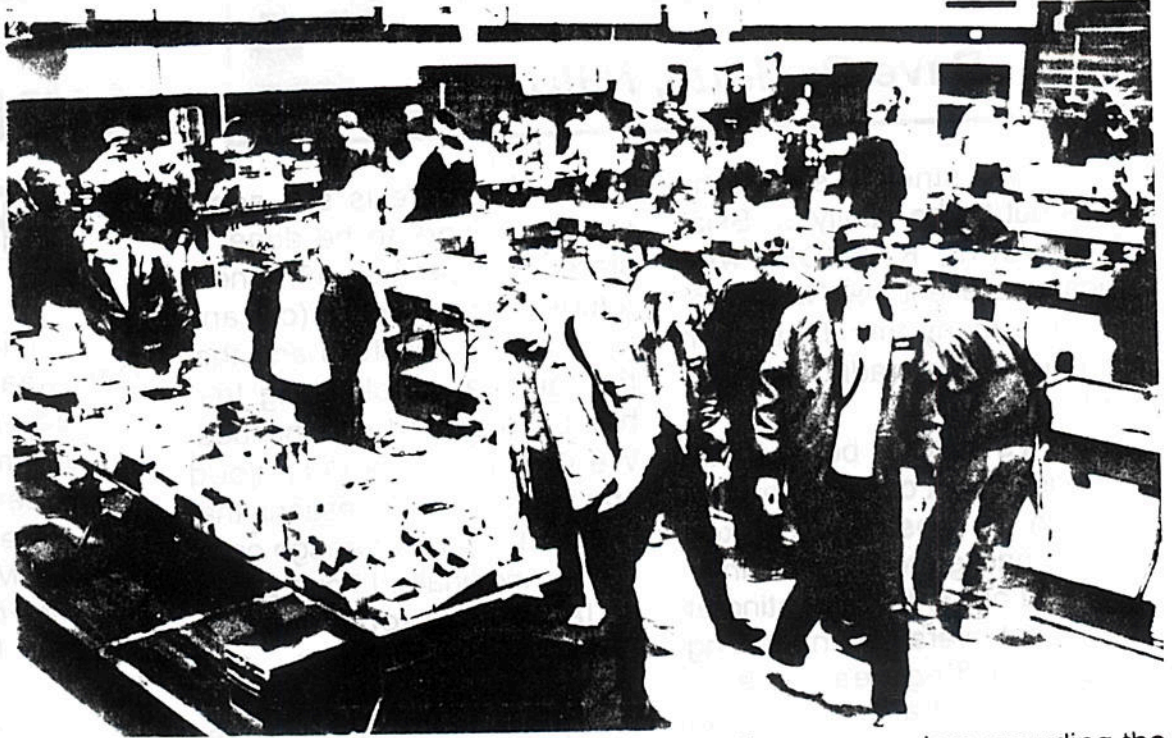


# Large crowd turns out for Tri-state hamfest



A large crowd turned out for this year's hamfest with more vendors crowding the gyms and hallway. Initial reports indicate that this year's hamfest ran smoother than any previous one. Good leadership! See pages 4 & 5 for more info.

## Ham radio classes set

New classes for prospective hams will begin on Tuesday, January 11, 1994 at WIT in the George Washington. The class will run for 10 weeks.

If you know anyone that would like to get into Amateur Radio -- let them know.

Jim Burtoft, Education Director for the club will coordinate the sessions. Anyone interested in helping out should contact Jim as soon as possible.

## Silent Key

### Guido (Skip) DiGiovanni

Skip DiGiovanni, K3CDR, became a Silent Key on Monday, November 15, 1993.

A member of WACOM, Skip has been a ham for over 23 years. Most of those years were spent as a Novice. It wasn't until six years ago that Skip renewed his interest in Amateur Radio and the club. He moved up to Tech and then General and was working on his Advanced license.

He is survived by his wife, Rose, who resides in Canonsburg. See page 6 for more information.



# President

from the

*Dave DeMotte, N3IDH*



Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of "Skip" DiGiovanni, KA3CDR, who became a silent key November 15. His many friends, both in and out of ham radio, will miss him.

It's hard to believe that 1993 is almost over. In my first column as president, I asked what I had gotten myself into. It turned out to be frustrating at times, but overall an interesting and rewarding year. I also mentioned what a good club we were and that we had a lot to be proud of. More of you than I can count proved that over and over as the year went on. A very big thank you to everyone.

