



# WASHRAG™

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OCTOBER 2010

N3SH  
WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

Wireless Association of South Hills

## Are CW Vets Killing CW?

Frank van Wensveen PA3GMP

Many moons ago, when I was still young and handsome (I'm older now, HI) I spend about six months learning CW. Because I had the privilege to learn from one of the best CW teachers I know (Leen PD0MPL) the CW exam was a breeze and soon I had upgraded my novice license to a full license (for which CW was still a requirement in those days).

Unfortunately I spent most of my ham radio life on locations where I was unable to work HF, due to onerous antenna restrictions and QRM levels high enough to power a toaster. Only for the past year or so I have been able to put up a decent HF antenna and make QSO's on the 'DC' bands. Because I have always rather liked CW, I took the opportunity to try and revive my CW skills, which by now had become decidedly rusty. And immediately I ran into a big problem.

Having learned CW at the required speed of 12 words per minute, I am totally unable to copy any of the CW signals that can be heard on the HF bands these days. The CW enthusiasts that occupy the CW portions of the bands tend to be seasoned veterans, who make their QSO's at machine-gun speeds of 20 to 25 WPM or more, often using electronic keyers. While there is of course nothing wrong with that, this does pose a huge obstacle for the novice CW enthusiast who can copy 12WPM but little more, and is used to a straight key.

Which brings me to a question. Especially now that the CW requirements have been dropped just about everywhere, the novice CW enthusiast has become somewhat of a rare beast. Being one myself, I wonder: how is a novice CW station, limited to the basics of, say, 12WPM and a straight key, going to be able to get into the game these days when other novice CW operators are few and far between, and everyone else is a 20+WPM veteran?

I realize that it is not easy to slow down to 12WPM or so when you're used to much higher speeds. In fact, I am sure that it will be a bit of a

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### Meeting Locations

I am pleased to announce that the October and November meetings for the Wireless Association of South Hills will be held at the North Strabane Township building, 1929 Route 519, North Strabane (Canonsburg) PA. It is approximately 15 minutes, give or take traffic, south of the Peters Township Library. A map is located on the back page.

I had hoped to formally announce this sooner; I've been waiting a formal letter confirming the room reservation. A question came up because of the November meeting being on Veteran's Day, but I have been assured that arrangements have been made with the North Strabane police to unlock the room for us.

Special thanks to Jacque N3ZEL for her efforts in getting us "hooked up" with North Strabane!

We have submitted a reservation request for our "usual" meeting nights in 2011, including VE tests. However, this is not confirmed yet as the township calendar hasn't been set yet, and there is always a possibility that a township function would take place that evening.

Yes, we're aware that this may be a little further south than we had originally intended. Bear with us for just a little while longer.

With those thoughts in mind.

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### Next Meeting: October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010

The next monthly meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at the North Strabane Township Municipal Building, 1929 Route 519, Canonsburg PA, starting at 7:00 PM.

Topics will include meeting locations, the NP2SH beacon, upcoming elections, the 2 meter contest, WASHFest 2011 & other activities.

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

# Tippi Comden WA3JPP (SK) Larry Comden K3VX

Tippi passed away on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, very peacefully with none of the pain, anxiety or other traumas we were told might happen.

The memorial service will be on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2PM. Location: UU Church of the South Hills, 1240 Washington Road, Mt Lebanon.

Tippi provided all the pictures, readings and musical ideas for the service.

She wanted it done her way. The only spontaneous part will be remembrances from family and friends.

Suggest donations to Forbes Hospice in lieu of anything else. They gave us wonderful support.

I'm including 3 ham radio anecdotes. Computers, film, then video became more important to her, but she always supported my radio activities.



## Three Ham Radio Anecdotes about Tippi WA3JPP

1. When we were first dating (in the dark ages of 1952) I introduced Tippi to ham radio and announced that "girls can't pass the necessary tests".

This challenge was too much for her to pass up. Very soon she was WN1WXR and a year later General Class W1WXR. That was in the days when General = 13 WPM Morse and drawing diagrams of circuits. So much for pronouncements from a 15 year old male. Her father bought her a station which was much better than mine.

We used that station for many years.

2. Starting in '77 she started work at Western PA School for the Deaf in Edgewood. It was a boring commute so we got one of those crystal controlled 2M FM rig and a 25W amp for her car. She was quite active on the few repeaters of the time as WA3JPP.

3. On several occasions I drafted Tippi to paper log/dupe for me in contests.

One very cold January Saturday we set out to work the WASH Simplex contest. Because the rig was in the front passenger seat she sat in the back seat with clipboard in hand and the dome light on. This very odd couple attracted inquires from several different cops as we changed from one Zip Code to another.



## WASH 2010 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Ron Notarius W3WN
VP / Secretary	Bob Timmins AB3ED
VP / Treasurer	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
Webmaster	Randy George N3ZK
Asst. Webmaster	Glen Roberts KE7FD
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
WASHFest 2011 Committee	Kevin Smith N3HKQ, Chairman
	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Activities & Operating Events	Bob Timmins AB3ED
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Field Day 2011 Coordinators	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
	Larry Comden K3VX

### CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3SH / R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL / 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 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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The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** was founded on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1993, as the original **SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners 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](http://www.washrag.info)

# WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

## Next WASH VE Test October 18<sup>th</sup>

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 6:30 PM**, at the **Washington County Building**, 100 Beau Street Room 103, Washington, 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](mailto: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: Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011

The ARRL Lab has installed a D-Star repeater in the lab at ARRL Hq. Access to the W1HQ repeater on 147.390 is available to any D-STAR user "on the planet". The purpose of the repeater is to better educate the lab staff on the operation of D-STAR.

The repeater's footprint is the Hartford and New Britain, CT areas. Additional repeaters on 23 and 70 cm are planned for the future, in addition to a high-speed data link on 23 cm.

### Continued from Page 1

Tom AB3KA has been talking to VFW Post 8308 in Lawrence, PA. (Where's Lawrence? Well, if you're familiar with turning onto Valley Brook Road from Washington Road / US 19 to head to Peters, head the other way instead). They have made an interesting offer, and I do need to talk to them - unfortunately, we had already given North Strabane a commitment, and I don't want to burn that bridge. I will be talking with their people in the course of the next few days, and also I hope to get a look at the facility -- so that is a possibility for 2011 as well. I hope to have that matter ready for a discussion by the club at the October meeting.

