



# WASHRAG™

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VOLUME 27 ISSUE 07  
JULY 2025

Wireless Association of South Hills



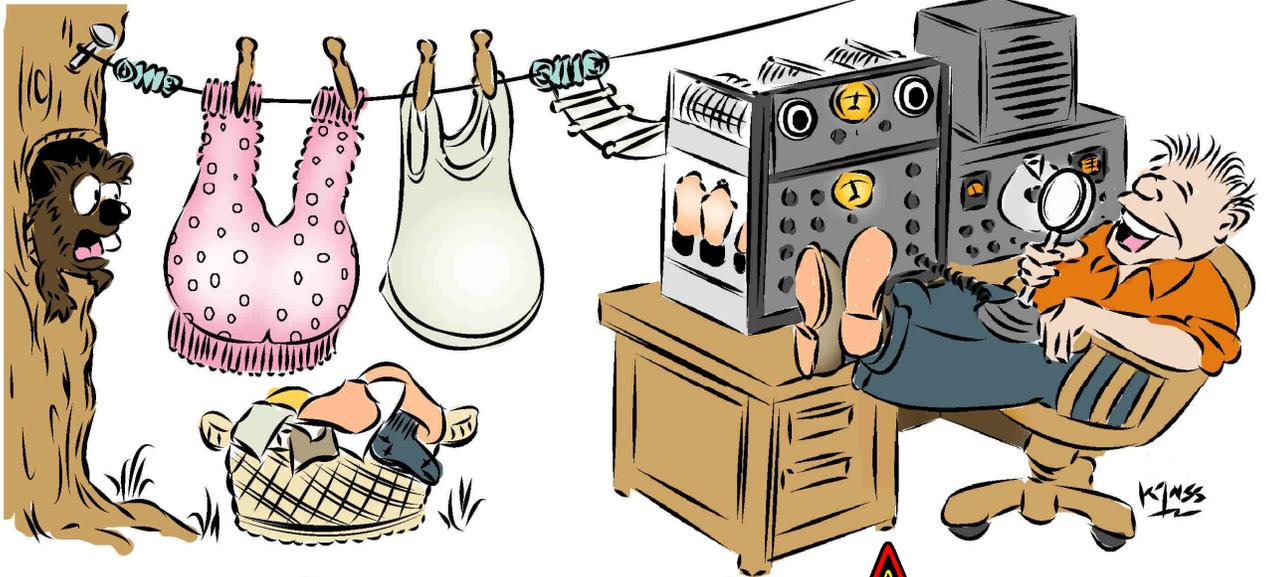
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# Wireless Association of South Hills



# WASHRAG™



VOLUME 27 ISSUE 07  
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## Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

The next scheduled meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**, starting at 7 PM, on the **146.955 & 443.650 REPEATERS**, due to the start of the Fourth of July weekend. (We will back at the St. Clair Health Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park PA 15102, adjacent to Village Square Mall, across from South Hills Village Mall, just off US Route 19, in August).

Meeting topics include Field Day 2025 wrap-up, Pa QSO 2025, other plans for 2025, and more to come.

Cover: *The WASH Tower Trailer & Yagi antenna at dawn, Sunday morning at W3A Field Day 2025. More FD 2025 Photos inside! Photo courtesy & © Copyright 2025 Ron Notarius W3WN*

## WASH 2025 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.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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

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

# WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

## Next WASH VE Test TBD

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, 10:00 AM**, at **the Home Economics Building, South Park, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, WASHFest 2025**. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are VEC affiliated.

**TESTSESSIONS FOR THE REST OF 2025 TO BE SCHEDULED**

ARRL

Walk-ins space/time basis.

attending the test contact VE Team Liason KC3MLC:kgo@grant-

following to your test session: suitable identification (2 forms of ID)

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. taken on a available

If you plan on session, please Grant Olson olson.net

Please bring the Picture ID or other required)

## A Few Words



Well, another Field Day has come and gone, and I would like to thank everyone who participated in making the event a success I would name names, but I wouldn't wanna leave anybody out! The club has again demonstrated our memberships resourcefulness and collegiality in making the event X success

Please remember that there will be no club meeting in July, however it was decided that we would have a meeting on the repeater to go over lessons learned from Field Day and suggestions for next year. I plan to be on the usual frequencies at 7 PM on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, so please be there if you can.

Our next meeting will be August 7<sup>th</sup> at the usual location. See all of you then, but if possible, please be on the usual repeater frequencies on Thursday.

And please remember to send your Field Day photos to Ron.

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

## Reminder:

**The July WASH Meeting Will Be On The 146.955 and 443.650 Repeaters. Meeting begins at 7 PM**

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

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> was a bright, sunny morning, promising a beautiful Field Day weekend to all. Of course, we all know that the weather angels had other ideas... regardless, getting prepared for FD setup, the **WASH Breakfast Gang** gathered at **SOUTH PARK EAT'N PARK, 5220 LIBRARY ROAD, BETHEL PARK**. This month saw the likes of AC3WM, K3VX, W3WH, N3FB, KB3GMU, KB3YCX and W3WN. Table talk revolved around Field Day plans and setup, AMSAT and satellite bands, remembering Ed Lipps, checking on remote sites, waiting on the breakfast bar to open, 50 years as an ARRL Life Member, weekend weather, POTA, Islands OTA and the Neville Island IOTA-expedition, eggs over easy vs. eggs over hard, Pa QSO Party plans for Venango and Mifflin counties, and a whole lot more!

Our next gathering will be back at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**, July 26<sup>th</sup>. See you there!

So, another **Field Day** is behind us. Was it a success? Clearly, yes. Were there lessons learned, and could some things have been done better? Always. Of biggest concern was the turn out. A lot of familiar faces weren't seen. Some, like Nathan, Curtis and Kerry, were elsewhere... which is not unusual. (By the way, the next time you see Kerry, offer her congratulations. Why? See Page 16!). And many of us, much as we hate to admit it, just find it a little tougher every year to get around. So was 5A to ambitious? If you stopped at the site on Saturday evening, you might not have thought so, every operating position was occupied. But at other times...

The point is that if we are to keep doing events like Field Day (which Ye Editor firmly believes we do!), maybe we need to be a little more realistic in our expectations. Maybe reverting to 3A, with on CW, one Phone, and one Digital station, will be more practical (and certainly require less antennas!) Something to think about.

Our **July meeting** will be **on the air**. Why? Because being the evening before a major holiday weekend, a lot of people simply don't have a couple of hours to schlep to a meeting. That said, the meeting will be dedicated to going over FD and see what we can plan and do better. If you have a thought on the matter, please, please join us!

Larry K3VX has already **reserved two pavilions for FD 2026**... Babcock and Sunset Hills. We do need to pick one, and it seems that each site has it's proponents. Something else to talk about!

By the way, congratulations to Larry Comden K3VX for **74 years** as a licensed Amateur Radio operator!

Thanks to everyone who provided FD 2025 photos. If you have some, we will make room next month... I don't think we can stuff much more into this issue! Two comments... first, the cover... yeah, we know that the grove sign is a touch awkward, but it does look better than a port-a-potty! More importantly, take a good look at the picture on Page 16. You just don't see things like that in the city anymore, and a picture that spectacular just had to be included! Thanks to Curtis KB3CMT for that photo!

Did we run out of room to talk about **Pa QSO 2025**? Pretty much! Suffice to say that planning for many operations are underway, and we will have a lot more to say about the event and the planning in the next three issues. This is one of the big events for Pa hams, as a whole, every year, and we are really looking forward to another great year!

