Wireless Association of South Hills

WASHRAG™

www.n3sh.org www.washarc.org

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3.5

MARCH 2006 #2

N3SH
WA3SH
NP2SH/B

WASHFest 2006: Another Success!

Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Hank Marzina KB3FNM

THE LOAD-OUT — Jackson Browne
(by Jackson Browne & Bryan Garofalo)

Now the seats are all empty
Let the roadies take the stage
Pack it up and tear it down
They're the first to come and last to leave
Working for that minimum wage
They'll set it up in another town
Tonight the people were so fine
They waited there in line
And when they got up on their feet they made the show
And that was sweet--
But I can hear the sound
Of slamming doors and folding chairs
And that's a sound they'll never know
Now roll them cases out and lift them amps
Haul them trusses down and get'em up them ramps
'Cause when it comes to moving me
You guys are the champs
But when that last guitar's been packed away
You know that I still want to play
So just make sure you got it all set to go
Before you come for my piano….

Those of you over the age of about 35 probably know the rest of this Jackson Browne song from the late '70s, since it's been a mainstay on the rock stations for years. It's the story of a musician's alternating joy when his band gets to play for a crowd, and the sadness when they pack it all away until the next show. Oddly enough, as I drove home dog-tired from this year's *WASH*fest, this is the song that greeted me on XM radio's "Top Trax" station as I drove across town. Even though I can't carry a tune in a bucket, I found myself singing along (poorly), and it struck me how the author must have felt. He described exactly the feelings I had as I pulled into the driveway and cut the engine. Struck by the irony of the situation, I turned the key back on to hear the rest of the song.

(WASHFest Wrap-Up Continued on page 3)

WASHFest 2006 Special Edition

Next Meeting: April 13th, 2006

The next monthly meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be Thursday, April 13th, at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, starting at 7:00 PM.

Field Day, the tower trailer, 2006 Pa QSO Party, and Dayton Hamvention plans will be discussed, along with other topics .

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3RNX/R and 443.650(+) KB3FZU/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

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WASH FM Net
9:00 PM ET
Sunday Nights
on the 146.955
and 443.650
Repeaters

NCS Schedule Listed On Page 3

Want to volunteer to be a Net Control Station? Please contact FM Net Manager Kevin N3HKQ for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Dayton Hamvention May 19th – 21st**
- **Breezeshooter's Hamfest June 4**
- **ARRL Field Day June 24th & 25th**
- **North Hills ARC Hamfest July 9th**
- **Somerset Co ARC Hamfest July 16th**
- **Butler Co ARC Hamfest September 10th**
- **Ca QSO Party October 7 & 8th**
- **Pa QSO Party October 14 & 15**
- **ARRL CW Sweepstakes November 4 & 5**
- **WACOM Hamfest November 5th**