Sorry for the confusion, but at least it looks like we finally have a few choices! (What a year!)

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting. We will have a few other matters to discuss, including the NP2SH beacon status and the upcoming Officer Elections for 2011!

— 73, Ron Notarius W3WN

## WASHNet 2010 NCS Schedule

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10/03 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF | 11/21 - Harold K3HCR                 |
| 10/10 - Glen KE7FD                   | 11/28 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF |
| 10/17 - Kevin N3HKQ                  | 12/05 - Bob AB3ED                    |
| 10/24 - Dave N3IDH                   | 12/12 - Kevin N3HKQ                  |
| 10/31 - Frank N3FB                   | 12/19 - Dave N3IDH                   |
| 11/07 - Dave N3DFK                   | 12/26 - Frank N3FB                   |
| 11/14 - Bill W3WH                    | 1/2/2011 - Dave N3DFK                |



September 25<sup>th</sup> was another gorgeous fall day for fall gardening, and for another bright warm morning to greet **the WASH Breakfast Gang at The Beach House** in Finleyville. This month's gathering included W9UK, AE3DL, N3HKQ & Peg, WB4GCS, N3FB and W3WN. A hot breakfast and hot coffee lubricated topics such as working special event stations, power failures, weddings, Verizon email, 1<sup>st</sup> attempt at 10 GHz, Mt. Washington to Mt. Mitchell on 10 GHz, the reverse beacon network, a 6 meter beacon on the old KDKA tower courtesy of WA3TTS, the electric grid collapse in 2003, WA3BKD's house guest, the First Energy and Allegheny Energy merger, disco music, towers on a corner lot, the 1960 World Series Game 7 kinescope, balloon vertical on 160 meters, the WLW 500 kW transmitter, the WWVA tower collapse, VOA Bethany, Wi-Fi in marinas, the promises of Verizon FiOS installation, and more.

Our next Saturday breakfast meeting will be the day before Halloween. So before you get trick-or-treated out of your household candy, why not come down and join us at **The Beach House**, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm, on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. See you there!

There's not too much more to add to the sad news about Tippi WA3JPP. But did you know that she was keeping a blog during the course of her treatment? <http://tippiscancerblog.blogspot.com/> is where you can find it. And you can learn more about Tippi, her interests and especially her photography on her [Pittsburgh Diary web site](http://PittsburghDiary.com).

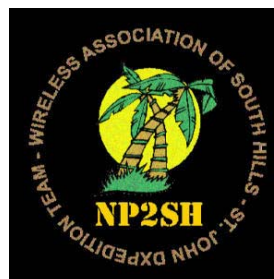
On a happier note, we recently heard from our former webmaster, Bob Sanford **AA3FI**. Bob has been living in the Philadelphia area since US Airways closed the Pittsburgh crew base, and he is not currently on the air. He also tells us that Samantha **AA3JS** is now working on her Masters, and Jacqueline **N3ZCG** is in "year 4 of 5" up at the Penn State Main campus. Glad to hear the girls are doing well!

**The 2010 Pa QSO Party** is now history. Early word is that all of the club members who were operational did well, and a Clean Sweep goes this year to our Clarion County crew, N3SBF and KB3GMN. (And Clean Sweeps were very hard to come by this year, we've heard!) We'll have more information, and photos we hope, in the November issue.

We have a bunch of **upcoming club events**, and although it doesn't seem like it now, they'll be here before you know it. Our annual Christmas / Holiday party is in December, the 2 Meter Simplex contest in January, and of course, **WASHFest 2011** in February.

Glen Roberts KE7FD sent a **questionnaire** out on the club reflector the other day. This is your chance to give the club leadership an inkling as to what direction you'd like to see **WASH** go forward with in 2011. Glen tells us that the first four members who send their questionnaires back will receive a special gift at the October meeting. (He will arrive late, but he will be there). Ye Editor (who is not eligible for the gift) has no idea what it is...

If you're interested in joining members of **WASH** and SCARC in attending the **Dayton Hamvention 2011**, we have some good news from Greg NB3C. The University of Dayton will be available, AND we will be back in the Lawnview Building. Greg has already contacted the usual suspects, but there is additional room available — right now. Cost per person is \$72.75 when we have four people in a room. That's for the entire 3 day stay, not just per night! No money due until January. Contact [Greg](mailto:Greg) directly for more information if you are interested.



**Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2011 Today! Membership Application on Page 13 !!**

## Minutes, September 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Bob Timmons AB3ED, Vice President/Secretary, **WASH**

Meeting hosted by Bill W3WH & Linda Hill at their home in Houston, PA.

Ron W3WN called the meeting to order at 19:15 hours. There were 11 members and guests in attendance.

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

A motion was made by Carol KB3GMN to waive reading of the August minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Tom AB3KA and carried unanimously.

### Committee reports:

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

Secretary (AB3ED):. No report.

VE Report (N3ZEL): VE's will be needed for the Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> testing session, which is being held in Room 103 of the Washington County Courthouse in Washington PA. (Date moved to scheduling conflict) Jacque mentioned that additional VE's from the Allegheny region from the club would be appreciated at the next session. No decision has been made yet on 2011 testing location(s).

Repeaters (N3RNX, W3SRL & N3FB): Frank reports that the repeaters are all repeating and repeating well.

Net Report (N3HKQ): No report.

Contests (K3VX): Pa QSO 2010 is coming up October 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>. Ron W3WN polled the membership on their potential plans and again invited all to help operate W3WN M/S this year.

Larry K3VX may not be able to operate from Mercer this year due to Tippi's illness. Bob AB3ED will arrange for a sympathy card on behalf of the club to be sent to them.

Public Service (N3IDH): The Great Race is coming up September 26<sup>th</sup>. A late request for operators was made by the organizers.

Ways and Means (KB3GMN): "I'll take your money!"

President's Report (W3WN): A letter has been sent to North Strabane Township requesting use of their meeting room for the remaining 2010 meetings and possibly 2011 meetings as well. No answer as of meeting. Further discussion of options. Jacque N3ZEL and Tom AB3KA thanked for their past and continuing efforts.

Old Business: Carol KB3GMN is looking into locations for the annual Christmas Party. Ron W3WN will ask Ben KB3ERQ if his church might be available.

