Wireless Association of South Hills

WASHRAG

www.n3sh.org www.washrag.info



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

Field Day is Coming!

The Wireless Association of South Hills will once again be holding our 2011 Field Day at Mingo Creek Park, Finleyville, Washington County.



We will once again be operating at the Mingo Creek Observatory of the Amateur Astronomer's Association of

Pittsburgh, on Observatory Hill. Maps will be included in the June newsletter.

As of deadline, we do not know yet if the AAAP will be holding a Star Party or having any other activities at the Observatory, but we should know that by the deadline.

Larry K3VX and Kevin N3HKQ are heading up the N3SH Field Day operation. Preliminary plans are to operate at least two transmitter positions, and to make use of the tower trailer and appropriate other wire and beam antennas. Specifics will depend a lot on how many operators are available to commit to N3SH Field Day and what equipment we'll have available to us to use.

Field Day can be fantastic, whether you're an experienced or if



you've just gotten your ticket. Don't miss out on the fun!

Contact K3VX or N3HKQ to find out where they need help and how you can participate!

Salute Those That Serve

On May 28th, 2011, Amateur Radio Military
Appreciation & the Fort Wayne 912 Group will once
again honor those that serve in the Armed Forces,
Our Veterans, Military Retired; and 1ST
Responders with a rally in Fort Wayne, Indiana as
well as live on the air over Amateur Radio.

Please join us as we salute these brave men and women with messages of thanks and appreciation.

There will be several Amateur Radio Clubs, and other organizations around the country taking part in this event with rallies and Amateur Radio stations on the air.

May is National Military Appreciation Month, and Amateur Radio has teamed up with that organization to promote our hobby, and to allow the Troops and Veterans to hear voices live over the Amateur Radio Bands.



All of the necessary information needed for you to join us for this event can be found at www.armad.net or at www.nmam.org.

Fire up the rig and answer our call to salute those that serve.

Next Meeting: May 12 th, 2011

The next monthly meeting of the Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. will be on Thursday, May 12th, 2011, at the North Strabane Township Municipal Building, 1929 Route 519, Canonsburg PA, starting at 7:00 PM.

Topics will include Field Day plans, Dayton, Breezeshooters, the next EME attempt, and more.

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3SH/R and 443.650(+) N3FB/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

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"Seen" at the April Meeting

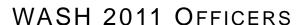
Photos Courtesy of and ©Copyright 2011 Ron Notarius W3WN











EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Ron Notarius W3WN VP / Secretary VP / Treasurer Glen Roberts KE7FD Mark Stabryla N3RDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH / WA3SH Trustee Steve Lane W3SRL NP2SH Trustee Paul Jordan NP2JF N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH QSL Manager Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager Carl Schroeder K9CS VE Team Liaison Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL Randy George N3ZK Webmaster Asst. Webmaster Glen Roberts KE7FD Harold Rosenberger K3HCR Quartermaster WASH FM Net Manager Kevin Smith N3HKQ Kevin Smith N3HKQ. Chairman WASHFest 2011 Committee

Carol Danko KB3GMN, Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events Bob Timmins AB3ED
Ways & Means Carol Danko KB3GMN

Ways & Means Carol Danko KB3GMN Field Day 2011 Coordinators Kevin Smith N3HKQ Larry Comden K3VX

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

N3SH/R 146.955 MHz (-) Mt. Lebanon PL 131.8 Mt. Lebanon W3SRL/R 442.550 MHz (+) PL 131.8 Canonsburg N3FB/R 443.650 MHz (+) PL 131.8 NP2SH / B 28.276 MHz Propagation Beacon St. Johns, VI Canonsburg N3SH 144.390 MHz **APRS** Digipeater

N3SH / WASH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every Sunday Night, 9:00 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)

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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e-mail: newsletter at n3sh dot org or w3wn at arrl dot net The WASHRag", "The Mariner", SHARCfest, South Hills Hamfest,

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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 of both the N3SH-W3SRL Repeater System 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. Special thanks also to Glen Roberts KE7FD of The Internet Guild for his assistance in providing space on-line for our website for back issues of "The WASHRag™" which can be found at www.washrag.info

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WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test July 27 th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be Wednesday, July 27th, 2011, 6:30 PM, at the North Strabane Township Building, 1929 Route 519, Canonsburg, PA. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL:

Telephone (724) 746-9235 or E-Mail: n3zel@comcast.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 or Cash in the amount of \$15.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: (tentative)

Wednesday, October 26th, 2011 Wednesday, January 25th, 2012 Wednesday, April 25th, 2012 Wednesday, July 25th, 2012

Our latest VE exam was held on April 27th, 2011. We had 3 candidates:

- Gregory N. Ward KB3VTD who came in with a Technician license, and passes element 3 to upgrade to General
- Nick J. Cseselka who was unlicensed and passed elements 2 and 3 to earn his General license.
- John F. Vith Jr. who was unlicensed and passed elements 2 and 3 to earn his General license.

