



Wireless Association of South Hills

WASHRAGTM

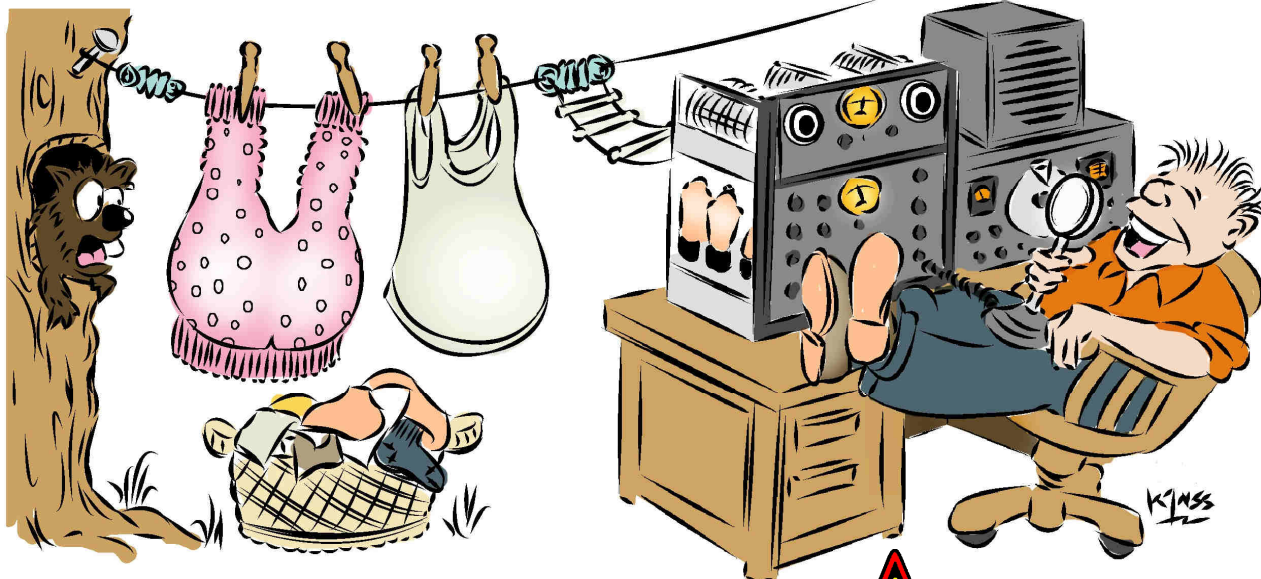
VOLUME 28 ISSUE 02
FEBRUARY 2026

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org



Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 28 Issue 02

FEBRUARY 2026

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, February 5th, 2026

The next scheduled meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, February 5th, 2026**, 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 plans for 2026, the 2 Meter Simplex contest logs and initial results, January, **WASHFest 2026**, and more to come. See you there!

Cover: A montage from **WASHFest 2025**. Looking forward to seeing you in a few weeks at **WASHFest 2026**!

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WASH 2026 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Nathan Suehr KC3GMM
VP / Secretary	Bill Madden AC3WM
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 2026 Committee	Ron Telek W3LE, Chair
	Bill Hill W3WH
	Glen Roberts KE7FD
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Glen Roberts KE7FD
Field Day 2026 Coordinators	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 Feb 22nd

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Sunday, February 22nd, 2026, 10:00 AM**, at the **Home Economics Building, South Park**, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, during WASHFest 2025. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated. **Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Walk-ins taken on a space/time available basis.**

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

- + Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)
- + Pen / Pencil / Calculator
- + Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)
- + Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)
- + Check in the amount of \$15.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

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

Future test dates: To Be Determined

A Few Words

Happy February N3SH!

I hope you all have managed to dig your way out of this snow and are venturing outside as temperatures start to climb out of the teens and single digits. I am looking forward to our hamfest in a few weeks. Please try and help in any way that you can.

I am also looking forward to seeing you all at our club meeting. Stay warm out there!

— 73, Nathan Suehr KC3GMM
President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS,
Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH



Several of our Amateur Radio retailers have undergone some updates or changes.

MTC Radio in Paris Texas has completely revamped their website, and are really promoting their specials.

Meanwhile, Quicksilver Radio's website was down for most of December. As you may have heard, their founder became a Silent Key last year. The store is now located in New Holland, PA, and they are back in business. (Maybe we can get them to come to WASHFest next year Turnpike travel not withstanding?)

Reminder:

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

Saturday, January 31st wrapped up one of the colder and snowier January's that we've seen in many a moon. But do you think cold weather would stop the intrepid souls of the **WASH Breakfast Gang**, gathered as usual at the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**. This month, the group included WB4GCS, N3FB, KB3GMU, K3SGT and Barb, and W3WN. Hot topics accompanied the hot coffee, things like missing WPXI on Verizon FiOS, watching the upcoming Olympics, outdoor antennas, fuel deliveries for generators, PRT plowing the roads, surge protectors, flying on Delta, writing letters to ACAA, power usage, Piratefest, Steeler's coaching changes, CFB boosters and playing the college players, 2 phase and 3 phase generators and motors... and a heck of a lot more!

Reminder that our next gathering will change venues... Saturday, February 21st, 8 AM, at the **SOUTH PARK EAT'N PARK, 5220 LIBRARY ROAD, BETHEL PARK**. We'll be back at our usual haunt, the **McMURRAY EAT'N PARK, 3380 WASHINGTON ROAD**, in March. See you there!

Hope everyone who participated had a good time in the annual **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest**. (Ye editor had a family conflict this year, unfortunately). With the new electronic submissions, Glen KE7FD was able to put the results together pretty quickly, and you'll find them over on Page 10. Don't forget, those who submitted a log, that you've got a free raffle ticket waiting for you at **WASHFest 2026!**

So we've been talking about it for months, in club meetings and the newsletter, as well as online. The time for **WASHFest 2026** is now almost here! So our usual reminders... this is our biggest event of the year, the one everyone looks forward to (at least that's what they tell us... to our faces, at least) and if everyone lends a hand, we can have a great event without a few people doing all of the heavy lifting... and we don't just mean that dang podium... if you haven't already done so, let Carol KB3GMN know when you'll be available (be it for setup, the event itself, or clean up), even if it's just for an hour or three. We almost always have a good turnout, and we seem to be pretty popular with the general Amateur population, so we must be doing SOMETHING right! Whatever that is... let's keep it going!

And as usual.. Ye Editor will be looking for pictures or comments from others from **WASHFest**. What kind of pictures? Candid shots. People having a good time. Equipment for sale, or being sold. Pistols at 30 paces... well, not that one. But you get the idea. We know most everyone who comes has a good time. Let's show it!

Looking ahead... **Hamvention** will be here before you know it. And the **Breezeshooter's Hamfest** will be just a few short weeks after. Got any plans? Ye Editor is planning to be at both, but you know how things go sometimes... (would love to go to **Orlando Hamcation** this month as well, but the Boss will want to go as well... to Orlando, but only to visit the tourist trap that the mouse built...)

If you know of any other club hamfests or special events coming up... let us know, so we can add it to future newsletter calendars!

A brief update on the ongoing **replacing Microsoft Publisher** saga. There have been many good suggestions, and a tip of the hat to Ed N3UE who may have found an alternate route, if it still works, to registering the old versions. It has been pointed out that the older versions that were installed off of CD's, and that are no longer updated, may be immune to the upcoming discontinuance. Ye Editor does have a couple of older computers that still have MS Office 2010 on them, so all will not be lost. Even so... they are older boxes, and things don't last forever. The search continues... remember: Never give up, never surrender! (I heard a ham say that once or twice)

Oh, and gang, don't forget that **Valentine's Day** is coming up pretty fast, too. Recommend you buy the sweets for your sweets this week before the price goes up for the holiday! And, word out of Punxsutawney early this morning is that the groundhog did see his shadow, so we're facing 6 more weeks of winter... of course, as it turns out, historically that critter is only accurate 39% of the time since they started keeping records, so there's hope for an early start to antenna raising season this year!

