



WASHRAG™

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AUGUST 2010

N3SH
WA3SH
NP2SH/B

Wireless Association of South Hills

South Park Picnic!

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS Annual Family Picnic

Thursday, August 12th, 2010, 5:30—9:30 PM

Harbor Grove, South Park

- All club members and their family are invited.
- People will start gathering about 5:30 PM. Carol & Rich plan to light the grill & be cooking around 6:30.
- Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share as well as your own beverages and folding chairs.
- *We do not have an alcohol permit for the grove.*
- AB3ED will get the burgers, dogs and buns.
- Even if it's last minute, please reply to Bob AB3ED and let him know what you're planning to bring or see if we need anything else.

Directions:

Short Version: same place as last year.

Long Version:

From the Main Entrance of Corrigan Drive Near McDonald's and the GetGo:

Proceed on Corrigan Drive past the Skating Rink; go ½ way around the circle and continue to the traffic light.

Left onto Maple Springs Drive. Harbor is the first grove on your right, about 50 yards from Corrigan Drive.

Parking: There is a shared parking lot for Harbor and other groves adjacent to the grove itself, and there is a parking lot across Maple Springs Drive for overflow. Just be careful and look both ways before crossing, please!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the picnic this month!

— 73, Bob Timmins AB3ED
& Ron Notarius W3WN

2010 Pa QSO Party

The things of October — pumpkins, football, Halloween, and the Pa QSO Party — seem a long way off right now, but two months can go by real, real quick!

If you haven't already made some plans, now is the time to start.

We know that some of our "regulars" will be participating as usual. N3ZK will be his usual powerful self from Venango County, K3VX is planning to be QRV from Mercer, K3AIR is putting the finishing touches on a mobile installation, and Ye Editor will once again be hosting a Multi-Single effort right here from home in Allegheny County.

- ◆ Will N3ZK have his usual dominate signal?
- ◆ Will W3WN repeat his first ever 67 County Clean Sweep? And can he do it before Randy again?
- ◆ How will K3AIR do as a mobile with his new antenna setup?

These questions and more won't be answered for a while yet. But a fun time and a lot of bragging rights are on the line, as usual.

We'll have more information in the next two newsletters. Suffice to say, this is an operating event that's a real blast, and we'd like to see everyone who is interested participate somewhere and share in the fun — and it is fun. Being the best state QSO party in the country doesn't hurt, either.

More to come. Stay tuned!

— 73, Ron Notarius W3WN

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Next Meeting: August 12th, 2010

The next monthly meeting of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. will be Thursday, August 12th, 2010, at the Harbor Grove, South Park, Maple Springs Drive just off Corrigan Drive, 5:30—9:30 (??) PM.

This will be the club's annual picnic. Topics will include meeting locations, Foxhunting & preparations for the Pa QSO Party & other fall activities.

Talk-in on the 146.955(-) N3SH/R and 443.650(+) N3FB/R Repeaters (131.8 PL). All members, guests and interested parties invited!

FCC To Allow Government Drills Without a Waiver As of September 3rd

In July, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O) that amended Part 97.113, stating that government entities sponsoring disaster and emergency drills will no longer need to apply for a waiver to hold these drills.

Additionally, employees who wish to participate in non-government-sponsored drills and exercises may do so under certain conditions.

In the August 4th edition of the Federal Register, the FCC issued a summary of the R&O entitled Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Amateur Radio Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills, noting that the effective date of these new rules will be September 3rd, 2010.

Vanity Call Sign Fees Decrease August 17th

On July 19th, the FCC announced via the Federal Register that the cost of a 10 year Amateur Radio vanity call sign will decrease 10 cents, from \$13.40 to \$13.30. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making August 17th, 2010, the first day the new fee is in effect.

In Fiscal Year 2010, the FCC anticipates granting 14,800 vanity call signs, bringing in \$196,840 from the vanity call sign program.

Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM), seeking to lower the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. The notice in the July 19th, 2010 edition of the Federal Register — entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2010; Final Rule" — includes all FCC regulatory fees; these fees are expected to recover a total of \$336,712,213 during FY2010, encompassing all the Services the FCC regulates.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term.

WASH 2010 OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Ron Notarius W3WN
VP / Secretary	Bob Timmins AB3ED
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV

AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH / WA3SH Trustee	Steve Lane W3SRL
NP2SH Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH QSL Manager	Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL
Webmaster	Randy George N3ZK
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Kevin Smith N3HKQ
WASHFest 2011 Committee	Kevin Smith N3HKQ, Chairman Carol Danko KB3GMN

Activities & Operating Events
Ways & Means
Field Day 2011 Coordinators

Bob Timmins AB3ED
Carol Danko KB3GMN
Kevin Smith N3HKQ
Larry Comden K3VX

CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3SH / R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
Mt. Lebanon	W3SRL / 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 Sunday Night, 9:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters. All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

THE LEGAL STUFF

"**The WASHRag™**" (formerly "**The Mariner™**") is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**

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

As always, special thanks to the owners of both the N3SH-W3SRL Repeater System 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. Special thanks also to Glen Roberts KE7FD of The Internet Guild for his assistance in providing space on-line for our website for back issues of "**The WASHRag™**" which can be found at www.washrag.info

WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

Next WASH VE Test October 18th

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Monday, October 18th, 2010, 6:30 PM**, at the **Washington County Building**, 100 Beau Street Room 103, Washington, PA. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL:

Telephone (724) 746-9235 or E-Mail: n3zel@comcast.net

Please bring the following to your test session:

- Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)
- Pen / Pencil / Calculator
- Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)
- Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)
- Check or Cash in the amount of **\$15.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: Thursday, January 20th, 2011
 Thursday, April 21st, 2011
 Thursday, July 21st, 2011
 Thursday, October 20th, 2011
 (tentative)

A group of six Swiss hams have set a new record for the longest contact (based on GPS coordinates) made on 10 GHz using SSB — 2696 km (1675 miles): from Ilha do Sal in the Cape Verde islands to Portugal on July 10th using a 20 W transmitter — with a 90 cm parabolic reflector with 35 dB gain.

The original record of 2070 km (1286 miles) — set in 2000 — was broken by the Swiss group earlier that same day, with a contact between Ilha do Sal and Tangier, Morocco at a distance of 2200 km (1367 miles).

There was a ARRL VEC Exam Session on July 15th, 2010, in Room 103, at the Washington County Building in Washington, PA.

We had three candidates, two achieving successful upgrades:

- ◆ Douglas Philips KB3TOA, passed the Extra Class exam.
- ◆ Joseph Orzolek N8EVY, passed the General Class exam.

CONGRATULATIONS, GENTLEMEN!!

Many thanks to our volunteer examiners:

Bob KB3IN, Carl AB3FQ, Bud N3TIR, and Ed N3ZNI.

—73 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL
 WASH VE Team Liason

WASHNet 2010 NCS Schedule

08/01 - Harold K3HCR	10/17 - Kevin N3HKQ
08/08 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF	10/24 - Dave N3IDH
08/15 - Bob AB3ED	10/31 - Frank N3FB
08/22 - Frank N3FB	11/07 - Dave N3DFK
08/29 - Dave N3IDH	11/14 - Bill W3WH
09/05 - Kevin N3HKQ	11/21 - Harold K3HCR
09/12 - Dave N3DFK	11/28 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF
09/19 - Bill W3WH	12/05 - Bob AB3ED
09/26 - Harold K3HCR	12/12 - Kevin N3HKQ
10/03 - Carol KB3GMN or Richie N3SBF	12/19 - Dave N3IDH
10/10 - Bob AB3ED	12/26 - Frank N3FB
	1/2/2011 - Dave N3DFK

July 31st marked the half-way point of the summer for those who enjoy the seasons slumber... namely our kids who are dreading the start of school a month away! But it was also a bright, cool morning, and just right for the largest gathering of **the WASH Breakfast Gang** at **The Beach House** in Finleyville. This month's turn-out included N3DFK, WA4ONC, AD3Q, W9UK, W3WH, K3HCR, K3VX, WB4GCS and W3WN. Hot coffee and a good breakfast flowed around topics like APRS zealots, PVGP temperatures and lunch, Field Day, Harold's trip to Vail CO, medical tests, where's N3BPB this month?, antenna rotors, "everybody knows Jerry," how easily can one get to places like CYØ, more rotors, Ben Rothlisberger Blvd., programming in Assembler on a 486/33 computer (ouch!), rebuilding a Step IR, mortgage refinancing, remote controlling an ICOM IC-706 Mark 2, and a whole lot more.

Our next Saturday breakfast meeting comes the week before Labor Day. So why not come celebrate the coming fall with us at **The Beach House**, Library Road, Finleyville, just south of Trax Farm, on Saturday, August 28th. See you there!

Future Meeting Sites: There's no good way to put this, but it looks like the hard work and efforts of Tom Tully AB3KA to get us relocated to the Peters Township VFW haven't worked out yet. We have reached out to a few additional club members to see if we can find an alternate site to use in the near future. The bottom line is that almost anyplace we go will want money in one form or another. We can continue to try and hold dinner meetings... but not everyone wants to spend even a small amount for dinner, and we can't expect a restaurant to host us without us buying something in return. Many libraries, churches, and community rooms require a deposit and a rental fee, and some can be hefty. We all work hard at **WASHFest** to earn a few shekels for the club, and it would be a real shame if most or all of that money has to be committed to renting a meeting room.

Meanwhile, it's tough to try and find a different gathering spot each month, and bouncing around makes it tougher for members to come to the meeting, and potential new members to find us. Compounding this was the loss of our primary communications repeater, 146.955, for months due to it's forced relocation and technical problems.

That being said... the repeater is back. I know that a lot of people's communications habits shifted during the time the machine was down, and we hope that our members will start shifting back, even with the different footprint the repeater now has. Meanwhile, we ask your patience just a little longer while we try to find a new home... it's not been easy on anyone. But we will find something, even if it means I have to buy 50 folding chairs and hold the meeting on my deck in the summer and my living room in the winter.

— 73, Ron W3WN

PA QSO 2010: We mention on the front page that planning has started by many of the operators (in and out of the club) for this year's Pa QSO Party. If you are not a member of the Pa QSO Reflector, you should look into it. Full details are on the contest's web site at <http://www.nittany-arc.net/pagso.html>.