New Business: Kevin N3HKQ brought up the idea of the club doing a project together. He specifically mentioned the possibility of participating as a group in a future Echoes of Apollo project, possibly in conjunction with the Amateur Astronomer's Association of Pittsburgh.

Good of the Order:

Motion to Adjourn by Dave N3IDH, Second by Carol KB3GMN and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:15 hours.

## CW Vets continued from Page 4

pain for the seasoned CW operator to "throttle down" to novice speeds. On the other hand, if CW is to survive as a mode, it might just be very necessary for CW veterans to give some consideration to the novice, and allow their slower brethren the luxury of low-speed CW QSO's. After all, how else will the novice be able to obtain the practice and experience necessary to progress to higher speeds?

So. Are seasoned CW veterans actually killing off CW as a mode because the gap between their experienced QSO's at 20+WPM is too great for novices to get into the game of CW?

Food for thought.

## WASH Spotlight: N3HKQ



If there was room, we'd caption this one "N3HKQ & Friend" as Little Guy had a great time at the **WASH** Meeting at W3WH's house on September 16<sup>th</sup>. More pictures on Page 7, and since there's no room there, thanks from the entire club to Bill W3WH & Linda Hill for hosting the September club meeting!

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2010 Ron Notarius W3WN

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

## Monthly WASH Breakfast

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



Join us this month at **The Beach House**, on Route 88 in Finleyville, 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

AB3ED	KB3ORR	N3ZEL	WASH FL	WASH VI	Silent Keys
AB3EN	KB3TOA	N3ZK	KA3UPY/MM	NP2JF	
AB3KA	KC4WTT	N3ZNI	W4ZE		
AC4KU	KE7FD	NU3S	WASH GA		
AE3DL	N2QIV	W3LE	K3OL		K3EED (George)
K3AIR	N3AWF	W3RWS	KB3IJX		KA3NMG
K3HCR	N3BPB	W3VFA	WASH NE		KB3ENX
K3LGM	N3CZZ	W3WH	NØPEU		KB3FNM
K3VX	N3DFK	W3WN	WASH OH		KB3FQT
K3WJL	N3FB	W4ZE	N8DPW		N3FZ
KA3ANU	N3HKQ	WA4ONC	WASH SC		N3KEH
KA3RXY	N3IDH	WB4GCS	N3RNX		N3OBD
KA3TWI	N3PN		WASH TN		N3SKR
KB3DCO	N3QMV	Jane Wagner	KE3XB		N3SRC
KB3ERQ	N3RDV		N3YPB		N3XFE
KB3GMN	N3RHT		WASH TX		W3ZLK
KB3GMP	N3SBF		K3LGM		WA3JPP
KB3GMU	N3TIR		Jane Wagner		

Through June 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2010

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2010 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change

October 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	California QSO Party	<a href="http://www.cqp.org">http://www.cqp.org</a>
October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Monessen ARC MARCFest	<a href="http://www.w3csl.com">http://www.w3csl.com</a>
October 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pennsylvania QSO Party	<a href="http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso">http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso</a>
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	New York QSO Party	<a href="http://www.nyqp.org">http://www.nyqp.org</a>
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	WPa Repeater Council Meeting	<a href="http://www.wprc.us">http://www.wprc.us</a>
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	WASH VEC Exam	Pre-register via <a href="mailto:n3zel@comcast.net">n3zel@comcast.net</a>
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	BSA Jamboree On The Air	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota">http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota</a>
October 30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup>	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com">http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com</a>
November 6 <sup>th</sup> —7 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	WACOM Hamfest	<a href="http://www.wacom.org">http://www.wacom.org</a>
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	@ North Strabane Municipal Building
November 20 <sup>th</sup> —21 <sup>st</sup>	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
November 27 <sup>th</sup> —28 <sup>th</sup>	CQ WW DX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com">http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com</a>
December 3 <sup>rd</sup> —5 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 160 M Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 11 <sup>th</sup> —12 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 10 M Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL Rookie Contest CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	ARRL Straight Key Night	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest	<a href="http://www.n3sh.org">http://www.n3sh.org</a>
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	WASHFest 2011	<a href="http://www.n3sh.org">http://www.n3sh.org</a>

The FM repeater aboard the South African Sumbandila OSCAR 67 (SO-67) satellite will be active over North and South America this weekend, October 16 and 17, for the Scouting Jamboree On The Air (JOTA).

According to the announcement from AMSAT-NA Vice President of Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, the repeater will be available for 15 minutes beginning at the following dates and times (UTC):

October 16: 10:39, 12:12, 13:37, 15:09, 16:42, 18:14, 19:47, 21:20, 22:38, 22:54, 23:55

October 17: 00:14, 01:28, 01:44, 03:00, 03:19, 04:55, 06:35, 10:20, 11:53, 13:15, 13:32, 14:50, 16:23, 17:56, 19:29, 21:01, 22:35

(Activity periods calculated by Ed Clayo, N8BBQ.)

The SO-67 repeater receives at 145.875 MHz FM (233.6 CTCSS) and re-transmits at 435.345 MHz FM. Local pass predictions are available from AMSAT-NA's online calculator.

# "Seen" at the 2010 BCARA Swapfest

Photos Courtesy of and ©Copyright 2010 Mike Serowik N3BSQ



Dave N3IDH served as net control; Bob KB3IN and Kevin N3HKQ assisted with providing communications support to the Washington Christian Outreach sponsored Washington Labor Day Classic 5K Run & Walk on September 6th.

The first picture is of the winner of the run and the second picture is Dave, Bob and Kevin and two Washington policemen.