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 15

Minutes, January 8th Meeting

Bill Madden AC3WM, Vice President/Secretary, **WASH**

Meeting Location

The Meeting was held at The Nottingham Township Building, 909 Sugar Run Road, Eighty Four, PA

7:01 The meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance & moment of silence for silent keys

Roll Call

Members present:

Nate KC3GMM, Bill AC3WM, Jim WB4GCS, Harold K3HCR, Ron W3WN

Attending by Zoom:

Larry K3VX, Glenn KE7FD, Dennis Sweeney, Stan K4RCA, Scott AC3GB, Bill W3WH, Jason N4JHP, Mark N3RDV, Mike WA3PYU & Kathy KA3VXM

7:04 Presentation by Stan K4RCA, Jason J4NHP, & Dennis Sweeney

From the Virginia Microwave Society

8:15 Business Meeting

Treasurers Report (Mark N3RDV): Read.

The Treasurer reported that the majority of the expenses were for supplies for the Ham Fest.

Motion was made by Ron W3WN to accept the Treasurer's report, the motion was seconded by Harold K3HCR. On vote the motion was passed.

Secretary's Report

Nate KC3GMM Reported that the minutes from the last meeting were published in the newsletter.

Tom is now running the Wash Net, and activity is picking up.

Glenn KE7FD reported that tonight's tech talk was great, and we need to schedule more talks.

Jim WB4GCS reported that he is working on a 2-part presentation on Smith Charts that he hopes to start in February. The first session will be math heavy, and the second more practical.

Motion was made by Jim WB4GCS to accept the Secretary's report, the motion was seconded by Harold K3HCR. On vote the motion was passed.

Public Service (Mike WA3PYU)

The Marathon is scheduled for May 3rd, 2026

Newsletter (Ron W3WN)

The newsletter is out.

VE Session

Nate KC3GMM reported that a VE session is scheduled for the WASHFest on February 22nd, 2026

Ways & Means

Nate KC3GMM Reported that the **WASHFest** is on track. Carol has the prizes lined up.

Contest (Larry K3VX)

The rules for the 2m simplex contest are out. The contest will be held this Saturday from 7 to 9 pm. Time is to be reported in UTC 23:00 to 01:00

New Business

Kathy KA3VXM announced that she has rented a cabin in Raccoon Creek State Park for the POTA Support Your Parks Weekend Held on January 17th & 18th. All are welcome to stop by and use it as a warming hut.

Jim WB4GCS and his wife are hosting a potluck at their house the event will be on February 28th or March 7th. He is sending out an email for date preferences and other details.

Old Business

Mark N3RVD noted that if you join or renew your ARRL membership get a form from him to renew and the club will get credit for your renewal.

Good of the Order

Glenn KE7FD noted that he has a hotel reservation for the Dayton Hamvention that he doesn't need; if you know anyone who wants it, let him know soon or he will cancel.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Jim WB4GCS and Seconded by Harold K3HCR the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

WASH Spotlight: Wine List

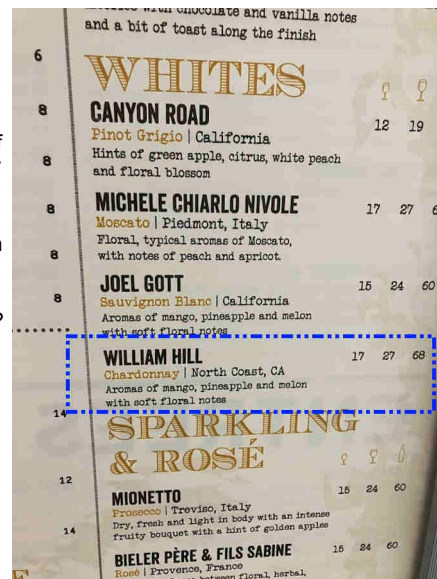
Recently seen on the menu of a new restaurant that recently opened...

They are very proud of their available vintages, as you can imagine.

But, on seeing this, we just had to wonder... coincidence?

Or... has someone been holding out on us?
(You be the judge)

Photo courtesy of and ©
Copyright 2025, 2026 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**

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

2026	2025	N3RDG	WASH FL	WASH TX	Silent
AC3ML	AC4KU	N3SBF	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	Keys
AC3WM	AE3DL	N3TBJ	WASH NE	NB3C	AB3KA
AC3GB	K3GW	N8NEU	N0PEU	KB3JX	AB3ED
AC3WM	K3VX	NU3Q	WASH OH	Jane Wagner	AC4KU
K3OCT	K6DWR	NY9H	N8DPW	WASH VI	AD3Q
K3SGT	KA3VXM	W3LE	WASH OR	NP2JF	K3EED
KB3GMU	KB3CMT	W3WH	KB3NVL	WASH VT	K3LIE
KB3GUZ	KB3GMN	WA2YEZ	KB3NVM	KE3XB	K3LGM
KC3GMM	KB3IAC	WA3PYU	N0VLR		KA3NMG
KE7FD	KB3IVX	WB4GCS	WASH SC		KB3ENX
N3DFK	KB3JHR		N8NEU		KB3FNM
N3FB	KB3NIX	Charmel			KB3FQT
N3JSF	KB3YCX	Spirk			KB3JHQ
N3RDV	KC3NFV				N3BPB
N3UE	KC3UUK				N3CZZ
NB3C	KC3VQR				N3FZ
NL7XM	KC4WTT				N3HKQ
W3WN	N3IDH				N3KEH
W8LEV	N3LV				N3OBD
WA3VSS	N3NWR				N3RNX
					N3SKR
					N3SRC
					N3ZEL
					N3XFE
					W3ZLK
					W4ZE
					WA3JPP

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

Through February 1st, 2026

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2026 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

