

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

# The WACOM HAM

JUNE 2004



## NTIA Hints at BPL Phase Two Study Findings

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NEWINGTON, CT, May 26, 2004 — National Telecommunications and Information Administration Acting Administrator Michael Gallagher has hinted at some of the findings in his agency's pending Phase 2 broadband over power line (BPL) study. In remarks May 17 at the United Telecom Council's "Telecom 2004" in Nashville, Tennessee, Gallagher said the complete NTIA Phase 2 BPL study is "targeted for release later this year." While the Phase 2 study will provide "additional guidance" on contending with BPL interference issues, the NTIA has advised against putting the present FCC rule making proceeding on hold until its release.

"Key Phase 2 technical analyses have been completed," Gallagher told the UTC gathering, "and the findings are appended to NTIA's comments on proposed rules." The NTIA has yet to file those comments, although it has posted its Phase 1 BPL study (<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/fccfilings/2004/bpl/index.htm>) on the proceeding. The comment deadline on the FCC's BPL (NPRM) in ET Docket 04-37 was May 3, but the period for reply comments ends June 22 (the FCC has granted a 3 week extension on reply comments).

Responsible for developing telecommunications policy for a White House that's promoting BPL, as well as for administering federal government radio spectrum that could be affected by the technology, the NTIA finds itself with a stake on both sides of the BPL controversy.

Gallagher's Telecom 2004 presentation acknowledged that the principal concern surrounding the technology is that "BPL systems might interfere with federal government radio communications or other state and private radio operators." The NTIA's Phase 1 study showed that interference risks already are high under existing Part 15 rules, and it advises retaining--not relaxing--existing Part 15 power limits. Among the Phase 1 study's recommendations for reducing interference are frequency shifting and notching as well as "refined compliance measurement procedures," which Gallagher characterized as solutions "to satisfy all parties."

(NTIA Continued on page 2)



## UPCOMING MEETINGS!



Next WACOM Monthly Meeting:  
Thursday, June 3rd, 2004, 7:30 PM

Next WACOM Board of Directors Meeting:  
Thursday, June 24th, 7:30 PM

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

**All Welcome!**

(NTIA Continued from page 1)

BPL proponents have said they can comply with Part 15 emission limits, but NTIA says they're basing that assertion on the use of existing measurement procedures.

The agency has said its Phase 2 study will, among other things, assess interference risks due to aggregation (ie, total emissions from multiple BPL systems) and ionospheric propagation of interfering signals from BPL systems. Gallagher said the Phase 2 study has determined that BPL aggregation and ionospheric propagation "is not a potential near-term problem."

The NTIA predicts that millions of BPL devices can be deployed under the rules the FCC is expected to adopt--probably later this year--before ionospheric propagation and aggregate BPL emissions become an interference issue.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says he's curious to hear the NTIA rationalize its "near-term" assertion. "Does this mean it's okay to go ahead with a bad idea if the problems it causes are sufficiently far in the future?" he asked.

The Phase 2 study also will evaluate the effectiveness of proposed Part 15 measurement techniques and recommend a "height-correction factor" of 5 dB to BPL measurements made at a height of 1 meter, Gallagher said. It also will advise requiring a peak field strength measurement search "all along the power line" at a distance of 10 meters and at a height of 1 meter.

The NTIA acknowledges that peak field strength is as much as 20 dB higher--a factor of 100--than the peak measured at a height of 1 meter under current Part 15 rules. Because the peak does not occur consistently at a particular distance from a BPL device along the power line, the NTIA says, technicians must seek a peak field strength by tracking the entire power line. According to the NTIA, this will cover 80 percent of peaks at any height.

The agency has determined that a moderate-to-high probability of interference exists to a fixed station from BPL power lines at a distance of 450 meters--approximately 1480 feet--and to a mobile station at a distance of 55 meters--approximately 180 feet.