My thanks to our VEs who gave their time to attend and make possible this exam session: Rich N1NCZ, Don AE3DL, Bob AB3ED, and Ed N3ZNI. We can't do it without you gentlemen!

- 73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

Beginning Tuesday, September 6 the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) will cease broadcasting its geophysical alert message on WWV and WWVH. These messages inform listeners of the solar flux, the midlatitude A and K indices and space weather

storms, both

current and

predicted.

Currently, the

message is

heard on

minute 18 from

WWV and

minute 45

from WWVH.

WASHNet 2011 NCS Schedule

05/01/2011 - Kevin N3HKQ 05/08/2011 - Dave N3IDH 05/15/2011 - Frank N3FB 05/22/2011 - Dave N3DFK 05/29/2011 - Bill W3WH 06/05/2011 - Harold K3HCR 06/12/2011 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF 06/19/2011 - Bob AB3ED 06/26/2011 - Frank N3FB 07/03/2011 - Dave N3IDH 07/10/2011 - Kevin N3HKQ 07/17/2011 - Dave N3DFK 07/24/2011 - Bill W3WH 07/31/2011 - Harold K3HCR 08/07/2011 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF 08/14/2011 - Bob AB3ED 08/21/2011 - Frank N3FB 08/28/2011 - Dave N3IDH 09/04/2011 - Kevin N3HKQ 09/11/2011 - Dave N3DFK 09/18/2011 - Bill W3WH 09/25/2011 - Harold K3HCR 10/02/2011 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF

10/09/2011 - Bob AB3ED 10/16/2011 - Kevin N3HKQ 10/23/2011 - Dave N3IDH 10/30/2011 - Frank N3FB 11/06/2011 - Dave N3DFK 11/13/2011 - Bill W3WH 11/20/2011 - Harold K3HCR 11/27/2011 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF 12/04/2011 - Bob AB3ED 12/11/2011 - Kevin N3HKQ 12/18/2011 - Dave N3IDH 12/25/2011 - Frank N3FB 01/01/2012 - Dave N3DFK 01/08/2012 - Bill W3WH 01/15/2012 - Harold K3HCR 01/22/2012 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF

01/29/2012 - Bob AB3ED 02/05/2012 - Kevin N3HKQ 02/12/2012 - Dave N3IDH 02/19/2012 - Frank N3FB

02/26/2012 - Dave N3DFK 03/04/2012 - Bill W3WH

03/11/2012 - Harold K3HCR 03/18/2012 - Carol KB3GMN KJ3D, N3DFK, AE3DL, K3SGT & Barb, W9UK, WB4GCS, W3VFA, N3HKQ, N3FB, KB3GMU, N1NCZ, KA1NID & W3WN. Amongst our conversation were such diverse elements as Microsoft software, new PC's, thermal overload, Facebook, hybrid lanes on LA highways, taxes, being friends, free cell phones, appointing or electing judges, hats at the royal wedding, travelling to Ottawa & Columbia, the NRA Convention in town, boating on Lake Michigan, international travel, European passports, tornadoes and towers... and that's only what we heard at the middle of the table. Now, what better way to celebrate the end of May than by joining us for hot coffee and interesting conversation? And even if you can think of something, come join us anyway this coming Saturday, May 29th, for our next breakfast gathering at The Beach House, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm. See you there!

Saturday, April 30th was a beautiful Spring morning, crisp, cool, and

people out and about getting ready for Spring planting. So what better day for the WASH Breakfast Gang to congregate at The Beach House in Finleyville this month? This month's morning birds included

As mentioned briefly in the minutes, Kevin N3HKQ has heard from the Amateur Astronomer's Association of Pittsburgh, and they are very, very interested in another EME event. Kevin, Jim WB4GCS and Rick KB3IAC are working together to find an appropriate date to schedule both a "dry run" and an upcoming operation. More information at the

Even though he's gotten the formal letter, a moment to express our thanks and appreciation to Steve Lane W3SRL for his generous donation to the club for our use of several VHF & UHF antennas.

Don't forget the 2011 City of Pittsburgh Marathon is coming up this weekend. Jeff N3NHS needs about 150 operators to help cover the course, the aid stations, mobile units, race officials, and so on. Yes, even at the last minute, no help will be turned down, there's always something that an extra hand can help with! So, if you're available, please contact Jeff & let him know that you can help out! More details & contact information on Page 8.

Did you see the nice interview that Chuck W3YNI gave in the Tribune-Review the other day? If you missed it, you can find the link at http:// www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/regional/s_734972.html

Congratulations to Bill Hill W3WH for First Place, Single Operator, Low Power in the December 2010 ARRL 160 Meter Contest!

Are you planning to be at this year's **DAYTON HAMVENTION**? If you're bringing along an HT, keep an ear on 146.955 Simplex (131.8 PL) for club member-to-member communication. There's no better way to have someone let you know that the treasure that you've been searching for in the lower flea market is actually up for sale up by the HARA pub!

