



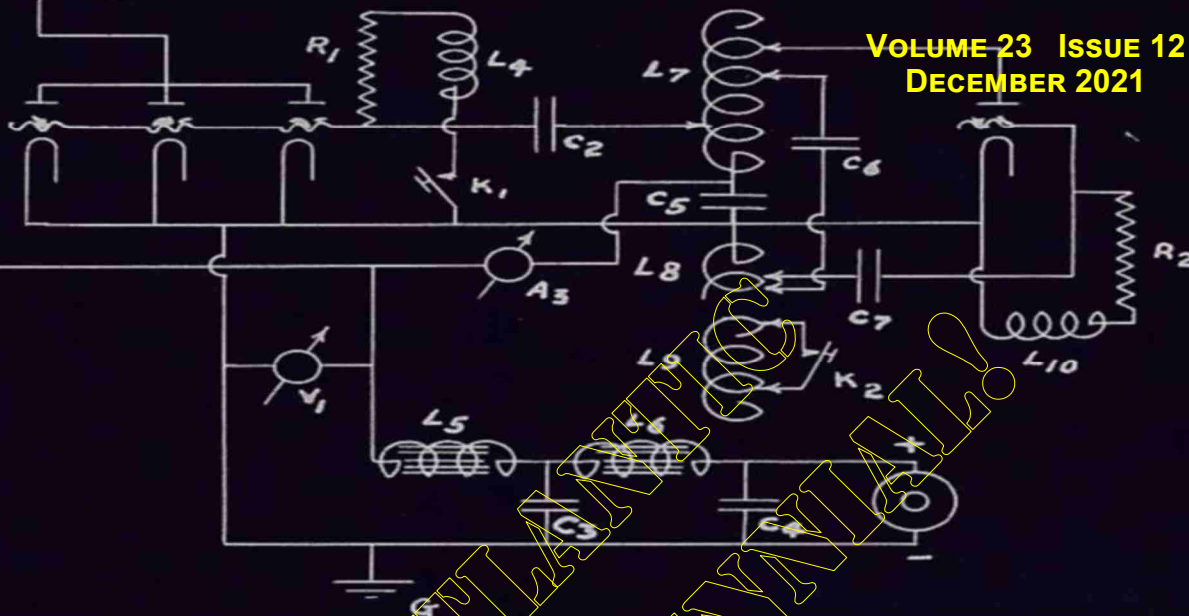
WASHRAG

TM



VOLUME 23 ISSUE 12
DECEMBER 2021

FIG. 3.



QST

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF POPULAR WIRELESS
BY THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC

TRANSATLANTIC TESTS SUCCEEDED!

The Atlantic Ocean has been bridged by the signals of American amateur stations - not one but dozens of them! Paul F. Godley, sent overseas with American equipment by the ARRL, set up his station at Ardrossan, Scotland, and there copied the signals of the following stations:

SPARK	
IARY Burlington, Vt.	IBKA Glenbrook, Conn.
IAAW Illegal Station, not yet located	IXM Cambridge, Mass.
IBDT Atlantic, Mass.	IYK Worcester, Mass.
2BK Yonkers, N.Y.	2EH Riverhead, N.Y.
2DN Yonkers, N.Y.	2FD New York City
CAN. 3BP Newmarket, Ont.	2FP Brooklyn, N.Y.
	2ARY Brooklyn, N.Y.
	2AJW Babylon, N.Y.
IRU West Hartford, Conn.	2BML Riverhead, N.Y.
IRZ Ridgefield Conn.	3DH Princeton, N.J.
IARY Burlington, Vt.	3FB Atlantic City, N.J.
IBCG Greenwich, Conn.	8BU Cleveland, Ohio.
IBDT Atlantic, Mass.	8ACF Washington, Pa.
IBGF Hartford, Conn.	8XV Pittsburgh, Pa.

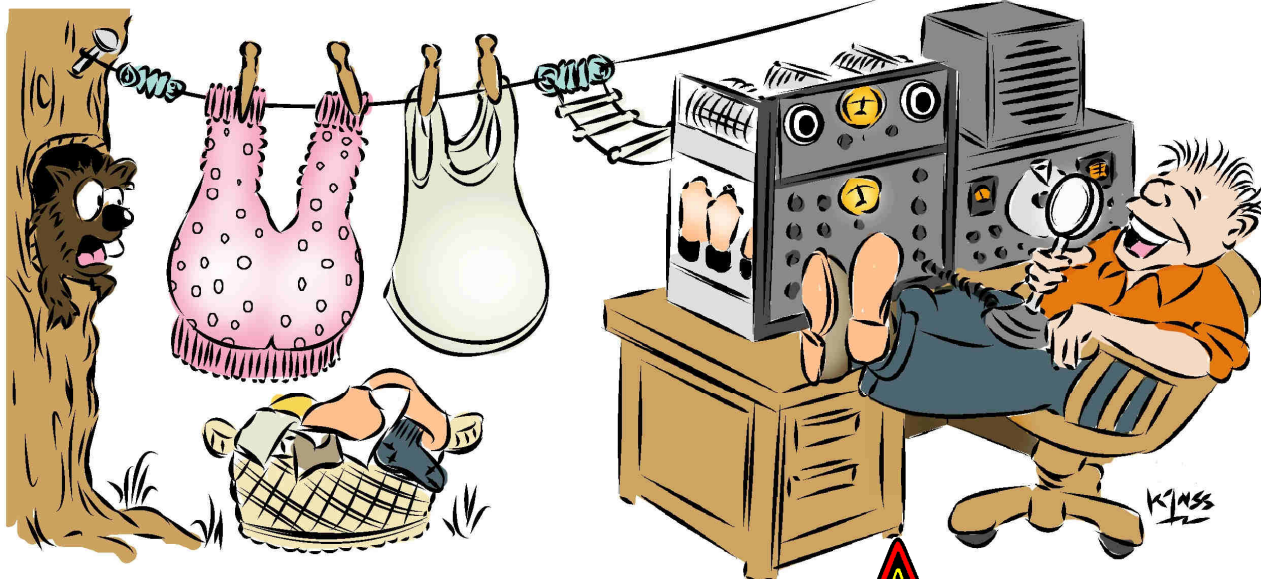
This accomplishment is epoch-making and opens the door to unguessed possibilities in private radio communication. We will publish the
COMPLETE STORY IN OUR NEXT ISSUE - DON'T MISS IT!

January 1922 20-Cents

www.n3sh.org



Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 23 Issue 12

DECEMBER 2021

Next Monthly Meeting: **Thursday, December 2nd, 2021**

The next scheduled meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, December 2nd, 2021**, at Panera Bread, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon. Meeting starts at 7 PM; we have the meeting room starting at 6:30 PM.

Topics **WASHFest 2022** planning, induction of our 2022 Officers, 2022 planning, and more!

See you there!

Cover: 100 Years Ago, Amateurs Communicated across the Atlantic Ocean for the First Time on HF!

More Information on the Centennial commemoration on Page 6

WASH 2022 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Curtis Turner KB3CMT
VP / Secretary	Nathan Suehr KC3GMM
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee	Larry Comden K3VX
WA3SH Trustee	Rich Danko N3SBF
NP2SH Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager	Ron Notarius W3WN
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Grant Olson KC3MLC
Webmaster	Curtis Turner KB3CMT
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
WASHFest 2022 Committee	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Chairman
	Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
Field Day 2022 Coordinator	Glen Roberts KE7FD

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

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

N3SH / WA3SH WASHNet, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every **Monday** Night, 8:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

THE LEGAL STUFF

"The WASHRag™" (formerly "The Mariner™") is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**, a 501.C.3 not for profit organization.

Published Monthly with occasional Special Editions as warranted.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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Ron Notarius W3WN
3395 Rosewood Drive, Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546
e-mail: newsletter@n3sh.org or w3wn@arrl.net

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

As always, special thanks to the owners & operators of both the N3SH/R Repeaters and the N3FB/R Repeater System for permitting the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes.



WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs



Next WASH VE Test TBA

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Saturday, July 17th, 2021, 11:00 AM**, at **Mt. Lebanon Main Park**, Pavilion 3,900 Cedar Blvd, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15234. (The pavilion is located at the end of the parking lot) Talk

The dates and locations for upcoming VE Exams have not been set yet.

As soon as the information is available, it will be published in the newsletter and on the N3SH website.

Thank you for your patience!

-in on the 146.955 MHz repeater. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Pre-registration is encouraged. Walk-ins taken on a space/time available basis.

