



The W.A.C.O.M. Ham

Washington Amateur Communications

Presidents Message February 2009

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Welcome Deb Schwing KD8KAC to the World of Amateur Radio after passing the Amateur Radio Technician Class Exam on Thursday January 15, 2009

The winter months are the best time of the year to upgrade your Amateur license.

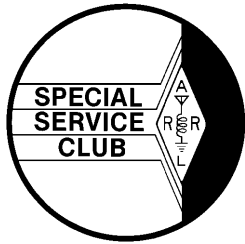
I encourage all of our WACOM members to take the winter time frame and upgrade or help a family member or friend to study for their Amateur Radio license.

*The winter months are also a great time to look your station over and make plans for **spring**. Some good examples you should consider are grounding, emergency power, and as always antenna building.*

If you have any questions please write them down and bring them to the club meetings. I began at the January 2009 club meeting allowing about 20 min of time and asking any members if they had any questions that need answers about their stations and operations.

73's

Bud Plants, N3TIR



Officers

President: Bud Plants, N3TIR;

bud@bnelectronics.com

Vice President: Kevin Beatty, KB3JHO;

KB3JHO@arrl.net

Secretary: Bill Sheehan, KB3LIX;

sheehanbill@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Norma Plants, N3YJJ;

njplants@yahoo.com

Board of Directors

Director: Joe Furjanic, WA3WMB,

J_furjanic@verizon.net

Director: Jim Burtoft, KC3HW;

jburtoft@verizon.net

Director: Dave Demotte, N3IDH;

n3idh@hotmail.com

Webmaster: Joe Caldwell, N3XE;

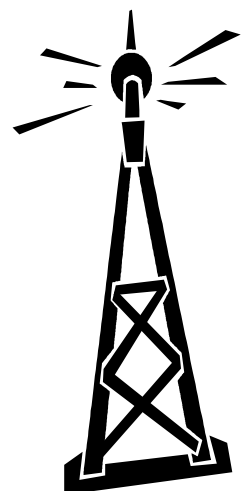
joecaldwell.jc@gmail.com

Editor: Jacque Gosselin, N3ZEL

n3zel@fyi.net

The February General Membership meeting will be held Thursday evening, Feb. 5th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Washington County Building, Room 103. All are welcome to attend.

There are no minutes from the January 2009 General Membership Meeting available for inclusion in the newsletter at this time.



SPORTS SHOW COMING IN FEBRUARY 2009

The Washington County Sportsmen's Show at the Washington Crown Center Mall will be on February 5th through the 8th, 2009. We have our space reserved, and will be operating our Special Event Station under the call **W3C**. All are invited to come and join us and operate the club station. This has always been a nice event for the club, and we've met a lot of interested and interesting people. From folks who have never made a contact to those who have been licensed for years; we have met those who love the "good old ways" and those who are interested only in the newer modes. So come and enjoy some time to talk about the hobby and make some contacts.

Setup will be about 9 a.m. on Thursday, February 5th. All help gratefully accepted.

Hours of operation are as follows: Thursday, Feb. 5th: Noon to 9 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6th and Saturday, Feb. 7th: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 8th: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

And, of course, all help taking down and packing up gratefully accepted.

We are also to have information on the transition to digital TV available for the public.

An item of interest— This email is printed as it was received. Just to let folks know what conditions are in less lucky parts of the country.

And what fellow hams are doing in times of emergency.

From: WW9E@aol.com [mailto:WW9E@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 6:06 AM

To: WW9E@aol.com

Subject: NorthWest Tennessee - FYI

Major Pat & Bill , I am Howard Runions W4HLR. I live in North West Tennessee and a SATERN member. For the last 60 hours , i have been running emergency communications, along with many other amateurs, for the rural city of Hickman Ky. Hickman is located just north of the Tennessee border. The complete communications were destroyed in most of Ky., It was getting close to city's running out of water. Some areas may be without power for weeks up to a month. To by pass the governmental red tape. We started working with the private sector first. Locals responded and are still. Our primary mode of communication has been with,2 meter and hf, we have used echo link, cross band repeat, and something i just came up with, that is very old . Hillbilly phone patch. We have had the 3 Star General of the Tennessee Army National Guard get involved,ema directors from west Tn to Frankfort Ky. on the air . Today we set up a link for 2 county's mayors to discuss Hickman's needs. One county Mayor from my county here in Tennessee talking to the County Mayor in Hickman. It has been a real experience for me. Today i got intouch with Major Pat Bohman with the Salvation Army in our region. She will be working to get a Kitchen to Hickman tomorrow. I can and will supply her any communications she may need while in our area.I do understand that there may be another moblie kitchen in Murray Ky which is not but 50 miles or so apart. Thank you for your support to this rural community. Our responsibility as ema eoc and governmental communicators are slowing with Sat trucks arriving. But we will keep up our work until te job is done. God Bless Howard Runions W4HLR ARRL Delta Division Assistant Director.

Desecheo 2009 Press Release # 4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We have reserved the special call sign K5D for our upcoming Desecheo operation. The operation will begin late in the day on Feb 12th.