If you are a "regular," be aware that there have been some updates to the rules for 2010. The two biggest changes involve CW point scoring and an adjustment of the Canadian multipliers. More details in upcoming newsletters.

VE Test Change: Please note that our next quarterly VE test session will again be held in Washington, PA. Note that this October's test session will take place on a **Monday**, not a Thursday. Sometimes when it comes to scheduling, you take what you can get!

Fox Hunt: We haven't had any news on when the joint Fox Hunt with WACOM will be held, but we're hoping that that information will be available at the picnic.

There's **a lot coming up in coming weeks**, including the Skyview, Uniontown, and BCARA hamfests, the BSA Campaganza, loads of contests, and more. Check out the calendar on Page 5 and other information scattered throughout the newsletter!

Join WASH or Renew your Membership for 2010 Today! Membership Application on Page 13 !!

Minutes, June 10th Meeting

Bob Timmons AB3ED, Vice President/Secretary, **WASH**

Dinner meeting held at American Legion Post 760, Bethel Park

Ron W3WN called the meeting to order at approximately 19:10 hours. There were 9 members and guests in attendance.

A moment of silence was observed for recent silent keys and other deserving persons.

A motion was made by Kevin N3HKQ to accept the minutes of the April 2010 meeting as published in the May newsletter, seconded by Larry K3VX. The motion was voted on and passed.

Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): No Report. Contact Mark if any checks are needed.

Secretary (AB3ED): No quorum for May on-the-air meeting.

VE Report (N3ZEL): No report. VE's will be needed for the July testing session, which is being held in Washington PA.

Repeaters (N3RNX, W3SRL & N3FB): N3FB repeater working. N3SH repeater needs additional work, and is currently off the air

Net Report (N3HKQ): Schedule remains in place through the end of the year.

Ways and Means (KB3GMN): No report.

Public Service (N3IDH): No report.

Contests (K3VX): ARRL June VHF Contest this coming weekend. SSB more active than FM on voice modes. 6 M, 2M, and 70 cm to be operated by K3VX.

Newsletter (W3WN): June issue published.

President's Report (W3WN): Breezeshooter's Hamfest and club picnic affected by morning weather, but once it cleared up, a good time was had by all.

Field Day (N3HKQ & K3VX): N3SH will have CW, SSB, Digital, Satellite and GOTA stations. Plan is to operate in Class 4A, depending on operators. Phone operators are requested to use headphones. Tower Trailer will be used. 4 tents for operating positions etc. will be set up.

Old Business: None

New Business: A short discussion was held regarding our continuing attempt to find a new permanent home for the club, thanks again to Tom AB3KA for obtaining the Bethel Park VFW Post 760 for our use this month. At present, we have been unable to find a location that doesn't require a substantial rental fee.

Motion made by Ron W3LE to have another dinner meeting for July. Second by Kevin N3HKQ. Motion passed. Ron will make arrangements for the restaurant.

The August meeting will be the annual Summer Picnic in South Park. Bob AB3ED will obtain a pavilion for our use.

Good of the Order: None

Motion to Adjourn: Made by Ron W3LE, seconded by Kevin N3HKQ. The motion was voted on and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:25.

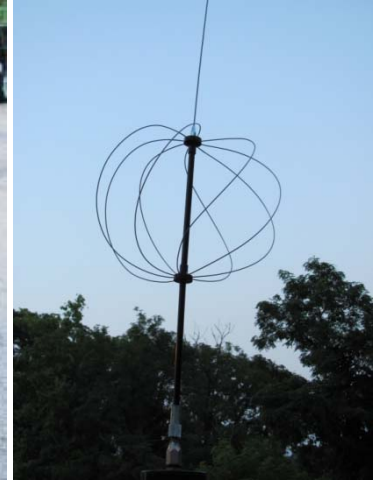
Another look at Mike K3AIR's mobile setup. The close-ups above don't give justice to the entire installation.

Just imagine seeing this beauty driving down the road!

(Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2010 Ron Notarius W3WN)



WASH Spotlight: K3AIR/M



Mike K3AIR has been working for months on his new mobile HF antenna for his jeep. Here are some close-ups of the finished antenna. It's on a custom mount and uses military-grade components.

Mike anticipates that he will be QRV Mobile in this year's Pa QSO Party! (Photo courtesy of & ©Copyright 2010 Ron Notarius W3WN)

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](mailto:newsletter@n3sh.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 **The Beach House**, on Route 88 in Fiinleyville, just south of Trax Farms and adjacent to Mineral Beach. Start time is about 8 AM until ????? Monitor 146.955 & 443.650 for talk-in or any last minute changes.