The Breezeshooter's Hamfest will be here before you know it! Yes. we are going to having the annual club picnic at the hamfest again this year. As usual, the club will be providing the burgers and dogs, and we're asking all club members to bring a side dish, dessert, snack or drinks for our usual "pot luck" event. It's always a big hit, so we hope to have another good one this year. Remember, the event is only open to club members and invited quests, so if you're going to be at Breezeshooter's, please let us know so we can plan accordingly!

Also, N3SH Field Day 2011 in Mingo Park will be here before you know it! The end of June will be here before you know it. We're forging a good relationship with the AAAP, they're looking forward to us returning, all to the good. So start thinking about when you can come down and operate. We always have a good time (Omni VI's not withstanding), and we're looking forward to another one this year!

Plus our annual July or August club picnic — anyone for South Park again, or is there a better place to go this year for a change of pace? So... It looks to be a lot of fun this summer! (And, let's not forget the Pa QSO Party & ARRL Sweepstakes coming up this fall, but that might be getting just a mite ahead of ourselves...)

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Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2011 Today! Membership Application on Page 11!!

Minutes, April 14th Meeting Glen Roberts KE7FD, Vice President/Secretary, WASH

Ron W3WN called the meeting to order at 19:01 hours. There were 14 members and guests in attendance.

A moment of silence was observed for recent silent keys and other deserving persons.

A motion was made by Frank Bill W3WH to waive reading of the March minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Jim WB4GCS and carried unanimously.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): A balance on the bank account was read on Mark's behalf.

Secretary (KE7FD):. No report.

VE Report (N3ZEL): Next session is Wednesday, April 27th, at 6:30 PM VE's

Repeaters (N3FB): No report.

Net Report (N3HKQ): N3IDH ran the last net.

Contests (K3VX): CQ WPX contest 28 & 29 May, June VHF contest upcoming. Field Day will be at Mingo this year at the AAAP observatory.

Activities: Echoes of Apollo EME Project (N3HKQ & WB4GCS): As detailed in the newsletter, the April 9th demonstration occurred at the Mingo observatory, with some challenges to overcome for future endeavors. Lots of mud & the wrong mode chief culprits. AAAP is interested in us continuing with them in the future

NP2SH Beacon (N3BSQ): No updates

Public Service (N3IDH): "Run for Alex" in Bentleyville first weekend in June. Pittsburgh Marathon is coming up on May 15th. Volunteers needed for both events.

Ways and Means (KB3GMN): No report, no 50/50.

Newsletter: Went out late, the night before the meeting.

President's Report (W3WN): Several VHF antennas have been donated to the club by W3SRL, and have been received by the club.

Old Business: None

New Business: The tower trailer needs some maintenance on the hitch. Motion by Dave N3IDH to have the repair & welding done professionally. Second by Jim WB4GCS. Passed unanimously. Kevin N3HKQ will take charge of the repair.

Good of the Order: Ed N3ZNI has offered to check cars over prior to the trip to Dayton. Glen KE7FD has room for two more passengers in his vehicle.

Motion to Adjourn by Bill W3WH, Second by Jim WB4GCS and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:03 hours.



WASH Spotlight: Coffee?



The April gathering of The WASH Breakfast Gang at the Beach House in Finleyville. Below left, even after we leave, we hang around chatting! Photos ©Copyright 2011 Kevin Smith N3HKQ

Every month we're going to feature a WASH club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the WASH Spotlight. Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at newsletter at n3sh dot org

Monthly WASH Breakfast

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

> Join us this month at *The Beach House*, on Route 88 in Fiinleyville, just south of Trax Farms and adjacent to Mineral Beach.Start time is about 8 AM until ???? Monitor 146.955 & 443.650 for talk-in or any last minute changes.

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

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AA3XY AB3ED AB3EN AB3KA AE3DL K3AIR K3GW K3HCR K3LGM K3RYA K3SGT K3VX KA3TWI KB3DCO KB3GMN KB3GMP KB3GMU	KB3IVX KB3ORR KB3TOA KC4WTT KE7FD KJ3D N2QIV N3AWF N3BPB N3CZZ N3DFK N3FB N3FPF N3HKQ N3KFD N3OVP N3QWW	N3RHT N3SBF N3TIR N3YJJ N3ZEL N3ZK N3ZNI NU3S W3RWS W3VFA W3WH W3WH W3WN WA3NB WA4ONC WB4GCS WO3Z Jane Wagner	WASH FL KA3UPY/MM W4ZE WASH GA K3OL KB3IJX WASH NE NØPEU WASH OH N8DPW WASH SC N3RNX WASH TN KE3XB N3YPB WASH TX K3LGM Jane Wagner	WASH VI NP2JF	Silent Keys K3EED (George) KA3NMG KB3ENX KB3FNM KB3FQT N3FZ N3KEH N3OBD N3SKR N3SRC N3SFC N3XFE
KB3IAC	N3RDV				WA3JPP

Through April 28 TH, 2011 List complied by Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2011 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change