Roger Smallwood N8EKG, President of R&L Electronics, became a Silent Key on June 28<sup>th</sup>. He was 55. His parents, Rita & Larry Smallwood, founded the company.

More information at <https://www.browndawsonflick.com/obituaries/roger-smallwood>

Our sympathies and condolences to his family.

# Minutes, June 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

**Call to Order:** 19:02.

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

**Roll Call.** 17 Members, 0 Guests Present

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Mark (N3RDV): Financial report delivered electronically by Mark (N3RDV) and read by Nathan (KC3GMM) along with a correction to the May financial report. Motion to accept the financial report by Bill (W3WH) with second by Eric (K3SGT). Voted and carried.

**Secretary:** Nathan (KC3GMM): May meeting minutes published in the June WASHRag. No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept minutes by Bill (W3WH) with second by Jim (WB4GCS). Voted and carried.

**Repeaters:** Frank (N3FB) - Repeating.

**WASHnet:** No report.

**Thursday night tech talk:** No report.

**Public service:** (Bob NU3Q):

- \* June 21<sup>st</sup> Westmoreland County airshow. To help, reach out to Bob to get Doc Sam's Contact info.
- \* Rachel Carson trail challenge is the same day. A form is available on the web site for the event. Radios are provided.
- \* Third weekend in July is Vintage Grand Prix. Not sure if help is needed yet.
- \* July 12<sup>th</sup> - Picnic at Moraine State Park
- \* Tom (KB3NIX: Kudos to the folks organizing the Marathon. Everything went well and everyone did a great job.

**Newsletter:** Ron (W3WN) – Out

**VE:** Tom (KB3NIX) - No report.

**Ways & Means:** Carol (KB3GMN): No report.

**Contests: Field Day:**

- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - Reporter for the Almanac and Washington Observer is going to do a story about our Field Day. Will interview for the article.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Two new volunteers. Frank will add to signup list. Need chair for beam team. Wire antenna team is assembled.
- \* Transportation team needs chair.
- \* Nathan (KC3GMM) for Mike (KB1CKF) (absent): "Also is there a Safety Officer yet for FD I would be willing to fill that role again."
- \* Bill (W3WH) - Will anybody be staying at the site overnight?
- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - May need to do setup Saturday morning rather than Friday night if nobody can stay overnight.
- \* Bill (W3WH) - Maybe the antennas without coax or at least the ropes can be erected Friday night to save time on Saturday morning if nobody is staying overnight.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Food team chair is needed still. Carol (KB3GMN) - Not sure if she'll be able to do food.
- \* Glen (KE7FD) - Should we arrange for catering?
- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - Has looked at Giant Eagle and Fat Angelos for food and both are good options.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - We need to determine how many people will attend to determine how much food we will need.
- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - We have the signup sheet up so that we can get a count of how many people will attend.
- \* \*\*\* Discussion about whether or not you need a Google account to sign the signup sheet \*\*\*
- \* Bill (W3WH) - Will reach out to Harold to see if he can pick up the items from storage.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Scoring team
- \* Nathan (KC3GMM) for Jeff (N3JSF): "I am more than willing to provide laptops again, pre-configured to connect to a 12v wireless router and provide a raspberry pi for the nfs storage. I would ask that someone from the Field Day committee reach out in an e-mail to confirm the radio make/model being used so I am sure we have the correct drivers. Additionally, any specific software packages or versions that are requested, for the same reasons. The sooner the better so I am be sure this is all configured properly in advance."

Continued on Page 24

# WASH Spotlight: Bobros

It is well past time to recognize two of the unsung heroes of the club: Frank N3FB and Lori KB3GMU.

Most people in the club really don't appreciate all of the hard work and personal sacrifice that Frank and Lori put in, quietly and often

behind the scenes, to make sure things work and work right, and makes sure our events come off and we all look good.

Frank and Lori rarely take credit. But were it not for them, we probably wouldn't have a nice Mosley Yagi for the tower trailer, and the tower and trailer themselves wouldn't be in the great state that they currently are. A simple "Thank You for Everything" just doesn't seem sufficient!

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2025 Gary Robbins KB3YCX



Every month we're going to try 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

AC3GB	KB3NIX	N3UE	WASH FL	WASH TX	<b>Silent Keys</b>
AC3ML	KB3YCX	NB3C	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
AC3WM	KC3GMM	NL7XM	WASH NE	NB3C	
AC4KU	KC3UUK	NU3Q	NØPEU	KB3JXX	
AE3DL	KC3VQR	NY9H	WASH OH	Jane Wagner	
K3GW	KC4WTT	W3LE	N8DPW	WASH VI	
K3OCT	KE7FD	W3WH	WASH OR	NP2JF	
K3VX	N3DFK	W3WN	KB3NVL	WASH VT	
K6DWR	N3FB	W8LEV	KB3NVM	KE3XB	
KA3VXM	N3IDH	WA2YEZ	NØVLR		
KB3GMN	N3LV	WA3PYU	WASH SC		
KB3GMU	N3NWR	WA3VSS	N8NEU		
KB3GUZ	N3RDG	WB4GCS			
KB3IAC	N3RDV				
KB3IVX	N3SBF	Charmel			
KB3JHR	N3TBJ	Spirk			

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

Through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

- AB3KA
- AB3ED
- AC4KU
- AD3Q
- K3EED
- K3LIE
- K3LGM
- KA3NMG
- KB3ENX
- KB3FNM
- KB3FQT
- KB3JHQ
- N3BPB
- N3CZZ
- N3FZ
- N3HKQ
- N3KEH
- N3OBD
- N3RNX
- N3SKR
- N3SRC
- N3ZEL
- N3XFE
- W3ZLK
- W4ZE
- WA3JPP

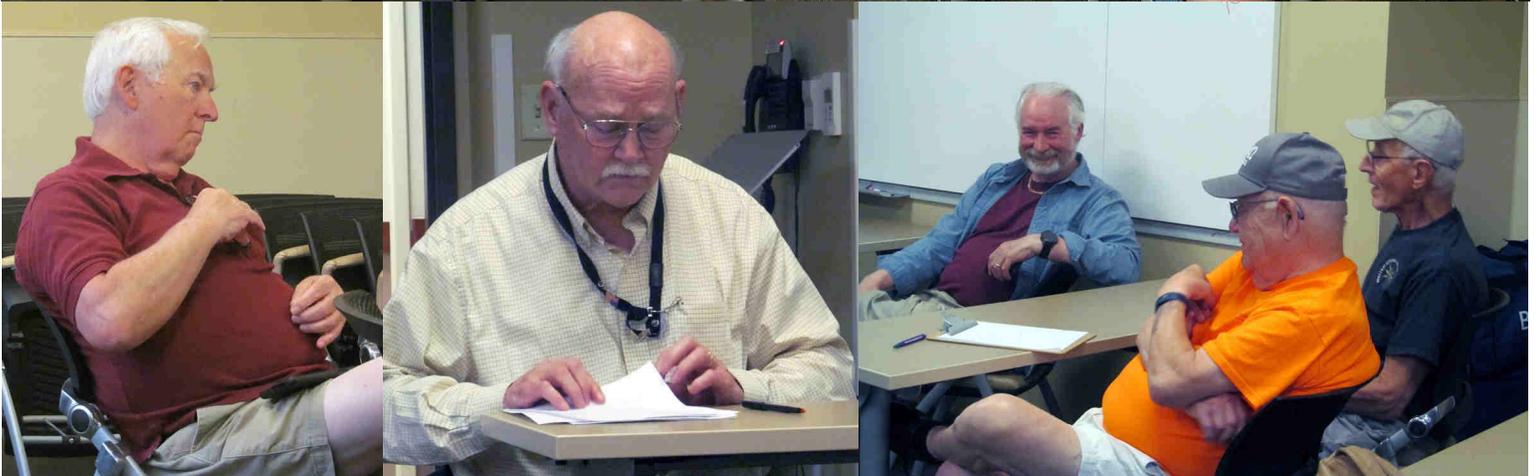
# 2025 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

