

The WACOM HAM

Editor: Ron Notarius WN3VAW
412-572-6723 wn3vaw@njdx.org

WACOM Officers

President: Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL
724-746-9235 n3zel@fyi.net

Vice President: Joe Caldwell N3XE
724-663-5708 jec24@po.cwru.edu

Treasurer: Ed Oelschlager N3ZNI
724-746-9235 N3ZNI@arrl.net

Secretary: Susan Robishaw KB3JHQ

Board of Directors

Elmer "Bud" Plants K3TIR

John Moninger, WA3VKC 724-228-5787
JAM@pulsenet.com

Damien Zanolli KB3JHM

Repeater

Sam Mayberry, W3CYO 724-222-0367
zammy@sgj.net

REMINDER

The next WACOM Board of Directors meeting is **Thursday, January 29th** at **7 PM** at the WACOM Club room. All are welcome!

JOIN WACOM ON THE AIR

2 meter net: Every Tuesday at 8:30 PM on the W3CYO repeaters 145.49 and 443.3 MHz

10 meter net: Every Tuesday at 9:00 PM at 28.340 MHz

Washington Amateur Communications, Inc.
1696 East Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301



The WACOM HAM

JANUARY 2004



Serving
Washington
County



Washington Amateur Communications, Inc.
1696 East Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301

DX News & Notes

Australians started off the new year with an increase in the **VK 75 meter phone band**. They can now use 3776 - 3800 kHz

World traveler **UA4WHX** has returned home from a 7+ month journey around the Pacific, activating a large assortment of IOTA and DXCC entities. QSL via his new address: Vladimir M. Bykov, 426000 Izhevsk, p.o. box 2040, Russia. If you have any questions, you can contact him at ua4whx@mail.ru, or call: + 7 3412 25 88 29, between 1700 and 1900 UTC. You can also QSL via his US call AC4LN direct or via the bureau, but that route will take much longer

A new **UA2 QSL** Bureau is now in operation. The address is: UA2 QSL Bureau, ROSTO Technical School, ul.Ozyornaya 31, Kaliningrad, 236029, Russia. QSL Cards for UA2 stations should now be sent only to this address, not via Box 88 Moscow. That includes these prefixes: **UA2, RA2, RK2, RU2, RV2, RX2**, plus **R2MWO** (permanent call sign for the Museum of the World Ocean) and contest station **RW2F**

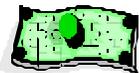
XF4IH will be QRV from Socorro Island for two weeks starting March 3rd. The 8 operators, all XE's, will be active on all bands and modes including satellites and V/UHF. QSL route to be announced

29 operators will be QRV as **3B9C** starting March 20th. They will be fully operational, 15 transmitters, all bands and modes, through April 12th and QRT by April 14th. More info at www.fsdxa.com/3b9c

PLEASE SEND YOUR 2004 DUES AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

Annual WACOM membership dues are only \$15. A couple pays only \$22.50.

Send your check payable to WACOM to:
Ed Oeschlager, N3ZNI,
Washington Amateur
Communications Inc.
1696 East Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301



Check out the
WACOM website
at www.wacomarc.org

Upcoming Events

- January 10 — WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
- January 15 — WASH VE Test, Peters Township Library, McMurray Road, Peters Township
- January 18 — WPA Repeater Council Meeting
- February 5, 6, 7 & 8 — W3C Special Event Station, Washington Sportsman's Show, Washington Mall. W3C will be set up in front of the Radio Shack store. Operators needed, for more information please contact Ed N3ZNI. All welcome to stop by, visit, and operate!
- February 23 — Breezeshooters Groundwave CW
- February 29 — WASHFest 2004, Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall, Route 88 Castle Shannon
- March 14 — 2 Rivers ARC Hamfest, The Boston Spectrum, 6001 Smithfield Street, Boston PA

WACOM e-Mail Reflector

A new e-mail reflector has been set up for WACOM members.

What's a reflector? It's a mailing list which lets you send one e-mail message to the list address — wa3com@yahoogroups.com — and have it "reflect" to all members of the list. Unlike a personal mailing list, you don't need to know all of the e-mail addresses for every single member of the list. Only group members can send e-mail to other members of the reflector — no spam allowed!

