



WASHRAGTM

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VOLUME 24 ISSUE 01
JANUARY 2022

Wireless Association of South Hills

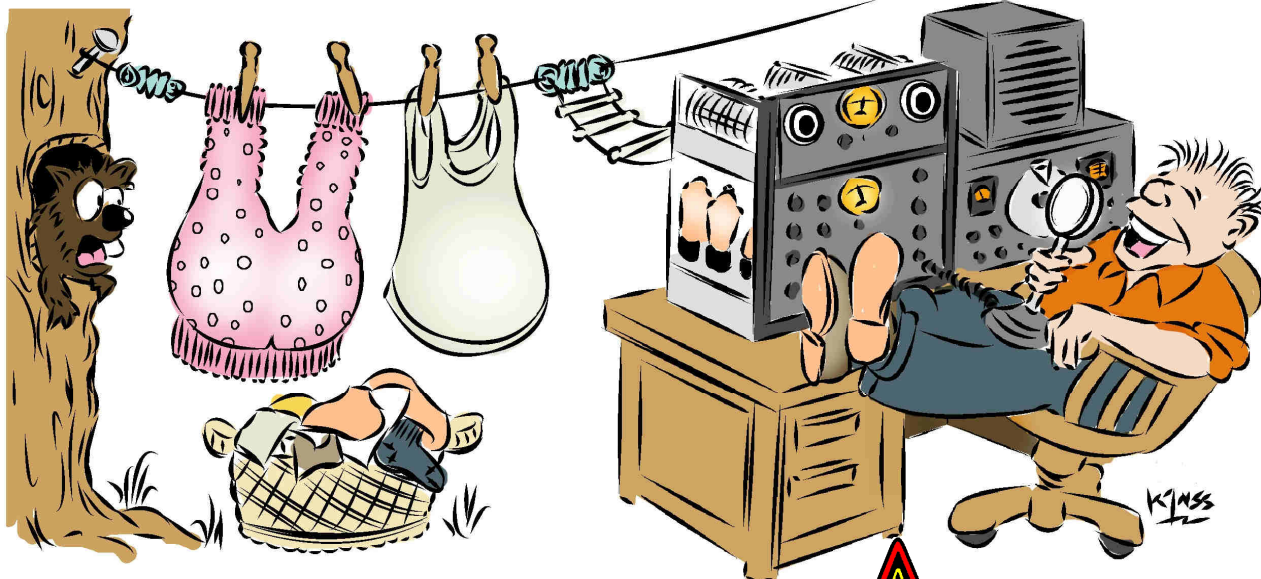
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org



Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 24 ISSUE 01

JANUARY 2022

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, January 6th, 2022

The next scheduled meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, January 6th, 2022**, 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, 2022 planning, and more!

See you there!

Cover: Happy New Year 2022! (OK, so the photo is from Light Up Night 2021... but it's still fireworks!)

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021, 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN

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	Glenn Roberts KE7FD, Co-Chair
	Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair
	Paul Lusardi NØVLR, 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
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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 February 26th

The Next WASH VE exam session will be on **Saturday, February 26th, 2022, 11:00 AM, at Home Economics Building, South Park,** Pavilion 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township. Talk-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

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 in the amount of \$15.00 (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Note that the FCC now only accepts FRNs as identification numbers. If you don't have an FRN, please create one in advance at <https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do>

Future test dates: To Be Determined

Curtis's Reflections



With 2021 in the rear-view mirror, I hope everyone is well and had a happy holiday season.

And with the ringing in of the New Year and a brief warm up, it appears we are now entering the first real cold snap of Winter, so I hope everyone's antenna work is wrapped up till Spring.

With that I will say 73 till next time and wish everyone a healthy, wealthy, and prosperous 2022!

— 73, Curtis Turner KB3CMT
President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

Reminder: ***The January 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!***

WASHFest 2022 – Getting back to our roots.

With the virus still lingering and new variants out there, the Wireless Association of South Hills has decided to **scale WASHFest 2022 back**. We are going to have a single day old-fashioned "Swap Fest" event on Sunday February 27th, 2022. The Event will run from 8:00 am till 1:00pm. We will open the doors for entry and setup beginning at 7:00am.

The **VEC Exam will be held separately on Saturday, February 26th**, starting at 11:00 AM (tentatively). All are invited to join. Please contact Grant Olson, KC3MLC, at kgo@grant-olson.net with any questions, comments, or to schedule an exam session.