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

Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

AB3ED	KB3ORR	N3ZEL	WASH FL	WASH VI	Silent Keys
AB3EN	KB3TOA	N3ZK	KA3UPY/MM	NP2JF	
AB3KA	KC4WTT	N3ZNI	W4ZE		
AC4KU	KE7FD	NU3S	WASH GA		
AE3DL	N2QIV	W3LE	K3OL		K3EED
K3AIR	N3AWF	W3RWS	KB3IJX		(George)
K3HCR	N3BPB	W3VFA	WASH NC		KA3NMG
K3LGM	N3CZZ	W3WH	N3RNX		KB3ENX
K3VX	N3DFK	W3WN	WASH NE		KB3FNM
K3WJL	N3FB	W4ZE	NØPEU		KB3FQT
KA3ANU	N3HKQ	WA4ONC	WASH OH		N3FZ
KA3RXY	N3IDH	WB4GCS	N8DPW		N3KEH
KA3TWI	N3PN		WASH TN		N3OBD
KB3DCO	N3QMV	Jane Wagner	KE3XB		N3SKR
KB3ERQ	N3RDV		N3YPB		N3SRC
KB3GMN	N3RHT		WASH TX		N3XFE
KB3GMP	N3SBF		K3LGM		W3ZLK
KB3GMU	N3TIR		Jane Wagner		

Through June 29TH, 2010

List compiled by

Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

2010 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

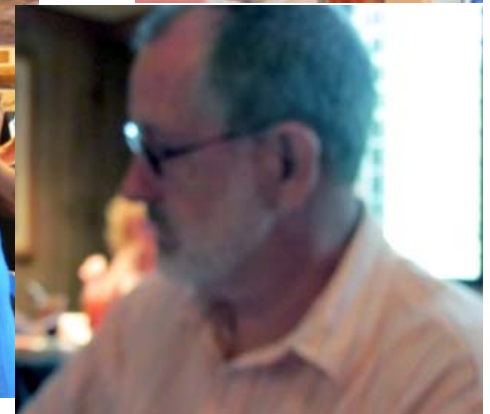
Meeting Topics & Other Significant Club Events — Subject to Change

August 12 th	WASH Picnic Meeting	Harbor Grove, South Park
August 22 nd	Skyview RS Hamfest	http://www.skyviewradio.net
August 22 nd	WPa ARES Meeting	During the Skyview Hamfest
August 22 nd	ARRL Rookie Contest RTTY	http://www.arrl.org
September 4 th	Uniontown ARC Gabfest	
September 9 th	WASH Meeting	Location & Agenda To Be Announced
September 12 th	BCARA Swapfest	http://www.w3udx.org
September 24 th —26 th	BSA Campaganza 2010	http://www.campaganza.org
October 2 nd & 3 rd	California QSO Party	
October 3 rd	Monessen ARC MARCFest	http://www.w3csl.com
October 9 th & 10 th	Pennsylvania QSO Party	http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso
October 14 th	WASH Meeting	Location & Agenda To Be Announced
October 21 st	WASH VEC Exam	Pre-register via n3zel@comcast.net
October 30 th & 31 st	CQ WW DX Contest SSB	
November 6 th —7 th	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	http://www.arrl.org
November 11 th	WASH Meeting	Location & Agenda To Be Announced
November 20 th —21 st	ARRL Sweepstakes CW	http://www.arrl.org
November 27 th —28 th	CQ WW DX Contest CW	
December 3 rd —5 th	ARRL 160 M Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 11 th —12 th	ARRL 10 M Contest	http://www.arrl.org
December 19 th	ARRL Rookie Contest CW	http://www.arrl.org
December 31 st	ARRL Straight Key Night	http://www.arrl.org

There will be a WPa ARES meeting at the Section Convention held at the SKYVIEW Swap & Shop, Sunday, August 22nd. The meeting will begin at 1:00 PM in the Skyview meeting room. The agenda includes: PEMA Agenda, SET Drill Plans, Training Committee, Repeater Linking Committee, and comments by SM John Rogers N3MSE, Division Director Bill Edgar N3LLR and ARRL Affiliated Club/Mentor Program Manager, Fusaro W3IZ — AB3ER

"Seen" at the July Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and ©Copyright 2010 Ron Notarius W3WN



The three antenna towers of powerhouse AM broadcaster WWVA 1170 kHz were toppled on Wednesday, August 4th due to high winds from a storm. The station was able to return to the air on August 6th on a temporary antenna. Full story available at <http://www.wwva.com/cc-common/mainheadlines2.html?feed=119921&article=7439986>. Additional pictures showing the damage at http://www.wwva.com/cc-common/gallery/display.html?album_id=244870

The Fox Hunt Attenuator Project

Larry Comden K3VX

One obvious occurrence during the practice fox hunt run was that the hidden transmitter signal was so strong. When we came near the transmitter the directional antennas were useless as the signal strength pushed the S meter to the top. The answer is to have an attenuator. But what type?

The ARRL Antenna book and many other sources show attenuators built from slide switches and resistors in well shielded boxes. Those attenuators have multiple steps with a range from 1db to 81db for careful measurements. We need a more brute force approach. The attenuator I built has three steps: 20, 40 and 60db. 20db cuts the incoming signal by 10, 40db cuts it by 100 and 60db cuts the signal by 1000.

It uses 3 DPDT slide switches, 3-270 ohm and 6-68 ohm ¼ watt resistors. These resistance values maintain the 50 ohm input and output impedance. The box can be built from copper flashing or double sided printed circuit board. I used the board and soldered the cut pieces together.

The pictures show the not-so-neat results. I think copper foil or copper shielding tape could be used to seal the gaps and make the box RF tight. I tested the attenuator with an HF signal generator and 'scope. It works properly. But the proof will happen at 2 M, with a directional antenna and the Fox.

