

WASHRAG™

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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 02
FEBRUARY 2023

Wireless Association of South Hills



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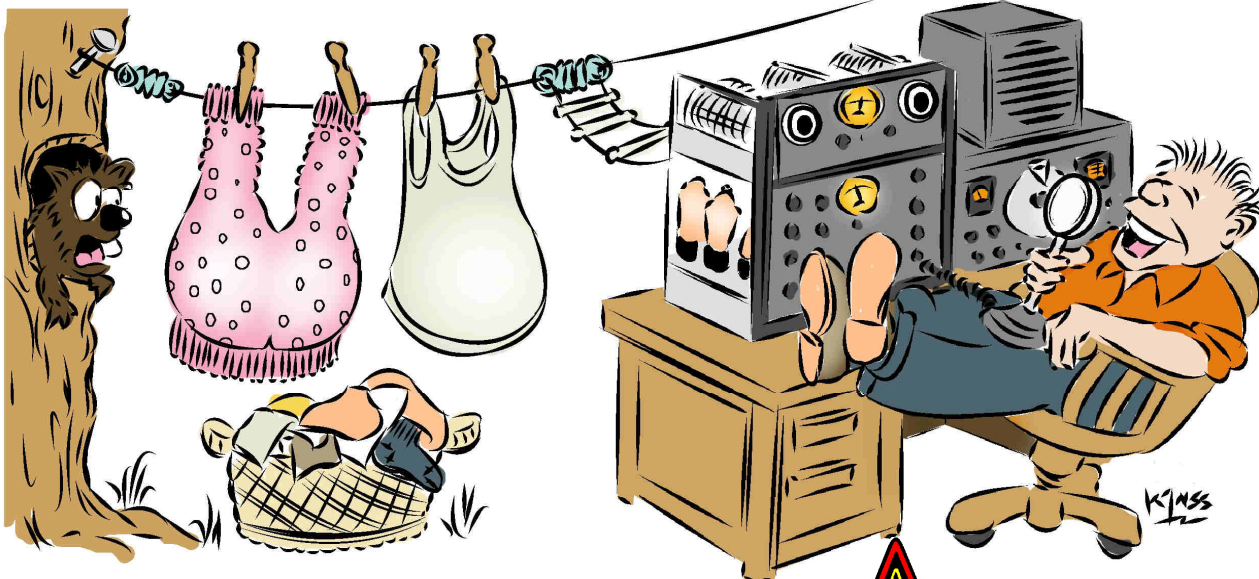
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Wireless Association of South Hills



WASHRAG™



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FEBRUARY 2023

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, February 2nd, 2023

The next scheduled meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be on **Thursday, February 2nd, 2023**, starting at 7 PM, at **PANERA BREAD Galleria Mall**, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA 15228. Room will be available to us starting at 6:30 PM for anyone who'd like to get dinner, or just nosh, before the meeting

Topics Include: **WASHFest 2023**, Field Day 2023, **WASH** 2023 planning, and more.

See you there!

Cover: A view of the floor from WASHFest 2022. Can't wait to see what we'll have this year!

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2022, 2023 Ron Notarius W3WN

WASH 2023 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, its members, or its 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 its 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, 2023, 10:00 AM, at Home Economics Building, South Park**, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, during **WASHFest 2023**. 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



I hope this update finds you well. January was a busy month for us with two important events: the 2 meter operating event and Winter Field Day. It was great to see so many of our members as well as other local clubs participating and making the most of these opportunities to further their skills and connect with others in the amateur radio community.

Additionally, the preliminary results of the PA QSO Party have been posted, and it looks like we had a good showing from several club members. Congratulations to all who participated and helped to represent WASH.

As we move into February, it's worth noting that the days are slowly getting longer, and that means that outdoor operating opportunities will only continue to increase. I'm looking forward to another active month and seeing what new challenges and opportunities lie ahead for our members.

— 73, Curtis Turner KB3CMT

President, WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, Inc.
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH

The WRTC 2022 (2023) Committee has recently deleted the WRTC Reflector. No official explanation was available by newsletter deadline.

Subsequently, Drew K3PA has created an "unofficial" reflector to replace it, so that interested Amateurs can continue discussions related to this summer's event.

The new reflector can be found at wrtc2022reflector@group.s.io.

Reminder: The February WASH Meeting location will again be Panera Bread at the Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road (US 19) in Bethel Park. Meeting begins at 7 PM; the room is available to us starting at 6:30 PM. Remember, our hosts are letting us use the meeting room gratis, so please return the favor and grab a bite or a sandwich or dinner before the meeting begins!

The annual **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest** is now behind us. From what we've heard, everyone who operated had a blast! It's not too late to get your logs in, so if you haven't already done so, even if it's at the last minute, now is the time!

WASHFest is this month! Final details will be discussed at the meeting, but as you can see, Second and Third Prizes are now official! In addition, Carol tells us that Tim N3DL will be onsite for Card Checking! Fantastic!

Now, not to belabor the point (as we tend to do every year) but this is the biggest event we as a club put on every year. We need everyone's help, for as much or as little time as you can spare. If you haven't already done so, please contact Carol KB3GMN and see where she needs a hand, and help us all out!