April 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 RA Erie VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast NHARC Elmer Net
2 Ellwood City ARA Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net **WASH** FM Net	**3** Greater Pgh. VHFS Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	**4** Butler Co ARA Meeting Skyview RS Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	**5** Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	**6** WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting 2 Rivers ARC Net Uniontown ARC Net	**7** Elco ARS Meeting	**8** Skyview RS VE Test NHARC/Breezeshooters VE 2 Rivers ARC Breakfast North Hills ARC Breakfast Foothills ARC Breakfast Quad Co ARC Breakfast
9 QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net **WASH** FM Net	**10** Bum of the Month Lunch ARL Lawrence Co Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	**11** Foothills ARC Meeting Coke Center ARC Meeting Nittany ARC Meeting Punxsatawney Area ARC Mtg Fort Venango M&KC Meeting	**12** North Hills ARC Meeting Butler Co PSG Meeting Laurel Highlands VHFS Mtng Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net	**13** **WASH Meeting** Horseshoe ARC Meeting Beaver Valley ARA Meeting 2 Rivers ARC Net Uniontown ARC Net	**14**	**15** Mercer Co ARC VE Test NHARC Elmer Net
16 WPRC Meeting Elk Co ARC Meeting QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net **WASH** FM Net	**17** Monessen ARC Meeting Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	**18** Steel City ARC Meeting S H B P & M Meeting Tri-County CW ARC Meeting Juniata Valley ARC Meeting Chestnut Ridge ARC Meeting	**19** Huntington Co ARC Meeting Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	**20** **WASH VE Test** Triple "A" ARA Meeting Somerset Co ARC Meeting Greene Co ARC Meeting 2 Rivers ARC Net	**21** Quad Co ARC Meeting	**22** Indiana Co ARC VE Test NHARC Elmer Net
23 QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net **WASH** FM Net	**24** Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	**25** Mercer Co ARA Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net WACOM Net SATERN Net	**26** Ft. Armstrong WA Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	**27** WACOM Board of Directors Meeting Uniontown ARC Net	**28**	**29** **WASH Breakfast** NHARC Elmer Net
30 QCWA Pittsburgh Net North Hills ARC Teen Net Somerset Co ARC Net **WASH** FM Net **2 Rivers ARC Hamfest**	**5/1** Breezeshooters Net 2 Rivers ARC Net Triple 'A' ARC Net Beaver Co Public Service Net	**5/2** Butler Co ARA Meeting Skyview RS Meeting WACOM Net North Hills ARC Net SATERN Net	**5/3** Uniontown ARC Meeting Steel City ARC Social Night Allegheny Co SKYWarn Net Allegheny Co ARES Net Westmoreland Co ARES Net	**5/4** WACOM Meeting RA Erie Meeting 2 Rivers ARC Net Uniontown ARC Net	**5/5** Elco ARS Meeting	**5/6** RA Erie VE Test Somerset Co ARC Breakfast NHARC Elmer Net

WASH 2006 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
VP / Secretary	Paul Lusardi NØVLR
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
VE Team Liaison	Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL
Webmaster	Bob Sanford AA3FI
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger KB3CPI
WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
***WASH*Fest** 2007 Committee	Steve Lane W3SRL, Chairman Carol Danko KB3GMN Bill Hill W3WH Kevin Smith N3HKQ
Activities & Operating Events	Larry Comden K3VX Ted Huf W4ZE
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
Mobile Tower Project	Paul Lusardi NØVLR Randy George KB3KGP
Allegheny Co ARES Representative	(open)

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS & BEACONS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3RNX/R	146.955 MHz (–)	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL/R	442.550 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
		Echo Link #26861 (courtesy W3SRL)	
Canonsburg	KB3FZU/R	443.650 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
St. Johns, VI	NP2SH/B	28.276 MHz	

N3SH/WA3SH *WASH*Net, 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 WASH*Rag™" (formerly **"*The Mariner*™"**) is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius WN3VAW

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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 N3RNX/R Repeater System and the KB3FZU/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 our webmaster, Bob Sanford AA3FI, and to Shawn Djernes NØPEU for providing space on-line for back issues of ***"The WASH*Rag™"** which can be found at **www.washarc.org** or **www.djernes.org/washrag**

Next WASH VE Test April 20th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Thursday, April 20th, 2006, 6:30 PM,** at the **Peters Township Library**, 616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, 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@fyi.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 **$14.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

	Thursday, July 20th, 2006
Future test dates:	Thursday, October 19th, 2006
(tentative)	Thursday, January 18th, 2007
	Thursday, April 19th, 2007

KB3KGP busy making call-sign plaques

Photos courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Hank Marzina KB3FNM

N3KFD and NØVLR at the club table

(WASHFest Wrap-Up Continued from page 1)

And then it was over, and another successful WASHfest was on the books. And I was sad because it would be another year until wecould do it all over again.

We managed to pull off another great *WASH*fest folks, and I want to thank each and every person who helped us to make our annual event a success. Our club president Kevin Smith N3HKQ likes to tell everyone that I pull this thing together every year "single-handedly" but the truth of the matter is that it is each and every WASH member that helped out both before and during the event that made it all come together, and I couldn't possibly do it "single-handedly" as Kevin suggests, even if I wanted to; it is you folks, the membership, that make *WASH*fest such a rousing success year after year.