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

July 1 <sup>st</sup> — 8 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual 13 Colonies Special Event	<a href="http://www.13colonies.us/">http://www.13colonies.us/</a>
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	WASH On-Air Meeting	N3SH/R 146.955 and N3FB/R 443.650 Repeaters
July 19 <sup>th</sup> — 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	<a href="https://pvgp.org/">https://pvgp.org/</a>
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Somerset County PA Hamfest	<a href="https://k3smt.org/hamfest/">https://k3smt.org/hamfest/</a>
August 7 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	75 <sup>th</sup> Annual W3PIE Gabfest	W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown PA 15401
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Skyview Radio Society Swap & Shop	K3MJW Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068
September 4 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Butler County ARA Swapfest	Unionville Fire Department, 102 Mahood Road (Pa Route 8), Butler PA 16001
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
October 4 <sup>th</sup> — 5 <sup>th</sup>	60 <sup>th</sup> California QSO Party	<a href="https://www.cqp.org">https://www.cqp.org</a>
October 11 <sup>th</sup> — 12 <sup>th</sup>	69 <sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania QSO Party	<a href="https://paqso.org">https://paqso.org</a>
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	New York QSO Party	<a href="https://nyqp.org/wordpress/">https://nyqp.org/wordpress/</a>
October 25 <sup>th</sup> — 26 <sup>th</sup>	CQ World Wide DX Contest Phone	<a href="https://cqww.com">https://cqww.com</a>
November 1 <sup>st</sup> — 3 <sup>rd</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 6 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 15 <sup>th</sup> — 17 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 29 <sup>th</sup> — 30 <sup>th</sup>	CQ World Wide DX Contest CW	<a href="https://cqww.com">https://cqww.com</a>
December 4 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
December 5 <sup>th</sup> — 7 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 13 <sup>th</sup> — 14 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 27 <sup>th</sup> — 28 <sup>th</sup>	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Boring Amateur Radio Club
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	Straight Key Night	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

# ***"Seen" at the June WASH Meeting***

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Ron Notarius W3WN



# The Code of Shadows

James M. Gagliolo WB4IME

Franklin, NC, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The moon hung low over the Caribbean Sea, casting silver ribbons across the undulating waves as the Majestic Voyager sailed steadily into the night. The cruise had been smooth—a dream escape of turquoise waters and gentle island breezes. But for sixteen-year-old Evan Carter, the real excitement had nothing to do with the beaches or the extravagant buffets.

Evan was a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, and his mind was always tuned to frequencies most people ignored. While his classmates obsessed over gaming and social media, he spent his free time tapping out Morse code, communicating with operators across the globe through nothing but shortwave transmissions.

The rhythmic pattern of dots and dashes was as familiar to him as breathing.

So when he spotted a figure lurking at the far end of the deck, hunched over a strange-looking device, his instincts kicked in.

## The Discovery

Evan leaned against the railing, narrowing his gaze. The man was older—maybe in his late forties—dressed entirely in dark clothing, his frame blending into the shadows. He was perched at the stern of the ship, carefully adjusting a stealth radio transmitter.

Then, Evan heard it. Dots and dashes.

A steady rhythm of Morse code clicked through the device, faint yet unmistakable. His heart rate spiked as he listened carefully. It wasn't random chatter. It was a deliberate message—structured, coded.

Evan concentrated, mentally translating each sequence as it came through.

"... rendezvous port ... twenty-two hundred hours ... cargo secure ..."

Cargo secure? Rendezvous port? What kind of message was this? This wasn't normal maritime communication—it was covert.

Evan stiffened. Was this espionage? Smuggling? Something worse?

Instinctively, he slowed his breathing, committing every word to memory. This was his world. His skill. He knew what he was hearing.

And he knew it spelled trouble.

## The Dilemma

He had two choices.

Do nothing—ignore the scene, pretend it was nothing more than a peculiar hobbyist sending cryptic messages for fun.

Or take action.

If this was something illegal, someone needed to know. He couldn't let it go.

Glancing back at the figure, Evan made his decision. He moved swiftly to the nearest emergency phone by the staircase, fingers hovering over the button. Security. That was the right move, wasn't it?

But just as he was about to press it—movement.

The man packed up the device with practiced precision, like he had done this a thousand times before. His eyes darted around, scanning the deck, and then—he was gone.

## The Pursuit

Evan rushed back to the stern, heart pounding as he scanned the area. Empty.

Then—movement near the crew-only access door.

Evan hesitated for only a second before following, stepping lightly as he approached. He peeked through the door. Dim lighting, an empty corridor leading toward the ship's security offices.

That was when a voice stopped him cold.

"You shouldn't be here."

## The Truth Unveiled

Evan turned sharply—but instead of the shadowy figure, he faced a crew officer, his uniform crisp and commanding.

"I—uh—I saw someone," Evan stammered. "At the back of the ship. He had a radio transmitter, sending Morse code—"

The officer's eyes narrowed. "Morse code?"

Evan nodded quickly. "I'm an Amateur Radio Operator. I recognized the patterns. He was sending coordinates... something about cargo, a rendezvous at a port. It sounded like—like a smuggling operation."

The officer studied Evan for a long moment, then signaled another guard. "You said you memorized the message?"

Evan recited every word. His accuracy made the officer's expression darken. Something was wrong.

Security was alerted, and within minutes, the deck was searched. The ship's radio logs were scanned. Then—they found it.

A small, discarded transmitter tucked beneath a storage crate. The exact device Evan had seen.

The officer exhaled sharply. "Good work, kid. Looks like you just helped uncover something big."

## The Aftermath

The cruise felt different after that. Security was tight. Crew members whispered about an investigation. Evan never saw the man again, but that didn't mean he wasn't still on board, hiding in plain sight.

When the ship docked three days later, Evan watched as security officers led an unidentified man off the vessel in cuffs. He overheard murmurs—something about encrypted messages, stolen data, smuggled goods.

Evan had been right.

As he stepped off the ship, feeling the solid ground beneath his feet, one thought lingered—that was the best use of his radio skills yet.



# Stuff We Take For Granted

Eric Nichols KL7AJ

Fairbanks, AK, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Saw a computer model that was very interesting.

Let's take 10 of the smartest people on Earth, and send them off in a spaceship to a distant planet identical to Earth...same resources, same distribution of resources, All they have is their brains....the entire collective knowledge of present day humanity, and nothing else.

It would take 2,000 years to build a V8 engine, even if they knew exactly how to do it. Why?

First you have to find some iron. You have no idea where the iron is. So you send out an exploration team. Fortunately, your ten smartest people include a cowboy and an Indian. But they need a horse to get anywhere. So they have to run around in their loincloths to find a horse. Oh, and in the process they have to stay alive long enough to figure out how to get a horse. Fortunately, one of the 10 is a farmer, so you have at least some possibility of staying alive long enough to catch a horse, to go exploring for some iron.

So after 20 years or so, maybe you've found some iron. You need to dig it out of the ground. It would be nice if you had a shovel or something, but those require IRON....ironically enough. So maybe you could build a shovel out of wood or something, but that requires cutting down a tree or two....which would require a saw. Which would require some IRON! Surprise!