We understand that with the virus variants and the trending fuel prices, many far-away vendors may be hesitant to attend. So, no major vendors are expected. We will have our usual hall, the Home Economics Building at South Park. The doors will open for anyone wishing to set up for an indoor flea-market at 7:00 AM – on a first come, first served basis. There will be NO charge for tables – but once the available tables in the building run out, you will have to bring your own, pending space available. NO reservations, with one exception: We will accept reservations for a club table from WPA clubs ONLY, limit ONE table each (please contact Glen KE7FD to reserve).

General admission will begin at 8:00 AM. There will be NO admission charge.

There will be no early setup of the hall on Saturday or any overnight security.

We are tentatively planning on making coffee and donuts available; outside of that, no other food will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own, of course. Regrettably, this was felt to be the best overall course of action.

There will be no prize tickets sold, due to the uncertainty of attendance.

Although no admission will be charged, donations to offset our costs will be accepted.

This will be a "one off" event, and next year, we plan to return to our normal **WASHFest**.

Why are we doing this? A hamfest is more than a fundraiser, or a place to buy and sell junk, er, rare and valuable items for our radio shack. It's also a social gathering. Something we've had too few of in the last 18 months. So rather than cancel outright again, we're holding this as a social event, an old-fashioned "eye ball". (Besides, the hall was already rented and paid for... use it or lose it!)

Of course, this is all being planned on the presumption that restrictions on indoor gatherings won't be in place again at the end of February 2022. We're optimistic that things will improve... but please be aware that while all are welcome, we must be mindful of any public policy changes that are beyond our control.

Hope to see you on the 26th!

(based on text written by Curtis KB3CMT, with contributions from Paul NØVLR and editing by Ron W3WN)

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

Minutes, December 2nd Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Meeting held at Panera Bread, The Galleria, Mt. Lebanon PA

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: 19, Guests: 1

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read by Curtis KB3CMT in Mark's absence. Motion to accept by Bill (W3WH), second by Larry (K3VX) and carried unanimously.

Secretary: Nathan Suehr (KC3GMM): No corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept by Carol (KB3GMN), second by Frank (N3FB) and carried unanimously. No correspondence.

Repeaters: Frank (N3FB): They are repeating.

WASHNet: Charles (Chuck) Bihun, III (K3CELA): Well attended, well used.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Glen Roberts (KE7FD): No tech talk for December due to the holidays. Tech talk to resume in January; a topic is needed.

Contests:

- A discussion about Field Day 2021.
- Ideas for Field Day 2022
- Discussion about the 2022 WASH Simplex Contest

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU): Skywarn Recognition Day is December 4th.

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

Volunteer Examiners: Grant Olsen (KC3MLC): Next VE session will be at WASHFest 2022. Grant also mentioned new variations of the tests.

Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol Danko (KB3GMN):

- Discussion about whether or not to hold **WASHFest 2022**.
- Following discussion, motion to use the already reserved (and paid for) Home Economics Building in South Park, to have a separate VE session on Saturday, February 26th, and to have a modified (scaled down) **WASHFest 2022** on Sunday, February 27th. s still on; further discussion at the December meeting. Motion by Bill (W3WH), second by Carol (KB3GMN). Carried by vote.
- A committee was formed to plan for **WASHFest 2022** as Carol will not be available. Committee consists of Glenn (KE7FD), Paul (NØVLR) and Bill W3WH.

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

Old Business: (none)

New Business: (none)

Good of the Order:

Richie (N3SBF) announced that the Steel City ARC is having Winter Field Day at their clubhouse. All are invited.

Glen (KE7FD) has some free wire for antennas available.

Curtis (KB3CMT) discussed the location for the January meeting being at the Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department classroom. Member present voted that we should check it out for the meeting

Adjournment: Motion Bill (W3WH); seconded Jim (WB4GCS). Carried

Adjourned: 20:15

Photo Right: Changing of the Guard

Incoming President Curtis KB3CMT being congratulated by Outgoing President Tony KB3BYA, at the conclusion of the December 2021 meeting.

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2021, 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN



WASH Spotlight: WX3PIT



Paul NØVLR operating WX3PIT from the W3KWH clubhouse & shack, during Skywarn Recognition Day, December 4th, 2021

Project & Photo courtesy of and ©Copyright 2021 Paul Lusardi NØVLR

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

AA3XY
K3GW
K3HCR
K3VX
K6DWR
KA3VXM
KB3CMT
KB3GMU
KB3IAC
KB3IVX
KC3GMM
KC3OCT
KC3QZY
KC3RAA
KC4WTT
KE7FD
NØVLR
N3DFK
N3FB
N3JSF
N3RDV

2021

AE3DL
K3CMU
K3GW
K3HCR
K3JDS
K3SGT
K3YQA
K8DRH
KB3BYA
KB3ERQ
KB3GMN
KB3SQZ
KB3YCX

KC3MLC
KC3NFV
KC3NPJ
KC3QAH
KC3RGV
KC3RTF
KC3RZL
KO4EZO
N3IDH
N3KFD
N3NWR
N3RDG
N3SBF
N3ZK
N7TDX
N8NEU
W3WH
W3WN
WA3JFL
WB3CAI

