

WASHRAGTM

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VOLUME 24 Issue 07
JULY 2022

Wireless Association of South Hills

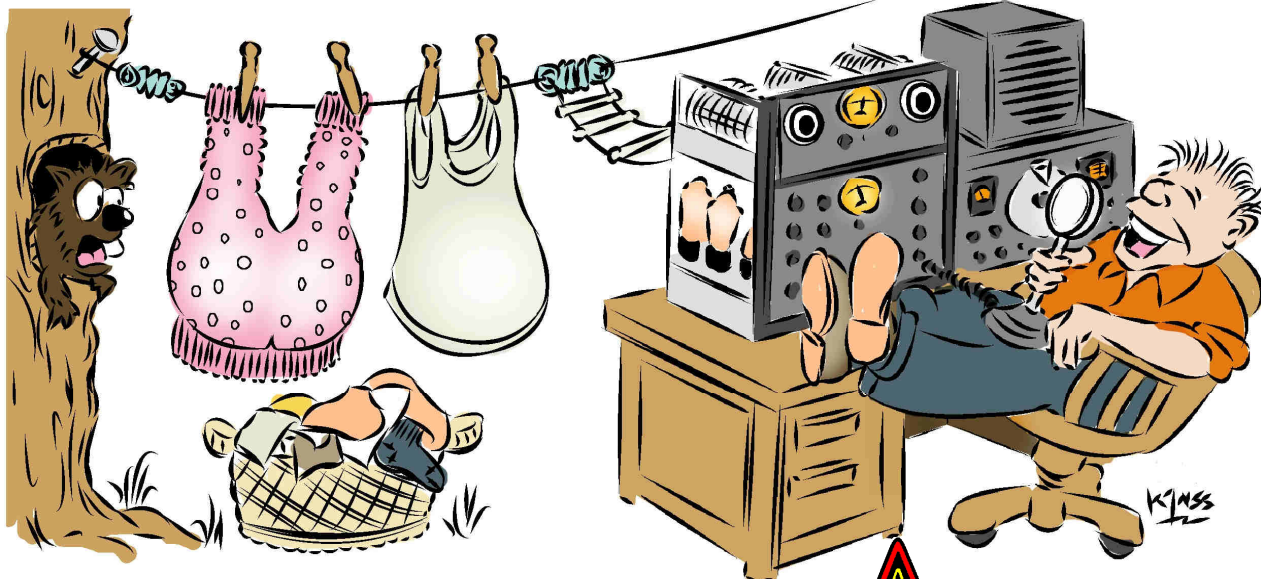
N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

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Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



VOLUME 24 ISSUE 07

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Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, July 7th, 2022

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, July 7th, 2022**, starting at 7 PM, at **Sunset Hills Grove, South Park**, 100 Acre Drive at Texas Road (the 2022 WASH Field Day site)

Topics: Field Day After Action discussion and related agenda items (see Page 3)!

See you there!

Cover: The Tower Trailer, full extended, at WASH Field Day 2022

. Cover Photos courtesy of & © 2022 Charmaine Spirk

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.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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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, February 26th, 2022, 10:00 AM**, at **Home Economics Building, South Park, Pavilion 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township**. Talk-in on the 146.955

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!

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

Curtis's Reflections



Our next meeting will be the 7th of July at the Sunset Hills Pavilion in South Park, where we held Field Day this year. There is a plan to have some hot dogs available to grill for the meeting. Our usual meeting time is 7:00pm but feel free to arrive earlier. I am currently planning to arrive around 6:00pm

Thank you again to everyone that played a part in this year's Field Day. If you were not able to make it out and operated independently there is the possibility of submitting your score and including the club for it to add to our final aggregate. Just use the club name when submitting via the web applet.

I look forward to seeing smiling faces there for our next club meeting.

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

"If you can transmit on 630 Meters, please call CQ using CW on 474.0 kHz (+/- QRM) on Saturday and Sunday at 0930 local time, to participate in a Ground Wave Evaluation Network. Help others make an informed evaluation of the potential of 630M ground wave in their region... and help 'warm up' the band."
Clark Ackison AA8SH

Reminder: The July WASH Meeting will be held at the 2022 Field Day Site: Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive at Texas Road, South Park, starting at 7 PM. Map on the last page. See you there!

This is always the hardest, and one of the last, parts of the newsletter to put together. So bear with Ye Editor...

First, a few contributors are owed a small apology. A last minute article caused some shuffling around, so a few items intended for the first few pages ended up getting moved back, and a few other items got cut back to make room. Sorry about that...

Very glad to hear that **WASH Field Day**, even with its issues this year (it's always something!), went very well. [Ye Editor was, regrettably, unable to attend this year; as a few of you know, a Family Vacation to the East Coast Home of the Mouse had been scheduled, and rescheduled, and rescheduled again, and it finally ended up on FD weekend. So it goes.] Our thanks to everyone who contributed pictures for the newsletter for this year.

The **July meeting agenda** will include discussions on some of the items that can be improved, and some related items as well. From KB3CMT's email, the agenda will include:

- Field Day 2022 - After action
- Field Day 2023 - Site decision & Committee volunteers.
- Quartermaster Discussion - storage space rental
- Tower Trailer - Discuss previous topic of asset or if club considers selling it. Discuss storage potentially in conjunction with Quartermaster storage.
- Club Picnic - thoughts / ideas / suggestion
- Club POTA - should we register club call and allow club members to operate as club?

If you can think of anything that should be added, let Curtis know prior to the meeting, so that it can be included.

Speaking of the meeting, at deadline, **weather forecasts** show a decent chance of precipitation on Thursday night. Now, don't let that, ah, dampen your enthusiasm (sorry). If the weather will make using the Pavilion difficult, an alternate location will be available. So keep an eye on the club reflector, and an ear on the club repeaters, for any changes or updates.

Anyone going to the **Somerset Hamfest** this year?

Let us not forget... **Pennsylvania QSO Party** in October! Seems like it's months away... and it is... but time has a habit of disappearing before you know it. (Can you believe that this is the 66th running of the Friendly Contest? Believe!)

