



WASHRAG™

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NOVEMBER 2012

N3SH
WA3SH
NP2SH/B

Wireless Association of South Hills

2013 Elections!

(No, not THOSE elections. Neither of these involve spending millions of dollars trashing the other candidates!)

The November meeting of the Wireless Association of South Hills will be our annual election meeting. As per the club by-laws, we will be electing a Club President for a 1 year term, and a Vice President/Secretary for a 2 year term.

Nominations were opened at the October Meeting. Carol Danko KB3GMN was nominated for another term as President, and Ben Williams KB3ERQ was nominated for a term as Vice President/Secretary. (Carol accepted her nomination; Ben was not present).

Nominations will re-open for additional candidates at the meeting, followed by the actual election.

It is very important that every club member who can make the meeting do so.!

In other notes:

Mark N3RDV reminds everyone that he would like an application submitted with every membership renewal. For the past few years, some members have simply handed him money (or arranged for it to get to him), and sometimes there hasn't been paperwork to remind everyone who the \$\$ came from.

Even if there are no changes — this will make certain that Mark can correctly account for all of the shekels. (You can mark the form with your call and say "no changes"). Still, many club members have changed email addresses, calls, phone numbers, or other information... and not knowing about these changes means that club information may never get to you.

We don't want to lose track of you, and we want to keep you a member! So if you can help Mark out, it is appreciated!

Carol's Comments

I guess time stands still for no one.

WACOM's hamfest is over and I might add was very nice! The club fundraiser was a big success!



Thanksgiving will be here in 2 weeks, then Christmas.

Our 2 meter contest comes in January, second weekend I believe. This is a nice little contest, only 4 hours, 7 to 11pm. Looking forward to making contacts with the WASH members, and anyone else that wishes to join in.

And then comes our hamfest, **WASHFest 2013**, February 24th, 2013. I have 1 paid table already. And before you know there will be more. Fliers are done and I am sure it will be in the news letter.

Please keep those who were hit by Hurricane Sandy in your prayers. We were lucky and dodged the bullet on that one.

— 73. Carol Danko KB3GMN
President, Wireless Association of South Hills
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

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Next Meeting: November 8th, 2012

The next monthly meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on Thursday, November 8th, 2012, at the Crossroads Ministries Church, 88 Walter Long Road of f Route 88, Finleyville PA, starting at 7:00 PM.

2013 Officer Elections will take place. Pa QSO, the Christmas/Holiday Party, the 2 Meter Contest, & **WASHFest 2013** will be amongst the other topics.

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

"Seen" at the 2012 WACOM Hamfest



Photos courtesy of and ©Copyright 2012 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2012 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Carol Danko KB3GMN
VP / Secretary	Glen Roberts KE7FD
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	Ron Notarius W3WN
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Bob Kinnear KI4DHB
Webmaster	Randy George N3ZK
Asst. Webmaster	Sean Sleeman N3NWR
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
WASHFest 2013 Committee	Kevin Smith N3HKQ, Chairman
Activities & Operating Events	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Co-Chair
Ways & Means	Bob Timmins AB3ED
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Field Day 2012 Coordinators	Ron Notarius W3WN
	Larry Comden K3VX
	Rick Bell KB3IAC

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 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.

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test November 4th

The Next WASH VE exam November 4th, 2012, 2012 WACOM Street, the 146.79

All

Team

Please bring

sessions will be **Sunday**, 10:00 AM & Noon, at the **Hamfest**, 2141 North Main Washington, PA. Talk-in on MHz repeater.

examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Liaison Bud Plants N3TIR:

Telephone (724) 350-6745 or E-Mail: bud@n3tir.com

the following to your test session:

2013 VE Team Schedule To Be Determined

The ARRL Atlantic Division will be doing something a little different this year — an "online" Division convention. It will take place on November 10th. More information is available at the Atlantic Division web site, <http://www.arrl.org>

WASHNet 2012 NCS Schedule

01/01/2012	Dave N3DFK	07/08/2012	Carol KB3GMN
01/08/2012	Glen KE7FD	07/15/2012	Bob AB3ED
01/15/2012	Harold K3HCR	07/22/2012	Kevin N3HKQ
01/22/2012	Carol KB3GMN	07/29/2012	Dave N3IDH
01/29/2012	Bob AB3ED	08/05/2012	Sean N3NWR
02/05/2012	Kevin N3HKQ	08/12/2012	Dave N3DFK
02/12/2012	Dave N3IDH	08/19/2012	Glen KE7FD
02/19/2012	Sean N3NWR	08/26/2012	Harold K3HCR
02/26/2012	Dave N3DFK	09/02/2012	Carol KB3GMN
03/04/2012	Glen KE7FD	09/09/2012	Bob AB3ED
03/11/2012	Harold K3HCR	09/16/2012	Kevin N3HKQ
03/18/2012	Carol KB3GMN	09/23/2012	Dave N3IDH
03/25/2012	Bob AB3ED	09/30/2012	Sean N3NWR
04/01/2012	Kevin N3HKQ	10/07/2012	Dave N3DFK
04/08/2012	Dave N3IDH	10/14/2012	Glen KE7FD
04/15/2012	Sean N3NWR	10/21/2012	Harold K3HCR
04/22/2012	Dave N3DFK	10/28/2012	Carol KB3GMN
04/29/2012	Glen KE7FD	11/04/2012	Bob AB3ED
05/06/2012	Harold K3HCR	11/11/2012	Kevin N3HKQ
05/13/2012	Carol KB3GMN	11/18/2012	Dave N3IDH
05/20/2012	Bob AB3ED	11/25/2012	Sean N3NWR
05/27/2012	Kevin N3HKQ	12/02/2012	Dave N3DFK
06/03/2012	Dave N3IDH	12/09/2012	Carol KB3GMN
06/10/2012	Sean N3NWR	12/16/2012	Harold K3HCR
06/17/2012	Dave N3DFK	12/23/2012	Glen KE7FD
06/24/2012	Glen KE7FD	12/30/2012	Bob AB3ED
07/01/2012	Harold K3HCR	01/06/2013	Kevin N3HKQ

Saturday, October 27th was another typical fall morning, with thoughts of ghosts and goblins — and the possibility of a super-hurricane hitting the area in a few days. Regardless, there was a decent turn out for **the WASH Breakfast Gang** at it's monthly gathering at **The Beach House** in Finleyville. This month's collection of spirits (free or otherwise) included KB3DCO, W3WH, AB3DL, KB3GMU, N3FB, W9UK, N3HKQ, WB4GCS, N3BPB, K3SGT, & W3WN. Subjects hovering over the tables like a spectre included getting HF antennas up, the storm of the century, putting the RV away for the winter, changes in the WPRC, who in the club belongs to the Library Sportsmen's Club, Pa QSO Party, reloading bullets, travelling to Florida & Tennessee, marketing Ten Tec, multi band HF antennas, HP Laptop keyboards, using a R/C Helicopter for antenna raising, working Pacific Rim stations, winter antennas, and a whole lot more.

