

The WACOM HAM

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REMINDER– The next WACOM Board of Directors meeting is **Thursday, March 27th 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

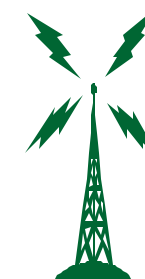


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MARCH 2003



Serving
Washington
County



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

DX News & Notes

JF6OJX/7N4AHT/KH7J will be active as 3D2JX from Mana Island, FIJI (OTA OC -121) between April 19th and 24th. He will especially try to operate on low bands 80-30m for EU, but he will also be QRV on 20m -6m (160m if possible). QSL manager via JN1HOW - JJ1LIB/N1GO)

*By special arrangement with the People's Republic of China & the Chinese Radio Sports Association, Rick AE3C and his 10-year old daughter Barbara KB3HAS both from Pittsburgh, will be operating (SSB and CW) at various locations in Beijing & northern mainland China until 11 March. QSL via home calls - N3YEA

The Slovak Embassy in Baghdad closed in February, resulting in Y1BGD going QRT. OM2DX is on his way home. OM3JW will get the last logs from Mike on his return. QSL via OM3JW - OM3JW

AC7DX is the new QSL Manager for Contest Station LT1F, along with LU1FKR, VP8SSI & 3YØPI - AC7DX

YO9HP will be returning to Oman March 3rd as A45WD, and should be QRV by the 5th. He has responded to "99%" of received QSL cards, with the last "40 - 50" to go into the mail before his return. He asks that anyone who does not receive an expected card to wait 2 weeks and then e-mail him at a45wd@yahoo.com with the QSO details so that he can work on the problem - YO9HP

The Low Land Dxpediton Team plan to activate OY Faroe Islands March 24th - April 3rd. Individual calls have been requested, otherwise all of the operators will be signing OY/ home call. A special call has been requested for the 80 & 160 meters and the CQ WPX contest. QSL all LLDXT calls via PA5ET - PA5ET

PLEASE SEND YOUR 2003 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](http://www.wacomarc.org)

Upcoming Events

March 8, 9 — 2nd Weekend, Technician Class, sponsored by WACOM, being held on the first two weekends in March. Contact Bob Ketzell KB3IN at 724 228-0425 for more information.

March 9 — VE Test Session at 2 PM following the end of the last Technician Class (see above)- Contact Jim Burtoft at jbur@mlynk.com for more information.

March 9 — TechFest II, sponsored by the Butler Co ARA, Butler Township Park Building

March 22 — Breezeshooters Groundwave SSB

March 23 — 2 Rivers ARC Hamfest, Palace Inn, Monroeville, 8 AM to 3 PM

April 17 — WASH VE Session, Peters Township Library, McMurray PA

May 4 — Pittsburgh Marathon

May 16, 17, 18 — Dayton Hamvention

June 1 — Breezeshooter's Hamfest

June 28, 29 — ARRL Field Day

July 13 — North Hills ARC Hamfest

July 19, 20 — Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix

August 24 — Skyview Radio Society Hamfest

September 7 — WPA Section Convention

October 5, 2003—WACOM Hamfest 2003
Washington County Fairgrounds

October 11, 12 — Pennsylvania QSO Party

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

NEXT WACOM MEETING:

Thursday
March 6th, 2003
Monthly Meeting
7:30 PM

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

WACOM has four copies of the
ARRL "Now You're Talking"
books for sale. Cost is
\$15.00 each.

Contact Ed N3ZNI n3zni@arrl.net
for more information
and availability

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

W3C 2003



WACOM President Tom KA3NIY at the booth... Tom knows everyone who came through the mall!

Annual WACOM Special Event Station, Washington Sportsmen's Show, Washington Mall, February 6, 7, 8, & 9, 2003



Jim KC3HW operating, Frank KB3FZU logging, Lori KB3GMU Observing

The annual W3C operation from the Washington Sportsmen's Show at the Washington Mall was another huge success. The operators made more contacts than ever, and we introduced a large number of people to amateur radio — many of whom expressed interest in the March classes and upcoming VE Tests!

Our thanks to everyone who stopped by to operate, visit, or otherwise support the effort.

Remember, W3C QSL Cards go to Ed N3ZNI



Jim KC3HW & Ed N3ZNI making contacts & marking them with pins on the map

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Tech Classes



WACOM President Tom KA3NIY thoroughly enjoying a donut while taking a quick break... note the Police cap...



Dave KB3GOT, Jack KA3ZLR (standing), Ed N3ZNI, Chuck AB3AB hidden behind Tom KA3NIY providing help, info, assistance and moral support to the students and instructor(s)!



Bob KB3IN instructing the students

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The March WACOM Tech class started with a bang on March 1st with nine enthusiastic students. The class is designed to run on four days over two weeks so that everyone has enough time to absorb the material to pass their tests and not enough time to forget anything!

Classes continue on March 8th and 9th, so if you know of someone who wants to try and squeeze in, let Bob KB3IN at 724-228-0425 know.

There will be a VE Session on March 9th following the end of the last class. The VE Session is open to everyone! Contact Jim Burtoft at jbur@mlynk.com if you would like to attend the VE Session.

We hope to have pictures of the successful students and other VE Test candidates in next month's newsletter!

Change of Venue:

Effective with their March 2003 meeting, our friends & neighbors, The Wireless Association of South Hills has just changed their meeting site to the Peters Township Library, 616 East McMurray Road, Peters Township, due to a scheduling snafu with the church they'd been meeting at for the last 10 years. Their next meeting is on March 13th & all WACOM members are invited to stop by for a talk on home brew antennas by Larry K3VX.

March WPA Section News

John Rodgers N3MSE, WPA Section Manager

Butler, PA, February 18, 2003 —WASHfest 2003 was Sunday, February 23, followed by the Foothills ARC Hamfest on March 2. These start the hamfest season in Western Pennsylvania. I hope to see many of you at hamfests and the other upcoming events. Either myself or one of the assistant section managers will be present at every sanctioned hamfest in our section.

Then on March 15 the Butler County ARC will hold it's second annual techfest. This event is a free event to promote interest in the many facets of amateur radio. Additional information on the techfest is available at http://www.qsl.net/w3udx/BCARA_Techfest.pdf. An the Two Rivers ARC hamfest is on March 23.

The Breezeshooters ARC is once again sponsoring it's popular 10 meter groundwave contest. This year's event is scheduled for February 22 for the CW contest and March 22 for the SSB portion. Information and rules for the contest is available at <http://www.breezeshooters.net/contest/contest.htm>. Join in the fun and I hope to work you all on 10 meters.

Many individuals in the section have taken the opportunity to participate in the various emergency communications courses. A federal grant made it possible for individuals completing the level one online course to be reimbursed for the fee. Now another grant recently made available the opportunity for reimbursement of the fees associated with level two and three courses. These courses are a tremendous opportunity to learn more about the operation that may become necessary should another terrorist attack or war with Iraq come to pass. At the recent Board of Directors meeting the volunteer resources committee made a recommendation that leaders be required to complete different levels of the courses depending on the position they hold in the ARES and NTS teams. I support these recommendations and with a total reimbursement now available I encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity. If you need additional information on any of the courses contact me at n3mse@arrl.org

Join the WPA Phone & Traffic net every night, 6 PM, or 3983 kHz.