

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

# The WACOM HAM

APRIL 2004



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"Our Intrepid Instructor"  
Bob KB3IN  
Photo courtesy of and ©2004  
Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

## 2004 Spring Tech Class

Results of the WACOM test session are posted. We had six class members, and despite various illnesses taking their toll on all, it was a very good class. We also had two walk-ins for testing as well.

Here are the new amateurs:

Tech: Wayne D. Hasley, KB3KXQ, Eighty Four  
Terry L. Stevens, KB3KXL, Washington,  
Linda Sue S. Boehmer, KB3KXN, Clairton  
Cristal L. Beatty, KB3KXM, Washington

Cristal's husband Kevin and son James attended our Tech class last year. She is the third ham in the family....so far.

These last two gentlemen were not members of the class. They are our 'walk-ins'....

Tech + HF: Larry L. Day, KB3KXO, Prosperity

Tech: Daniel C. Gallagher KB3KXP,

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS!



Next WACOM Monthly Meeting:  
Thursday, April 1st, 2004, 7:30 PM

Next WACOM Board of Directors Meeting:  
Thursday, April 29th, 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: South Strabane #1 VFD, 1696 East Maiden Street, Washington PA 15301

**All Welcome!**

(Continued from page 1)

Canonsburg

Larry was previously licensed as a Novice, but that license had expired. With that proof and passing his Tech exam Larry is now a Tech + HF ham.

Daniel has recently moved into the area from out of state.

Our VEs were Ed, N3ZNI, yours truly, and Jim Keys, AA3JK who

kindly joined us. Thanks guys, you were needed and appreciated.

—73, Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL, President, WACOM



Cristal KB3KXM



Terry KB3KXL



Eileen & Linda Sue KB3KXN

All photos this page are courtesy of and ©2004 Jacqué Gosselin N3ZEL

The Western Pa Section, S-1 Club Presidents and EC Conference will be April 10, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Delmont Fire Dept.

There will be Doughnuts and coffee in the morning, with a Buffet Lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM.

The Cost will be \$10 to cover food and drink.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? All Club Presidents and Vice-Presidents or Representative from the clubs, ALL County ECs and Assistant ECs.

This meeting will require RSVP so we know how much food.

— 73, Frank Rossi N3FLR DEC S-1

Wayne KB3KXQ & Mark





# "Seen"

## WACOM Members Spotted at WASHFest 2004



All photos courtesy of and  
©Copyright 2004 Hank  
Marzina KB3FNM

## 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 on  
28.340 MHz

### FYI Networks

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SPECIAL PRICE OF \$18 / MONTH.*

## *Upcoming Events*

- April 1 — WACOM Meeting
- April 10 — WPA S-1 Club Presidents & EC Conference, Delmont VFD
- April 15 — WASH VE Exam, Peters Twp. Library
- April 18 — WPA Repeater Council Meeting, 1:30 PM South Strabane #1 VFD, Washington (tentative)
- April 29 — WACOM Board of Directors Meeting
- May 8 & 9 — First Annual Mid-Atlantic QSO Party
- May 14, 15 & 16 — Dayton HamVention, Dayton OH
- May 29 & 30 — CQ Worldwide Prefix Contest CW
- June 6 — Breezeshooters Hamfest, Butler PA
- June 12 & 13 — ARRL June VHF Contest
- June 26 & 27 — ARRL Field Day
- July 10, 11 — *\*new\** Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, BeaveRun Motor Sports Complex, Wampum PA
- July 11 — North Hills ARC Hamfest
- July 17, 18 — Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, Schenley Park
- July 18 — WPA Repeater Council Meeting, TBA
- August 29 — Skyview RS Hamfest
- September 12 — Butler Co ARA Hamfest
- October 9 & 10 — Pennsylvania QSO Party

# Rules, 1st Annual Mid-Atlantic QSO Party

**OBJECT:** To contact as many stations in the Mid-Atlantic States of Delaware, Maryland-DC, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia in as many Counties within these States as possible.

**DATE:** May 8-9, 2004.

**CONTEST PERIOD:** 1600 UTC Saturday until 2400 UTC Sunday. (12 noon EST Saturday until 8 P.M. EST Sunday)

**BANDS:** All MF/HF bands (except WARC bands) and 50, 144, 222, and 440 MHz. No cross-mode/cross-band/net/repeater contacts permitted.

**MODES:** SSB/FM and CW only.

**CATEGORIES:** SINGLE OPERATOR, (one operator only) - QRP (up to 5W output power), STANDARD POWER (5W – 200W output power). MULTI-OPERATOR (*includes Clubs*), MOBILE (One operator call used. Operators in same vehicle may NOT work each other for contest credit.) Maximum output power is limited to 200 watts for all categories, except QRP.