We didn't expect to be THIS long a gap between local hamfests this year, but it happens. And because of that, we have an opportunity to have a REALLY big bash this year! We're all really looking forward to it, so: Now is the time! Let Carol know where you can help, what you can do; spread the word, whatever it takes (within reason) so we can make another great hamfest!

Don't forget that we start setup on Saturday morning. As far as we know, as usual, there will be an informal gathering for breakfast at the South Park Eat 'n' Park starting at about 8 AM, for anyone who is interested.

(Maybe this will be the restart of our monthly club breakfast, at long last? What do you think?)

Dates of the **2023 Breezeshooter Groundwave Contests** were just posted to the Breezeshooter's website. Good luck to all!

Which reminds us... is there going to be a **Breezeshooter's Hamfest** this year? (We really hope so!)

On the same note... out of idle curiosity, who's planning on going to **Hamvention** this year?

Finally, before you know it, **Field Day 2023** will be upon us! (Ye Editor promises to NOT be visiting The House of Mouse with the family this year!)(We can't afford it!) Planning for this year's op is already underway!

Silent Keys



Bob Ketzell KB3IN, 76, Washington, January 24th

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

Minutes, January 5th Meeting

Nathan Suehr KC3GMM, Vice President / Secretary, WASH

Call to Order: 19:11. Presiding Officer: Curtis KB3CMT

20 members, 1 guest present.

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

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Mark Stabryla, (N3RDV): Report read by Mark (N3RDV). Bill (W3WH) with motion to accept and second by Harold (K3HCR). Voted and carried.

Secretary: Nathan (KC3GMM) No corrections to December minutes. Motion to accept by Jeff (N3JSF) and Bill (WA3VSS).

Repeaters: (Frank N3FB) Repeating.

WASHNet: Nathan (KC3GMM): Well attended. Eric (K3SGT) - Recommends checking out railroad movie at science center Omnimax theater.

Thursday Night Tech Net: Coming up. Topic of indoor winter projects and ideas. Online format..

Public Service: Mike (WA3PYU): No report

Curtis (KB3CMT) - NU3Q starting in person meetings for ARES and hamshack hotline test Sat Jan 7. Winter Field day.

Newsletter: Ron (W3WN): Out!

Volunteer Examiners: Next session at **WASHFest**. Are we having the session in the storage room? WPXI building is open now. Next one at Field Day in June.

Ways & Means (including Member Contributions): Carol (KB3GMN): No 50/50 tickets this meeting.

Contests: Larry (K3VX): 2m contest Sat 14: 7PM - 11PM.

WASHFest 2023: Carol (KB3GMN):

- + 28 tables sold.
- + 1st prize, second prize and blackbox prizes are bought.
- + Generator will be purchased this weekend.
- + We need to rent tables for at a total cost of \$500. Have tables delivered and picked up.
- + If anybody has door prizes to contribute, please let Carol know.
- + Everything coming along better. We have enough tickets.
- + Come and help set up on Saturday. Tables will arrive at 10AM.
- + Permit from the county is secure. Carol has info for folks staying overnight already.
- + Del (W3DTP) - Has begun to receive ads for the book.

New Business:

- + Mark (N3RDV) - Club had three keys for our PO box. Need to scour old meeting minutes to find who has the third key. Mark had one and Carol had one. We need new PO box for 501c3 status. Our existing PO box lapsed in 2019 and non-profit notification went to it. Mark submitted pricing for new boxes. Need to look around for a new PO box and change address with IRS.
- + *** Further discussion around 501c3 status and PO Boxes ***
- + Bill (W3WH) - Motion for Mark to rent lower priced box. Harold (K3HCR) with second. Voted and carried.
- + Mark (N3RDV) - ARRL has changed the way that they process renewals for clubs with increased amounts of money per member. \$2 to \$5 and increase to \$15 for new members.

Old Business:

- + Frank (N3FB) - Beam antenna ordered. Arriving in February. Went to visit tower trailer at storage facility after the storm and found everything intact.
- + Larry (K3VX) - Attempted to visit Field Day site. Was unable to get there due to many closed roads in the park.
- + Bill (W3WH) - We need new field day chairman trainee with Chuck having withdrawn. Please consider volunteering and reach out to Bill or Larry.
- + Curtis (KB3CMT) - Are we still planning on operating as 3A? Bill (W3WH) - Not sure. Mark (N3RDV) - Same site? Bill (W3WH) - Yes.
- + Larry (K3VX) - Nathan (KC3GMM) has letter for Allegheny County for permission to camp at field day site overnight.
- + *** Further discussion about field day regarding equipment that we'll use and the need for operators, adding a GOTA station, working with Boy and Girl Scouts. ***

Good of the order:

- + Glen (KE7FD) - Ice and snow on the way but the days are getting longer.