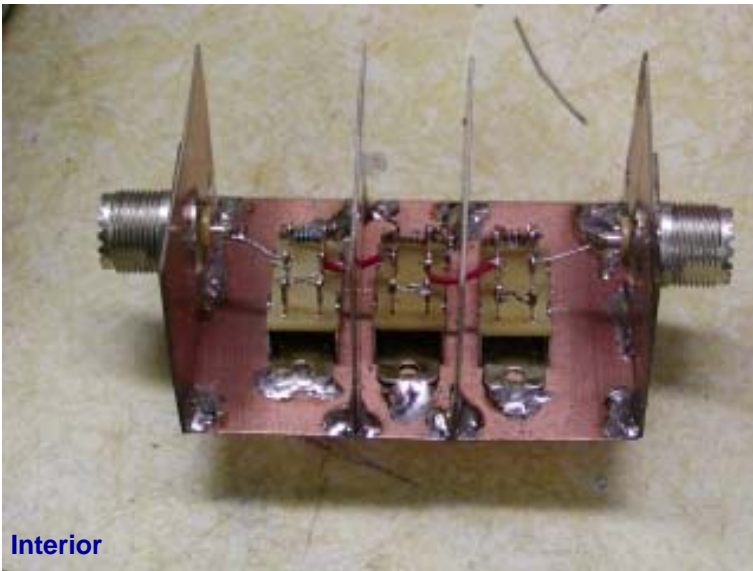
If you want to build an attenuator like this, contact me for the printed circuit board, the source of parts list and the schematic.



Input



Output



Interior



Switches

When the Dayton Hamvention® opens May 20th, 2011 for its 60th consecutive year, its theme — **Global Friendship** — will reflect an important part of ham radio, said 2011 Hamvention General Chairman Michael Kalter W8CI: "The theme emphasizes how the technology continues to bond Amateur Radio operators from all over the world."

Kalter, who served as Assistant General Chairman for the 2010 Hamvention, said that part of the success of the 2010 event was attributable to making key decisions earlier in the planning, a practice he plans to continue. "Hamvention would not be possible without the hundreds of volunteers who give their time each year," he said. "I want to thank all the volunteers for their past support, especially those who have already committed to working in 2011."

According to Hamvention Media Relations Chairman Henry Ruminski W8HJR, a number of key vendors have already committed to returning to Hamvention: The Dayton/Montgomery County Convention and Visitors Bureau estimates that Hamvention produces an economic impact of about \$4 million for Montgomery County and up to \$10 million regionally."

The 2011 Dayton Hamvention runs May 20th, 21st and 22nd at the HARA Arena, just outside Dayton in Trotwood, Ohio.

The English Radio Club

Roy Prince AB6ND courtesy of <http://www.eham.net>

Once upon a time, 1946 to be exact, about fifteen British Radio Hams would congregate on Ten Meters which was the first band released after WW2. Some were pre war hams and some were newcomers interested in radio.

Sunday mornings would find us discussing the usual things hams discussed in those days and I remember the excitement of finding ways to put war surplus radio gear to good use. Only two of them had a car and only one had a telephone so our Sunday mornings were never at a loss for conversation. We must have bored a hole in Ten Meters. It was dead for DX at the time.

One ham was able to get the use of the Boy Scout's hut where we started meeting Monday evenings. It enabled us to get together and show little treasures we'd found on the surplus market. You'd be surprised how much radio stuff one could transport to the meetings on a bicycle. All went well and each week we would contribute some cash to the Boy Scouts for the use of their hut.

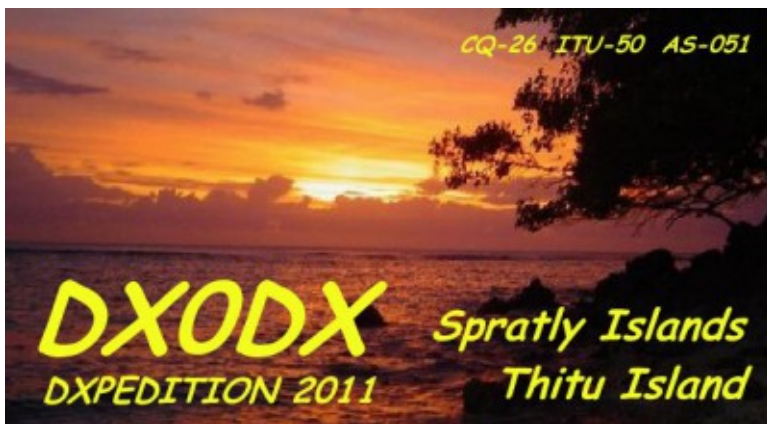
About 3 months later one ham who shall be nameless (although he became a Silent Key thirty years ago but I still remember his call sign) started organizing it in to a club. So before we knew what happened we had elections for Treasurer, Secretary, and Club President.

That's when things went down hill. Now, before we could get down to our interest, - ham radio, we had to endure such things as "The Treasurers Report" (a few shillings we gave to the Boy Scouts !) but it was read in a solemn manner. Next came the "Minutes of the last meeting," Such things as, Fred reported his success in ridding his 807 transmitter of a parasitic, etc. Next would come the club President, who, being the club President felt he had to make a speech.

By this time we had over 20 people each Monday including five young keen short wave listeners who would gather in a corner learning Morse, much to the annoyance of the Club President as they would continue and not listen to his speech.

