



WASHRAG™

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VOLUME 27 ISSUE 08
AUGUST 2025

Wireless Association of South Hills

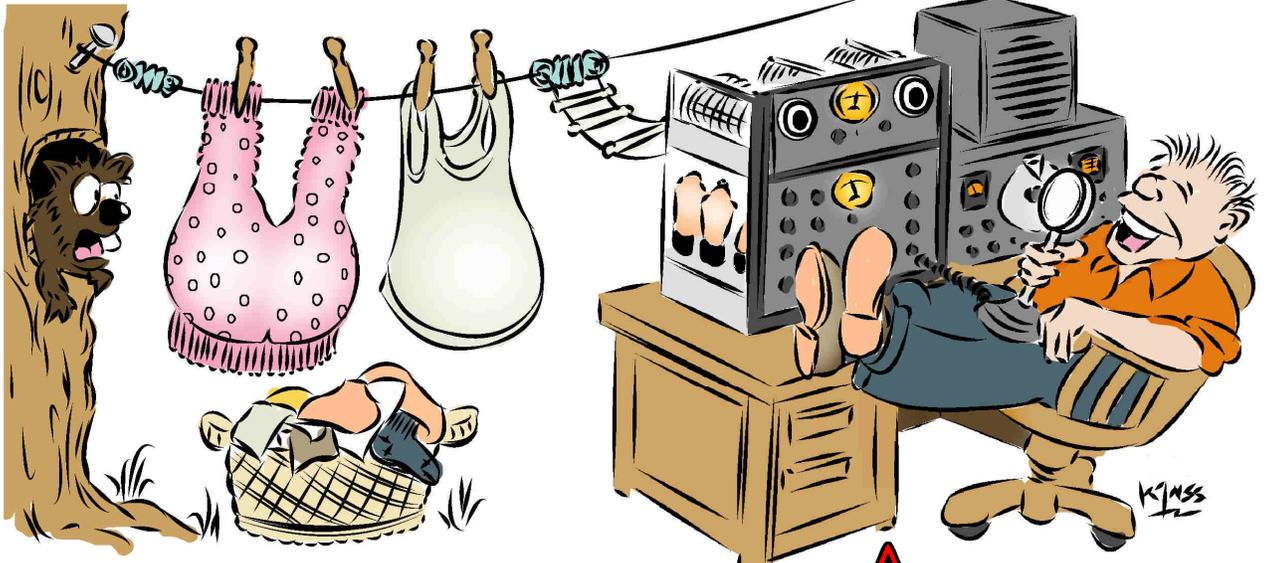


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Wireless Association of South Hills



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Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, August 7th, 2025

The next scheduled meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, August 7th, 2025**, starting at 7 PM, 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.

Meeting topics include Pa QSO 2025, other plans for 2025, and more to come.

Cover: Max KO4EZO, operating W3A Field Day 2025 on Saturday evening. Photo courtesy & © Copyright 2025 Jim Sanford WB4GCS

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
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VE Team Liaison	Grant Olson KC3MLC
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Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
WASHFest 2026 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 2026 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 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 **Sunday, February 23rd, 2025, 10:00 AM**, at the **Home Economics Building, South Park, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, WASHFest 2025**. Talk-in on the MHz repeater. All examiners are VEC affiliated. **146.955 ARRL**

TESTSESSIONS FOR THE REST OF 2025 TO BE SCHEDULED

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



First, let me thank everyone for their participation in this year's Field Day activities. We had a good turn out, and I also want to mention the great feedback that we got, regarding our Field Day lessons learned net which was held on July 3rd.

Please try to be at the meeting on Thursday. I think we should have a robust discussion regarding the lessons learned from this year's Field Day. Hopefully we can apply them to next year's event. In addition, we should look at our plans for future events during the balance of this year.

Hope to see everyone on Thursday at the club meeting.

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

Reminder:

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

Saturday, July 26th was the start of another hot but gorgeous summer day. Nice day for a hamfest, or a POTA operation, or just to enjoy the outdoors... but first, the monthly gathering of the **WASH Breakfast Gang** gathered at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. This month saw the likes of WB4GCS and his grandson Gage, N3FB, KB3GMU, K3SGT and Barg, N3IDH and Gerry, and W3WN. Amongst the talk around the table were repeater coordination, AC repairs to VWs, moving to WPA, plunging into the pool after a run, what's up with the new airport, dog behavior, FedEx Ground problems, "what type of music do you like?", teaching after retirement, developments at the Philadelphia Naval Yard now that it's being sold, visiting the Battleship New Jersey in Camden, and a heck of a lot more.

We get together again on Saturday, August 30th, at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD, July 26th**. See you there!

Since our **July meeting** was **on the air**, and primarily a Field Day wrap-up and brainstorming session, the June Meeting Minutes (as our last formal meeting) remain in the newsletter. Just so you know it wasn't an oversight!

We had planned to include Tom's summary of the Field Day wrap-up in this month's newsletter, but Tom has run into some technical difficulties. He will be bringing his notes to the meeting, and we should have something about them in the next newsletter.

Larry K3VX had already **reserved two pavilions for FD 2026**... Babcock and Sunset Hills. Since the consensus appears to be that most members prefer Sunset Hill, Larry has proposed that we change the Babcock reservation for a **WASH Family Picnic** to be held on **Saturday, September 13th**. We do need to have a formal vote on the issue, even though many responding on the email reflector think it's a good idea. Something else to discuss at this month's meeting.

Have you read **September QST** yet? (Ye Editor has not, BTW). An interesting comment on the **September editorial** was made by a friend of one of our members (I do not have his permission to quote him, thus he is remaining unnamed.) "**On another issue, do read CEO Minster's editorial in September QST. Note that he characterizes ARRL as a corporation, no longer a membership organization. This moves ARRL toward full control by Minster-approved directors with no commitment to member's involvement on issues. In fact the rules severely limit directors' right to discuss important issues raised at board meetings with members.**" Ye editor has also communicated via email with a (currently) sitting Director (again, I do not have his permission to quote him) who anticipates that under the new rules, he will no longer be qualified to continue to serve... and may be forced to out as disqualified for not signing what is essentially a "loyalty oath." One has to wonder, how could a membership organization of over 100 years in existence by effectively hijacked and converted into a corporation that appears to be not for the membership, but for the benefit of the very Directors and Executives who appear to have approved this change. Incidentally, Ye Editor joined the ARRL in 1973 — but as a teenager, was forbidden by his father to get a Life Membership, saying that I'd never stick with it. 53 years later... and Ye Editor considering whether or not ARRL membership is worth the price of admission anymore... he's finally being proved right.

Did we run out of room to talk about **Pa QSO 2025**? Well, not quite, but there hasn't been a lot of news (yet) from The Usual Suspects in the club who go out every year and operate portable, activating semi-rare counties. Suffice to say that planning for these and many other operations are underway, and as we are sent news (Hint! Hint!) we will get it out to everyone, one way or another. Remember, that this is one of the big events for Pa hams, as a whole, every year; it always seems to get a little bit better, every year. And we are really looking forward to another great year! [Hmmm, Ye Editor wonders if his ex-brother-in-law would still permit us to operate from that QTH down in Greene County again, after all these years... well, he always did want to get licensed, so you never know...]

The 3YØK DXpedition Team is holding a "Raffle/Lottery" to raise funds towards their 2025 trip to Bouvet Island. All funds from the raffle/lottery will only be used to cover expenses of the DXpedition.

It runs through September 13th, and costs \$10 per ticket.

There are several major prizes donated, including an ICOM IC-7300.

More information at <https://3y0k.com/lottery/>

Tickets are available via PayPal by donating \$10 to lottery@3y0.no

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

Minutes, June 5th 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 21st 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 12th - 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 18

WASH Spotlight: TT



The Tower Trailer being delivered to W3A Field Day last month. (Yes, we didn't really have anything else to run this month!

