SX5FOC via SV1AHH
8Q7JH via DL3JH	II8K via IZ8EPX	SZ2TIF via SZ2TSL
9M67MJ via 9M2CDX	II9IABJ via IT9YBL	TM2ØØCF via F4DØTØ
A91ARS via EC6DX	II9IAGM via IT9MRM	TM33GAME via F6KNL
AØ3MMM via EA3EYO	IO8Ø via IK8UND	TM5R via F5KAY
AØ5ØMRG via EA8TK	J3/N9GB via EB7DX	TM6M via F4DXW
C7A via 4U1A	J88IH via VP2EIH	TM8ØBOB via F6KSV
CB3A via XQ3SK	K4A via NF7D	TM8ØLTX via F8DBN
CR3W via DL5AAX	LG5LG via LA7TIA	TZ4AM via KX4R
CT9ABØ via OM3GI	LQ5A via EA7FTR	UN4Q via UN2G
DA25THL via DLØTHL	LR3D via EA7FTR	UP4L via UN7LZ
DFØWF via DL2BWH	LY788QT via LY2QT	VI7POL via VK5PAS
DLØABT via DL7URB	LZ1515IW via LZ1KCP	VP8KCA via G5KC
DLØWCA via DF6QE	OD5YA via IZ8CLM	W6A via K6SMØ
DM5ØLOW via DL8TG	OG4A via OH2BAI	W6B via K6SMØ
DM7ØLSC via DL8UIL	OK8CX via DL7CX	W6F via WB6RER
EF1ØWD via EB7R	OS7ØDØURBES via	XT2AW via MØØXØ
EG3AMCUP via EA3MM	ON4PHI	YN9H via EA5GL
EG4ØSDC via EA1AUM	OV5W via OZ1GIN	YP5ØQRP via YØ8AZQ
EJ7NET via EI6FR	PC2ØSAIL via PAØRDY	Z22AØ via HA5AØ
EP4HR via IK2RZQ	PD8ØBTF via PDØHRY	ZZ2Ø via PY2EX
FR8TZ via F4FTV	PH8ØMG via PI4CQ	ZZ5K via PP5RT
GB8ØØMG via G3WZP	PI4COM via PA1AW	ZP5DBC via ZP5AA
GU3TXF via G3TXF	PV2D via PY2AD	ZS1AFS via N4GNR
HG35FIRAC via HA5BSW	SØ1WS via EA2JG	

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.



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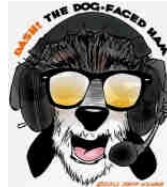
Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**
 Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law
 277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056
 Phone: 724-352-4905

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

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

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



For Sale: 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 October 1 st , 2024		
Novice	6,419	0.759%
Technician	423,342	50.01%
General	202,287	23.91%
Advanced	34,725	4.107%
Extra	166,368	19.67%
Club	12,287	1.453%
Total	845,428	

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

PA Amateurs by Class as of October 1 st , 2024:		
Novice	292	1.085%
Technician	12,024	44.66%
General	6,813	25.26%
Advanced	1,370	5.089%
Extra	5,982	22.22%
Club	440	1.634%
Total	26,921	

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of October 1 st , 2024	
Group A	AC3NC
Group B	KF3EW
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3ZVS

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

ARRL Defends 902-928 MHz Band

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 12th, 2024 – ARRL® The National Association for Amateur Radio® has filed comments [PDF] with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) urging that the 902 – 928 MHz amateur radio band be protected. ARRL joins hundreds of licensed radio amateurs who utilize the band in opposing a proposal from NextNav Inc., a licensee in the 900-MHz Location and Monitoring Service (LMS), to completely reconfigure the 902 – 928 MHz band and replace the LMS with high-powered 5G cellular and related location services.

Read more about NextNav's proposal on ARRL News (8/15/2024)

ARRL's comments, filed by our Washington, D.C. Counsel on behalf of ARRL members and radio amateurs, point out several problems with NextNav's request.

"Contrary to NextNav's assertions, the band is extremely crowded with millions of devices and transmitters in operation in multiple services, including the Amateur Service. Adoption of the proposal would result in either massive interference that would prevent proper operation or displacement to other bands. The difficulty is that there are no other bands known to be available, and in fact, some of the Amateur operations in this band are here because they were displaced when a portion of the 420 – 450 MHz band North of "Line A" was closed to the Amateur Service some years ago. Others were displaced from the same band when new Federal Government defense radars were initiated and continued Amateur secondary operations would have interfered with their operation."

Pushing amateur radio out of heavily used spectrum is a risk to public service, ARRL argues in the comments.

"When space can be found in this band, Amateurs employ it to establish wide-area voice and some television signal repeaters. Others are actively experimenting with digital mesh networks and associated control links. These networks are a testbed for digital design and experimentation, but also are available and used for back-up emergency communications purposes. Still others operate low power beacons for propagation research. Weak signal work – tuning and experimenting to communicate over the longest paths with the least power – also is popular and leads to improvements in equipment."