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

Tony's Musings



I want to thank everyone who has made the last 3 years a fantastic journey! It has been crazy times! We had some firsts for sure from cancelling **WASHfest 2021**, and a Remote Field Day, to our first online meetings via ZOOM. The job was tough but **WASH** was tougher!!

I want to thank Dan K3CMU for his time as VP / Secretary, and thanks for your continued and very valued support to the club as VP / Treasurer Mark N3RDV.

It's great to see the many new members, and my only advise is to make friends, Elmer others and have FUN!

It has been my privilege working with such a great group of people!

Congratulations to the incoming Officers Curtis KB3CMT - President, and Nathan KC3GMM - VP / Secretary, and good luck!

Thanks and everyone STAY SAFE and HEALTHY!!

— 73, Tony Romano KB3BYA
President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Reminder: The December WASH Meeting will be held at Panera Bread, The Galleria, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon. We have the meeting room reserved starting at 6:30 PM. Panera has requested that (as a group) we order a minimum of \$50 of food and/or drinks... so please plan on getting a drink, a snack, or even dinner before the meeting as a "Thank You!" for their letting us use their meeting room!

Omicron. Ye Editor is getting real tired of remembering another Greek letter... for the wrong reasons. Let's keep our fingers crossed on this one, as we await the day when once again "Delta" is a reminder of the fraternity in *Animal House*...

Please, please, continue to take precautions, and to observe social distancing, where and as necessary. And get your vaccine shot or booster as soon as you can. No, we don't like it either.

Moving on...

Congratulations to our 2022 WASH Officers, Incoming President Curtis Turner KB3CMT, Incoming Vice President/Secretary Nate Suehr KC3GMM, and incumbent Vice President/Treasurer Mark Stabryla N3RDV! We're really looking (radio wise) forward to the New Year! (Fair Warning: Your pictures WILL be taken at the December Meeting, so dress appropriately!)

Thanks again for everything to our Outgoing 2021 WASH Officers, President Tony Romano KB3BYA, and Vice President/Secretary Dan Campbell K3CMU. Your work and dedication during your term(s) in office are greatly appreciated by all!

WASHFest 2022 will be discussed during the December meeting. Considering that other clubs have decided to forgo their hamfests in 2021 and/or early 2022, it would be foolish not to. As of this writing, **it is still on**. Ye Editor believes that baring another unfortunate turn of events, we should go ahead with the event! Reasons explained over on Page 9.

If you aren't getting emails from the club reflector, please let our webmaster, Curtis KB3CMT, know about it. If you aren't getting the newsletter from THAT (new) mailing list, let Ron W3WN know. The issue can usually be easily solved quickly. If we know about it.



'tis the Season! We'd like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Editorial Board (namely, The Boss, Little Miss Field Day, and Miss Finnley the Scourge of Groundhogs... no, you can't borrow her...) to wish everyone joy and happiness, however they choose to Celebrate the Season. Merry Christmas, Happy Channukah, Happy Kwanza... if you celebrate another, then good will to you and yours on that... if you don't celebrate at all, well, Happy Winter Solstice.

(At least we're not going to resurrect Sparkle Season! oops)



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

Russian cosmonauts on the International Space Station (ISS) plan to transmit slow-scan TV (SSTV) images on December 1st - 2nd on 145.800 MHz FM using SSTV mode PD120.

The transmissions from **RS01SS** will originate in the Russian ISS Service Module (Zvezda) using a Kenwood TM-D710 transceiver. Transmissions are scheduled for December 1st from 1210 - 1910 UTC and December 2nd from 1140 - 1720 UTC. The signal should be receivable on a handheld transceiver with a quarter-wave whip antenna. Use the widest channel spacing.

Predictions for ISS pass times are available on the AMSAT website. Visit the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) SSTV blog for more information.

Minutes, November 4th Meeting

Tony Romano KB3BYA, Acting Secretary, WASH

Meeting held online via Zoom

Call to Order: 19:12. Presiding Officer: Tony Romano (KB3BYA)
Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Silent Keys and others deserving.
Roll Call: Members Present: 17, Guests: 0

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read. Motion to accept by Larry (K3VX), second by Carol (KB3GMN) and carried unanimously.

Secretary: Tony Romano (KB3BYA, Acting): No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Glen (KE7FD), second by Mike (WA3PYU) and carried unanimously. No correspondence.

Repeaters: Frank (N3FB): They are repeating.

WASHNet: Charles (Chuck) Bihun, III (K3CELA): A lot of new check-ins, some may need better antennas.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Glen Roberts (KE7FD): Need a topic for the next net.

Contests: Paul (NØVLR) gave a presentation on Pa QSO.

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU):

- 2 Meter Test coming up, Allegheny County frequency 146.55
- Indiana County 10 meter test on November 6th, 28.4 MHz USB

Newsletter: Ron Notarius (W3WN): Published. If you didn't get it, please let Ron know.

Volunteer Examiners: Grant Olsen (KC3MLC): No report

Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol Danko (KB3GMN): **WASHFest 2022** is still on; further discussion at the December meeting.

President's Report - Tony Romano (KB3BYA): No report.

Old Business: (none)

New Business: (none)

2022 Officer Elections:

- **President:** Glen (KE7FD) nominated Curtis (**KB3CMT**), second by Ron (W3WN).
- **Vice President/Secretary:** Glen (KE7FD) nominated Nathan (**KC3GMM**), second by Ron (W3WN), to complete the 2 year term.
- **Vice President/Treasurer:** (Glen KE7FD) nominated Mark (**N3RDV**), second by Ron (W3WN).
- No other nominations. Nominations closed.
- Motion by Ron (W3WN) to have the acting Secretary cast one vote for each of the nominees. Second by Tony (KB3BYA). Motion carried.
- Congratulations to the 2022 incoming officers! (Applause)

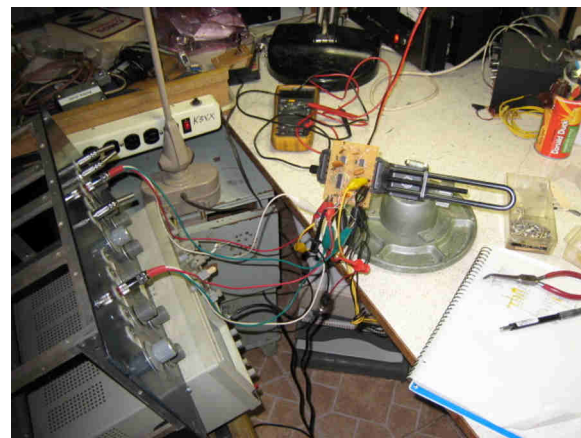
Good of the Order: Glen (KE7FD) has antenna wire available, and will help anyone who needs to build an antenna

Adjournment: Motion Carol (KB3GMN); seconded Ron (W3WN). Carried

Adjourned: 20:10



WASH Spotlight: Project Mess



"In a lab course at Pitt, I tried to make the Third (Weaver's) Method of Single Side Band Suppressed Carrier work. It never did because I couldn't get the two of the four balanced modulators to work correctly.

The other two methods Filter (Collins, for example) and Phasing (Hallicrafters used it) were well known, so I thought it was worth a try.

The signal generator, scope and maybe the DVM were all part of the mess in photo."

Project & Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2021 Larry Comden K3VX

Every month we're going to feature a **WASH** club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH Spotlight**.

Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at **newsletter at n3sh dot org**

Monthly WASH Breakfast



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

Join us this month at **Eat'n Park**, 3380 Washington Road (US 19), McMurray. Start time is about 8 AM until ????. Monitor 146.955 & 443.659 for talk-in or any last minute changes.

