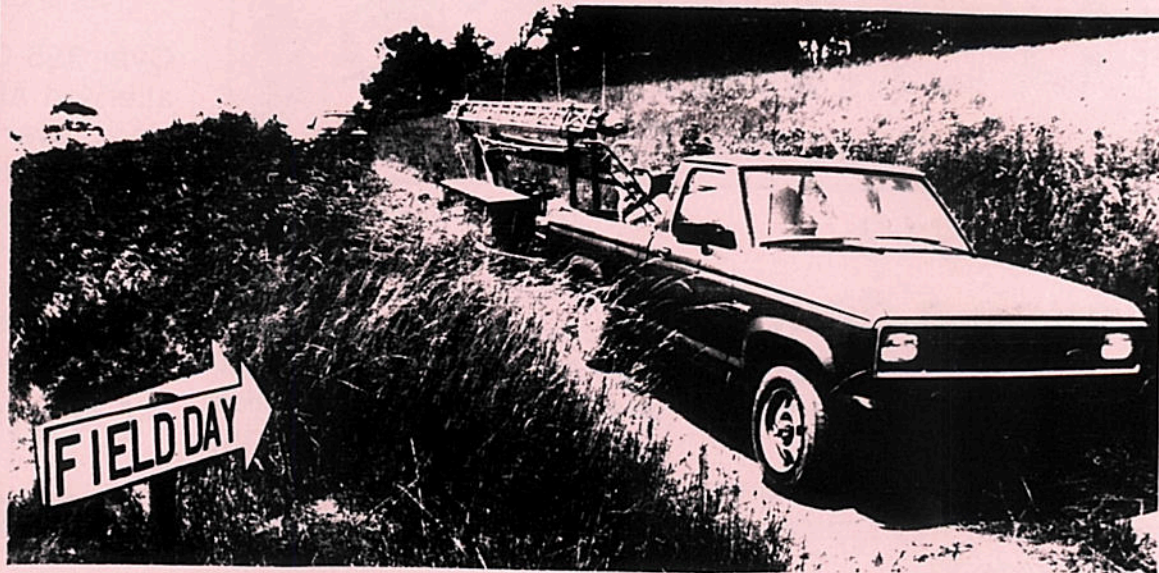


Club works field day at top of world



Bill Hill, W3IBT, said he would take charge of Field Day for WACOM if he could run it as a competitive station. Well he did and it was! Bill also thought it was time to give the Frankenberys a break from hosting the club at their home. We did and it was time.

The only thing Bill didn't ask for was nice weather - he should have and it wasn't. Large trees bent nearly in half from high winds and a little rain got Field day off to a slow start. By 5PM - the winds died down somewhat and the sun came out making the picnic more enjoyable. By evening the skies had cleared and you could see a beautiful sunset from atop the hill where the club had set up.

The new location was definitely remote. The only way to reach the site was by 4 wheel drive. Those without had to park their vehicles at the second level and either rely on others with 4 wheelers or hike up the last portion of the hill on foot. The major drawback to the event centered on the porta john being located at the second level of the hill. It must have been very difficult during the night to

make the trek downward and then back up again.

The picnic was held in the pavilion next to the North Strabane Municipal building.

Norm and Susan Torisky did a fantastic job of organizing the picnic. There was plenty of roast beef and chicken with a variety of side dishes and tons of desserts. Helen Lockman made her popular baked beans and chocolate chip cookies and Fay Frankenberg had her four fantastic pies ready and waiting. See pages 6 and 7 for additional pictures and information.

ARRL/VEC celebrates 10 years

On July 21st, the VEC system and the ARRL/VEC will celebrate their tenth anniversary.

Over the past ten years more than 30,000 Volunteer Examiners have been accredited with the ARRL/VEC; more than 29,000 ARRL/VEC coordinated examinations have been administered.

(continued on page 2)

The
W.A.COM
HAM

Speaking out

by Jim McNutt, NW3X
Newsletter Editor



For \$12 such a deal

For \$12 - you could take your wife or husband to the movies - one time.

For \$12 - you could get 30 shrimp at Red Lobster during their special.

For \$12 - you could take yourself to SeaWorld for the day if you have a coupon.

Or for \$12 you can get all the benefits of WACOM for a year. Now that's a bargain if you use it. If you don't - it's not such a bargain.

So what do you get for \$12? First you get a monthly newsletter with information about WACOM; VE exam schedules; photos of members

participating in activities; ARRL news; area club news; and much much more. In addition, you have monthly meetings; a club room full of radio gear available for your use; picnics; parties; special events like the Pike Festival, Covered Bridge Festival, parades, and walk-a-thons; upgrade classes; free use of autopatch on Sam Mayberry's repeater; Field Day; and a wealth of experience from club members when you need the help plus much more. All this for \$12 a year. That's a bargain.