But there is still some important work to be done. I sincerely hope that in the near future we get our 501(c)3 and tax situation resolved and that the long range planning that has been started is continued. We've had some very good and thoughtful suggestions that we need to follow through on.

And finally, I hope to see a large turn-out for the December meeting and Christmas party. Dolly and Fay are planning a nice time. Please let them know if you'll be there. I plan to keep the meeting as short as possible so we have as much time as possible for the party.

## Annual Club Christmas Party

The Annual WACOM Christmas party will be held immediately following the General meeting on Thursday, December 2nd.

We ask that you RSVP to Dolly Mayberry at 222-0367 or Fay Frankenbery, at 225-3885 by Monday, December 1st.

## FCC allows exam fee increase

The FCC has approved increases in exam fees up from \$5.60 to \$5.75 beginning January 1, 1994. The increase, due to inflation, is the maximum amount allowed by law.

### WACOM Committee Phone Directory

A.R.E.S.	Walt Piroth, N3BKW	746-2327
RACES	Bob Ketzell, KB3IN	228-0425
EMA	Dave Smith, N3LIK	225-0346
MARS	Jack Kelvington, K3DMY	223-3219
President	Dave DeMotte, N3IDH	228-8178
Vice President	Ted Lockman, WB3BZK	228-6473
Secretary	Steve Elliott, KA3UDR	225-1901
Treasurer	Jack O'Korn, AA3FN	228-2472
Education	Jim Burtoft, KC3HW	228-0546
2mtr Net Mgr.	Norm Torisky, N3KLR	745-6154
10mtr Net Mgr.	Joe Musante, WB3GTE	223-0897
Newsletter Editor	Jim McNutt, NW3X	941-5159
Repeater	Sam Mayberry, W3CYO	222-0367
VE Testing	Stan Cole III, NX3P	223-0104

### New Members

**Eric Allison N3KMJ**  
**Doug Rabe NF2H**

### Callsigns

**Tina Group N3NPV**



# WACOM Nominees for Office in '94

## PRESIDENT

Dave DeMotte, N3IDH  
 Bill Hill, W3IBT  
 Frank Holden, KA3UWW  
 Ted Lockman, WB3BZK  
 Walt Piroth, N3BKW

## VICE PRESIDENT

Ted Lockman, WB3BZK  
 Joe Stout, KA3MZS  
 Vernon Smith, N3JNM

## SECRETARY

Stan Cole Jr., NX3P  
 Jim Grazulis, KA3KSP  
 Kevin Smith, N3HKQ

## TREASURER

Russ Burhenn, KA3ZYT  
 Ted Lockman, WB3BZK  
 Jack O'Korn, AA3FN

At the November General meeting the names listed to the left were nominated as potential WACOM officers for the coming year 1994.

If you would like to volunteer to be a club officer -- it's not too late. Contact one of the current officers or come to the December meeting. Additional nominations will be taken then.

## WACOM Illness & Memorial proposal

**Purpose:** In an effort to keep the membership informed of illnesses and deaths of fellow members and their families, it is recommended that the following policy be established.

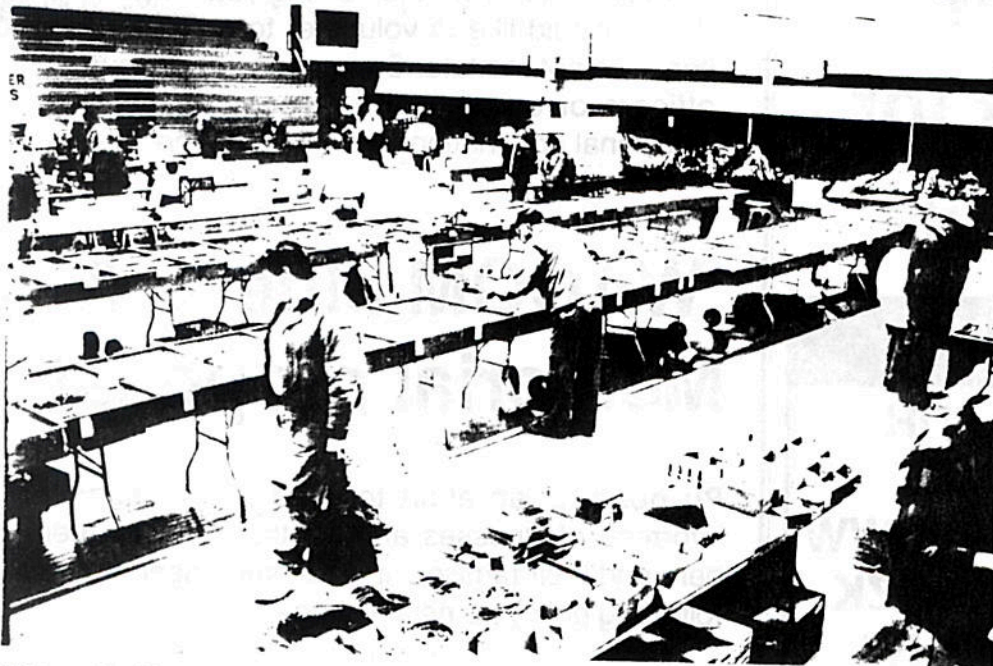
A committee chaired by the Vice-President with the other elected officers as members shall endeavor to send get-well greetings to members and their families who are hospitalized and also send flowers or a contribution in the event of a member or his/her family's passing. In addition they will take reasonable steps to inform the members of any illness or death that comes to their attention.