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

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

2022
KB3CMT
KC3GMM
KC3OCT
N3RDV
NB3C

2021
AA3XY
AE3DL
K3CMU
K3GW
K3HCR
K3JDS
K3SGT
K3VX
K3YQA
K6DWR
K8DRH
KA3VXM
KB3BYA

KB3ERQ
KB3GMN
KB3GMU
KB3SQZ
KB3YCX
KC3MLC
KC3NFW
KC3NPJ
KC3QAH
KC3RGV
KC3RTF
KC3RZL
KC4WTT
KO4EZO
KE7FD
NØVLR
N3DFK
N3FB
N3IDH
N3JSF

N3KFD
N3NWR
N3RDG
N3SBF
N3ZK
N7TDX
N8NEU
NL7XM
W3LE
W3WH
W3WN
WA3JFL
WA3PYU
WA3VSS
WB3CAI
WB4GCS

WASH FL
KA3UPY/M
WASH NE
NØPEU
WASH OH
N8DPW
WASH OR
KB3NVL
KB3NVM
WASH SC
N8NEU

WASH TN
K3OL
KE3XB
N3YPB
WASH TX
NB3C
K3LGM
KB3IJX
Jane Wagner
WASH VI
NP2JF

Silent Keys

AB3KA
AB3ED
K3EED
K3LIE
KA3NMG
KB3ENX
KB3FNM
KB3FQT
KB3JHQ
N3BPB
N3CZZ
N3FZ
N3HKQ
N3KEH
N3OBD
N3RNX
N3SKR
N3SRC
N3ZEL
N3XFE
W3ZLK
W4ZE
WA3JPP

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

Through November 29th, 2021
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2021 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

November 20 th - 22 nd th	CQ WW DX Contest CW	http://www.cqww.com
December 2 nd	WASH Meeting	Panera Bread, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon
December 3 rd —5 th	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 11 th —12 th	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 18 th —19 th	ARRL EME Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 19 th	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW	http://www.arrl.org
December 31 st	Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org
January 6 th	WASH Meeting	TBA
January 8 th	WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest	Complete Rules on Page 10 of This Newsletter
February 3 rd	WASH Meeting	TBA
February 12 th	Breezeshooters Groundwave CW	http://www.breezeshooters.net
February 27 th	WASHFest 2022	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
March 5 th	Breezeshooters Groundwave Voice	http://www.breezeshooters.net

For the 16th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at 7:15 PM (Central) starting Friday, November 26th, 2021. The Santa Net will run nightly through Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2021.

Pete Thomson KE5GGY, of The 3916 Nets, commented on The 3916 Santa Net. He said, "Christmastime and Santa Net is an exciting time on the 3916 Nets. Every year we connect hundreds of children with Santa and we're looking forward to another busy year."

Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Thomson said that The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members. He said, "In our first year, we connected 10 kids to Santa on Ham Radio and it's grown steadily since. This year we're hoping to connect over 1,000 children with Santa Claus."

Prior to each night's Santa Net, pre-net check-ins can be made at www.cqsanta.com Third party rules and regulations apply.

The Santa Nets are presented annually by The 3916 Nets. The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters and The Freewheelers are all amateur radio nets that meet on 3.916 MHz nightly. For more information on The Santa Net, email KE5GGY at Gmail dot com.



The Transatlantic Tests: Celebrating 100 Years of DXing

Clark Burgard N1BCG
Photos & illustrations courtesy
Clark Burgard N1BCG

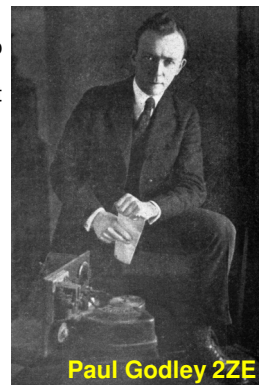
Greenwich, CT, November 12th, 2021 – Saturday December 11th, 2021 will mark the 100th anniversary of the first message sent from an amateur radio station to span the Atlantic using what was then considered short waves. 1BCG, operated by members of the Radio Club of America and located in Greenwich Connecticut, utilized a four UV-204 tube CW transmitter and "T" antenna, sent the historic message to Paul Godley's (2ZE) receiving site in Ardrossan Scotland at 9:52 PM U.S. time. Paul Godley, considered one of the finest amateur operators, was sent to Europe with a Paragon regenerative receiver with a DA-2 detector-amplifier and a 10-tube superheterodyne receiver with external beat oscillator for CW.

The success of 1BCG and several other U.S. amateur stations during the ARRL's Transatlantic Tests was a significant accomplishment as it proved that the higher frequencies (200M) allotted to amateur radio were capable of propagating significant distances. The event is widely considered the birth of both DXing and DXpeditions. The Transatlantic Tests also proved the vast advantages of CW (Continuous Wave) transmission generated using vacuum tube oscillators over spark transmissions.

The anniversary will be celebrated by several stations as part of the Transatlantic Tests 100 event including W1AW, W2RCA, and W2AN/1BCG all operating from Connecticut and making contacts with amateur radio operators throughout the world, and in particular, with a special event station in Ardrossan Scotland operated by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB).

The following stations will be on the air on Saturday, December 11th:

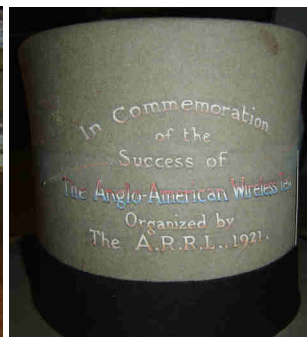
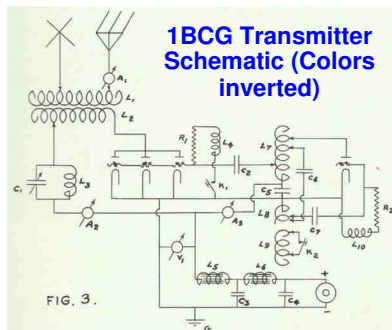
- W1AW: 0900-2100 EST (1400-0200 GMT): The ARRL's station W1AW will be operating using both phone and CW transmissions on a variety of bands. Special event QSL cards will be awarded to all stations that make contact with W1AW.
- W2AN/1BCG: 1800-2200 EST (2300-0300 GMT) (transmission every 10 minutes): Internet: All-Day YouTube Live Channel (schedule TBA)
- N1BCG: Via W1VCM (schedule TBA)
- Multiple activities will be happening at the Vintage Radio And Communications Museum in Windsor Connecticut.
- The Antique Wireless Association will be operating a replica of the original 1BCG transmitter on 160M CW beginning at 1800 EST with transmissions schedule every 10 minutes.
 - ♦ A Special event certificate will be awarded to all stations that email a reception report to 1bcg@antiquewireless.org.
 - ♦ Additionally, a live YouTube stream will be used to show the transmitter in operation as well as to discuss the fascinating story of the Transatlantic Test of 1921. Bruce Godley Littlefield, Paul Godley's grandson, will be recalling many interesting details from the event based on hand written notes from his grandfather.
- W2RCA: 160M CW 2152 EST (0252 GMT December 12th): W2RCA will be transmitting a one way 'QST' transmission at 02:52 Dec 12, 2021 UTC to re-enact the 1921 'across the pond' transmission to Ardrossan, Scotland. Transmission will be on 1825+/- KHz from a W1 location, planned in Connecticut. Transmission will be CW only at 12 WPM and include the original message sent in 1921 from the 1BCG RCA station, and an additional short message aimed at the next 100 years of wireless.
 - ♦ Officers and members of the Radio Club of America will operate and be present.
 - ♦ As W2RCA participated in the November 13th Transatlantic QSO Party, there are no plans for special event (with QSO's) for the December 12th event. Instead all listeners--ham or otherwise-- will be encouraged to copy the message, which may be copyable over much of the globe at 02:52 UTC.
 - ♦ Hams and SWL'ers who copy the re-enactment by W2RCA will be able to download a special certificate from the RCA website. More information will be posted after November 20th, 2021 .
- 630 Meter CW: 1600 EST (2100 GMT): There will also be activity on the 630M band! The Transatlantic Centenary/630 Meter Operating Event will be held by a group of LF enthusiasts on 472.5 CW beginning around 2100GMT on December 11th. Test communications with the U.K. had favorable results.



Paul Godley 2ZE

Call	Location	Type	Wave	Cypher
1AFV	Salem, Mass.	C.W.	200	YLPBV
1TS	Bristol, Conn.	C.W.	200	AOTBB
1BU	W. Hartford, Ct.	C.W.	200	BUSC
1DA	Manchester, Mass.	C.W.	200	CGVTD
1AW	Hartford, Conn.	Spl.	210	DRWIF
1BCG	Greenwich, Conn.	C.W.	200	GODLY
2MUG	Riverhead, L. I.	C.W.	200	FSTYQ
2FD	New York City	C.W.	200	CTVWF
2FP	Brooklyn	C.W.	200	HUTZJ
2HAW	Ridgewood, N. Y.	Spl.	200	JUAYK
2KL	Fresport, L. I.	C.W.	200	KWZEL
10H	Princeton, N. J.	C.W.	200	LCAM
4GL	Savannah, Ga.	C.W.	200	MYDEN
1BP	Newmarket, Ont.	C.W.	200	NPCO
8DB	Pittsburgh, Pa.	C.W.	200	OAGDP
8KO	St. Louis, Mo.	Spl.	200	PRFQ
9AW	Toronto, Ont.	C.W.	200	QJGR
22L	Valley Stream, L. I.	C.W.	200	TOMKU
22Z	Partenboro, Pa.	C.W.	200	UNENY
8ZZ	Blackwell, Okla.	Spl.	215	VJOMW
6XE	Stanford, Cal.	C.W.	215	WSPFX
7YG	Bear Creek, Mont.	Spl.	215	YLAQY
8YS	Pittsburgh, Pa.	C.W.	215	YBIBZ
92Y	Lacrosse, Wis.	C.W.	200	RYOMY
92V	Chicago, Ill.	Spl.	215	ZOMIA
92I	Minneapolis	C.W.	215	ZJAP

The three and a half hours for individual schedules was divided into fourteen periods of 15 minutes each, and times assigned to each station, the periods again rotating for fairness. At a suggestion from Mr. Godley the individual stations for the most part transmitted in groups on the same wave length, two stations sending at once permitting double the time for each without jeopardizing the chance of either to be heard. Most of the special schedule stations transmitted in pairs, three being the maximum going in any one period.



