

September 2011



Presidents Message September 2011

September is going to be a very active month for WACOM

We have the Labor day walk on Labor Day and also the IC Church 5k Walk September 17th . Please read the info about the walks and contact Dave N3IDH. We also will be running a special event this year from the West Alexander Fairgrounds again . Please read the info in the newsletter about that event.

My primary statement this month is due to health reasons and also change is always good for a club. I will not be running for President of WACOM for a third term.

I will continue to help the club in any way possible on the transition in January 2012 .I will help the club in any way but do to health reasons I must devote more time to some medical issues . It has been a pleasure being your President. I have always enjoyed helping the club and helping new amateur radio operators see the fun and enjoyment of the hobby. Along the way, I have made plenty of good friends that will last a lifetime.

I want to thank each of you for your input that has helped steer the club over the last 8 years that I have been either President or on the board of directors. WACOM has always contributed since the early 70's in the advancement of Amateur Communications in the area . I just wanted to say Thank You and give some time for the membership to make some plans for next years election of officers.

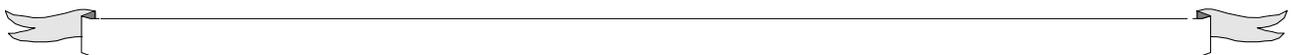
73 Bud Plants N3TIR



Please welcome

KEN FRANKENBERRY AA3GM

Ken will be taking over as news editor in October and will need any info you can supply pictures or updates about your stations



Pictures from the Picnic August 2011
By N3TIR

Ed N3ZNI and Tyler



More photos on web site
All Photos from N3TIR



A SPECIAL THANKS TO DEB SCHWING FOR ORGANIZING THIS YEARS PICNIC. SHE GATHERED ALL THE NECESSARY ITEMS NEEDED TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS. I DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO HELP, AND WHEN DEB FOUND OUT THAT WE WERE HAVING HEALTH PROBLEMS WITH MY PARENTS, SHE CHARGED IN AND HANDLED THE WHOLE PICNIC. EVERYTHING WAS GREAT AND SHE DID A SPECIAL JOB.

THIS IS WHAT OUR CLUB IS MADE OF. MEMBERS THAT STEP UP AND TAKE CHARGE WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED. THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATE IN MAKING EVERY EVENT A SUCCESS.

NORMA PLANTS (N3YJJ)

KN4AA Kevin and Bill NY9H
 Doing some none DX competition with the first ever WACOM Bean Bag Contest
KN4AA Kevin and Sally KK4YL were the winners for 2011
Congratulations



Melanie N9SOJ and Sally KK4YL
 Share some great moments in the WACOM bean Bag Contest. At the club Picnic it was a beautiful evening and everyone had a great time in the non DX event

Please welcome Craig KB3RHR
Special demonstration of military backpack radios
At the next WACOM general meeting
September 1, 2011 7:30
Washington County building
Room 103



British PRC320(RT-320) and UN RT-350

US PRC 10



You Might be Addicted to Ham Radio if...