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 January 2nd, 2022

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2022 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

January 6 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	Castle Shannon VFD Meeting Room, 3600 Library Road, Castle Shannon
January 8 th	<i>WASH</i> 2 Meter Simplex Contest	Complete Rules on Page 10 of This Newsletter
February 3 rd	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	TBA
February 12 th	Breezeshooters Groundwave CW	http://www.breezeshooters.net
February 19 th — 20 th	ARRL DX Contest - CW	http://www.arrl.org
February 26 th	<i>WASHFest 2022 VEC Exams</i>	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
February 27 th	<i>WASHFest 2022</i>	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park
March 3 rd	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	TBA
March 5 th - 6 th	ARRL DX Contest - Phone	http://www.arrl.org
March 5 th	Breezeshooters Groundwave Voice	http://www.breezeshooters.net
March 12 th	Breezeshooters Groundwave Digital	http://www.breezeshooters.net
March 26 th - 27 th	CQ WPX Contest - Phone	http://www.cqwpix.com
April 3 rd	Two Rivers ARC Hamfest	http://www.trarc.net
April 7 th	<i>WASH</i> Meeting	TBA

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

"Seen" at the December Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2021, 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN



W3D Field Day 2021 Breakdown

Larry Comden K3VX

Pittsburgh, Pa, December 31st, 2021 -- Here are the results from our 2021 Field Day and a comparison with the total 1,432,069 QSOs.

It looks like we are nearly average on SSB, but lopsided on CW vs Digital.

- ◆ 564 CW QSOs or 59 percent of total
 - ◆ 443 on IC7300
 - ◆ 121 on SDR
- ◆ 344 SSB QSOs or 36 percent of total
 - ◆ 4 Paul Laptop
 - ◆ 109 Desktop 13419D
 - ◆ 231 Desktop 2760QNN
- ◆ 49 DIG QSOs or 5 percent of total
 - ◆ unidentified computer/rig
- ◆ 367 QSOs on 80M
- ◆ 397 QSOs on 40M
- ◆ 189 QSOs on 20M
- ◆ 4 QSOs on 10M

Compare W3D percentages with the overall 2021 Field Day QSOs:

- ◆ CW= 42 percent
- ◆ SSB= 37 percent
- ◆ Digital = 21 percent

If someone would like to generate band/mode breakdowns, I can send the log.mdb file to you.



Field Day 2022

Because Babcock was not reserved far enough in advance for 2022, we will be at Sunset Hills Grove for Friday through Sunday, June 24th through 26th.

The shelter and surrounding area is at the junction of 100 Acres Drive and Texas Road, with access from either road.

Lots of trees and open space to adapt to our use. Hard surface parking near the shelter, and also far enough away for the Tower Trailer.

— Larry Comden K3VX

Field Day 2022 Planning

Bill Hill W3WH

Peters Township, PA, December 14th, 2021 – Larry K3VX and I could easily be accused of being obsessive when it comes to PA QSO Party and Field Day. The two events are each classic ham radio traditions and we look forward to them every year. They each are intended to have a social aspect giving hams a chance for eyeball qso's and an operating aspect giving us an opportunity to set up in the field and test our ability to operate under somewhat adverse conditions compared to operating at home in a comfortable ham shack.

In the last couple of years due to covid and an aging ham population a substantial majority of hams have opted to operate from home. This is good since it keeps guys "in the game" so to speak but it isn't true to the spirit of Field Day which includes setting up temporary antennas operating with emergency power, eating hot dogs and fighting off mosquitos, etc. Home operation completely excludes the social aspect of the event.

The operating portion includes the planning for a successful operation as well as setting up the stations, making as many QSO's as we can and breaking the whole thing down when you're tired after a weekend of Oding on Ham Radio. Some ops choose to operate solo or in small groups of 2 or 3. The most popular group events are hosted by Clubs like ours using phone, CW, and lately digital modes. Speaking of digital, we need to do much better with our digital effort. Nationally digital Q's accounted for about 20% of Club entries while our entry included about 5% digital contacts.

Hopefully we can dedicate one rig to exclusively digital operation.

Not all members of our Club participate in FD. That's OK, if it's not your thing or if family or job obligations get in the way but, if you can, you owe it to yourself and the Club to get involved. Try it. You may find that you like it and you can certainly learn lots about antennas, operating and you can get to know fellow members better.