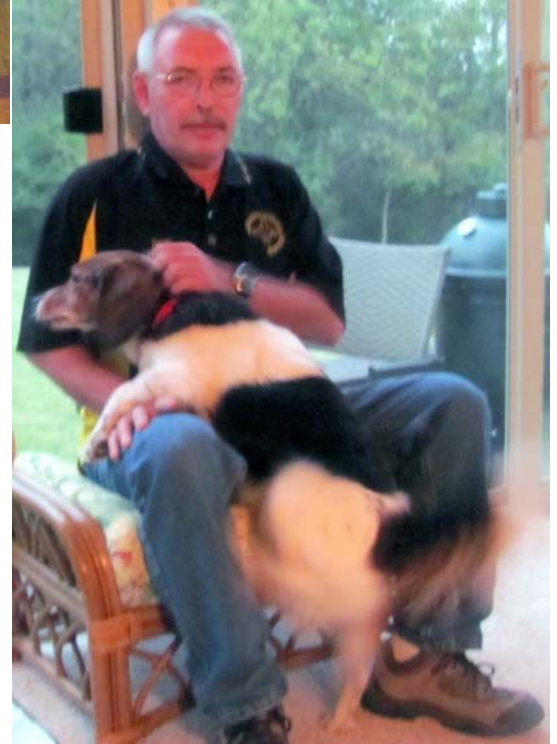
— Kevin Smith N3HKQ

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2010 Kevin Smith N3HKQ



# "Seen" at the WASH September Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and ©Copyright 2010 Ron Notarius W3WN



## The Wireless Club

Glen Roberts KE7FD

*A British woman, while visiting near Pittsburgh, looked at rooms at a countryside apartment complex. She told the apartment owner (who was also a ham radio operator) that she would let him know about renting one of the rooms later. However, after she arrived back at her hotel, the thought occurred to her that she had not asked about the water closet (bathroom). She immediately wrote an email to the apartment owner asking about the "W.C." being too bashful to write out the words "water closet."*

*The apartment owner, who was far from being an expert in British customs, did not know what the initials "W.C." meant. He asked a local radio club president about this, and together they concluded that she must have asking about the Wireless Club. The apartment owner then wrote the following email back:*

Dear Madame,

I take great pleasure in informing you that the W.C. is located just seven miles from the apartment complex in the center of a beautiful grove of very tall pine trees where we can hang anything we want. The W.C. is capable of holding 150 people and is open to the public so I recommend that you come early, although there is plenty of standing room. A shortage of adequate seating is sometimes unfortunate, especially for those who in the habit of going regularly, which I encourage.

Regularly, a good number of members bring their own beer and make a day of it, while others who tailgate gladly share with anyone else there. I would especially suggest that you come on the first Thursday of the month when pizza is provided.

The acoustics in the W.C. are excellent and every sound can be heard across the room. We have even rented it out for public events including the wedding of my daughter to a fellow she met at the PA QSO Party. That was standing room only!

The newest attraction donated by a member is a webcam that sends live video to the Internet, of the activities of everyone present. Also, a fund raiser is planned to provide plush theater seats for all, since the current seats all have holes in them and are uncomfortable.

My wife is rather delicate and does not go regularly. Naturally, it pains her very much not to attend more often, but enjoys going over the computer.

If you wish, I'll be glad to reserve a seat for you on the elevated podium so you can be greeted as a visiting guest. I hope I've been of service to you.

Sincerely,

Ed

## ***WPa Section Manager Election***

The following two statements are being printed on behalf of, and at the request of, the authors to be considered by those who will be voting in the ARRL Western PA Section Manager election. They do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS**, nor do they represent an endorsement of either candidate by **WASH**.

Western Pennsylvania Section ARRL members have an election coming up this fall for the Section Manager position. Ballots will be going out later this month to ARRL members within the section and then these ballots will be counted prior to Thanksgiving.

Two candidates have filed petitions to run for this office. Those candidates are John Rodgers N3MSE and John Szwarc N3SPW. Both have high integrity and good personal character.

I am voting for and endorsing John Szwarc N3SPW for Western Pennsylvania Section Manager.

Earlier this year, John Rodgers N3MSE, who is currently serving as the WPA Section Manager, told me that he was not going to run for office after completing his current term ending this year and suggested that I find another candidate to run for the Section Manager's position.

Having served as the Atlantic Division Director for past five years, WPA Section Manager previously for four years and as the WPA Section Emergency Coordinator for two years, I understand the qualifications necessary for a candidate to be successful as the WPA Section Manager. My search for the best candidate possible led me to John Szwarc N3SPW.

John N3SPW has served previously as the WPA Section Emergency Coordinator and was well respected by the ARES leadership and members. John knows how to effectively work with and how to lead volunteers. He also knows how to get things done.

In addition to my endorsement, John N3SPW also has received the endorsement of Past Atlantic Division Director and past WPA Section Manager, Bernie Fuller N3EFN.

I urge you to join both Bernie and me in supporting John Szwarc N3SPW for WPA Section Manager and voting for him as soon as you receive your ballot.

Thank you.

Bill Edgar N3LLR

*No ARRL funds or resources were used in the preparation and distribution of this message.*

I would like to take this opportunity to ask individuals to vote for me in the upcoming section manager election for Western Pennsylvania.

I am John Rodgers, N3MSE, the current section manager and I am seeking re-election this year.

Beginning in 1995 I have served in various capacities as an ARRL official. I have served 5 terms as section manager. I served several years as an assistant section manager and also as an assistant director till I was asked to fill the term of Larry O'Toole after he became ill. Earlier this year I had decided not to run for re-election because I was upset over what I considered outside interference and micro managing. I had expressed that view but was approached by several officers from various clubs and asked to run for re-election. Leaders in other areas had also expressed their desire to have me seek reelection. I agreed to do so and a petition was submitted on my behalf by those individuals. I have served in many different aspects and I have the experience to get the job done and to serve the members namely you.

The reasons I agreed to run for the position again are largely based upon the need to support clubs and the many other functions the league is involved with in the section. I have outstanding individuals that are in charge of the areas like ARES and NTS. These individuals do a great job and I do not believe in micro managing or second guessing them. I believe it is my function to support and guide them. I am active on the air and participate in traffic and ARES nets. I also work DX and several contests as well as just rag chewing. My wife and daughter are also licensed hams. I visit the clubs when invited to speak and make every attempt to attend all sanctioned hamfests and also visit field day sites. I do this only upon invitation from the clubs because I do not want to just walk in and disrupt their evening's activities.

I have been involved in the managing of section activities during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Working with leaders from Eastern Pennsylvania we worked for several years to get the antenna tower law passed and signed. This year we battled to block the hand free bill that would have placed restrictions on mobile operation. I recently again attended the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Conference and we came away with some terrific ideas for our plans to revise the section emergency plan as well as the structure of our ARES program. We have implemented a standard digital mode for the section and it has met great success and is also being used and considered by other sections.

I was first licensed in 1992 and slowly worked through upgrades to get my tech plus, general, advanced and finally extra. I am active on HF, VHF operating both from home and the car. I operate SSB, CW and various digital modes. I enjoy contesting and particularly enjoy operating from Butler County every year during the PA QSO Party. Have also been part of the bonus station in the past and operated portable on occasion.