Gradually the attendance declined and we resumed our Sunday morning getting together on the air but this time on 1.7 mc/s. We were limited to 10 w input on that band but it covered the whole town and outer districts. The club lasted a few more months before being disbanded. One of the last to give up was the club President, who probably made a speech for the last meeting.

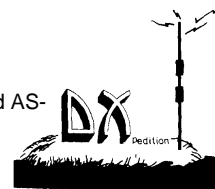
This was a very small group at a different time and different country but I haven't been to a radio club since. To each his own.



ON4TA will be on a private visit The Gambia between 21 October & 11 November, 2010 as **C56FR**. While there, he will be QRV on 17m + 20m SSB with simple wire antennas. He also plans to experiment with Yagi's on 6 m, 2 m & 70 cm. QSL via ON4TA.



DX News Briefs



Look for **DXØDX** from the Spratly Islands (Thitu Island AS-051) 6 - 24 January 2011. 30 operators are currently "lined up" and are using the trip as a personal incentive to "lose some body weight!" as they prepare. There will be four dedicated operating camps, and the team plans to run 160 - 2 meters on SSB, CW & RTTY. QSL via N200 More information online at <http://www.dx0dx.net/> — VK3PC

<http://www.bonaire2010.com/> is the site for the upcoming DXpedition to PJ4 this October 10 -24. The group plans to be QRV once the island's political (and presumably DXCC) status changes. Team leader NØVD indicates that the team plans to operate from six locations, including the relay facility for Radio Netherlands. Check the web site for more information. — NØVD

VR2/F4BKV has been active "QRP Style" primarily on 15 & 20 meter SSB & Digi. On 13 & 14 August he plans to be QRV from Coloane Island (AS-075), Macao, as **XX9TKV**, concentrating on 30 & 17 meter Digi modes. Vincent uploads "daily" to Logbook of the World — F4BKV

SQ9UM will be QRV as **9H3UM** 8 - 22 September from several Maltese islands. QSL via SQ9UM — DX World

E2E is a newly authorized HF only call from Thailand for the RAST club station HSØAC. QSL via HSØAC — HSØZCW

ZS8M is QRT 8 to 19 August while the resupply ship for Marion Island is docked and unloading. There have been indications that he is active to North America most Saturday & Sunday mornings on 40 SSB around 0600 Z. IZ8EPY has created a "new & improved" website for Pierre that includes an online log search <http://www.iz8epy.it/html/zs8m.html> — IZ8EPY

2 Japanese amateurs will be QRV from Palau (OC-009) 12 - 22 September, 80 - 6, SSB CW & RTTY. QSL **T88TB** via JH3QFL, **T88KH** via JH3KEA

ZS1LF departs for Gough Island in September as the team leader and radio technician. He will be QRV as **ZD9GI** for approximately a year. If you need Gough, contact him at zd9gi@yahoo.co.uk. QSL via ZS1A — ZS1LF

TS7TI will be QRV from Plane Island (AF-091) and Kuriat Island (AF-092) 13 - 23 September. They will be QRV all bands & modes 160 - 6 meters. — IK7JWX

6V7X will be QRV the last two weeks of September including the CQ WW RTTY contest. He will be QRV on 30 meters ONLY outside of the contest, 10 - 80 during the contest. <http://6v7x.iimdo.com/> QSL via IK2FIL — IK2FIL

QSL Routes

3D2ØCR via DJ8NK — RN3RQ	H44MS via DI2GAC — W5TFW
4O3A via UA3DX — RN3RQ	J5V via JA1PBV — JA1HGY
5K4T via HK3JJH — SV1DPI	JY4NE via K1IRV — MMØBQN
5N7M via OM3CGN — W5TFW	OJØB via OH2BH — W2IRT
5V7PM via DL9MBI — RN3RQ	R1FJM via RX3MM — RN3RQ
7P8BA via ZS6BQI — LU2DKN	S79GM via GM4FDM — GM4FDM
8Q7NA via RA3NAN — LU2DKN	SN3A via SP3GEM — K6GEP
9H3OG via DL5XAT — JA1HGY	TO2R via F5UOW — JA1HGY
9H3TX via DL5XAT — JA1HGY	TX3A via HA7RY — W4DN
A61BK via NI5DX — LU2DKN	TZ6EI via W7XU — LU2DKN
C4N via W3HNC — W8HGH	V21ZG via DL7AFS — K6GEP
CO2OJ via K8SIX — K8SIX	V31PT via K8PT — K8PT
CP6XE via IK6SNR — RN3RQ	V44KA via W5TFW — W5TFW
D44TXO via DJ2VO — W4DN	VP2MCC via G4FAL - JA1HGY
D44TXI via DH2KI — W4DN	VQ9LA via NØQM — KRØO
EF8M via UA3DX — RN3RQ	WHØDX via JM1LJS — JQ2GYU
EL2DX via K8SJP — RN3RQ	XU7ACY via W2EN — N2ZN
EP3PK via IK2DUW — KRØO	Y19PSE via N6NKT — W2GI
ER4DX via RA4LW — RN3RQ	VK9XX via DL1RTL — RN3RQ
EY8MM via K1BV — MMØBQN	ZK3YA via W7YAQ — LU2DKN

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News & DX Chat Reflectors, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, Diamond DX Club News, ICPO Bulletin, & ARRL DX Bulletin for our DX News information. Thanks also to Bill Moore NC1L / ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR / The Daily DX for confirmations & additional information.