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2025 Ron Notarius W3WN

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	KC3UUK	W8LEV	WASH FL	WASH TX	Silent Keys
AC3ML	KC3VQR	WA2YEZ	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
AC3WM	KC4WTT	WA3PYU	WASH NE	NB3C	
AC4KU	KE7FD	WA3VSS	NØPEU	KB3JIX	
AE3DL	N3DFK	WB4GCS	WASH OH	Jane Wagner	
K3GW	N3FB	Charmel	N8DPW	WASH VI	
K3OCT	N3IDH	Spirk	WASH OR	NP2JF	
K3VX	N3LV		KB3NVL	WASH VT	
K6DWR	N3NWR		KB3NVM	KE3XB	
KA3VXM	N3RDG		NØVLR		
KB3CMT	N3RDV		WASH SC		
KB3GMN	N3SBF		N8NEU		
KB3GMU	N3TBJ				
KB3GUZ	N3UE				
KB3IAC	NB3C				
KB3IVX	NL7XM				
KB3JHR	NU3Q				
KB3NIX	NY9H				
KB3YCX	W3LE				
KC3GMM	W3WH				
KC3NFV	W3WN				

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

Through August 1st, 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

August 7 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
August 9 th	75 th Annual W3PIE Gabfest	W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown PA 15401
August 24 th	Skyview Radio Society Swap & Shop	K3MJW Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068
August 30 th — 31 st	World Wide Digi DX Contest	https://ww-digi.com/rules/
September 4 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
September 6 th — 7 th	All Asian DX Contest SSB	https://www.jarl.org/English
September 7 th	Butler County ARA Swapfest	Unionville Fire Department, 102 Mahood Road (Pa Route 8), Butler PA 16001
September 13 th — 14 th	ARRL September VHF Contest	http://www.arrl.org
October 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
October 4 th — 5 th	60 th California QSO Party	https://www.cqp.org
October 11 th — 12 th	69 th Pennsylvania QSO Party	https://paqso.org
October 18 th	New York QSO Party	https://nyqp.org/wordpress/
October 25 th — 26 th	CQ World Wide DX Contest Phone	https://cqww.com
November 1 st — 3 rd	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 6 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 15 th — 17 th	ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	http://www.arrl.org
November 29 th — 30 th	CQ World Wide DX Contest CW	https://cqww.com
December 4 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
December 5 th — 7 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 13 th — 14 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 27 th — 28 th	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Boring Amateur Radio Club
December 31 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org

Review: HFSignals zBITX Transceiver

Richard P. Clem WØIS

Bottom Line: This little rig is an exceptional value, but it does have lots of idiosyncrasies.

St. Paul, MN, June 30th, 2025 — As I [mentioned previously](#), I recently acquired a [zBitX transceiver](#) from [HFSignals.com](#). It's made in India, and you can have one for \$200, which includes shipping.

The company is based in India, although they seem to be incorporated in Delaware, USA. This little radio is popular, and there is a waiting list. In my case, it took about four weeks to ship after my order. Once it was shipped, it took less than a week to get here via DHL. (Mine is number 4017.)

The radio is an exceptional value for the money, although it's probably not a good choice for your first radio or only radio. But even a few years ago, I never would have dreamed that I could have a complete HF station that fits in my pocket (albeit a rather large pocket). It covers 80-10 meters, and will work CW, SSB, AM, FT8, and other digital modes. What I find remarkable is that you can make FT8 contacts without any external hardware.

It's perfect for activities such as Parks On The Air (POTA). The image above is from Field Day, where over the course of about 2 hours, I worked about 20 contacts, most on CW, but one on SSB. (I could have worked a lot more on CW if I hadn't spent unfruitful time trying FT8). As with most QRP activities, CW gets through a lot better than SSB. And if you're planning on working SSB QRP (particularly when conditions aren't great), it can be an exercise in frustration. But the radio works on SSB, with the built-in microphone, and I've made two contacts, one on Field Day, and another during the West Virginia QSO Party.

Within about three weeks, I worked 35 states, and my best confirmed DX is Italy. I've used it mostly on FT8 and CW, although I have made those two SSB contacts (from Minnesota to West Virginia and New Hampshire). I don't have an external microphone, so I just talk into the radio. The built-in microphone is at the upper left corner of the radio.

The radio has only one knob, along with a touchscreen. It came with a fine-point stylus, which is extremely useful. You can use the type of stylus that you might normally use with your phone, although the fine point is helpful. Theoretically, it would work with your fingers, but that would be extremely difficult, given the small size of the screen and the large size of most hams' fingers.

Basically, you tap on the portion of the screen you want to change, and then use the knob to change it. So if you want to change frequency, you tap on the frequency, and start spinning the knob. It does take a little getting used to. For example, before turning the knob, you might need to adjust the steps, which can be from 10 Hz to 10 kHz. So to quickly change frequency, you can set the step to 10 kHz, and quickly go from one end of the band to the other. The most convenient setting overall is 500 Hz. To change the step, you click on that field, and then use the knob. But you need to remember to click again on the frequency display. So many times, I change the step, but forget to tap the frequency. So when I spin the knob, only the step changes.

General Coverage Receiver

The receiver covers 500 kHz to 30 MHz, and as far as I can tell, it will transmit wherever it receives. So you do need to be careful to stay inside the band. The limited testing I've done shown that it performs reasonably well as a receiver, so if you need to listen to the AM radio, the shortwave broadcast bands, or WWV, it will be adequate, although probably not a stellar performer. But one catch is that changing frequency can take a lot of time.

For example, if you want to listen to the AM broadcast band, you need to tune to the closest ham band, 80 meters. Then, you need to set the tuning step to 10 kHz, and start spinning the dial to get from 3500 kHz down to the top of the AM band at 1700 kHz. But you probably didn't buy the radio to listen to AM, so that shouldn't be a major concern.

Lack of Power Switch

One quirk about the radio is that it doesn't have any kind of power switch. To turn it off, you simply pull the power plug. That isn't a concern for a radio, but the computer purists out there will note that it's not a good idea to simply cut the power to a computer. And the zBitX is mostly a computer (a [Raspberry Pi](#)) with enough additional components to make it send and receive radio waves. So it's probably not the greatest way of doing things, but it seems to work. Every time I've plugged the power back in, it comes back to life (after almost a minute of booting up). When powered off, the radio maintains memory of the logbook, as well as your call, grid square, and settings. On one occasion, my call sign and grid disappeared when I powered the radio back up. I assume this is the result of the power-off sequence (or the lack of one). But other than that, I haven't experienced any problems.

Power Supply

The radio comes with a built-in battery holder on the side designed to hold two 18650 Li-ion batteries. I ordered [this four pack, which includes a charger](#), placing the order before the radio came. It turns out 18650 batteries come in two forms: a "flat-top" and a "button-top." The button-top looks kind of like a AA cell, in that the positive end has a little bump. The flat-top is flat on both sides. It turns out that, had I read the instructions, the flat-top was called for, and I ordered the wrong ones. However, the button-tops worked just fine, although it's a bit of a tight fit.

The button-top actually has an advantage, since it's obvious which side is positive. One thing you never want to do on this rig is hook the power supply up backwards. Apparently, there's a diode in the circuit to protect against this. But there's no fuse, so a trace on the circuit board leading to that diode is what would get fried. The takeaway is that **you never, never, want to get the polarity wrong!** When you're putting in batteries, check and double check.

In retrospect, I'm not sure if I would have bought these batteries. They last for about one hour of normal operation. Not only are you running the transmitter, but the internal computer is powered up the full time. Having built-in batteries is somewhat satisfying, since you have essentially a handie-talkie for 80 through 10 meters. But it's much more practical to run the radio from an external power supply. In my case, I use my [lead-acid fish finder battery](#), which allows operation for longer than I ever need it. **But the radio does not operate directly off 12 volts.** Instead, it's set up for 6-9 volts. Apparently, it will work with 12 volts, but it's not advised, because it will stress the voltage regulators inside. The radio gets very hot as it is, and it's probably not a good idea to add to this.

So to power the radio, I ordered [this inexpensive buck converter](#), which drops the 12 volts to 7.5 volts. The power connector on the radio is a 5.5 x 2.1 mm coaxial connector, and I [ordered this cable](#) to hook to the converter. Rounding out the installation, I ordered [this 12 volt cigarette lighter cord](#) to connect to the input of the converter. Once I had this set up, I haven't used the built-in batteries, although I guess that option is good to have. But some users might want to make the radio look a little more sleek by removing the battery holder.

Yes, the Receiver Picks up Noise from the Computer.

Other reviewers have noted that the receiver is subject to some noise from the computer (or quite likely, from the display). This does seem to be true. I haven't done any extensive testing, but the receiver seems to be less sensitive than other receivers, probably for this reason. But for a QRP rig, the receiver seems to be more than adequate.

In fact, the display noise is a bit of a feature, rather than a bug. When I select something on the touch screen, I can hear it ever so slightly in the receiver audio. So you get an audible confirmation that you touched the button.