Now despite all this you do find a nice batch of iron ore. You need to smelt the stuff. And this requires some fire....which requires some wood, most likely....which would, again require something like iron to chop it down.

And on and on and on it goes.

With all these iterative Catch 22's your progress never goes beyond a slug's crawl. There ARE no shortcuts.

And remember, this is when everyone already knows how to build an engine....they don't need to figure that out.

So, think about that next time you go the hardware shop and pick up a lock washer.



## Collier Community Days

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Bob Mentes NU3Q, EC Allegheny County ARES



Allegheny County EC Bob NU3Q represented Allegheny County ARES at Collier Community Days on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

"I talked about 'comms down' emergency communications to everyone in attendance that day. Had a lot of interest in Amateur Radio! I explained that obtaining a license is a very quick and easy process, and the Technician exam is very easy to pass.

My goal was to get more people licensed and join ARES (and ACS) as Emcomm Operators -- and to provide a larger future base of volunteers for the Marathon, Rachel Carson, and the Great Race (and other public service events)"

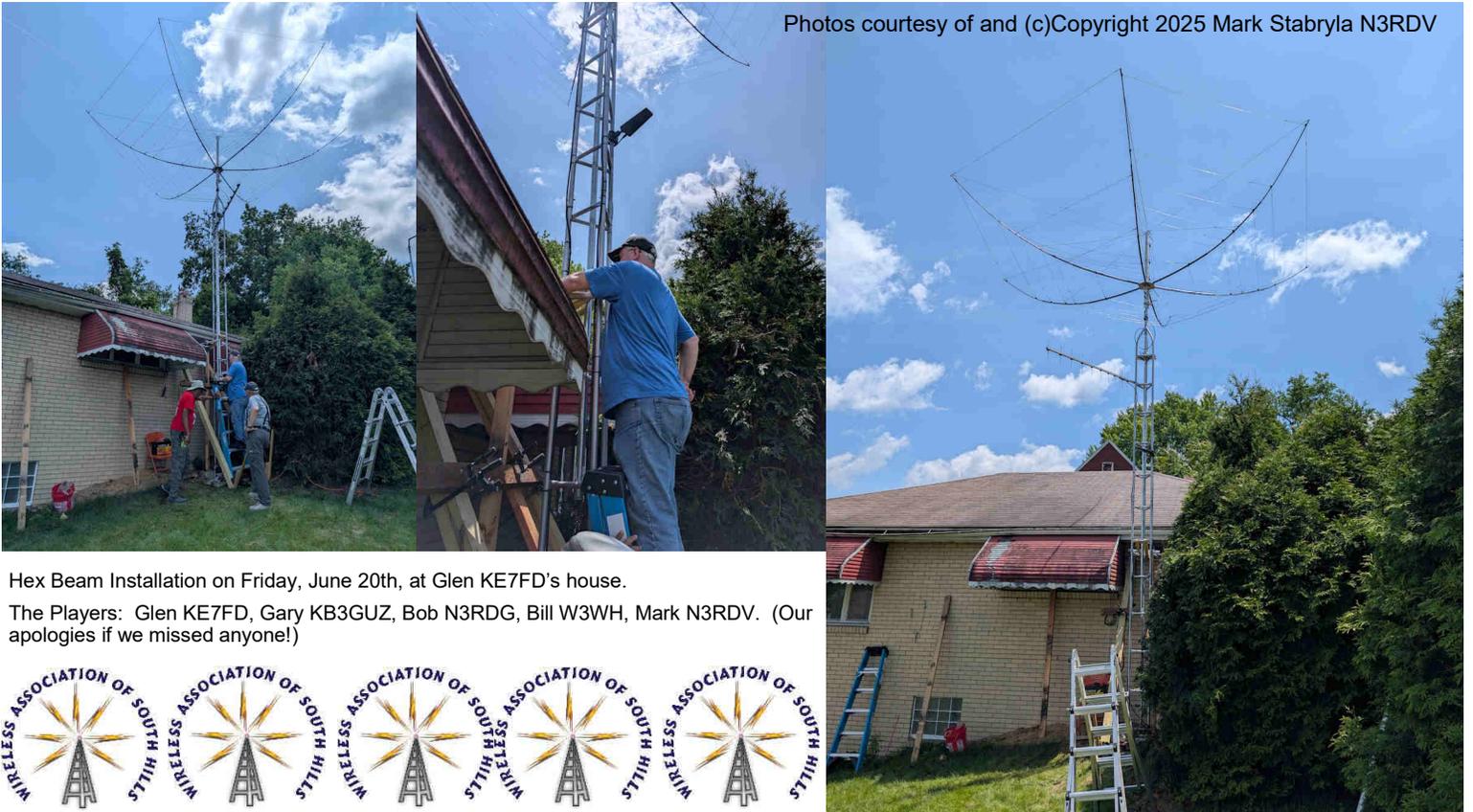


# Raising the KE7FD Hex Beam

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Bill Hill W3WH



Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Mark Stabryla N3RDV



Hex Beam Installation on Friday, June 20th, at Glen KE7FD's house.  
The Players: Glen KE7FD, Gary KB3GUZ, Bob N3RDG, Bill W3WH, Mark N3RDV. (Our apologies if we missed anyone!)



# W3A Field Day 2025 Setup

Photos courtesy of and (c)  
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W3WN



# W3A Saturday

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Michael Koenemund KB1CKF



# W3A Field Day Sunday

Photos courtesy of and (c)  
Copyright 2025 Jim Sanford  
WB4GCS

AC3WM & W3WH Running CW on Sunday Morning



N3FB & KB3GMU at the Digital Station



W3WH & K3VX at the CW Stations



Max KO4EZO At the SSB Stations



Everyone told WB4GCS his breakfast sausages were great... he never got one...



K3VX... at the Phone station?



W3WH Talking with a visitor who'd seen the article about Field Day in the newspaper and wanted to know more



A look at the "business end" of the generator.  
The tent is new and a lot easier to setup.  
The UPS (floor) is used to illuminate refueling.  
The two 75 gallon fuel tanks include a pump... no more pouring in the dark, put the hose in and turn the crank!