N3UE Woodworking



Ed Wolf N3UE has recently taken up a new endeavor... laser engraving. (See sample)

He's currently available for plaques and signs of varying shapes and designs.

Prices vary, but are very reasonable!

Interested? Contact Ed directly at n3ue11@gmail.com

Windows 11 Is Here!

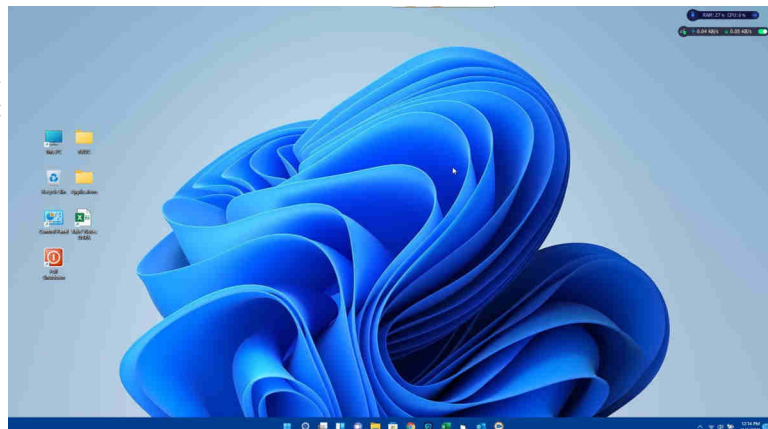
Greg Babin NB3C

Grand Prairie, TX, November 3rd, 2021 – I remember when Windows 10 came out... Microsoft announced that it would be the last OS they produced, and that they would release periodic updates to keep it fresh. So what did they do? They done released a brand-new version anyway, Windows 11. WOW! Who saw that coming? If you thought MS would never come out with a newer OS, shame on you!

Anyway, what's new with Win 11? Let's take a look... We're just going to scratch the surface here; I don't want to hog the whole newsletter...

Here's a screenshot of the new desktop. Notice that the taskbar is now centered in the.....well.....center! (Kind of reminds me of an Apple machine.) Don't like it? You can set it up to justify to the left, just like in Win 10.

Another way of freshening it up. (Ignore them there black bars in the upper right. They're not part of Win11. Those are just maintenance & VPN programs I'm running in the background.)



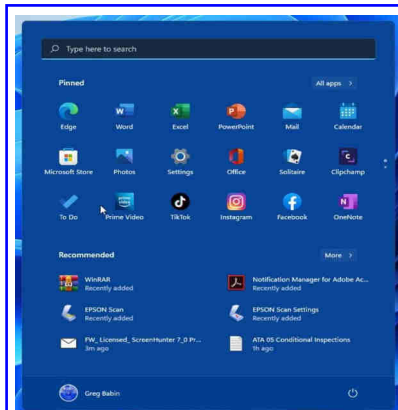
Here's what the new start menu looks like. Pretty radical, huh?

If you click on 'All Apps', it'll take you to a listing of all apps installed alphabetically. Like I said, I guess they've got to come up with ways to keep it fresh.

Don't like it? I use a program called 'Stardock Start 11'. It brings back the old Windows 7 style start menu which everyone laments the loss of. It also keeps the ability to access the new style start menu, so you can use either one. 5 bucks is the cost & you can't go wrong if you decide to buy: <https://www.stardock.com/products/start11/> [No I'm not a salesman for Stardock; I just bring it to your attention here because I like it and use it and I need to fill in some more space on this here page.

They also make it for Windows 10.]

Something that hasn't changed: Remember the 'Control Panel' function? Microsoft said they were going to delete it... eventually. Well, it's back in 11. I don't think it's going away any time soon. That's good, because I find it handy to use.



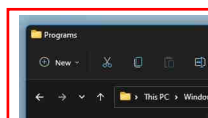
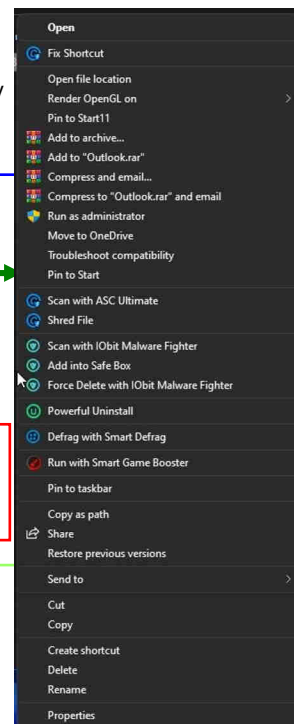
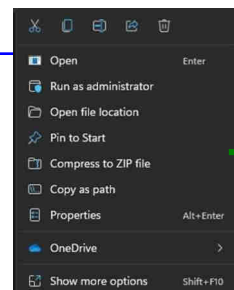
Here's another radical change. When right-clicking on an object/program icon, this is the new drop-down menu you get (right). Notice that the 'Delete' function is now represented as a garbage can up top. If you click on 'Show more options' It'll take you to the old-style menu here on the far right. Something old, something new, rounded corners too.

Like I said: Keepin' it fresh...

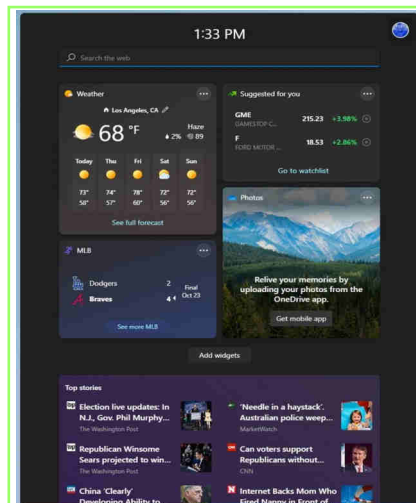
When I set up my machine, it asked me to create a PIN # during initial setup. Windows11 REALLY would like for you to have an Microsoft account for sign-in purposes, like a Hotmail address for example. However, I was able to create a local account on my machine without the need for an Microsoft account. Every time you turn on your computer, you'll need to unlock it with your PIN. (Unless you go with a local account.)

If you don't have an Microsoft account like Hotmail & you want one, they're FREE to create. You know how we hams love free stuff....

Also, it seems to rely more on their OneDrive app for storing stuff. Like your desktop icons for example....



Notice that the corners of the windows are now rounded, instead of the squared-off corners in Windows10. Ooh.....pretty!



In the last few updates of Windows10, Microsoft introduced a "news feed" feature. On my Win10 systems, it was displayed on the lower right taskbar as the current temperature in my area. Clicking on the temperature opened up a box containing news, weather and other stuff you may or may not find to be of interest.

They expanded on this feature and they now call it 'Widgets'. It's a button/icon loaded on your taskbar by default. Clicking on it yields this here picture you see to the left. (You can turn it off.)

You can customize the weather for your area. It shows me in Los Angeles, even though I live in Grand Prairie. That's because I'm running a VPN that shows me surfing from L.A. Surfing the web that is, not the Pacific Ocean...

AND NOW, FOR THE BIG 64,000Ω QUESTION:
WILL MY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAMS RUN ON WINDOWS 11?

Drum roll, please..... **YES!**

I've loaded the following programs (I hate the term 'Apps') on my laptop: FLDigi, EchoLink, WSJT, JTDX, VE7CC DXCluster, & my logging program DXTreme v14 & Ham Radio Deluxe. All seem to run fine with no problems. As a matter of fact, all programs I ran on Windows 10 seem to operate normally on 11. I don't think you'll have any issues.

Should you upgrade?

The answer to that is: 'MEH'. It all depends on whether you need/want the latest/greatest OS.

The good news is that right now, it's a free upgrade. It'll use your existing Win10 serial number and register itself automatically.