Yes, the Radio Gets Hot.

As noted above, the radio goes through a set of batteries quite fast, and part of the reason is that it's generating a lot of heat. This seems



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zBITX Review

Continued from Page 6

particularly true when operating FT8, since it's transmitting 100% power 50% of the time. But even on other modes, the radio gets warm. Some users have come up with various heat sinks, although I haven't bothered. I have noticed that if you set the radio vertically, it doesn't get as warm. If it's laying flat, the back gets very warm, and having a little bit of airflow seems to make a big difference.

If you've ever had a long ragchew with a 2 meter handheld running 5 watts, you might notice that it also gets warm. While it's noticeable with the zBitX, I don't consider it troubling.

What You'll Need to Get Started

I ordered the batteries while the radio was still on the way, and I was able to get the radio on the air as soon as it arrived. The antenna connection is a BNC connector, so if your antenna has a PL-259, you'll need [this](#) (right).



As long as you have batteries and a way to hook up an antenna, you can get on the air immediately on FT8, CW, or SSB. (Of course, unless you plan on using the CW keyboard, you'll need a set of paddles.) However, to unlock other features, you'll need to use, at least temporarily, an [HDMI monitor](#), a [keyboard](#), and a [mouse](#). Surely, you can find those in your junkbox, but if not, the preceding links are to cheap but perfectly adequate versions at Amazon.

The radio has a mini-HDMI socket for the monitor, so if you already have an HDMI cable lying around, you will need [this adapter](#). If you don't have a cable, you can order [this one](#).

To plug in the mouse and keyboard, the radio has a USB-C connector. The radio comes with an adapter from USB-C to USB. (Apparently, some recent purchasers didn't get that adapter, so you might want to [get one on Amazon](#).) But there's only one socket on the radio, so you'll need a [USB splitter](#) to hook them up at the same time. I suspect that you could get along without this, because I think you could use the mouse, click where you need to, and then plug in the keyboard.

Operating Without Display, Keyboard, and Mouse

As noted above, the external devices are not necessary to get on the air. If you're like me, you can be on the air as soon as the radio arrives, as long as you have power and an antenna. You can use CW right away. A set of paddles is best, but you could do it with the on-screen keyboard and macros. FT8 requires no external hardware, and you can use SSB with the built-in microphone.

But there are a couple of setup tasks that are helpful and require connections to the external components. First of all, you will eventually need to set the time in the zBitX. This is done over the Internet. The radio comes pre-set from the factory, and when it arrived, the clock seemed to be close enough for FT-8 operation, which requires that the clock be within about one second. Interestingly, the hours and minutes were way off from the factory, but the seconds were accurate. But for the internal logbook to be accurate, you need the date, hours, and minutes. As soon as you connect to WiFi for the first time, it will automatically set the clock. I set it up with the home WiFi, but I also had it make the connection to my cell phone hotspot, so that I can use these features away from home.

Setting up the WiFi is also important for another reason. If you tire of the small screen on the zBitX, it's possible to connect to the radio via the web, and use your computer to operate it wirelessly. In order to do this, the device you are using must be connected to the same WiFi network as the zBitX. So connecting to WiFi is important if you want to use this feature in the future. Once you've connected to WiFi, this feature will be there and can be accessed whenever you want. But to do the initial setup, you'll need the peripherals hooked up.

The zBitX is capable of operating other digital modes (such as PSK31). But this can only be done with a monitor, keyboard, and mouse connected. So if you eventually want to use one of those modes (I haven't done so yet), you'll need those peripherals. With the peripherals attached, the radio is pre-loaded with the WSJT software, so if you prefer that over the stripped-down version (especially if you want to use other WSJT modes), you have that option.

It should also be noted that once you have the radio hooked up to monitor, mouse, and keyboard, it is a full-fledged computer. For example, it has a built-in web browser, and it should be able to run anything else a Raspberry Pi can run.

Also, the zBitX has a built-in log. FT8 contacts get logged automatically, and you can also add CW or phone contacts. I haven't taken full advantage of this, but when hooked up to a monitor, keyboard, and mouse, it's possible to download an ADIF file.

But 99% of the time, I use the radio by itself, and I used it for over a week before I was able to hook up the monitor.

The Screen is Really Small!

One thing that will come in very handy when using this radio is a [magnifying glass](#)! When you are operating without an external monitor on FT8, the display is tiny, and you might not be able to make out call signs. Having a magnifier handy really helps. Also, the display gets overwhelmed by sunlight, so you do need some shade for operating outdoors.

Miscellaneous Glitches

As noted above, the rig does have a lot of software glitches. Once you get used to them, you can work around them and they can be almost endearing, but they are there. Essentially, sometimes, you tell the software to do something, and it doesn't do it. Here are some of the the ones I've encountered.

The most annoying feature is that when you go from transmit to receive, it is not instantaneous. This seems to be the case on all modes. On CW, the break-in appears to be very fast, and you can hear the receiver as soon as you hit the last dit. But the receiver doesn't regain its sensitivity for almost a full second. For much operating, this isn't a big deal. But if you are contesting, the other station might have sent your full call sign in that short interval before the receiver comes to life. I don't consider this to be a major flaw, because in most of my operating (such as POTA activating and chasing), it really doesn't cause problems.

Another issue is the built-in keyer. Once the speed gets to a certain point, the onboard computer seems to be unable to keep up. So if you send an "H", you'll hold down the paddle for what you think is four dits, but the computer will generate three or five. I keep the keyer set to 15 WPM for this reason, even though normally, I would have it a bit faster. I think I could have it at 18 WPM, and it would work most of the time. But the keyer basically isn't usable over about 20 WPM. So if you're a speed demon, this rig might not be for you.

As far as I can tell, the CW keyboard works fine, and doesn't have any problem. (You do need to type in rhythm with the radio. If you get significantly ahead of the sending, it appears that some characters are lost.) The radio has a number of macros (such as CQ) pre-programmed, and you can use these from the screen. You can also enter text on the touchscreen, or use an external keyboard. Keyboard CW isn't my style, so I haven't tested this extensively. But it seems to work fine.

It does have a built-in code reader. According to the instructions, you need to set the code speed to match what's being sent. When it's set exactly right, the results are very good. But you will rarely have the speed set right. Because of the problems with the keyer, you can't really set it much about 15 WPM and expect to send. So it rarely decodes correctly.

Use for Emergency Grid-Down Communication

It's possible that if you had machine-sent code on both ends, you *might* be able to use the code reader for keyboard-to-keyboard QSO's. I haven't tested this, but it seems like a possibility. One potential application for this radio would be for someone who wants reliable emergency or grid-down communications between two points with just a Technician license. I think it would be possible to use two of these on 80, 40, or 15 meters, and with good conditions, I think reliable keyboard-to-keyboard CW might be possible.



Continued on Page 8

zBITX Review

Continued from Page 7

On the other hand, it would require quite a bit of practice to get it set up properly. In particular, I think there would need to be strong signals, and the code speed would need to be set identically on both units. You couldn't just put one of these in the "go bag" and expect to be able to start using it after a disaster. At a minimum, both stations would need to coordinate in advance to make sure both radios are set to the same speed. I think it would work, but no guarantees. I have made keyboard QSO's, but it does take some practice, since many of the functions don't seem to be documented particularly well. And even though I've done some sending by keyboard, I've copied by ear. Just learning Morse Code is probably easier than messing around with trying to do it automatically, but it probably is possible.

When the received code matches the set speed, it does appear to decode pretty much perfectly. But if the speed is not set correctly, then the display shows gibberish. So again, advance practice is absolutely necessary. But for most casual hamming, the code reader isn't particularly useful.

Another method of possible grid-down communication is with the use of FT8, which allows transmission of **very** short text messages under very marginal conditions. The FT8 protocol allows messages of up to 13 characters. If you just want to tell someone you are safe, or let them know a location where you want to meet, this can be more than adequate.

I haven't experimented with whether it's possible to enter such messages without hooking up an external monitor. However, it is quite simple to enter two elements of the message without any external hardware: The call sign, and the 4-digit grid square. I attempted some contacts on Field Day with FT8, and as can be shown from the map here (right), I was getting out, although not as well as I do at home. I didn't manage any actual QSO's on FT8, as after trying for a while, I went back to CW where it was much more productive.



But even off the shelf, you can send messages of up to about 8 characters (using a designator after your call and changing the grid square), certainly enough to let a pre-arranged contact know that you are OK.