Continued on Page 14

WASH Spotlight: WFD



Paul NØVLR operating SSB during Winter Field Day, on various bands in his outbuilding shack

With CW operations by Scott KF7GGN. Each operated under their own call signs

Photo courtesy of and © Copyright 2023 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

2023

AA3MR
AC4KU
AE3DL
K3GW
K3HCR
K3VX
K3WPL
K6DWR
KA3VXM
KB3CMT
KB3GMN
KB3GUZ
KB3JHR
KB3NIX
KB3YCX
KC3GMM
KC3OCT
KC3TEU
KC3UUK
KC4WTT
KE7FD
N3DFK
N3JSF
N3RDV

N3SBF
N3UE
NB3C
NL7XM
NY9H
W3DTP
W3LE
W3WH
W3WN
W8LEV
WA3PYU
WA3VSS
WB4GCS
Melissa
Greenwald
Charlotte
Peterson
Charmel
Spirk
2022
AA3XY
K3SGT
KB3BYA
KB3GMM

KB3IAC
KB3IVX
KB3YCX
KC3ELA
KC3MLC
KC3NFV
KC3QZY
KC3RAA
KC3RGV
KC3TDX
KC8ACK
NØVLR
N3FB
N3IDH
N3KFD
N3TDV
N8NEU

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
AC4KU
AD3Q
K3EED
K3LIE
KA3NMG
KB3ENX
KB3FNM
KB3FOT
KB3JHQ
N3BPP
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 30th, 2023
List compiled by
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/
Treasurer

2023 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change

February 2 nd	WASH Meeting	Panera Bread / Galleria Mall, 1500 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon PA
February 18 th	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	http://breezeshooters.org/ns/groundwave-contest/
February 18 th - 19 th	ARRL DX Contest CW	https://www.arrl.org
February 26 th	WASHFest 2023	Home Economics Building, South Park 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, PA 15129
	WASHFest 2023 VEC Exams	
March 2 nd	WASH Meeting	TBD
March 4 th	Breezeshooter's Groundwave SSB	http://breezeshooters.org/ns/groundwave-contest/
March 4 th - 5 th	ARRL DX Contest SSB	https://www.arrl.org
March 11 th	Breezeshooter's Groundwave Digital	http://breezeshooters.org/ns/groundwave-contest/
March 25 th - 26 th	CQ WW WPX Contest SSB	https://www.cqwp.com
April 6 th	WASH Meeting	TBD
April 16 th	Two Rivers ARC Hamfest 2023	Elizabeth Borough VFD Bingo Hall, 101 South 1 st Avenue, Elizabeth PA 15037
April 23 rd	PARS Tri-State Radio Fest	1495 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca, PA 15061
May 4 th	WASH Meeting	TBD
May 19 th - 21 st	Dayton ARA Hamvention 2023	Hamvention.org
May 27 th - 28 th	CQ WW WPX Contest CW	https://www.cqwp.com
June 1 st	WASH Meeting	TBD
June 10 th - 12 th	ARRL VHF Contest	https://www.arrl.org
June 24 th - 25 th	ARRL Field Day	https://www.arrl.org

"Seen" at the January Meeting

Photos courtesy of and © Copyright
2023 Ron Notarius W3WN





2023 Simplex Contest

Bill Hill W3WH

Canonsburg, PA, January 16th, 2023 – To be honest I've never been a big fan of this contest. It's just that it's strange being restricted to several frequencies (channels). I always feel as though whatever channel I choose I'm probably infringing on somebody else's activity so I tend to make a contact or two and then move on. During HF contests you can usually find a clear frequency and run stations for quite a while before somebody "steals" the frequency. This feeling that I have may or may not be true but it's real to me.

Having said that this most recent contest was fun. Probably because I was mobile and could work the same few people again and again from different zip codes. Being mobile had the attraction of being able to offer people additional contacts as I moved around although I must say that juggling the radio, microphone, paddle and log in the front seat of the car in the dark is challenging at best and frustrating at it's worst.

I think the best mode is SSB since you aren't restricted to a "channel" and therefore you can just pick a frequency and start calling.

I operated from four zip codes and I was pleasantly surprised that for the most part I had no trouble working stations from all of them. I only worked one out of state fellow(WV). The rig I used is a older Icom 706 MK 11 G which is very versatile even if the receiver isn't the best. I would recommend to anyone who wants to participate in this event that they try to secure an "all Mode" rig. It really adds to the fun.

The evening had a couple of high points. One was working KA3KSP on CW! Wow that was a treat and the other was working KB3IAC several time after several years of silence. Welcome back Rick!

At the end of the evening I went home before exhausting all the available zip codes but I had fun and I plan to be back next year. One thing that would really improve things would be if more folks fired up their VHF gear and gave it a try.

True Blue DXers Club Closed

Pete Parisetti MMØTWX
Founder

Troon, Scotland, January 21st, 2023 – It is with great sadness that I have to announce my decision to bring the TBDXC experience to a close.

This follows the resignation of our President and Marathon Manager Peter DL3NAA, triggered by yet another "scandal" about TBDXC members massively engaging in FT8 activity.

This problem emerged already more than one year ago. Under pressure from more "purist" members, and in order to maintain the Club's credibility, I wrote to the membership reminding what the Club stands for and asking those members who do engage in FT8 DXing to consider resigning. Many did, but this letter of mine generated heated and at times vicious debate on various forums, and a lot of feedback – some positive and some very negative - to me personally.