One part of the operation always gives us a challenge. That is keeping all our radios on the air for the whole 24 hours. We need younger hams to step up and operate overnight while the older guys get needed sleep.

We usually operate 4 rigs. 2 Phone and 2 CW. Now with the popular emergence of digital maybe we should cutback to one CW rig, two SSB and one Digital. That of course is yet to be decided. One thing that will definitely change is where our Club's operation will take place. We will be operating from Sunset Hills site in South Park. Babcock is not available for the 2022 FD.

Shortly we'll be sending a questionnaire to all members to determine your interest and availability for FD 2022 along with questions to determine how you can help along with your ideas for how to make the last weekend of June one of the best!

W3D Field Day 2021 photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2021, 2022 Ron Notarius W3WN

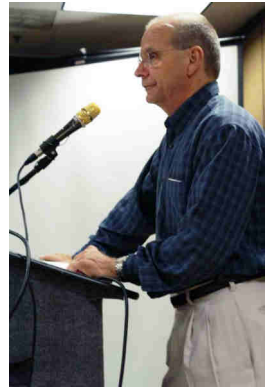


November 2021 Volunteer Monitor Program Reports

Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, VM Program Administrator

Gettysburg, PA, December 8th, 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 November 2021 report of Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program activity.

- Operators in Ardmore, Tennessee; Lithonia, Georgia; Coconut Creek and Miramar, Florida, and East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, were issued *Advisory Notices* regarding excessive bandwidth, contrary to FCC rules. The operators were transmitting on SSB with bandwidths of 8 to 9 kHz.
- *Advisory Notices* were issued to operators in Northridge (Los Angeles) and Hemet, California, for interference to repeaters. Both operators had been requested by the repeater trustees to cease using the repeaters. The *Advisory Notice* issued to the Northridge operator cited broadcasting and failure to identify, and it informed them that the FCC was requested not to grant their upcoming renewal application unless the case was resolved.
- An *Advisory Notice* was issued to an operator in Powell, Wyoming, for transmitting overdriven FT8 signals that resulted in spurious emissions. The operator has since corrected the problem.



- General-class operators in Bartonville, Illinois, and St. Clair, Michigan, were issued *Advisory Notices* for operation in the Amateur Extra-class portion of 40 meters. A Technician-class licensee in Windber, Pennsylvania, was issued an *Advisory Notice* for operating in the General-class portion of 75 meters.

- One case was referred to the FCC for enforcement action and review of a license renewal application. The FCC referred two cases to the VM Program.

Totals for VM monitoring during October were 2,939 hours on HF frequencies, and 3,282 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 6,221 hours. That is the highest number of hours monitoring since the inception of the VM Program

ARRL Opposes Forest Service Administrative Fees for Amateur Facilities

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, December 24th, 2021 – The US Forest Service is proposing to implement a statutorily required annual fee for new and existing communications use authorizations to cover the costs of administering its authorization program. ARRL plans to vigorously oppose the imposition of the proposed fees on Amateur Radio.

The Forest Service proposal results from requirements set forth in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (aka "the Farm Bill"). Specifically, section 8705(c)(3)(b) of the Farm Bill directs the Forest Service to issue regulations that require fees for issuing communications use authorizations based on the cost to the Agency for maintenance or other activities to be performed by the Agency "as a result of the location or modification of a communications facility."



The Forest Service is responsible for managing Federal lands and authorizes the use and occupancy of National Forest System (NFS) lands for communications facilities that provide communications services for adjacent rural and urban communities. The Agency said in its proposal that it administers more than 3,700 special use authorizations on NFS lands for infrastructure that supports more than 10,000 wireless communications uses at 1,367 communications sites.

According to the Forest Service *Notice* published in the December 22nd, 2021 issue of the *Federal Register*, revenues from the proposed fee, "would provide the funds necessary to support a more modernized, efficient, and enhanced communications use program," and will "cover the costs of administering the Agency's communications use program." Costs, as laid out in section 8705(f)(4) of the Farm Bill, may include expenditures for such things as "on-site reviews of communications sites, developing communications site management plans, hiring and training personnel for the communications use program, conducting internal and external outreach for and national oversight of the communications use program, and obtaining or improving access to communications sites on NFS lands."

ARRL encourages Amateur Radio licensees to file comments opposing the imposition of the proposed administrative fee on Amateur Radio users. Comments must be received in writing by no later than February 22nd, 2022. Comments may be [submitted online](#) at the Federal Rulemaking Portal or via USPS mail to Director, Lands & Realty Management Staff, 201 14th Street SW, Washington, DC 20250-1124, and must include the identifier "RIN 0596-AD44."