**CONTEST EXCHANGE:** Stations Within Mid-Atlantic States - Send serial number plus QTH group. QTH group consists of 5 characters where the first 3 are the county and the last 2 are the state. Stations Outside Mid-Atlantic States – Send an exchange consisting of a serial number and the QTH group composed of either the 2 character U.S. state identifier, or the 2 or 3-character Canadian province/territory identifier, as applicable. DX Stations will send a serial number and 'DX' as their location identifier. Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, are DX. **ALL STATIONS MUST USE the QTH Group shown in the MAQP list or the QSO will be deleted and considered a BUSTED QSO.**

**WHO WORKS WHO?:** Stations in Mid-Atlantic states work any station, anywhere, for points. Stations outside the Mid-Atlantic states region work only stations in Mid-Atlantic states for points.

Mobile stations can be worked again, for points **and multipliers**, as they activate new Counties. **Multiplier logging/scoring must meet the criteria stated within the MULTIPLIERS section of the Rules.** A mobile station is defined as one that can be operated while in motion, is fully independent of external sources of power, and does not utilize any antennas not attached to the vehicle.

Portable/'rover' stations are considered fixed stations for scoring purposes.

Serial numbers shall start with 1 and increase sequentially in increments of 1. No penalty will be assessed for non-sequential or duplicated serial numbers. Mobile stations are allowed to maintain a continuous sequence of serial numbers for all contacts, or may begin with serial number 001 for each separate County they activate.

**QSO POINTS:** Phone - one point, CW - two points, Mobile - three points, regardless of mode. All stations worked count for contact points. The 3-points for working a mobile station are credited to the station that CONTACTS the mobile.

**MULTIPLIERS:** Multipliers can be counted for credit ONLY once. For DX multiplier scoring purposes, multiplier credit will only be earned for the first DX contact worked, however, each succeeding DX station worked will count for contact points. Multiplier lists for U. S. States, Canadian (VE) multipliers along with MAQP County check-off sheets are provided within these rules.

Stations within the Mid-Atlantic region - All U. S. States, Canadian Provinces & Territories, any one DX country, and each County within the Mid-Atlantic States of DE, MD, PA, NJ, NY, VA, and WV count as multipliers. Washington, D.C. and Baltimore City count as valid multipliers for Maryland.

Stations outside of the Mid-Atlantic States - Only the Counties within the Mid-Atlantic States of DE, MD, PA, NJ, NY, VA, and WV count as multipliers. Washington, D.C. and Baltimore City are valid multipliers for Maryland.

**SCORING:** Final total score is total QSO points multiplied by the total number of multipliers worked.

**SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:** Suggest starting 50 kHz up from the bottom of the band, or band-segment, within which the chosen mode is permitted. Take care to avoid those frequencies which are normally devoted to specific purposes (e.g. SSTV, digital, scheduled nets, etc.) While no amateur 'owns' the right to use any frequency, there are modes/operations that have a LONG history of use of a frequency. Attempt to foster 'good neighbor' relations by maintaining a sufficient frequency spacing interval when operating near the edges of their traditionally known and operated frequency ranges.

**LOGS/SUBMITTAL/REPORTING:** LOGS – ALL log formats, regardless of category, shall show date, time (UTC), band, mode, callsign of station worked, and full exchange sent AND received. Multipliers shall be clearly marked. All stations must submit the required overall summary sheet with each entry. This summary sheet shall show a summary list of all multipliers worked. **MOBILES MUST BE LOGGED AS ' / M ' in order to be counted as 3-point contacts!**

**SUBMITTALS-** Logs submission deadline is **June 10, 2004**. ELECTRONIC submission of logs is **PREFERRED** using either the CABRILLO format, or a comma-delimited ASCII file format. Electronic submittals shall be sent as an attachment to the EMAIL address provided on the website or via a floppy disk mailed to the MAQP address.

If submitted via EMAIL, the **SUBJECT** line shall contain the submitting station's callsign with the words '2004 MAQP LOG' and the attached file name will contain the appropriate callsign. ONLY 3.5" disks are acceptable. If a disk is mailed, the title '2004 MAQP' and the entrant's callsign shall be written on the disk. Summary sheets shall be produced using MS WORD 6.0 or greater (or any format that can be imported into AND read by MS Word 6.0 or greater) and included with the submittal EMAIL or disk.