The end of November is a nice lull between Thanksgiving & Black Friday, and the Christmas holidays. What better time to join us for the next gathering at **The Beach House**, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm, on November 24th. See you there!

NP2SH/B: The beacon is back in N3BSQ's hands and undergoing repairs... again. It's now pretty clear that the rig took a spike after another problem with the Radio Shack power supply. Mike is seeking parts and should have the unit operational again very soon. Meanwhile, a new & better quality PS is being sought, so that we don't have this happen again!

Kevin N3HKQ has made a few tweaks to the **WASHNet NCS Schedule**; those changes are reflected in the schedule to the right. He also reminds us that he is leaving his post as Net Manager as of the first of the year, so that he can concentrate on other things, including the EME station project. If you are interested in taking on the Net Manager job, please contact Carol KB3GMN. And our thanks, as always, to Kevin for his years of dedicated service to the club as the Net Manager!

The annual **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest** is just a few weeks away. We've published the 2013 Rules in this month's newsletter — please review, as there are quite a few changes. These include digital modes, AM for those who dare, a revised scoring system, and more.

When you mention the contest, please don't forget to emphasize that **entrants will be required to use ONLY the 2013 forms!** Not just because of scoring changes... but because Ed N3ZNI has moved out west for good. Any entries sent to him, between forwarding delays and such, may not make it back in time for the deadline! Going forward, all contest entries need to go only to Ron W3WN.

The 2013 **Pennsylvania QSO Party** has come & gone, and from all accounts, those club members who participated had their usual great time! Don't forget to get your logs in by the November 15th deadline. And congratulations to Team N3ZK & Team N3SBF for once again racking up Clean Sweeps!



Speaking of which, if you hadn't heard, Randy N3ZK was very pleasantly surprised when **Paul NØVLR** showed up! Paul adds:

To my dear friends in WASH, it was fantastic to work many of you in the 2012 PA QSO contest — from INN county. In short, I flew in from 7-land and showed up to the N3ZK contest location, and surprised Randy! The poor guy had no idea. Kudos go out to N3FB for conspiring with me on this clandestine operation

Can you believe that we're only a few short weeks away from the **WASH Christmas/Holiday Party**, more information will be forthcoming soon. And not much longer after that will be **WASHFest 2013**. Seems like we just had the last ones yesterday... where does the time go?

Speaking of which, for those of you planning on attending **DAYTON HAMVENTION 2013**, early word from Greg NB3C is that he has reservations with the University of Dayton for 6 rooms — 5 in Kettering Hall, 1 in Campus South (Lawnview was not offered this year). He will be in touch with everyone with the details starting in December.

Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2013 Today! Membership Application on Page 13!

Minutes, October 11th Meeting

Glen Roberts KE7FD, VP/Secretary, **WASH**

Carol KB3GMN called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours. There were 16 members and guests in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all, followed by introductions.

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

A motion was made by Rich N3SBF to waive reading of the July minutes as published in the newsletter. Seconded by Larry K3VX and carried unanimously.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): A balance on the bank account was read & accepted.

Secretary (KE7FD): No report.

VE Report: After further discussions with Bud N3TIR, Bob Kinnear KI4DHB will be taking over the VE Team effective in 2013. 2013 sessions and locations to be scheduled.

Repeaters (N3FB): No report.

Net Report (N3HKQ): Kevin is working on a new schedule for the remainder of the year.

Contests (K3VX):

- ♦ Pa QSO Party October 13 & 14
- ♦ Larry talked about some of the nuances of the contest logging programs
- ♦ Next 2 Meter Contest will be on January 12. Ron W3WN is taking over as the contest chair. Short discussion of rules adjustments; they will be sent out on the reflector for further review, revised version will be in the November newsletter.

Public Service (N3IDH): No report

WASHFest 2013 (KB3GMN):

- ♦ Tentative Prizes will be: Yaesu FG-897D, Comet CAA-500 SWR Analyzer, LDG AT200 Pro III Tuner, West Mountain Radio Clear Speech Speaker. Short discussion on the prize list and where/when/how to buy them this year.
- ♦ Ron W3WN will prepare a flyer for distribution at the WACOM Hamfest

Ways and Means: 50/50 tonight.

Newsletter (W3WN): Published.

President's Report (KB3GMN): New trustees for the club calls will be Kevin N3HKQ for N3SH, Larry K3VX for WA3SH

Old Business: (none)

2013 Officers: Nominations opened. Carol KB3GMN nominated for President, accepted nomination. Ben KB3ERQ nominated for VP/Secretary, not present. No other nominations; nominations closed & will reopen prior to the election at the November meeting.:

New Business: Short discussion on Holiday Party.

Good of the order: KE7FD offered club members "free stuff":

Motion to Adjourn by Ron W3WN, second by Kevin N3HKQ and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 19:41 hours.

No post-meeting event due to Steelers game later that night.



WASH Spotlight: Friends



Randy N3ZK giving a hug to Carol KB3GMN at the 2012 WACOM hamfest. More hamfest pictures on Page 2 and Page 8

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2012 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 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

AB3ED	KC4WTT	N3UE	WASH FL	WASH VI	Silent Keys
AB3EN	KE7FD	N3YJJ	KA3UPY/M	NP2JF	
AB3KA	KJ3D	N3ZK	W4ZE		
AC4KU	N2QIV	N3ZNI	WASH GA		
AE3DL	N3AWF	W3LE	K3OL		
K3HCR	N3CZZ	W3RWS	KB3JX		
K3SGT	N3DFK	W3VFA	WASH NE		
K3VX	N3FB	W3WH	NØPEU		
KØLIN	N3FPF	W3WN	WASH OH		
KA3TWI	N3HKQ	WA3BOJ	N8DPW		
KB3DCO	N3IDH	WA4ONC	WASH SC		
KB3ERQ	N3KFD	WB4GCS	N3RNX		
KB3GMN	N3NWR	WO3Z	WASH TN		
KB3GMP	N3OVO	Darryn	KE3XB		
KB3GMU	N3RDV	Sleeman	N3YPB		
KB3IAC	N3RHT		WASH TX		
KB3IVX	N3SBF		K3LGM		
KB3MHM	N3TIR		Jane Wagner		
KB3SPD					
KB3SPE					
KB3SRC					
KB3TOA					
KB3WRO					
KB3YCX					

Through July 19TH, 2012

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2012-2013 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change

November 3 rd & 4 th	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 4 th	WACOM Hamfest	http://www.wacomarc.org/hamfest.html
November 8 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
November 17 th & 18 th	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	http://www.arrl.org
November 24 th & 25 th	CQ World Wide DX Contest CW	http://www.cqww.com/
Nov 30 th —Dec 2 nd	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 8 th & 9 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 13 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
December 16 th	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW	http://www.arrl.org
December 29 th & 30 th	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	http://jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt
January 10 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
January 12 th	<i>WASH</i> 2 M Simplex Contest	http://www.n3sh.org
January 25 th — 27 th	CQ 160 Contest CW	http://www.cq160.com
February 14 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
February 16 th — 17 th	ARRL DX Contest CW	http://www.arrl.org
February 24 th	<i>WASH</i> Fest 2012	http://www.n3sh.org
March 2 nd & 3 rd	ARRL DX Contest SSB	http://www.arrl.org
March 14 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church
March 30 th & 31 st	CQ WPX Contest SSB	http://www.cqwp.com
April 11 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	@ Crossroad Ministries Church



The "RCI Action Committee" <http://rciaction.org/blog/> announced on October 16th that CBC/Radio Canada will begin dismantling the CBC Sackville, NB, site, home of Radio Canada International's shortwave transmitters and antennas. RCI ended SW broadcasts on June 24, 2012, but the site is still being used by the SW broadcasters of other countries. The site was expected to be out of service by October 31, 2012.