WASH Classifieds

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Antenna Zoning or PRB-1 Issues?

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

Murrin, Taylor, Flach, Gallagher & May
 110 East Diamond Street, Butler PA 16001
 Phone: 724-282-3141 lazaroff@murrinlaw.com

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mlord@aerotek.com

Feel free to mention the **WASHRag** when you call him!

Has Roadway found the tower yet?

FCC News

ARRL Web Extra courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

On July 13, the ARRL filed its comments in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in ET Docket No. 10-98. The NPRM was issued in response to an ARRL Petition for Rule Making — RM-11353 — filed in October 2006. In its 2006 Petition, the ARRL had sought modest improvements in operating privileges in the so-called "60 meter" band, which presently consists of five channels on which General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees may use upper sideband (USB) emission and no more than 50 W effective radiated power (ERP) relative to a dipole antenna. Amateur use of these five channels is on a secondary basis and must not cause harmful interference to authorized stations in the mobile and fixed services. US amateurs were first authorized to operate on 60 meters in 2003, thanks to agreement by the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), that with such limits, amateur use would be compatible with federal government requirements.



The ARRL's 2006 Petition had requested the substitution of a different channel for one that is generally occupied and not available for amateur use, an increase in authorized ERP from 50 to 100 W, as well as authorization for amateurs to use Morse code and certain data modes in addition to USB. It also suggested that Voice-Operated Transmit (VOX) operation be required in order to ensure that a federal agency can interrupt an amateur contact quickly should the need arise. The ARRL sought and received IRAC's endorsement of the proposed changes.

In its NPRM, the FCC proposed substituting 5358.5 kHz for 5368.0 kHz, as well as the requested power increase. The FCC also proposed allowing Morse telegraphy (emission designator 150HA1A), PSK31 (emission designator 60H0J2B) and PACTOR-III (emission designator 2K80J2D), but with the use of Morse and PSK31 limited to the center frequency of each channel. In its comments in response, the ARRL supported the substitute frequency and power increase; however, the ARRL requested that Morse and PSK31 be permitted within the channel limits, rather than confined to the center frequency of each channel, in order to permit multiple communications to occur simultaneously within the same channel. The ARRL also requested that the rules specify the emission designators 60H0J2B and 2K80J2D, but not the specific data modes of PSK31 and PACTOR-III, in order to provide for future flexibility.

In response to the FCC's observation that stipulating VOX operation might actually increase the potential for interference in a high noise environment such as an emergency operations center, the ARRL concurred. With regard to the FCC's proposal that "Amateur operators using data emissions must exercise care to limit the length of transmissions so as to avoid causing harmful interference to Federal stations," the ARRL observed that "The Commission has reached the proper balance of regulatory flexibility and channel preclusion avoidance." Finally, other than to say that it should not be a requirement, the ARRL took no position in response to the FCC's solicitation — on behalf of the NTIA — of comments as to whether amateurs should be encouraged to add a sound card generated Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) capability to their stations.

"Amateurs have proven, through interference-free operation on these channels, that compatible sharing of the channels is possible," the ARRL noted in its comments. "The proposed minor changes retain sufficient safeguards to protect the primary and important Federal Government operations that make use of these channels from time to time. ARRL firmly commits to the preparation and widespread dissemination of a 'best practice' document for amateur use of these channels going forward with the replacement channel, modified power limit and more flexible emission types permitted."

The ARRL also pledged to develop a workable band plan for occupancy of these channels "to ensure against usurpation by any one emission type and to continue the excellent track record of interference avoidance to Federal operations."

Saying that it hopes that consideration can be given to a domestic secondary allocation of a contiguous band of at least 50 kHz in the vicinity of the existing channels, the ARRL pointed out that a "continuous band rather than discrete channels is more normal for the Amateur Service, as it affords the opportunity for dynamic frequency selection according to band occupancy." But in the meantime, the ARRL said that increased flexibility in the use of the five channels allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis "will greatly facilitate emergency communications preparedness and will permit a substantial degree of additional flexibility in the use of the channels without any increase in interference potential."

Midwest City, OK Agrees : RFI Ordinance Does Not Apply to Hams

Acting on behalf of an ARRL member in Midwest City, Oklahoma — who had been sent a notice by the town asserting that he was in violation of a town ordinance regarding radio frequency interference (RFI) — the ARRL notified Midwest City officials that only the FCC is empowered to regulate such matters. Two weeks after ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, sent the letter to town officials, Midwest City Assistant City Attorney Randal D. Homburg sent an e-mail to the ham to let him know “the previously delivered notice is hereby rescinded [sic]. There will be no citations issued and thus, the issue is moot.” Midwest City is in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

Calling the ordinance “null and void,” General Counsel Imlay said the notice stated the ham “was in violation of the ordinance as the result of radio frequency interference appearing in a neighbor/complainant’s home electronic equipment. The licensed radio amateur was ordered to remedy the problem in one day, under penalty of a sanction assessed against the real property of the radio amateur.”