Two Rivers ARC 50th Annual Hamfest

Sunday, April 18th, 2021, 8:00 AM—2:00 PM

The McKeesport Palisades

100 Fifth Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132

Talk-in on 146.730 — Mobile Check In 146.52

Admission \$5

More Information at <http://www.trarc.net>

Or Contact Bill Powers (412) 260-5699 atsfbill2@gmail.com



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, 2022 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	

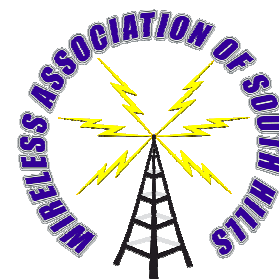
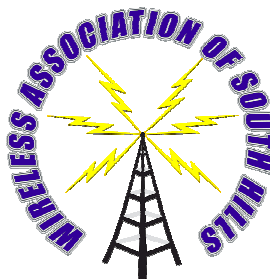
Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(*) 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>.



Amateur Ordered to Stop Using VP8 Identifier From Antarctica

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, December 14th, 2021 –The Falkland Islands Communications Regulator has directed Polish radio amateur Sebastian Gleich SQ1SGB, to cease his ham radio operation from Antarctica's Halley VI Research Station on the Brunt Ice Shelf, *OpenFalklands* reported. Apparently following up on a complaint, the Falkland Islands regulator ordered Gleich to stop all operations as "VP8SGB." He has been identifying as VP8/SQ1SGB, in accordance with accepted practice, and it's unclear whether the complainant or the regulator conflated the identifier and call sign.

Gleich's use of the VP8 identifier for his operation from the British Antarctic Territory (BAT) appears to have been an issue, however, because VP8 still can designate an operation from the Falkland Islands. The regulator may have been unfamiliar with recent changes — not yet fully formalized — that would establish VPØ as the proper identifier for such an operation as Gleich's.

A **consultation** (proceeding) now in play would permit the issuance of amateur radio licenses in the BAT. The proposal followed several months of protracted negotiations involving the UK communications regulator Ofcom, the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator, and the governments of the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) and BAT.

The proceeding proposes to apply the new prefix of VPØ to BAT stations, with the existing VP8 prefix then applying exclusively to the Falkland Islands. The proposal calls for the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator to administer these licenses.

The VPØ prefix would apply in the British-claimed sector of the Antarctic mainland, including the Antarctic Peninsula and nearby islands, such as the South Orkney Islands, South Shetland Islands, and SGSSI. Gleich has been operating from Antarctica since November.

In a communication to the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator on Gleich's behalf, Chris Gare VP8WOS, in the Falkland Islands, and Alan Armstrong VP8PJ, in the South Orkney Islands, called on the regulator to withdraw the order.

"We consider the Directive [to be] contrary to Ofcom's 28 January 2021 guidance for amateur radio operation in BAT. We would assume the Regulator would be aware of this guidance directly from Ofcom or its publication on *OpenFalklands* in January 2021," Gare and Armstrong wrote. Ofcom's guidance is that call signs with the prefix VP8 will continue to identify existing stations in SGSSI, as well as BAT, until those overseas territories have legislative authority to issue new call signs.

In an earlier communication with the regulator, Gare and Armstrong stated, "There is still much confusion and lack of understanding about this issue in the broader amateur radio world." Gare and Armstrong expressed concern that ARRL's DXCC program might not accept contacts with VP8/SQ1SGB, if the call sign's legality were called into question.

Significant progress has been made by BAT authorities to start issuing VPØ call signs, Gare and Armstrong said, adding, "This can't come too soon."

On December 1st, **Intrepid-DX Group** President Paul Ewing N6PSE, announced the prize recipients of the second annual Youth "Dream Rig" Essay Contest. Ewing said all essays received "were all unique in thought and very well articulated." Extra points were given for correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling, he said.

"Most of the essays gave unique perspectives on how to reach out and connect with the youth of today. We will be sharing those ideas in subsequent postings," he said.

The first-place winner and recipient of an Icom IC-7300 transceiver is Silas Davis W3SED. Second-place winner Olivia Lee KD2UYX, and third-place winner Isaac Schmidt K6IAS, will each receive Yaesu FT-65R radios.

"Having read your many essays this week, we can tell you that our youth are full of great ideas, and they are brimming with enthusiasm to keep our hobby alive well into the future," Ewing concluded. He thanked Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDCC) for supporting this year's prizes.



Research Station Halley VI

DX News Briefs

A team of seven experienced DX-pedition / contest operators will activate Raivavae (Austral Islands) OC-114, French Polynesia as **TX5N** from 16 to 22 April. They will be QRV 160 – 10, CW SSB & Digital. The trip may be rescheduled or cancelled due to international travel restrictions due to COVID. More information at <https://tx5n.net> or support@tx5n.net. QSL via MØURX.