And needless to say, **WASHFest** isn't that far behind. Carol KB3GMN is hard at work putting the 2023 event together. She's looking for prize suggestions, and is just in the beginning of organizing things. So help and suggestions are very much appreciated. Now is the time!

Don't forget that as long as the weather stays warm, or at least decent, **we will continue to meet at Sunset Hills Grove in South Park**. Let's hope that by the time the weather turns colder, the situation will have changed enough that we'll have other (indoor) options again.

Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 17

Minutes, June 2nd Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, **WASH**

Call to Order: 19:02. Presiding Officer: Curtis KB3CMT

No guests present.

Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Silent Keys and others deserving.

Roll Call.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read by Curtis provided via email by Mark. Motion to accept by Nathan (KC3GMM). Second by Curtis (KB3CMT). Carried.

Secretary: Nathan Suehr (KC3GMM): No updates to May minutes. Motion to accept by Larry (K3VX). Second by Gary (KB3YCX). Carried..

Repeaters: Jim (WB4GCS) – Repeating.

WASHNet: Charles (Chuck) Bihun, III (KC3ELA): Going well. Mentioning Field Day and inviting new folks.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Glen Roberts (KE7FD): No submissions for topics yet. Postpone until fall.

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU):

- Steel City special event Lewis & Clark: Jun 4th-19th.
- Westmorland Air Show: Jun 11th-12th.
- Rachel Carson: Jun 18th. Radio and antenna provided. Contact Bob (WC3O) to volunteer.
- Vintage Grand Prix Jul 23rd-24th. Contact N3MJP or Mike (WA3PIU) to volunteer

Newsletter: Ron Notarius (W3WN): Published.

Volunteer Examiners: Grant Olsen (KC3MLC): No report.

Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol Danko (KB3GMN): Start up 50/50

Contests: Larry (K3VX): No report (see Old Business)

President's Report - Curtis (KB3CMT): (No report)

New Business: Glen (KE7FD) Kids Day - Shelter reserved Sat Jun 18th 1PM - 6PM. News release to local publications for Kids Day and Field Day. Will also test network for field day. Missouri shelter. Invite new hams to get on the air. Callsign K3D.

Old Business:

Field Day:

- Discussion about Field Day planning.
- Curtis (KB3CMT) - Should the club buy a canopy?
- Glen (KE7FD) - Motion to buy harbor freight canopy. Second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried.
- Bill (W3WH) - Motion for \$500 food budget. Second by Larry (K3VX). Voted and carried.

Good of the Order:(none)

Adjournment: Motion Bill (W3WH), second by Harold (K3HCR).

Adjourned: 19:46

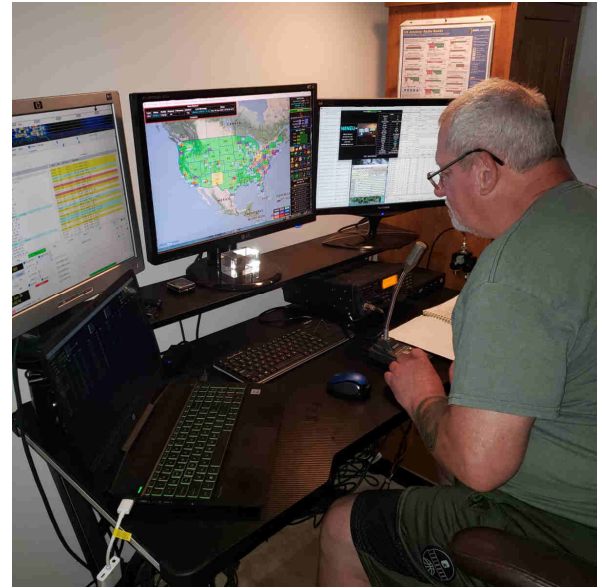


WASH Spotlight: N8NEU

Tim N8NEU working SSB & FT8 from Myrtle Beach, SC, during Field Day 2022.

"I tried reaching the WASH operators, but was restricted by the end fed, only 30 feet high between two trees. The Butternut is going up in July!"

Photo courtesy of and (c) Copyright 2022 Tim Kelly N8NEU



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

AA3XY	KB3YCX	N3JSF	WASH FL	WASH TN	Silent Keys
AE3DL	KC3ELA	N3KFD	KA3UPY/M	K3OL	
K3GW	KC3GMM	N3RDX	WASH NE	KE3XB	AB3KA
K3HCR	KC3MLC	N3SDF	N0PEU	N3YPB	AB3ED
K3SGT	KC3NFV	N3TDV	WASH OH	WASH TX	K3EED
K3VX	KC3OCT	N3UE	N8DPW	NB3C	K3LIE
K6DWR	KC3QZY	N8NEU	WASH OR	K3LGM	KA3NMG
KA3VXM	KC3RAA	NB3C	KB3NVL	KB3IJX	KB3ENX
KB3BYA	KC3RGV	NL7XM	KB3NVM	Jane Wagner	KB3FNM
KB3CMT	KC3TDX	W3LE	WASH SC	WASH VI	KB3FQT
KB3GMN	KC4WTT	W3WH	N8NEU	NP2JF	KB3JHQ
KB3GMU	KE7FD	W3WN			N3BPB
KB3GUZ	N0VLR	W8LEV			N3CZZ
KB3IAC	N3DFK	WA3PYU			N3FZ
KB3IVX	N3FB	WA3VSS			N3HKQ
KB3JHR	N3IDH	WB4GCS			N3KEH

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

Through July 1st, 2022

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

W4ZE

W3ZLK

W3ZLK

W3ZLK

2022 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

July 7 th	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive at Texas Road, South Park
July 9 th & 10 th	IARU World HF Championship	www.iaru.org
July 10 th	Somerset County Hamfest	Somerset Co. Technology Center, 281 Technology Drive, Somerset, PA 15501
July 23 rd & 24 th	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	Schenley Park Contact Corky N3MJP to volunteer
August 4 th	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive and Texas Road, South Park
August 13 th	Uniontown ARC Gabfest	W3PIE Clubhouse, 433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown PA
August 27 th —28 th	Ohio QSO Party	https://www.ohqp.org/
August 28 th	Skyview Swap N Shop	K3MJW Clubhouse, 2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington PA 15068
September 1 st	WASH Meeting	Sunset Hills Grove, 100 Acres Drive and Texas Road, South Park
September 11 th	Butler County ARA SwapFest 2022	Unionville VFD, 102 Mahood Road, Butler PA 16001
October 1 st & 2 nd	57 th California QSO Party	http://cqg.org
October 6 th	WASH Meeting	TBD
October 8 th & 9 th	66 th Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.paqso.org
October 29 th & 30 th	CQ WorldWide DX Contest SSB	https://www.cqww.com/