The ordinance in question — Midwest City Ordinance 27-3(9) — reads: “In addition to other public nuisances declared by other sections of this Code or law, the following [is] hereby declared to be [a] public nuisance: Operating or using any electrical apparatus or machine which materially and unduly interferes with radio or television reception by others.” Section 27 of Midwest City’s Ordinances deals with nuisances.

“As previously indicated, it is the city’s position that the ordinance cited in the notice, MCO 27-3(a)(9), does not apply to RF transmission devices licensed by the FCC as to their operation and use pursuant to the license,” Homburg’s letter read. “In the event there are future complaints from any citizen about a neighbor’s use of these licensed devices, the city will direct the complaining party to file their complaints with the FCC.”

Homburg went on to say that there is no issue with the language of the ordinance: “This council adopted the ordinance over eleven (11+) years ago, pursuant to the procedures for adoption such ordinance provided for under the city’s charter. Your issue with the ordinance has been with the application of the cited section to the use of your licensed transmitting device. That is no longer an issue. This e-mail is the official position of the city. There should be no need for further inquiry from any other city official.”

— [ARRL Web Extra](#) courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

A “Super Cheap” EMT 5 Band Vertical Antenna

Marcos Antonio Veloz Burgos HI8MVW courtesy of www.eham.net

Some time back I wrote a short article on my then PVC PIPETENNA, and the reaction to it was satisfying to me.

I took down that little antenna and came up with something more practical and effective, a quarter-wave vertical made of EMT tubing (available the world over) for the 20 meter band that works also on 15 meters without an antenna tuner, and has an acceptable SWR on 10, 12 and 17 meters using a tuner.

Go ahead you puritans and call me crazy, but I am using high quality RG-6 cable with this antenna and it works fine, a 1:1 on 14 MHz and 1.25:1 on 21 MHz...jojo.

Radio Shack carries an adapter F to PL259. Am having fun with this antenna and if you fellows just follow the plan attached, you will

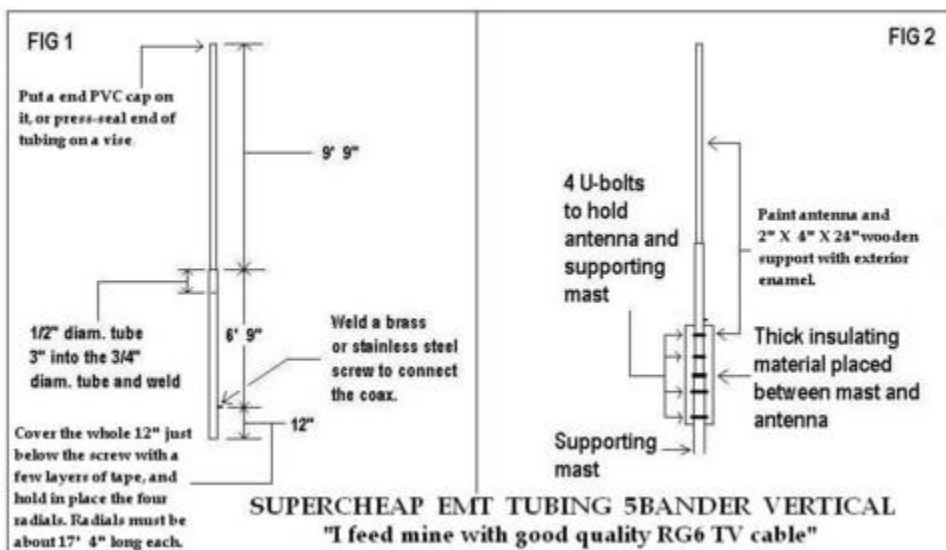
be part on my fun world after you make contacts with Moscow, Central Africa or Buenos Aires.

As with any antenna, this one must be mounted clear of any structure or objects that may cause interference.

Any problems? My e-mail is at QRZ.COM.

From sunny Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic,

73 Marcos - HI8MVW





WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

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City, State: _____

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Email Address: _____

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Just fill out the form below, include a check or money order made out to WASH/ARRL, and return all to the club treasurer or mail to:

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Campaganza 2010 Wants You!



60 Amateur Radio operators are needed to help out at Campaganza 2010, a unique area wide celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. It is a joint venture of 10 local Boy Scout Councils from around Western Pennsylvania. It will be held at Moraine State Park South Shore September 24th — 26th 2010. Approximately 10,000 plus Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers are anticipated to participate.

There are seven main sub-camps planned, each of which will need 2 or 3 volunteer amateur operators. Volunteers are also needed at the main gate, staff areas, program area, waterfront, rifle shooting area, McConnell Mills, transportation and parking areas, Shadows, Medical stations, and Net Control trailer.

Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators are needed for the entire weekend, and for Saturday only.

A 2 meter HT is needed for communications.

Amateurs interested in volunteering can contact one of the following:

Clyde Jones N3TXG
832 West Old 422
Butler, PA 16001
(724) 865-2307

Stephen Zelenko N3ZX
4736 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
(412) 519-3323
stephen@crex.net

Moraine Trails Council
Attn: John Whitford
830 Morton Avenue Ext.
Butler, PA 16001
(724) 287-6791

Brad Parola
bradparola@scouting.org

More information on the event can be found at <http://www.campaganza.org/index.asp>

The WASHRag

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Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor
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