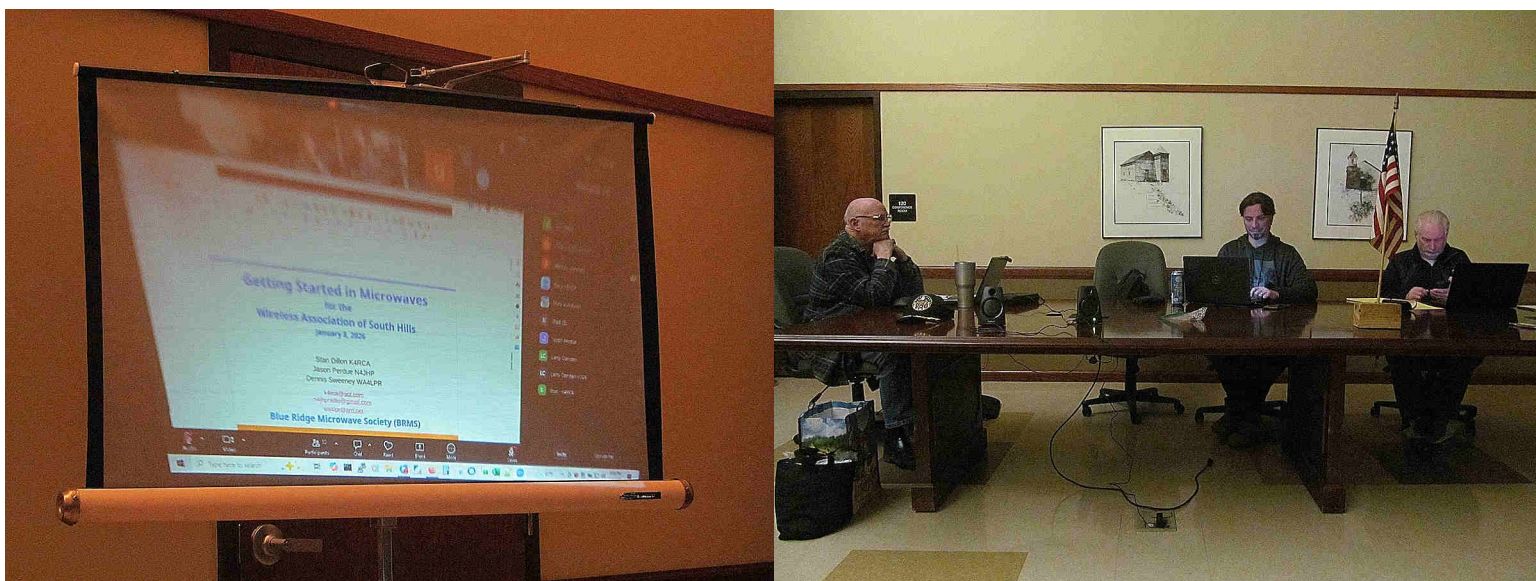
February 5 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
February 14 th — 15 th	CQ WPX Contest RTTY	https://cqwpqrtty.com
February 21 st — 22 nd	ARRL DX Contest CW	http://www.arrl.org
February 22 nd	WASHFest 2026	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
	WASHFest VEC Testing	
February 27 th — March 1 st	CQ Worldwide 160 M Contest SSB	https://cq160.com
March 5 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
March 7 th — 8 th	ARRL DX Contest Phone	http://www.arrl.org
March 28 th — 29 th	CQ WPX Contest SSB	https://cqwpqx.com
April 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
April 19 th	Two Rivers ARC W3OC Hamfest	Lincoln Borough VFD No 184 Social Hall, 4312 Liberty Way, Elizabeth PA 15037
May 7 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
May 15 th — 17 th	Dayton ARA Hamvention 2026	Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, 120 Fairground Road, Xenia, OH 45385
May 30 th — 31 st	CQ WPX Contest CW	https://cqwpqx.com
June 4 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
June 14 th	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	Butler Farm Show Grounds, 625 Evans City Road (Route 68), Butler PA
June 27 th — 28 th	ARRL Field Day	http://www.arrl.org
July 2 nd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
August 6 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
September 3 rd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
October 1 st	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
November 5 th	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive
December 3 rd	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Health Outpatient Center Village Square Conference Room, 2000 Oxford Drive

"Seen" At The January WASH Meeting

Photos courtesy of
and © Copyright 2026
Ron Notarius W3WN



Our thanks again to the Virginia Microwave Society, and specifically to Stan Dillon K4RCA, Jason Perdue N4NHP, & Dennis Sweeney WA4LPR, for the presentation on "Getting Started in Microwaves" at our January club meeting.



A Farewell to Atlantic Division Members It Has Been An Honor To Serve

Bob Famiglio
K3RF

ARRL Atlantic
Division Director

Media, PA, January 27th, 2026 – After serving for some 10 years or so after first being elected as your Vice Director, I am disappointed to report that as of 5 PM today, I have been informed that I will be declared ineligible to continue to hold office as your Atlantic division director under the new massive ethics bylaw voted into being last July by a vote of 10 to 5 directors on our ARRL board. I wish to make clear I am not resigning, I am being removed without my consent by the application of the new code of conduct rules passed in July of 2025.

This should come as no surprise to members following the ongoing struggle within our Board to impose compliance with the majority's sense of what ethical responsibilities each member of the board must exhibit. By passage of the new bylaws, the rules now limit or prohibit a director's ability to advise his division of matter involving important board decisions without advance permission. Per these rules it now appears that anything of any importance is to be for the boards' eyes only. Our league is not in competition with other businesses - we have traditionally been supportive of all other amateur radio endeavors. That history has evolved now.

Over the last several years, League followers have seen the struggle of what members have labeled as the transparency party verses the confidentiality party as a shorthand for the governance divide which has plagued the ARRL. The majority of our Directors, sometimes referred to as the Shadow Board by commentators and League followers, has decided that the governance of our League is not something the members need to concern themselves with. Our League was founded as a representative democracy - which until recently was clearly stated on the League's website - wherein the members of a given division elect those directors to represent their interest primarily in our membership based non-profit institution.

Our League members' values should be paramount. Elected directors' primary duty is to the members. Directors obligation to the members never has been and cannot be inconsistent to their statutory duty to members. Unfortunately, now the majority of the board's directors have chosen to prioritize a director's obligation to a corporate entity in degradation of a director's obligations to the League's members.

Before the vote to enact a sweeping, ambiguous ethics code incorporating over 100 pages of requirements by reference, I was provided with only 12 minutes to question our corporate lawyer on what I was told was her approval of and assistance in drafting the changes. That turned out be misinformation according to answers she provided me. The lawyer admitted she was not asked to opine on the legality of the new bylaws, but only whether it was legal to pass the bylaws. While it was permissible to pass the new bylaws, they are still contrary to the state statutes defining a director cannot be removed except by the members of his division. I was also pleasantly surprised when the corporate lawyer admitted that a director's duty was, at least, 50% owed to the best interest of the members, not 100% to the corporation as argued by the appointed ethics rules committee of directors orchestrating the officious intermeddling resulting in the new Bylaw 18 and Bylaw(s) 42/46.

The sweeping changes created by the passage of the new bylaws permits these bylaws to be weaponize to remove directors who are in the minority on any issue. You will notice that most directors voting, when role call voting is allowed, is typically a 10 to 5 majority vote in favor of restricting information from members as confidential unless released in writing by the President or CEO. Confidentiality is sometimes necessary, but usually most thing which ARRL does is not. Absent special circumstances, basic information and policy decision details and plans for the future should be available to our members. Of, by and for the radio amateur was founder Maxim's motto.

Based upon the promises and obligations I have made to you, I regret I cannot in good conscience sign the new director's oath of confidentiality that is now demanded by the new bylaws. My interpretation of the new rules and required confidentiality agreement and that of other lawyers I have consulted, contradicts with my obligations under Connecticut law to you. I recommend members read the entirety of the different, contradictory promises a director must agree to and decide for yourself whether they are in the best interest of members.

For a comprehensive and scholarly legal analysis of these issues, search for the white paper reviews drafted by a past director and a past chairman of the Ethics and Election Committee, attorney Fred Hopengarten, K1VR. They had been circulated widely. They point out the absurdity of the new rules. Other nationally recognized non-profit lawyers who are League members agree as well.

Our past 1st Vice President, also an attorney, Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, drafted an eloquent critic of the downward turn in League politics as his final report to the board January 2024. Mike's report is worth reading and foretells of the issues we face now. It is not available at our League website but also made it out into the wild.

I regret that I cannot execute a statement which I know to be ill-advised, violative of my obligations to you and contrary to my duties under the applicable law governing a membership based corporation.

I urge you to support our Vice Director Marty Newingham AG3I who likely will assume the position of Director now. He has my confidence and I know he has your best interest in mind.