It should be noted that use of FT8 (other than on 10 meters) requires at least a General Class license. But if you're going to all the trouble of doing this, learning the material for an additional 35 test questions isn't much to ask. (We should note that while it may or may not be true that you don't need a license after "TSHTF," you definitely do need a license before that day. And if you expect to use a radio like this to communicate even somewhat reliably, you will need to get a lot of practice, and that practice needs to happen long before anything hits any fan.)

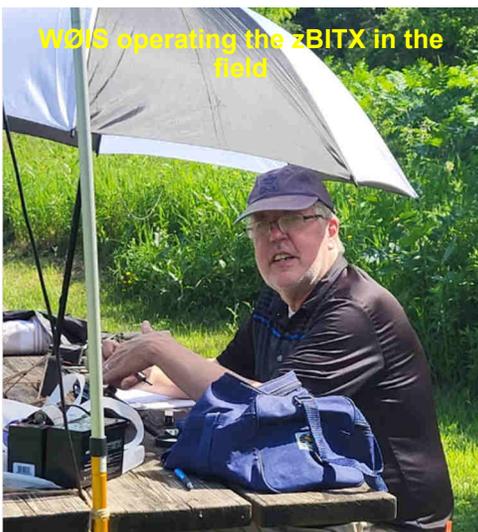
It should also be noted that FCC rules prohibit the use of "messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning." So you're not allowed to send secret message in your transmissions. But there's nothing inherently wrong about sending a short message, one word at a time. So a radio like this, with a simple antenna, could be a very reliable method of short messages without any additional hardware.

Software Glitches

The software occasionally simply fails to do what you want it to do. For example, if you shift modes to CW, the display might still be showing that it's set up for SSB. When this happens, you can simply try again, and it seems to fix itself. For example, if I go from FT8 to CW, the display might be showing a display relevant for SSB. When this happens, I select another mode (for example, FT8 again), and then try again going to CW. Invariably, the problem corrects itself.

These little glitches don't seem to be consistent, but there is one glitch that always seems to happen. When I get on the air, I often like to start on the highest band and work my way down. But when I power up the rig and go to 10 meters, there is zero power output when I transmit. If I go to another band and transmit, even for just a second, and then go back to 10 meters, it's working fine. So what I've taken to doing is starting out on 15 meters, putting out a CQ or two, and then going back to 10 meters. After the radio is "primed" in this fashion, it seems to work fine on 10 meters.

The built-in FT8 software seems to work fine, but it has its own idiosyncrasies. As with the WSJT software you're probably familiar with, there is a window show the band activity. So if you see someone calling CQ, you can click on their call, and it will automatically call them. But curiously, the display doesn't seem to show all band activity. In fact, it doesn't seem to show stations who are calling you. When someone does call, their call sign shows up in the logging window, and if they successfully send your report, that shows up in the logging window. And sometimes, the radio automatically sends "73" at the end of the QSO, and sometimes it doesn't do this automatically.



W0IS operating the zBITX in the field

Also, the list showing band activity can be difficult to navigate. When you want to scroll to the bottom, it frequently resets all the way to the top. So to see the most recent activity, you need to turn the little knob repeatedly until it scrolls down to the bottom.

As noted above, you can control the radio from another computer (or tablet or phone) using the web browser, as long as both are hooked to the same WiFi network. But, like some other features, this one is glitchy. Sometimes it works great, and sometimes it doesn't work at all. Eventually, I'm sure I'll figure out the problem, but like with everything on this rig, there is a learning curve.

Conclusion

Overall, I'm still amazed at what this radio will do for the money. Since it came, it's the only radio I've used, and I've made hundreds of contacts with it. I don't think I would recommend this as your only radio. As noted above, it has a lot of glitches. It's not designed for the appliance operator, and there's an understanding that some hacking of both hardware and software will be necessary. In fact, it comes with the Allen wrench necessary to open up the case.

Having said that, I am essentially an appliance operator, and I haven't had to resort to that Allen wrench, nor have I had to go poking around the software. But I am a reasonably experienced ham, and at least I know when it's being glitchy and I need to try again. For someone without experience, this radio might be an exercise in frustration.

As long as you are aware of the limitations, I think you will be amazed at what this little radio will do for the money.

Image Right: A list of states confirmed as of the writing of this article.
 Image Left: A typical display from PSK Reporter showing where my signal was being picked up from my home.

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Original article is posted online at <https://onetuberadio.com/2025/06/30/zbitx-transceiver-review/> and our thanks for permission from W0IS to repost this for the benefit of our club members

US State	Mixed
Alabama (AL)	YANECH
Arizona (AZ)	XGQDY
California (CA)	M5JIM
Colorado (CO)	XQ1TY
Connecticut (CT)	XQ1WY
Florida (FL)	YD4QD
Georgia (GA)	Y5JAE
Iowa (IA)	XG2WJ
Idaho (ID)	XG3QD
Illinois (IL)	XQ1WV
Indiana (IN)	XG3QD
Kansas (KS)	XG3AA
Kentucky (KY)	XG4UC
Massachusetts (MA)	Y0ICE
Maryland (MD)	XG4SE
Michigan (MI)	Y01QY
Minnesota (MN)	Y01L
Mississippi (MS)	X5UC
Nebraska (NE)	XG3Q
New Hampshire (NH)	XG3Q
New Jersey (NJ)	XG3Q
Nevada (NV)	XG3Q
New York (NY)	XG3Q
Ohio (OH)	XG3Q
Oklahoma (OK)	XG3Q
Oregon (OR)	XG3Q
Pennsylvania (PA)	XG3Q
South Carolina (SC)	Y0ALP
South Dakota (SD)	XG3Q
Tennessee (TN)	Y0GQY
Texas (TX)	XG3Q
Virginia (VA)	XG3Q
Wisconsin (WI)	XG3Q
West Virginia (WV)	XG3Q
Wyoming (WY)	XG3Q



A Fond Farewell from Hamshack Hotline

Hamshack Hotline Team

Holly Springs, NC, July 10th, 2025 – To our valued Hamshack Hotline community,

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the sunset of the Hamshack Hotline project, effective **August 29th, 2025**.

What began in 2018 as a simple idea in the humble closet of K1WIZ quickly grew into something none of us could have imagined—an expansive, global communications network built by and for amateur radio operators. From those early beginnings, Hamshack Hotline evolved into a robust VoIP system supported by multiple servers around the world, with **over 7,000 interconnections** at its peak.

This incredible journey was made possible by the **generosity of donors worldwide** and the tireless commitment of the **Hamshack Hotline Team**, who volunteered their time and expertise to support and grow the network. Your trust and participation helped shape Hamshack Hotline into a valuable and widely respected resource for the ham radio community.

However, with success came scale—and with scale, came increasing demands. As the network grew, so did the workload on our small team. Balancing this effort with our responsibilities to **family, careers, and life outside the shack** has become increasingly challenging. We've always taken great pride in the reliability and service standards of Hamshack Hotline, and we recognize that we can no longer maintain those standards at the level our users deserve.

After much thoughtful discussion and reflection, the **Board of Directors has unanimously voted to sunset the project**, giving our community ample time to transition to other services by the end date.

This was not an easy decision. We know how much this network means to many of you—and it means just as much to us. Hamshack Hotline was built with love, run with dedication, and supported by an incredible community that made it all worthwhile.

In the spirit of giving back, **the remaining cash reserves** of Hamshack Hotline, after settling final operating expenses, **will be donated to a charity that supports veterans**. We'll announce the recipient of this donation soon.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you for being a part of Hamshack Hotline. Whether you joined us on day one or just discovered the network, your involvement helped shape something truly special in the amateur radio world.



ARRL Board Reviews & Approves By-Law Changes, Creates 10 Band DXCC

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, July 22nd, 2025 – The ARRL Board of Directors met in Windsor, Connecticut, for its Second Meeting, July 18th –19th, 2025. ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR presided over the meeting. President Roderick recognized Pacific Division Director John Litz NZ6Q, who previously served as Vice Director.

Prior to the Board meeting, Board committees met on July 17th with the following actions highlighted below:

The Programs & Services Committee and Headquarters staff from the Radiosport Department, on the heels of creating the DXCC Trident award in January, are moving ahead with the creation of another new DXCC award — **10-Band DXCC** — which will recognize those who achieve DXCC on all bands from 6 meters to 160 meters (excluding 60 meters). Higher achievement endorsements can be earned at the 200, 300, and Honor Roll levels, like the DXCC Trident. The 10-Band DXCC award challenges participants in the DXCC program to establish station capabilities and operator skills for dealing with myriad band conditions in pursuing DXCC across all 10 bands.