Plucking down your \$12 is the first step. We can only hope you take advantage of the other opportunities. These services and experiences are for you. Don't hesitate to join in.

VEC birthday

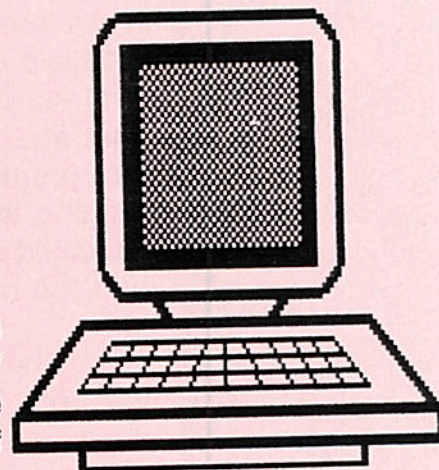
(continued from page 1)

Over 355,000 persons have attended ARRL/VEC test sessions; over 400,000 examination elements have been administered; and over 200,000 Form 610 applications have been forwarded to the FCC for successful examinees.

Commodore closes doors

The company, a pioneer in the personal computer industry, said it is going out of business.

The West Chester, PA. firm plans to transfer its assets to unidentified trustees "for the benefit of its creditors" and has placed its major subsidiary, Commodore Electronics Ltd., in voluntary liquidation.



"This is the initial phase of an orderly voluntary liquidation of both companies," Commodore said in a brief statement.

Commodore started 40 years ago as a typewriter repair company in the Bronx. Its extension to the adding machine business paved the way for it to make calculators and then personal computers by the mid-1970's.

RP:BCARA/Jun 94

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	Joe Stout, KA3MZS	228-1090
Secretary	Tom Fox, KA3NIY	223-9666
Treasurer	Russ Burhenn, N3NEL	222-4037
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

ARRL - Red Cross update agreement

On April 1st ARRL President George Wilson, III, W4OYI, and American Red Cross Senior Vice President William H. Reno signed a new agreement, setting forth terms of mutual recognition and cooperation between the two organizations. The League and the Red Cross have enjoyed a formal relationship since 1940. The last time the Red Cross/ARRL agreement was updated was in 1974.

The new agreement calls for closer cooperation between local Red Cross chapters and ARES organizations, and the development of a set of guidelines for the handling of health and Welfare traffic by amateurs and red Cross per-

sonnel during disasters.

Red Cross chapters are responsible for establishing, coordinating and maintaining continuity of communications during disaster-relief operations whenever normal communications channels are disrupted or overloaded. There are approximately 2,600 chapters across the United States. Each chapter is responsible for developing a special disaster preparedness and relief committee composed of the best qualified volunteers available. This committee studies the disaster hazards of their territory, surveys local resources for personnel, equipment and supplies, including transportation and emergency communication

facilities, that are available for disaster relief. It also formulates cooperative plans and procedures with local governmental agencies and private organizations for carrying on relief operations should a disaster occur. Disaster Services at national headquarters coordinates the total resources of the organization for utilization wherever needed for large disasters.

The League, through ARRL HQ, will continue to have regular liaison with American Red Cross HQ. This liaison provides for the closest possible cooperation and direct operational assistance by the ARRL in emergency communications planning, and in the

coordination of Amateur Radio communications facilities for disaster relief operations.

Red Cross chapters further the cooperative effort by requesting that local ARRL ARES and NTS personnel serve as Red Cross disaster volunteers for emergency communications. ARRL ARES and NTS volunteers are encouraged to take part in pre-disaster planning, and work with their local chapter to provide Amateur Radio communications equipment and volunteers, and to meet the needs of the disaster communications

(continued on page 4)

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ARRL - Red Cross

(Continued from page 3)

plan. Specific tasks include:

1. The alerting and mobilization of ARRL volunteers in accordance with a pre-arranged plan.

2. The establishment and maintenance of fixed, mobile, and portable station emergency communication facilities for local radio coverage and point-to-point contact between Red Cross officials and locations, as required.

3. Maintenance of the continuity of communications for the duration of the emergency period or until normal communications channels are substantially restored.

The League will supply Red Cross with lists of local Emergency Coordinators. In turn, Red Cross will supply the League with chapter addresses and points of contact which will be shared with the Field Organization.

Health and Welfare Traffic

The ARRL recognizes that the Red Cross, working with officials in the disaster area, may need to establish guidelines concerning the acceptance, transmission, and distribution of health and welfare (disaster welfare) traffic by Amateur Radio. It is imperative that ARES personnel handle traffic in adherence to the guidelines provided by Red Cross personnel in the disaster area.