More good news: If you decide to wait, Windows 10 will be supported until October 2025, so you'll still have plenty of good years left to use Windows 10.

Continued on Page 8

October 2021 Volunteer Monitor Program Reports

Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, VM Program Administrator

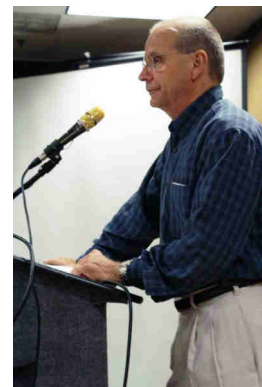
Gettysburg, PA, November 11th, 2021 – The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the October VM Program report.

- ◆ Technician operators in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts, and Richmond, Texas, received *Advisory Notices* after making numerous FT8 contacts on 40 and 20 meters. Technician licensees are not allowed to transmit data on 40 meters and have no operating authority on 20 meters.
- ◆ Operators in Mims, Florida; Moorefield, West Virginia; State Road, North Carolina, and Grottoes, Virginia, received *Advisory Notices* concerning excessive SSB bandwidth on 40 and 75 meters. The operator in Moorefield, West Virginia, previously received an *Advisory Notice* for out-of-band operation on 7.138 MHz. His case will be referred to the FCC for further enforcement action, which could include removal of voice privileges from, or revocation of, his General-class license.
- ◆ An operator in Cave Creek, Arizona, received an *Advisory Notice* for making lengthy transmissions without identifying as required by Commission rules.
- ◆ An operator in Highlandville, Missouri, was reminded that a beacon on 30 meters cannot be automatically controlled, pursuant to 97.203(d) of the Commission's rules, and must have a control operator present at all times of transmission. He was further advised that the FCC may request a schedule of control operators and their duty hours.



◆ The final totals for monitoring in September were 1,909 hours on HF frequencies and 2,716 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,625 hours.

There was one recommendation to the FCC for case closure and renewal of a license, and one request to review a license application. The FCC referred two cases to the VM Program.



3M Issues a "Stop Use & Inspection Notice" for Self-Retracting Lifeline with Anchor Hook

American Radio Relay League

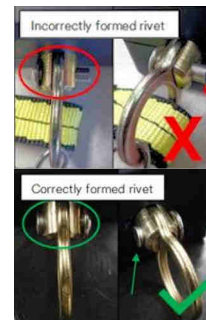
Newington, CT, November 2nd, 2021 – 3M has issued a "Stop Use and Inspection Notice" for the 3M™ DBI-SALA® Nano-Lok™ Self-Retracting Lifeline with Anchor Hook.

The company advises owners to remove the anchor hook product from service until an inspection is performed.

The notice pertains to "specific versions" of the anchor hook, seven model numbers (*) that were manufactured between September 1st, 2020, and August 31st, 2021. "3M Fall Protection has identified a very low potential for the DBI-SALA® Nano-Lok™ Self-Retracting Lifeline with Anchor Hook to be assembled with an unformed top swivel eye rivet. An improperly formed rivet may become displaced from the top swivel eye. An unformed rivet may result in the SRL [Self-Retracting Lifeline] becoming detached from the anchor hook, which could result in severe injury or death," 3M said. "Due to this, we are sending out an inspection notice so this issue can be detected by inspecting the self-retracting lifeline."

More details are on the 3M website.

(*) Part/Model numbers 3101218, 3101219, 101241, 3101198, 3101223, 3101224, 31011249



Windows 11 Is Here!

Continued from Page 7

A NOTE ABOUT MY UPGRADE:

I upgraded my laptop & tried to set it up as a dual-boot Win10/Win11 system. Every time I tried to boot into Windows 11, I got an error message saying it couldn't find the required file 'Winload.efi'. Even though I could see this file in the Win11 directory when I booted into Win10, the computer couldn't. I tinkered with my boot file to the point of destroying it, so I just did a clean install. Therefore, you may or may not want to try to install as a dual boot system.

There are certain requirements for installing Windows 11, one of which is a computer with TPM 2.0. What's that? Short definition: It stands for 'Trusted Platform Module' and its job is to protect the data used to authenticate the PC you are using. It's an international standard for a secure cryptoprocessor used to secure hardware through cryptographic keys. I understand its intent is to keep hackers and ransomware away from your machine. The experts question its effectiveness, but no matter; MS REQUIRES it for Windows 11. Maybe an IT expert can expound on that theory...

As for me, I'm running it on a laptop with a Intel Core i7 6th gen processor, NOT SUPPORTED under Windows 11 and it works great. (As a matter of fact, I'm writing this on my Win11 laptop right now. It's 5 years old and works great on 11.) BTW: All my Windows 10 hardware drivers work on Win11, so if Win11 doesn't update them, you can use your old driver software.

Can your machine run 11? Go to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-11> & download the health check app. Scroll down to the bottom of the page past all the hype and you'll see a link to download it.

Ready to do it? Here's the link: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/software-download/windows11>—Good luck, have fun!



The Tree at PPG Place,
Light Up Night 2021

To 'Fest, or Not To 'Fest...

Ron Notarius W3WN

Castle Shannon, PA, November 15th, 2021 – Should we hold **WASHFEST 2022** in February?

The question came up again in the November meeting, and will be discussed again in December. Some were in favor of going forward... some against... some not so sure. And some wanted to think it over.

I think we should.

Now, with the understanding that things are still fluid during this long pandemic, and that things can change... especially if a turn for the worse occurs, and the County again severely restricts the maximum occupancy of the hall in South Park, or makes it completely unavailable... let me explain why I think this.

Consider: Every hamfest in Western PA is a little different. Different sponsors, different venues, different times of the year, and so forth. Several clubs chose to go ahead with their events (mainly primarily outdoor ones in warmer weather); others chose not to. One of the reasons cited by many that chose not to, was a concern about public health and related safety. This will always be a concern, but with reasonable precautions which most of us are already observing, this should not be a deal-breaker. (Again, subject to change if the overall situation deteriorates)

But another reason is economics. Simply put, is it possible for the sponsoring organization to rent enough tables/spaces, and sell enough admission and prize tickets (and 50/50, and...) to at least cover their costs? It's never a guarantee, even with good to great attendance (frozen pizzas for lunch, anyone?), but the planning is always on the presumption that the sponsoring organization will cover the overall costs, and make a buck or three.

This is where things get trickier. And where we have a little bit of luck on our sides.

There is a fixed fee, first and foremost, to rent the commercial space. (Those clubs that have clubhouses and have enough room to host a 'fest? No, they don't pay rent, but they have other fees – taxes and utilities, maybe mortgages, amongst others – to be effectively the equivalent.). To rent a place like a hotel banquet room, or a large hall at a fairgrounds, isn't cheap. So if it appears that the costs for that rental won't be covered by vendor table rentals and admission fees, the event (be it a hamfest or something else) may go into the red... significantly. And this happened to some hamfests around the country at the beginning of the pandemic lockdowns.

Where do we have an advantage? Well, the County has set a very reasonable fee for renting the "Home Economics" building in South Park – for the weekend. Since we are an IRS 501.C.3 organization, we get a further discount on top of the regular rental. And... we've already paid the fee. It was paid for **WASHFEST 2021**, and when occupancy restrictions forced our hands, the County was gracious enough to move our rental to 2022. So that money is spent.

We will probably not see most of our usual commercial vendors. Even so, we've never had a problem selling out most of our tables. (An empty table almost always means someone who paid never showed, for any of a number of reasons. It happens!) We may have to cut back this year, just to avoid having too crowded a hall. But our table rentals should cover the costs of the building rental. (And if we cut back, that also means we cut back on the number of additional tables we might have to rent, as well)

Our Main Prize tickets always sell well, in large part because of the often under-appreciated hard work of Carol KB3GMN to pre-sell them at summer and fall hamfests. Well, that didn't happen this year. So we may have to scale back the prizes a bit to compensate. That said, most people come to hamfests to mingle and see their friends, and maybe pickup an item or three they need (or think that they need) for their shack. Few come just to buy prize tickets and then leave, even under normal circumstances, which these are not.

Could we sell prize tickets in advance, online or in the mail? The simple answer is yes, it can be done. The proverbial devil, of course, is in the details. It may already be too late, to do that properly, given the time remaining. Still, we have (as of this writing) 3 months before the event. Not impossible.

And as other clubs are starting to meet in person again... well, maybe a January or February in person trip to those selected clubs might sell a few tickets as well.

So, we may have scale back the main prize budget... but we can still have them.