1. When you look at a full moon and wonder how much antenna gain you would need.
2. When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, it turns in to an hour long rant on how ham radio is not CB radio.
3. When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
4. When you can look at a globe and be able to point to your antipode (and you know what an antipode is).
5. Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.
6. You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
7. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
8. You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
9. You have driven onto the shoulder of the road while looking at an antenna.
10. Porcupines appear to be fascinated with your car.
11. If you ever tried to figure out the operating frequency of your microwave oven.
12. When you look around your bedroom of wall to wall ham gear and ask: Why am I still single?
13. The local city council doesn't like you.
14. You think towers look pretty.
15. Your family doesn't have a clue what to get you for Christmas, even after you tell them.
16. Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station.
17. The wife and kids are away and the first thing that goes through your head is that no one will bother you while you call "CQ DX" a few hundred times.
18. When you pull into a donut shop and the cops there on their coffee break ask if they can see your radio setup.
19. You refer to your children as your "Harmonics".
20. Your girlfriend or wife asks: "You're going to spend \$XXXX on what???"
21. You actually believe you got a good deal on eBay.
22. When you see a house with a metal roof, and your only thought is what a great ground plane that would be.
23. You have pictures of your radio equipment as wallpaper on your computer's desktop.
24. Every family vacation includes a stop at a Ham radio store.
25. The first question you ask the new car dealer is: "What is the alternator's current output"?
26. You buy a brand new car based on the radio mounting locations and antenna mounting possibilities.
27. You have tapped out Morse code on your car's horn.
28. A lightning storm takes out a new Laptop, Plasma TV, and DVD Recorder, but all you care about is if your radios are okay.
29. Your wife has had to ride in the back seat because you had radio equipment in the front seat.
30. Your wife threatens you with divorce when you tell her that you are going on a "fox" hunt.
31. You dream of big, comfortable, knobs, but not on women.
32. You always park on the top floor of the deck, just in case you might have to wait in the car later.
33. When house hunting, you look for the best room for a radio shack and scan the property for possible tower placement.
34. When house hunting, you give your realtor topographical maps showing local elevations.
35. The real estate agent scratches his head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium, or low.
36. You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.
37. When your doorbell rings, you immediately shut down the amplifier.
38. Fermentation never enters your mind when "homebrew" is mentioned.
39. Instead of just saying no, you have said "negative".
40. You have used a person's name to indicate acknowledgement.
41. You become impatient waiting for the latest AES catalog to arrive.
42. You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.
43. You always schedule the third weekend in May for vacation.
44. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being close-lined.
45. You have deep anxiety or panic attacks during high winds or heavy ice.
46. You and the FedEx/UPS men are on a first name basis.
47. You really start to miss people that you've never seen.
48. Your exercise machine is a Morse code keyer.
49. You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and see antenna parts.
50. Your neighbors thought you were nuts when you ripped up your lawn to bury chicken wire.
51. Your next door neighbor thinks that your wife is a widow.
52. Your wife has delivered meals to your Ham shack.
53. If you sold all your Ham radio equipment, you could pay off your mortgage.



WACOM at the West Alexander Fair 2011



Come out and show that Amateur Radio is alive and well at this years West Alexander Fair 2011.



This is the 5th year we have set up a special event station at the fair and it is always fun to see who we meet.



The station will operate on Sept 7th thru Sept 10th at the fair from 5:00 P.M to 10:00 P.M



Please show your club ID badge to get free admittance to the fair.



We will be on talk-in at 146.79 repeater



Location is second main building next to grand stand



From the left West Alexander Fair 2010

PHOTO N3TIR

Craig KB3RHR , Steve KB3SVX (SK), Deb KD8KAC, Bud N3TIR, Jim KC3HW



Labor Day Walk

Starts from the Park at 9AM. Once again Hams will provide communications for this event, so stations must be in place by 8:30AM to be available for communication before the event begins. This is a fun event and we can help provide communication for the runner's safety.

We need at least 6 stations so please sign up. The walk will be over by 12PM.

If you are new to this type of event, this is a good place to learn. If you are new you will work with someone who is experienced. If you don't have a hand-held radio, there are loaners available for you to use. No worries, no excuses. As you come in to Washington that morning, check in on the 146.790 repeater for your assignment along the route.

After the Walk is over, everyone will meet at the finish line. We have been invited to stay for food & refreshments.

The Labor Day Run and walk benefits The Washington Christian Outreach. They provide food and clothing for low income and underprivileged families. It is a completely volunteer organization with no paid staff.

Sign-up: Contact Dave DeMotte, n3idh@hotmail.com

IC CHURCH 5K RUN

Communication operators needed September 17,2011

Operating freq 145.49 MHz repeater

SETUP Meeting time at starting line 7:15 am

Contact Dave N3IDH, n3idh@hotmail.com

WE NEED AT LEAST 8 OPERATORS

RACE IS OVER BY 11:00

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN

Website- **ARES** - www.wpaares.org

The Section ARES website, www.wpaares.org has a new look and most important, we have our own registration program up and running. Thanks to all that participated in the beta test and high praise to Bob, AG3U for the programming. We are now ready to turn it on. The program worked so well in test, that if you participated you need NOT re-enter information.

Registration is open to all interested in joining WPAARES.

PLEASE LOG IN TO JOIN ARES
73 Bud N3TIR

Repeaters

W3CYO - 145.490 MHz, 443.300 MHz
K3PSP - 146.790 MHz

2 Meter Net

- Tuesdays at 8:30PM on W3CYO Repeater

10-meter net

- Tuesdays at 9PM on 28.34 MHz

YL Net

- Wednesdays at 7:30PM on K3PSP Repeater

Elmer Net

- Wednesdays at 8PM on K3PSP Repeater
(immediately following the WA-COM YL Net)

LOCAL TRAFFIC NETS

<+><+><+><+><+><+><+><+><+>

SWPA 2-Meter Daily Net 146.880
8:00 p.m.