**ILLNESS:** All club members will be encouraged to contact the Vice-President or another officer when they learn of a member's (or immediate family) illness. The V.P. will ask the Secretary to send a card on behalf of all members. In addition, the V.P. will see to it that all illnesses are announced on the WACOM nets.

**DEATH:** In the event of a member's death (or immediate family), all members will notify the V.P. or another officer as soon as possible. The V.P. will either send flowers or a contribution on behalf of the Club in accordance with the family's wishes. In addition, an appropriate announcement will be made on the WACOM nets. The Committee will endeavor to contact all members by telephone using either a calling-tree or volunteer callers in an attempt to allow all members to express their sympathy to the family.



# Tri-state hamfest &



## Pictures

**Left:** Tables in main gym moments before 8AM.

**Left Center:** Joe Musante & Kathy Piroth handle registration at the main entrance.

**Right Center:** View of packed hallway between gyms.

**Bottom Left:** Carmen Putorti talks with Margie & Don Stark in auxilary gym.



## Prize Winners

**Yaesu FT 530 FT Dual Band HT's**

Skip Fortnam, N3NIP of Verona  
John Siemon, N3OCM of Pittsburgh  
A. Hrebena, N3DWU of Hopwood



# Computer Fair



The weather turned out to be perfect for traveling to the club's hamfest this year. The numbers aren't in yet - but it looks like the club did real well.

It was hard to determine if we had more visitors this year. The two gyms were busy throughout the day with heavy traffic all day long in the hallway.

Unfortunately, VHF Communications had to pull out at the last minute due to the hospitalization of one of the owners.

A job well done! Walt Piroth, Joe Stout, Kevin Smith and others did a tremendous job.

## Pictures

**Top:** These two hams had an old fashioned rag-chew in cafeteria.

**Right:** Couple take a close look at a variety of connectors on display in main gym.

**Bottom left:** Bill Hill stood in front of raffle table coaxing hams to invest in raffle tickets as they passed by.

**Bottom right:** Ham searches scores of computer disks for something interesting in main gym.





## Skip DiGiovanni liked to do it himself

Skip DiGiovanni's, K3CDR, first brief encounter with code began back in 1942 while serving in the Army Air Corp. He was sent overseas where he ended up working as an aircraft electrician. In 1947 Skip went to work for the Pennsylvania Transformer, later known as McGraw-Edison, and now Cooper Industries, as a tester in the testing department. The same year he married Rose. Skip stayed with the Transformer until his retirement in 1984 as Chief tester.

Health reasons got Skip into radio in the 70's. He needed a diversion from work and a past time that



wouldn't be too hard. Rose was instrumental in encouraging Skip to pursue ham radio.

It was only in 1991 that Skip got a rig and was able to get ion the air again. He used a Kenwood 940 transceiver with a 5 band Hy-gain vertical antenna. As a standby, Skip

used a national 50T1 receiver over the last 6 years. But his biggest "claim to fame" is the winch system he built for a tower that runs alongside his home in Canonsburg.

Skip will be greatly missed at club meetings and local events.

## FCC tells hams to skip line 8 on 610 form

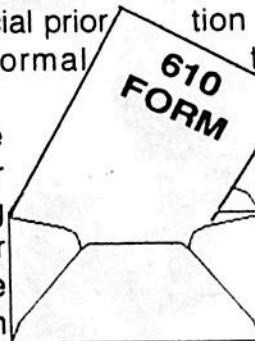
The FCC officially announced that it is not necessary to insert the station location on 610 forms. They explained that since Amateurs operate so much mobile and portable would save the Licensing Division time and money.