May 12 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
May 14 th	PARS Crystal Radio Contest	http://www.pittantiqueradios.org
May 15 th	City of Pittsburgh Marathon	http://marathon.central.org
May 20 th — 22 nd	Dayton Hamvention	http://www.hamvention.org/
May 28 th — 29 th	CQ WPX Contest CW	http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com
June 5 th	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	http://www.breezeshooters.net
June 5 th	WASH Members Picnic	At the Breezeshooter's Hamfest
June 9 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
June 11 th & 12 th	ARRL June VHF Contest	http://www.arrl.org
June 25 th & 26 th	ARRL Field Day	http://www.arrl.org
July 9 th & 10 th	IARU HF World Championship	http://www.iaru.org
July 10 th	North Hills ARC Hamfest	New Location http://www.nharc.org
July 14 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
July 17 th	WPa Repeater Council Meeting	http://www.wprc.us
July 17 th	Somerset County ARC Hamfest	ak3j@arrl.net
July 27 th	WASH VEC Examination	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
July 31 st	Foothills ARC Hamfest	n3flr@arrl.net
August 11 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
August 28 th	Skyview RS Hamfest	http://www.skyviewradio.net
September 8 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
October 8 th — 9 th	Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html
October 13 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
October 26 th	WASH VEC Examination	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
November 6 th	WACOM Hamfest	http://www.wacomarc.org
November 10 th	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building

The Further Adventures of Carl & Quinn

Lynn Richards AAA2ZZ

uinn showed up at the back door instead of the front as he always did. My wife reluctantly accepted this practice despite the fact that on a couple of occasions we have both been startled by finding him grinning from ear to ear peering through the back door window. If he was going to be my friend and he was, it was better to have him come to the back door instead of the front; our neighbors already thought of me as "That weird guy down the street". Anyway, Quinn was rapping on the door like a dog scratching to go outside to relieve himself. I hesitated opening the door for a moment wondering if the plumbing at his place was backed up again and he was here to do the same thing to ours...

"Hey Carl, I've got the greatest idea for our trip to Dayton this year." Our trip to Hamvention 2011, while exciting, was still something of a sore spot since each of us was certain the other had reserved a room at the University of Dayton via NB3C, when in fact neither of us had and every room for 20 miles around was taken. So we had plans to go to Dayton but no place to stay once we got there.

"OK, I'll bite, what's this great idea you have?" I replied.

"You know, we could stay at the Dayton KOA Campground" he blurted out, "and save a bundle on a motel room. They have showers, a snack bar, a jukebox, a pool, a train and all sorts of stuff. We don't need a fancy motel. We can get the same lavish junk for about half the cost."

"I dunno man, you and fire don't have a good history." I countered. Quinn had once set his own hair ablaze when he backed into a propane lantern that was hanging from a branch. We would have doused him with water sooner if we hadn't been rolling on the ground laughing our heads off. I didn't want a repeat of the Great Chicago fire so I set out looking for alternative accommodations. Fortunately, a bit later in the day I was able to find a room in Xenia, Ohio at a place which I hoped wasn't a dive. I called Quinn with the news.

However, within a couple of days, Quinn, not wanting to entirely abandon our near "roughing it" experience came up with something that only he could imagine: The mobile washer. Using the trailer we picked up from Roadway's salvage yard that we intended for a mobile tower, he instead converted it to a road-powered laundry machine. Using a pair of 55 gallon water drums, wheel barrel tires (for a transmission), old garden hoses, various other components and plywood scrap, Quinn constructed a big blue water drum washing machine powered by the motion of the trailer. (To quote my favorite TV character, Red Green, "If the women don't find you handsome, they should at least find you handy." Quinn was handy if not anything else.) I was genuinely impressed with what he had come up with. By the following Saturday, Quinn and I had amassed quite a load of dirty clothes to test his new invention with; he having soiled work overalls, jeans with grass stains topping his list and me, well, I just emptied our hamper into the drum along with my wife's delicate things. It was my turn for laundry duty this week especially since she was off at some day spa with her lady friends. I figured, "Why not? She won't mind and it'll be like killing two birds with one stone." When Quinn pulled into the driveway towing the "machine", he said he had already put his stuff in along with stain remover and I was to put my stuff in along with detergent. I loaded everything into the barrel and off we went down the road to the turnpike.

"Using these homemade switches here on the seat I'll be able to control the water flowing into the drum once we get to the long straight-way" Quinn explained, "Then every few miles after the things tumbled a bit and the water drains out, I let more water in for the rinse cycle."

"Funny that no one else has thought of doing this before. People are forever driving places and with us going to Dayton this year, something like this seems like a no brainer", I said as we turned down the on-ramp picking up speed. Quinn's truck didn't have working AC so we had the windows down to keep cool; it made for a lot of wind noise and hard to hear each other.

Once we got up to speed Quinn held down a momentary switch to add water to the washing-barrel, mixing the clothes, detergent and stain remover.

"Your wife is really gonna be impressed when she sees you got all the laundry done by the time she gets back!" Quinn said trying to shout over the roar of wind and road noise.

"Depressed? She's not depressed. Oh, sure sometimes she's gets a little down but she's always been a real positive thinker", I replied.

"What do you mean she went to get a blinker? I thought you said she went to the spa."