The Administration & Finance Committee discussed the current status of ARRL's **Washington advocacy**. This includes continuing work to build Congressional support for bills H.R. 1094 and S.459 — the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act — for passage. The committee recommended to the Board that the ARRL CEO take the lead on the efforts, including executing a campaign to involve members in reaching out to their Congressional representatives later this year.

The Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee reviewed year-to-date activities, including a complete rewrite of the ARES® training modules and the recently executed Memorandum of Understanding between ARRL and Radio Relay International (RRI). The committee also discussed making 2026 the Year of the Club and proposed ideas for consideration by the Board.

The Historical Committee met to review the ARRL Heritage Museum's online collection, Radio Alpha, which currently features more than 3,000 images and documents. The repository is now online and can be found at www.arrl.org/arrl-museum-and-research-library.

Here are highlights of actions taken at the Board meeting:

- Board members, after having an additional 6 months to review the **Report and Recommendations of the Special Committee on By-Law 46** that was submitted during the Annual Board Meeting in January, undertook a discussion and voted to approve the motion to adopt the report. The proposed updated language was reviewed by ARRL's Connecticut counsel who was present for questions and discussion. The changes affect By-Law 46, the Board's Conflict of Interest Policy, and By-Law 42, the charter for the Ethics & Elections Committee. The most significant change is that this introduces an unbiased competent third party to provide the Board with the results of its own determination in an E&E matter before submitting it to the ARRL Board.
- The Board approved a year-long celebration of the semiquincentennial of the United States. This will include commemorative ARRL US250 Worked All States awards from contacts made during 2026, as well as other on-air activity.
- The Board approved making 2026 the Year of the Club and passed other motions in support of the initiative including:
 - ◇ Creation of a book featuring high-performance clubs.
 - ◇ Establishment of working with and recognizing outstanding club websites while helping clubs with ineffective websites.
 - ◇ Recognizing ARRL Affiliated Clubs that maintain a higher-than-required ARRL membership level for affiliation. Clubs that achieve a 70% or a 90% ARRL membership level within their clubs will receive acknowledgment and special recognition.

The complete minutes of the 2025 Second Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors will be available soon on the ARRL website.

The next Annual Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors is scheduled for January 16th – 17th, 2026



AG3I New Atlantic Division Vice Director

American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, July 18th, 2025 – Martin, "Marty" Newingham AG3I, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, has been appointed Vice Director of the ARRL Atlantic Division, effective July 15th, 2025. Newingham will serve the remainder of a term that expires December 31st, 2026.

He replaces Martin J. "Marty" Pittinger KB3MXM, who resigned from the position in April.

Newingham is an ARRL Life Member and a Gold-level contributor to the ARRL Diamond Club.

The ARRL Atlantic Division is comprised of the ARRL Sections of Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland-DC, Northern New York, Southern New Jersey, Western New York, and Western Pennsylvania.

The ARRL is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. Elections are held for five of the 15 ARRL Divisions each year, for terms of 3 years.



Introducing Radio Alpha

American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, August 1st, 2025 – There's a new resource from ARRL documenting the history of ham radio. Radio Alpha is the ARRL® Museum and Research Library. It is available for viewing at www.arrl.org/museum. Radio Alpha is envisioned as a Wikipedia-like project, administered by a trusted group of volunteers.

It aims to serve as a definitive repository of information, offering detailed descriptions and contextual data on pivotal figures, influential organizations, pioneering companies, transformative inventions, and iconic equipment that have shaped the amateur radio landscape. Radio Alpha addresses the critical need for a centralized, reliable, and easily navigable archive of amateur radio's past.

Recognizing the fragmented nature of existing historical data, this database will consolidate diverse information sources into a single, cohesive platform. Users will find meticulously researched entries, cross-referenced to provide a holistic understanding of the connections and evolutions within the hobby. A core principle of Radio Alpha is universal accessibility. Therefore, the database will be entirely free to access, ensuring that researchers, historians, enthusiasts, and the public can explore its contents without barriers.

Noted author, industrial archeologist, and historian Chuck Penson WA7ZZE is the principal architect who crafted the collection. Penson has published several books about the history of Heathkit and the Titan II missile. For him, it's a labor of love and necessity. "Somebody has to do this," said Penson. "Lots of people are doing it independently on their own – here's a website about the equipment I own, and here's some documents I scanned – there's a lot of that." The lack of a central location to compile those collections is the root of Radio Alpha. Penson hopes the research library will preserve the data long after individual contributors have passed away.

The platform is committed to being free of advertising, spam, and clickbait, prioritizing the integrity of its historical content and providing an uncluttered user experience. "This database will be a living resource, regularly updated and expanded through ongoing research and community contributions, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of amateur radio's profound impact on communication, technology, and society," wrote Penson.

Radio Alpha seeks contributors and volunteers to help develop the content. Hams who have a passion for the history of radio, experience in writing, or extensive knowledge about a particular brand or mode of amateur radio are encouraged to volunteer. The museum also seeks materials that may help grow the collection. Those interested may reach out to Penson at radioalpha@arrl.org.

Penson hopes the data will be preserved forever. "ARRL has an organizational structure that allows it to take a long view on stuff like this. It is best equipped to handle a project like Radio Alpha."

Radio Alpha, the ARRL Museum and Research Library, may be enjoyed at www.arrl.org/radioalpha or www.arrl.org/museum.



Field Day 2025 Saw Growth

American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, August 1st, 2025 – The numbers are in and showing growth. [2025 ARRL Field Day](https://www.arrl.org/field-day) showed an increase in both participants and entries, compared to 2024. According to ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque N1SFE, 4,369 entries detailed 31,785 people taking part in in the event. That's up from last year.

"There's a growing interest in ham radio, especially after last year's hurricane season and other high-profile situations in which radio has been essential," noted Bourque. "ARRL Field Day serves as a great chance to get engaged with your local amateur radio community."

The uptick in numbers may not be complete, as there's still an opportunity for a few more entries to be added. "Occasionally, a club will need to update their entry. We work with them to make sure it is correct," said Bourque.

Field Day participants should check that all the required supporting documentation related to their entries has been received by checking the Entries Received web page at field-day.arrl.org/fdentriescrvd.php. If the status of your entry is listed as Pending Documents, one or more of the required documents still needs to be submitted to complete your entry. Entrants may use the link provided in the confirmation email they received to upload additional documents or to modify

ARRL FIELD DAY



JUNE 28-29

Silent Keys



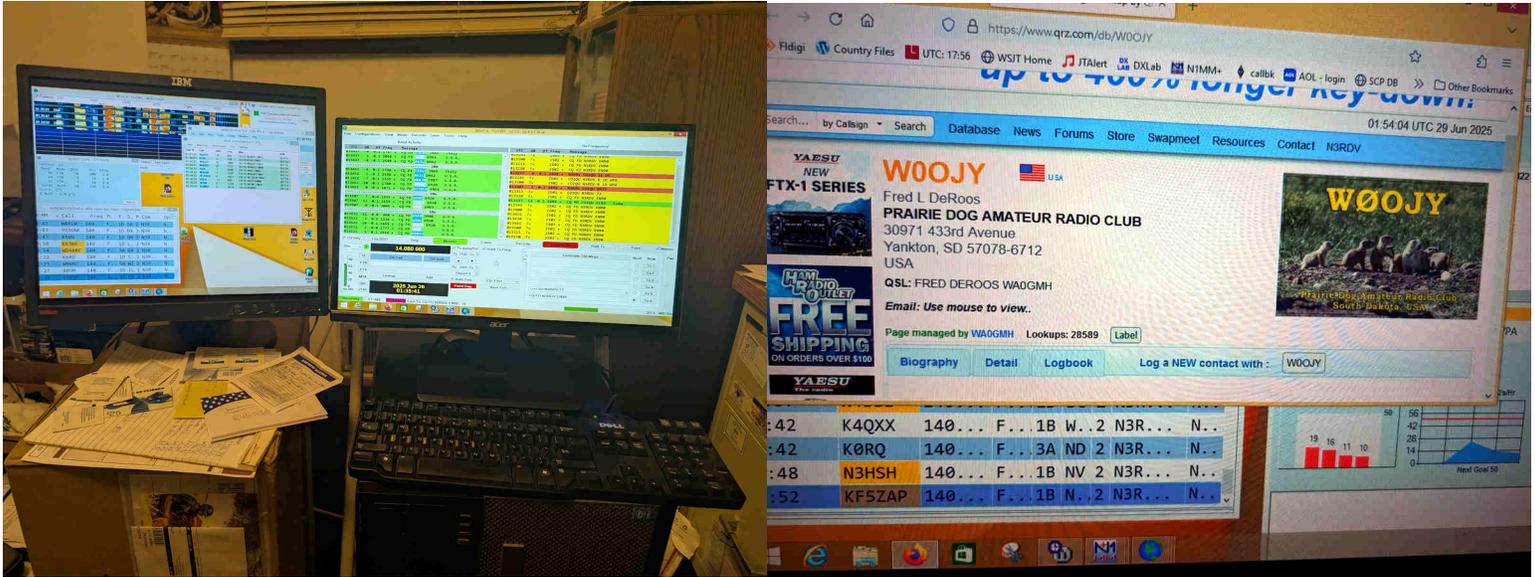
Dolores Tkacik Babin, mother of Greg Babin NB3C, 92, July 14th
<https://obituaries.post-gazette.com/obituary/dolores-tkacik-babin-1092995621>