Problem solved? No. A check on Clublog in November 2022 showed that the situation hadn't changed. As a result, you will remember receiving another email making the same points as the previous one. More expressions of support and a little criticism, on the one hand, and more resignations.

Problem solved? No. A check of the recent TN8K leaderboards shows that as much as one third of the TBDXC members who worked the excellent DXpedition did so on FT8, with quite a few members ONLY working TN8K on FT8 - no CW or SSB!

At this stage, it is abundantly clear to me that I have failed. My initial idea of an organised push back against the exploding digital activity may have been good in theory, but in reality:

- The TBDXC has failed to make the slightest difference in levels of activity. The recent and very welcome return of CW and SSB traffic appears due to improved propagation conditions and in no way linked to our promotional activity.
- The TBDXC has been largely ignored by its own members. Only two awards, for instance, were issued during a four-year period. Out of a membership of nearly 2,000, in another example, only about 350 submitted logs for the Marathon during two years, despite numerous, repeated calls to do so even if one doesn't participate competitively – just to show support. And,
- What I find most extraordinary, many DXers evidently signed up just to be in a Club. They have not read, or not understood, they don't care or they just plainly ignore the very foundation, the reason for the Club to exist, and happily work DX with automated digital modes. How is that possible, I honestly do not know. The Club is the laughing stock of anybody who cares to check who works what on what mode.

This is a sign of personal failure for me, and a betrayal to the majority of members who are passionate about the cause and feel good to be in the company of like-minded people.

I did not create the TBDXC to be a police organisation and never had any intention to singling out "offenders" or taking actions like issuing warnings or terminating membership. This is odious, extremely time consuming, and, for an informal association without even a formal membership, not even legal.

I am therefore left with no alternative but to close down the True Blue DXers Club.

A further reason of intense pain is that the demise of the Club will bring an end to the DX Ultra-Marathon – an initiative very much enjoyed by hundreds of DXers for the last two years. 2023 looked promising already, but I don't see how this initiative could go ahead separate from the existence of the Club. This was indeed a good idea, with plenty of upscale potential, and perhaps someone will want to run it independently in the future.

In signing off, I would like to express my gratitude to those few souls who, during these four years, offered time, work, ideas and enthusiasm and helped me keeping the Club alive, in particular Petr OK1RP, Thomas DK3DUA and Peter DL3NAA.

But especially, I want to say a sincere THANK YOU to all of you – and you are many more than you think after reading this - who truly understood and believed in the ideas behind the True Blue DXers Club. Long live CW and SSB, long live True Blue DXing!

Editor's Note: The views expressed in this news article do not reflect the views of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS or the WASHRAG, and are presented solely as the views and opinions of the author.





WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

Falls Creek, PA, January 21st, 2023 – Hamfests are starting up again. The first one this year in our WPA Section is the Wireless Association of South Hills hamfest at the Home Economics building on Buffalo Run Road in South Park. It starts at 8:00 am on Sunday, February 26th.

Then on Sunday, April 16th, the Two Rivers ARC will hold their 51st Hamfest and Computer Show at a new location: the Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Department Bingo Hall. See you there.

There is usually a hamfest in Warren County between these two, but nothing has been published yet. As soon as we hear anything we'll let you know!

Saturday, April 1st is the date for the WPA Spring Simulated Emergency Test. The focus is on getting the message through, especially in the "last mile". If you have a training idea, please share it with me soon. There is room for more ideas, and an almost limitless list of emergency communications skills we can brush up on to serve our communities and partner agencies even better. The Spring SET is a great opportunity to practice them.

Are you ready for severe winter weather, as well as what may be a very energetic arctic storm season? Severe winds and heavy snowfall events are not uncommon in Western Pennsylvania. These very destructive forces of nature can affect your community, and you may be an important communications link to the outside world... IF you and your equipment survive the event. Before the storm strikes, make plans and preparations to keep yourself and your loved ones safe and secure, and protect your ability to get on the air after the storm has passed.

Also, if your county's ARES group was activated for a SKYWARN or other weather net or to assist with storm recovery, please send your report to your District Emergency Coordinator who will forward them to our Section Emergency Coordinator.

Stay safe: stay warm, and wear seasonable clothing when engaging in outdoor activities.

73 and Press ON!



Tom Abernethy W3TOM
ARRL Atlantic Division Director (Ret.)



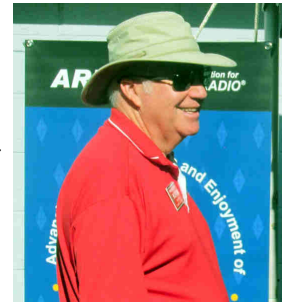
Passing of the Torch

Accokeek, MD, January 6th, 2023 – As we start a new year, I wanted to share the news of the passing of the torch.

At the close of business today, Friday, January 6th, 2023, I will resign from my office as the ARRL Director of the Atlantic Division. I genuinely thank you for all of the massive support that you have given me over these many years.

Bob Famiglio K3RF, our current Atlantic Division Vice Director will ascend to the position of Director at that time. I have thoroughly discussed the transition of leadership of the Atlantic Division with Bob and I am very pleased that the division will be in Bob's capable hands. As part of a cohesive division leadership team for many years, Bob is very well prepared and will do a GREAT job for us. Please give Bob all of your support.