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 June 2022 Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright 2022
Bill Hill W3WH



Albania Arrests Two Amateurs as "Spies"

London, England, UK, June 9th, 2022 – The UK [Daily Mail](#) reported on June 9th that two British citizens, later identified as Col McGowan MMØNDX and Paul Tittensor G4PVM, were arrested on May 30th on espionage related charges by Albanian "Intelligence" Officers. The officers were suspicious of the radio equipment that the two Amateurs had with them... "advanced" Kenwood radios.

The Albanian Border Police alleged, as reported in the [original article](#) posted, that it was "highly unusual" for "tourists" to be "carrying this sort of equipment and even more strange for someone to be stopped and accused of being a covert agent."

The pair were briefly held and then allowed to return to the UK, but officially remain under investigation. The "cutting edge communication devices" were allegedly sent to the Albanian Criminal Laboratory for "further investigation."

G4PVM's [biography on QRZ.COM](#) states that he was operating as "ZA/G4PVM from Kashar, near Tirana 16-20 May 2022 with Col MMØNDX, and Max IK8LOV."

A reporter for the UK [Daily Record](#) had a [follow-up interview](#) with MMØNDX on June 11th. In that interview, MMØNDX indicated that he was "stunned" by the accusation. "It all came as a bit of a surprise but I believe the Albanian authorities lack of experience or knowledge of amateur radio is what sparked this."

"They simply hadn't seen equipment like ours and they wanted to make sure everything was above board."

According to MMØNDX, during their return home, an airport officer identified as "the Albanian Customs guy" started asking questions about the equipment. Despite his explanations, "The next thing we knew, the police wanted to ask us more questions, so we were taken aside and asked to explain what everything did. In the end they took away our gear and they still have it, three weeks later."

A source at Albanian police is reported as saying: "We are concerned how such gear entered Albania undetected and for what purpose were used and who used them and for how long this radio were used in territory of Albania." (Obviously they know little about DXpeditions in particular or Amateur Radio in general).

Allegedly, the Albanian investigators are trying to establish if the radio gear was able to record or interfere with radio communications used by the military or secret service.

The Kenwood equipment that was seized was not further identified.

Much thanks to Walter Finch of the Daily Mail and Mark McGivern of the Daily Record for their reporting, on which this article was based.



The Facts

Glen Roberts KE7FD

Clairton, PA, July 5th, 2022 – I'm reminded of a story where the younger brother four older boys found himself having to remind the two oldest brothers of their duty of setting a good example for the younger two. At one point after repeated instances where the older boys failed to do the right things, the youngest took a stand to gently but firmly reprimand his two oldest brothers. After delivering a pointed yet not condescending reprimand, the oldest boys basically said, "Who can hear this? Why treat us so brashly?" to wit the youngest replied by basically saying, "I know I've said what needed to be said according to the facts, and you know that what I've said is true."

My friends in Amateur Radio, there are things which need to be said to some, but not all. Still, we *all* need to get our heads around some facts and how those facts may point to the future of the hobby. Based on data provided by the FCC by way of the ARRL, (<https://www.arrl.org/fcc-license-counts>) 50% of hams in the U.S. are Technician class operators while the remaining 50% make up Extra, Advanced, General and Novice! When I got my Novice ticket in the early 1970's, we had to either drop out of radio or upgrade. Back then the Novice license was valid only for two years and was not renewable. This restriction compelled most of us to upgrade; we wanted to be hams, we were proud to be hams and once there, we wanted more privileges. Within a year or thereabouts, I had my General, with my eye on upgrading to Advance then onto Extra. I wasn't content to stay with the mediocre privileges I had as a Novice. I knew greater opportunities awaited me for the taking if I put the effort into getting there. Getting to Extra took longer than I expected but it did happen, after family, career and other priorities. Nothing is more important than our families. If you're lucky enough to get the kids interested in radio then you may have another hook into those relationships, but often radio needs to take a back seat. Whether you realize it or not, you are the key to the future of Ham Radio, if it stays alive or vanishes. When older hams such as myself were first on the air, we pushed as much as we could to keep it alive and enjoyed doing so. As our families came and grew up, we did what we could with the expectation that younger hams would do as we did at their age. Now in our senior years, our expectations are still that younger hams will grow the hobby to keep it alive. However, being content with a Technician license, that 50% of the hams in the U.S., will not support the needed backbone of Amateur Radio growth into the future. If all that hams can do in 20 or 30 years is to talk on repeaters, that will be all you will be allowed to do because the HF bands will be given to other interests. We are being watched by many commercial groups who would love to take over the bandwidth we now occupy. Ladies and gentlemen, now is the time, **your time** to step up and make a difference for the future of Ham Radio. This may require some creative juggling on your part but just as those before you managed it, you too will find a way. You may have work from home which we never had, you have the Internet, cell phones, web-based instruction, computers, again none of which were available just two generations ago. **Now is the time for you to start or restart!**

If you're telling yourself that you're an exception, that this call to step up does not apply to you, you're not being honest to yourself nor to other Amateurs now and in the future depending on you. Whatever the excuse you're using to justify back peddling in your mind **right now, STOP.** Very few current hams who've managed to get their Technician licenses got into the hobby with the intent of stopping there; *everyone entertains the idea of going further.* What athlete is content at stopping at the 50-yard line? What football player only plans on stepping onto the field content to sit on the bench for the game, every game? See the comparison? Why stop at Technician when there's so much more available to you? You need to take advantage of every opportunity to get out of your comfort zone and onto ALL of the HF bands under the tutelage of an Elmer. *Don't be afraid or proud to ask,* "Hey [fill in the blank], I'd like to get on HF to hone my operating skills. Can you have me over some time to do that?" There's a very real connection to getting on the air with an Elmer and the success rate of upgrading your license! Just how to you think us old timers got where we are today? We didn't sit around glued to reruns of Game of Thrones! If you'll reach out to older hams, you'll progress to help keep Amateur Radio alive and relevant, and not just for yourself, but for those who follow you.