In the past, I have deliberately stayed away from calling attention to individuals for their roles in making the *WASH*fest such a great event, because I didn't want to leave someone out in the process. I feel however that I have ducked out on those obligations for far too long, and it is time to recognize the unsung heroes who help to put together an outstanding event year after year. I'd like to express my most sincere thanks to the following individuals for their outstanding support of our club through their efforts at our annual *WASH*fest:

Bill Hill W3WH has been my hamfest Co-Chairman for many years, and it is his wise counsel that reins me in when I get one of my "inspirations". Bill also helps to take advance table reservations and he of course also keeps us supplied in coffee for the whole event, courtesy of his company, Ham Radio Insurance Associates. Bill is the "ham's ham", an all-around gentleman and good egg. Thanks Bill, for all your help.

Mark Stabryla N3RDV has been our club treasurer forever, and he's truly my "behind the scenes" right-hand man. Mark handles all the cash, receipts, and he somehow manages to make sense out of all my chicken scratching and he manages to "git-r-dun" every year. Mark is "da man" I depend on year after year to get stuff done.

Carol KB3GMN, Rich N3SBF, and Bob W3RJM have become fixtures at the club table, cheerfully acosting hapless passers-by and extorting money out them for raffle and 50-50 tickets. Carol also lays in all the fixins & supplies for the coffee pot every year. Great job guys, you definitely have found your calling there!

Ron WN3VAW and Ted WN3BOJ have set up and manned the talk-in station since the first *WASH*fest back in 1995. They supply all the equipment, and stand by the radio for the whole event, giving out directions and helpful advice to all who need it.

Jacqué N3ZEL and Ed N3ZNI have faithfully helped up to maintain our mailing list database for years, and also coordinate operations with our caterer, Jack Liddle. They always arrange to have first-class grub on hand for us!

Paul NØVLR and Randy KG3KGP have stepped up to the plate to chair the club tower trailer project, and sold a good number of call-sign plaques to benefit this project. Great job guys!

Dick Barney N3MJQ, Ed Salva W3VFA, Harold KB3CPI, Hank KB3FNM and a host of others from the "breakfast crowd" direct the set-up of the hall and the all-important manning of the coffee pot year after year.

Rick Bell KB3IAC is another one of those "behind-the-scenes" guys, and this year he coordinated the delivery of the all-important doughnuts, even if he couldn't attend himself. Now THAT's dedication!

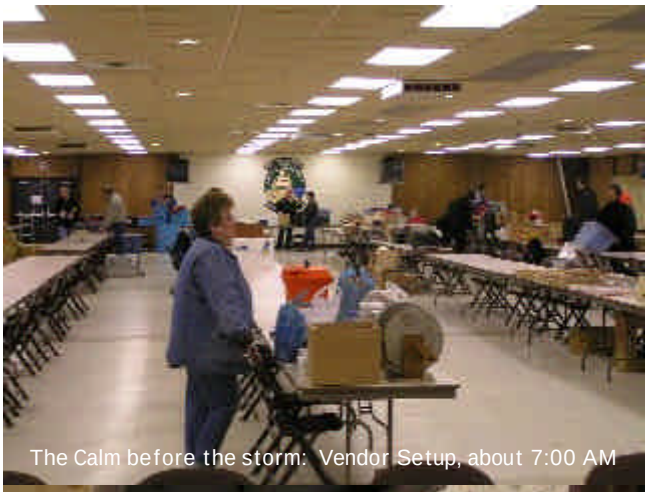
I guess what I want to say is that I consider it truly a privilege to be associated with such a fantastic group of people, most of whom I met through this great hobby called Amateur Radio. Without the individual contributions of our members, we absolutely could not pull this event off year after year, much less do it successfully.

I thank each and every one of you, as well as our faithful attendees for helping to make a rousing success of one of the Pittsburgh area's best hamfests. You really made the show, and my hat is off to YOU.

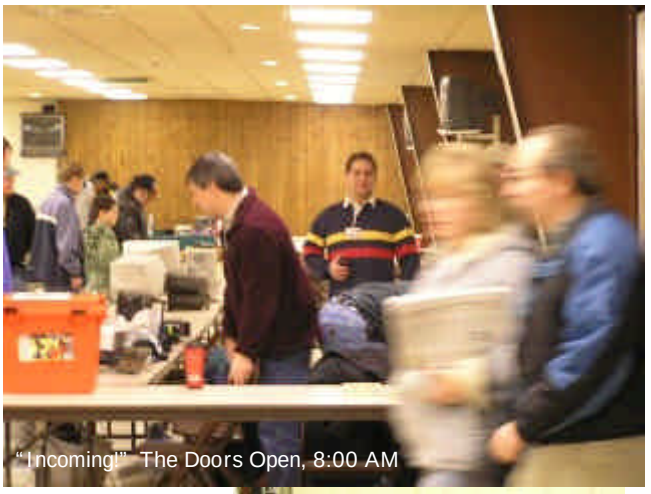
— 73, Steve Lane W3SRL
*Founder & Co-Chairman, WASH*Fest