9N7AA / S53R has been able to install a 2 element 40 – 6 M Yagi on top of his new residence. He indicates that "9 boxes of all kinds of radio gear will be leaving Kabul this week" and that he hopes to have the shack setup by mid-January, and be on the low bands sometime in February. QSL via LotW, ClubLog, and OQRS.

EXØDX is QRV through 10 January, activity as time permits. QSL via HB9DUR, LotW, ClubLog or OQRS.

FS/F8AAN is QRV through 20 January, holiday style, 40 – 10 CW only. QSL via F8AAN, LotW, or ClubLog

PJ7/VA3QSL will be QRV 4 January through 6 February, holiday style, 40 – 6 meters. QSL via VA3QSL

VP2MDX will be QRV from NA-103 9 January through 18 February, 80 – 10, CW & SSB. QSL via W2APF

5Z4/HB9DSP will be QRV 12 – 27 January, 20 15 & 10, primarily SSB with some FT8. QSL via HB9DSP

JW/LB3RE will be QRV from the JW5E club station 28 – 30 January, various HF bands, CW. QSL via LB3RE, LotW or ClubLog.

FS/VA3QSL will be QRV 6 – 22 February, holiday style, 40 – 6 meters. QSL via VA3QSL

V3T will be QRV 19 – 20 February during the ARRL DX CW contest. QSL via WCØW or LotW.

ZF2SS will be QRV 19 – 20 February during the ARRL DX CW contest. QSL via KO7SS or LotW.

J88PI will be QRV from Palm Island (NA-025) 24 February through 8 March, holiday style, 40 – 6 CW SSB SSTV and FT8. More information at <http://www.g4dvb.co.uk>. QSL via GW4DVB

SM6LRR/RM2D plans to be QRV as **JT4RR** sometime in March – April and again in July – August from the South Gobi Desert. QSL via EA5GL.

FO/SP5EAQ will be QRV from Rimatara Island (OC-050) 2 – 30 March, 80 – 10. SSB only. He will be using TX5AQ during the CQ WPX SSB contest. More information at <http://australs.sp7dqr.pl/index.html>. QSL via SP7DQR

EA5GL reports that he has recently recovered multiple old logs, including **T6A**, **T6AA**, **LTØX**, and **OCØI**. He will now provide QSL cards for anyone needing confirmation from these logs.

QSL Routes

3B8CW via N4GNR	DR6ØANT via DL2VFR	OP2A via ON5CD
3B9FR via MØOXO	EA9KB via EA7FTR	PA5ØDQB via PE1KFC
3D2TS via MØOXO	EN1ØRKP via UV3RT	PA515ØEVH via PF1SCT
3W3B via E21EIC	EN95WLKK via UR5WQ	PH22HNY via PA3EFR
3Z95LKK via SP8PEF	EX2M via W3HNC	PJ2MAN via EC5AHA
4J88ØM via 4J3DJ	EXØDX via HB9DUR	PJ2ND via K8ND
4J88ØNZM via 4K4K	EY8MM via WØVTT	R22HNY via RQ7L
4K6FO via DC9RI	FK8GU via EA5GL	RG9A via UA9APA
4K88ØNZM via 4K4K	HF22NY via SP5PPK	RI6ØANT via RZ3EC
4U9A via 9A2AA	HI95RCD via RW6HS	RU6ØANT via RZ3EC
5T5PA via PA5X	HSØZNR via VK2BY	S513ØZ via S51Z
5W1SA via JA1DXA	IIØLXXV via IQØRM	S573ØMGP via S57MGP
5Z4VJ via MØURX	JD1BMH via JG7PSJ	S79KW via N4GNR
6Y6Y via W8YCM	L21RCA via LU4AA	SCØT via SAØBVX
8Q7RI via HB9FHV	LC1R via LB5SH	TF3YOTA via TF3MH
8Q7TR via OE1TRI	LZ134ØB via LZ3SM	TR8CA via F6CBC
9AØDIG via 9A3SM	LZ7ØHSC via LZ2JE	TX6ØCNES via FIUJT
A65IM via ZS5IUI	LZ95MA via LZ1ZF	TZ4AM via WØSA
CS22HNY via CT7AØV	NP4A via W3HNC	UE6ØANT via UE3DMA
CW1ØØA via CX2ABC	OE12ØBRC via OE3BKC	VP8ADR via MØOXO
D44PM via IZ4DPV	OF6ØRR via OH8DR	VP8VK via GM3ITN
DFØAJW via DL1FLO	OF9X via OH2BH	VP9IN via EC6DX
DP44WCA via DF6EX	OG4A via OH2BAI	YBØAR via EB7DX
DP7ØHSC via DK9HE	OG6ØIPA via OH4MDY	ZS4JAN via EA5GL
DQ5ØN33GE via DJ2YSR	OM77PA via OM4MM	ZT1T via ZS1AFS

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.**

HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.