Radio can be leveraged as tools too. You may find a niche interest in the hobby that helps serve in your community, career, relationships, or service to others. Ham radio is many things such as public service, emergency comms, search and rescue, fostering partnerships between other hobbies/clubs, helping schools talk to astronauts, developing skills in building electronic projects, tutoring others interested in the skills you demonstrate. Lists of benefits to you and others are limitless. A particular and underappreciated skill is learning how to operating during contests. Now before you skip to the last sentence, hear me out. If someone on the air says, "He's up five." What does that mean? If you're trying to copy a digital station, but can't seem to find him even when the DX clusters says he's there, how can you change your method to locate him? The best way to learn is to work a contest. You don't have to be *rocket surgeon* to contest, just pick one to try. Before long, you'll be the one telling others how to do it!

Final words.

Field Day. If you have any Amateur Radio license, any class, YOU really need to participate in Field Day. There are few learning experiences, service opportunities, mentoring given and taken as good as what Field Day provides. Even if all you can do is spend x number of hours there supporting your club, DO IT. If you missed Field Day, then get involved in your state QSO party, different animal but it still provides priceless experiences. Look for operating events to participate in. Get on the air, ask for help, don't be shy, *just do it!*

Remember, the future of Ham Radio is up to you; the old timers have done their part and though we're still around and willing to help, this is **your game** now; don't stop at the 50-yard line, carry the ball.

500,000+ FD Contacts Already Reported

American Radio
Relay League

Newington, CT, July 1st, 2022 – 2022 ARRL Field Day wrapped up nearly a week ago, and ARRL Headquarters has already received over 2,400 entries submitted via the online Field Day Entry web application. Early analysis reveals that most of the entrants participated as Class D -- home stations, and Class E -- home stations using emergency power.

As of June 29, the breakdown of Field Day entries by Class showed 2,723 total entries, with 272 in Class A, 361 in Class B, 32 in Class C (mobile), 1,524 in Class D, 484 in Class E, and 50 in Class F.

So far, a total of over 517,000 contacts were reported for the event and those numbers are changing daily. In 2021, there were 1.5 million contacts made.

Many participants were keeping their hopes up for better propagation, as early forecasts were looking promising. ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque N1SFE said that propagation aside, there was substantial activity. "While band conditions might not have been the greatest, there was a good amount of activity on the bands this past weekend. Many participants seemed to agree that the recent rule changes, capping transmitter power output to 100 W, were a good idea," he said.

There is still plenty of time to submit your 2022 Field Day entry. Participants who submit their entries using ARRL's [Online Submission Form](#) can earn 50 bonus points and will receive an email confirmation of their completed entry. Be sure to check the [Entries Received](#) web page to verify your entry's status. If it indicates "Pending documents," the required dupe sheet (or in lieu of that, a Cabrillo log file) or other supporting documentation of claimed bonus points is missing.

Participants can edit or add documentation to their online submissions by using the link provided in the confirmation email. Field Day entries must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 2059 UTC on July 26th, 2022.

2022 Field Day was highly promoted thanks to the efforts of many ARRL Division and Section volunteers, amateur radio clubs, and their members. Many states and counties obtained special proclamations from local governments designating the weekend (in some cases the whole week) as Field Day and Amateur Radio Week, recognizing the many contributions of amateur radio operators during emergencies and with serving their communities.

WASH Field Day 2022

Bill Hill W3WH

Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright 2022
Bill Hill W3WH

Canonsburg, PA, June 28th, 2022 – Field Day weekend has come and gone and with it came high highs and low lows. When we shut down on Sunday we had accumulated 570 CW Q's, 223 SSB q's and 29 Digital q's for 1421 Points.

Among the highs were:

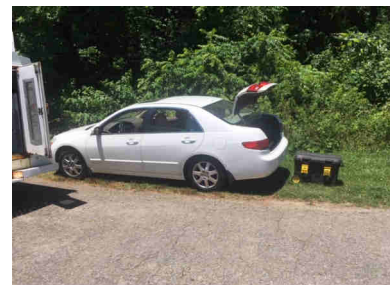


- Wonderful and copious food
- Beautiful weather (although a bit hot but not very humid) and no severe storms.
- Two very sweet cw runs during which the qso rate reached 93 and 135 per hour. That was really fun.
- Wonderful fellowship at meal times.

Among the lows were:

- A last minute mix-up about permission to stay overnight in the Park both Friday and Saturday nights
- Poor overall Club membership participation. We should really figure out how many folks are interested in operating events like Field Day. To successfully put on an ambitious Field Day effort such as ours we need many more people to participate in set up, operation and cleanup. For example on Friday there were only 4 or 5 people there. Erecting the antennas is a job which needs more bodies. Saturday getting the tower trailer and it's antennas ready was a bit better but not much. The food tent was erected by ONE person. Sunday afternoon teardown is a big effort because everyone is tired after three days of Ham Radio
- For several years now we've had wonderful interference free operating at Babcock Grove. This year at Sunset Hills we had serious interference conditions which definitely impacted the QSO total and caused frustration and a level of testiness (all justified) that we haven't seen since we purchased our wonderful passband filters. The reason(s) for this will be investigated and hopefully solved before next year.
- Jim, WB4GCS's radio failed in the middle of a productive 80 meter run on Saturday night. Jim is troubleshooting the problem.
- Another unexplained phenomena was the failure of my K1EL interface causing me to send everything by hand instead of enjoying letting the logging program send most of the cw. Yes, I'm spoiled.
- Digital had problems which prevented that mode from being very successful. Part of that difficulty was the interference which limited the antennas at our disposal at any one time.

Despite these things the weekend was a success but it could have been even better with more help and special thanks to Glen KE7FD for all his work on this major Club event.