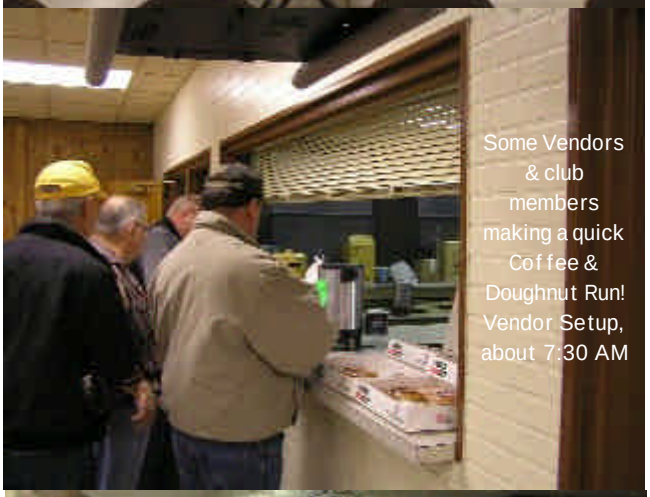
Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2006 Today ! Membership Application on Page 9!

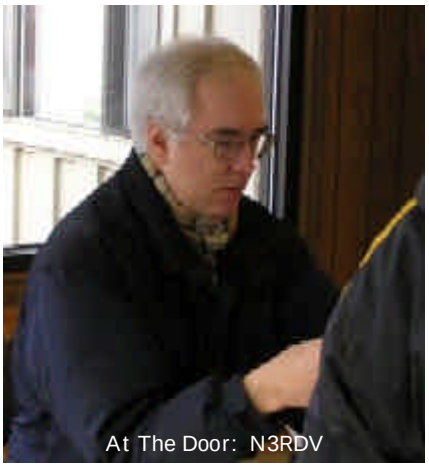
Caught On Camera at WASHFest 2006


The Calm before the storm: Vendor Setup, about 7:00 AM

All Photos This Page Courtesy of and © Copyright 2006 Ed Wolf N3UE


"Incoming!" The Doors Open, 8:00 AM


Some Vendors & club members making a quick Coffee & Doughnut Run! Vendor Setup, about 7:30 AM


At The Door: N3RDV

N3SH Talk-In Station: WN3BOJ & WN3VAW

"If You Can't Stand The Heat..." Jack Liddle & N3QMV

AMSAT Table: N3HKQ & N3HOW

W3VFA & N3RNX

N3DFK

"Tickets Please?" KB3GMN & W3RJM

KB3NCD, KB3FZU, KB3GMU, W3WH

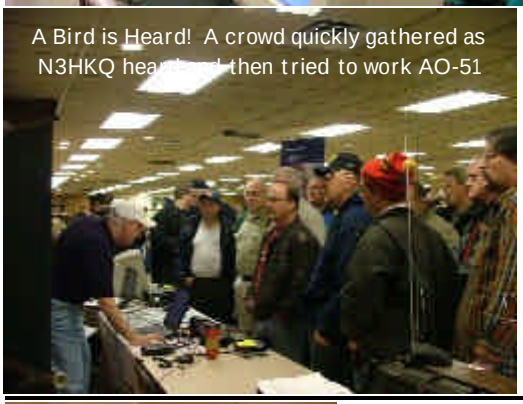
W3SRL

The View from the AMSAT Table

WB4GCS doing final prep on his laptop, around 8:00 AM

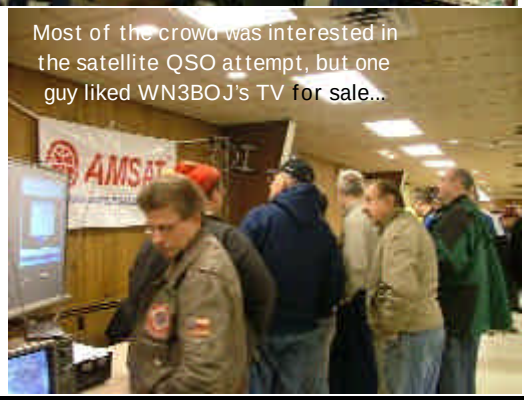
All Photos in this group are Courtesy of and © Copyright 2006 Kevin Smith N3HKQ