QSL Manager Joe Arcure W3HNC, 91, July 20th
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/harrisburg-pa/joseph-arcure-12459348>

their entries. Currently, 223 entries are listed as being incomplete. Updates to existing entries will be accepted until August 29th, 2025. If you're having difficulty completing your Field Day entry or have any questions, contact fieldday@arrl.org.

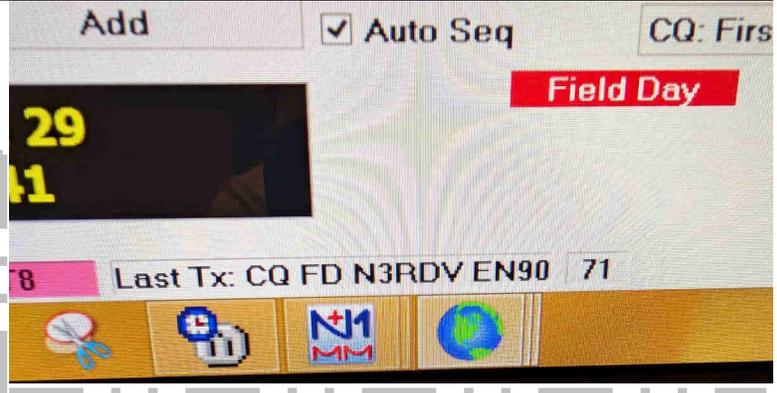
N3RDV Field Day 2025

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2025 Mark Stabryla N3RDV



Above Left: FT8 showing 71 signals at one time!
 Above Right: Look who I ran into
 Right: My current setup

AO-123 FM Transponder to Enter Continuous Service



AMSAT News Service Bulletin 215, Paul Stoetzer N8HM, Editor

Washington, DC, August 3rd, 2025 -- The FM transponder on AO-123 has been activated on periodic basis since its launch in late 2024. Beginning this weekend, it is expected to enter continuous service if no issues are observed.

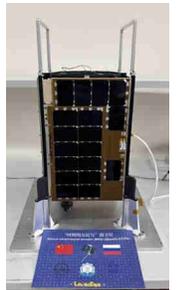
AO-123 (ASTRU-1) is a 12U Cubesat mission designed by Russian and Chinese university students for education and amateur radio. The amateur radio station provides telecommand uplink and telemetry / digital image downlink.

A new SDR based transceiver was developed for ASRTU-1 to provide communication and experiment resources to radio amateurs, including a V/U FM transponder, a UHF telemetry downlink and a 10.5G image downlink.

The uplink is 145.850 MHz with a 67 Hz CTCSS tone and the downlink is 435.400 MHz.

ASRTU Friendship MicroSat (ASRTU-1) was jointly developed by LilacSat Student Satellite Team from Harbin Institute of Technology and students from Amur State University, with scientific payloads contributed by several other universities. It is the first student satellite developed under the cooperation framework of the Association of Sino-Russia Technical Universities (ASRTU). The satellite has V/U FM repeater, UHF SSDV and 10G hi-res image downlink onboard

(This information courtesy of the AO-123 Team and N2YO.com. ASTRU-1 photo courtesy of SatNOGS DB)



On July 29th, Jonny Kim installed the repaired HamTV module in the ISS's Columbus module. Originally operational from mid-2015 until its failure in 2018, the repaired module was returned to the ISS earlier this year.

Shortly after installation, reports of successful carrier reception were received from Europe. Carrier transmission is expected to continue for a few days.

HamTV transmits live MPEG-2 video using a DVB-S signal on 2395 MHz, primarily for educational contacts.

The SpaceX Crew-11 mission to the ISS launched on August 1st. The crew includes three amateur radio operators: Mike Fincke KE5AIT, Zena Cardman KJ5CMN, and Kimiya Yui KG5BPH. Included in the cargo is HDMI adapters to enable HamTV to utilize more cameras aboard the ISS. (Thanks to NASA, SpaceX, and ARISS).

The JARL command station for FO-29 plans to activate FO-29's linear transponder at the following times (see list box right). The satellite will remain active from the listed times until the satellite's undervoltage control switches off the transponder (thanks to JARL):

- August 1st 23:44~
- August 3rd 00:34~
- August 9th 00:18~ & 23:23~
- August 16th 00:52~ & 23:57~
- August 30th 00:16~ & 23:21~

DX News Briefs & Announcements



12+ minutes video on the 2025 **VU4AX** DXpedition to Andaman Island is now available on YouTube.com at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfuoj_qS65c&t=1s

3B9FR has returned to the after "a break". QSL direct only; MØOXO is no longer his QSL manager. He no longer wishes to use LotW, ClubLog, or QRZ.COM; if you wish his card, email him personally to make the appropriate arrangements.

The **ZS8W** DXpedition story is now available online to read at https://www.lral.lv/zs8w/ZS8W_story.pdf.

KH7AL/KH9 is QRT until 6 September, as he is currently off the island.

V26K in the 2025 IARU contest was **not AA3B** and was **not authorized** to operate. If you worked that station and had any beam headings, please contact AA3B.

The **TX9XG** DXpedition to Ahe Atoll (OC-131), scheduled for 30 November – 6 December, has been cancelled by JA1XGI due to "sanitary problems with the accommodations."

The planned **PYØS** trip to St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks, scheduled for October 2025, is currently "on hold." The team states that they are having a lack of progress with ICMBio, the Brazil EPA, to obtain the last permit that they need.

V47EM is QRV through 3 August from St. Kitts (NA-104), 80-10, CW & SSB. QSL via GØTLE or as directed.

EI3VP (not **EI/G3PXT** as previously announced) is QRV through 5 September. QSL via G3PXT

YN2RP is QRV through 4 August, holiday style, CW SSB RTTY and various Digital modes. QSL via NN3RP or ClubLog.

5C26HV is QRV through 5 August, to commemorate the anniversary of the enthronement of the King of Morocco. QSL as directed.

5Z4NZ is QRV through 5 August, as time permits, various HF bands, primarily CW. QSL via VE3NZ or as directed.

JD1BRC is QRV from Ogasawara through 8 August, 40-6, CW SSB & FT8. QSL via ClubLog.

SX17ASTRON is QRV through 8 August, in celebration of the 17th National Amateur Astronomy Camp. More information at <https://sz1a.org/en/news-announcements/sx17astro-on-the-air-for-the-17th-national-amateur-astronomy-camp/> QSL via SZ1A.

TY5FR is QRV through 8 August, 80-10, CW & SSB. QSL via DL1BUG.

S6ØSA is QRV through 9 August to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Singapore's independence. QSL via LotW or ClubLog.

E2WRTC is QRV through 10 August, 160 – 10, CW and SSB, to help promote "Asia Team #3) in the 2026 WRTC. QSL via E21EIC and LotW

9M8A will be QRV through 13 August, 80 – 6 from Satang Island (OC-165), SSB CW FT8/FT4. QSL via 9W8ZZK or ClubLog OQRS

PJ2ND will be QRV through 13 August, 20 – 6, mainly CW with some SSB. QSL via K8ND.

R95TLR will be QRV through 14 August to commemorate 95 years of Tyumen Regional Radio. QSL via RK9LWA.