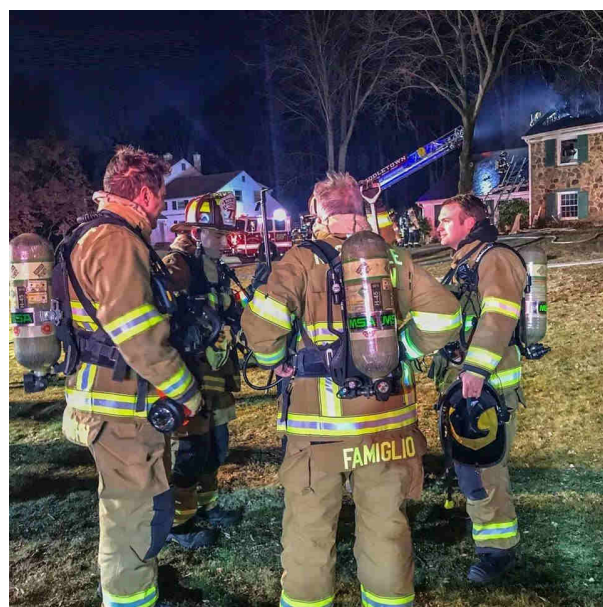
It has been a true honor to represent you all as your Atlantic division director. I continue my support of Amateur Radio- always.

73, and I will see you on the radio.



Photo Left:
Mike K3AIR & Bob K3RF
as seen at Hamvention
2022. (Insert obvious wisecrack
about two lawyers getting together
here). Photo courtesy of
and © Copyright 2022,
2026 Ron Notarius W3WN

Photo Right:
"Not just a lawyer, but a
real emergency responder!
Not just an EmComm
yellow vester, this one."
Quote & photo courtesy of
Paul Courson III WA3VJB,
Photo © 2020, 2026 Bob
Famiglio K3RF



ARRL Member Bulletin

David A. Minster NA2AA
CEO and Secretary, American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, January 28th, 2026 – Dear ARRL Member,

I am writing to inform members of a recent change in leadership within the Atlantic Division and to provide context regarding the governance process that led to this transition.

Director Famiglio's Recertification Decision

In accordance with ARRL By-Law 46(d), all Directors and Vice Directors are required to annually sign and submit a recertification of the "Board Member Statement on Authority, Responsibility, and Expectations" (see www.arrl.org/general-information), confirming that they have read and understand their fiduciary obligations under ARRL's governing documents and applicable law.

Regrettably, ARRL Atlantic Division Director Robert B. Famiglio, K3RF, voluntarily chose not to submit the signed recertification. This signed statement was completed by all 36 other Board members, as well as all candidates who stood for election during 2025.

Under the bylaw, failure to complete the required recertification within the specified period renders a Board member ineligible to continue serving. As a signed recertification was not received from Mr. Famiglio, he became ineligible to serve, and his position as Atlantic Division Director was vacated pursuant to the bylaw.

We sincerely thank Director Famiglio for his many years of volunteer service and for his contributions to ARRL and the amateur radio community.

Background on the Board Member Statement and By-Law 46

As part of its ongoing efforts to promote effective, transparent governance, the ARRL Board adopted an updated Board Member Statement on Authority, Responsibility, and Expectations, incorporated into By-Law 46, at the July 2025 Board meeting. The statement is intended to clarify for Directors, and candidates seeking election to the Board, their fiduciary duties, including the obligation to act in the best interest of the organization, and to not advance any interests that may conflict with ARRL's interests.

The proposed revisions to By-Law 46 were circulated to all Board members and the membership well in advance of adoption. Directors were provided with the opportunity to ask questions, express support or concerns, and consult with ARRL's counsel before a majority of the Board voted to adopt the measure.

Members may review the full Board Member Statement here: www.arrl.org/general-information

ARRL's By-Laws are available here: www.arrl.org/arrl-by-laws

Succession and Leadership Continuity

Consistent with ARRL's governing documents, with Director Famiglio voluntarily choosing to become ineligible to serve, Vice Director Marty Newingham, AG3I, has assumed the office of Atlantic Division Director, effective immediately. A replacement Vice Director will be named at a later date.

Commitment to Transparency and Good Governance

ARRL remains committed to adherence to its governing documents and to keeping members informed regarding Board governance, leadership transitions, and organizational continuity. We appreciate our members' engagement and ongoing support.

73

Farewell EPA Section

Bob Wilson W3BIG
Section Manager, Eastern PA

Upper Chichester, PA, January 30th, 2026 – Good afternoon ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Members,

This will be my final post as EPA Section Manager. The leadership of the ARRL has deteriorated in such a fashion that I can no longer remain a part of the Field Service Division in good faith. My heart is no longer in it. I will resign as your section manager today.

As many of you may already know, our Atlantic Division Director, Bob Famiglio, K3RF, has been forced off the ARRL Board of Directors because he refused to sign a newly required document (ARRL By-law 46) that, in essence, is a loyalty oath that demands both obedience and secrecy. That such a requirement was made necessary is testament to the fragile leadership of both ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA, and two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

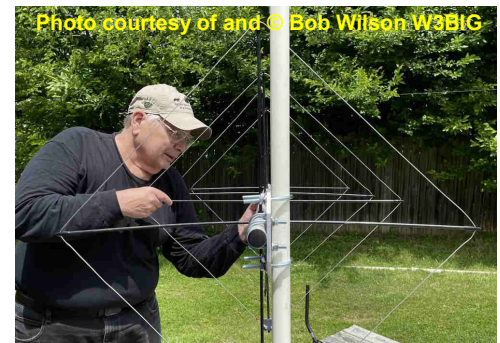
I have known and worked closely with Bob Famiglio for more than 25 years. He is one of the most dedicated and tireless individuals I have ever met. He has been a proponent and supporter of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, volunteer counsel for the ARRL, representing countless hams who have had issues with antennas, RF noise complaints and a myriad of other concerns too numerous to detail here. He has served on the ARRL Board of Directors with distinction for many years and advanced the standing and stature of all amateur radio operators throughout the United States. He has served as both a Vice Director for the Atlantic Division as well as the Section Manager for the Eastern Pennsylvania Section.

Bob Famiglio has served on the ARRL BOD in many capacities in a professional and cohesive manner. But, due to Famiglio's belief that he serves his constituents in the Atlantic Division and not a CEO, he was identified as an outlier. CEO David Minster convinced the BOD to rubberstamp his plan to require a loyalty oath that requires confidentiality and fealty. This "recertification statement" enables Minster and the BOD to act without transparency because he believes members do not need to know what leadership is up to.

The ARRL's leadership under Minster has come at an expense to the ARRL, in both membership and credibility. Since Minster was hired by the ARRL and the board has obediently enacted his agenda, membership numbers have plummeted alarmingly to a level near 130,000 out of more than 750,000 licensed amateurs. Do the math. That means the ARRL now counts among its members only 17 percent of radio amateurs in the United States. Those are pathetic numbers. Minster will argue the decline in membership is due to the inactivity of Technician class licensees or to attrition of aging baby-boomers. That is not what I hear at hamfests and club meetings. Most amateurs with whom I speak cite a disconnect between ARRL leadership and membership. Our members are both disappointed in and angry with the League's leadership. I have heard such complaints at nearly every hamfest I have attended.

As paid membership was tanking, Minster enriched himself at our expense. Since being hired as CEO, his annual salary has increased by more than \$100,000 to over \$350,000. His salary has just increased again, and it will be even more challenging to determine his compensation package now that board members have been required to sign the new bylaw recertification statement. This salary grab occurred while the ARRL is hemorrhaging money. The picture of Nero fiddling while Rome burns immediately comes to mind.