The kitchen area could be an issue. Again, we may have to scale it back, to drinks (coffee/tea/water/soda) and snacks. Most people will understand.

So I still think we can, and should plan on, having our hamfest.

One other thing keeps running through my mind. There's a large, commercial craft show that visits the area in late October through early December; their venues include the Washington County Fairgrounds, and the Monroeville Convention Center, amongst others. They have over 100 vendors, and their attendance is in the thousands each day. Despite the circumstances, they continue to host their events. I've been to a few of them, with The Boss. They are crowded but not packed; all the vendors were masked, as were most of the attendees (at least, everyone we saw; my brother-in-law, who works for one of the wine vendors, told me the same thing) when they weren't eating or drinking. Everyone took appropriate precautions. Even the "anti" crowd did so... or they weren't admitted.

So: If they can do it... without taking extraordinary steps...why can't we?

I believe we can.

Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, November 5th, 2021 — Due to the bad Covid-19 situation in Laos, and the very bad economic situation because of this terrible virus, I have temporarily relocated my ham station to the territory of TRNC – Turkish Republic of North Cyprus. My new callsign is **1B/XWØLP**.

The most important thing for me is that I love amateur radio and want to use my hobby to help young students learn about radio communications. I have ZERO interest in any discussions about the politics and history of my current residence.

Don't call me or any other 1B station a pirate! It's important to understand that my callsign and ham radio station are 100% legal!

TRNC is a region of the island of Cyprus that declared independence in 1983 from the southern part of the island. The TRNC is not a member of the UN, nor is it a member of the ITU. The ITU allocates amateur radio callsign prefixes only to each of its member states, and not to states which are not ITU members.

Since the TRNC is not a member of the ITU, it is not bound by their rules concerning prefix allocation or use, and the governing body of the TRNC is the responsible authority to allocate their own prefix for visiting amateur radio operators. In this respect, it is the same as Taiwan, for example, which is also not a member of the UN or ITU, but is accepted as a DXCC. Or the same as The Sovereign Military Order of Malta – prefix 1A, which is also not a member of the UN or ITU, but is accepted as a DXCC. Or Kosovo, which uses the prefix Z6, which the ITU rules as illegal – and Kosovo is also not a member of the ITU, but is a DXCC.

The prefix to use when operating in TRNC is 1B, chosen by the governing body of the TRNC, which is the only body with authority to allocate prefixes and to issue amateur radio licences in the TRNC. This prefix is added to the existing callsign of the operator, who must have passed a technical amateur radio exam and hold a ham licence from another country. So an operator with a ham radio licence from Turkey (eg TA1ABC), will be issued with the callsign 1B/TA1ABC. These are the licencing rules in the TRNC, and I am required to abide by them.

As stated, the TRNC is not part of DXCC awards programs. This means that if you have a QSO with my station, it (unfortunately) won't count towards any DXCC award certificate. It also means that I am unable to use my XWØLP LOTW account for our QSOs. However, of course I do issue hard-copy QSL cards for contacts, and welcome anyone who wants to receive my unique QSL card! I also welcome verification reports from SWLs.

— 73, Simon Luttrell XWØLP / XZ2A (courtesy of [DX World.net](http://DXWorld.net))



22nd Annual WASH Two Meter Contest Rules

Here we go again, folks! This January will mark the Twenty-Second Annual **WASH** 2 Meter Contest. We're looking forward to a chance to stretch our legs, our wheels, and our antennas once again!

Unfortunately, there's no way to know if we're having **WASHfest** at this time, so we can't guarantee the typical door-prize ticket awards, but you can still expect a fun operating event where you can hear some old friends, and maybe make some new ones! See you on the air!

- 73, Chuck Bihun III KC3ELA

Date & Times: Saturday, January 8th, 2021 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 9th 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: **** Correct Address for 2022 ****

WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Charles Bihun KC3ELA
4144 Lebanon Church Road
West Mifflin, PA 15122

Enclose a #10 SASE for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2022

Each log submitted on or before the deadline will receive one (1) main prize ticket to **WASHfest 2022** (Unless cancelled.)

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:

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	

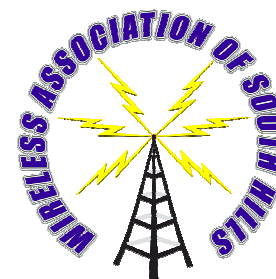
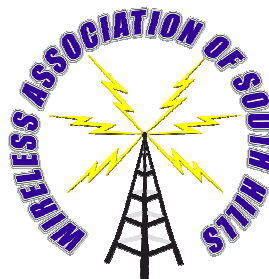
Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(*) 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.

More information about the frequency selection can be found in the FAQ section on Page 5 of the Contest Rules, Log Sheets, and other information found on the **WASH** web site, <http://www.n3sh.org>.



Dayton Hamvention Expects to be Live Event in 2022

Dayton Amateur Radio Association,
courtesy of the American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, November 24th, 2021 – Dayton Hamvention® organizers are planning to mount the first in-person show in 2022, following 2 years of COVID-related cancellations. The event is set for May 20th – 22nd at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

Last January, Hamvention organizers from the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) announced they were calling off the 2021 event after considerable planning was already under way. The Hamvention Executive Committee cited lagging COVID-19 vaccine distribution in the US and the emergence of a more communicable form of the virus.

Southgate Amateur Radio News quotes Hamvention General Chairman Rick Allnutt, WS8G, as saying that Hamvention committees “have been meeting, and volunteers are committed to making up for the time lost to pandemic cancellations.” The Hamvention website is already accepting bookings from vendors and inside exhibitors, and individual visitors can already buy tickets, which Allnutt said, “are all printed and ready to go.”

Nominations for the 2022 Hamvention Awards opened on November 1st. Hamvention seeks “the best of the best” nominees for its Technical Achievement, Special Achievement, Amateur of the Year, and Club of the Year awards. Nominations close on February 15th, 2022. Submit nomination forms via [email](#) or USPS to Hamvention Awards Committee, Box 964, Dayton, OH 45401-0964

Contest University (CTU) will take place on May 19th in conjunction with the annual Hamvention Super Suite activities, which will be moving to the [Hope Hotel](#) in Dayton. In addition to CTU, these activities will include the Top Band Dinner, the Contest Dinner, and the KC DX Club's CW-copying competition, among other possible events.



Eight Years in Orbit for AO-73

AMSAT-UK via AMSAT
News Service

Washington, DC, November 27th, 2021 – November 21st, 2021, marks the eighth birthday of the FUNcube-1 CubeSat. Remarkably the tiny spacecraft, launched from Russia on November 21st, 2013, continues to work well having travelled more than a billion kilometers in space.

During the past couple of months, the spacecraft's orbits have been running just along the edge of the terminator. Initially it had effectively full sun with no eclipses but at the beginning of this month it appears that the solar panels were not receiving enough solar radiation to keep the battery fully charged.

FUNcube-1 was transmitting continuous high-power telemetry and was therefore consuming maximum power. The FUNcube Dashboard showed the rapid decline in the bus voltage from an already below normal 8.0V down to 7.8V. The spacecraft was switched to safe mode on the afternoon of November 18th, 2021. This reduced to total power consumption by almost 50% and the spacecraft is again in a happy power positive situation.

Although safe mode provides less than 20mW of downlink RF, it is remarkable how many stations are still receiving and decoding the 1k2 BPSK telemetry. This is a good point at which to say a massive thank you to the many stations around the world who, even after eight years, are continuing to submit their data to the FUNcube Data Warehouse. It really is valuable to the team and has really helped us to understand what is going on up there.

The team will continue to monitor the telemetry over the next few weeks and plan to return FUNcube-1 to nominal autonomous operation, with the transponder on when the spacecraft is in eclipse, as soon as possible.

Interestingly, it appears that the satellite will not be having any more full sunlight periods for the foreseeable future. However, those that we have experienced have provided some good data on how hot a 1U CubeSat can become in such circumstances!



USVI Group Bolsters Repeater Infrastructure

Daniel Romanchik KB6NUH, Communications Manager, Amateur Radio Digital Communications

Ann Arbor, MI, November 19th, 2021 – When two Category 5 hurricanes — Irma and Maria — hit the Virgin Islands in 2017, hams there knew they had to do something. The two monster storms left the power grid and communication infrastructure in shambles. 95% of St. Croix's electric utility poles were destroyed, and many antenna towers were down. As a result, the USVI Government's primary land-mobile-radio (LMR) trunked radio system was essentially non-functional, and the National Guard could not be heard on any radio frequency for a week following the storms.