I believe there is still much to be done. I am looking forward to getting input from others to revise the section plan and working with other section leaders to implement a standard operating program for ARES. We are also looking to further intertwine the ARES and NTS platforms to provide better communication service in the time of disasters or emergencies. I plan to continue to serve on the PEMA sub-committee for auxiliary communications if reelected. We are planning on continuing to develop and implement more digital modes of operation as standards throughout the section at little to no cost to anyone interested in operating.

One difficult area that is faced by any section manager is what areas should we spend your money from our budget to best serve you. I have at time chosen not to attend the one day division cabinet meeting when I felt that the one third of the annual budget that it would cost would be better spent at hamfests and club meetings. Each year at these meetings section managers or even vice directors are sometimes missing from the event. A better method of bringing us all together to discuss is needed without having to be in one room. I have tried to gather club leaders and ARES leaders for central meetings but have found that the interest and attendance was minimal. Perhaps with new technologies this will be possible by way of webinars and video conferences. This is an area that needs looked at.

The plans for the future are always changing as the needs of the members change. I feel it is my responsibility when elected to serve the people and represent the members. I am vocal when I feel things are being done wrong or the members views are not being taken into consideration and will voice that to those that can make change happen.

Please consider voting for me in the upcoming election if you feel I have served you in the past. We all have a stake in the operation of the section and without your support and input nothing can get done. I firmly believe that family comes first and expressed that when in the past I had section leaders that stepped down for family issues. I ask for your help, your support and your vote in the upcoming election.

73

John Rodgers, N3MSE



# The NP2SH Beacon Project

Michael Serowk N3BSQ

## A Plan To Revitalize the NP2SH Beacon on St. Johns in the US Virgin Islands

The plan is to run NP2SH Beacon as a QRP beacon.

The equipment needed is as follows:

- ◆ The Little Joe Transmitter Kit The Little Joe puts out about 1 watt worth of power.
- ◆ A Crystal would need to be purchased for this transmitter
- ◆ The Expanded Spectrum System Freakin' Beacon Controller The Freakin beacon is programmed in basic PIC
- ◆ Plus a few more misc parts to interface the units.
- ◆ Also, from speaking with Paul Jordan NP2JF, the current antenna for the beacon would need to be replaced.

From start to finish of the build process should take about 3 to 4 weeks. The crystal would need to be ordered. The crystal takes about 3-4 weeks to produce.

Once the beacon is build and it passes the smoke test a new message would need to be programmed into the beacon

There are currently two way of programming the beacon, both are free.

- (1) Use a regular terminal program – Hyperterm for example
- (2) Use a program written by VE3SUN

The club body would have to agree on the message. Reprogramming of the message should only less than 10 minutes.

Once the build is done, I would do a burn in test to verify everything is running fine.

After it has passed the burn in test, I would recommend we add an online report option on the main N3SH webpage. This again is free <http://www.smartgb.com/>.

Would also need to know what the club body would like it to have as a requirement and who to notify once a message is received. Also I would recommend looking at a QSL card redo to update the stats if any stats need changed.

## Transmitter Information

The radio is the Little Joe QRP kit set to 10 meters <http://www.danssmallpartsandkits.net> from Dan's Small Parts and Kits.

\$19.95 Kit for 10 meters, \$8.70 shipping and handling. Takes about 5 days to get shipped

## Freakin' Beacon (If Needed)

<http://www.expandedspectrumsystems.com/prod5.html>

If needed the Freakin beacon is 39.00 Kit, 12.00 shipping

No need to purchase if we are using the old one from the original NP2SH/B

## Additional Parts

Crystal from International Crystal Manufacturing Company <http://www.icmfg.com/>

International Crystal Manufacturing Company

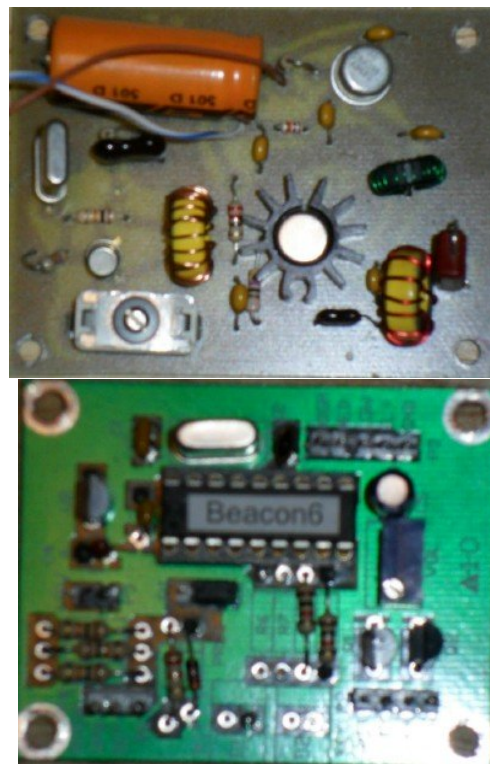
\$20.95 for Crystal, \$9.75 for Shipping and Handling. Will take 3 to 4 weeks

Approximately \$40 in misc. parts from Radio Shack — LED's case, fans, etc.

### Editor's Note:

*This has been extracted from the first draft of Mike's document detailing the proposed Beacon Project.*

*Mike will be discussing the project at the October meeting and will ask the club members to vote on funding the project. He will be bringing the current N3BSQ 10 meter beacon to demonstrate*



## ARRL WPA SM Election

Ron Notarius W3WN

*Please note: The following statement is a personal message from the author. It does not reflect the views or opinions of the Wireless Association of South Hills.*

On page 8, you will find two statements regarding the upcoming ARRL WPA Section Manager Election; one on behalf of the challenger, one from the incumbent.

First, I urge all ARRL members to take a few moments, review their ballot (they should be out by now) and the enclosed literature, and vote. Too many elections are often decided indirectly by those who throw their ballots in the trash, or let them sit on a desk forgotten.

Second, as some of you may know, I was involved in Section politics as Assistant SM and Section Traffic Manager a few years back. So I have some idea of what the SM job involves. Frankly, it can be a tedious position that involves a lot of paperwork, a lot of travelling, and the ability to stand there and take a lot of grief on behalf of the ARRL, sometimes over things that happened decades before you were licensed — or bored. It's not a job for everyone, it's certainly one I wouldn't want to do, and I respect anyone with the nerve to actually want the job.