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Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

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Radio Equipment Computer Equipment
Antennas Rotors & Towers Computer Media & Software
Mechanical Breakdown & Electrical Damage Coverage



Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

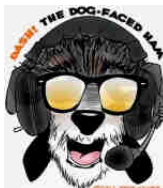
Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

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 January 1st, 2022

Novice	7,870
Technician	428,428
General	195,207
Advanced	38,156
Extra	159,869
Club	12,487
Total	842,017

All-Time High 12/21/2021 842,116

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	6,635
	Callsign Changes	2,236
	Class Changes	2,859
	No Longer Licensed	4,838
	All Updates (*)	24,610

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of January 1st, 2022:

Group A	AC3IJ
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3THX

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, December 7th, 2021 – On Tuesday, December 7th, 2021, the US Senate confirmed FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel for a new term at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), on a vote of 68-31. President Joe Biden appointed Rosenworcel as Chair of the FCC in late October. The FCC will continue with two Democrats and two Republicans led by Chairwoman Rosenworcel.

ARRL previously reported that Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT) had expressed his support and recognition for radio amateurs during Rosenworcel's renomination hearing. ARRL is hopeful that multiple proceedings will be addressed soon to update or change the FCC's amateur Part 97 rules to account for changes in technology and operating practices.

The Chairwoman said in a statement after the Senate confirmed her nomination, "People across the country count on the FCC to support the connections they need for work, learning, healthcare, and access to the information we require to make decisions about our lives, our communities, and our country. I look forward to working with the Administration, my colleagues on the Commission and FCC staff, members of Congress, and the public to make the promise of modern communications a reality for everyone, everywhere."

The nomination of a third Democratic Commissioner remains pending before the Senate. Last week the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee conducted a hearing on President Biden's nominee, Gigi Sohn, for the remaining Democratic seat. Committee and full Senate votes on her nomination have not yet been scheduled.

Alpha Moves

Arvada, CO, January 1st, 2022 – Alpha parts and manufacturing has recently (November 2021) been moved from Colorado to Dayton, Ohio.



Store.

Amplifier production for new amplifier orders is progressing as parts and PC boards needed are being procured.

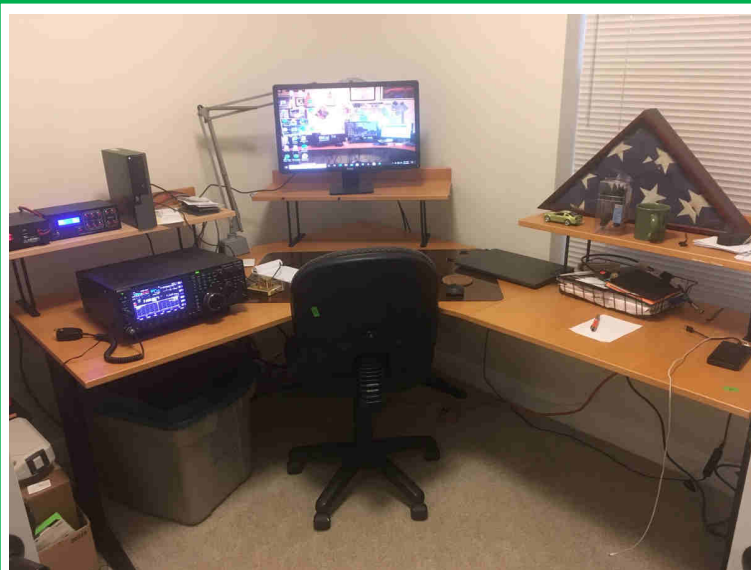
Alpha amplifier servicing will resume in Ohio as soon as possible.

Parts will be unpacked late in January and available for parts orders via the online

— Glenn Pladsen AEØQ

Did you know that OSCAR 1, the world's first private communication satellite, was launched from (then) Vandenberg AFB 60 years ago, on December 12th, 1961?

A story detailing the background behind the OSCAR 1 launch can be found on the Inverse.com website at <https://www.inverse.com/science/60-oscar-1-presaged-the-cubesat-era/amp>



As Bill W3WH and Linda Hill settling into their new home, Bill sent along this picture of his new shack... already operational. A man does have to have his priorities in order! Photo courtesy of & (c)Copyright 2022 Bill Hill W3WH

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 1:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Home Economics Building, South Park

3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, PA 15129

Behind the Allegheny County Police Station on Brownsville Road

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

Free Admission



(800) 545-8881

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



2022 (Only) to be an Old-Fashioned, Back to Basics Swap 'n' Shop & Social Gathering

Swap 'n' Shop Tables available on a First-Come, First Served Basis,
while they last (limit one table per person or group) — or bring your
own (pending available space)

Table Cost: **FREE**

Free Coffee and Donuts will be provided, while supplies last.