# W3A Saturday Evening

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025  
Ron Notarius W3WN



# W3A Field Day Saturday

Photos courtesy of and (c)  
Copyright 2025 Gary Robbins  
KB3YCX



# W3A: A Few More

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2025 Bill Hill W3WH



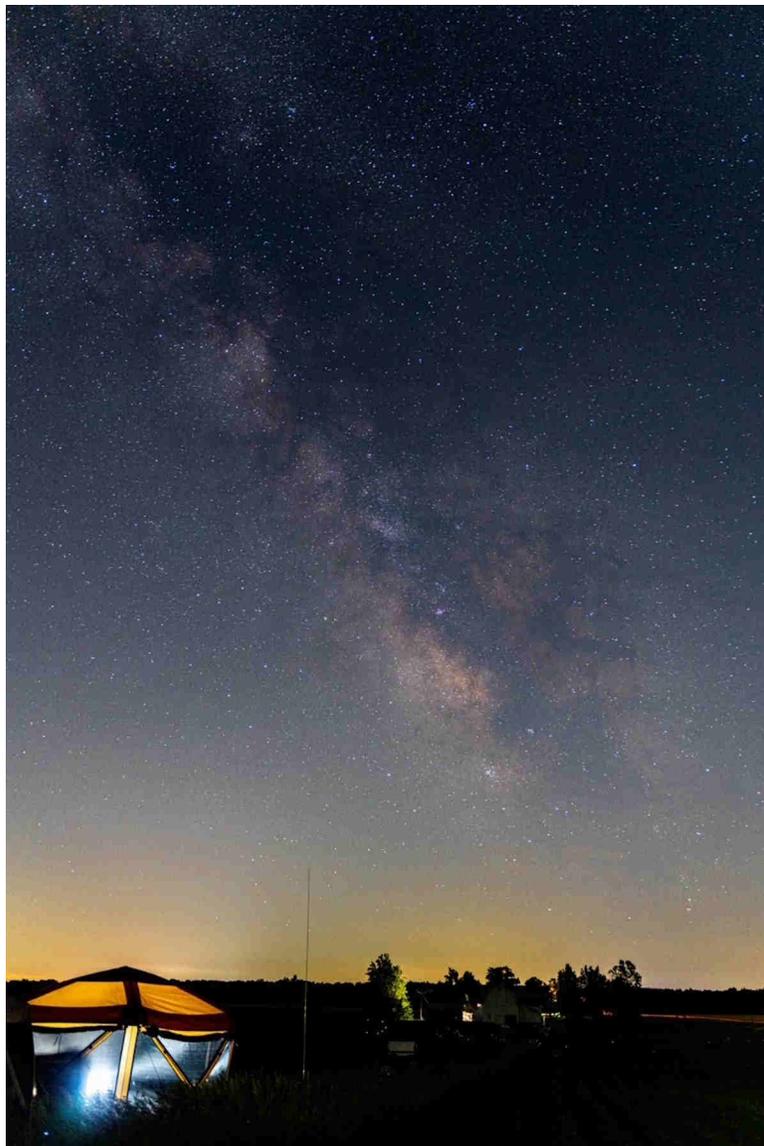
# W3A: A Few More

Photos courtesy of Tom Galante KB3NIX and (c)Copyright 2025 Terri Galante



# K8BSR Field Day

Photos courtesy of and (c)  
Copyright 2025 Curtis Turner  
KB3CMT



Upper St. Clair, PA, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – We ran as K8BSR 7A OH.  
Starting Saturday off, Kerry KB3KLT upgraded to General!

We then operated from a club members extended family farm where we could split ops out into 2 locations about 800' apart. We had our voice and CW ops on the south end and our digital ops on the north end.

We ran a mix of the buddie hex on their 10m mast with a triplexer and filters for 10,15,20 and wires and filters for 40 and 80. Our digital guys ran 1/4 wave verticals for every band 6 to 40.

On Sunday with the 2 and 6m openings we quickly put up a log periodic for 2m and an elevated vertical on 6m.



**ARRL FIELD DAY**

**RADIO CONNECTS**

**FDY25**

**JUNE 28-29**

Paul Lusardi NØVLR reported that his club in OR, the Peak Radio Association W7PRA, also had a great Field Day.

We asked him for any pictures of him operating... a radio, that is, since he was their Head Chef this year, but he reported back that while he made a handful of contacts, the weekend was "a blur".



# Using the C-Match Antenna at Field Day (and Beyond)

Larry Comden K3VX  
Bill Hill W3WH

Pittsburgh, PA and Canonsburg, PA, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – The C-Match Antenna consists of a vertical radiator for the chosen band, a box with two variable capacitors and 12 radial wires (4 groups of 3 wires each). The radiator is longer than the usual ¼ wavelength for the band. Adjusting the two capacitors while monitoring the SWR with an analyzer brings the SWR to under 1.5.

We decided to use this antenna on 20M CW. The vertical wire was hung from a tree limb and the radials were connected to the box and spread-out on the ground as evenly as possible.

Setup time 15 minutes, teardown even shorter.

So how did it work? We ran 80 watts and essentially worked everyone we could hear. It was definitely a Search and Pounce antenna, not a RUN antenna. The treat for me was working all the audible west coast stations at 10 PM.

This antenna system seems ideal for POTA, because of the easy setup and tuning. The complete kit, as supplied by K7NM, has radiators for 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20M. It all fits in a gallon zip bag.

We will also try to use this on 40M (much longer wires required) and report the results.



A very heartfelt “welcome back!” to Max KO4EZO, who joined us again this year for Field Day.

Max is not only an experience operator, as anyone observing him could see... but now holds a General license!

Congratulations Max, and hope to see you again for years to come!

Photo courtesy of and (c) Copyright 2025 Carol Danko KB3GMN

Manassas, VA, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Recently visited Boston, MA. Toured Fenway Park.

During the tour we were informed there is morse code in the “Green Monster” scoreboard. In the photo look between the E and P to the left of the American League area. Also, look between the R and P in the American League area.

Vertical white lines with morse code. The morse code are the initials of the owners, Tom and Jean Yawkey, of the Red Sox from 1933 until 1992.



— Kraig Krist KG4LAC

# New Application for Commercial Satellite Services in the 430-440 MHz Band

Thanks to Richard Di Donna NN3W for the link to the FCC Public Notice

Washington, DC, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 -- This one could get interesting... <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10620346210147> and <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-532A1.pdf>

AST & Science, LLC has filed for a modification of AST’s current license for five satellites, and seeks authority to operate a constellation of a total of 248 low-earth orbit (LEO) non-geostationary orbit (NGSO) satellites. Among the frequency bands requested in the application (SB Docket 25-201) are the 430-440 MHz band for both Earth-to-Space and Space-To-Earth links. They have also requested authority to use 902-960 MHz.

The Space Bureau has accepted the application for filing for Telemetry, Tracking and Telecommand (TT&C) in the 430-440 MHz band, as well as 2200-2290 MHz (Space-to-Earth) and 45.5 – 47 GHz (Earth-to-Space) bands.

More information at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10620346210147> and <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-532A1.pdf>

Interested parties may file comments on or before July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025; reply comments may be filed on or before August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Comments and petitions regarding this application should be filed in both the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System, and in International Communications Filing System, under the appropriate file number, 47 CFR 25.254. All filings must refer to SB Docket No. 24-201 and ICFS File No. SAT-MOD-20250612-00145.



AST SpaceMobile, a business combination of New Providence and AST & Science LLC, is based in Midland, TX. They seek to build a “Space 5G Cellular Broadband” global network. According to their entry in Wikipedia, their BlueWalker3 prototype and BlueBird commercial satellites are among the largest commercial communications arrays in Low Earth orbit

# DX News Briefs & Announcements



**JD1BMH** is QRV through 4 July from Chichijima, Ogasawara, 80 – 10, CW SSB and RTTY. More information at <http://ss381094.stars.ne.jp> QSL via JG7PSJ direct.

**V31HT** is QRV through 4 July from Ambergris Caye Island (NA-073), 20 -15, primarily SSB. QSL via G4LHT

**TC0MAR** is QRV through 5 July from Marmara Island (AS-201), 30 – 15. QSL via HA8LLH.

**TO0WWA** is QRV through 6 July from Reunion Island (**FR8UA** operator) during the World Wide Award Spring 2025. Also active in the WWA Spring 2025 through 6 July will be **CS2WWA** and **CR2WWA**. QSL all via LotW only.

**8R1TM** is QRV through 8 July, HF, CW SSB and Digital. QSL via PY1SAD.

**FP/KV1J** is QRV through 14 July, 80-6, CW SSB and FTi/FT4. More information at <http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July25.html> QSL via KV1J or ClubLog OQRS.

**HF81AK** is QRV through 31 to commemorate the Polish soldiers of the "Home Army and Peasant's Battalions" that fought during World War II. QSL via the Bureau or as directed.