But that being said, after careful consideration of both men running, **I endorse and urge you to vote for John Rodgers N3MSE.** I've known John many years, and I have seen how hard he works to keep the section running. You don't always see what goes on in the background, and he makes it seem like it's easy — it's not. While I don't have enough room this month to go into it in great detail, I believe that he is the better man for the job. And unlike some other SM's I've known, he's not running the section to win a popularity contest, but to make things better for all WPA amateurs. He has my vote. I hope he has yours.

## New Entities Now Active!

Ron Notarius W3WN

At the stroke of midnight local time — 0400 Z — on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the political entity called the Netherlands Antilles officially dissolved. Two of the five islands are the new countries-within-the-kingdom of Curacao and Sint Maarten (which is the same status that Aruba has). The remaining islands — Bonaire, Saba, and St. Eustatius — are now considered part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and are politically separate from the other islands.

An email from Bill Moore, NC1L of the ARRL Awards Committee announced on September 23<sup>rd</sup> that as of the date of political change, the existing two DXCC Entities covering the Antilles would go on the deleted list. Exactly which islands would become which new entities had yet to be determined.

Anticipation was that there would be four new entities.

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the US State Department added Curacao and Sint Maarten to the "Dependencies and Areas of Special Interests" list, retroactive to October 10<sup>th</sup>. It is widely presumed that as a result, these two islands are now new Political Entities and will soon become two new entities on the DXCC list.

It had been widely assumed that Bonaire, being just slightly over 801 km from Saba & St. Eustatius, would become a new geographic entity in it's own right as a result. However, Joe Subic W4TV is claiming that by using "more accurate" WGS84 ("spherical") calculation, the distance between the islands is actually 799.609 km, not the 801.088 km that has been calculated from the "great circle" method.

W4TV has been making posts to the DX and Contesting reflectors claiming that if the DXCC desk were to strictly follow the rules, the remaining three islands would count as one entity, not two. He also is claiming that the existing two entities should not have been dropped as active and moved to the DXCC list, but that Bonaire and Saba/St. Eustatius should instead have become the "successor" entities. And that this is just an exercise to artificially create additional entities.

As of deadline, no official determination from the ARRL has been made.

Regardless, there are stations now active from each of the islands of the former Netherlands Antilles, and they will in some fashion become the first contacts from new entities for the list. We just don't know how many yet.

Work first, worry later! And have fun!

## Daily DX Announcement

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The United States Department of State has added Curacao and Sint Maarten to the "[Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty](#)" list. This now clears the way for PJ2 and PJ7 to be added to the ARRL DXCC List.

Hopefully the ARRL DXCC Desk will now have everything they need in order to make the official announcement as to the new DXCC Entities from the Caribbean. Most likely it will be four new ones, as you editor has been predicting since this past summer.

— 73, Bernie W3UR

K7ZZ is planning to be active "micro-lite" style from Ascension Island between October 12-26. Signing **ZD8ZZ** he will be QRV on 160-10M CW/SSB. QTH is at an elevation of 2300 ft on Green Mountain. Antennas include a two element phased vertical array. QSL via LOTW or direct to K7ZZ

I will be active (only holiday style – not a dxpedition) from approximately October 14<sup>th</sup> to December 6<sup>th</sup> using callsign ZD9AH. Operation will mainly be SSB, with last two weeks of November using RTTY too.

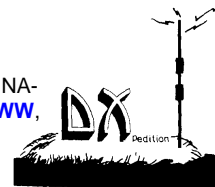
My equipment consists of a Yaesu FT897 (barefoot) and a simple Windom antenna. I'll participate in the WAG, CQWDX and JADX contests. There are always violent storms – perhaps an unsolvable problem for my antenna equipment?

I'll respond to all QSL's as soon as I return home (early January). QSL direct or via DL-Bureau to DL2AH (QRZ.com), no eQSL – sorry. Please be patient.

— 73 Ulli DL2AH

## DX News Briefs

Four German amateurs will be active from Greenland NA-151 20 - 30 October. Look for **OX/DF9TM**, **OX/DL2SWW**, **OX/DL1RTL** & **OX/DL2VR** to be QRV 160 - 10 CW SSB & RTTY. QSL via Home Calls. More info at <http://www.na-151.de/> — DL2VR



Niue will be active 20 November - 3 December as **ZK2A**. Focus will be on Europe, 160 - 40 meters, WARC, on CW & RTTY. The ZK2A team will then activate VK9NN starting 5 December 2010 for 1 or two weeks. More info at <http://www.pacificdxpedition.com/> QSL both via PA3LEO — DX World

The Five Star DXers Association will be travelling to Christmas Island in the September/October 2011 time frame. They are hoping for the **T32C** call. The team consists of 40 operators at present, and are planning a full court press to contact as many stations as possible. Donations are being sought. More information available at <http://www.t32c.com> — G3XTT

**VK9XL** will be QRV from Christmas Island OC-002 14 - 20 January 2011. QSL via JH3PBL — JH3PBL

**VP2MDG** will be QRV from Montserrat 27 October — 02 November including the CQ WW SSB Contest. QSL via K2DM — K2DM

**AT1ØBP** is QRV from the Indian Antarctic Expedition. VU3BPZ operates when he can, usually about 1700 Z between 14276 - 14289 kHz. — F5PFP

**TY1JB** will be QRV through 28 October, primarily 15 SSB. QSL via DL2UX

A group of Belgian and Dutch amateurs will be QRV as **9Q5ØON** 3 - 12 December to commemorate 50 years of independence. QSL via ON4BR. More info at <http://www.9q50on.be/index.php> — DX World

JF1OCQ will be QRV as **ZL7/ZL1WY** from the Chatham Islands OC-039 2 - 9 December. Look for him 160 - 6 CW, SSB, and Digital modes, emphasis on 160 and 6 meters. QSL via JF1OCQ — ADXO

**MØRSE** has been allocated to "The First Class CW Operators Club. <http://www.m0rse.org/> QSL via G3SWH — DL2FCB, G3PJT

From 21 December until 3 January, Nendo Island OC-100 will be operated by **H4ØFK** (QSL via DG1FK) and **H4ØFN** (QSL via HA8FW) — DX World