What the morning crowd looked like from the back corner of the building, sometime around 9 AM



A Bird is Heard! A crowd quickly gathered as N3HKQ heard and then tried to work AO-51

Still trying... by the way, the antenna located outdoors, up on the roof.

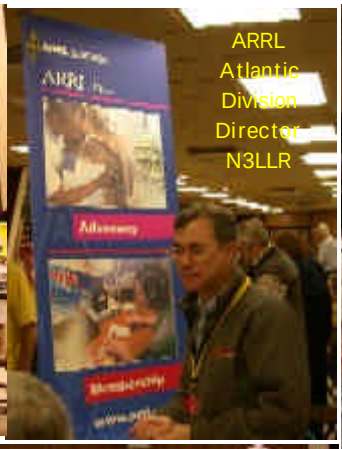


Most of the crowd was interested in the satellite QSO attempt, but one guy liked WN3BOJ's TV for sale...

A Hank's Eye View

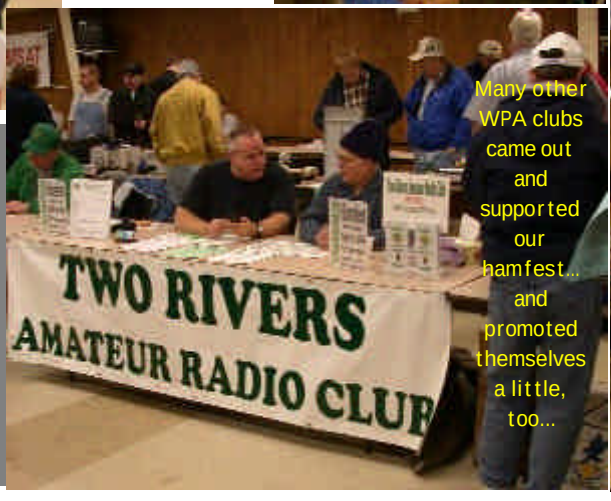
KB3GUZ

KB3NCD



ARRL Atlantic Division Director N3LLR

The club ticket table... KB3CPI, W3RJM, W3WH, KB3HVN, KB3GMN



Many other WPA clubs came out and supported our hamfest... and promoted themselves a little, too...

Late Morning

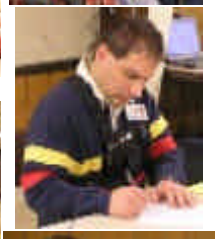
All photos in this section are courtesy of and ©Copyright 2006 Hank Marzina KB3FNM

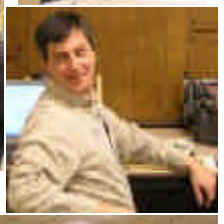
Random Snap Shots

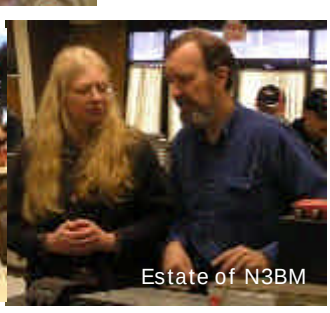
All Photos This Page Courtesy of and © Copyright 2006 Ed Wolf N3UE

7:30 AM

Club table, 8:00 AM






Estate of N3BM

Final Results, 2006 WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest

thanks to Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI

WASH Member, High Power

KB3LIX/M	BILL	11950
N0VLR	PAUL	10510
KB3KOT/M	PAUL	3920
KB3GMN	CAROL	3515
N3DFK	DAVE	3330
KB3MRT	SEAN	2508
KB3FZU	FRANK	2233
WB4GCS	JIM	1369
N3SBF	RICH	1060
N3KFD	KEVIN	782
N2QIV	RANDY	546
KB3GMU	LORI	533
KB3CPI	HAROLD	390
W4ZE	TED	10