It's important to understand that this is not about one individual. It is about ethical principles. Bob Famiglio was removed from the ARRL Board of Directors because he is a principled man of integrity who never lost sight of whom he represents – you. In a recent *ARRL Letter* to members, Minster defended the ouster by stating that Famiglio "voluntarily" decided to leave the BOD by refusing to sign the new recertification statement. You know this is bull. We are Pennsylvanians, after all. Many of us have farming in our blood and we know fertilizer when we smell it. Bob Famiglio, who also serves as a volunteer firefighter and regularly risks his life to save people and property, has never voluntarily backed away from any challenge.



Continued on
Page 9

Belarus Amateurs Arrested?

Editor's Note: There have been multiple stories published in various locations online regarding the alleged arrest of several Amateur Radio Operators in Belarus since mid-January. Some of these articles allege the arrests are for espionage, treason, and other crimes. Some of these articles allege or imply that the arrested are facing a death penalty. Some of these articles do not cite sources, and some are written purely to be inflammatory or worse.

Some of these articles that have been reposted on various Amateur Radio forums or email reflectors, including the OPDX mailing list run by Ted Mirgliotta KB8NW. Some of these articles have been specifically debunked as Fake News by people with connections to the area, including Bernie McClenny W3UR of *The Daily DX* and QST's *How's DX* column.

We have no way of knowing where the truth actually lies, at this point in time.

The link to the article reprinted below, <https://news.zerkalo.io/life/118137.html>, was first posted on a now-deleted QRZ.COM forum thread on January 17th by Rich DiDonna NN3W, and has been run through Google Translate. This appears to be a legitimate news and information source, and has not been debunked as "Fake News" to this point in time.

That said, we recommend that you look into the source and make up your own mind.

What is known about the radio amateurs arrested for treason?

Minsk, January 16th, 2026 — Seven Belarusian radio amateurs [were detained](#) by KGB officers. They were accused of treason and espionage. The names of three defendants in the criminal case have been released. Nasha Niva [reported](#) on their whereabouts.

Читать полностью: <https://news.zerkalo.io/life/118137.html?c>

The first of those detained, Nikita Krasko, is 35 years old. He previously worked as a courier and in electronics sales. Before his arrest, he worked in construction.

Nikita's hobbies include radio communications and technology. He shares travel photos on social media. He also enjoys sports cars and bicycles.

"His radio call sign is EW1AEH," Nasha Niva reported.

Little information is available about the other detainee, Andrei Repetiy. He is around 50 years old. He is from Minsk and recently worked as a courier for a private auto parts company. After graduating from school, Andrei served in Military Unit No. 14356, specializing in radar and artillery weapons repair. According to Nasha Niva, his previous radio call sign was EW1ABT.

The third suspect is 41-year-old Vyacheslav Benko from Minsk. From 2005 to 2018, he operated a sole proprietorship. His activities apparently involved technology. Vyacheslav is married and has two small children. His radio call sign is EW1ACE.

As a reminder, on January 15th, former NEXTA editor and propagandist Roman Protasevich spoke on STV about a "large network of radio spies" allegedly exposed by the KGB. According to security officials, more than 50 radio amateurs "under the guise of a hobby, were extracting state secrets from the airwaves." Seven people are accused of treason and espionage.

The report emphasizes that on the surface, it all looked like a harmless hobby—"evening classes, a soldering iron, and an antenna on the roof"—but, according to the KGB, it "hidden a surveillance system that worked against the state."

A network of amateur radio operators, allegedly with the assistance of foreign intelligence agencies, installed technical equipment to eavesdrop on secure communications channels. The targeting allegedly included military installations, airfields, air defense positions, law enforcement agencies, and "ensuring the security of the country's top leadership."

Farewell EPA

Continued from Page 8

Famiglio's resistance to coercion is based on his ethical behavior and his desire to do what is right. Ask yourself why an amateur radio organization finds it necessary to operate in such a manner that requires confidentiality. And also ask yourself why CEO Minster has focused more on attracting well-heeled donors to support the ARRL rather than recruiting new members. There are no good answers to these questions.

I am not going to ask you to read any more about the ills of the ARRL. You know what is happening in Newington and you know it is not good for our members in the EPA and throughout the nation. It is the driving reason behind the ARRL's decline. Many in the amateur radio community feel it no longer represents them. David Minster is consolidating power at headquarters and reducing it at the local level. It is primarily because he does not believe in a member-driven ARRL. It appears you are not as important as the large donors he desires.

To be candid, if an individual such as Bob Famiglio, whose integrity, dedication and intelligence are unparalleled, is not qualified to serve the ARRL, then neither am I.

My final act as EPA Section Manager is to thank you all sincerely for your friendship, your dedication and the generosity you have shown me as I visited hamfests, Field Days and club meetings. It has been an honor to get to know you. I am humbled by the incredibly good nature you have shown and the fascinating things you have done to advance the art and science of amateur radio. And, to our tireless volunteers on our ARES teams, you are the heart and soul of the Amateur Radio Service. You have my undying loyalty and respect. Stay safe out there!

Snow storm Transforms Winter Field Day From Practice to Real-Life for Ham Radio Operators

The January 26th issue of the *Valley News Dispatch* had a very nice article regarding Winter Field Day 2026, and participation in it by members of the Skyview Radio Society, Steel City Amateur Radio Club, and WASH.

We did not receive permission to reprint the article by deadline, but you can find the entire article in full, as well as a very nice picture of Allegheny County EC Bob Mente NU3Q in action at the W3KWH clubhouse, at the Trib Live website, at <https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/winter-field-day-exercise-becomes-real-time-training-for-ham-radio-operators/>



26th Annual WASH Two Meter Contest Final Scores

Call	Score
K3HCR	5
KC3IJL	6
KD3BXY	12
KC3GMM	36
KB3VSP	36
KB3VSP	36
WO3X	81
W3BRL	112
N3FB	180
WA3FXN	285
KD3CGE	289
KB3YCX	363
KA3EKO	650
K3LL	756
K3VX	850
AB1A	874
WA3PYU	1200
N3WS	1512
KD3BAA	1550
KA3KSP	2754
K3SJL	5766

Call	Score
AB1A	874
K3HCR	5
K3LL	756
K3SJL	5766
K3VX	850
KA3EKO	650
KA3KSP	2754
KB3VSP	36
KB3VSP	36
KB3YCX	363
KC3GMM	36
KC3IJL	6
KD3BAA	1550
KD3BXY	12
KD3CGE	289
N3FB	180
N3WS	1512
W3BRL	112
WA3FXN	285
WA3PYU	1200
WO3X	81

Glen Roberts KE7FD, 2026 Contest Chair, Chief Cook, and Bottle Washer

Comments and a Suggestion Submitted:

Hey Glen,

I appreciate you simplifying the contest by getting rid of the exchange contact numbers

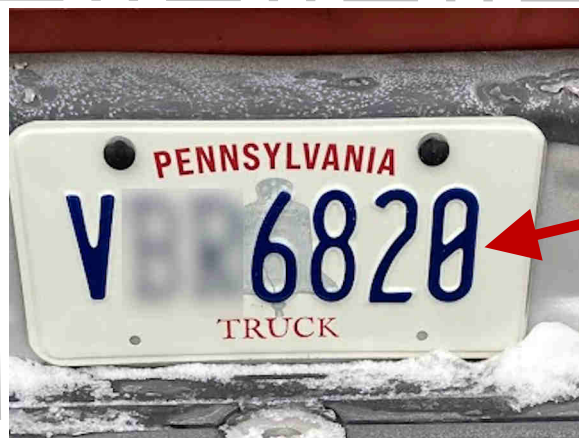
Also really like the electronic format even IF it a little harder to use driving around having a computer up and running whole contest. However having a computer log makes up in less time after contest for me to transcribe my handwritten chicken scribble to a readable format on a new sheet of paper then submit by snail mail.