**CEØY/DK2F** and **CEØY/DK7ZB** are QRV from Easter Island through 6 November. Their focus has been on 50, 144 & 432 MHz EME, but they are also QRV on 30, 20 & 15 meters. QSL via Home Calls — DX World

MØVFC and G3ZAY now have permission to visit **ZD9** Tristan da Cunha in September 2012. They are both scheduled on the provisional passenger list for the trip. They hope to be QRV for 2 to 3 weeks, but exact dates & calls have yet to be determined — G3ZAY

**TG9/DL5RMH** will be QRV from Guatemala City 16 December - 13 January, 40 - 10 meter CW, with emphasis on 30 meters. QSL via DL5RMH — DL5RMH

## QSL Routes

4S7ULG via UY5ZZ — W2IRT	PR5D via PT5DCC — W3AWU
5R8GZ via G3SWH — K3BEQ	R1ANB via RN1ON — NKØS
5V7DX via I1FQH — JA1HGY	R1FJZ via U3AJ — MMØBQN
8P3A via VE3DZ — 8P3A	RW2F via DK4VW — K3BEQ
8Q7DV via UA9CLB — PAØWRS	T2A via K6FHA — MMØBQN
9J2QQV via JO7QQV — NKØS	T3ØXG via JA1XGI — W2IRT
9U4T via ON4FG — JA1HGY	T32MI via SM6CAS — PAØWRS
A51A via JA1TRC — HA1HGY	T32SI via SM6CAS — DO1DXX
A92IO via EI3IO — W2IRT	T32VI via SM6CAS — JA1HGY
C6AMS via NA6M — JA1HGY	UK8FF via W3HMK — W2IRT
CX/N3BNA via KA2AEV — K3BEQ	UN7QX via W7BO — K3BEQ
GJ6YB via G3SWH — K6GEP	V21ZG via DL7AFS — V21ZG
HC8/K6AW via W5UE — W5UE	V44KP via W2OX — K6GEP
JD1BMH via JG7PSJ — W2IRT	YB1H via VE3EXY — VE3EXY
JT1FDB/7 via DDØCW — JA1HGY	YM3A via LZ1NK — NKØS
JT5DX via JT1CO — UAØBA	VP8DMH via GØVGS — DO1DXX
KP2B via K2DER — WP3A	WP3A via K2DER — WP3A
NP3X via K2DER — WP3A	Y19PSE via N6NKT — DO1DXX
OR2A via ON7YX — ON7YX	Z21LS via DE1ZHB — NKØS
PJ5NA via K1NA — JA1HGY	ZX8W via PT7WA — W3AWU

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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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 [lazaroff@murrinlaw.com](mailto:lazaroff@murrinlaw.com)

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](http://stores.shop.ebay.com/Randy-George-Custom-Signs_W0QQ_armrsZ1)



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 (412) 489-9829 (phone) (412) 489-9860 (fax)  
[mlord@aerotek.com](mailto:mlord@aerotek.com)

Feel free to mention the **WASHRag** when you call him!

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**

## FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 — The Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) -- the spectrum regulators for United States private sector and government users, respectively -- have agreed to support a secondary MF allocation to the Amateur Radio Service at 461-469 kHz and 471-478 kHz at the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from January 23-February 17, 2012. FCC and NTIA officials formally presented the proposal at a meeting of the Second Permanent Consultative Committee (PCC.II) of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), held August 30-September 3 in Fortaleza, Brazil.



According to ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, the proposal reconciles two widely divergent proposals for WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.23, adopted by consensus of the private sector and government users. Agenda Item 1.23 calls on WRC-12 "to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services." The FCC's WRC-12 Advisory Committee (WAC) had adopted a proposal for a secondary amateur allocation at 495-510 kHz, but the NTIA, acting on the advice of government maritime interests, initially supported no change from the status quo.

"I am pleased that the United States is taking an affirmative position on Agenda Item 1.23," Price said "While the proposed frequency bands differ from both what the ARRL proposed and the private sector supported by consensus during WAC deliberations, it is gratifying that government interests have backed off a no change position."

Some maritime interests, both domestically and internationally, have expressed opposition to any amateur allocation in the range 415-526.5 kHz, citing existing narrowband direct printing applications at 490 and 518 kHz, as well as future plans for the band that have yet to be fully characterized, Price explained. To the extent future maritime uses of the band have been discussed, the focus has been on the 495-505 kHz segment. Despite the lack of plans for the remainder of the range under consideration, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has adopted a draft position of "no change" and has communicated this position to the ITU. IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, has met with IMO officials in efforts to soften this position.

"The road to a favorable outcome for Agenda Item 1.23 at WRC-12 remains treacherous," Price said. "The IMO is a respected organization, and their opinion carries weight. It's up to us to continue to make the case that a secondary allocation can be made while protecting existing services, both to the IMO and to the ITU Member States who will make the decisions at WRC-12."

Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, represented the ARRL on the United States delegation to the CITEL PCC.II meeting. From that meeting, he notes other matters of concern to the Amateur Radio Service:

- Regarding Agenda Item 1.14, considering an allocation to the radiolocation service between 30-300 MHz, the United States proposed that no change be made in ITU Region 2 and suggested that changes in other regions should be addressed by country-by-country footnotes to the ITU Radio Regulations. Proponents appear to be focusing on 154-156 MHz.

- Regarding Agenda Item 1.19, considering regulatory provisions for software defined radio (SDR) and cognitive radio systems (CRS), sufficient support for a United States proposal of "no change" was garnered to have the proposal deemed a region-wide Inter-American proposal. The status quo reduces the risk of provisions in the Radio Regulations that could curtail experimentation in SDR and CRS by the Amateur Service and reduce the portability of equipment across international boundaries.