Territory radio clubs immediately went into action, employing skills learned during hundreds of hours of training exercises. St. Croix ham operators quickly established a daily high-frequency (HF) net for first response agencies. A single surviving ham repeater provided limited communications between islands. These links provided critical information and communications for governmental and non-governmental agencies including FEMA, Department of Defense, Transportation Security Agency, National Park Service, VI National Guard, Red Cross, and local police and fire services.

A \$27,955 grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) will help them bolster the amateur radio infrastructure and train new amateur radio operators, thereby improving their ability to respond to disasters in the future. The funds will allow the Virgin Islands Amateur Radio Group (VIARG) – a group formed after the 2017 hurricanes – to purchase backup repeaters, commercial-grade antennas that will improve the resiliency and coverage of the repeaters, and training materials to help new amateurs get licensed and on the air.

VIARG President Fred Kleber K9VV (NP2X) commented, “The generous ARDC grant will allow VIARG to improve and harden the territory's critical amateur repeater system, and adding digital communications capabilities marks a new chapter for new and future territory amateurs.”

The Virgin Islands Amateur Repeater Group (VIARG) was formed in 2017 following devastating twin Category 5 hurricanes Irma and Maria in the territory of the United States Virgin Islands (USVI). VIARG's primary goal is implementing, maintaining and expanding a linked repeater system to connect USVI hams and promote amateur radio in the Territory. By doing so, VIARG supports its federal and territorial partners, as well as other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). While many people may consider ham radio “just a hobby”, it is certainly more than that to members of the Virgin Islands Amateur Repeater Group. Learn more about amateur radio in the United States Virgin Islands at <http://www.vihamradio.org>.



Tales of Abandonment (Radio Gear, Not Kids/Pets)

Simon Luttrell XWØLP / XZ2A

Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, November 26th, 2021 – On my recent trip from Laos to Turkey with my radio equipment, my luggage was overweight, and zero chance of paying extra for the weight issue (it was a special charter plane leaving Laos). To go on the plane, I had to abandon some equipment! (I can't even arrange to have it posted on, because the post costs more than the equipment...) So:

- Goodbye to my homebrew, but very useful ground radio plate (I can make it again)
- Goodbye to one 12 meter Spiderbeam mast (I managed to keep the other 12 meter pole AND my brand new 18 meter pole). I can buy a new 12 M mast if needed.
- Goodbye to cables, electronic component junk box, and my clothes and shoes.

I was left with my 18 meter mast, rig, some important RF connectors, and the clothes that I was wearing!

Tom Callas KHØ/KCØW: You got away lucky! Stories about leaving gear behind? I've got lot's of 'em:

Upon leaving St. Helena Island as ZD7X back in 2008, goodbye to:

1. Yaesu 1000D loaded with INRAD filters.
2. Alpha 99 amplifier.
3. Palstar 4kW tuner.
4. Kenwood TS-2000 (with 1.2 Gig module)

Upon leaving Western Kiribati as T3ØCOW, goodbye to:

1. Elecraft K3 & KPA500.
2. Yaesu 857D.
3. All antennas/coax
4. **EVERYTHING** I owned. (even my shoes) I came back to the USA with literally nothing but the shirt on my back.

While in America Samoa as KH8/KCØW, goodbye to:

1. **ALL** of my cash from my hotel rooms safe. Enough to buy a nice Mercedes Benz /Porsche. I was to deposit the money into a safety deposit box at a KHØ bank the very next day. Without a doubt the worst theft I've encountered while DXing.

I've had more than my fair share of theft/bad luck while while DXing but I NEVER once begged, pleaded or groveled for any "donations" from the amateur community to help make up for my losses.



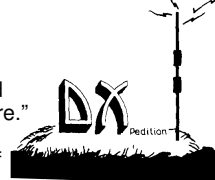
Members of the Market Reef DX Association (OH9A) gang will again operate with the special Christmas event station call sign OG1XMAS between 29 November and 26 December. Activity will be on all bands and modes.

The MRDXA state, "This operation is Eco-Friendly: We confirm all our QSOs via LoTW and ClubLog after the operation." PLEASE DO NOT SEND DIRECT QSLs!

5P2BA/OZ2CBA, will activate the Special Event callsign XP1SC from "mainly Denmark and - as Corona permits - from Germany - other European locations possible .." between 25 November and 6 January. This is a special (Danish tradition) Santa Claus station (who lives in Greenland). QSL via OZ2CBA.



DX News Briefs



DX World reports that the **C5C/C5B** DXpedition ended unexpectedly on 27 November due to "equipment failure." They had planned to be QRV through 30 November. The team also reports that there is a "desperate lack of gasoline in The Gambia." QSL via F5RAV

9X4X is now QRV through 1 December, 160 – 10, CW SSB RTTY and FT8. QSL via 4Z5FI

V4/WX4G is now QRV through 2 December, 160 – 6, CW SSB FT8 & FT4. He was QRV as **V48A** during the CQ WW CW contest. QSL via WX4G

C6AQQ is now QRV through 7 December on HF. QSL via EA5GL

A52CC is now QRV through 21 December, SSB & FT8 as time permits. QSL via N4GNR

FO/F6ETI & **FO/F8BPM** are now QRV through 14 December on HF. QSL via home calls.

DX World reports that **SV2RSG/A** may be QRV on 160 from Mt. Athos 1 – 7 December. "WFWL!" QSL via SV1RP

HI7/DL2SBY will be QRV 1 – 14 December, holiday style, 160 – 10 CW, FT8 and possibly SSB if conditions permit. QSL via DL2SBY or ClubLog

TO9W will be QRV 1 – 10 December, concentrating on 160, 80 & 40, with special emphasis on Asia. There will also be some activity on 60. They plan to be QRV during the ARRL 160 contest, 3 – 5 December. More information at <http://www.k9el.com/TO9W/TO9W.htm>. QSL via W9ILY or ClubLog.

AT7SJ will be QRV from Sao Jorge Island (AS-177) 3 – 6 December. The "VU Manic Monkeys" received their official permission to operate and their callsign on 24 November. QSL via VU3NPI

HI7/YT1AD will be QRV 4 – 14 December on HF. QSL via YT1AD

S21DX will be QRV from Manpura Island (AS-140) 16 – 22 December. They will only run one HF station due to a lack of band pass filter(s). More information at <https://s21dx.org/> QSL via EB7DX or LotW.

DX World reports that a team of operators from the F6KOP club will be QRV from **D6 Comoros** mid to late January 2022. Website for more information, callsign, and QSL route To Be Announced.

Z21A and **Z220** will be QRV (Rescheduled) 3 – 20 February 2022, 160 – 10, CW SSB FT8 & FT4. QSL both calls via DJ6TF

D44AO will be QRV 13 – 25 February, mainly CW, 80 – 10, possibly 160. QSL via DM4AO

Slim Pick'ins: According to JH1AT, who checked with a "friend in the Myanmar government" (Deputy Director General of Post and Telecommunications Department) **XZ7A** does not hold a valid permit to operate and is considered a pirate.

QSL Routes

3B8/MØSDV via MØOXO	DR5X via DL8LAS	R2Ø21DX via RQ7L
4L8A via MØOXO	E2A via E2ØAX	R325N via R7DX
5T5PA via PA5X	HB1BCG via HB9ACA	RA6ØANT via RZ3EC
6Y5HM via EA5GL	HQ9X via KQ1F	RG6ØANT via RZ3EC
8Q7JT via WV6E	HSØZLN via HB9BXQ	RN6ØANT via RZ3EC
9K2OW via EC6DX	J42L via SV2DCD	S21DX via EB7DX
9K9OMAN via EC6DX	JW/SQ9CNN via	SV2RSG/A via SV1RP
9X4X via 4Z5FI	SP9FIH	TI7W via MØURX
A52CC via N4GNR	KL7RA via N4GNR	TM6ØANT via F8DVD
AT7SJ via VU3NPI	LC5C via LA6KOA	TO9W via W9ILY
C5B via F5RAV	LN8W via LA6YEA	TY5AB via EC6DX
C5C via F5RAV	LZØKP via SV2CLJ	TZ1DE via DK1ZE
C56XA via G3SWH	OE12ØAGD via OE6AGD	UE31DX via RQ7L
C6AQQ via EA5GL	OE12ØBKC via OE3BKC	V48A via WX4G
C92R via IK2DUW	OE12ØSGU via OE3SGU	WP3C via MØOXO
CO5WE via RW6HS	P4ØXX via N3DXX	XP1SC via OZ2CBA
CX1ØØB via CX1AA	P44W via N2MM	Z21A via DJ6TF
D44AO via DM4AO	PJ7/G4JEC via NØUK	Z220 via DJ6TF
D6ØAB via K6ZO	PJ7/KØHAC via NØUK	ZF1A via K7ZO
DQ6ØANT via DL1RUN	PJ7/UR5BCP via	ZF2DJ via WD6T
DRØØEBIS via DL5BL	KD7WPJ	ZF2MZ via DG1CMZ
DR165TESLA via DK8ZZ	PT4A via PY4AZ	

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News Reflector, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, DX Coffee, DX World.Net, ICPO Bulletin, & ARRL DX Bulletin for our DX News information. Thanks also to the ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR /The Daily DX for confirmations & additional information.