"Right, I tossed in her bra..."

Clearly, we had trouble hearing each other.

"So, what kind of detergent did you use Carl?"

"Yes, I think the death penalty is a deterrent!"

"Did you say you used 'meth chemistry'? We can't use that, it's illegal dude!"

"No, the dog's a Retriever, not a Beagle!" I shouted back as Quinn quickly pulled onto the shoulder of the road coming to a complete stop.

"Beagle? What are you talkin' about man? What did you use for detergent Carl?"

"Oh, that blue stuff they advertise on TV", I replied adding, "What kind of spot remover did you put in with your stuff?"

"White vinegar. Why?" The words scarcely left Quinn's lips when the drum exploded.

The next thing either of us remembered was sitting on the side of the road surrounded by state troopers, flashing lights, the peeled back bed of his truck and a local 6 o'clock news crew taping a story about us with my wife's bra hanging from a road sign behind us which read, "BUMPY ROAD AHEAD".

Here on the other side of the pond things look sometimes different. When you consider, that we live in one world, there may be cultural differences in our way of life, but when you break it down to you and me, friends and others: We all have to deal with problems which seem to be beyond our personal control.

And when I say problems I mean the big problems like banking crisis, problems for individuals to save some money for their rent, ... The reason: We seem to have no chance than to grow, grow, grow... But we hams especially QRPers go into another direction. We try to use our low cost technology in the best way: Not to make the big money, but to help the community. We proved for example, that you do not necessarily need an overkill of technology to get into contact with one another or just to be friendly.

I do not want to carry on these arguments for you all know them. Top-DXer or Soldering Freak: You all stand for the codex of Ham Radio. I also do not want to talk about QRP as Lifestyle, but I think we perhaps have to reconsider the ideas of one of the most influent books of the past decade "Small is beautiful". It was discussed in length, but seemed to have no real impact.

Have a look at my blogpost: Q: Do We Have to Change Our Way of Thinking?

I can only answer this question personally: No, I live by Ham-Standards. So I try to use our resources as best as I can and I try to help my neighbor. But I am not sure whether the "rest of the world" have adopted these ideas. — Hajo Dezelski DL1SDZ

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CC&R's and CCR

Glen Roberts KE7FD

I'm not not a real attorney, although I play one on TV, so take this advise with a grain of salt and... two aspirins (I'm also not a real doctor, although I...). Hams have familiarity with a variety of topics outside of tubes and transistors, wires and winding, dits and dahs, but mostly our thoughts revolve around antennas, loose screws and contesting. Depending on our ages, some things may be more familiar to us than others. Consider the lowly CC&R, which stands for Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions that, like a torn, are often found lodged in the side of many a ham. Then there is the renowned 60's/70's rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival, often abbreviated as CCR. If we could find a way to somehow combine these two together into a legally binding document there might be more neighbors of hams happier about amateur radio towers and antennas in their area. An amended list of terms and conditions could look something like this:

For property owners:

• Exclusion of amateur radio antennas cannot be based on whim or hearsay and just because "I Heard It Through the Grapevine".

For hams:

The purpose for erecting a tower has to be more than just "Lookin' for a Reason", and not just because the operator is "Proud Mary".

Who do these terms apply to?

• "Crazy Otto" and any licensed amateur radio operator "Born On The Bayou" and "Fortunate Son".

Where are towers allowed?

• Down by the "Green River", "Up Around the Bend", "Down on the Corner", but not on the "Side o' the Road", or by any "Cotton Fields" and as long as everyone and their late grandmother can't see it when "Lookin' out My Back Door".

When can towers be erected and who can assist?

- "The Night Time Is the Right Time".
- "Willy and the Poor Boys"
- "Susie Q"
- But not when there is a strong wind or when there is a "Bad Moon Rising".

Height and size (wavelength) restrictions?

- As "Long as I Can See the Light".
- Antennas are allowed on all amateur frequencies, except for "Ninety-Nine And A Half" meters, the "Travelin' Band".

When running cables to a tower caution should be used such that the setting isn't like a "Run Through the Jungle". Caution should also prevail not to place antennas too close to a neighbors structure. A falling tower ("It Came Out of the Sky", being a common excuse) could damage property such as a roof, and then during inclement weather having to wonder, "Who'll Stop the Rain?" This situation could lead to a "Rude Awakening #2" with a reaction of "Don't Look Now" followed by the "Poorboy Shuffle".

Most neighbors will not appreciate the view of a 70 foot tower and "Take It Like a Friend". Some may even insist they "Need Someone to Hold" responsible for what they perceive as diminished property values, wishing instead that you erect the tower "Up the Country" or just somewhere they don't have to look at it and no, "Don't Look Now" just doesn't cut it. To hams it is understood applying for an exemption seems like "Someday Never Comes", and "Feelin' Blue" have been overheard to ask themselves, "What Are You Gonna Do?" Many hams grow tired of waiting for exemptions and find they are still "Stuck in Lodi again" only in the end to "Sail Away" or even to "Walk on the Water" to get to a DXpedition location like "Ooby Dooby" instead dealing with the red tape.