Actually VECs and VETs started to omit line 8 on the 610

form much earlier but the FCC forgot to make it official prior to now. Thus the formal announcement.

One of the major roadblocks for Amateurs renewing or applying for their first licenses in the past was rejection from the Licensing

Division for incomplete information as to location of the station. In the past if you lived in the country it was necessary to give directions to your home. — Turn right at the red barn and go 100 feet to the apple tree. Thank goodness they came to their senses.





# FCC says, "OK to order that pizza"

The FCC has relaxed the rules in Part 97 to allow greater flexibility for 1) public service and 2) personal communications. The action had the general support of the amateur community which perceived that the existing rules hampered amateurs' ability to serve the public and meet their personal communications needs.

The FCC has relaxed the prohibition against using Amateur Radio as an alternative to other radio services such as maritime services, land mobile radio services or the cellular telephone service. This may now be done, on an occasional basis. Among other things, this removes the ambiguity that has plagued ham groups in providing communications in public events. It should end those situations in the past where hams have had to debate every aspect of a communication effort as to legality prior to engagement. Now, provided it is done on only an occasional basis, and the ham or his employer do not have a financial interest in the effort, hams can do just that.

Hams will also be able to more fully satisfy their personal communications needs. This means that, yes, now hams can order pizza via the autopatch (to use the classic example). They will be able to make or break dental appointments. They will, however, still not be able to call their businesses for messages, or run a message service for hire. The rules specifically prohibit "communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary [business] interest, including communications on behalf of any employer," and for "hire or for material compensation..."

Hams are restricted in providing communications via Amateur Radio to the media to cases involving safety of life and property and where no other means of communications are reasonably available before or at the time of the event - the essence of Commission-labeled "immediacy requirement." This undermines the commercial media's ability to take advantage of amateurs for business gain, a

long time League concern.

The FCC has stated that "any amateur-to-amateur communication is permitted unless specifically prohibited." This means that if the rules don't say in black and white that you can't do it, you can. And if you're still not sure after applying this test, then you must turn to the amateur community itself for the answer, and NOT the FCC. (The FCC declined in rulemaking proceeding to provide a list of examples of permitted and prohibited communications, and there is no indication that they will do so in the future.) For example, standards for communications and answers on specific questions concerning a local repeater should be developed by local repeater organizations, and not the local FCC field office. And that leads us to the bottom line in all of this: the FCC has given us more latitude in fulfilling our promise, but with that comes a much greater responsibility for self-regulation and cooperation than ever before. We should be up to it.

RP: ARRL Field Forum/Oct. 93

## Time to renew club membership

\$12.00/ individual membership

\$6.00 for each additional family member



# FCC proposes instant licenses

The FCC has proposed temporary operating authority to unlicensed persons who pass the initial exam for a new Amateur operator license. This temporary operating authority would begin when the exam is passed and an application for a license is filed and last until a full-term license is received from the FCC (not more than 120 days).

The temporary operating authority would not be available to anyone whose license has been revoked or suspended or who has been involved in other enforcement proceedings before the FCC. Under the proposal, the Commission also would reserve the right to cancel such temporary operating

authority without a hearing if a need to so arose.

Those operating under the new temporary licensing system would have the call determined by the initials of their name and by their mailing address. The prefix for each such call sign would be WZ followed by a number indicating the appropriate volunteer examiner coordinator region.

The Commission said it believes this system would be useful to the Amateur community, yet practical to implement. The FCC said it was making the proposal to better serve new Amateurs and to increase productivity in the processing of license applications.

## Rocky Mountain Rescue

On June 28, 1993, Randy Simons, N0LRJ, was on the summit of Mt Evans at 13,600 ft., about 35 miles west of Denver, concluding a day of DXing on 6 meters when he was informed by a hiker that two of her companions were missing, and that a third who had gone to get her car may also be lost. Randy used the 145.22 MHz repeater to summon aid for the hiker's lost companions who were inexperienced and poorly equipped for high altitude survival. The wind was kicking up to 80 MPH and the temperatures were approaching freezing. Randy used his car PA system and his horn to try and guide the hikers to his vehicle, and maintaining communications with the Clear Creek Sheriff via the repeater autopatch. His attempt was successful, and the two lost hikers showed up at Randy's car.

Communications then moved to the Squaw Mountain 146.94 MHz repeater so that medical help could meet the parties as they descended Mt. Evans Road. N0NIM, a registered nurse, stayed on frequency to keep the Sheriff's office informed of their progress, and to monitor medical conditions of the parties.