More information at <http://rciaction.org/blog/2012/10/16/stop-cbc-from-dismantling-our-transmitters-to-the-world/>



Review: "Simple & Fun Antennas for Hams"

Bill Hill W3WH

This is an ARRL book that I came across while attending the Ten Tec Hamfest.

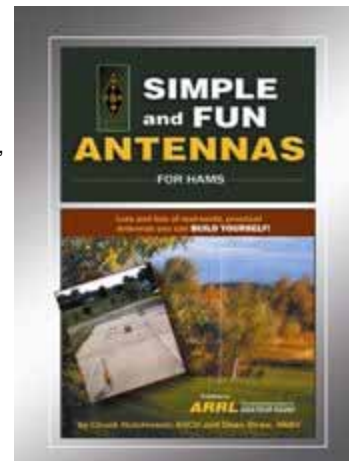
The last time I wrote a book review is so long ago that most of you reading this weren't born yet. Also this is probably the first time I've written one without the benefit of "Cliff Notes".

Although I think the ARRL does a lot of good things for our hobby, I'm not a big fan of the "Great American Magazine Company" as our good friend Jack Layton W9UK would say, but if you like messing around with all sorts of simple antennas, this may be the reference for you.

Being technically challenged, the one area of ham radio that I feel somewhat comfortable in is antennas. I really enjoy trying all sorts of wires both horizontal and vertical. This book has 16 Chapters of "good stuff" on both HF and VHF/UHF radiators. It's written in straightforward prose that I can understand. Some of the articles are retreads from QST and others are original creations of the authors Chuck Hutchinson K8CH and Dean Straw N6BV.

This book provides food for thought for both permanent and portable installations. I've already settled on a future project based on one of the articles. Apparently the book was published in 2010, but until now, I haven't seen it — but I'm glad I did..

It will give you ideas from your first antenna to your next vertical multiband radiator. I think the title says it all — [Simple and Fun Antennas for Hams](#).



Overlooked CW Hints & Kinks Eric Nichols KL7AJ courtesy of www.qrz.com

With a few pleasant exceptions, CW is generally thrown in as an afterthought in most modern H.F. rigs. Here are a few forgotten methodologies that make CW a lot more fun, and can be applied in various combinations using modern methods.

Class C amplifiers: A vast improvement in efficiency can be had by using a Class C "afterburner." Although high power Class C amplifiers are not commercially available (to my knowledge), they are quite easy to build. In addition, most "jugs" have greater life expectancy, even at full legal output, in Class C.

You can drive a class C amplifier with a linear SSB exciter, contrary to some misinformation. It IS important, however, to use adequate wave shape "softening" in the driver stage, since a Class C amplifier tends to shorten up the wave shape, and can generate key clicks if not properly implemented. Which brings us to...

Waveshape tuning: Back in 1984 or so, I wrote a QST article, "Try this CW shaper" which was a simple box you could add to just about any rig *at the time*, to alter the Attack and Decay times separately. This can be used to add not only character to your CW "voice" but also to compensate for the "hardening" of CW signals by downstream amplifiers, such as the Class C mentioned above.

I think front panel CW shape controls on modern rigs would be very well received.

Great QSK circuitry: Most manufacturers seem to have learned this lesson, at least. The QSK on my Ten-Tec Jupiter is absolutely PERFECT; .no room for improvement at all. There are probably other rigs out there in the same boat. What is needed is for more hams to really know how to USE QSK for net operations.

Pseudo/Semi Coherent CW detection: There was a lot of research done on this in the early 80's that seems to have been

Continued on page 8

ARRL Field Day 2012 WPA Results

Call	Score	Catg.	QSOs	Club
K3MJW	6,392	4E	1,911	
W3MIE	6,292	2A	1,636	Crawford ARA
N3CU	5,345	1B2B	517	
WA3COM	5,056	4A	1,490	
W3YA	4,436	3A	2,924	Nittany ARC
W3KWH	3,380	3E	1,016	
N3SH	3,180	4A	720	Wireless Assn of South Hills
W3OC	3,004	4A	844	Two Rovers ARC
W3CSL	2,780	3A	739	Monessen ARC
N3QC	2,550	2AC	811	Quad Cty ARC
W3SGJ	2,494	5A	763	Beaver Valley ARA
W3RA	2,290	3A	601	Allegheny Valley RA
W3AG	2,280	1E	203	
W3GV	1,958	4A	728	Radio Assn of Erie
KA3PMW	1,946	4A	619	
W3ZIC	1,928	5AC	659	Fort Verango Mike and Key Club
W3ACH	1,856	3A	332	Cumberland Valley ARC
W3HRK	1,782	3E	448	
WX3SKY	1,706	4A	279	Skyview ARS - Field Site
KA2QPG	1,580	1AB	145	Pennsylvania Knightlites
W3UDX	1,530	2A	450	Butler Cty Amateur Radio Assn

Call	Score	Catg.	QSOs	Club
K3SMT	1,230	4A	339	Somerset Cty ARC
W3YXE	1,152	5A	151	Radio Amateurs of Corry
W3RP	1,062	2A	182	Crown Radio Group
K3NE	1,014	2A	282	Venango Group
K3TTK	952	2A	301	Ft Armstrong Wireless Assn
W3SAT	802	2F	376	
KB3PSL	730	2A	35	West Cty ARA
K3HX	690	1E	49	
N3PC	644	4A	247	Headwaters ARC
K3STL	498	1E	100	
W3ZYF	486	2B2	143	
KB3LGO	466	1E	79	
KD3SB	422	1D	136	
KB3ORR	300	1E	75	
ND3R	294	1D	82	
K3DNA	276	1A	88	JVARC
K3WWP	254	1D	51	
KA3KSP	176	1C	38	
KB3OUK	94	1D	12	
KK4HBW	74	2D	12	
AA3MG	62	1D	31	

Announcing the Thirteenth Annual WASH 2Meter Contest!

This January will mark the Thirteenth Annual **WASH** 2 Meter Contest. We've already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting!