Due to potential COVID related restrictions, we regret that the kitchen will be closed this
year; no other food or beverages will be provided by the club.

WASHfest 2022 VEC Exams

Saturday, February 26th, 2022

Starting at 11:00 AM until ??? Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Home Economics Building, South Park

3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, PA 15129

Behind the Allegheny County Police Station on Brownsville Road

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

Walk-Ins Welcome, Pre-Registered Preferred

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



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

Membership Application, New or Renewal



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

(check quarter _____)
(check one)

	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Qtr Oct-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

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

Name(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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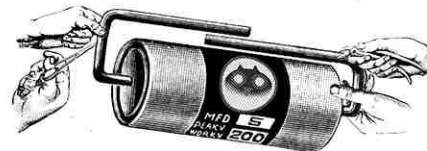
The Daily DX, 3025 Hobbs Road,
Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



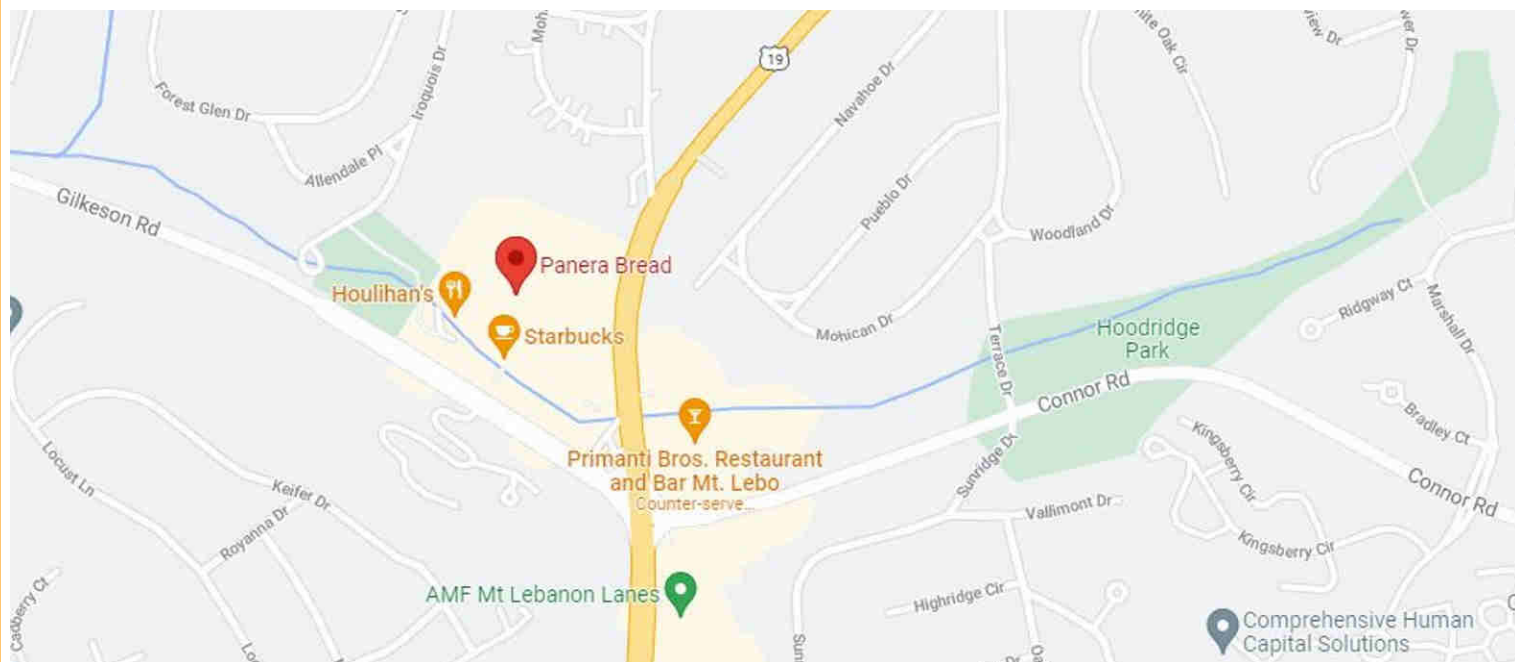
Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.



Directions to the January Meeting Site



The January 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

The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor

3395 Rosewood Drive

Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH
NP2SH/B

www.n3sh.org
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