E-mail reflectors are being used by many area Amateur Radio clubs as a means to facilitate news and information at a moments notice. Yahoo! Groups (formerly eGroups) provides this service for free to anyone who wants to avail themselves of their list server. Yahoo! also provides calendar, file storage, & additional services.

To join the WACOM reflector, simply send a blank e-mail to:

wa3com-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

FYI Networks

For Your Information needs



Make FYI
Your Internet Service Provider
CONTACT FYI AT 1-877-FYI-4NET
ON THE WEB AT FYI.NET

MENTION THAT YOU ARE A WACOM MEMBER FOR A SPECIAL PRICE OF \$18 / MONTH.

NEXT WACOM MEETING:

Thursday
January 8, 2003
Monthly Meeting
7:30 PM

South Strabane #1 VFD
1696 East Maiden Street
Washington, PA 15301
All Welcome!

No Pittsburgh Marathon 2004

News reports at the end of December indicate that efforts to organize a city-independent Pittsburgh Marathon for 2004 have fallen short for a large variety of reasons. Although it may still be possible for a 2004 Marathon to take place, this is now considered highly unlikely, and organizers hope to be able to bring the event back in 2005. The marathon has arguably been one of the largest ARES events in south western PA for most of the past 25 years, and it is truly a shame that an event like this, along with the annual Great Race in September, was sacrificed by the city administration as a political move to highlight Pittsburgh's budget problems (even though the actual dollar cost to the city for these two events, if any, was a pittance.) It's also worth noting that this summer's Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, another major event that is served by about 100 Amateur Radio volunteers, appears to be unaffected by the city's problems and will continue as planned. The PVGP was able to stave off a City takeover by a previous administration years ago,

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The editor welcomes articles and timely information of interest to members and the general amateur community.

4th Annual WASH 2M Contest!

This January will mark the Fourth Annual WASH 2 Meter Contest. There's already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting!

Remember: In response to input from our participants, and in view of the growing popularity of radios like the IC-706 and FT-100, the contest will NOT only be an FM contest but also open to SSB, and CW! (Digital? Ah, wait 'till next year!)

Everyone who participated in it the last three years had a blast, and we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

There may be some additional "tweaking" of the rules between now and January, so keep an eye on this column in the next few newsletters, and we'll look forward to seeing you on the 10th!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 10th, 2002 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 11th 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

Objectives:

- To make as many contacts as possible
- To have fun!

Band, Mode & Frequencies: The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band

FM: FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM frequencies are all standard 2 Meter simplex frequencies, every **15 kHz**, from **146.535 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.405 to 147.585 MHz**. The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520 & simplex frequencies below that are **not** to be used.

CW: 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)

SSB: 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

Power Limit: Maximum 50 watts output. No external amplifiers.

Exchange: Callsign, contact number, ZIP Code, and whether or not you are a Member of WASH or a Club Station. For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient - do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations will use their 6 digit postal code.

Examples

"N3ZCG from N3ZEL, please copy Number 3, 15347, Member."

"K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801, Non-Member"

"W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 15137, Club Station"

Contacts: Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station **once** per mode, and **once** per ZIP Code - Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations.

Remember hilltops work best!

Disqualification: Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels 146.52 MHz and below .
- Intentional interference to non-contesters, established nets, and QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators
- The contest committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty, especially if the committee is unable to obtain log information for verification.

Scoring: Each Contact, non WASH Member: 1 point
WASH Member: 2 points
(*) Club Stations: 3 Points

Multipliers: Number of different ZIP Codes
Power: Stations running 10 watts or less: 2
Stations running over 10 watts: 1

Final Score: Total Points x Locations x Power

(*) "**Club Stations**" for the purposes of the contest are those calls assigned by the FCC or Industry Canada to **bona-fide** Amateur Radio Clubs. They include **N3SH, WA3SH, NP2SH, WA3COM, W3KWH, N3GC, W3PIE, K3CR, W3YA, K3HKK, W3YI, W3VC, W3PGH, W3EXW, K3MJW, NY3EC, W1AW**, etc. The call **MUST** be assigned as a Club Call to be eligible..

After the Contest: Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets can be downloaded from the WASH web site, www.washarc.org, after December 1st.

Submit Log Sheets: Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI
60 Carl Avenue B2
Eighty Four, PA 15330-9235

Enclose a SASE #10 for return of results.