QSO philosophy...because Desecheo is so very rare (#6 worldwide, #3 in Europe and # 2 in Asia) there are many, many hams worldwide that need KP5 for an all-time new one. Therefore, we are asking that you not contact the Dxpediton on any band/mode that you have confirmed from a previous DXpedition. This will allow the people who really need a new DXCC entity a better opportunity to get through the pileups.

Our objective is not to establish a world record for contacts...there will be no "greenies", no boxes to check, no competitions for most band/mode QSOs, no certificate or awards for contacting the Dxpediton more times than anyone else. So, if you have KP5 already confirmed on a particular band/mode, we respectfully ask that you exercise restraint. If, late in the DXpedition, we are calling CQ for contacts, we will welcome your call.

The team has encountered higher expenses than anticipated. These mainly involve the transportation and feeding of other personnel that will be traveling to the island with us. Approximately ten other personnel will share our campsite and facilities for the duration of the DXpedition. They will be on Island with us to provide security and carry out field research. Therefore, we ask that you consider a contribution to the DXpedition to help with these incremental expenses. Just go to www.kp5.us and click the button that reads "How you can Help".

We are all counting the days until we assemble in Puerto Rico on Feb 7th.

Bob Allphin- K4UEE
Glenn Johnson-WØGJ

K5D co-leaders

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**AREA HAMFESTS**

\* FEBRUARY \*

22: WASHFEST 2009-Castle Shannon VFD-Library Road-Castle Shannon, PA  
More Info: (Phone-724-258-4153 or 724-746-1776) email: washfest @ n3sh.org --  
<http://www.n3sh.org>

\* MARCH \*

1: Monessen ARC MARCFEST 2009-Blaine Hill VFD-Elizabeth, PA More Info: (Phone:412-287-8291) - email: n3ovo1 @ gmail.com <http://www.w3csl.org>

\* APRIL \*

26: Two Rivers ARC Hamfest-The Spectrum of Boston-Boston, PA More Info: (Phone:412-751-1937) - <http://www.tworiversarc.com> Email: hamfest @ tworiversarc.com  
Amateur Radio Exams Available at Hamfest-More Info TBA

\* MAY \*

15-17 Dayton Hamvention

\* JUNE \*

7: Breezeshooters Hamfest-Butler Farm Show Grounds-Butler, PA More Info: (Phone:412-366-0488) - email: n3lwp @ verizon.net <http://www.breezeshooters.net>

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## ARLB001 W1AW 2009 Winter Operating Schedule

## Morning Schedule:

| Time                | Mode | Days     |
|---------------------|------|----------|
| -----               | ---- | -----    |
| 1400 UTC (9 AM EST) | CWs  | Wed, Fri |
| 1400 UTC (9 AM EST) | CWf  | Tue, Thu |

## Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST) 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

## Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

|                      |       |               |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|
| 2100 UTC (4 PM EST)  | CWf   | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2100 " "             | CWs   | Tue, Thu      |
| 2200 " (5 PM EST)    | CWb   | Daily         |
| 2300 " (6 PM EST)    | RTTY  | Daily         |
| 0000 " (7 PM EST)    | CWs   | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 0000 " "             | CWf   | Tue, Thu      |
| 0100 " (8 PM EST)    | CWb   | Daily         |
| 0200 " (9 PM EST)    | RTTY  | Daily         |
| 0245 " (9:45 PM EST) | VOICE | Daily         |
| 0300 " (10 PM EST)   | CWf   | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 0300 " "             | CWs   | Tue, Thu      |
| 0400 " (11 PM EST)   | CWb   | Daily         |

## Frequencies (MHz)

|        |        |        |        |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| CW:    | 1.8175 | 3.5815 | 7.0475 | 14.0475 | 18.0975 | 21.0675 | 28.0675 | 147.555 |
| RTTY:  | -      | 3.5975 | 7.095  | 14.095  | 18.1025 | 21.095  | 28.095  | 147.555 |
| VOICE: | 1.855  | 3.990  | 7.290  | 14.290  | 18.160  | 21.390  | 28.590  | 147.555 |

## Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

Now in our *FOURTEENTH* big year!



# WASHfest 2009

*The South Hills Hamfest*

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

Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

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**

Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar N3LLR  
WPA Section Manager John Rodgers N3MSE  
DXCC Card Checker Mike Lazaroff K3AIR

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

## MAIN PRIZES — *You've Got to play to WIN!*



- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-897D HF/6 M/2 M/70 cm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: ICOM IC-92AD 2 M/70 cm D-STAR
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: LDG Z-100 HF .1—125 W Autotuner

**Additional Hourly Door Prizes!**

**Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20**

**All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes**

Breakfast & Lunch provided  
by *JACK'S CATERING*  
of Peters Township

For reservations, or information, Contact:

Kevin Smith N3HKQ at (724) 228-4153, Bill Hill W3WH at (724) 746-1776, or Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too! [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.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 ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS**  
111 Watson Drive  
Monongahela, PA 15063-1045

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