9M1957N will be QRV through 30 September to commemorate the 68th anniversary of Malaysia's Independence in 1957. QSL as directed on their QRZ.COM page.

CG9IARU will be QRV for the month of August to honor the 100th anniversary of the IARU. QSL via VE9CF.

TO3K will be QRV 2 – 10 August from Mayotte (AF-027), 80-6 CW SSB and FT8/4 (MSHV). QSL via IV3JVJ

E51KEE will be QRV 3 – 18 August from a beach house on Rarotonga Island (OC-013), Holiday style, 40-10 CW SSB. QSL via IK2DUW or ClubLog.

V47JA will again be QRV 4 – 13 August from Calypso Bay, 160 – 6, SSB and FT8. QSL via W5JON

5B4ARQ will be QRV for about 3 weeks starting 7 August from Cyprus (AS-004), HF, mainly FT8 with some CW and SSB. QSL via LotW or ClubLog only, no direct cards.

AM5FAB will be QRV 7 August – 7 September, on the occasion of the Albacete Fair 2025. More information, including QSL, at <https://radioclubalbacete.blogspot.com/2024/07/qs-espacial-feria-albacete-2024.html>.

KH9/K9HEI will be QRV 8 – 22 August, SSB and FT8. There may be additional dates in the future, TBD. QSL via K9HEI.

VP2V/KK4LWR and **VP2V/KD8RTT** will be QRV from Tortola Island (NA-023) 8 – 11 August, 80 – 6, SSB CW and digital. More information at <https://kk4lwr.com/vp2v/> QSL each via KD8RTT.

6K2GRX/4 and **6K2CFI/4** will be QRV 15 – 17 August from Jaeun Island (AS-060), various HF bands and modes. QSL both via their home calls.

OX/DL6YYM will be QRV 15 – 29 August from 15 – 18 August he will be activating NA-134; from 19-29 August NA-018. QSL via DL6YYM.

TC88YL will be QRV 16 – 17 August, HF, CW SSB and FT8, all YL operators from the TC2E contest station. QSL via LotW or ClubLog.

OV7X will be QRV 17 – 18 August from Bago Island (EU-172). QSL via DL2JRM or as directed.

OGØC will be QRV 17 – 24 August. QSL via OH5C or as directed.

3G1P will be QRV 18 - 23 August from Ilotes Pajaros (SA-100). More information at <https://3g1psa-100.weebly.com/>. QSL via VE3LYC (\$5+SAE) or ClubLog

**Continued
on Page 13**

QSL Routes

3B9SP via DK6SP	HFØAAAAA via SPØPOS
3V8LL via IT9TQH	HF15DXK via SP9GKS
4U1VHF via 9A2AA	HBØDX via DL2JRM
5B/WJ20 via N2ZN	HB2C via HB9FA
5C26NIL via RW6HS	HC5DX via N4GNR
5H1VJ via MØURX	HF3ØPMW via SP2PMW
5H8H via TA1HZ	HG2ØSOTA via HA8FY
5JØTT via HK1J	HH2K via N3BNA
5KØC via EA5GL	HK3X via MØOXO
5KØT via EA5GL	IA9SZ via HE9ERA
5P1KZX via OZ1KZX	IB9Z via IT9VCE
5Q5W via DL2SWW	II2S via IZ2FOS
5R8TT via I2YSB	II3Y via MØOXO
5R8XX via I2YSB	II4COHR via IQ4FE
7I1I via EB7DX	II7P via IK7RWE
8CØ8F via HA3JB	IO3M via IU3PMA
8Q7YY via MØOXO	IO9A via IT9YVO
9A/OM6NM via OM2FY	IPØA via OM2FY
9A2L via 9A3DF	IP1X via KUIJCZ
9M8A via 9W8ZZK	IP9A via IT9ZMX
A2NEW via EA7FTR	J87WWA via IK2DUW
A61Q via EA7FTR	JWØV via I8KHC
A65HS via 9L2HS	K2G via K4NHV
A71AH via EA7FTR	K2H via W1AST
AM32ØHLM via EA3HLM	K2K via W1UAA
AO2ØEURAO/8 via EA3CIW	K2M via K3MJW
AT44I via VU2DGR	L35F via LU5FZ
AZ1D via EC6DX	LT4I via LU5ILA
BH2WRP via BG2VIA	LT7L via LU9LZR
CN2DX via EA5GL	LT4RCA via LU4AA
CQ9A via CT9ACD	LZØHQ via LZ1BJ
CR3W via DL5AAX	LZ591MK via LZ1KCP
CR5M via CT1DHM	M1F via MØNVK
CR5Q via CT1EHX	MD7C via MØOXO
CT9ABO via OM3GI	MU5E via GU4YOX
DAØUDS via DH1ØL	OD5KU via EB7DX
DKØFT via DK5VD	OEØ1MIKU via LZ3HI
DK1A via DL7JOM	OL1C via OK1DOY
DLØDIX via DJ2AX	OL3L via OK1HMP
DLØLOL via DB4SCW	ON2ØEURAO via ON7EN
DLØROI via DC1RSS	OP5K via ON6FT
DLØSOP via DL4SVA	OR7K via ON4JZ
DL24WUG via DM1CHA	OS8D/P via ON8DN
DL25BELT via DJ3XM	OV1MF via OZ1MFP
DQ25RTP via DM5QM	OV3W via DK3WW
E2X via E2ØGMY	OV7X via DL2JRM
E21WRTC via E21EIC	OV9M via DF9TM
ED7DZZ via EC7DZZ	OX3LX via OZØJ
EDØHQ via EA4URE	OZ/HFØSEA via SP1G
EG24FDC via EA1URG	OZ9S via OZ1ICP
EG5LCM via EA5URW	P29XZ via EA5G
EG6AFM via EA6URM	PA/OQ4T via ON4TO
EJ3VP via G3PXT	PC38EU via PA2DK
EJ3Z via EI6GGB	PE146U via PA3EYC
G5XV via MØOXO	PF1SCT via PD5WSQ
G17M via G3VCQ	PG64HOOP via PA9F
GM2T via GM4UYZ	PI35COM via PA1AW
GM7V via N3SL	PI4AMF via PA3EYC

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 12

- TY2AA** will be QRV 18 August – 7 September, as time permits, as he will be on a humanitarian mission. QSL via I8KHC.
- JD1BQP** will be QRV 19 October – 2 November from Chichijima, Ogasawara, including the CQ WW DX SSB contest. More information at <https://twitter.com/jd1bqp>. QSL via JP1IHD direct with SAE & \$2.
- OJ0MN** will be QRV 24 – 31 August from Market Reef, HF, CW SSB and Digital. QSL via OH1MN.
- VK2/SP9FIH** will be QRV 27 August – 13 September from Lord Howe Island, SSB and FT8, 30 – 10. More information at <https://vk9.dxpeditons.org/>. QSL via SP9FIH.
- VQ9/KI6LT** expects to be QRV sometime in mid-September, dates to be announced, 40 / 20 / 25 / 10, SSB and WSPR. He did receive a license from BIOT (British Indian Ocean Territory) but approval was delayed by the US Navy.
- 9M8BARF** will be QRV 1 – 15 September to promote the 12th Borneo Amateur Radio Festival. QSL via 9M8HAZ.
- 9X2AW** will be QRV 1 – 22 September, holiday style, 160-10, CW SSB & FT8. QSL via MØOXO or ClubLog.
- SV5/HB9OAU** will be QRV 13 – 25 September, holiday style, 40 CW and SSB. QSL via HB9OAU.
- V18POL** will be QRV 13 – 29 September to celebrate the 8th annual National Police Week in Australia. QSL via VK5PAS.
- PJ2/HA3JB** will be QRV through 15 – 28 September, 80-6, CW SSB FT7 and RTTY. QSL via HA3JB.
- V4/KØYA** and **V4/W5RCX** will be QRV 16 – 28 September from V47JA's QTH, 160-10, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via LotW or ClubLog
- J38DX** and **J38LD** will be QRV 8 – 15 October from NA-024, 80-6, primarily SSB with some FT8. QSL via MØOXO
- E51MWA** will be QRV 9 – 20 October from Manihiki Atoll (OC-014), North Cooks Islands, various HF bands and modes. More information at <https://www.e51mwa.com>. QSL via MØURX only, no Bureau.
- OZ0MF** will be QRV 11 – 12 October from Nordborg Lighthouse (DEN029) for the Scandinavian Activity Contest SSB. QSL via DL2JRM or as directed.
- D2A** will be QRV 17 – 28 October to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of Angola, 160-6, CW SSB RTTY and FT8 (MSHV). They expect to have up to 6 stations QRV at a time, and will only work split. QSL via EA7FTR.
- HB0DX** will be QRV 24-27 October for the CQ WW DX SSB contest, and 28 November – 1 December including the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via DL2JRM or as directed.
- 5R8TT** will be QRV 29 October - 12 November from Nosy Be Island (AF-057), 160 – 6, CW SSB & RTTY. They will also be on FT8 as **5R8XX**. QSL both via I2YSB; note that they do not use ClubLog.
- 9U1RU** will be QRV 31 October – 17 November by members of the Russian DXpedition Team. QSL via ClubLog OQRS or as directed.
- FT4YM** will be QRV from November 2025 to February 2026 from several different Antarctic base camps, primarily Base Concordia AN-016. QSL via F4FKT or as directed.
- HB7ØIPA** will be QRV 1 November through 31 December to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the International Police Association Radio Club Switzerland. QSL via LotW or eQSLonly; no bureau, no direct.
- Z66BCC** will be QRV 7 – 10 November. QSL via DL2JRM or as directed.
- TM6ØATX** will be QRV on selected weekends from 14 November – 23 December, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the first French satellite launched into orbit. QSL via F4KLR or as directed.
- EA7BF, EA7FPG and EA7ATX are planning to be QRV from **HKØ San Andres Island** 20-30 November, 160 – 10, CW SSB and Digital. They are waiting on their licenses. More information forthcoming.
- EK8A** will be QRV 29 – 30 November for the CQ WW DX CW Contest. QSL via EK6SS. The operator may be active before & after the contest as **EKØK1DTP**. QSL via OK1DTP or as directed.
- 3G9S, CB9N** and **XR9N** will be the calls for a DXpedition to Islan Navarion (SA-050) in the Chilean Antarctic Province (**CE9**) scheduled for the first half of January 2026. Exact dates have not yet been confirmed. More information at <https://3g9s.org/>. QSL via OQRS or as directed.