Entry Deadline: February 7th, 2004

Each log submitted with SASE on or before the deadline will receive a raffle ticket to WASHFest 2004 on February 29th!

What is a Fan Dipole?

Alan Applegate KØBG courtesy of www.eham.net

There seems to be a difference of opinion on what is or isn't a fan dipole. It is the intention of this article to set a base line for the description and thus not mislead a newcomer to our hobby.

The single element dipole is by far the cheapest and easiest antenna to erect. Since it can be made from a variety of materials it remains the most ubiquitous of sky hooks. It consists of two 1/4 wave length sections fed in the center with coax and configured in an inverted V, flat V; in straight, bent or dog legged fashion; and one which can be strung horizontally or vertically. The use of a balun is optional, but recommended. The center support and end insulators can be made from just about any non-conducting material you can name. Literally thousands of articles have been written about them, and just about anything you need to know about building one can be found in the ARRL Antenna handbook.

Just for the record, a multi-band, open wire (or ladder) line center fed, single element dipole antenna is more correctly called a doublet as the antenna is only a resonant dipole on one frequency. A manner of semantics perhaps, but like I said we need to differentiate between the various types.

As the old cliché goes, there is no free lunch and the bane of a dipole is limited bandwidth especially on the lower bands. Over the years a lot of experimenting has been done to increase the bandwidth of a dipole. As evidenced by the proliferation of antenna couplers (incorrectly called antenna tuners) in recent years, most increased bandwidth schemes add to the complexity in terms of supports, tuning, and real estate. This didn't (and doesn't) stop a lot of folks from giving it a try.

An article appeared in Radio News just after WWII describing an 80-meter "Fan Dipole" which had multiple legs, each of a different length. The antenna was fed with home brewed ladder line, which was connected to an adjustable link tank on the transmitter end. Bandwidth was touted to be the whole band and this is certainly true considering the broad range of matching capability an adjustable link tank has.

Circa 1948 brought several more articles describing other techniques to increase bandwidth on 160, 80, and 40, the "in" bands in those days. One used five separate dipoles all cut to the same length and spread apart in a fan, and another with five dipoles all cut to slightly different lengths and arranged in a fan. Both delivered on their boast of increased bandwidth at the expense of complexity.

Latter-day "Fan Dipoles" have not stayed the course with respect to single-band operation. Raytheon for example makes one which is essentially a log periodical set of dipoles and intended to cover a large part of the HF spectrum. Because the elements are arranged in an hour glass shape, its resemblance to a "Fan" is a hard to fathom and a misnomer.

So if we intend to use the term "Fan" to describe an enhanced

Another College Station Bites The Dust: K4UCF Evicted

Following fall semester final exams, the University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL removed the UCF Amateur Radio Club's K4UCF's towers and antennae on the Math & Physics Building (formerly the Engineering building) on December 15th, 2003. The procedure took about 4 hours at a cost of about \$6000 to the University Provost. The club and the station had been located in the building for over 30 years.

According to the UCF ARC website, <http://ucf.edu/~wb4tcw> "From visual inspection and asking the contractors removing the towers, no damage was found on UCFARC's equipment which could be classified as lightning damage." The administration had cited the alleged and apparently non-existent lightning damage as the primary reason for removing the antennas and evicting the club from their office space. (Allegations have been made that the real reason for their removal was esthetics: the University President disliked seeing them from his window and wanted them removed.)

The University of Central Florida no longer has an Amateur Radio Station, however, the club is still active. For more details on their situation visit their website.

— information courtesy of Eric Heard KU4TF
and Mike Potaczala KC4NUS

(Fan Dipole Continued from page 3)

bandwidth dipole, then it's use to describe a multi-band dipole is erroneous and misleading. For the record, a multi-band dipole is one that has two or more dipoles cut for different bands and fed from just one coax. The fact that it may be arranged in a fanned out pattern doesn't change the basic premise.

Whether you agree with the basic premise or not, describing the same antenna by several different and misleading names is confusing for all. Let's all endeavor to keep the aforementioned in perspective and skip the misleading nomenclature, which is all too prevalent in our hobby.