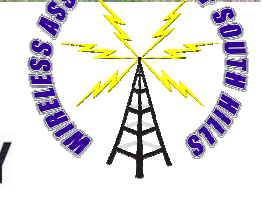
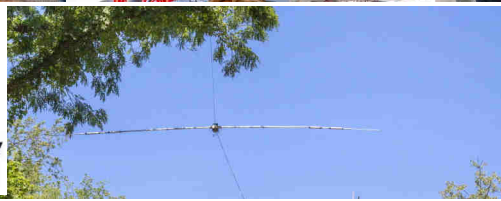
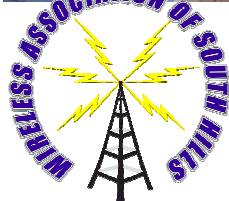
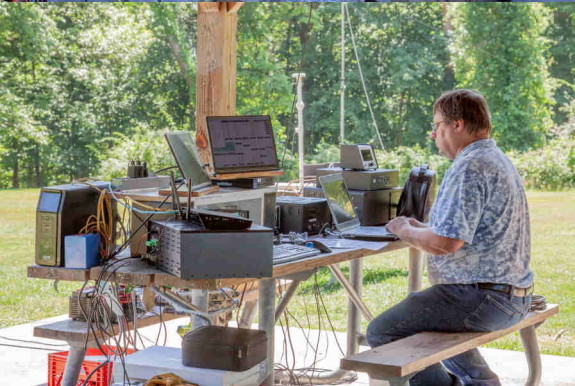
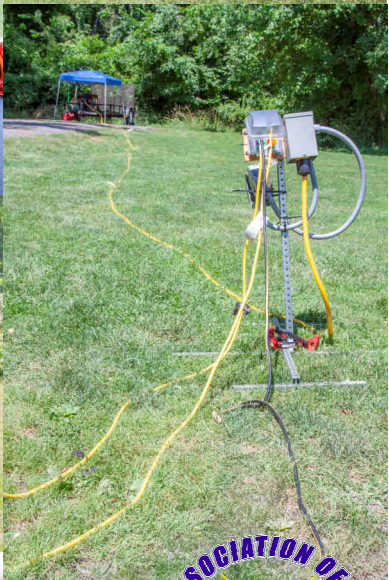
Field Day 2022



Photos courtesy of and (c)Copyright
2022 Curtis Turner KB3CMT

WASH Field Day 2022

Photos (c)Copyright 2022 Charnel Spirk
And courtesy of Chuck Bihun KC3ELA



WASH Field Day 2022

Photos (c)Copyright 2022 Charmel Spirk
And courtesy of Chuck Bihun KC3ELA



WASH Field Day 2022 Snapshots



Photos (c)Copyright 2022 Harold
Rosenberger K3HCR

WASH Field Day 2022

Photos (c)Copyright 2022 Nathan Suehr
KC3GMM



ADX: An Arduino Based Digital Transceiver

Burcak Cubukcu TA2EE via QRZ.COM
Photos (c)Copyright 2022 Burcak Cubukcu
TA2EE and Barbaros Asuroglu WB2CBA

ADX Schematic (c)Copyright 2022
Barbaros Asuroglu WB2CBA

Bahcelievler Ankara, Turkey, May 16th, 2022 – ADX (Arduino Digital Xceiver) is a simple mono band HF QRP Transceiver optimized for Digital Modes by Barb WB2CBA. It can work on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17 or 15 meters bands, and also covers four of the most popular digital modes: FT-8, FT-4, JS8call and WSPR.

It is:

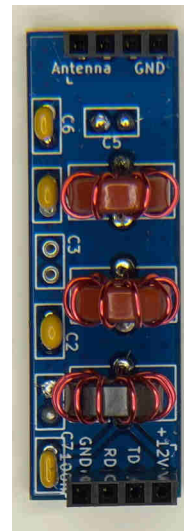
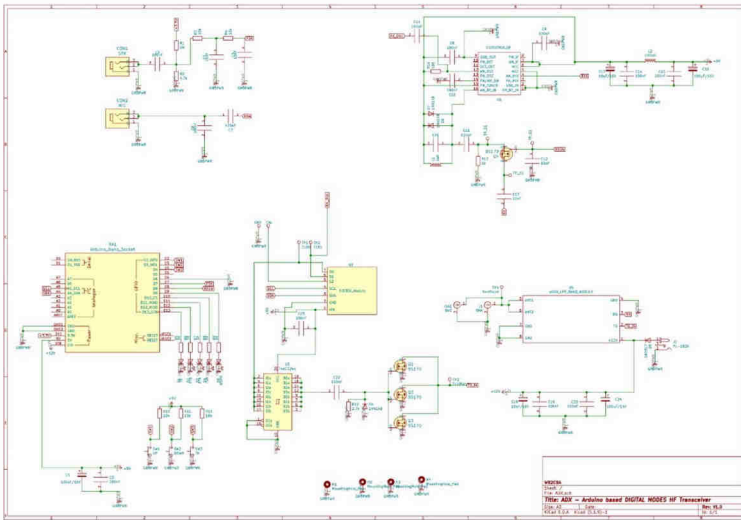
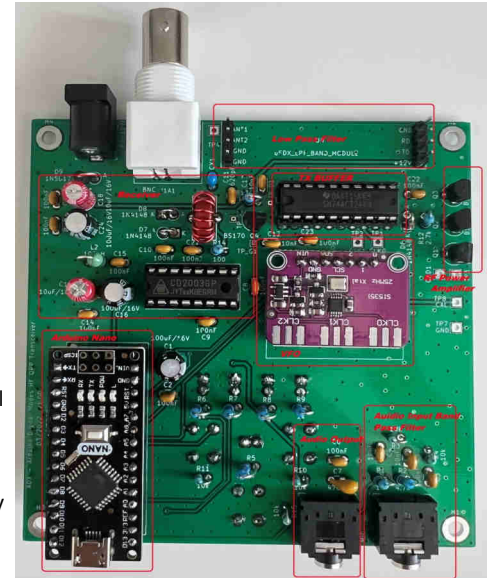
- ⇒ Simple to procure – meaning not effected by chip shortage
- ⇒ Simple to build – 2 modules, 2 IC's and 4 MOSFETS!
- ⇒ Simple to setup and tune – One simple calibration procedure is all that is needed.
- ⇒ Simple to operate – Plug in ADX MIX to a soundcard MIC input, and ADX SPX to a PC soundcard speaker input, and we are good to go with any digital modes software
- ⇒ Dirt Cheap – Costs less than \$25 to get all the parts and PCB, if we exclude ridiculous shipping costs!