But once the tower is up and distant contacts are made with far corners of the world, don't forget to say, "Hello Mary Lou" amidst the pile-ups. Thank your non-ham neighbors for their understanding and refrain bursting out with comments like "I Put A Spell On You" or "Good Golly Miss Molly".

And as a side note to all those hams reading this, deliver those QSL cards "Door to Door" for that personal touch whenever possible to make "The Midnight Special ".

Bill & Larry's Antenna Service



T6PSE DXpedition Cancelled

Paul Ewing N6PSE

The Intrepid-DX Group has been planning for many months to conduct a large multi-national DXpedition from Kabul, Afghanistan as T6PSE.

- We had been receiving advice and assistance from Jim McLaughlin WA2EWE/T6AF, who was killed in Kabul in late April.
- The Taliban subsequently announced their "Spring Offensive".
- Last night (May 1st), President Obama announced the killing of Osama Bin Laden.

Given these circumstances, and with careful consideration, we have decided to cancel our plans for a DXpedition from Afghanistan. There is just too much uncertainty in the region for us to continue to move forward with our plans.

In the next several weeks, I will refund all donor/sponsor monies that have been given to support our plans.





City of Pittsburgh Marathon 2011: Amateur Radio Volunteers Needed!

The City of Pittsburgh Marathon is back in a big way, with two record setting years in a row. This year's race will be on May 15th 2011, and once again, we've been asked to help.

We will be providing communications vital to ensuring the safety both of those athletes running in the marathon and of the many spectators. There are many positions around the 26.2 mile course that need to be covered, including mile markers, aid stations, buses and sweep vehicles, shadows for race officials, and others. To full cover all of these positions, we will need over 150 volunteer amateur radio operators — including you!

To register online, visit <u>marathon.central.org</u>, click "Volunteer Now!" and fill out the form. You will receive your assignment and detailed instructions in early May. There will also be a pre-race meeting the day before the marathon, at which we'll review what to expect on race day, answer any questions you have, and provide your T-Shirt, hat, and credentials. Or contact me vial email or at (412) 401-8348

— 73, Jeff Hutzelman N3NHS<u>jhutz@cmu.edu</u>

DX News Briefs

W5FJG is the new Chief Communications Officer on Midway Island. He will soon be QRV as KH4/W5FJG for about a year. He plans to start with an IC-7000 & a small whip located in the old Ham Shack. Joe is seeking equipment donations, including amps, rigs,

and a "good multi-band antenna". He hopes to be QRV 6 through 40, maybe 80, SSB, CW, RTTY & Digital. More information via the K4/W5FJG Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KH4_W5FJG/? vquid=183408745 — W5FJG

A group of Dutch hams will be QRV from the **Faroe Islands** 22 May - 3 June. They will be on all bands, CW & RTTY, as well as AO-51. QSL **OY/PAØVHA**, **OY/PA2A & OY/PA2AM** via their home calls. They also plan activity from **Market Reef** later this year — PA2AM

The DXARC DXcolombia Amateur Radio Club HK1NA will be QRV as **HKØNA** from **Isla Malpelo** this year. The operating team, led by HK1R, will include 8 Colombian's and 4 DX amateurs. The government issued their license on 26 April. QSL will be via an Online QSL System. More information at http://hk0na.com — HK1NA

The Pacific DXers will be QRV from Nauru as C21A 13 November - 7 December. VK4AN/3D2A will be in Fiji before then, and plans to be in Nauru by 7 November to begin setting up, so he may be QRV earlier. They plan on 6 operators and 3 stations, 160 - 6, CW SSB RTTY & PSK-31. An online log is planned. More information will be available from VK4FW of VK4AN, or at http://pacific-dxers.com/News.html — Pacific DXers

VK9CI will be QRV from Cocos Island 1 - 7 June. QSL via VK6YS — VK6YS

UY5LW is now QRV as XV4LW from Vietnam, thru 18 May, on the WARC bands & 6 meters. — UY5LW

TJ3AY will be QRV as **TJ3IC** 10 - 30 May to commemorate the anniversary of the independence of **Cameroon**. QSL via F5LGE — TJ3AY

5H2DCL is QRV, 20 M CW, through June. QSL via WØWOI — WØWOI

JA1XGI will be QRV as **T2XG** from **Tuvalu** 17 - 24 May. Before & after, Haru will be **3D2XG** during his stop-over. Activity will be primarily 40 - 10 meters, CW SSB & Digi modes. QSL via JA1XGI — JA1XGI

 ${\sf 5N4LRJ}$ is now QRV from Banana Island, near Logos, Nigeria. QSL via G8JWT — G8JWT

The July **Jan Mayen** operation, which had planned to use JX7VPA 4 - 16 July, will now be QRV as **JX50** thanks to the help of the LA5O contest club. They will be setting up a new 6 meter vertical for the JX7SIX beacon. QSL via OQRS or via SQ8X. More info at http://janmayen2011.org/ — SQ8X