It has been a distinguished honor and a pleasure to serve on the ARRL Board of Directors while representing all of the almost 13,000 ARRL members of the Atlantic Division. After having served for over 20 years in ARRL elected offices, it is my intention to remain very active in support of the ARRL and I wish everyone all the best as we head into the future of Amateur Radio and the ARRL.



Bob Famiglio K3RF
ARRL Atlantic Division Director



New Atlantic Division Vice Director

Media, PA, January 17th, 2023 – It is my pleasure to inform you that our new Vice Director for the ARRL Atlantic Division is Marty Pittinger KB3MXM.

Many of you may know Marty as the recent Section Manager for the Maryland/DC section. Marty was on the short list of our recently retired Director, Tom Abernethy W3TOM, and me, along with other names in our division when recommendations were needed to replace me as Vice Director, when Tom informed me he was going to step back, and I needed to step up. Thanks Tom for all your help. Marty has an impressive background, including US Navy submarine service and presently works in change management for FEMA in DC. Marty really has been there and done that, so to speak.

Now, as our first ARRL board meeting is scheduled this week in Connecticut, I look forward to serving you as your Director along with Marty as your Vice Director. In that regard, Tom has prepared me well over these last years I have been your Vice Director. Now, I promise to represent your interest in our League for the remainder of my term, along with the help of all the Section Managers for each of our 7 sections comprising the ARRL Atlantic Division. We have many challenges ahead, but great possibilities and new horizons in Amateur Radio as well. I look forward to working with all of you to meet that future. I will need your input to do that.

May I count on your help?



Paul NØVLR's
modified
G5RV
antenna, at 90
feet, broadside
east/west.

Photo courtesy
of and ©
Copyright
2023 Paul
Lusardi
NØVLR

W3TOM and K3RF photos courtesy
of Ron Notarius W3WN. KB3MXM
photo courtesy of the ARRL

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

Conflict of Interest?

A [Special Board of Directors Meeting](#) was held by the ARRL on November 21st and November 30th, 2022, the details of which are coming to light.

Stated purpose of the meeting involved "Consideration of Ethics & Elections Committee Recommendation". Excerpted from the meeting minutes:

Dr. Zygielbaum on behalf of the Ethics and Elections Committee moved:

Whereas the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee (E&E) has determined, in accordance with its authority and duties, the procedures defined by ARRL's By-Laws, and in consultation with ARRL Connecticut counsel

1. That Director Ria Jairam failed to make a full, transparent, and timely disclosure of a potential conflict of interest between herself and the ARRL
2. That Director Jairam has created an actual and ongoing conflict of interest through the creation and publication of a book which competes with one or more ARRL publications;

Whereas, despite several requests from E&E to Director Jairam, no information was provided by Director Jairam to mitigate E&E findings;

It is therefore resolved that Director Jairam be recused in accordance with Recusal Level 1 as defined by the ARRL By-Laws Section 46(d) (1). This recusal shall apply during any discussion and/or consideration of ARRL publications and training strategies, contents, marketing, and/or plans including discussions of actual or anticipated competing publications;

It is further resolved that Director Jairam is hereby notified that violation of the conditions of recusal or failure to meet the fiduciary obligations and requirements set forth in ARRL governing documents and in Connecticut law may cause this inquiry to be reopened.

Mr. Stratton brought a motion to move into the Committee of the Whole to discuss the consideration of Ethics & Elections Committee recommendation, seconded by Ms. Jairam. The motion FAILED with 10 No votes, 4 Aye votes and 1 Absent.

Director Jairam recused herself from the meeting at 1:25 PM and returned to the meeting at 2:25 PM. At the request of Director Zygielbaum, a roll call vote was taken on his original motion.

The motion PASSED, 11 Aye votes, 3 No votes, and 1 Absent

As this information came to light – [posted on the QRZ.COM forums](#) on January 13th, 2023 by Ron Holtz NN4RH, for one – questions began to be raised about what this was all about, and what the "real" story was. Especially in light of actions by previous Boards in recent years to censure Directors.

At issue? A Technician Study Guide that N2RJ was asked to write.

On January 14th, ARRL Hudson Division Director Ria Jairam N2RJ [posted a response](#), excerpts below:

I started writing the book in January.

Before the book was complete I asked E&E for written clearance. I obtained clearance to write the book, in writing. The chair of E&E even wished me best of luck in this endeavor. Rick Roderick, the President was given a copy of the letter from E&E giving me clearance. He was well aware of what I was doing.

In November after the book was written, the chair of E&E contacted me saying that there have been inquiries about my book. He didn't specify who was asking.

He set up a zoom meeting and asked questions like did I copy ARRL materials. I most certainly did not. He asked for and I gave him a copy of the contract with the publisher. They (E&E chair Zygielbaum KØAIZ) certainly seemed like they were fishing for a reason why I was in the wrong. The fact that they first inquired about plagiarism was telling. I don't even read the ARRL license books. They are too wordy and complicated.