Everyone who participated in it the last twelve years had a blast, and we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

Please review this year's rules carefully. After evaluating feedback from participants the last two years, we've made some changes and additions that we hope will really generate some interest! There may be some additional "tweaking" of the rules between now and January, so keep an eye on this column in the next few newsletters, and we'll look forward to seeing you on the 12th!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 12th, 2007 from 7 to 11 PM EST.
(That's January 10th 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

Objectives:

- To make as many contacts as possible
- To have fun!

Band, Mode & Frequencies: The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band.

- **FM** : FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM frequencies are all standard 2 Meter simplex frequencies, as per the ARRL 2 Meter Band Plan, every **15 kHz**, from **146.505 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.450 to 147.580 MHz**. Use of simplex frequencies in the "FM Experimental Simplex" band of 145.510 to 145.670 are not recommended. See list of recommended simplex channels at the end of the rules.
- **CW**: 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)
- **SSB & AM**: 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan).
- **Digital (including RTTY)**: 144.51 to 144.55 MHz. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan) Multiple digital modes may be used, and participants are free to use any generally accepted Digital mode, but only ONE Digital QSO with a given station regardless of mode

→ *Note: Listen for CW QSO's around 144.1 MHz 15 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for SSB & AM QSO's around 144.2 MHz 30 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for Digital QSO's around 144.51 MHz 45 minutes after the hour*

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

Power Limit: Maximum 100 watts output.

Exchange : Callsign, contact number, ZIP Code.

For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient — do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations will use their 6 digit postal code

Example 1: "N3ZCG from W8XK, please copy Number 3, 15347."

Example 2: "K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801"

Example 3: "W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 15137"

Contacts : Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station **once** per mode, and **once** per ZIP Code — Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations. Remember hilltops work best!

Disqualification: Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels below 146.505 MHz.
- Intentional interference to non-contesters, nets, & QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators
- The committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty.

Scoring: Each Contact: **Phone** (FM, SSB, AM): 1 point
CW: 2 points
Digital (any mode): 2 points

Multipliers: Locations (Number of different ZIP Codes)

Power: Stations running 10 watts output or less: 3

Stations running over 10 up to 30 watts output: 2

Stations running over 30 watts output: 1

Final Score: Total Points x Locations x Power

After the Contest: Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets can be downloaded from the **WASH** web site, www.n3sh.org, no later than January 1st.

Submit Log Sheets: Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: **** New Address for 2013 ****
WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Ron Notarius W3WV
3395 Rosewood Drive
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546

Enclose a #10 SASE for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2013

Each log submitted on or before the deadline will receive one (1) main prize ticket to WASHFest 2013 on February 24th

Logs submitted with an SASE will have their ticket mailed to them, otherwise, the tickets will be available at the **WASH** Club table

Recommended FM Simplex Frequencies:

After the first year of the contest, we found that the limited number of frequencies suggested in the rules were insufficient for the activity level. In subsequent years, we permitted use of any recognized simplex frequency, as per the ARRL recommended guidelines published in the annual ARRL Repeater Directory and other sources, above 146.520 MHz.

You will note that many of these frequencies are listed as potential dual use, with a "local option" for them to be used for repeater inputs and outputs.

After discussions with Frank Bobro N3FB, Repeater Coordinator for the Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council (WPRC), we have determined that the following simplex frequencies are recommended for use. Use of those that are "dual use" are not expected to cause issues for any known repeaters.

Remember that good amateur practice indicates that should a contest participant be notified that they are inadvertently causing interference to a coordinated repeater that is using a recognized simplex channel, they should immediately cease use of that frequency in favor of, and out of respect for, the existing repeater.

The following list of recommended frequencies are recognized as standard simplex channels and should not suffer from co-channel problems with any existing repeaters:

146.505 MHz	146.580 MHz	147.510 MHz
146.520 MHz (*)	147.450 MHz	147.525 MHz
146.535 MHz	147.465 MHz	147.540 MHz
146.550 MHz	147.480 MHz	147.555 MHz
146.565 MHz	147.495 MHz	147.570 MHz

Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(*) The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520 MHz, may be used. However, many stations use 52 for casual conversation or as a calling frequency. If the frequency is in use or becomes used by non-participants, please permit them to use the frequency unimpeded.

To avoid interference to other contestants and other users of the bands, please do not operate on 5 or 10 kHz "offsets" from these recognized FM channels.

Bottom line: Enjoy the contest, but do so responsibly.



TS-2000 Intermittent Stop TX & RX

Bill Galanos W6GQ courtesy of the Island of Misfit Hams

Strange coincidence on two TS-2000's mine and a friends 20 miles away. Both TS-2000's had an intermittent problem. [THE EXACT SAME PROBLEM!](#)

The radio would work fine then all of a sudden, it would stop transmitting & receiving.

The display worked fine, it continued to switch bands, frequencies and everything was still lit up. You would shut off the radio and turn it back on and it would start working normal again.

I kept hearing a relay chatter every time this happened, so I took off the top cover where I heard the relay and the noise. There is a relay near the speaker, component K201.

I even asked on several online forums for help. Nothing.

So there the radio sat, speaker removed with an external speaker hooked up just waiting for the radio to stop working. Sure enough, it stopped, with the slightest of pressure, I touched K201 and the radio started working again.

It did this multiple times over the next several days. You could press the K201 relay back and forth and make the radio cut out just like it did on its own. Cold solder joint on the relay leg right?

There was A LOT TO DO to remove that board to get to the bottom of K201 and re-solder the legs, so it took a few extra days to set aside time to do it. Finally a day with nothing to do and plenty of time.

Here is the fun part

The very first screw removed to take off the board was for IC-202, which was to the left of where K201 was and mounted under the speaker. When this screw was removed, something was odd, ALL THREE LEGS barely had any solder on them and all three popped up off the board!

WOW!!!! SO before removing anything else, CAREFULLY cleaned up IC-202 and the board, re-soldered the three legs and fired the radio up.

It worked perfect, I would press on the K201 relay and the radio would not stop working.

[NO WAY THIS COULD HAVE BEEN THE PROBLEM!!!!!!](#)

Told my friend. My friend immediately took his radio apart and IC-202 had a bad solder joint as well, he re-soldered his and — it worked!!

I never thought of posting my results because we were just happy the radio worked.