Negative was: with a shorter contest time (only 2 hours) had to really watch the time and distances while traveling or staying on frequency on a clock schedule.

Is it possible to do 6 to 9pm contest? 10 pm was too late for many people

PLEASE thank your Tech team for their efforts as well in creating the electronic forms and emailing a submission.

THANK YOU Glen for all your efforts and time giving to doing this 2meter simplex contest year after year
73, Mike Christeson AB1A



Now that they've been out for a few months... have you noticed this in the new Pennsylvania license plates?

Don't see it yet? Take another look.

The Zero. It's a Slant Zero (Ø), to better distinguish it from the letter O.

Some people think it's a strange Eight, but as you can see, they don't look that much alike.

Finally! Someone in PennDOT recognizes what hams (and the military) have known for decades! And ...did something about it!

Two Rivers ARC 54th Annual Hamfest

Sunday, April 19th, 2026, 8:00 AM—12:00 Noon

Lincoln Borough VFD # 184 Social Hall

4312 Liberty Way, Elizabeth, PA 15037

Talk-in on 147.120 (131.8 PL) — Mobile Check In 146.52

Admission \$5

More Information at <https://www.trarc.org>



20th Annual Tri-State Radio Fest

Sunday, April 26th, 2026, 8:30 AM— 4:00 PM

Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society

Center Stage Banquet Hall

1495 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca, PA 15061

Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8

General Admission \$5

More Information at <https://pittsburghantiqueradiosociety.org/>



DX News Briefs & Announcements



9N7XT has cancelled. More information at <https://yct.janlabs.de/dx/nepal2026>

J75A for the ARRL DX SSB Contest has been cancelled. Operators are hoping to be QRV for the CQ WW SSB contest.

S21DX has been postponed until a later date in 2026. More information at <https://s21dx.org/>

WE9G/KC4 is QRV from Palmer Peninsula, AN, through 4 February. QSL via WE9G or ClubLog.

YB5/PB2X is QRV through 5 February, 80 – 10, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via PB2X.

EA8/DL7AQT is QRV through 16 February, holiday style, CW only, QRP. QSL via DL7AQT.

5H3DX is QRV through 17 February, 30 – 10, CW SSB PSK31 and FT8. QSL via NK8O.

S9BV is QRV through 20 February. QSL via ClubLog only.

3B8/OE6MBG is QRV through 23 February, 80 & 40, CW and SSB, possibly some FT8/FT4. QSL via EB7DX.

8R1TM is QRV through 23 February, weekends and in his spare time, 160 – 6 CW SSB Digital and Satellites. QSL via PY1SAD.

V31DJ is QRV through 27 February, CW and SSB. QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

5Z4/OZ6ABL is QRV through 28 February, holiday style, 80 – 6, CW SSB and FT8/4. QSL via OZ6ABL.

J52EC is QRV through early March. QSL via IZ3BUR.

FM/F6BWJ is QRV through mid-March. QSL via F6BWJ or LotW.

H44MS is QRV through 10 April, 80 – 10, mainly FT8 with some SSB. QSL via DL2GAC.

3X/YB3GIH is QRV through the end of June. QSL via ClubLog.

DQ3ØGDXF is QRV through the end of December to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the German DX Foundation. More information at <https://www.gdxf.de>. QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

VKØBTC is QRV through the end of December from Casey Station, AN, SSB and FT8 as time permits. QSL via VK2TBCor as directed.

J51A will be for February and March 2026, exact dates not specified, 160 – 6 including 60 meters. More information at <https://www.qrz.com/db/J51A>. QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

ZV1ES and **ZV2DF** will be QRV 1 -28 February for the 92nd anniversary of the founding of LABRE, 160 – 10 plus LEO satellites on 2 and 70 cm. More information at <https://www.labre.org.br>. No paper QSLs

HL5/IZ7VHF will be QRV 4 - 18 February, QRP. QSL via IZ7VHF direct only.

EG7BOB will be QRV 5 -7 February, 80-10. SSB CW and digital, to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the death of Bob Marley. More information at www.HamRadioDx.es

AU7RS has been rescheduled for 8 – 14 February, 160 – 6. More information at <http://www.vu2rs.com/vu7r>. QSL via MØOXO.

VP8TM will be QRV 14-28 February, from various locations in the Falkland Islands, running SOTA, POTA, and IOTA, SSB and FT8. 160-6. SSB and FT8. QSL via DC8TM

8R1WA will be QRV 19-27 February, 160-6. SSB and FT8. More information at <https://guyana2026.wordpress.com/> QSL via IZØEGA or OQRS

8P9XB will be QRV 21-28 February, holiday style. QSL via VE2XB.

PJ4K will be QRV for the ARRL DX CW Contest, 21-22 February. QSL via KU9C.

V47Y will be QRV for the ARRL DX CW Contest, 21-22 February, and the ARRL DX SSB Contest, 7 - 8 March. Outside of the contest periods, the operators may be QRV as **V4/KØYA** and **V4/W5RCX**. QSL via LotW only.

VP9I will be QRV for the ARRL DX CW Contest, 21-22 February, and the ARRL DX SSB Contest, 7 - 8 March. Outside of the contest periods, the operators may be QRV as **AB2E/VP9** and **K3TEJ/VP9**. QSL VP9I via WW3S.

YBØECT will be QRV for the ARRL DX CW Contest, 21-22 February. QSL VP9I via W2FB.

DD2Ø26WPG will be QRV 1 March – 1 April, HF & VHF, CW SSB and Digital, to commemorate the 2026 Paralympic Winter Games Milano-Cortina. QSL DK5ON.

P44W will be QRV for the ARRL DX SSB Contest, 7 - 8 March. QSL via LotW only.

TX5EU will be QRV from Rlvavae Island, Austral Islands, 13 - 25 March, 80 -6, CW SSB RTTY and FT8/4. QSL via DL2AWG or ClubLog OQRS.

CYØS will be QRV 19 – 31 March from Sable Island. The team will begin arriving on March 18th. More information at www.cy0s.com. QSL via WA4DAN.

5WØAF will be QRV 22 March – 11 April, 40 – 10, SSB only. He may also add 80 meters during his last week. QSL via SP7DQR.

TO3E will be QRV 30 – 31 March for the CQ WW WPX contest. QSL via AB2E or as directed.

TO3E will be QRV 26 May – 2 June, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via AB2E or as directed.

FS/K9EL will be QRV 10 - 24 June, 80 – 6, CW and FT8. QSL via K9EL.

OY/G3WVG will be QRV from the Faroe Islands EM-018 25 - 26 July during the RSGB IOTA Contest weekend. QSL via OQRS.