QSL Routes

3CØC via EA7FTR - W4DN 3DAØGF via ZS6AYU - AA5AM 4L1MA via ON4RU — JA1HGY 5H3EE via DL4ME - W5TFW 5R8HL via SM1ALH — JA1HGY 5R8X via OH2BH — LU2EMH 5XØCW via DK7PE — JA1HGY 6Y1LZ via K1LZ - N9RE 7Z1TT via NI5DX — W2IRT 9MØM via K7XN — PY2SEX 9N7JO via LA7JO - W9OL A45XR via SP5EXA — PY2YP AP2NK via W3HNK - PAØWRS BV100 via BV2KI — LU2DKN CS2C via OK1RF — JA1HGY D2CQ via CT1IUA — W2IRT DU1IST via JA1HGY — WL7E ER24ØC via ER5AA — ER5AA EZ7V via RW6HS — VU2NKS J5NAR via HAØNAR — KZ2I

JY4NE via K3IRV — W2IRT KHØ/G3ZEM via MØURS — JA1HGY LP3U via LU3UI — LU2EMH OJØB via OH2BH — LU2EMH OX3XR via OZ3PZ — OX3XR PJ2T via N9AG — NØVD RI1FJ via UA2FM — AA5AM T3ØXG via JA1XGI — W4DN T3ØYA via W7YAQ — JA1HGY T88ZM via MØURS — JA1HGY TO3A via VE3EY — JA1HGY UP5ØS via RZ3AHQ — PAØRDY V25OP via W9OP — JA1HGY V51AS via DH5AS — PY5EW VK9CF via K8NA — W2IRT VK0KEV via JE1LET — W2IRT XV2RZ via XU7MDY — W2IRT Z22CW via DK7PE — PAØWRS ZD9T via DJ2EH — AA5AM ZF2LC via W2SM — ZF2LC

Thanks to the NJDXA *DX News* & *DX Chat* Reflectors, the *DX-QSL* Reflector, 425 *DX News*, *OPDX News*, *Diamond DX Club News*, *ICPO Bulletin*, & *ARRL DX Bulletin* for our *DX News* information. Thanks also to Bill Moore NC1L / ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR /*The Daily DX* for confirmations & additional information.

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WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the *WASH*Rag. 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 *WASH*Rag or the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

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Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

Contact: Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire

Murrin, Taylor, Flach, Gallagher & May 110 East Diamond Street, Butler PA 16001

Phone: 724-282-3141 <u>lazaroff@murrinlaw.com</u>

Custom Decals, Signs, Plaques and Woodworking from *Randy George N3ZK*

More information at his web site, Randy George Woodworking http://

www.randygeorgewoodworking.com/

See his eBay store for special deals at http://stores.shop.ebay.com/Randy-George-Custom-Signs_W0QQ_armrsZ1



Solderer's Wanted: Aerotek, "the largest staffing company in North America, is looking for experienced," is looking for Skilled Solderer's for a firm in Harmarville and possibly other firms as well, for their Electronic Assembly positions.

Aerotek is also seeking individuals interested in any type of work in the manufacturing or production field.

If you are interested in pursuing one of these positions, or interested in other positions available, please contact:

Matthew Lord, Commercial Recruiter
Aerotek Inc.
4 Penn Center West Suite 200
Pittsburgh PA 15276
(412) 489-9829 (phone) (412) 489-9860 (fax)
mlord@aerotek.com

Feel free to mention the WASHRag when you call him!

For Sale: MFJ-969 Versa Tuner II. Never used; was purchased for mobile use, but was never hooked up. \$125. Ed Wolf N3UE ewolf@wolf-pa.us

FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, May 4th, 2011 — The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on May 3rd, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$13.30 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$14.20 for 10 years, an increase of 90 cents. The FCC is authorized by the Communications

Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site.



The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 14 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). In 2007, the Commission lowered the fee from \$20.80 to \$11.70. The FCC said it anticipates some 14,600 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$207,320 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal five years ago.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

Turkmenistan Remains QRT

May 1, 2011: The following is an update [edited for clarity] by Vlad EZ8BP almost six months on:

On this day, things are very bad. Our amateur radio league cannot re-register with the Ministry of Justice of Turkmenistan due to the fact they now have no legal address. For that reason, the State Inspectorate for Spectrum Communications, Ministry of Turkmenistan refuses to issue permits, as such, Turkmenistan is off air.

November 17, 2010: Only two stations have a valid license in Turkmenistan now – Club station EZ7V (Alex is chief) and EZ7AV – Alex's personal call. There is currently a big problem with antenna restrictions in EZ. Also, Alex uses low power when operating. When asked if he could try RTTY, unfortunately he said no due to lack of equipment. In January 2011, Alex retires and hopes to have more time to collect necessary paperwork to revive ham activty in EZ. (thanks EU7SA)

July 16, 2009: Ashgabat City, Turkmenistan — It's not often the now rare Turkmenistan shows on air. Vlad, EZ8BP from Ashgabat City, today appeared on 10m SSB, a little after 08:00z and made a few contacts. DX World obtained an audio file which includes a recording of EZ8BP in QSO with A61BK, from Dubai. Feel free to click on the link below to listen to Vlad.