HF WPA Phone Daily Net 3.983 6:00
p.m.

Officers

President: Bud Plants, N3TIR;

bud@bnelectronics.com

Vice President: Dave Demotte, N3IDH;

n3idh@hotmail.com

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jjquigg@comcast.net

Treasurer: Norma Plants, N3YJJ;

njplants@yahoo.com

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kb3omh@comcast.net Direc-

tor: Jim Burtoft, KC3HW; [\[toft@verizon.net\]\(mailto:toft@verizon.net\)](mailto:jbur-</p>
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Editor: Ken Frankenbery, AA3GM

ktfrank4@verizon.com

Items free to a good home QTH Courtesy Sam W3CYO

H-P 4 channel chart recorder. I bought as a spare/spare parts for my 8 channel unit. didn't need it. take apart or use as needed. free; heavy. neat stuff.

also to put all this junk on: some rack uprights that I used to store these items. one set of tall, ~7 ft, one set of shorter. Sam W3CYO



spectrum analyzer, transistorized model.

look up the specs on the net. model number in the picture.

with scope cart.

also no deposit, etc.

Sam W3CYO



H-P instrumentation recorder, signals in equal signals out.

this means if you put a 1 volt dc signal in, you get a 1 volt dc signal out!

speeds (as I recall) are 15/16" /sec to 15 ips. numerous choices.

operating when I last used it. (dark ages) extra tapes, numerous.

8 channels plus an audio channel, BNC inputs and a mike jack.

comes with mike.

heavy; play with it, or take it apart. no deposit, no return.



October 8 and 9, 2011

Club station

WA3COM

LOCATION QTH
N3TIR

Operators needed
Contact Bud bud@n3tir.com

Pa QSO SETUP 2009

LOCATION N3TIR QTH

Left to right

Steve KB3SVX(sk) Wily
AC8GH, Dave N3IDH

Setting up Rhombic Ant
740ft

Lots of fun and fresh air
come out and join in in 2011



Photo by N3TIR

Support your club! Wear Club logo items from **Created by**
Amy

Caps, T-shirts, Jackets and other items are available with the WA-COM logo.

Get your Name and Call Sign on a Hat! Vinyl Decals, Embroidered and Vinyl Apparel as well.

Email:

amy@createdbyamy.com

Web:

www.createdbyamy.com

Phone: 412-795-4353 / 412-398-8833

Free to club members

WACOM was donated 15 batteries by the Washington County EOC

These are rechargeable sealed 12 volt commercial batteries.

First come first served, one per member at this time

They are perfect for running your stations under emergency power. Some members have them on line now in their stations and they work fine.

This is the last call if you want one please contact Bud N3TIR

bud@n3tir.com

FOR SALE

My name is Don Martini, AA3UV and I am a member of the WACOM Amateur Radio Club. Ground plane antenna for 2 meters and an Alpha Delta DX - B sloper antenna usable on 160 meters through 10 meters with a wide range antenna tuner available. Phone Don Martini, AA3UV at (724) 228 - 8612 if you would be interested.

Ham Radio Classes Forming Now

Washington Amateur Communications will be holding an 8 week course on Tuesday evenings where you can learn everything you need to earn your **General** Class FCC **Amateur Radio License**.

The General license is your gateway to the world-wide excitement of Amateur Radio ...

... And now you do NOT need to learn Morse code!

Classes begin on

Sept 13, 2011 at 6 PM till 9 PM

At South Strabane Fire Hall #1

Washington, Pa 15301

Registration is required

To join, contact:

(Bill NY9H or Bud N3TIR)

ny9h@arrl.net or n3tir@arrl.net

OUR HAMFEST IS FAST APPROACHING

November 6th, 2011

We Have Now Become One Of The Most Attended HAMFEST
In The Area.

Again This Year We Have Major Vendors Attending
We Will Be Sold Out.

**WE NEED HELP FROM THE ENTIRE CLUB TO MAKE
EVERYTHING RUN SMOOTH FROM SETUP TO TEAR
DOWN.**

IF YOU CAN HELP WITH ANYTHING FROM SETTING
UP TABLES OR HELPING VENDORS FIND THEIR TA-
BLES IT WILL MAKE THE EVENT A SUCCESS AGAIN.

PLEASE CONTACT

DAVE N3IDH , n3idh@hotmail.com

Bill NY9H ny9h@comcast.net

Bud N3TIR bud@n3tir.com

Thank You

Bud N3TIR



WACOM
HAMFEST 2010