Any digital tonal mode consists of varying audio tones that change frequency in relation to the data they correlate to. This audio tone generated for example for FT8 with WSJT/X software is passed through an audio band pass filter and then it is compared with Arduino Nano's Atmega328P processor A/D comparator for start and stop zero cross detection to determine period of that tone. From that period, frequency of that particular tone that is determined and added to base transmit frequency, for example 14074000 Hz for 20m FT8. If the tone let's say is 1000 Hz then the carrier TX is now 14074000 Hz + 1000 Hz = 14075000 Hz.

As it is summed it will be in USB frequency range of any SSB receiver though the signal is not pure SSB signal still any SSB TRX set to USB can't tell the difference! This tone frequency detection and adding to base frequency is continuously repeated 400 times per second and refreshed until the FT8 tone transmission generation is over. In that case TX stops.

What fascinates me about this FSK signal generation technique is to generate a SSB – USB signal without any SSB mixing or filtering which eliminates problems of IMD or phase differences etc that comes with SSB signal generation technique which allows such a simple Transceiver to be conceived with minimal parts.

For more information see <https://antrak.org.tr/blog/adx-arduino-digital-transceiver/>



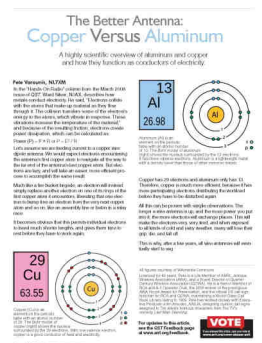
NL7XM Wins April QST Cover Plaque Award

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, June 10th, 2022 – The winning article for the April 2022 QST Cover Plaque Award is "The Better Antenna: Cooper Versus Aluminum," by Pete Varounis NL7XM (a long-distance WASH member – ed).

[The QST staff hopes you enjoyed this "highly scientific" April Fool article.]

The QST Cover Plaque Award - given to the author or authors of the most popular article in each issue - is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the [QST Cover Plaque Poll](#) web page. Cast a ballot for your favorite article today!



You can lead a ham to resonance, but you can't make him radiate
— Eric Stephenson WZ7U

If an antenna falls in the forest, and no one is there to see or hear it, does it's SWR change? — Clinton Herbert AB7RG

Somerset County Hamfest

Sunday, July 10th, 2022, 8:00 AM— 1:00 PM

Sponsored by the Somerset County ARC K3SMT

Somerset County Technology Center

281 Technology Drive, Somerset, PA 15501

Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8 General Admission \$5

More Information at <https://k3smt.org>



Cumberland Valley ARC 2022 Hamfest

Sunday, July 30th, 2022, 8:00 AM— ??

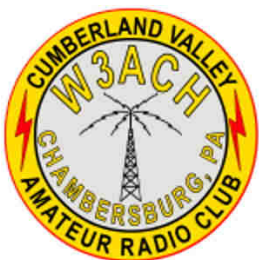
Grounds Open at 6 AM for Vendors & Tailgaters

CVAEMA Show Grounds

1501 Criders Church Road, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Talk-in on 147.120 PL 100.0 Admission \$5

More Information at <http://w3ach.org>



Uniontown ARC 72nd Annual Gabfest

Saturday, August 13th, 2022, 8:00 AM—???

Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

W3PIE Clubhouse

433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown, PA 15401

Talk-in on 147.045 PL 131.8

More Information at <http://www.w3pie.org>



Skyview Swap 'n' Shop

Sunday, August 28th, 2022, 8:00 AM—???

Vendor Setup prior to 8:00 AM

Skyview Radio Society K3MJW Clubhouse

2335 Turkey Ridge Road, New Kensington, PA 15068

Talk-in on 146.64 PL 131.8 Admission \$5

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



Breezeshooters From The Beach

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM/4

Holden Beach, NC, June 14th, 2022 – Here are a couple of pictures from last night. 10 Meters was nice and open, and I was able to check into the Breezeshooters Net from right on the beach! (Holden Beach NC is all the way at the bottom of the state, not far from the border.)

I had my radio back home set up for remote operation, and didn't need it! Super cool!



It was reported on June 9th, on the WASH Club Reflector that NOAA/NWS Weather Radio KIH35 162.55 MHz, which went QR in April 2022 due to what was termed a "telecommunication outage," has returned to the air.

Nate Suehr KC3GMM provided further details on the outage, courtesy of John Vith K3JFV, on June 1st that "Per a Federal Point of Contact with NOAA, the POTS Studio to Transmitter Line provided by Verizon has been interrupted short term due to an ongoing Construction Project along its path. Estimated Return to Service is over the Summer months, no better estimate at this time."

DX News Briefs



XV9BPO has been QRV, 30-10, primarily FT8/FT4 with some SSB and CW. QSL via ClubLog..

XZ2B is been QRV for an undetermined length of time, 15 10 & 6, CW. He is limited in his available frequencies, which are specified on his QRZ.COM page. QSL via JH3SIF

D2UY is QRV for an undetermined length of time, 20 – 6, FT8. QSL via UT6UY

7Q5RU is QRV through 10 July, 160 – 6, CW SSB and Digital. QSL via R7AL

5X3R is QRV through 13 July, 80 – 10, SSB RTTY and PSK31, in her spare time. QSL via IK2DUW

3A/F6EXV and **3A/PB8DX** will be QRV from 7 – 17 July. On 6 meters, they will use **3A6M**. QSL all calls via F6EXV only on ClubLog.

A35JP/p will be QRV from Niuaotupapu Island OC-191 10 – 16 July, 80-10, CW SSB and FT8. QSL via JAØRQV., 30-10, primarily FT8/FT4 with some SSB and CW. QSL via ClubLog..