Prior to the recording, Igor RA3CQ enquired with Vlad about the current situation with licenses in Turkmenistan. Vlad mentioned it is still "foggy" and "complicated" and a "risk" is involved each time a transmission is made. Hopefully the situation changes

— Courtesy of the DX World of Amateur Radio

Has Roadway found the tower yet?

57th Annual BreezeShooters Hamfest & Computer Show

Sunday, June 5th, 2011 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Butler Farm Show Grounds, Roe Airport, Butler PA \$5 Per Person Admission Donation

Tailgate / Flea Market Spaces Available at \$5 per Space Indoor Tables \$20 per table and may be reserved by contacting Bob Benna N3LWP (412) 366-0488

Or mail reservations to 1010 Willow Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15237

Table reservation cut-off date May 20th, 2010

More information on prizes and tables, please contact: Bob Benna N3LWP (412) 366-0488 (ph) (412) 366-0486 (fax)

Download directions & the latest flyer from the BreezeShooters Web Site at http://www.breezeshooters.net



Thirteenth Annual WASH Picnic at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 7th, 2011 from approximately 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM At the *WASH* Club Location Somewhere Out in the Flea Market

(Look for us in the vicinity of the Grandstand, along the fence, near the Wash House)

A tradition at the Breezeshooter's Hamfest for over 23 years on & off, and a WASH formal or informal activity for the last 13!

Spend the morning meeting your fellow WPA & Regional Hams, buying or selling stuff & dodging roving golf carts full of Breezeshooters — then join your fellow WASH members and our invited friends for lunch, friendship, bragging rights, and (if set up and operational) operating N3SH/3 from the Flea Market — with the Tower Trailer (if brought)!

This will be a "Pot Luck/Covered Dish" Picnic — The Club has traditionally provides the burgers and hot dogs; we're asking everyone coming to bring buns, soft drinks, water, a side dish, snacks, fruit, cookies, dessert, ice, or whatever they can.

Contact Ron W3WN w3wn at n3sh dot org to coordinate who's bringing what.

There is <u>no charge</u> to attend (outside of bringing something to share) but the picnic is <u>not</u> open to the general public, only *WASH* members (including their families), friends & invited guests.



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application/Renewal for 2011



I would like to join WASH!. I am interested in	the following type	of membership:	$\ \ \square \ {\bf New \ Membership}$	☐ 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 f	amily members): \$			
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☐ Elsewhere \$62 Name & Call Sign: ___ $\hfill \Box$ Other (including Blind, Life, QST by First Class Postage — please contact ARRL for rate Dues subject to change without notice

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Name & Call Sign: ___

Original 13 Colonies 2011 Special Event

Bob Josuweit WA3PZO, Trustee, WM3PEN, for the Holmesburg ARC

Amateur radio stations operating from the 13 original U.S. colonies will be joined by members of the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club to celebrate Independence Day from the city where independence was declared, Philadelphia, PA.

The theme for the 2011 event is the Declaration of Independence. Each of the original 13 colonies will be represented by a special event station using a 1x1 callsign, K2A - K2M. The Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club will operate the Club call, WM3PEN, as a special event station and will offer a special QSL card featuring Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was signed. In all you can collect 14 QSL cards during the 5 day event.

The 13 Colony Special Event will be offering a special certificate with the Declaration of Independence on it. For further information on the 13 colony certificate look up the The U.S. Original 13 Colonies Group at http://www.13colonies.info. When you work WM3PEN make a note on the 13 colony log sheet and you will get a "Liberty Bell" endorsement with the WM3PEN call place on the certificate. The Pennsylvania Assembly ordered the Liberty Bell in 1751 to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania's original Constitution.



When you work WM3PEN send an SASE, IRC, or Green Stamp (\$1) with your QSL to WM3PEN. Use the address for WM3PEN at QRZ.COM. SWLs may send a confirmation of reception to request a QSL card. Simply indicate the stations making contact with WM3PEN, time, frequency, and your receiving equipment. SWL stations should follow the same mailing instructions. Collect all "13" for a set. All Colony States have real nice special event QSL cards in full color, depicting their state flag or other Colonial period designs promoting their Colony State! This is a must have collection! The only way you can acquire a "set" is to complete a "Clean Sweep" of all Colony stations during the 5 day event.

WM3PEN, along with the other stations participating in the 13 Colonies Event will be operating on 10 - 80 Meters, but will not be operating on the WARC bands. WM3PEN is planning on operating on 2 Meter Simplex. Using K2M and representing Pennsylvania will be WX3A in Hamlin and N2MZZ in Stroudsburg.

Times will be: 12:01 AM Eastern on July 1st to 11:59 PM Eastern on July 5th. Join in the fun and be Radio active. Hope to see you on the air. For further information on the WM3PEN operation, check out the Club website at www.harcnet.org or contact wm3pen@arrl.net.

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 www.washrag.info