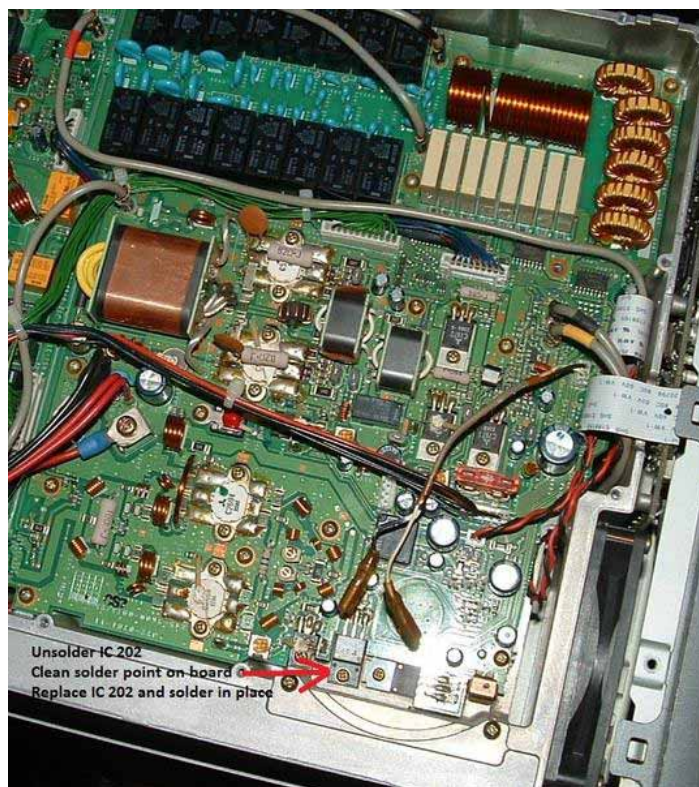
Then I received an email from Geary KF7SN. He asked if the problem was ever solved, because he sent his radio to Kenwood with the same issue. I believe he stated it went back 3 times and multiple \$\$\$\$\$, with no joy in the repairs. I will let him tell his repair history. So I sent him an email with the picture and location of IC-202. I also spoke with him over the phone. Told him how easy the repair was and should only cost him time and a few drops of solder. He said after many failed repairs from Kenwood, he put the radio in storage and just wrote it off. He said it would be several weeks before he could get to the radio and try the repair but he would let me know.

Curiosity must have got the best of him, because a few hours later I got this email from Geary

"Thanks William, sure enough that Voltage Regulator was not soldered to the PCB at all. And I took it off and resoldered it to the board and brought the rig back upstairs from the basement and it works fine. I took it very easy going down and up the stairs but I had to check out that IC #202. Thank you so very much, now I have a Radio, a TS-2000 back on the air and it did not cost me a thing. Unlike the last few times it was sent in for repairs."

One thing we both noticed after this repair, the radio operates MUCH cooler

I hope this simple repair will bring some failed TS-2000's back to the air!



CW Hints Continued from page 8

abandoned mid-stream. Semi-coherent detection methods can result in EXTREMELY narrow CW received bandwidths *without ringing...* the second clause being the operative one. It's relatively simple to build a super narrow CW filter. To build one that doesn't sound like a SONAR is something else!

BFO pitch control! Probably the thing I miss the MOST in modern transceivers is the venerable BFO pitch control. Although one can SIMULATE the function by twiddling the main tuning and the pass band tuning simultaneously, it would be a simple matter to UNLOCK the BFO from the pass band tuning on most rigs — as a front panel option.

Again, the universal use of the fixed PRODUCT DETECTOR shows that most circuit designers are clueless about how CW is normally done.



2 More WACOM Hamfest 2012 photos, courtesy of and ©Copyright 2012 Sean Sleeman N3NWR

On A Cold Winter Night

Tom Thompson WØIVJ courtesy of www.eham.net

Tom flipped on the light to the ham shack as he descended down the stairs into the basement. He turned on the Drake TR-3 transceiver and started listening on the 40 meter band. It had been a noisy summer and fall on 40 meters with all the thunderstorms in the area but tonight was different. The night was cold and the 40 meter band was quiet.

Tom admired the 813 linear amplifier that he had just completed. Electronics was not Tom's profession, so the amplifier project had been difficult for him. He found the design in the 16th edition of the Radio Handbook written by Bill Orr. The amplifier seemed like a perfect companion for his new TR-3 transceiver as he was transitioning from AM to Single Side Band. After many trips to the electronic stores in Denver, Tom had finally completed his 813 amplifier. To his surprise and delight, it actually worked. With a pair of 813s the amplifier really increased his TR-3 signal.

Tom enjoyed phone operation but his true love was CW. There was a certain simplicity and purity about CW that ... well just appealed to him. Hoping to work some DX, Tom turned on the amplifier to let it warm up. The purple glow of the 866A rectifier tubes and the warm orange glow of the 813 filaments sent a sense of peace and relaxation over him.

Tom tuned the VFO on the TR-3 to the low end of 40 while carefully listening to the rhythmic beat of the various fists. He caught pieces of each QSO as he decoded the CW in his head. Clearly some fists were better than others but all were music to his ears. Suddenly Tom heard *dit dit dit dit dit dit dah dit dit dit dah dah dit*. The word HELP grabbed his attention and he paused his tuning to listen some more. Joe, in Utah was talking to a station in Idaho. Joe needed help!

Joe's hand was shaking on the key as he carefully explained his situation to the station in Idaho. When he turned it over the station in Idaho had faded out. The band had changed before Joe could send his position information.

Joe and Sally had planned this backpacking trip for months. Both were experienced hikers having hiked portions of the Appalachian Trail near their home in Pennsylvania. But this was different. The portion of the Appalachian Trail that they had hiked, had many hikers on it. The backpacking trip to the canyon lands of Utah would not be like that. They could anticipate days without seeing any other hikers. Also, since the only time Joe and Sally had coincident vacations was in the winter, the hiking traffic would be even sparser. Joe was a little worried about this, but he had served in Korea so he was used to sleeping in a tent in the cold. Besides Utah was known to have some warm days in the winter. Nevertheless, Joe had assembled a small, low power 40 meter CW transceiver. It was not light with the A and B batteries even though he had kept the circuitry simple using the same miniature tube for the super regenerative receiver and the transmitter oscillator. But Joe did not want to cut any corners since Sally was not as keen on this trip as he was. He figured that 40 meter CW would give him the best opportunity for a contact since they would be hiking in the canyons and he would be running low power.

Now, Joe was about to find out if his planning would pay off. Sally had tripped over a rock in the middle of the night and possibly broken her ankle. In any case, she could not walk and help was needed. Joe had quickly strung a temporary antenna between two high rocks and had been calling for about an hour when an Idaho station answered. Now the Idaho station had faded before Joe could give his location.

As Tom began listening to the weak signal from Joe he realized that this was no ordinary QSO. Joe needed help and the Idaho station could no longer copy Joe. Tom could not copy the Idaho station either so he called Joe immediately. After contact had been established, Joe described where he was. Tom, being an avid backpacker himself, had recently hiked in that same area. He knew roughly where Joe and Sally were. Tom assured Joe that he would call the county sheriff who would organize a rescue party. Tom agreed to meet Joe the next evening on the same frequency to check on Sally's condition. Tom signed off and called the county sheriff. He explained the situation and gave Joe's location to the sheriff. The sheriff assured Tom that a search party would be on the way as soon as possible.

Tom tuned his VFO momentarily but soon realized that a relaxing session on CW was not to be had. The adrenalin rush had not only ruined his concentration but his hands were shaking so much that sending was out of the question. He pictured Joe and Sally alone in the dark under the starry Utah sky. He felt the awesome responsibility that Joe had bestowed upon him. Tom went back upstairs and spent the rest of the night tossing and turning in his bed.