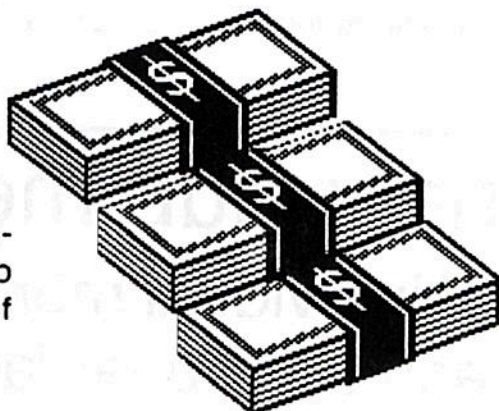
Mt. Evans has the highest paved road in the U.S. and most travelers are almost always ill-equipped for emergencies.

RP: ARRL Field Forum/Oct93

## \$10,000 fine for ham on CB

The FCC notified David Plourde, N1IZR, a Technician Class licensee of Lewiston, Maine that he was fined \$10,000 for allegedly operating on the Citizens Band using a non-type accepted transmitter and a linear amplifier. He was given 30 days to respond to the Notice of Liability.

RP: TSRAC Bulletin/Dec93





## WACOM MEMBERSHIP PHONE DIRECTORY 1993

Allison, Eric	N3KMJ	Eighty Four	348-6372
Balaban, Tom	K3PLM	Washington	225-5487
Beazley, Pete	N3LVP	McMurray	941-6297
Bigley, Richard	N3KEJ	Smithton	872-9675
Bozek, Stephanie	KA3RUA	Washington	UNLISTED
Brummer, Ed	W4RTZ	Yorktown	804-898-8031
Burhenn, Russell	KA3ZYT	Washington	222-4037
Burtoft, Jim	KC3HW	Washington	228-0546
Burton, Harry	K3BQT	Canonsburg	745-7932
Cole, Bill	N4NKI	Avella	587-5853
Cole, Stan	AD3T	Washington	222-9211
Cole, Stan III	NX3P	Washington	223-0104
Cole, Susan	N3AOK	Washington	222-9211
Deal, Clifford H.	KA3ZDS	Washington	225-8448
DeLost, Tony	KA3UUE	Strabane	745-5241
DeMotte, Dave	N3IDH	Washington	228-8178
DeMotte, Britt	KA3ZGD	Washington	228-8178
DiGiovanni, Skip	KA3CDR	Canonsburg	745-3069
Donlevy, Al	W6GNI	Pittsburgh	833-2789
Dorisio, Deke	K3QKS	Hickory	356-7357
Dorn, G. Kirk	N3EKP	Lawrence	941-4927
Dorn, Marian	N3EKM	Lawrence	941-4927
Elliott, Steven	KA3UDR	Eighty Four	225-1901
Fox, Tom	KA3NIY	Washington	223-9666
Frankenbery, Dave	KD3RZ	Eighty Four	225-3885
Frankenbery, Fay	KA3VOM	Eighty Four	225-3885
Frankenbery, Ken	KE3JF	Eighty Four	225-3885
Grazulis, Jim	KA3KSP	Washington	228-7583
Group, Tina	N3NPV	Washington	225-6248
Hasley, Ed	K3AVD	McMurray	941-9125
Hildreth, Tom	WB3CED	Washington	225-5883
Hill, Bill	W3IBT	Canonsburg	746-1776
Holden, Frank	KA3UWW	Washington	228-0455
Hrutkey, Michael	N3NAM	Eighty Four	222-1762
Irmer, Frank	N3ISF	Pittsburgh	882-1514
Jahgar, Frans J.	KA3VYX	McMurray	941-9297
Johnson, Dan	KB3ATE	McMurray	941-4398
Johnson, Den	N3PBR	McMurray	941-4398
Jones, Buster	KA3QIR	McDonald	926-2858
Jordan, Robert	NY3I	Washington	225-3277
Kelvington, Jack	K3DMY	Meadowlands	223-3219
Ketzell, Robert	KB3IN	Washington	228-0425
Klink, James	N3OBB	Bridgeville	NOT LISTED
Lockman, Ted	WB3BZK	Washington	222-6473
Marraccini, Damon	KB3AFS	Finleyville	348-6406
Marraccini, Leonard	N3KTC	Finleyville	348-6406
Mayberry, Sam	W3CYO	Washington	222-0367
Mazza, Robert	KA3VYY	Washington	222-2242
McCloskey, Bob	KD3VX	Imperial	695-8608
McCloskey, Joyce	N3JPN	Imperial	695-8608
McNutt, Jim	NW3X	McMurray	941-5159
McNutt, Judie	KA3RNM	McMurray	941-5159
Meyer, Joe	WE3K	Canonsburg	745-0749
Moninger, John	WA3VKC	Washington	228-5787
Montgomery, George	W3KVS	Washington	NOT LISTED
Mumper, Dennis	NX3H	Canonsburg	745-4847
Musante, Joe	WB3GTE	Washington	223-0897
Musante, Mark	KA3UTI	Washington	222-6471
O'Korn, Jack	AA3FN	Washington	228-4197
Ostergaard, Dale	N3HXZ	Mt. Lebanon	561-5357
Perry, Jack	KA3YJY	Claysville	948-3515
Phillips, Harold	WA3DWX	McDonald	926-2682