**N6TQ/VY0** will be QRV for "the first two weeks of July." Their main focus will be to renovate the "Flashline Mars Arctic Research Station" as well as operate. CW SSB 10 15 20 and possibly 40. QSL via N6TQ or as directed.

**CN2DX** is QRV through 30 August, 40-6 including WARC, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via F5LRL.

**T30TTT** is QRV through September, after arriving on 7 June. The Rebel DX Group indicates that activity will be between work, meetings, and other non-Amateur Radio activities. The activity will also be affected by power cuts during the (local) day. QSL via LotW or ClubLog OQRS.

From 2 – 27 July, the European's Football Championship (UEFA Woman's Euro Switzerland 2025) will be held at 8 different locations. USKA Radiosports will honor this event with operations from each location throughout July on as many bands as possible. The calls include **HB2025BA**, **HB2025BE**, **HB2025GE**, **HB2025ZH**, **HB2025SG**, **HB2025LU**, **HB2025SI**, and **HB2025TH**. A certificate will be offered for anyone working all 8 stations on 3 different bands each; send your log extract by the end of December 2025 to [traffic@uska.ch](mailto:traffic@uska.ch). QSL via LotW only.

**SN92LOT** will be QRV 1 – 31 July to commemorate the 92<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the transatlantic flight by two Lithuanian pilots, that ended tragically in Poland. QSL as directed.

**TM25TDF** will be QRV starting 2 July for the penultimate stage of the Tour de France. QSL via F5KMY.

**ZD7TIM** will be QRV 5 – 13 July from Saint Helena Island (AF-022), 40-6 (possibly 6), CW SSB and RTTY. He will be active in the IARU HF Championship. QSL via N0UI.

**TY5FR** will be QRV 8 July – 6 August, 80-10, CW and SSB. QSL via DL1BUG

**5B/WJ20** will be QRV 10 – 15 July, including the RSGB IOTA Contest. QSL via N2ZN

**Z60HQ** will be QRV 12-13 July for the IARU HF Championship. There may also be some amateur activity on 11 July from **Z66X**. QSL both calls via DL3DXX.

**HQ9HC** will be QRV 14 – 20 July from the Island of Roatan (NA-057). More information to be released.

**JW0V** will be QRV 14 – 23 July, 160-6, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via I8KHC or OQRS

**RI0CR** will be QRV 15 – 20 July from the Sea of Okhotsk Coast South (AS-114). More information at <https://robinsons.ru/ri0cr/> QSL via RZ3EC

**SV5/WJ20** will be QRV 16 – 19 July. QSL via N2ZN

**OH0/DL4XT** will be QRV 17 – 24 July, 40 20 15 & 10, CW and SSB; no digital. QSL via DL4XT, LotW or ClubLog

**8Q7YY** will be QRV 17 – 25 July from Rakeedhoo Island (AS-013), 10 – 6, possibly 40, mainly SSB with some FT8. QSL via LotW; note that no QSL cards are currently planned.

**OJ0D** will be QRV 19 – 21 July from Market Reef. QSL via OG7D.

**3D2XD** will be QRV 22 – 25 July from Fiji. QSL via OM2DX.

**XM2I** will be QRV from Ile-aux-Coudres, QC (NA-128) 24 – 27 July for the RSGB IOTA Contest. They will also be QRV during the IARU HF Word Championship (12 July), the NA QSO Party (RTTY 19 July, CW 2 August) and WAE DX CW (9 August); these will NOT be from NA-128, however. All QSOs will be uploaded to LotW on 15 August. QSL via F5JYD

**A32DX** will be QRV 25 – 30 July from Tonga. QSL via OM2DX.

**5J0TT** will be QRV from Teirra Bomba Island (SA-040) during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 26 – 27 July. QSL via HK1J or as directed.

**GI7M** will be QRV from the Island or Rathlin (EU-122) during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 26 – 27 July. More information at <https://7mcontestgroup.com>. QSL as directed.

**J48K** will be QRV from Kastos Island (EU-052) during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 26 – 27 July. QSL via SV2JAO

**OG1N** will be QRV from Houtskaaer Island (EU-096) during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 26 – 27 July. QSL via OH2TA

**PA2G** will be QRV from Schouwen-Duiveland (EU-146) during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 26 – 27 July. QSL via LotW or as directed.

**TF/F5TGR** will be QRV 26 July – 9 August, 40-10, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via ClubLog OQRS

## QSL Routes

3D2XD via OM2DX	IQ5PJ via IU5RTR
4L8A via M0OXO	IQ5VK via IZ5MMH
5P0T via 5P7DR	IQ8DO via IW8EAS
5Q5W via DL2SWW	J79BH via FM5BH
5X1XA via G3SWH	K7C via W7AIA
5Z4VJ via M0URX	KH0N via JA6CNL
6D5C via XE1H	LZ73TRC via LZ1YE
7Q5MLV via M0URX	LZ8A via LZ2KTS
7X2RF via EA7FTR	MJ/OP2D via M0URX
9A130AC via 9A0HRS	MJ5CKM/P via M0URX
A22NEW via EA7FTR	N1S via K3LBD
A32DX via OM2DX	N5E via KE5BZE
A71AT via EA7FTR	OE25ROBOT via
A71QQ via M0OXO	OE4RUK
A91PSD via EC6DX	OG3E via OH3CBT
AM25AL via EA1CW	OH0Z via W0MM
AO40PA via EA5RCZ	OH3/HB9GIH via
AO5APA via EA5GTU	DL3BBW
C30P via C37URA	OR7T via ON7YD
CT7ABA via DK0MM	OT1X via ON4DXL
DA1000R0D via DK1BU	OY/K4LT via WB2REM
DB1250EB via DL8ARJ	PA/OR5R/P via ON4LO
DC0NORRIS via DB4SCW	PA12BBQ via PD2E
DF0GSN via DL3EI	PA40MARAC via
DK0HN via DJ6VX	PA3CNI
DL0SWG via DJ9BX	PB100TT via PB7Z
DL0LC via DG1NPM	PI35COM via PA1AW
DL0ZZ via DH0YAH	S01WS via EA2JG
DL100DM via DL8FA	SC90SM via SK5SM
DL24BELT via DJ3XM	SK0TM via SM0BYD
DK0ZB via DK8QY	SN0LED via SP30L
DM0E via DG1HXJ	SN110BG via SP9PEE
DM0LLMES via DB5ZF	SO55K via SP5FKW
DM800KM via DL8DSL	SP0FENNEC via
DP4K via DL80BQ	SP0FEN
ED5R via EA5Z	TF1A via EB7DX
EG100TSN via EA7URG	TM120CGB via F5KDC
EG2ESF via EA2CNA	TM17KUQ via F6KUQ
EG3PTM via EA3RCI	TM24H via F6KFI
EG40URO via EA1URO	TM5PH via F1GGS
EG5HSJ via EA5RKB	TM5RE via F2VX
EG75V via EA7URG	TM50REF via F5NXX
EG8IC via EA8TK	TM61TC via F4HAQ
EH5LGBT via EA5JMW	TM6DDAY via F6KZC
EX0DX via HB9DUR	TM7M via F1UVN
EZ/DL7ZM via DL7ZM	TY5FR via DL1BUG
G1V via G4CZP	TX5U via F6EXV
G8X via G4FJK	V51DM via DK3ZL
GB0PLM via G3WKF	VB2MMQC via VE20V
GB70RS via GB2RS	W2C via W2PE
GB2SF via G0UOI	W2T via W2PE
GS8VL via M0OXO	W7B via KA7UMR
H25A via LZ3SM	XE3N via EA5GL
HF100WSR via SP4LVK	XM2I via F5JYD
HF6W via SP2BWU	YR70KAK via Y04KAK
HG5D via HA8QZ	Z32C via N3CZ
HI3SD via EC6DX	Z60HA via DL3DXX
HI8K via EB7DX	Z66X via DL3DXX
HS0ZJF via ON4AFU	ZP6WX via OK2WX
II0GDF/9 via IZ7PMQ	ZS1EKK via M0OXO
II2NS via IQ1GE	ZW115CEB via PY1JR
II5IABJ via IQ5LI	
IM0/I5JVA via IK2WAD	

Continued  
on Page 19

Thanks to DL1SBF, KB8NW, NG3K, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, DX Coffee, DX World.Net, ICPO Bulletin OPDX Bulletin and 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.