The next day at work Tom kept looking at the clock. Time seemed to drag as Tom's thoughts kept going back to Joe and Sally. Were they ok? Had the search party reached them? Were they able to get Sally to the hospital? Tom could hardly wait until the time for his sked with Joe arrived. He carefully tuned his TR-3 around the agreed upon frequency, but no Joe. Were band conditions not right? Had Joe and Sally been rescued? Had he given proper directions to the sheriff? This was driving Tom crazy. Maybe he shouldn't have become involved. No! That was out of the question. Tom spent another night tossing and turning.

The following morning, as he was driving to work, the incident was still running around in his mind. He turned on the car radio and heard on the news that two hikers had been rescued by a search party in the canyon lands of Utah. The female hiker had suffered a broken ankle. Tom immediately relaxed as a grin spread over his face. The cold winter night had not been what he expected but he was very satisfied with how he and his station had performed. A few days later, Tom received a phone call from Joe. Sally was doing well and Joe and Tom discussed the details of the rescue.

Over the years Tom and Joe kept in contact. Their kids were grown and had moved away. They both had modern radio equipment now, mostly purchased not home built, but they looked forward to their weekly CW sked. They had discussed a lot of different things during those many contacts, but occasionally the conversation would turn to the night of that fateful contact on a cold winter night.

On October 23rd, the US Postal Service proposed several changes to Postal Products & Price Changes in the International Mail Manual..

Among the changes proposed in the Proposed Rule, as listed in the Federal Register at <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/10/23/2012-25992/international-mailing-services-proposed-product-and-price-changes#h-13>, is to discontinue the sale of **International Reply Coupons** due to low usage.

"Due to low quantity demand by customers, the Postal Service proposes to discontinue the sale of international reply coupons. The Postal Service will continue to exchange (redeem) international reply coupons purchased in foreign countries and presented at U.S. Post Office facilities.

The prices and fees proposed in this notice, if adopted, would become effective concurrent with any domestic prices adopted as a result of the current proceedings before the Postal Regulatory Commission (Docket No. R2013-1). All regulatory changes necessary to implement this proposal are provided below.

Although exempt from the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act [5 U.S.C. 553(b), (c)] regarding proposed rulemaking by 39 U.S.C. 410(a), the Postal Service invites public comment on the following proposed revisions to the Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, International Mail Manual (IMM), incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR Part 20.1."

Comments on the proposed rule are due on or before November 23rd. Comments can be mailed to the manager, Product Classification, US Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, RM 4446, Washington DC 20260-5015. Or email MailingStandards@usps.gov, with a subject line of "International Mailing Services Price Change" Include the name & address of the commenter.

Swains Island 2012

Bill Hill W3WH

About 6000 miles from Pittsburgh lies an Island literally in the middle of nowhere. It's a 24 hour trip by boat from Pago Pago, American Samoa and since it's owned by the US it has the prefix KH8. Since it's all by itself in the Pacific it counts as a separate entity for DXCC purposes.

Several months ago my High School ham buddy who got me into this hobby told me that he had been appointed as a member of the "TEAM" who were going to Swains for two weeks in September for a major DXpedition. It's quite an honor to be included in one of these but the honor also requires a hefty \$\$\$ contribution to the cost of mounting a major operation. I know from a few past endeavors to the Caribbean that even simple expeditions require lots of planning and prep time as well as money and the little outings that I've been part of can't hold a candle to a major effort like NH8S.

As I recall, Carl (K9CS ex K2 Queer Zebras Run) left his home in Illinois on Labor Day evening and made his way to Honolulu and then to Pago Pago where the team assembled and boarded their ship for the 24 hour voyage to Swains. They arrived at the one mile square Island mostly safe and sound. One team member suffered a leg injury and returned to Pago Pago for treatment. Very high humidity and temps greeted them along with legions of mosquitoes. After a day or so they were up and running with six stations.

Their emphasis was on Europe which is much tougher to work than most anywhere else. Even though they were emphasizing Europe they were very available to NA with generally great signals. They used borrowed IC-7600's with 500 watt amps and steerable vertical dipole arrays with a couple of Yagis thrown in and a Titanex 85 ft. vertical for 160.

As most of you know working CW is my main interest. Working these expeditions though is my passion in ham radio. It's hard for me to understand that after 56 years as a licensed ham but it's true. NH8S certainly didn't disappoint with more than 85,000 QSO's in their logs and 8 in my log. 80-10 but missing 160 all CW. Surprise, surprise! I even got extra lucky and worked them QRP on 12 meters.

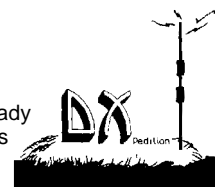
It was really neat to have my friend Carl say "hi Bill!" during one of the contacts. Imagine that from over 6000 miles away with the whole world calling them!

One of the biggest contributors to my success with NH8S was the K# with the P3 Panadaptor. Between the K3's second receiver, which enables you to hear the station working the DX, and the Panadaptor, which enables you to see them on the screen it really helps shorten the time needed to be successful.

As of this writing 7 of my 8 Q's have shown up in the online log. 30 is missing but it was my last Q and it will show up in due time.

I know CW is old fashioned but it can't be beat when you hear your call come back in the middle of a huge pile up. Give it a try. You might like it or even love it as I do.

DX News Briefs



The **ZL9HR** Campbell Island DXpedition reports that "everything is on schedule; the team is excited and ready to begin their journey to New Zealand. Team members will begin arriving in Invercargill, NZ on 22 November." If all goes well, the should be QRV on or about 28 November. They add "During the DX-pedition daily traffic with the team will be handled by the designated Pilot stations. We ask the DX community to direct their compliments / suggestions / concerns to the Pilots who will summarize and forward to us via e-mail." More information at <http://www.campbell2012.com/> QSL via EB7DX — Team ZL9HR

A group from the Ukraine will be QRV as **3W2J** 22 - 28 November, including the CQ WW CW contest, 40 - 10 M. QSL TBA — UT5JCV

6 operators will be QRV from Liberia 17 - 27 November. During the CQ WW CW contest, they will be QRV as **EL2A** (via G3SXW). Outside of the contest, look for **EL2ES** (via AA7A), **EL2LF** (via KY7M), **EL2MF** (via KC7V), **EL2RN** (via G3IRN), **EL2WP** (via G5LP), **EL2WS** (via N7CW) — G3SXW

ON7WP will be QRV as **C5WP** 11 - 18 November, 40 - 10 meters. QSL via ON7WP — ON7WP

VE3DZ will again be QRV as **PZ5T** 20 - 27 November, including the CQ WW CW contest. QSL via VE3DZ — VE3DZ

JH1AJT will be QRV as **A5A** 8 - 15 November, 40 - 10, as time permits. QSL via JH1AJT — JA1TRC

DL8NU will be QRV as **S79NU** 9 - 24 November, mainly CW. QSL via DL8NU — DL8NU

RI1ANF has been QRV from Bellingshausen Base, South Shetland Islands, through 12 February 2013. QSL via RK1PWA. He will be replaced in February by UA3HK, who will be QRV as **RI1ANU** — DX World