DXØNE will be QRV from Kalayaan in the **Spraty Islands** sometime between 1 August and 31 December, A four man team will be on 160 – 6, CW, SSB and FT-8. QSL via 4F2KWT

D44TWO will be QRV "sometime in September" from Santiago Island AF-005, holiday style, 160 – 6, CW SSB and Digital. QSL via MØOXO

TX5XG will be QRV 2 – 9 November from the Austral Islands, 160 – 10, CW SSB RTTY and FT8/4. More information at <https://australvacation.amebaownd.com>. QSL via JA1XGI

HD8M will be QRV 1 – 11 March 2023, 160 – 6, CW SSB and FT8. They will be in the ARRL DX SSB Contest, 5 – 6 March 2023. More information at <http://www/hd8m.com>. QSL via WB2REM or ClubLog, they will not accept cards via the bureau.

MØURX reports that **TX5N** Direct QSL cards were mailed on 30 June 2022. Bureau cards will be shipped later in the Summer to the individual IARU bureaus.

A reminder that **US Postal Rates are increasing as of 10 July**. First Class mail will go from \$.58 to \$.60, Postcards will go from \$.40 to \$.44, and International Letters will go from \$1.30 to \$1.40. More information at <https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2022/0406-usps-new-prices-for-2022.htm>

QSL Routes

4U1A via UA3DX	HD8M via WB2REM	SX44JM via SV1AHH
5P8VW via DJ8VW	HF8ØØM via SP9PKS	TG9AJR via MØURX
5X3R via IK2DUW	HG1Z via HA1XY	TM1Ø9TDF via F8GGZ
5Z4BU via EA5GL	HI3T via K7BV	TM13COL via F5OGL
6D5C via XE1H	GB22GD via MØOXO	TM17FFF via F4GFE
6Y5HM via EA5GL	GB22GE via MØOXO	TX5M via MØURX
7Q5RU via R7AL	GB22GI via MØOXO	TX5XG via JA1XGI
7S7SOP via SM7RYR	GB22GJ via MØOXO	V31AE via EB7DX
9N7AA via S57DX	GB22GM via MØOXO	VC7X via VE7JH
A71AM via MØOXO	GB22GW via MØOXO	VG5DX via VA5DX
A92AA via EC6DX	IR1DCI/IX1 via	VKØWN via VK7WN
A92EE via EC6DX	IK1GPG	VR25XMT via VR2XMT
AP2HA via JA1WIO	J28JD via EA5GL	XM3A via VE3NOO
C91CCY via K3IRV	J43POTA via SV3SPD	XV9BPO via F4BPO
D2UY via UT6UY	JD1AJD via JA1ADT	XV9SB via WB4SAB
D44TWO via MØURX	JW7QIA via LA7QIA	XZ2B via JH3SIF
DKØ5ØBN via DK5PD	LZ18NATO via LZ2VP	Z66X via OH2BH
DL/AD8FJ via E25KAE	LZ54ØDS via LZ1KCP	
DLØGEO via DL2YAK	LZ5G via LZ5ET	
DXØNE via 4F2KWT	OJØJR via OH3JR	
ED2FSF via EA2CYC	OJØMR via OG2M	
FK8HM via F5MFV	OL15SOTA via OK1CYC	
GB13COL via GØVLF	OL3Y via OK1CRM	
GX5DX via EB7DX	OX3LX via OZØJ	
HC5LM via HC5VF	SN89LOT via SP1PMY	

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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Toll-Free 1-800-545-8881

Fax: (412) 746-5944

bill.hill@hamradioinsurance.com

"All-Risk" Amateur Radio Equipment Insurance Plan for:

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

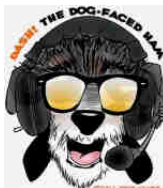
277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056

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 July 1st, 2022

Novice	7,559
Technician	429,322
General	197,100
Advanced	37,558
Extra	161,331
Club	12,525
Total	845,395

All-Time High 04/18/2022 845,540

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	9,345
	Callsign Changes	2,276
	Class Changes	3,895
	No Longer Licensed	7,462
	All Updates (*)	30,374

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

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

Group A	AC3JA
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3UMY

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!

Has Roadway found the tower yet?



FCC News

FCC Daily Digest Volume 41 Number 64

Newington, CT, June 9th, 2022 – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has proposed a \$34,000 fine against Jason Frawley of Lewiston, Idaho, for allegedly interfering with radio operations of the U.S. Forest Service during firefighting activities for the Johnson Creek Fire near Elk River in July 2021. The FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* on June 8th, 2022 to Frawley. The FCC states in the NAL that Frawley holds an Extra-class Amateur Radio Service license, WA7CQ, and is the owner/operator of Leader Communications LLC, licensee of eight microwave licenses and one business license.

The FCC alleged in the NAL that "On July 17th, 2021, using his amateur hand-held radio, Frawley transmitted five (5) times, and on July 18th, 2021, Frawley transmitted three (3) times on frequencies allocated and authorized for government use, apparently causing harmful interference with his apparently unlawful transmissions."

The frequencies with which Frawley is alleged to have interfered were being used to coordinate firefighting crews from the U.S. Forest Service and Idaho Department of Land to fight the 1,000-acre Johnson Creek Fire, including the communications between fire suppressant aircraft and ground crews.

The NAL includes details of the Forest Service's complaint and the FCC's investigation. On July 18th, 2021, the Johnson Creek fire operations section chief drove to the Elk River airstrip and hanger where Frawley, who had disclosed his location, was found holding a radio next to a banner that read, "Leader Communications." Frawley admitted to transmitting on government frequencies and identifying himself as "comm tech." He argued that he was not trying to cause interference but instead was transmitting to provide information to the fire fighters.

"[A]t no time was I trying to disturb any other communications or air traffic. I was honestly just giving them information I had since I have been working on the butte since the early 90's . . ." wrote Frawley in his October 15th, 2021 response to a Letter of Inquiry from FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith.

The FCC however concluded that "Frawley's admitted unauthorized transmissions on frequencies for which he did not have a license had the potential to cause substantial harm to life and property."