To "fulfill special protection requirements," Gallagher said, the NTIA will suggest "minimal" coordination areas --where a specified authority would coordinate all planned BPL deployment--plus excluded bands and exclusion zones. The NTIA recommends "voluntary coordination" with respect to other radio operations plus "mandatory Access BPL power control, frequency agility and shut-off capabilities" to reduce interference risks and to expedite interference mitigation.

The NTIA further proposes that BPL rules provide for "prompt response to complaints of suspected interference" and recasting the FCC's Part 15 shutdown requirement as "a last resort."

"Our BPL study of more than 10 million signal samples shows that solutions exist to all identified BPL technical issues," Gallagher concluded.

That's true, Sumner said, "but only if you include shutting a BPL system off and keeping it off as a 'solution.'"

During a White House meeting May 20, ARRL officials asked the Bush administration to heed its own experts at the NTIA and back away from its support of BPL in favor of less troublesome broadband technologies. In its comments in the proceeding, the League also called on the FCC to put its BPL proceeding on hold to allow more thorough research of its interference potential to licensed radio services.

## U. S. versus Them

Chuck Reville K3FT courtesy of [www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

You'll NOTE (I'm sure!) the PERIODS between the letters 'U' and 'S' in the title. It is IMPORTANT that you recognize that U.S. is not 'US' but 'U. S.' as in United States. If you don't, you'll miss the point.

I ONLY make a pointed, direct, overt reference to it because LOTS of people will 'see' the title, but won't 'see' the periods and will go off on a flame about the 'US' versus 'THEM'. Ok...now that EVERYONE knows its U.S. not US...

When BPL comes to the masses, we'll see interference to a WIDE ranging group of services-- Ham radio, Aviation, Commercial (business), Railroad, HFBC, and others who monitor, operate, and inhabit the HF bands. ARRL and other groups have PROVEN this to be a factual reality.

We'll also see interference FROM a wide ranging group of services-- ham radio, CB, mobile stations, fixed stations, broadcast, etc. to BPL. This has been proven to be factually true by AMRAD demonstrations. THESE TWO POINTS ARE INARGUABLY PROVEN.

**\*\*BPL SHALL HAPPEN AND IT SHALL BE LAUNCHED\*\***

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT!?

Since it is NOT going to be stopped PRIOR to being launched, then it needs to be dealt with AFTER it is launched.

IF YOU ARE INTERFERED WITH -- regardless of your service -- YOU are going to have exert some (sadly excessive) effort to build the case.

- 1] DOCUMENT! DOCUMENT! DOCUMENT! Logs, recordings, etc. Make it factual, non-emotional. Try to stay within your area of expertise. In other words DON'T try to go outside your own level of competence or understanding. KEEP IS SIMPLE!
- 2] Send them TO the FCC, The ARRL, AND the BPL provider. You may have to use certified mail to get PROOF of delivery.
- 3] COMPLAIN, via phone, to the FCC and the BPL provider. Keep NOTES about when (date/day/time) you called; The number/department/Company/office/agency you called; The name/ID #/dept no of the person you called; and a summary of the conversation along with any results or (more likely in the case of BPL provider) any BRUSH OFFS.
- 4] If you operate HF/VHF, KEEP A LOG!!! IF you have to defend yourself, a LOG showing a HISTORY of your operations will be a MUCH better defense than if you have a sheet of paper you JUST started the day before (or the day of) the notices. In your log, keep a short summary of any BPL-related items and if you have files, where the files are located.
- 5] COMMUNICATE! Keep other folks informed -- esp. hams in your area. If you have buddies in the area in other services- Aviation, Commercial, Broadcast, 2-way, whatever, TALK TO THEM! Alert them as to the issue and inform them - if they don't already know. Keep in touch. Collect info.