JA1XGI will be QRV from Yap Island OC-012 as **V63XG**, 5 - 112 December. QSL via JA1XGI — JA1XGI

PT0S from St. Peter & Paul reports that their departure has been delayed, but are now due to be QRV on 10 November. They will be QRV through 22 November. More info at <http://pt0s.com/> QSL via HA7RY — AA7JV **VP2MYL** & **VP2MGZ** are QRV through 19 November, 10 - 80 M, mainly RTTY, PSK & SSB. QSL via DL7AFS — DL7AFS

Seven Japanese operators will activate **PJ5J** from Sint Eustatius 30 November - 12 December including the ARRL 10 M contest. At least one station will be QRV 24 hours. QSL via JA1HGY -- JH1ROJ

G7COD will be ARV as **8Q7AK** for 3 weeks in February, 80—12 Meters, SSB & CW only. QSL via G7COD — DX World

True conversations from Alaska

CQ 20 meters KL7RA	CQ contest KL7RA
"are you in Alaska?"	"wb5xyz/wb6"
Yeah, why do you have to ask?	WB5XYZ/WB6 59 one
"the last six were not and I'm trying for WAS."	"59 one"
	what zone?
	"one"
CQ contest KL7RA	What state?
"kl7xyz"	"California"
KL7XYZ 59 one	Okay you are zone 3
"59 three"	"no I'm not."
You know if you said /W6 it would be helpful.	yes you are
"not necessary"	"no I'm not"
But they may log you as a double mult and stop looking.	Okay thanks, burp, CQ contest KL7RA
"too bad, I said three"	
True enough, you ever been to Alaska?	Actual QSO's from the 2012 CQ World Wide DX Contest SSB
"naw, too cold."	— Rich Strand KL7RA

QSL Routes

3B8/SP2FUD via SP2FUD — W1ZD	PJ4G via WA2NHA — PJ4G
4S7UJG via JA3UJR — JA1HGY	PZ5T via VE3DZ — VE3DZ
7O6T via UA3DX — K1NU	RI1ANF via RK1PWA — W3UR
7Q7DFC via OE4VIE — OE4VIE	T6X via UA3DX — HAØHW
9J2JA via JA7SGV — KG4W	TXØHF via F4FJH — JA1HGY
9M6/OH2YY via OH2YY — W2IRT	VK9CS via JA1PBV — JA1HGY
A51PN via WØGJ — KG4W	VK9XS via JA1PBV — JA1HGY
CY9M via MØURX — W4DN	VP2MYL via DL7AFS — DL7AFS
D3AA via UA1QV — KG4W	VP2MGZ via DL7AFS — DL7AFS
EX2F via RW6HS — K3BEQ	VP9/W6PH via W6PH — W6PH
FY5FA via F6GNG — KG4W	VP9PN via KP2PN — JA1HGY
HC2/W7SE via W7SE — W7SE	XP2I via OZ1BII — JA1HGY
HV5PUL via IWØDJB — JA1HGY	YEØM via YB1GJS — KG4W
HVØA via IKØFVC — KG4W	YJØAFU via NA5U — NA5U
JD1/JG8NQJ via JA8CJY — KG4W	ZG2FX via G3RFX — JA1HGY
KH6/WG6O via JK1KSB — JA1HGY	ZS7V via ZS8M — ZS8M

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News & DX Chat Reflectors, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, DX World.Net, 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.



WASH Classifieds

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

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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 mlazaroff@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



from Section 97.219(c), and that Section 97.219(d) be removed completely. Section 97.219(d) currently provides that for those amateur stations that participate in message forwarding systems, the control operator of the first forwarding station must either authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system, or accept accountability for any violation of the Part 97 rules contained in messages that it retransmits to the system.

"In your *Petition*, you state that you believe that the control operator of the first forwarding station in a message forwarding system 'should have the same standing as [the control operator of a repeater that retransmits inadvertent communications that violate the rules] because the intent to accomplish communications consisting of text and/or voice communications is the same,'" the FCC stated in its denial. "You also state that Section 97.219(d) 'is ambiguous as it gives no direction to the method and degree of processes and or procedures needed to define the degree of 'authenticate,' and implies that there would be a visually obtainable copy of the suspected violative transmission else it becomes hearsay."

Clark, in his February 2012 *Petition*, proposed to address the differences between a message forwarding system and a repeater by conforming Section 97.219 to Section 97.205(g) "to require that the originator of a message that is entered into a message forwarding system be the only licensee responsible for the content of the message."

The Commission reminded Clark that in April 1994, it had amended the Amateur Service rules to accommodate the operation of high speed message forwarding systems, while retaining safeguards to prevent misuse. "[The April 1994 *Report & Order*] noted that the development of digital technology had resulted in thousands of amateur operators voluntarily linking their individually licensed stations together to form easily accessible high volume, high speed *ad hoc* message forwarding systems," the FCC stated in its denial. "It also noted that, under the then-current Section 97.103(a) of the rules, each station licensee and control operator was accountable for the proper operation of the station which required, in effect, the control operator of every forwarding station to review each message for improper content prior to its retransmission."

According to the FCC, it amended the rules in 1994 to accommodate the Amateur Service community's desire "to operate high speed message forwarding systems by adding Section 97.219, which provided that the control operators of intermediate forwarding stations, other than the first forwarding station, would not be held accountable when their stations retransmitted improper communications inadvertently. It noted that holding accountable the control operators of the first forwarding stations, but not control operators of intermediate forwarding stations, would facilitate high speed message forwarding yet retain a degree of protection against abuse. It also agreed with commenters that the accommodations for message forwarding systems should not apply to other operating activities such as repeaters and auxiliary stations, and it decided to leave questions regarding how to authenticate the identity of the originating station to the designers of the systems."

When it considered amending the rules in 1994, the FCC stated that it considered comments arguing that "the obligation of the control operator of the first forwarding station should be only to establish the identity of the station originating the message and that it was not necessary to hold any control operator of a forwarding station accountable for improper communications." Saying that because these systems can be an "easy target for misuse by uncooperative operators and non-licensees, and it can be difficult to establish after the fact that a particular station originated a fleeting high speed digital transmission," the FCC maintained that there must be "ongoing oversight of the system."

The FCC decided in 1994 that the control operators of the first forwarding stations are in the "best position to provide such oversight, because they are the stations that accept, on behalf of the system, messages from originating stations." The FCC declined to hold the control operator of the first forwarding station accountable for retransmitting improper communications, but rather, required that the licensee of the first forwarding station either authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system or accepts accountability for the content of the message.

FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, October 24th, 2012 — Earlier this month, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* — WT Docket No. 12-283 -- proposing to amend the Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. On October 24th, [a summary of the NPRM was published in the Federal Register](#) and the FCC is seeking comments on it.