## Silent Keys



Hugh Turnbull W3ABC, 93, Silver Spring MD, ARRL Honorary Vice President & Former Atlantic Division Director, September 14<sup>th</sup>

Tippi Comden WA3JPP, 76, October 10<sup>th</sup>

# WACOM HAMFEST 2010

*Washington County  
Fairgrounds*

Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Setup at 6:30 AM

Talk-In on W3CYO/R

145.490 & 443.300 MHz



**VE Testing starting at 10:00 AM**

Contact Jacque Gosselin, N3ZEL 724-746-9235, [n3zel@fyi.net](mailto:n3zel@fyi.net)

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**Reserve your tables early — First come, First Served!**

## *Antenna Progress*

Jim Sanford WB4GCS

With the assistance of Kevin, N3HKQ, we got feedlines connected to antennas and everything weatherproofed on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Test results:

- ♦ 2m Sat: heard beacon near Charlottesville, VA LOUD. (Of course, it is on a 4200 ft mountain....) The M-squared antenna is VERY directive.
- ♦ Dual Band FM / SAT: Used the Pittsburgh beacon, 3d beam width about 30 degrees or so. (Hey, FM is a gimme . . . though will be entertaining for the **WASH** 2m contest in January)
- ♦ 70cm -- UNSAT Pittsburgh beacon audible, but not at all strong, and power up coax to preamp does not work -- suspect an open somewhere. Antennas and power divider are working, because signal strength varied with azimuth. SWR is horrendous -- 100W transmitter power limits to 20 watts, with >8 watts reflected. Main feedline previously measured at less than 1db loss, so I know it's good.

I did not have the energy to climb back up and take apart all the connections. Will try to find a way to determine where the fault is from the ground.

Thanks Kevin for helping today, and thanks to all who have helped in one way or the other over the years.



# 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:  **New Membership**  **Membership Renewal**

(check quarter →  
(check one))

	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1st Qtr</b> <b>Jan-Mar</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>2nd Qtr</b> <b>Apr-Jun</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>3rd Qtr</b> <b>Jul-Sept</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>4th Qtr</b> <b>Oct-Dec</b>
<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: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires On: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No Family ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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]

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*



## Join the American Radio Relay League or Renew Your Membership through the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.



Members of the [WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS](#) can start a new membership or renew an existing membership in the American Radio Relay League, the National Organization of Radio Amateurs, through the club.  
 Benefits for you: Joining and participating in everything the League has to offer, including a QST subscription.  
 Benefits for the club: A few more shekels for our coffers.

Just fill out the form below, include a check or money order made out to WASH/ARRL, and return all 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*

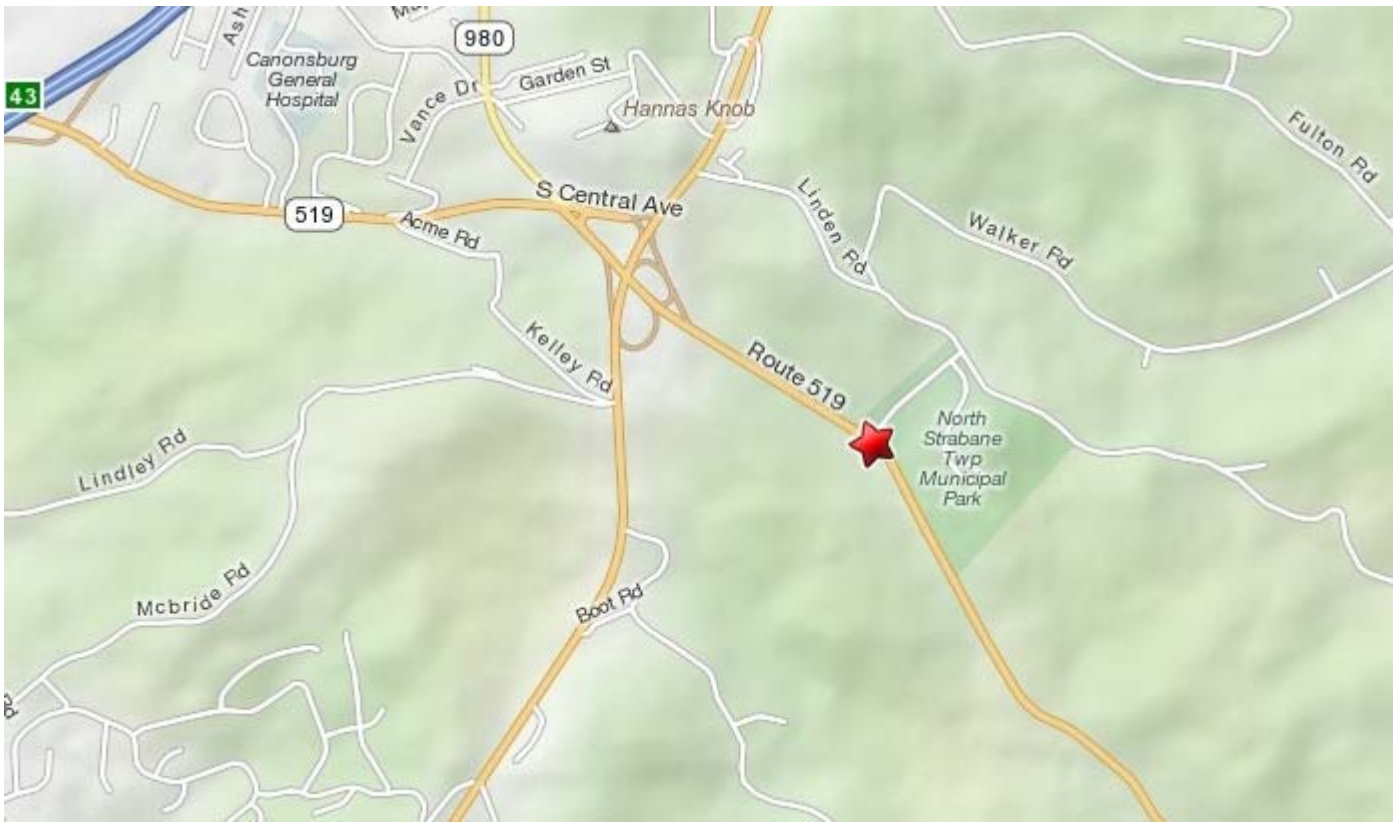
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check the Appropriate One-Year Rate:

- \$39 in US
  - Age 21 or younger, \$20 in US (only if you are the oldest licensed amateur in your household)
  - Canada \$49
  - Elsewhere \$62
  - Other (including Blind, Life, QST by First Class Postage — please contact ARRL for rate)
- Dues subject to change without notice
- Additional Family Members at the same address (\$8 per family member)
- Name & Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name & Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name & Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_



Road Map to the North Strabane Township Municipal Building.  
Map courtesy of Mapquest.com

## The *WASH*Rag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor  
3395 Rosewood Drive  
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NP2SH/B

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