(U.S. vs. Them Continued on page 4)

## D-Day Museum Special Event

The Jefferson Amateur Radio Club will mark the 60th anniversary of D-Day--the Allied invasion of Normandy--with special event Station W5D Saturday and Sunday, June 5-6. W5D will operate from the main floor of the National D-Day Museum <http://www.ddaymuseum.org> in New Orleans. The station will be on the air from 1400 to 2300 UTC each day. "We will be operating from the Museum as well as providing a display of World War II vintage radio gear, a tape of the first 16 minutes of a radio broadcast describing the invasion as it happened, and eyeball ragchews," said Jefferson ARC Vice President Keith Barnes, W5KB. The group is seeking a few additional pieces of period radio gear for display purposes only. A few operator slots remain. Contact Barnes, [w5kb@cox.net](mailto:w5kb@cox.net) <<mailto:w5kb@cox.net>> via e-mail for details. A certificate will be available for those contacting W5D. Include \$2.50 for postage and handling (or include an SASE for a QSL card). Certificate/QSL requests go to the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club, W5GAD, PO Box 73665, Metairie, LA LA 70033.

This month's program will be on "Traffic Handling for Dummies" and proper radio etiquette. Plans for Field Day will be finalized. And The Fox will be bringing one of his good cakes!

Below is a picture of our other graduate, Terry KB3KXL, who was unable to attend because of a family emergency. We were finally able to give him his certificate!

— 73, Jacqué N3ZEL



Assembled by Lionel Booth N5LB courtesy of [www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net)

Want to contact someone in Washington, DC about BPL? Here are some important numbers; remember that faxes, e-mails, letters, and telephone calls all work!

### Information on House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Committee Offices:  
Majority (Republicans): Rayburn House Office Building 2125  
Minority (Democrats): : Rayburn House Office Building 2322  
Committee Phone: 202-225-2927 202-225-3641  
Committee FAX: 202-225-1919 202-225-2525

### Senate Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Communications

Telephone (202) 224-9340  
Fax (202)228-0327  
Subcommittee Jurisdiction: Federal Communications Commission, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Communications Satellite Corporation Encryption Communication, Intelsat, Telecommunications Industry Economics, Telecommunications Law, Universal Service Spectrum Allocation

### Senate Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space

Telephone (202) 224-0415  
Fax (202) 228-2339 Fax  
Subcommittee Jurisdiction National Aeronautic and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Atmospheric), National Science Foundation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Science and Technology Policy, U.S. Fire Administration, Federal R&D Funding, Internet, Earthquake Research Programs, Encryption Technology, International Science and Technology

### Senate and House Committee Listings

[http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/cqi-bin/committee\\_list.cgi?site=ctc](http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/cqi-bin/committee_list.cgi?site=ctc)

## 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

*For Your Information needs*

*Make FYI*

*Your Internet Service Provider*

**CONTACT FYI AT 1-877-FYI-4NET**

**ON THE WEB AT WWW.FYI.NET**

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

## Upcoming Events

- June 3 — WACOM Meeting
- June 6 — Breezeshooters Hamfest, Butler PA
- June 12 & 13 — ARRL June VHF Contest
- June 19 — ARRL Kid's Day
- June 24 — WACOM Board of Director's Meeting
- June 26 & 27 — ARRL Field Day
- July 10, 11 — *\*new\** Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, BeaveRun Motor Sports Complex, Wampum PA
- July 17, 18 — Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, Schenley Park, Pittsburgh
- July 18 — WPA Repeater Council Meeting, TBA
- August 8 — *\*new date\** North Hills ARC Hamfest
- August 29 — Skyview RS Hamfest
- September 11, 12 — *\*it's baaack!\** FARFest, the Gaithersburg Hamfest, Montgomery County (MD) Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg MD
- September 12 — Butler Co ARA Hamfest
- October 2 & 3 — California QSO Party
- October 9 & 10 — Pennsylvania QSO Party
- October 30, 31 — CQ World Wide DX Contest SSB

(U.S. vs. Them Continued from page 2)