After this he asked for another zoom meeting. I declined and stated that I wanted the questions in writing. He initially hesitated but gave me the questions in writing. At that point I asked where the inquiry was coming from and after asking this he stated that the

Continued on Page 10

Two Rivers ARC 51st Annual Hamfest

Sunday, April 16th, 2023, 8:00 AM—2:00 PM

Elizabeth Borough VFD Bingo Hall

101 South First Avenue, Elizabeth, PA 15037

Talk-in on 146.730 — Mobile Check In 146.52

Admission \$5

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



17th Annual Tri-State Radio Fest

Sunday, April 23rd, 2023, 8:30 AM— 4:00 PM

Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society

Center Stage Banquet Hall

1495 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca, PA 15061

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

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



SWODXA DX Dinner

Bill Salyers AJ8B, President, Southwest Ohio DX Association

Waynesville, OH, January 13th, 2023 — The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2023 Dayton Hamvention®. This, our 38th annual dinner, will be Friday, May 19th, 2023, at the University of Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.

We will have another fantastic array of great prizes at the Dinner and the Forum on Saturday!

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00.

Following the event, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages.

The Marriott is very accommodating to a group our size. The dining room is very large and located on the ground floor so there are no steps and there is ample free, on-site parking.

This dinner is always well attended by some of the most avid DXers in the world. Previous dinners had over 400 attendees! As in the past, there will be some major door prizes, and there is always great anticipation as to who will be named the "DXpedition of the Year®" as well as who will be inducted in to the CQ DX Hall of Fame.

The keynote speaker will be Adrian Ciuperca KO8SCA.

Tickets can be purchased on the SWODXA Events website at www.swodxaevents.org/purchase-tickets/

Program details and a list of the prizes will be on the website as they become available, and updates will be sent out regularly via Twitter.

DX News Briefs



With a 17 January departure, the 3Y0J Team was enroute to Bouvet. As of newsletter deadline, 31 January, various sources report that the team had reached the island and several team members had made landfall! The operation is expected to be QRF at any moment, from the second most-sought DXCC entity. The 3Y0J band plan can be found at <https://www.3y0j.no/bandplan>, more information at <https://www.3y0j.no/>

WA4DAN reports that "Work continues at a fast pace for the 20-29 March 2023 CY0S DXpedition. This week the team completed the fabrication of the 42-inch long anchor posts, each with galvanized eye bolts, for securing the antenna masts and the Spiderbeams. The Spiderbeams will be used for supporting the low band antennas. Four additional antenna masts will be erected for the three Hygain monoband Yagi's, as well as a Cushcraft A3WS for 12/17 meters. Sable is comprised entirely of sand so extra long supports are needed in the loose sand. Sable Island has no trees to block or dampen the strong winds the island experiences in the winter. Winds of 40 Knots or more are common in the winter. The team reports it has reached 60% of its fundraising goal."

TM0AAW will be QRV 10 – 24 February, to celebrate the 20th Antarctic Activity Week. More information at <http://www.qrz.com/db/TM20AAW> QSL via F8DVD

4L9M will be QRV 25 – 29 January. QSL via R3XA

HB0DX will be QRV 26 – 30 January. QSL via DL3DXX

MJ5E will be QRV 27 – 29 January. QSL via GU4YOX

4L2M will be QRV 28 – 29 January. QSL via EA7FTR

TO4A will be QRV 14 – 21 February. QSL via VE3DZ

EA8/MM0GOR will be QRV 18–19 February during the ARRL DX Contest CW. QSL via MM0GOR

KH6Q will be QRV 4 – 5 March during the ARRL DX Contest SSB. QSL via AH6NF.

KH0/DL2AH will be QRV 31 August – 14 September from Rota Island. QSL via DL2AH

KH2/DL2AH will be QRV 15 – 30 September. QSL via DL2AH

V73AH will be QRV 3 – 15 October (call subject to change). QSL via DL2AH

V63AH will be QRV 18 – 30 October. QSL via DL2AH

The Intrepid DX Group will be QRV as H40WA from Temotu Province 31 October – 14 November. More information at <https://intrepid-dx.com/temotu2023/>