Submittal of LEGIBLE hardcopy (printed) logs is permitted as long as they follow the format noted under **LOGS/SUBMITTAL/REPORTING**. If, in the judgement of MAQP Committee, a logged QSO entry is unreadable, it shall be deleted without any additional penalty being imposed. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES** - Stations may be worked only once, per mode, per band. No methods using cross-mode, cross-band, net, or any form of relay (repeater, digipeater, satellite, etc.) shall be used for contacts. CW contacts shall not be made in the phone band segments.

A '**BUSTED**' QSO is defined as a QSO where any part of the exchange entered is incorrectly logged. A **NIL** ('Not In Log') QSO is defined as a QSO where one log shows that a station was logged as being worked but the other corresponding entrant's log does not show the QSO as having been logged.

If a log is found to contain either a 'BUSTED' or a 'NIL' QSO then that QSO will be deducted, without additional penalty, (subject to the greater-than-5% rule) prior to any final scoring being made for that log. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

If a log shows a TOTAL BUSTED/NIL quantity of QSO's GREATER than five percent (5%) of the TOTAL QSO's submitted, then a penalty of deducting an additional QSO for each BUSTED/NIL QSO will be applied to the aggregate total of BUSTED/NIL QSO's found in the entrant's log. Score shall be recomputed after any deletions are made.

Logs may contain duplicate QSO's. No penalty will be incurred and duplicate QSO's will not affect score computation. No points will be given for duplicate QSO's.

**ENTRY SUBMITTAL NOTES** - EMAIL date/USPS postmark date will determine 'postmark' for the purposes of inclusion into the MAQP results. MAQP SHALL NOT be responsible for problems causing an entry to be misplaced, misrouted, delayed, or lost via any means. Mailed logs must be postmarked by the **June 10, 2004** deadline in order to be included for judging in the MAQP AND also to be considered for awards. The decisions of the MAQP Committee are final.

All stations that enter in the Multi-operator/Mobile category shall include a complete list of names/calls of all participants who operated with them.

All submitted materials, regardless of method submitted, become the property of the MAQP Committee and will not be returned.

**AWARDS:** Stations within the Mid-Atlantic region - Certificates will be awarded to the top scorer in each category in each of the Mid-Atlantic States.

Stations outside of the Mid-Atlantic region - Certificates will be awarded to the top scorer in each U.S. State, Canadian province, and DXCC country for each category for which a valid entry is received.

Worked all Counties - Any station, which succeeds in working every County in ANY Mid-Atlantic State, will receive a certificate.

Plaques - A number of special plaques will also be awarded to top scorers.

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Web site is at <http://www.qsl.net/maqso>. Check there for information on MAQP activity, contest software information, County abbreviations, contact information, and other useful information. MAQP results will be posted on the web site when they are complete. A listing of 'logs received' will be posted to the website.

**SOFTWARE:** See the MAQP website for locations of various suppliers of logging software.

**DISQUALIFICATION (DQ):** Entries that, in the judgement of the MAQP Committee, exhibit evidence of attempting to improperly inflate, 'game', or change the submittal shall be considered as being liable for consideration as either a 'checklog' (invalid for consideration for awards) OR DQ. Such stations will be listed at the end of the MAQP results with a note of 'checklog' or 'DQ' as warranted by the decision of the MAQP Committee. Stations whose entries that are being considered for DQ action MAY be contacted for clarification, but this is at the sole discretion of the MAQP Committee.

Stations who are DQ shall be ineligible to submit any logs for the MAQP immediately following the one for which their entry was DQ.

All decisions of the MAQP Committee are FINAL.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** To contact the MAQP, via email, please select the following EMAIL address which meets your needs:

**GENERAL INFO:** [generalmaq@yahoo.com](mailto:generalmaq@yahoo.com)

**LOGS:** [maqlogs@yahoo.com](mailto:maqlogs@yahoo.com)

**FEEDBACK:** [feedback@yahoo.com](mailto:feedback@yahoo.com)

**'SNAIL MAIL'** --To contact the MAQP via U.S. mail, write to:

Mid-Atlantic QSO Party (MAQP)  
Attn: Chuck Reville K3FT  
6400 Baltimore National Pike 131  
Baltimore, MD. 21228

MAQP website URL - <http://www.qsl.net/maqso/index.html>

**SPONSORED BY:** The Independent Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Committee



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Washington, PA 15301



*We're On the Web!*  
[www.wacomarc.org](http://www.wacomarc.org)

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

## The WACOM HAM

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## 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



## WACOM e-Mail Reflector

An 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@yahoo.com](mailto:wa3com@yahoo.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@yahoo.com](mailto:wa3com-subscribe@yahoo.com)