# Fall Edition

Piroth, Walt	N3BKW	Houston	746-2327
Presky, Dennis	K3PSP	Washington	UNLISTED
Putorti, Carmen	KA3PRQ	Canonsburg	746-3542
Rabe, Doug	NF2H	Washington	223-8905
Reismeyer, Ray	N3AOJ	Leetsdale	266-8768
Rhodes, Bill	N3KDO	McMurray	941-8852
Scears, Charles E.	N3IRE	Washington	223-0960
Schmaltz, Chuck	N3KDP	Canonsburg	225-9251
Schnore, Valerie	N3BXF	Washington	228-2472
Shaffer, Jeff	KA3TMV	McMurray	941-1737
Shaffer, Jerry	WA4ONC	McMurray	941-1737
Shaffer, Sandi	N3FPF	McMurray	941-1737
Shutt, John P.	N3BXE	Imperial	899-2439
Smith, Dave	N3LIK	Washington	225-0346
Smith, Kevin J.	N3HKQ	New Eagle	258-4153
Smith, Steve	WD4SDC	Alexandria, VA	301-266-9032
Smith, Stanley	KA3WBD	Washington	225-3116
Smith, Vernon	N3JNM	Crafton	922-2142
Stark, Carl	KD3KH	Eighty Four	225-5684
Stark, Donald	N3HOW	Eighty Four	228-4177
Stark, Margi L.	N3HOZ	Eighty Four	228-4177
Stinely, Mike	KB8KSY	Morgantown, WV	304-292-0625
Stinely, Regis	NZ3E	Washington	225-8263
Stout, Joe	KA3MZS	Washington	228-1090
Sutton, Francis L.	W3SNN	Johnstown	814-255-3723
Thompson, Harriet	WB3JWI	Washington	225-6603
Torisky, Norm	N3KLR	Canonsburg	745-6154
Torisky, Susan	N3MDP	Canonsburg	745-6154
Unrue, John	N3PCE	Washington	225-6499
Vaglia, Genevieve	N/C	Eighty Four	222-6368
Vaglia, Jim	N/C	Eighty Four	222-6368
Vintle, Martin	N3IKU	Canonsburg	745-6809
Zborowski, Sam	WA3DIP	Eighty Four	223-9544

## EMERGENCY SPEED DIAL NUMBERS

Access Code +

911 LOCAL POLICE - FIRE  
1111 STATE POLICE











# WACOM Calendar of Events for December 1993

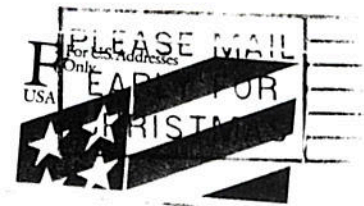
TUESDAY		THURSDAY	SATURDAY/SUNDAY	
DATE	2 Mtr NCS	10 Mtr NCS		
7	N3KLR	KD3VX	2 WACOM Meeting	4/5
14	N3PCE	WB3GTE		11/12
21	KA3RNM	N3HKQ		18/19
28	N3KUF	KA3VOM		25/26 Christmas

**Tuesday** 8:30 PM - 2 Mtr Net 145.49/443.3/224.4  
**Tuesday** 9:00 PM - 10 Mtr Net - 28.340MHz  
**Sunday** 9:00 AM - RACES Western PA Net - 3990.5KHz  
**Skywarn Nets** - K3PSP/R - 146.79MHz  
**Digipeaters** (WASHPA - 145.01 and W3CYO - 145.03)

2 WACOM Christmas Party immediately following meeting

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**WACOM**  
**P.O.Box 1386**  
**Washington, PA. 15301**



**First Class**

**Mail to:**

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