More QSL Routes

PI4DX via PD1DX	SZ2VELOS via SZ2TSL
PJ2/W4IPC via EB7DX	TC0MAR via HA8LLH
PJ2CF via EA5GL	TM112TDF via F8GGZ
PJ2ND via K8ND	TM2ØØEN via F4DTC
PJ2T via KU9C	TM5K via F8GGV
PJ2Y via AB8YK	TM5MAA via F6KPK
PR1T via PY1ZV	TM5VDL via F8KGS
PV2K via EA5GL	TM63SGDF via F4JKJ
PX7E via PR7KSA	TM87C via F4IVC
PX8Z via PY8WW	TR8CA via F6CBC
R95TLR via RK9LWA	TY5FR via DL1BUG
RU1A via RW3RN	UP7WWA via LZ1YE
SA6U via SM6LJU	UR3IFD via DO2XU
SB7S via SM7PXS	UZ7C via UT9MZ
SD7X via DF6JC	V26K via AA3B
SK9HQ via SM6JSM	V47JA via W5JON
SM/ØV2E via ØZØJ	WHØRU via JG7PSJ
SM6POTA via SM6YEC	XM2I via F5JYD
SNØRX via SP8BXL	YTØHQ via YU1RSR
SN1ØØØFPK via SP6IEQ	ZF2VE via W1VE
SN3WWA via SP3PDO	
SX8AEG via SV8MQP	
SX9G via ON3UN	

3YØK Bouvet 2026 Press Release

Team 3YØK

Charles Wilmott MØOXO (via Facebook)

Royston, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England, July 27th, 2025 – Earlier this year we signed a vessel contract with Icetugs and a helicopter contract with Ultimate Aviation departing for Bouvet Island in February 2026.

In August we will start packing our container, and complete packing in mid-September for all the equipment going onshore to Bouvet Island. The team will meet in Oslo for two workshops to make this happen. Currently, shipments are on their way to Norway from the USA, Italy and Bulgaria. Our equipment sponsors such as DX Engineering, ACOM, ICOM, RF Power, Spiderpole and RigExpert all make a difference in executing one of the most challenging DX-peditions ever.

We will depart from Cape Town February 1st 2026, and the DX-pedition is scheduled for 36 days. We intend to stay around the island for more than 21 days, which will provide us with enough time to wait for good conditions to land the team and all the equipment. Our plans are sound and adaptable to the conditions we expect to meet. Four team members have previous experience from the 2023 3YØJ DX-pedition to Bouvet. In addition, we have hired two external expedition support companies to assist us in landing and camp setup. These companies have demonstrated skill in expedition support in remote areas, emergency evacuations and safety preparedness in both the Arctic and Antarctica climates.

In a few weeks we are paying our second vessel deposit in the order of 360,000 USDs. This deposit, coupled with other expenses have resulted in nearly 1,000,000 USDs in payments to make this DX-pedition happen. With a budget of around 1,700,000 USDs, we continue to seek donations to assist us in this activation.

Our team wishes to use this opportunity to thank all the clubs, associations, and foundations, as well as individuals who have already provided us with their generous support.

You can follow our plans at <http://www.3y0k.com>, or through our trusted media news sites: [The Daily DX](#), [EA1CS DX info](#), and [DX-World](#)



UNIONTOWN ARC 75TH ANNUAL GABFEST

Saturday, August 9th, 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>



WARREN ARA HAMFEST

Saturday, August 17th, 2025, 8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

Trumbull County Fairgrounds

899 Everett Hull Road, Cortland, OH 44410

Talk-in on 146.97 PL 100 **Free Entry & Tailgating**

More Information at <http://www.w8vtd.com>



2025 SKYVIEW SWAP 'N' SHOP

Sunday, August 24th, 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 7th, 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.**

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 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



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
- 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 & we will take care of the rest!

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



FCC News

FCC Daily Digest

Washington, DC, July 24th, 2025—The Federal Communications Commission today voted to remove 11 outdated and useless rule provisions—covering 39 regulatory burdens, 7,194 words, and 16 pages—from its books as part of its "In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete" docket. By taking this action, the agency expeditiously deletes rules adopted in a bygone era—including obsolete regulations on telegraph, rabbit-ear broadcast receivers, and telephone booths.

Today's action repeals rule provisions identified from throughout the agency that plainly do not serve the public interest any longer because they govern obsolete technology, outdated marketplace conditions, expired deadlines, or repealed legal obligations. The item repeals restrictions on phone booth closures, captioning on analog TV receivers, auction obligations that sunset 20 years ago, and references to long-repealed telegraph rules.

This action is the product of the FCC's Delete [proceeding](#) through which it has sought comment on every rule, regulation, or guidance document that the FCC should eliminate for the purposes of alleviating unnecessary regulatory burdens. This has produced overwhelming public comment and constructive feedback that will be considered both in Delete and other proceedings. This proceeding helps power Chairman Carr's Build America Agenda through rapid deregulation to keep pace with private-sector builds.

To that end, today's decision is an important, streamlined process to remove regulations at scale without going through years of unnecessary legal procedures. Today's action continues the FCC's work to unleash a new wave of economic opportunity by ending unnecessary, outdated, and burdensome regulations.

Action by the Commission July 24th, 2025 by Direct Final Rule (FCC 25-40). Chairman Carr, Commissioner Trusty approving. Commissioner Gomez dissenting. Chairman Carr, Commissioners Gomez and Trusty issuing separate statements. GN Docket No, 25-133

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 August 1st, 2025:

Novice	6,007	0.716%
Technician	417,217	45.70%
General	203,611	24.26%
Advanced	33,363	3.9747%
Extra	167,027	19.90%
Club	12,167	1.450%
Total	839,392	

Information courtesy of AE7Q.com, based on FCC ULS Data .

PA Amateurs by Class as of August 1st, 2025:

Novice	279	1.045%
Technician	11,838	44.32%
General	6,826	25.56%
Advanced	1,324	4.9569%
Extra	6,009	22.50%
Club	434	1.625%
Total	26,705	

Information courtesy of AE7Q.com, based on FCC ULS Data

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of August 1st, 2025:

Group A	AC3PK
Group B	KF3EW
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KD3BRO

Information courtesy of 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 28th, 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

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, 2026.

Reservations received after February 1st, 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
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Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456



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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

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