The FCC held that Frawley, by his own admission, apparently willfully and repeatedly violated the Commission's rules when he made eight separate radio transmissions on a frequency for which he did not have a license. The FCC stated that unauthorized transmissions on frequencies licensed to public safety entities using those frequencies to respond to emergencies also constitutes a violation of Section 333 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

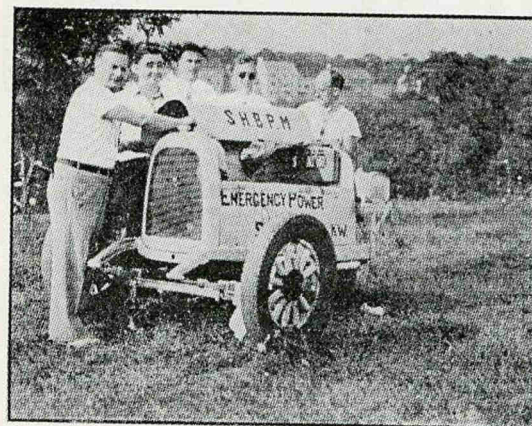
A news release from the FCC states that the fine is the largest of its kind proposed. "The Communications Act prohibits such interference with authorized radio communications and the Commission takes very seriously any interference with public safety communications," said the FCC. In a separate statement, FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel added, "You can't interfere with public safety communications. Full stop. So today we propose the largest fine of its type for this interference that put fire suppression and public safety itself at risk."

New Amateur Radio License Fees Took Effect April 19th.

Bill NY9H provided this photo from the archives, from the old South Hills Brass Pounders & Modulators 1938 Field Day.

Anyone know any more about it?

Photo courtesy of Bill Steffy NY9H



This was typical of Field Day power sources in 1938. This one was used by the South Hills Brass Pounders & Modulators (Pittsburgh, Pa.) and delivered a total of 4 kw.



WASHfest 2023

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

Sunday, February 26th, 2023

8:00 AM until 3:00 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

Donation \$5



(800) 545-8881

Breakfast & Lunch will be available!



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

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, 2023.

Reservations received after February 1st, 2023 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance twelve 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 2023
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN
4246 Seton Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

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



WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

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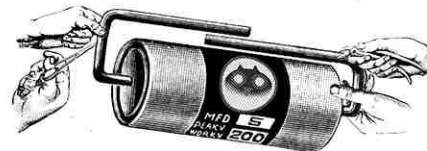
The Daily DX, 3025 Hobbs Road,
Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



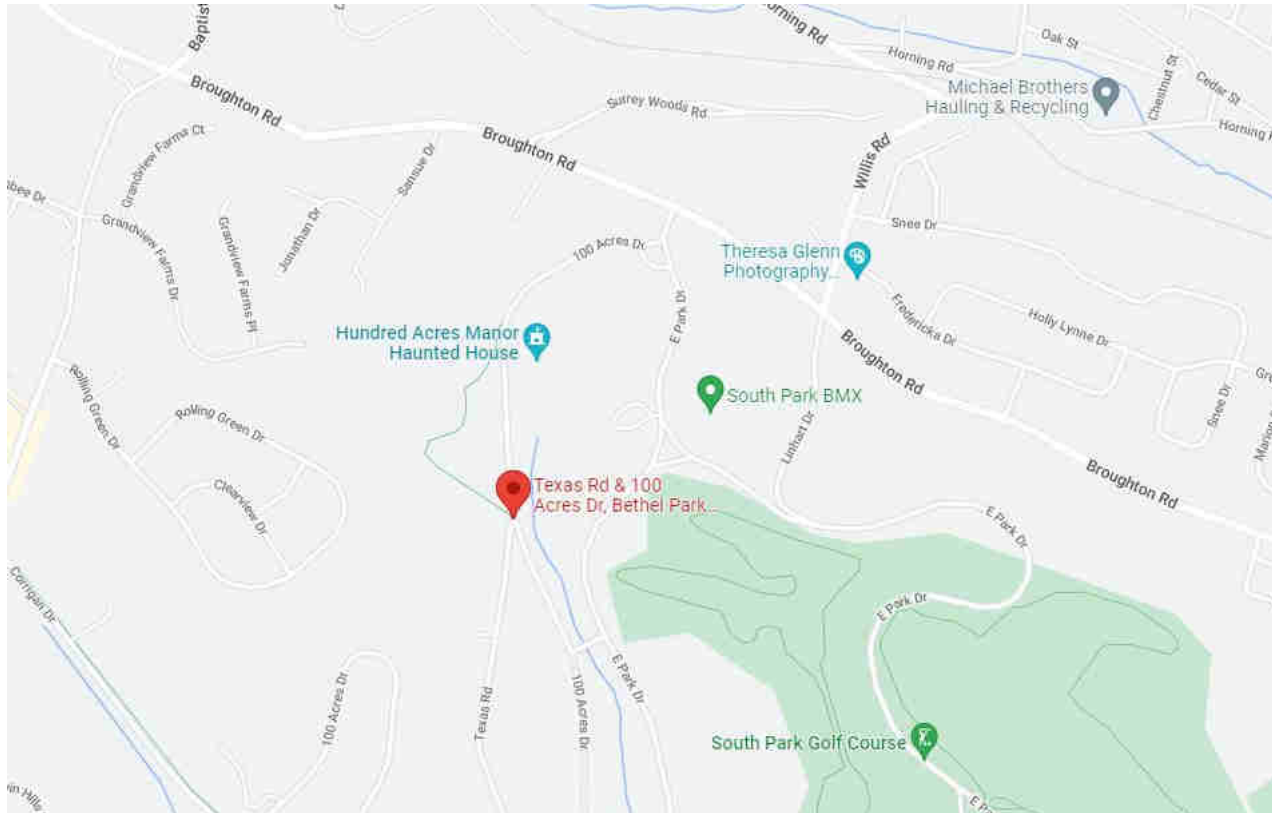
Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



HANDMADE BY GNOMES.



Directions to the July Meeting Site



The July meeting will be held at our 2022 Field Day site: Sunset Hills Grove, Texas Road at 100 Acres Drive, South Park.

100 Acres Drive can be accessed from both Broughton Road and Corrigan Drive.

Meeting starts at 07:00 PM EDT.

See you there!

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
www.washarc.org