# DX News Briefs & Announcements

Continued from Page 18

- 3B9SP** will be QRV from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) 28 July – 1 August, 40 – 6, CW SSB RTTY FT8 and maybe some RTTY. QSL via DK6SP.
- The Caracas DX Group has announced that the planned expedition to Isla Chimán Segunda (SA-090) as **YW6M** has been **cancelled**. They were not able to obtain the necessary authorization from the “competent authorities” to land and operate from the island.
- HL8ØV** will be QRV 1 – 30 August to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Korea’s National Liberation Day. QSL via the Korea Amateur Radio League (KARL)
- JD1BRC** will be QRV from 2-8 August from Chichi-Jima Ogasawara, primarily CW. QSL via JH7CSU.
- TO3K** will be QRV from Mayotte (AF-027) 2-10 August, 80-6, CW SSB and FT8/FT4. More information at <https://italiandxpedition.altervista.org/to3k-mayotte-island-af-27/> QSL via IV3JVJ
- E51KEE** will be QRV 3 – 18 August from Rarotonga Island (OC-013), holiday style, 40 – 10, CW and SSB. QSL via IK2DUW or ClubLog OQRS.
- TC88YL** will be QRV from the TC2E Contest station 16-17 August to commemorate the TA-YL event. QSL via ClubLog
- TG4/KT8X** will be QRV 16 – 23 August. QSL via KT8X.
- SV5/N3JWJ** will be QRV 17 July – 25 August from Dodecanese Island (EU-001), FT8. QSL via LotW or ClubLog; NO QSL cards are being offered.
- 3G1P** will be QRV from Ilotes Pajaros (SA-100) 18 – 23 August. More information at <https://3g1p-sa-100.weebly.com> . QSL via VE3LYC or ClubLog OQRS.
- E44OM** is scheduled to be QRV during September, from the West Bank. More information will be at <https://facebook.com/e44om>. QSL via OM2DX.
- PJ7K** will be QRV 12 – 22 September, 160-6, CW SSB RTTY and FT8. QSL via OK6DJ or ClubLog OQRS.
- PYØFB** will be QRV 8 – 15 October from Fernando De Noronha, 80 – 10, SSB and some FT8/FT4. QSL via PY2DV. They will also be QRV on EME as **PYØFBS**; QSL via LotW
- PJ6Y** will be QRV 16 – 30 October, including the CQ WW DX SSB contest, 160 - 6. They will utilize two separate sites, roughly half a mile apart, and employ three local stations as well as two NexGenRiB2 remote stations. The remote stations will be manned by a team of 30 – 40 young operators. QSL route not announced. More information at [pi6y2025.com](http://pi6y2025.com)
- PJ6Y** will be QRV 25-26 October for the CQ WW DX Contest SSB, operating as Multi/2. QSL via F5VHJ
- Members of the DX Obsess Group will be QRV as **FW5K** (OC-054) 20 October – 7 November, 160-6, CW SSB RTTY and FT8/4. There will be a minimum of 3 stations with amplifiers. They will be active during the CQ WW DX SSB contest. More information at <https://www.dxobsessed.org/home>. QSL via direct (route not provided) or via OQRS; Logs will be uploaded to LotW 6 months after the end of the DXpedition. No bureau cards will be answered.
- A team of youth operators will be QRV as **NP2R** 20-22 October, and then as **VP2VRX** will be QRV 23-28 October, including the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. More information at <https://vp2vr.com>. QSL via N4XTT.
- EK8A** will be QRV 25-26 October during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. Outside of the contest, he will be QRV as **EK/OK1DTP**. QSL via EK6SS
- T88TH** will be QRV 23 – 29 October from OC-009, including the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. QSL via JR1GSE
- T88DT** will be QRV 24 – 30 October from OC-009, including the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. QSL via JH1OLB.
- TY5GG** will be QRV from November 2025 through April 2026. QSL via F5RAV
- T88HR** will be QRV 1 – 6 November, 75 – 19, SSB RTTY and FT8/4. QSL via JH1MLO. Note that there will be no eQSL or LotW uploads.
- T88TJ** will be QRV 1 – 6 November, 40 – 6, SSB RTTY and FT8/4. QSL via JR1FKR. LotW upload after his return.
- JA1XGI had planned to be QRV as **TX9XG** from Ahe Atoll (OC-131) 30 November – 6 December; he has announced on his QRZ.COM page that :this program may be cancelled due to sanitary problems with the accommodations.”
- TG9/AF4CZ** will be QRV 7 December – 5 January, rescheduled from June to July. 40 – 10, mainly FT8/FT4 with some SSB. QSL via LotW, eQSL and ClubLog.
- T88SM** and **T88XE** will be QRV from Koror Island (OC-009) 7 – 15 January 2026. More information pending.

## W3A Media Coverage: We Made The Front Page!

### 'A great hobby'



### Ham radio enthusiasts gear up for field day



The WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS made the Front Page of the June 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the South Hills community newspaper, *the Almanac*, including several pictures of club members “in action” at past Field Day operations. (Picture Left)

If you didn't get to see it, no worries... the entire issue is available online at [https://issuu.com/observer-reporter/docs/the\\_almanac\\_-\\_june\\_22\\_2025](https://issuu.com/observer-reporter/docs/the_almanac_-_june_22_2025)

Our friends in WACOM got their coverage in the June 30<sup>th</sup> edition of the Washington *Observer-Reporter*. Read the article here at <https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2025/jun/30/ham-radio-operators-have-a-field-day/> (Picture center, courtesy Bill Steffy NY9H)

### HAVING A FIELD DAY

Some of the members of the Washington Amateur Communications (WACOM) gathered Saturday to take part in the annual American Radio Relay League's Summer Field Day at Mingo Creek County Park. From left are Bill Steffy, Joe Caldwell, Alex Danton, Rich Scoggin, Mike Lacroix, Josh Odom and Mike Christensen.

Ham radio operators practice, share skills

WACOM is participating in the 2025 AARRL Field Day, an annual 24-hour event where “hams” gather to practice their emergency communication skills, and teach visitors about the importance of their radio operations.

WACOM set up a temporary station for the event and invited the public to learn what it takes to operate a ham radio – a lifeline during disasters, where traditional cell phone or landline service fails.

Bill Steffy of the Washington Amateur Communications (WACOM) stands by a cobweb antenna set up by WACOM on Saturday at the AARRL Summer Field Day, an annual exercise that combines emergency preparedness with community outreach.

See Photo, Page A2

**ARRL FIELD DAY**

**RADIO CONNECTS**

**FDY25**

**JUNE 28-29**

And not to be outdone, the North Hills ARC snagged coverage in the Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*. Read the article here at <https://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2025/06/28/amateur-radio-hobbyists-u-s-canada-pittsburgh/stories/202506280056> (You may need to be a subscriber to read this article)

We know that many other area clubs had media coverage as well, but no other links were available to us by deadline. Job well done to everyone who were able to successfully contact the media!