TK5SI will be QRV from Sanquaires Island EU-104 25 - 26 July during the RSGB IOTA

QSL Routes

3Z6I via SP6JIU	LZ1426EN via LZ1KCP
4M5DX via YV5SSB	LZ6F via LZ2FL
4X6TT via N4GNN	M5W via G6EMA
5H3DX via NK8O	M6N via MØNPK
8A1A via N2OO	M7W via G3TBK
8Q7EL via IW5ELA	M8M via GØJJG
9K2GR via MØOXO	MU5E via GU4YOX
9X2AW via MØOXO	OI3V via OH3KAV
A43WWA via EC6DX	OK3C via OK2ZC
A52G via MØOXO	OL26WRT via OK6RA
A71AM via MØOXO	OP7B via ON7BJ
A71AT via EA7FTR	OR7T via ON7YD
AØ5PU via EA5GTU	OS5Z via ON5CAZ
AT29KSJ via VU2ARG	OT4I via ON7QD
AT2WWA via VU2ADV	OT4V via ON4VT
AT3WWA via VU22DX	P3CR via 5B4AOF
AT7WWA via VU2TMP	P4ØAA via DL4MM
C5MB via SP3PS	PC26WWA via PA7JWC
C5SP via SP3PS	PC26WWA via PA7JWC
CN2FPU via F6FPU	PH8LIB via PF1SCT
CQ7WWA via CT1GFK	PI8ØLDN via PI4LDN
D4M via IZ4DPV	PJ4K via KU9C
D4Z via IK2NCJ	PJ6Y via MØOXO
DA1ØØTV via DK5ON	PJ7F via KI7QCF
DH2Ø26EM via DK5ON	RW1F via RW3RN
DA2Ø26SKI via DK5ON	SFØA via SMØLPO
DD2Ø26OWG via DK5ON	SM9X via SMØOEK
DF1ØØKWTJ via DJ9AO	SP1894MMK via
DH2Ø26EM via DK5ON	SP3PDO
DL1ØØLH via DK5ON	SX6FOC via SV1AHH
DL1ØØTV via DK5ON	T88BP via OK1BOA
DQ3ØGDXF via DK6SP	T88HL via JA2TTW
DR8ØØWE via DF2SD	T88HS via JA6KYU
EG6WWA via EC6DX	TM27PVJ via F8GGZ
E7W via E73Y	TM3ØØSK via F4GFE
EG8WW via EA8RM	TO3E via AB2E
HC5AI via MØOXO	TU5KOP via TU5NG
HF3ØPMW via SP2PMW	TZ4AM via KX4R
HG5D via HA8QZ	UE83M via RQ7L
HG9X via HA9BVK	UE83ML via RQ7L
HK1W via EA5KB	UP7WWA via LZ1YE
HK4/DF3TJ via ON5JC	V31MA via MØOXO
HP1EUA via VA2EU	V5CU25 via JA1XGI
HSØZET via DF6RK	VE9WWA via VE9CF
HSØZET via DF6RK	VP8TDX via NE8Z
HR5/F2JD via F6AJA	VP9I via WW3S
IIØLT via IT9MRM	XT2MAX via EA5GL
II9SR via IT9MRM	XU7O via DL4WK
IQ9MQ via IT9MRM	YI3AA via IK2DUW
IRØRIVA via ISØAFM	YU45MJA via YU1EXY
J38WG via WE9G	YU65AEC via YU7AEC
J6/8P5KH via 8P4KM	ZF2PG via K8PGJ
LR1WWA via EC6DX	ZL7DX via MØOXO
LX7I via LX2A	ZS1EKK via MØOXO
LY13LY via LY8O	ZW5B via PY5EG
LY13ØDS via LY2NZ	ZY2N via PY2MNL

**Continued
on Page 12**

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.

Are You Ready For An Adventure?

Brian Markland N8UDQ
General Chairman, Hamvention



Are you ready for an Adventure?

Each year, Hamvention invites the amateur radio community to come together in celebration of innovation, friendship, and the limitless spirit of radio. For 2026, we are proud to announce our new theme:

Radio Adventure

Radio has always been about exploration — of ideas, technologies, distances, and possibilities. From the earliest spark-gap pioneers to today's digital experimenters, satellite operators, contesters, emergency communicators, and outdoor enthusiasts, amateur radio continues to be a gateway to discovery.

Begin your trek to Hamvention — three days filled with learning, discovery, innovation, and community. Whether you come to shop the flea market, attend forums, explore new technology, volunteer, or reconnect with friends old and new, your adventure awaits in Xenia.

Our volunteers are working hard to make this the best show yet!

New 60 Meter Frequencies Available as of February 13th

American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, January 15th, 2026 – The new 60-meter frequencies approved by the FCC in December will become available to amateurs as of February 13th, 2026, along with new power restrictions on those frequencies. It's a bit confusing, as different rules apply to different segments of the band. The changes result from the FCC's action to approve a worldwide 60-meter amateur allocation made by the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15). See <https://tinyurl.com/mt8p8jpa>.

As of February 13th, FCC-licensed amateur operators holding General Class or higher licenses may operate on a secondary basis anywhere between 5351.5 and 5366.5 kHz, subject to a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz and maximum transmit power of 9.15 watts ERP (effective radiated power). For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP (peak envelope power) is multiplied by the antenna gain relative to a half-wave dipole antenna. A half-wave dipole is presumed to have a gain of 1 (0 dBd). Amateurs using other antennas must maintain in their station records either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

Here's the confusing part: The existing 60-meter channels centered on 5332, 5348, 5373, and 5405 kHz remain as secondary amateur allocations with maximum power of 100 watts ERP. However, the old channel at 5358.5 kHz is eliminated as it is now part of the new 5351.5-5366.5 kHz subband and subject to the lower power limit.

For all 60-meter transmissions, emission bandwidth is limited to 2.8 kHz or less and amateurs must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by the United States (NTIA and FCC) and other nations in the fixed service; and all other nations in the mobile service (except aeronautical mobile). Data or RTTY emissions in particular must be limited in transmission length so as not to cause harmful interference. Digital mode operators must be familiar with offsets in order to stay within the authorized frequencies.



Ten-Tec Factory Vandalized

Mike Dishop N8WFF

Dayton, OH, January 15th, 2026 – Two weeks before Christmas, on a day where the all time record low high temperature for the date was recorded, shortly after lunch on Saturday when all the business in the industrial park are closed, in broad daylight, a crew of thieves brazenly attacked and sabotaged our beautiful new dream factory. They actually ripped up the 800A, 3 phase 208V underground feeder cables from the transformer to the building out of the ground. They made off with EIGHT one half inch copper feeders of approximately 230 feet each weighing around 2700 lbs with a replacement material cost of THIRTY THOUSAND US DOLLARS plus installation! They did this during a snow emergency and extreme snow storm conditions. They must have worked several hours to do this.

This has been a very serious setback and tragedy for me and Ten Tec. So obviously we have been closed and the building setting cold ever since. I have been praying for and been blessed with above freezing weather ever since. Fortunately there does not appear to be plumbing damage so far. We have been working to keep the inside temperature above freezing with grill propane tanks and radiant heating directed on the plumbing walls.

Suffice it to say, I have been overly stressed and had the worst holiday season I've ever had. I have been working from home and doing my best under the most trying circumstances, but I obviously have lost time as well as money. I don't want to comment more on the details of the case as the investigation is ongoing. So that is the bad news.

Now for the good news. Shortly after 5 PM yesterday the lights came back on and power was restored to the building. I was on site at 8AM and since the crew of electricians could use some extra help, I directly materially participated in horsing the new cables into the ground. That is the hardest work I have done since I was maybe 19 years old. One of the guys told me later that I had earned his respect. I told him he had my respect for being there and doing this work every day. It is real men like that who make our country great. People don't realize that. I'm not a man to stand around and watch when people are working and need help. So, I think we should all take a moment and remember to thank the tradespeople who literally keep the lights on and the roads moving in our great country.

Real heroes are the people who get up and go to work every day working in all kinds of nasty weather and hard conditions, not only our deployed sailors, troops and airmen. I thank our Great God that this is who we are as Americans and for letting me live in such a great country with such great people in it.



DX News Briefs & Announcements

Continued from Page 11

Contest weekend. QSL via F8GGV.