WASH Member, Low Power

KB3KGP	RANDY	6700
N3ZEL	JACQUE	6460
N3ZNI	ED	6460
W3JAF	JEFF	398

Non-Member, High Power

N3TXH	ERNEST	90

Club Stations

N3SH	WASH	19,285
W3GPC	GPC BSA	11154
K3MJW	SKYVIEW	6084
W3KWH	STEEL CITY ARC	4488
WA3SH	WASH	3550

Non-Member, High Power

AB3AW	PHILL	7936
WA3NB	NICHOLAS	4262
N3TIR	BUD	1403
KB3GUN	BILL	1150
KA3KSP	JIM	1113
KC8YJJ	GARY	840
N3BPB	BILL	684
AD8J	JOHN	338
K3RMB	ROBERT	168
N3TTE	JOE	144
NJ3T	JIM	66
KC8SUI	RICHARD	36
N3LZV	BRIAN	18
WO3X	JOHN	16

FCC Directs Manassas BPL System to Act Following Ham's Interference Complaint

ARRL Web Extra and ARRL Letter courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

NEWINGTON, CT, March 9th, 2006 — Responding to a radio amateur's interference complaint, the FCC has directed the City of Manassas, Virginia, and its BPL system operator COMTek to conduct measurements to ensure its system complies with FCC Part 15 rules. The Commission also instructed the city to "resolve any continuing harmful interference." FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Chief Joseph P. Casey on March 7 called on the city and COMTek to follow up on a complaint filed January 19 by ARRL member Dwight Agnew, AI4II. Agnew, who frequently travels through Manassas and operates mobile, alleges harmful BPL interference along Virginia Business Route 234.

"I had been talking to a friend in Ohio while on my way home from work," Agnew told Casey via e-mail. "I could no longer hear him over the interference on 40 meters (7.2 MHz) while driving through the city. Was able to hear him after I left the city." Agnew characterized the effect of the interference as "like a giant, fuzzy mute."

COMTek operates the Manassas BPL system using Main.net equipment on frequencies between 4 MHz and 30 MHz over a city-owned power grid. The FCC wants the city to take measurements at locations Agnew cited in his complaint "during the hours of peak usage of the system by BPL customers" and submit them to the Commission within 30 days. Casey made it clear that the city "must either eliminate any continuing harmful interference" to Agnew's operations or reduce BPL emissions in the area to 20 dB below the Part 15 limit. In the past, the League has challenged the assumption that this level of attenuation necessarily will resolve interference issues.

To date, the FCC itself has not taken any measurements on any part of the Manassas BPL system. When radio amateurs have filed interference complaints involving BPL systems elsewhere, the Commission typically has tended instead to rely on measurements made by system operators.

If the city's measurements reveal any portion of the system to be out of compliance with Part 15, the FCC wants the report to describe what steps the city took to remediate the problem. Casey also wants Manassas and COMTek to advise of any plans they have to upgrade present "grandfathered" BPL equipment in the system to FCC-certified equipment.

In January, after COMTek failed to meet its own commitment to resolve longstanding interference complaints from local radio amateurs dating back nearly two years, the ARRL again demanded the system's immediate shutdown. Agnew's complaint is a new one, however.

In a separate letter March 7, Casey asked four Manassas radio amateurs with complaints already on file to provide "further information." Copies of that letter also went to ARRL, Manassas and COMTek. Casey made clear that Amateur Radio licensees addressed in his letter who want to continue pursuing their complaints must respond within 30 days or the FCC "will take

(BPL Complaint Continued on page 10)

Two Rivers ARC 34th Annual Hamfest & Computer Show

Sunday, April 30th 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

The Spectrum in Boston, PA

6001 Smithfield Street, Little Boston, Elizabeth Twp, PA 15135

Talk-In on 146.730 — Mobile Check-In on 146.520

Breakfast and Lunch will Be Available

VE Testing Available (48 Hour Pre-Registration Required)

Admission $5.00

For more information, call (412) 664-1683 On-Line www.qsl.net/w3oc or w3oc@arrl.net