- 6] BE PATIENT! NEVER GIVE UP!
- 7] OPERATE HF! (if you have the hardware/privileges.) Be active. Remember the AMRAD study showed that a 100W HF transmitter was shown to be a hindrance to BPL operation. OPERATE legally and within the rules and authorization of your license! DO NOT GO OUT OF YOUR WAY to harass BPL or BPL folks.
- 8] KEEP YOUR COOL! (REPEAT) KEEP YOUR COOL! If you get confronted by a neighbor, BPL provider, etc, DO NOT GET 'SELF-RIGHTEOUS, HAUGHTY, OR BELLIGERANT! BE COOL! KEEP YOUR COOL!!! READ part 15 and KNOW what it says! Just explain to them WHAT BPL is and what the problems are. IF you have some information that EXPLAINS BPL and the KNOWN PROBLEMS that BPL will receive FROM \*\*ALL OTHER SERVICES THAT USE THE HF SPECTRUM\*\* give them something that the LAYMAN can understand!
- 9] STRESS THAT \*\*ANY\*\* transmitter in the area that BPL operates on can (and will) interfere with BPL. STRESS it can be the police/fire department transmitter (they operate LOW BAND 30MHZ), the Commercial BUSINESS who may be on low band, AM Broadcast stations (due to high power), and other stations beside ham radio. THE GOAL here is to deflect their focus from 'JUST HAM RADIO'. If THEY see that it's MORE than just "YOU -- the ham" you stand a MUCH better chance of escaping their pointed (but misguided) wrath.
- 10] GIVE them the EMAIL address of the ARRL RFI department in Newington and 'suggest' that they contact them for more detailed information. It may not work, but hey, ARRL HAS solid and understandable by the layman info!

KEEP YOUR COOL! FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT!

Yes, it's a LOT of extra work, but we're up against a powerful foe and the foe has LOTS of politically powerful friends!

## QSL Managers & Routes

**3D2YU** via YZ1AU — KC5YKX  
**4L6AM** via 4Z5CU — KA7KUZ  
**4V2ØØYH** via DL7CM — N9BOR  
**5C8M** via DJ9MH — RA3SL  
**5U4R** via I2YSB — KV4T  
**6YØA** via WA4WTG — KS4YT  
**6YØT** via K3TEJ — KS4YT  
**7P8SR** via NY3N — K14RU, K4UTE  
**7X2RO** via OM3CGN — K5WW  
**8P6SH** via KU9C — AA3VD  
**8Q7QQ** via HB9QQ — W4YCH  
**9G5KW** via W7XU — RA3SL  
**9V1YC** via N5ID — W4YCH  
**CEØYEH** via DL8NBH — WD9EWK  
**CO8ZZ** via DK1WI — W2IRT  
**CQØODX** via CT1FMX — W9IXX  
**CS6V** via DL5AXX — W2IRT  
**D2PFN** via KK5DO — W2IRT  
**D88S** via DS4CNB — KZ2I  
**DU6BG** via K6BG — W2IRT  
**E17M** via EI6HB — W2IRT  
**ER1ØARM** via ER1DA — K8QM  
**ES5Q** via ES5RY — KS4YT  
**ET3TK** via OK1CU — KA2BZS  
**EZ8AQ** via DJ1MM — W2IRT  
**EZ8CV** via RU4SS — RA3SL  
**FM/T93M** via DJ2MX — WD9EWK  
**FO/OH6KN** via OH9MDV — K4KU  
**H2G** via 5B4AGC — WØMM  
**HKØGU** via DL7VOG — VA5DX  
**ISØ/N2WB** via N2OO — W9OL  
**J28VS** via F8DBF — KS4YT  
**J6DX** via W8EX — KV4T