Mesh networks are becoming increasingly useful in emergency communications. Just this past week, the **ARRL Utah Section announced** that dozens of **Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®)** volunteers are working to expand the mesh network around the state. "The needs of participating agencies have evolved to require more than analog voice and low-speed data modes," said ARRL Utah Section Public Information Coordinator Scott Rosenbush, K7HSR. "High-speed mesh networks using AREDN® [Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network] software will allow amateur radio to play a larger role in supporting these agencies in emergencies." The ARRL Utah Section already has a five-county mesh network in place. The proposal from NextNav make it more difficult to operate networks like this one.

"Under NextNav's proposal, the much higher-powered transmitters would be ubiquitous and operating 24/7. The resulting interference would effectively exclude many of the current Amateur operations that are operating in the 902-928 MHz band."

The FCC docket remained open for reply comments from the public until September 20th, 2024. As of September 6th, over 800 comments had been filed by Amateurs and others who use this spectrum. The comments can be viewed at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ypxh583p>. [Click here for an ARRL Guide to Filing Comments with FCC](#). ARRL will continue to defend amateur access to this and other threatened amateur allocations.

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Has Roadway found the tower yet?



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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 23rd, 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

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

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

Reservations received after February 1st, 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)

1st Qtr Jan-Mar **2nd Qtr** Apr-Jun **3rd Qtr** Jul-Sept **4th Qtr** Oct-Dec

- (F1) Full Membership: \$20.00 \$15.00 \$10.00 \$5.00
- (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50
- (A1) Associate Membership: \$10.00 \$7.50 \$5.00 \$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

License Class: _____

City, State: _____

Expires On: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Birthday: _____

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)

ARRL Member? Yes No Family ARRL Member? Yes No

Date: _____


Signature: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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

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


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



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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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CUSTOM QSL ART
HAM GRAPHICS
WEB COMICS
www.dashtoons.com
k1nss@dashtoons.com

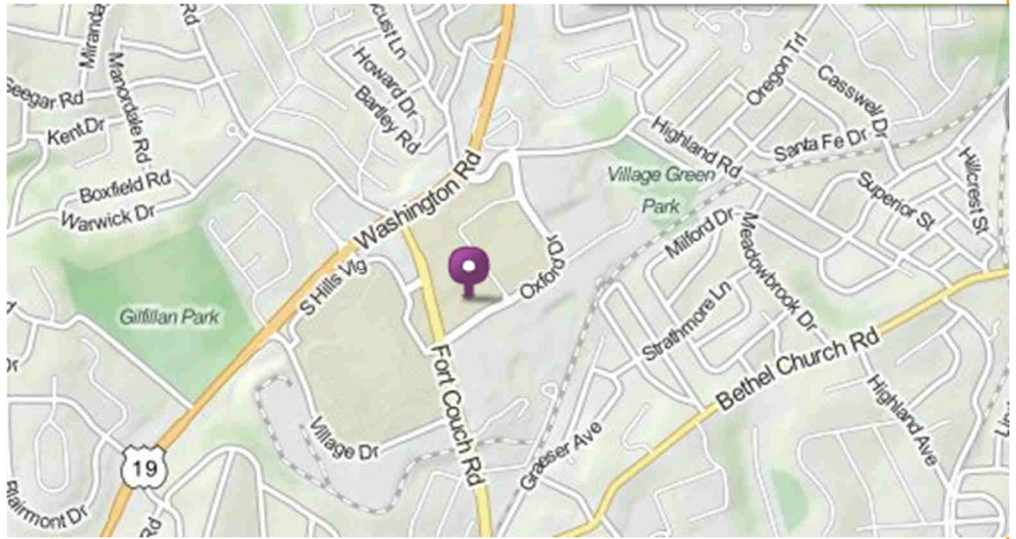
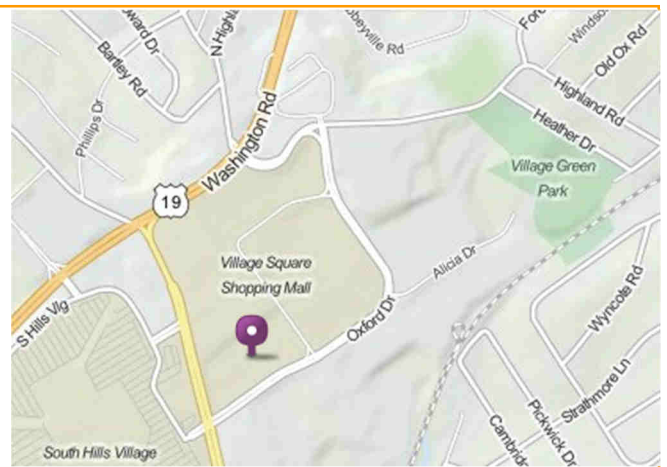


2024 WASH Meeting Location

**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
www.washarc.org