FCC News

Courtesy of the ARRL Web Page

NEWINGTON, CT, December 12th, 2003 - The FCC on December 14 will unveil a new on-line filing interface for its Universal Licensing System (ULS), which includes the Amateur Service. In order to implement the changes, the ULS on-line filing system will be down from 12 AM EST Saturday, December 13, until 10 AM EST Sunday, December 14. Among other features, the ULS's new look will include updated, easier-to-read on-screen forms that guide users through filing processes and simplify such routine tasks as applying for license renewal, address change or vanity call sign. Screens also will offer context-sensitive help and a list of "common questions" for a given application process. The FCC says the introduction of its new system, called "ULS License Manager," is part of an ongoing ULS overhaul.

"As part of a continuing effort to improve the Universal Licensing System, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) announces the end of phase one of a multi-phased process to extensively redesign ULS online filing," the FCC said in a news release. ULS License Manager also will incorporate a new filing "wizard" for anyone using FCC Form 605 for any purpose. Form 605 is the primary ULS application form that amateurs and four other WTB-administered services use. The FCC says there has been no change to the data applicants will have to supply for Form 605.

Perhaps more important to amateurs is that ULS License Manager will be compatible with most, if not all, major Web browsers and computer platforms and no longer will require downloading *Java* and *Java Script* files. Screens also will be compliant with Web screen-to-voice reader software.

An FCC staffer involved with implementing ULS License Manager notes that all features may not be in place when the system debuts.

The ULS will require all filers to log into the system using an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and Commission Registration System (CORES) password. "Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs) will no longer be accepted for login purposes," the FCC said.

There's more information on FRN/CORES on the FCC Web site. Those who already have registered a Taxpayer Identification Number with the FCC - a Social Security number for most individuals - do not have to register again.

Along with the on-line ULS changes comes a new paper version of FCC Form 605, dated December 2003. The new paper form contains few differences from the one most new amateur applicants now complete. One change is that it no longer requests a date of birth and will only accept an FRN and CORES password. There are no Amateur Service-related changes to any Form 605 schedules.

The FCC says Amateur Service applicants may continue to use the March 2001 (or later) edition of Form 605, although it encourages use of the new version. The new December 2003 edition of FCC Form 605 now is available via the FCC Web site or through the FCC's Right Fax service, 202-418-0177.

To assist with any ULS issues after the changeover, the Technical Support Hotline staff will be available Sunday, December 14, from 10 AM until 6 PM EST. Normal hours are weekdays (except holidays)

Buyer Beware Online!

Brian Davenport K4FAU courtesy of www.eham.net

I have been working as an electronic repair technician for the last 23 years.

The point of this write up is not how to repair electronic apparatus. I personally think that trying to repair anything made in the last 5 years is sort of like looking under the hood of my 2003 Chevy truck - I have trouble finding the dipstick let alone repair any component that makes the engine work! Half of the items that are sent to us is because someone has seen some modification on the web they thought they could do to increase their power or bandwidth and WHAM! - there goes the circuit board. The point of this article is to help people from getting ripped off when buying ham equipment off the net. I have seen a sharp increase in the amount of people bringing in junk they purchase on eBay in order to get it to work.

This is not an eBay slamming article. eBay in and of itself is great.

Unfortunately I don't get to meet the happy satisfied eBay customers. I meet the people that purchased items that turns out to be a brick you just paid \$500 for that's worth nothing.

Have we gotten ripped off -- yep just last week -- bought a HT that the seller gave a great write up on -- problem is that he failed to mention that the squelch is stuck open and the volume is stuck at one level -- fortunately the cost for us to fix it internally was a few cents but the cost to an outsider would have included shipping, technical help and parts cost coming to \$62.77 — the bottom line is if the guy on the other end of the Internet ad is a liar then you're going to get screwed, but if he is only stretching the truth then maybe the following can help.

A couple of rules though:

If the item is too good to be true then it probably is.

If the seller or buyer is out of country - avoid - too many costs, scams.

Check the seller's feedback. If the seller has sold less than 10 items then be on alert. The majority of scams are from people with less than 10 feedbacks. They sell junk, get negative feedback, change name and do again.

If the buyer has negative feedback against him on any item - drop both the seller and the buyer of the negative feedback item in question a note asking them to explain what happened.

(eBay Continued on page 5)

from 8 AM until 6 PM Eastern Time. Technical Support is available via the FCC Web site or telephone 877-480-3201 (TTY 202-414-1255).