QSL Routes

3V8SF via LX1NO	HS0ZBS via OE2REL	PA30SPARC via PE5ENJ
4J6D via DC9RI	II4TRN via IQ4FE	PA5DX via IZ8CLM
4L2M via EA7FTR	G1A via M0NKR	PI4CC via PC2A
4U1A via UA3DX	LY700VLN via LY4Q	PI4ZUT via PD0JMH
5H8HZ via TA1HZ	LZ319TS via LZ1KCP	R2RA via RN3RQ
5K6RM via HK6RM	M3E via G4CWH	R900DM via RC1C
8S80AA via SK5AA	M4J via G0DVJ	R900RO via RT1L
9A0BB via 9A3JB	M4T via M0BEW	RI41POL via RN3RQ
AP2TN via N4BAA	M7W via G3TBK	SB6A via SA6AOA
AT18BSG via VU2NRO	M7Z via G4BWP	SD0W via SM0FPR
CQ7WRTC via CT1ILT	M8A via M0HDF	SM2M via SM2LIY
DL100RDF via DO2PZ	N5W via K5GN	TM3CNR via F5PTA
DK70BAD via DK2BK	MC7DX via G4DIY	TM5CO via F5OIJ
DL22PEACE via DF8RJ	OL5GMA/P via OK3EQ	TM50FIBD via F5PTI
DL25KYF via DM2HEY	OP4W via ON4BWT	TM50KGI via F4HSQ
DL50DAH via DL2MDU	OP6Y via ON6YP	TM80NT via F8GGZ
DR100XRAY via DJ6SI	QQ5M via ON5ZO	TZ4AM via KX4R
E77DX via E73Y	QQ95RCL via ON3AR	UE23NY via RQ7L
EG1NMP via EB1CU	OT4A via ON4AEK	UE80ML via RQ7L
EG80NT via EA1RCI	OT6E via ON6QS	VK9DX via VK2DX
EI9E via EI2FG	OT9K/P via ON9KAT	YQ6A via YO6BHN
FR8UA via F4FTV	OV1CDX via OZ1GML	YS3CW via I2JIN
HG5D via HA8QZ	P40AA via DL4MM	ZF1A via K7ZO
HD8M via WB2REM	P49X via W0YK	ZV7W via PT72T
HI8CW via EB7DX		ZP4/PY52UE via DL7UE

Thanks to DL1SBF, KB8NW, NG3K, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX 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.

NCC Contest Dinner

Tim Duffy K3LR, North Coast Contesters

Sharon, PA, January 19th, 2023 — The North Coast Contesters are proud to announce: The 29th Annual Dayton Contest Dinner on Saturday night, May 20th, 2023 at 6:30 PM Cash bar opens at 5:30 PM at the Hope Hote.- Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio <https://www.hopehotel.com/>

2023 Contest Dinner tickets are on sale now exclusively via our web site.

HUGE thanks to Scott KA9FOX and QTH.com for designing, building, donating and running the Contest Dinner web site. <http://contestdinner.com>

Master of Ceremonies for the 2023 Dayton Contest Dinner is Contest Hall of Fame member and CQ WorldWide Contest Director, John Dorr K1AR.

Thanks to Teri K8MNJ for coordinating and organizing the 2023 Contest Dinner.

The 2023 Contest Hall of Fame inductees will be announced during the 2023 Dayton Contest Dinner.

Thanks to Icom America & DX Engineering - the MAIN prize is a Icom IC-7610

I am very excited that our KEYNOTE speaker is CW (over 60 wpm) lover and noted super youth tester, Bryant, KG5HVO

Conflict

Continued from Page 9

inquiry was from the CEO, David Minster.

The immediate question appears to be, if there is the appearance of a Conflict of Interest, and the person who might have the conflict requests a ruling from the Ethics Committee and receives notification of no conflict... in writing... how can that person then be accused of a Col – and not taking any steps to avoid one?

With all of the challenges that an organization like the ARRL currently has – to keep members, recruit new members, represent Amateur Radio to the FCC, Congress, and other parts of the Government, just to name a few – it is more than a little disappointing to see that certain Board members and League Executives are again working on playing internal politics and massaging egos. Not working for the benefit of Amateur Radio.

The ARRL Board of Directors, as a whole, is supposed to be better than this.

(And for the record, Atlantic Division Director Bob Famiglia K3RF was one of those AGAINST taking any action against N2RJ)

— Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor



WASH Classifieds

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

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Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law

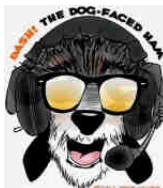
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The **WASHRag** Masthead is courtesy of Jeff Murray K1NSS, creator of DASHToons & Dash the Dog Faced Ham!!

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 31st, 2023

Novice	7,296
Technician	430,169
General	198,763
Advanced	36,973
Extra	162,279
Club	12,439
Total	847,919

All-Time High 01/30/2023 847,919

Last 90 Days:	New Amateurs	5,408
	Callsign Changes	1,531
	Class Changes	2,877
	No Longer Licensed	4,277
	All Updates (*)	22,661

(*) Includes renewals, address changes, etc.

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

Latest Region 3 Sequential Calls, Issued as of January 31st, 2023:

Group A	AC3JQ
Group B	KF3EU
Group C	(none available / all issued)
Group D	KC3VMM

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?

Satellite Constellations Could Interfere With Meteorological Spectrum

Debra Werner courtesy of SpaceNews

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, January 23rd, 2023 – Satellite megaconstellations could pose a threat to the spectrum that meteorologists are eager to protect from radio frequency interference.

At the American Meteorological Society annual meeting in Denver, meteorologists and spectrum experts expressed concern about proposals for SpaceX's second-generation Starlink broadband constellations and acknowledged that other proposed megaconstellations could create interference as well.

SpaceX has asked the U.S. Federal Communications Commission for a license to transmit signals from gateway stations to nearly 30,000 Starlink second-generation satellites in the 81 to 86 gigahertz band.

"The sheer number of potential gateway uplink stations around the world could contribute to adjacent band contamination and further due diligence would be needed," said David Lubar (WB3JEY), Aerospace Corp. senior project leader, said at the AMS meeting. "We do not know if their out-of-band emissions will be an area of concern."