# SOMERSET COUNTY ARC HAMFEST

Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GABFEST

Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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>



# 2025 SKYVIEW SWAP 'N' SHOP

Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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

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



# Butler County ARA Swapfest 2025

Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 8:00 AM—1:00 PM

Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters

## Unionville Volunteer Fire Department

102 Mahood Road (at Route 8 North), Butler, PA 16001

Talk-in on 147.360 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.w3udx.org>





# WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the **WASHRag**. Condition as stated, and all sales should be considered "as-is" unless otherwise noted. All subject to prior sale or withdrawal from sale at the owner's discretion. All responsibility for this information lies with the source and not the **WASHRag** or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

## HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.

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Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201  
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Fax: (412) 746-5944

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



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

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

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

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

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

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





**Morgan Heller**  
Mobile IV Nurse

☎ 412.706.2705

📧 @revive\_morgan

**For Sale:** Excess to my needs:

- West Mountain Radio Rigblaster Plus - I bought it used - I never used it. Excellent condition. Asking \$60 or best offer. See [http://www.westmountainradio.com/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=plus\\_comp\\_usb](http://www.westmountainradio.com/product_info.php?products_id=plus_comp_usb)
- Two Kam Plus TNC's - comes with manuals - updated firmware - worked the last time I used them. Cabled for Icom DIN Plug. Best offer.
- Signal Link USB interface - Optional SLMOD13I installed. SLMOD6PM module available also. Never used it. Bought as a backup unit but sold the radio shortly afterwards. Asking \$75
- Signal Link USB Interface - optional SLMOD8PD installed. Like new. Asking \$100. Signal Link Module Info at <https://tigertronics.com/slmodules.htm>

Contact Mark Stabryla N3RDV [n3rdv at arrl dot net](mailto:n3rdv@arrl.net)

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

Just send an email to [w3wn@n3sh.org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org) & we will take care of the rest!

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**



# FCC News

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 – ARRL reports that early in the morning, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, the US House of Representatives passed a massive Reconciliation bill with the below spectrum provisions relevant to Amateur Radio.

- Within two years not less than 600 megahertz must be identified **from between 1.3 and 10 GHz** for reallocation to commercial use for broadband services.
- The identified spectrum must be auctioned by the FCC for such services on an exclusive, licensed basis as follows: not less than 200 megahertz within three years (mid-2028) and the remaining spectrum (at least 400 megahertz) within six years (mid-2031).
- **Excluded** from spectrum that could be reallocated for these purposes is **3.1 – 3.45 GHz (which includes the temporary secondary Amateur band at 3.300 – 3.450 GHz)** and 5.925 – 7.125 GHz.

With regard to Amateur spectrum, the bands that potentially could be subject to consideration for reallocation under this legislation are 13 cm (2300 – 2310 & 2390 – 2450 MHz) and 5 cm (5650 – 5925 MHz). At this time a number of bands have been mentioned informally for consideration, none of which include Amateur spectrum. But the bands under consideration could change and ARRL will closely monitor the evolving situation.

Additionally, some government operations may be required to consolidate in current Amateur secondary spectrum that is already shared with those government uses. In select instances this might constrain Amateur operations if such consolidation occurs.

It is to be emphasized that these provisions have been passed by the House, but key US Senators have not agreed to some aspects and have stated their intention to modify these provisions as the bill moves through Senate consideration. The stated goal for final enactment is by July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**For Sale:** HF Signals uBITX v4.0 QRP Transceiver. Includes microphone and "official" (plastic) case. 80—10 meters, 5 W output, CW SSB & Digital. Unit is assembled!

Purchased from the original owner, lightly used since then, and will be gathering dust now that I own an xBITX.

\$85 plus shipping. Contact Ron W3WN [w3wn at arrl dot net](mailto:w3wn@arrl.net)

### US Amateurs by Class as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025:

Novice	6,052	0.721%
Technician	418,674	49.74%
General	203,456	24.23%
Advanced	33,486	3.987%
Extra	166,945	19.88%
Club	12,175	1.450%
<b>Total</b>	<b>839,788</b>	

Information courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com), based on FCC ULS Data .

### PA Amateurs by Class as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025:

Novice	281	1.052%
Technician	11,837	44.33%
General	6,818	25.53%
Advanced	1,328	4.9729%
Extra	6,008	22.50%
Club	433	1.621%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,705</b>	

Information courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com), based on FCC ULS Data

### Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025:

Group A	AC3PG
Group B	KF3EW
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KD3BMZ

Information courtesy of [AE7Q.com](http://AE7Q.com), based on FCC ULS Data



# WASHfest 2026

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

Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 [n3sbf@comcast.net](mailto:n3sbf@comcast.net)

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

**Please Note:** Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

Reservations received after February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance fifteen 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 2026**  
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN  
4246 Seton Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

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



# K1NSS DESIGN

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k1nss@dashtoons.com



# Meeting Minutes

Continued from Page 4

- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Bill (W3WH) chairing radio team. Glen (KE7FD) - Grant willing to lend his 7300. Eric (K3SGT) - Will meet Grant to pick up his radio.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Radio owners to bring all accessories including ground wire. Frank (N3FB) bringing ground rods. Jim will take care of generator and grounding connections.
- \* Bill (W3WH) - Suggest bringing 15 feet of wire for ground. Jim and Larry also may have spare wire.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Do we have an overnight permit? Nathan (KC3GMM) - Letter sent but no response. Will reach out to Andy Grobe.
- \* Eric (K3SGT) - Dave has a computer for digital. Will work out with him and Jeff which computer to use.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Who can get the callsign? Bill (W3WH) - Can get the call. What would we prefer? Jim (WB4GCS) - W3A.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - GOTA station? Tom (KB3NIX) - Will reach out to Curtis.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Need a few folks to help with the tower. Will have a sign-in sheet. Suggest wearing a previous years Field Day shirt. Take lots of pictures. No tuners. Do we have any tents? Need hand sanitizer and paper towels.
- \* Bob (N3RDG) - Can bring 100' #12 extension cord and tent
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Recited planned schedule for the weekend.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - Has previous year scores provided by Frank (N3FB)
- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - We need somebody to stay on site Saturday night if we're not operating. Overnight crew: Ron (W3WN), Mark (N3RDV), Bob (N3RDG)
- \* Bob (NU3Q) - Suggest going to ARRL site for Field Day material. Mike (N3TDV) will be visiting on behalf for ARES

## New Business:

- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - July meeting scheduled for the 3rd via Zoom. Club does not have a Zoom account and the free account is limited to 40 minutes. Will ask Curtis if we can borrow his Zoom account.
- \* Jim (WB4GCS) - If no Zoom account, we can meet on the repeater.

## Old Business: No old business

## Good of the order:

- \* Ron (W3WN) - HF Signals has some new fully assembled radios. Has an xbitx with him if you'd like to see it.
- \* Tom (KB3NIX) - Will not be able to be president next term.
- \* Glen (KE7FD) - Metal clock face available for free from KB3GUZ that could be used as an antenna ground with SO239 connector already installed.
- \* Bob (NU3Q) - New distracted driving law goes into effect today.
- \* Nathan (KC3GMM) - Breezeshooters hamfest tickets available

**Motion to Adjourn** by Bill (W3WH), second by Carol (KB3GMN). Voted and carried. Adjourned at 8:02 PM 6/5/2025

## The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
 Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor  
 3395 Rosewood Drive  
 Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH  
 NP2SH/B

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