ULS licensing support and forms information is available weekdays (except holidays) from 8 AM until 5:30 PM Eastern Time via e-mail or telephone 888-CALLFCC (225-5322), Option 2 (users also may call 717-338-2888).

Once the new system is up and running, the FCC says, all licenses and applications in the ULS database will be converted to the new ULS License Manager filing environment.

More Groups Against BPL

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 30, 2003- Two organizations have filed comments with the FCC that augment previously expressed worries about potential interference from and to Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. Picking up the "grave concerns" the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) expressed over BPL December 4, the nonprofit Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association (DERA) is calling on the FCC to require impartial BPL field testing as well as additional public comment and full and open public hearings.

"DERA concludes that serious interference to and disruption of critical emergency communications systems in several licensed services throughout North America would almost certainly result from BPL implementation as currently proposed," DERA's comments said. Endorsing FEMA's earlier remarks, DERA said proposed BPL systems don't just pose a risk of interference, they've already been shown to "actually cause harmful interference to licensed radio services."

The Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation (AMRAD) filed additional test data with the FCC to support its preliminary comments suggesting that BPL systems are susceptible to interference from even modest Amateur Radio HF signals. AMRAD said its data demonstrate that amateur operation in the test neighborhood could cause many homes to lose their Internet service. "At least an area out to a radius of 0.51 miles from the transmitting station could have their Internet connection interrupted," AMRAD said. "Closer-in homes would almost certainly have their Internet service interrupted."

AMRAD conducted an RF susceptibility experiment at the Potomac BPL test site in early November. The site is part of a Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) system test that uses a mid-1960s vintage home with unshielded electrical wiring. The test neighborhood has overhead power lines.

AMRAD found that at a distance of just over one-half mile, data transfer ceased in the face of a 100-W signal on 3980 kHz from a mobile transmitter. Adjacent to the test property, AMRAD said data transfer ceased in all but one instance at a transmitter power of just 4 W in the BPL operating band of from 4 to 21 MHz.

The ARRL hopes to complete an independent BPL engineering study by early 2004. Its will explore how BPL might affect HF and low -VHF amateur operation as well as how Amateur Radio operation could affect BPL systems.

Meanwhile, a Virginia community prepares to go forward with plans to deploy a city-owned BPL network, while a California city has decided against BPL for its own municipal broadband system.

The city council in Lompoc, California, a community of some 42,000, opted December 16 to go with a wireless and fiber optic cable-based broadband network, rejecting BPL and other possible options. ARRL Santa Barbara Section Technical Coordinator Paul Andreasen, K1JAN, said he and other members of the local Amateur Radio community lobbied hard to

ensure that Lompoc would not pick BPL.

After contacting Lompoc Mayor Dick DeWesse to spell out the downside of BPL, Andreasen said he subsequently received assurances from City Manager Gary Keefe that Lompoc's consulting engineers would not entertain technology that would radiate in the HF/low -VHF spectrum. The report from McKibben Consulting noted the "ongoing controversy" about BPL, a form of power line telecommunications (PLT), and cited a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) study earlier this year that, McKibben said, "made it clear that there is very good reason to be concerned about RF interference." The consultant concluded that BPL's advantages failed to outweigh its disadvantages.

Lompoc's so-called "Wireless Plus Base Model" system would cost upward of \$27 million, starting with the deployment of a wireless broadband network followed up with running fiber optic connections to every home and business in the city. Andreasen says at least one other locality has indicated it will follow Lompoc's lead.

The Washington, DC, suburb of Manassas, Virginia, meanwhile, indicates it will go ahead with plans to inaugurate BPL service in four subdivisions - a total of some 2100 homes - in January. Manassas, with a population of nearly 35,000, hopes to be the first community in the US to deploy BPL citywide. It will charge residents \$26.95 a month for the service, a cost only slightly higher than typical dial-up Internet service and substantially less than the cost of cable modem or DSL service.

Amateurs in the Manassas vicinity have pointed to FEMA's "grave concerns" that BPL could interfere with HF communications systems critical to national security and public safety. They've also cited Japan's banning of BPL deployment in the wake of Amateur Radio pressure as well as the BBC study, where the BPL system used the same Main.net technology Manassas plans to employ.