**KH7X** via K2PF — KO1H  
**LR1J** via WD9EWK — WD9EWK  
**LU7JA** via WD9EWK — WD9EWK  
**OA4SS** via KB6J — WØMM  
**OJØ/OHØI** via OH3BHL — KO1H  
**P4ØG** via I2EOW — W2IRT  
**P4ØY** via AE6Y — WD9EWK  
**PI5ØZ** via PI4KGL — WD9EWK  
**PJ4P** via DF7ZA — WD9EWK  
**PS2T** via W3HC — WD9EWK  
**PYØFF** via W9VA — KS4YT  
**R1PQ** via UA1RJ — RA3SL  
**SU9NC** via OM2SA — RA3SL  
**T3ØM** via YT1AD — KO1H  
**T3ØZ** via YZ1AU — W4YCH  
**T32N** via KE4RHU — W2IRT  
**TAØKA** via DJ6QT — W9OL  
**TG9NX** via N4FKZ — KV4T  
**TJ3G** via G3TXF — KS4YT  
**TRØB** via F4EGS — W2IRT  
**V26B** via KA2AEV — KA2AEV  
**V31FG/P** via DL2SWW — RA3SL  
**V47UY** via KJ4UY — W2IRT  
**VK9KND** via SP9EWP — RA3SL  
**XT2DX** via G3SXW — RA3SL  
**XT2SX** via G3SXW — RA3SL  
**YA8G** via LA4YW — N9BOR  
**YI9OM** via OM6TX — AG5W  
**ZAØIS** via IK7JWX — RA3SL  
**ZA1A** via OH2BH — W4YCH  
**ZC4CW** via G3AB — W3SB  
**ZF1A** via W5ASP — W2IRT  
**ZK1VRL** via DL7VRL — W4YCH  
**ZK3SB** via I2YSB — CT1CSN  
**ZW5B** — W3HC — WD9EWK

## WPA Section News

Rich Beaver N3SRJ, Section Manager, ARRL Western PA Section  
Fresh back from vacation and all ready for spring and wow it seems like summer already. Severe weather already happening in our section! Looks like we are in for another summer of SkyWarn activation. I encourage all to attend a SkyWarn class this spring. To find one in your area contact your county EC or log into the NOAA website. Both should have the information you seek. Please keep in mind that we in the WPA section are served by the Pittsburgh NWS along with the one located in State College NWS. Most NWS daily weather statements does give a percentage chance of possible SkyWarn activation.

Myself and many of your Section staff have attended numerous hamfest's so far this year. It has been great seeing all of you and sharing some good questions as well. I look forward to the summer and even more chances to meet the people of our section. Next Hamfest up is Breezeshooters on June 6th. It is one of the largest in the section and always well attended. I will regretfully will not be able to attend this Hamfest, as I will be in Rochester, NY for the Atlantic Division convention. WPA section staff will be manning the ARRL table and will be happy to address your questions and be at your assistance. Check here and and at [www.wpasec.com](http://www.wpasec.com) for all upcoming hamfest's.

Our first district conference was held this past April. It was from all accounts a success. The new design of having district conference instead of one big section conference was well attended and received. My thanks to all the speakers and especially to Mike Peltz N3MRU for hosting this event and also being the COOK for a great dinner! Mike is the EC for Westmoreland County and can cook too. Hmm maybe a cooking section for EC's in the new ECOM classes may be in order?? Hmmmm. Anyways thanks to all that made this successful event possible. Next up May 21 2004 is S-2 District conference. For more information and directions contact KT Newlin [KTL103@psualum.com](mailto:KTL103@psualum.com).

Well that's about it for this month. Hope we do have a little bit of spring here but hey its better than winter! Ohh don't forget field day is coming! Looking forward to seeing alot of you there as well!

## DX News Briefs

Look for special event stations **SX1A, SX2A, SX3A, SX4A, SX5A, SX6A, SX7A, SX8A, & SX9A** to be active through August 12th to celebrate the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. They will be QRV on all bands & modes, one call QRV each day. All contacts will be confirmed with a special QSL card via the bureau; there is no QSL manager, QSL via the Greek Bureau only.

The Greek Communications Authority has announced that Greek radio amateurs may use the optional **SX2004** or **SY2004** call sign prefix through November 15th to commemorate the Athens Olympic and Paralympic Games 2004. QSL via operators instructions.