52nd Annual
Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 4th, 2006 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sponsored by the Breezeshooters

Butler Farm Show Grounds / Roe Airport, State Route 66, Butler PA

(The Farm Show Grounds are West of Butler between Butler and Evans City)

Talk-In on W3UDX/R 147.360+ Repeater

ICOM, Yaesu, Kenwood & MFJ Prizes from KJI Electronics:

1st Prize:	**IC-7000**	**6th Prize:**	**MFJ-259B**
2nd Prize:	**TS-2000**	**7th Prize:**	**LDG AT-100 PRO**
3rd Prize:	**TS-480ST**	**8th Prize:**	**Astron RS-35A**
4th Prize:	**FT-897D**	**9th Prize:**	**MFJ-1279**
5th Prize:	**IC-208H**	**10th Prize:**	**Daiwa CN-101**

Ten Half-Hour Prizes consisting of Five ICOM IC-V8 and Five Yaesu VX-170 Hand Helds

Prize Tickets $2.00 Each or 3/$5.00, 7/$10, 15/$20

For more information please go to

http://www.breezeshooters.net/hamfest/hamfest.htm

North Hills ARC 21st Anniversary Hamfest

Free Admission! Free Parking!

Saturday, July 9th 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Wexford PA

Talk-in on 147.090 MHz

A Real Old-Fashioned Hamfest!

1st Prize: ICOM IC-706 MkIIG 2nd Prize: ICOM IC-T7H

For more information, contact John Gormand N3RQD (412) 487-9254

On-Line www.nharc.pgh.pa.us or n3rqd@earthlink.net

WACOM Hamfest

Sunday, November 5th 2006, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Washington County Fairgrounds, Washington, PA

For More Information contact Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI at n3zni@arrl.net or (724) 746-9235

www.wacomarc.org

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application/Renewal for 2006

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

(check quarter →) (check one ↓)	☐ 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	☐ 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	☐ 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	☐ 4th Qtr Oct-Dec
☐ (F1) Full Membership:	$20.00	$15.00	$10.00	$5.00
☐ (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	$10.00	$7.50	$5.00	$2.50
☐ (A1) Associate Membership:	$10.00	$7.50	$5.00	$2.50

☐ (FM1) Family Membership (F1 or F2 or A1 dues x 20% 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**

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]

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: $_____

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

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 65 or older, $36 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: _____

Inside This Issue:

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All this & much more... waiting for your right inside these pages!!!

(BPL Complaint Continued from page 7)

no further action." In the same letter, the FCC, which has yet to respond to any of the earlier ham radio complaints, conceded that it continues to receive reports of harmful interference. It also noted that "ongoing discussions" involving the earlier complainants, the city and COMTek "have ended without a satisfactory resolution."

To expedite the information-gathering process, the ARRL on March 8 alerted all radio amateurs living in ZIP code 20110 (Manassas) that "now is the time" to submit harmful interference complaints relating to the city's BPL system.

"The first step is to verify that BPL is actually the source of the interference," ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, advised. He suggested radio amateurs contact George Tarnovsky, K4GVT — an earlier complainant — for assistance in determining if BPL is causing any harmful interference. Tarnovsky has volunteered to coordinate radio amateurs' efforts to address the interference. The League's correspondence reiterates the filing requirements Casey specified in his March 7 letter.

Sumner stressed that while the League's measurements and observations "have shown that the potential for harmful interference is widespread," the League is not asking amateurs to file BPL interference complaints unless they have actually experienced BPL interference.

"Note that it is not just the amateur bands between 4 and 30 MHz that may be affected by BPL interference," Sumner cautioned. "Shortwave broadcasting, WWV reception and CB all may be affected." He asked complainants to copy their reports to the city, COMTek and ARRL.

"Manassas is often touted as a success story for BPL, while the truth is quite different," Sumner said. "BPL proponents gloss over or ignore the fact that the Manassas system has proved to be a significant source of radio spectrum pollution and that COMTek's efforts have failed to correct it."

Concluded Sumner: "With the FCC finally taking official notice of the presence of harmful interference in Manassas, the tide finally is beginning to turn."

The *WASH*Rag

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N3SH / WA3SH
NP2SH/B
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