City officials seem unimpressed. "Nobody has proven it's a problem," City Councilman Ulysses X. White told *Potomac News*. "If it is a problem, then we re-evaluate it. There's no reason not to go forward with it." The same article quotes City Utilities Director Allen Todd, W4VUB, as saying that the city will monitor the system and rectify any problems that crop up. [No field testing for RF interference took place during the system's pilot program.](#)

Potomac News also quoted ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, saying that the risk of disrupting worldwide and emergency communications for BPL is shortsighted and, as FEMA has noted, carries potential national security implications.

— Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

CT Version 10 Now Available!

Version 10 of K1EA's famed contest software program has been released. It supports the NAQP and NA Sprint and includes conversion utilities for databases stored in Version 9. It can be downloaded for free from www.k1ea.com.

— Ken Wolf K1EA courtesy of Jim Reisert AD1C

(eBay Continued from page 4)

People that get screwed usually like to share this info with others.

Search the item for past sells on eBay - then check what the seller has purchased and sold in the past. If he is now selling the same item he only purchased a week ago - the odds are it does not work and he is just trying to pass on his non-functional junk.

Look at the type of items he has sold in the past. Does he mainly sell ham equipment or comic books? If a person's feedback shows he has never sold or bought any type of ham equipment, then why all of a sudden does he have a transceiver for sale?

Be careful about getting into a bidding war. Know your limits. We saw where the same person Yada4yada (0) had bid on the last 3 items that a guy had put on eBay yet never won any of them. The seller was simply signing in under another name (Yada4Yada) and running the price up in a bidding war. So be leery against bidding against people with (0) or even (1) or (2) after their name and especially (-1).

Is the picture a real picture or a picture downloaded from a website? If it's a real picture is the equipment turned on and operational? Can/will he send more pictures to you?

Over half of the folks that we deal with that got ripped off never asked any questions. They just bid, paid, and got taken.

Here is a list of basic questions that no seller should mind answering if he is legitimate. Once again, this is to help you get the truth from an honest person - if the person is simply a liar, then he will lie about the answers.

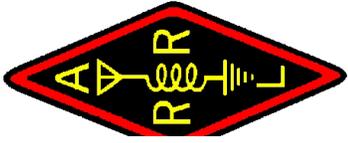
- Why are you selling this?
- Are you the original owner?
- Has this equipment been modified? If so by who?
- When was the last time that it was turned on and operated?
- When was the last time it was serviced, by who?
- Is there anything at all wrong with this that you know of?
- Do all the switches, lamps and buttons work?

One thing we did notice that in most of these things that people put on eBay that turned out to be junk, the write up included some of the following:

- "Selling for a friend"
- "From an estate sale"
- "I don't know anything about these radios but..."
- "I don't have a license so I can't tell you if it works/transmits properly"
- "Not sure if there have been any modifications done"
- "Last time it was used it was operating perfectly"
- "Sold AS-IS" (My favorite disclaimer to watch out for.)
- "I've been told that it works great"

Bottom line is that you would like to call and ask about the equipment in person, check that the equipment has been on air recently, and that the seller knows about the equipment and can answer questions.

Now in our NINTH big year!



WASHfest 2004

The South Hills Hamfest

Sponsored by the Wireless Association of South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

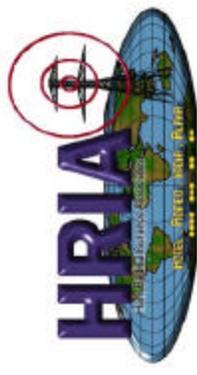
Sunday, February 29th, 2003

8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall

3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA

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



(800) 545-8881

**Breakfast & Lunch provided
by Jack's Catering
of Peters Township**

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

MAIN PRIZE DRAWING at 2 PM—You've Got to play to WIN!

- 1st Prize:** ICOM IC-706 MkIIIG
- 2nd Prize:** MFJ Antenna Analyzer
- 3rd Prize:** LDG Automatic Antenna Tuner

Additional Hourly Door Prizes!

Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, or 3 for \$5.00 — All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For reservations, or information, Contact:

Steve Lane, W3SRL at (412) 341-1043 or Bill Hill, W3WH at (724) 746-1776

E-mail us directly at washarc@yahoo.com Check out our website too! www.washarc.org

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 \$10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSN. OF SOUTH HILLS
897 Lovington Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15216-1725

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