Foreign radio amateurs, as visitors in Greece, from CEPT countries or countries with reciprocal license agreements can use the special prefix **J42004** from August 1 through November 15 without any other license; all others need to communicate with Greek Authorities for special permission — SV2AEL via SV1CNS

EI5IF will be based in Monrovia, Liberia through November or December and will try to be QRV as much as possible as **EL/EI5IF**. How much will depend on his work load & available equipment, he is bringing an Alinco DX70TH with him — EI5IF

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.

# 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Breezeshooter's Hamfest

Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sponsored by the Breezeshooters

Butler Farm Show Grounds / Roe Airport, State Route 66, Butler PA  
(The Farm Show Grounds are West of Butler between Butler and Evans City)

Talk-In on W3UDX/R 147.360+ Repeater

Prize Tickets \$2.00 Each or 3/\$5.00, 7/\$10, 15/\$20

For more information & updated list of 2004 Hamfest Prizes please go to

<http://www.breezeshooters.net/hamfest/hamfest.htm>

## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual North Hills ARC Hamfest

*New Date!*

Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Northland Library, Cumberland Road, Wexford

Talk-in on W3EXW/3 147.09 MHz

For more information, e-mail [aa3ta@verizon.net](mailto:aa3ta@verizon.net)

### EXPERIENCED HAMS MUST NURTURE NEWCOMERS, HAYNIE TELLS FORUM

It's up to today's Amateur Radio veterans to cultivate the younger generation, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, told the ARRL Forum at Dayton Hamvention 2004 May 15. Calling the statistic "shocking," Haynie cited ARRL survey data showing that more than one-fifth of new amateur licensees never get on the air. He suggested that too few experienced amateurs take new licensees under their wing to help them get started.

"One of the things that we need to do is open up our hearts and open up our minds a little bit about the new generation coming along," he said. The addition of another half-dozen ARRL Education and Technology Program (ETP) pilot schools has raised the total to 81, Haynie pointed out. While its primary goal is using Amateur Radio to educate youngsters about wireless technology, the ETP has resulted in thousands of new hams — teenagers and younger.

"What makes these programs successful, of course, is the local hams, the local clubs getting behind the program and teaching these kids the kinds of things we all know," Haynie said, adding that nothing is too basic or simple. "I didn't know how to put on a PL-259 when I got my General," recalling that he'd more than once forgotten to slip the connector's shell over the end of the cable before soldering the plug.

Haynie suggested that today's older hams also need to consider that technology is changing, and the questions appearing on the ham radio examinations of tomorrow will be ones "that haven't been thought of yet."

In 1972 when he took his General, he said, his test included questions on Hartley and Colpitts oscillators. In contrast, today's examinations

cover topics such as phase-locked loops, satellite operation and digital technology.

The ARRL president asserted that many Amateur Extra class licensees couldn't pass today's Element 4 examination if they had to do. Haynie said that if and when the FCC changes Amateur Radio licensing requirements in response to various petitions for rule making- (including one from the League) it will not be a matter of "dumbing down" Amateur Radio. "It's not that Amateur Radio is dumbed down," he said. "People like me have failed to keep up, and if you look in your heart, you're going to say the same thing."

"Amateur Radio is what you make of it once you get your license," Haynie continued. Getting a ham ticket doesn't make anyone more intelligent, and learning the ropes usually begins after someone already has a license in hand.

"You learn by doing," he said.

Haynie said the ARRL Board did not take lightly its latest restructuring proposal, and he acknowledged that the League's petition has not won universal praise. "It was not an overnight decision," he said, adding that the Board wanted to take a fair and evenhanded approach to restructuring.

"Whatever you enjoy about Amateur Radio, it's not going to change" as a result of any restructuring Haynie said. While the FCC might take "the path of least resistance," he believes it's more likely to take bits and pieces of the various petitions to come up with something that's would be workable and "give Amateur Radio a shot in the arm."

"We need that," Haynie concluded.

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1696 East Maiden St.  
Washington, PA 15301



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

Opinions expressed in the WACOM HAM are those of the author and not necessarily those of Washington Amateur Communications, Inc.

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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)