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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Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law

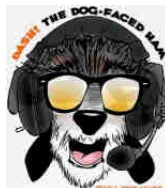
277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056

Phone: 724-352-4905

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

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

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



US Amateurs by Class as of November 29th, 2021

Novice	7,910
Technician	428,113
General	194,963
Advanced	38,240
Extra	159,607
Club	12,494
Total	841,327

All-Time High 11/23/2021 841,612

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	6,697
	Callsign Changes	2,210
	Class Changes	2,856
	No Longer Licensed	4,594
	All Updates (*)	25,502

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of Hamdata.com

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of November 29th, 2021:

Group A	AC3IG
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3TED

Information gathered from FCC Daily Updates, courtesy of Hamdata.com

If you've downloaded the **WASHRag** from the N3SH web site, or picked up a copy from a friend... you can sign up to have the PDF copy sent directly to your email. You **do NOT** have to be a member of **WASH**!

Just send an email to w3wn73@gmail.com and we will take care of the rest!



FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, November 17th, 2021 – Russia tested an anti-satellite weapon on November 15th, destroying one of its own old and defunct satellites, Kosmos 1408. Launched in 1982, Kosmos 1408 was some 300 miles above Earth. Its destruction generated a debris field in Earth orbit that prompted the seven International Space Station crew members, including one Russian cosmonaut, to take cover in their crew capsules for several hours, in case they had to abandon the station. Occupants of the Chinese space station are reported to have taken similar action. The incident also has generated criticism from many corners and a grave discussion on the possible impact of any future such tests, by Russia or anyone else.

The danger of damage to the ISS or an orbiting satellite aside, tracking a debris field that could include thousands of pieces, in order to head off collisions, is a concern all its own. Very small debris in space is essentially impossible to track reliably, if at all. The incident also comes at a time when the number of spacecraft in Earth orbit continues to grow. AMSAT President Robert Bankston KE4AL, said that Russia's action will pose a threat to all activities in low Earth orbit for years to come, placing satellites and human spaceflight missions at risk.

"Space is already crowded, but now there are at least 1,500 trackable fragments and, possibly, hundreds of thousands of smaller yet still-threatening pieces of debris in low Earth orbit," Bankston said. "While space stations have the capability to move out of the way, with sufficient notice, most satellites in low Earth orbit, including those designed, built, launched, and operated by AMSAT, do not. As such, they face greater risk of catastrophic destruction or degraded mission functionality, if struck by fragments from Russia's destruction of Kosmos-1408."

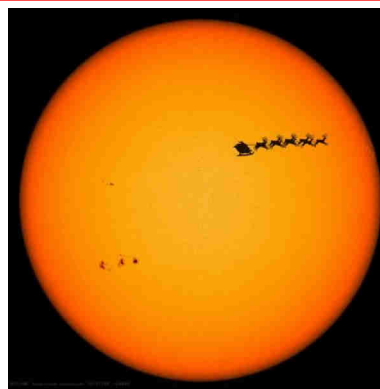
Bankston said AMSAT is closely monitoring the situation and hoping for the best.

NASA Chief Bill Nelson echoed Secretary of State Antony Blinken in expressing his own outrage at Russia's action. "Their actions are reckless and dangerous threatening as well the Chinese space station at the taikonauts on board," he said. "The [ISS] is passing through or near the cloud every 90 minutes, but the need to shelter for only the second and third passes of the event was based on a risk assessment made by the debris office and ballistics specialists at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston," Nelson explained.

FCC Commissioner Nathan Simington condemned the incident as "irresponsible" and noting that orbital debris fields pose a threat to hopes for the peaceful use of space and "make the work of using space complicated and difficult," he said in a [statement](#). "For decades to come, they stifle scientific research, inhibit communications, and pose threats to the lives of explorers. And in the here and now, they pose a great threat to [existing] satellites of all nations" deployed for peaceful purposes.

"No one owns space," Simington said. "And no one should intentionally make it more difficult to use."

The FCC's orbital debris rules date back to 2004, when the FCC adopted requirements affecting not only Part 97 Amateur Service rules but Parts 5 (experimental) and 25 (communications satellites). The FCC has made it clear that orbital debris rules apply to amateur satellites, in general requiring submission of an orbital debris mitigation plan with each license application.



This was allegedly a fairly recent photo of Cycle 25 sunspots.

Seems to Ye Editor that something's just not... quite... usual... of course, he is overdue to have his eyes checked and maybe get new reading glasses...

What do you think?

Illustration courtesy of Southern Utah Now.com

Silent Keys



Sam Mayberry W3CYO, 89, & Dolly Mayberry, 91, Canton Township, November 18th

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



WASHfest 2022

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **TWENTY SIXTH** big year!
Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 27th, 2022
8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Home Economics Building, South Park

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Donation \$5



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

First Prize: To Be Announced

Second Prize: To Be Announced

Third Prize: To Be Announced

Additional Hourly Door Prizes! 2 Special Black Box Prizes (Separate Drawing)!

Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20, 40 for \$50, 90 for \$100

All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 n3sbf@comcast.net
E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.n3sh.org

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2022.

Reservations received after February 1st, 2022 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance eleven years running!

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X \$15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X \$12.00 = _____

5 Or More Tables w/o: _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
WASHFEST 2022
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.

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

New Members Only:

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

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

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

Signature: _____

Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____

Expires On: _____

Work Phone: _____

Birthday: _____

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

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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

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

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



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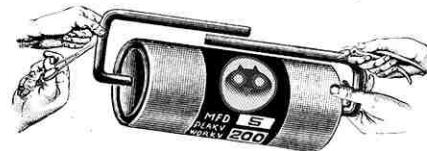
The Daily DX, 3025 Hobbs Road,
Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



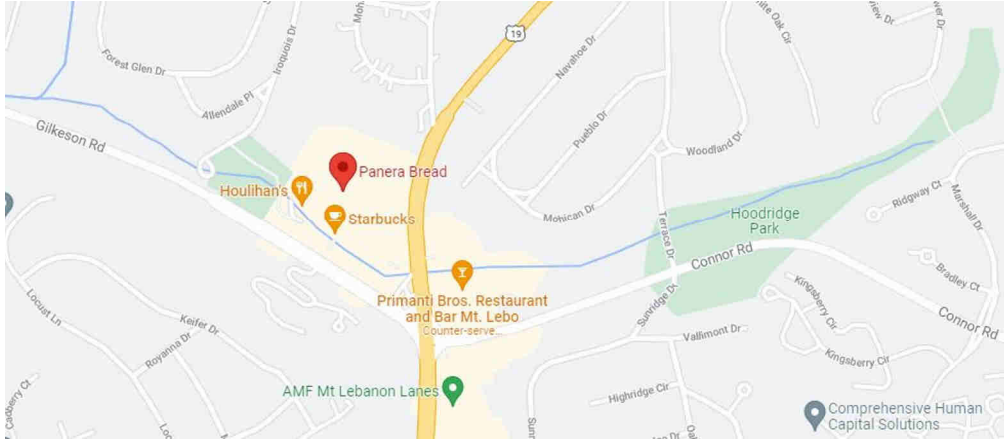
Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.



Directions to the December Meeting Site



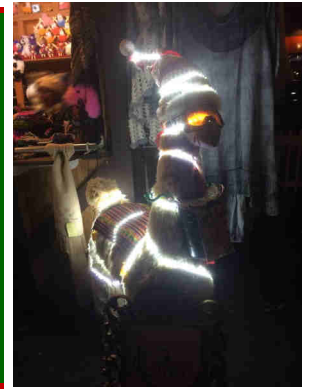
The December meeting will be held at Panera Breads, Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA 15228, upper level, at the mall entrance to the upper parking lot.

The Galleria can be accessed from Washington Road south, or Gilkeson Road West.

Meeting starts at 7 PM. If you're grabbing a bite first, we have the room starting at 6:30 PM



2021
Light Up
Night
Photos
courtesy
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W3WN



The WASHRag

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