Specifically, the Commission is proposing to modify the Amateur Radio Service rules to grant examination credit for expired and beyond-the-grace-period-for-renewal Amateur Radio operator licenses; to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed; to revise the time a call sign is not available to the vanity call sign system correspondingly, and to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination. The *NPRM* also asks for comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration, and proposes to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit certain additional emission types.

Comments must be filed on or before December 24th, 2012 (60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*); reply comments must be filed on or before January 22, 2013 (90 days after publication in the *Federal Register*). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 12 of the *NPRM*.

On Monday, November 5th, the FCC issued a letter dismissing a *Petition for Rulemaking* filed in February 2012 by Rolan Clark, W3FDK, of Adamstown, Maryland. In his *Petition*, Clark had asked the FCC to amend Section 97.219, specifying that control operators of the first forwarding station in a message forwarding system of stations should *not* be obligated to authenticate the identity of a station from which the message forwarding system accepts messages, and that the first forwarding station should *not* accept accountability for any violative content of the messages put into the system.

Clark held that the control operator of all forwarding stations in a message forwarding system should have the same obligation as the control operator of a voice repeater that retransmits a message that violates the FCC rules. Clark specifically asked that the phrase "except as noted in paragraph (d) of this section, for stations participating in a message forwarding system" be removed

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



WASHfest 2013

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **EIGHTEENTH** big year!

Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 24th, 2013

8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall

3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA

Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL



(800) 545-8881

DXCC Card Checking Available!

Thanks Art Lund NQ3A

Breakfast & Lunch provided by **JACK'S CATERING** of Peters Township

FREE Coffee for the entire Hamfest courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES of Canonsburg, PA

MAIN PRIZES — You've Got to Play to WIN!



- 1st Prize: Yaesu FT-897D
- 2nd Prize: Kenwood TM-V71A
- 3rd Prize: LDG AT-200 Pro 2 Tuner
- 4th Prize: Clear Speech Speaker



Additional Hourly Door Prizes! Special Black Box Prize (Separate Drawing)!

Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20

All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2013. Reservations received after February 1st, 2013 must include payment in full. Reserve now... we have sold out in advance four years running!

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 n3sbf@comcast.net

E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X \$15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
WASHfest 2013
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN
4246 Seton Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application/Renewal for 2013



I would like to join WASH!. I am interested in the following type of membership: **New Membership** **Membership Renewal**

(check quarter _____ →)
(check one)

1st Qtr **2nd Qtr** **3rd Qtr** **4th Qtr**
Jan-Mar **Apr-Jun** **Jul-Sept** **Oct-Dec**

- | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership: | \$20.00 | \$15.00 | \$10.00 | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age: | \$10.00 | \$7.50 | \$5.00 | \$2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership: | \$10.00 | \$7.50 | \$5.00 | \$2.50 |

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

ARRL Member? Yes No Family ARRL Member? Yes No

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

New Members Only:

- I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector
 I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List
[If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out]

Signature: _____

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

N3RDV has requested that 2012 membership renewals this year include an application so that his information is up to date

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

Additional Family Members at the same address (\$8 per family member)

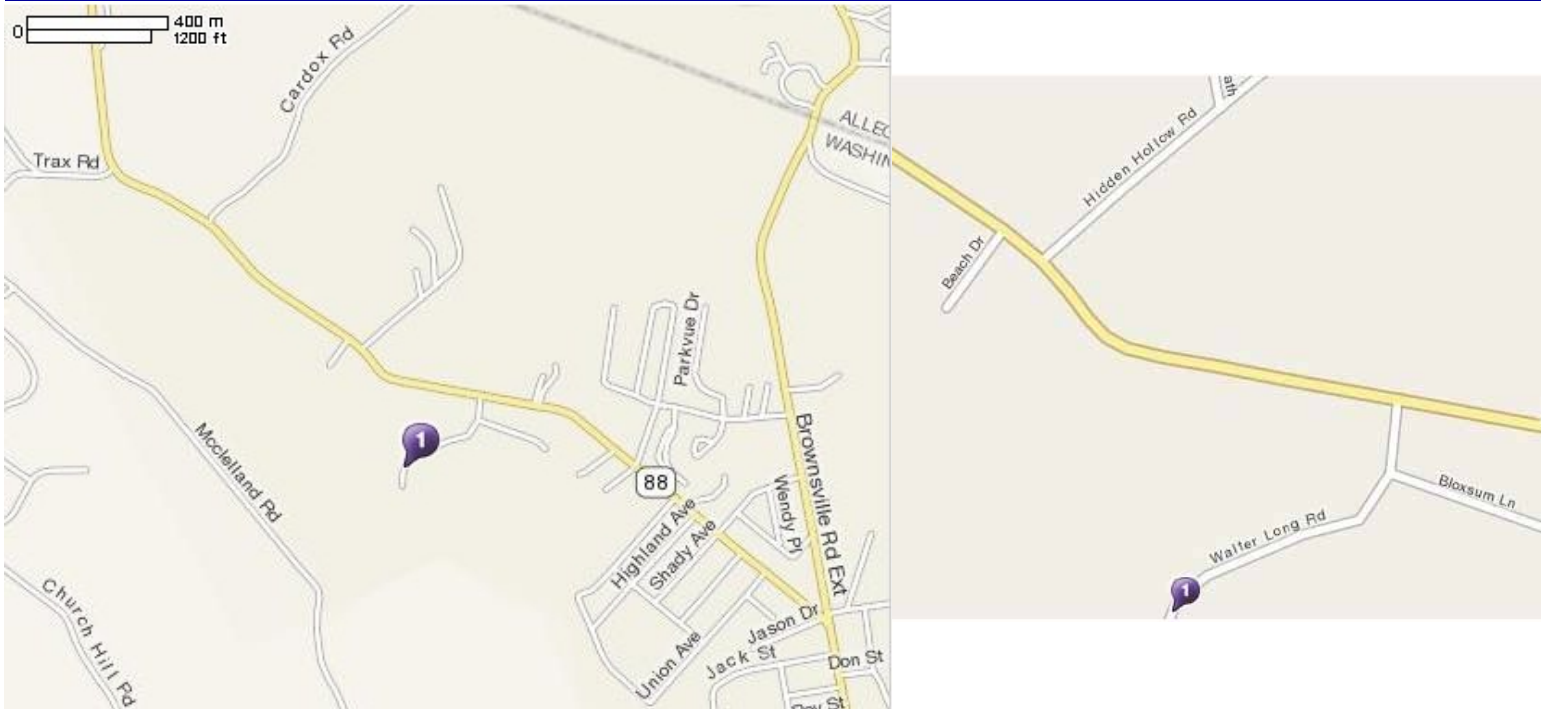
Dues subject to change without notice

Name & Call Sign: _____

Name & Call Sign: _____

Name & Call Sign: _____

Directions to Crossroads Ministries Church



Take Library Road / State Route 88 to Walter Long Road (just past Mineral Beach & The Beach House), North of Finleyville. Turn onto Walter Long Road, follow it back to the church (which should be visible from the road).

The *WASH*Rag

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