Meteorologists pick up faint signals indicating humidity over land in the 86 to 92 gigahertz band, adjacent to the bands Starlink has proposed for uplinks.

It's not yet clear whether the Starlink uplinks would pose any danger to the meteorological observations, but weather forecasts rely on passive radiometers to pick up faint signals to identify water vapor, precipitation and atmospheric temperature in various spectral bands.

"These bands are established by the fundamental laws of physics," Tony McNally, principal scientist in the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts Research Department, said at the AMS meeting.

Complicating the matter is the fact that "the signals that we are looking for with our passive satellites are much smaller than the interference patterns created by some of the other uses of the spectrum," McNally added. "I would liken it to trying to gaze up at the stars at night when someone puts an incredibly bright flashlight in your eyes."

Meteorologists sought protection for unwanted emissions in the 81-86 gigahertz band at the 2019 World Radiocommunications Conference in Egypt. At the time, the International Telecommunications Union body of delegates declined to take up the matter.

As a result, the FCC has no current regulations that would limit SpaceX's use of the band.

"Any new international rules are unlikely to be enacted until after 2027," Lubar said.

This is just one example of the whack-a-mole predicament meteorologists face in trying to safeguard atmospheric measurements and weather-data relays from RF interference.

Another potential problem relates to the passive measurements meteorologists make from 50.2 to 50.4 gigahertz. Careful observation of that band reveals temperatures at various levels of the atmosphere. That data, paired with humidity measurements in the 180 to 184 gigahertz band, are key elements of weather forecasts.

Existing regulations protect the 50.2 to 50.4 gigahertz band from interference, but the signals are so weak they could be drowned out by noise emitted in adjacent bands.

"These systems in space are measuring extremely sensitive bits of energy," said Beau Backus, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory senior spectrum manager. "That makes it essential that this be in protected areas."

Tens of thousands of satellites are expected to launch in the next decade. Many satellite operators are proposing transmitting data to spacecraft in bands immediately above and below the 50.2 to 50.4 gigahertz band.

"The industry is moving faster than our scientific development," Michael Farrar, director of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction at National Weather Service, said at the AMS meeting. "This problem is going to accelerate. We should build a process that can rapidly respond to these scenarios."

The American Meteorological Society's RF Allocation Committee also is concerned about potential interference in the 23 to 24 gigahertz band, where the Advanced Technology Microwave Sounder on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Joint Polar Satellite System collects passive measurements of atmospheric water vapor. Those observations combined with data from other active and passive sensors on U.S. and international satellites help meteorologists predict storm tracks and rainfall

Continued on Page 14



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!



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



- First Prize: Yaesu FT-710 AESS Compact HF+6M 100W SDR Transceiver
Second Prize: FTM-6000R Dual Band Mobile Transceiver
Third Prize: Portable Generator

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:
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(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
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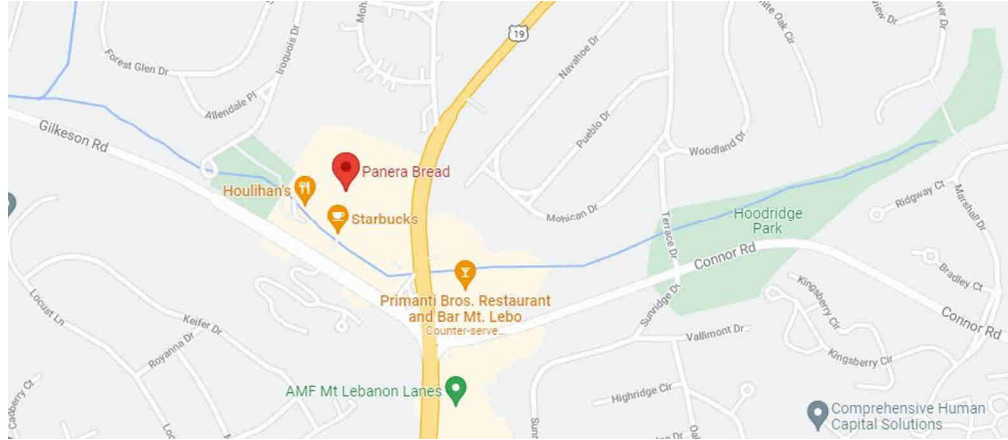
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Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



Arghh!
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



Directions to the February Meeting Site



The February 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

Satellites continued from Page 11

levels.

"Our systems are making very good use of combinations of channels," McNally said. "The problem with it is that if you then have a losing battle [to protect] one channel, you can effectively wipe out the value of channels which are not contaminated because you don't have this corroborating piece of evidence from the channel that you've lost. The quality of forecasts that we enjoy in our society are a result of this very sophisticated multichannel usage in data simulation systems."

Minutes continued from Page 4

- + Frank (N3FB) - WinEQF version expired at beginning of the year. You can set the date back to December 31st and get back in to retrieve your data.

Motion to adjourn by Carol (KB3GMN) with second by Bill (W3WH). Voted and carried.
Adjourned at 20:22 PM 1/05/2023



The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.
Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor
3395 Rosewood Drive
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



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