ZY7L will be QRV through 7 – 9 August during American Lighthouse Weekend. QSL via PT2OP. The Russian DXpedition Team is planning a major DXpedition to Franz Josef Land as RI1FJL for September 2026. More information at <https://www.rudxt.org.ri1fjl>

Amateur Radio DXPeditions has announced plans to active South Georgia as VP0SG in March 2027. They are currently seeking donations. More information at <https://www.ardxpeditons.com/dxpeditons/vp0sg>. QSL via M0OXO



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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Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944

bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com

"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:

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



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

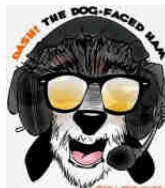
Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

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

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

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

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



US Amateurs by Class as of February 1st, 2026:

Novice	5938	0.703%
Technician	419,802	49.70%
General	205,648	24.34%
Advanced	33,023	3.909%
Extra	168,115	19.90%
Club	12,221	1.447%
Total	844,747	

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

PA Amateurs by Class as of February 1st, 2026:

Novice	278	1.035%
Technician	11,897	44.29%
General	6,881	25.62%
Advanced	1,316	4.8989%
Extra	6,054	22.54%
Club	437	1.627%
Total	26,863	

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of February 1st, 2026:

Group A	AC3QE
Group B	KF3EW
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KD3CNJ

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



FCC News

Washington, DC, January 15th, 2026 – At the urging of ARRL, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is expected to exempt radio amateurs from foreign adversary reporting requirements. These rules would have applied to citizens of the listed countries (see below), including those living in the United States, who hold or are applying for an FCC license.

On January 8th, 2026, the FCC released a draft Report and Order (R&O) [\[GN Docket No. 25-166; PDF\]](#) expected to be adopted at its January 29 meeting that will, as requested by ARRL, exempt radio amateurs from requirements that would have applied reporting requirements to every FCC-authorized radio amateur "subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary." This included "(a)ny individual, wherever located, who is a citizen of a foreign adversary or a country controlled by a foreign adversary, and is not a United States citizen or permanent resident of the United States." Foreign adversaries as defined in the draft R&O are: (1) China, including Hong Kong and Macau; (2) Cuba; (3) Iran; (4) North Korea; (5) Russian Federation; and (6) "Venezuelan politician Nicolás Maduro."

The draft liberally cites ARRL's comments:

"35. We agree with the National Association for Amateur Radio (ARRL) that, while there is a need to protect national security where entities are 'engaged in commerce by providing networks, services or equipment to the American public, where there is the possibility of sensitive information being surreptitiously accessed.' [sic] ... As ARRL notes, '[a]mateur radio licensees not only do not sell or provide any communications service, network, or equipment to the public, but in fact they are prohibited from doing so by both international and domestic law.' ... The risk to national security of Foreign Adversary Control over these licenses is minimal due to the lack of connection to any of the nation's communications networks used by the public. We also agree with ARRL that this reasoning applies to similar services where licenses are held by individuals (e.g., GMRS, Commercial Radio Operators), as well as other licenses and authorizations that lack sufficient connection to commercial wireless communications networks in the United States. Furthermore, the Personal Radio Services—a category that encompasses over 1.6 million unique, mostly individual licensees—operate in shared spectrum bands for hobbyist and safety purposes, posing little threat to national security. Similarly, we include antenna structure owners that voluntarily register their towers in Schedule C because they are likely to be individuals or companies that lack sufficient connection to commercial communications networks. Given the sheer number of licensees and authorization holders in this group, the drain on Commission personnel and resources to process the collections and attestations for each individual licensee would far outweigh the little benefit to the public or the agency of doing so."



Bridgeville, PA, January 6th, 2025 — I was in contact with an old friend that owns Abate Irwin, a structural steel construction company, and we discussed my tower (he helped last time I had the same problem when he and an Ironworker friend climbed the old tower and brought the antenna down.)...

Anyway I showed him pictures of the fixture I made when raising the tower... so he had his shop make this for me. The 5000lb winch will sit on top...

Sadly the day after getting it all set up - the weather turned, so now have to wait until spring because I'm too damn old to work out in the cold anymore!

— Ed Wolf N3UE

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?



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 22nd, 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: ICOM IC-7300 MK2 Transceiver

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)

	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Qtr Oct-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

New Members Only:

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List

[If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out]

Signature: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Family ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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

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

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



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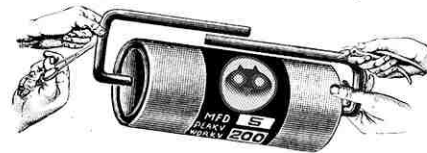
The Daily DX, 3025 Hobbs Road,
Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



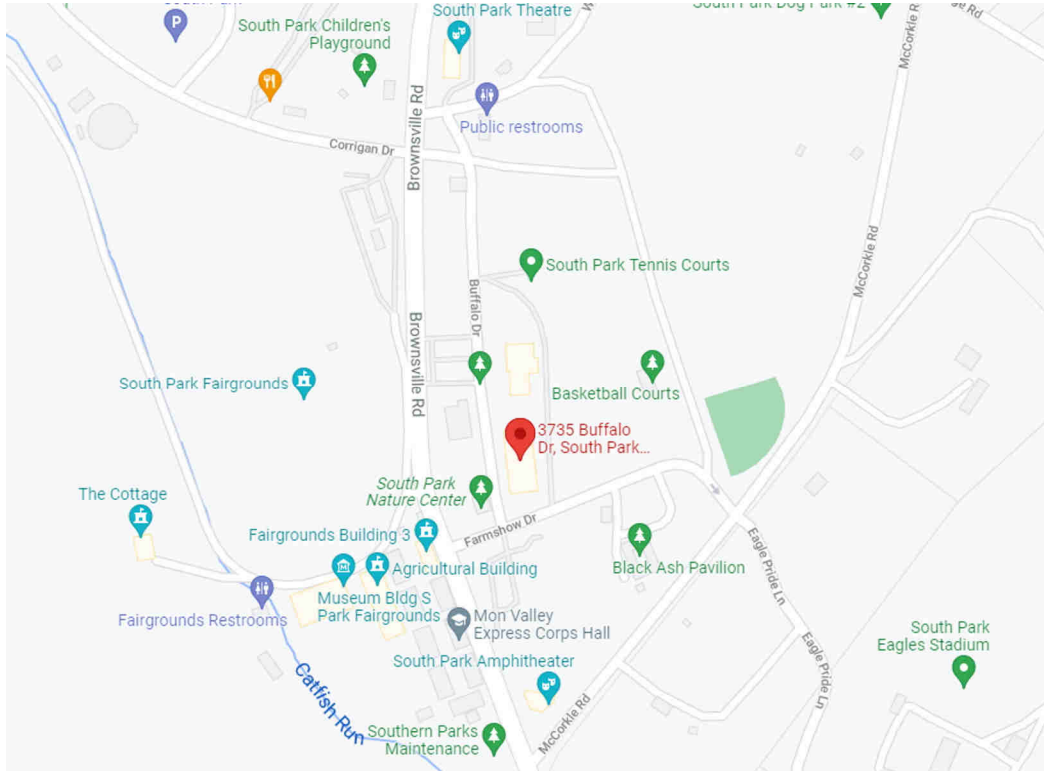
Arhhh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.



Directions to WASHFest 2026



The Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, is one block off of Brownsville Road, adjacent to the Allegheny County Police Station and the South Park Nature Center.

Corrigan Drive can be reached from Library Road (Pa Route 88). Follow Corrigan all the way to Brownsville Road, right onto Brownsville and the building will be visible on the left.

Brownsville Road can be accessed from Sawmill Run (Pa Route 51); follow it into South Park and watch for the building.

Free Parking along the side and rear, off Farmshow Drive.

The WASHRag

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



N3SH / WA3SH
NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org
www.washarc.org