The Red Cross and the ARRL will develop a specific set of operational guidelines for management of the health and

A funny thing happened to me on the radio the other day

by Jack Layton, W9UK

I announced my presence on my favorite repeater in the usual way: "UU (that's pronounced double you) nine UK in his car."

Ka-boom! Without hesitation the speaker came alive, "Kay A three #@%&#@\$(I won't tell you the rest of his call)"

"Hi sport," I replied, "long time no hear. How you been?"

"Roger QSL, I've been fine, over."

"The handle here is Jack, in case you have forgotten."

"Roger, QSL, over."

"No, no, the name is Jack - Juliet-Alpha-Charlie-Kilowatt."

"Roger, QSL, over."

"My name is not Roger. It is Jack!"

"Roger, QSL, over."

"OK I give up. If you want to call me Roger that's fine. I have been called a lot worse. Now, what's this about a QSL? I am in the call book. Send me one and I'll reciprocate."

"Roger, QSL on the QSL, over."

Fortunately, by this time I was approaching the house with the cubical quad on it, so I

replied, "Gotta go sport. I am home. Look for you again (I lied). UU (in case you've forgotten that's double you nine UK in his car!"

"Roger, QSL, 73's, over."

maybe you think I am pulling your leg. Not so! This is a fairly accurate (only slightly embellished) transcript of a real live two meter contact!

In the older days - **ROGER** was a guy's handle. **QSL** was a card you sent to someone after a contact. **OVER** was always paired with the word roll. A roll-over was something you periodically did with you IRA funds or an action performed after the alarm went off and you wanted to catch another 40 winks.

The **73s** - that I did understand. However, now I am told through big bully's - er, I mean big brother's magazine (a double are el's cue-street) that it's not politically correct to say 73s - It's just 73's!!!

What next? What other surprises await me when I innocently, announce my call letters on two meter FM. **ROGER, QSL, 73S, OVER! - UU9UK**

welfare inquiry function both at the national and local levels.

Detailed operating plans will be developed by the local Red Cross chapter in cooperation with local ARES and NTS personnel. The Red Cross will

recommend to its chapters that membership on disaster preparedness and relief committees include representation from the ARRL through its local ARES and NTS organizations.
RP: Section leader/ June 94

9th Annual

North Hills ARC Hamfest

Sunday, July 10, 1994

8AM - 3PM

Northland Public Library

300 Cumberland Rd.

FREE Admission

FREE Parking

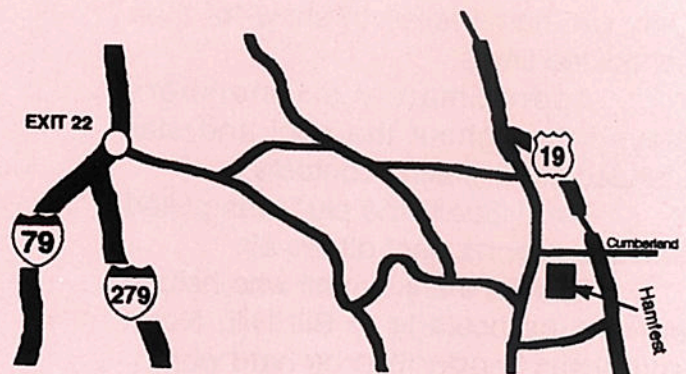
Main Prizes

1st	Icom IC-735 w/ps
2nd	Icom IC-229A 2m mobile
3rd	Icom IC-02AT-HP 2m HT

Talk-in 147.69/09

Take I-79 to Exit 22. Route 19 south through Wexford. Turn left onto Cumberland Rd. at 2nd traffic light after Chucky Cheese's.

Sponsored by
North Hills Amateur Radio Club
Pittsburgh, PA.



Indiana Co. ARC Hamfest & Computer Show

Sunday July 24, 1994 8AM - 4:30PM

Red Barn Sportsman Club (Between Blairsville & Indiana)

(Just off Rt. 119) Talk-in 146.91-

Admission \$2.00 Children under 12 admitted FREE

WACOM field day reaches

Club members will remember this year's field day for a long time to come. The site was truly on top of a hill overlooking about everything in the county. At the top was a small grassy area surrounded on three sides by trees. A perfect site for a remote setup.

Bill Hill and Norm Torisky were at the site on Thursday mowing weeds and grass two feet high. Bill pulled the trailer up the high with his 4 wheel drive pickup and several club members were on hand Friday to set the trailer up.

Saturday morning arrived with high winds and light rain making the day a bit cool. By two o'clock WACOM was on the air. Teams of two worked the club station for two hour shifts. Only two hams failed to show for their scheduled times.

Approximately six members stayed throughout the cool and star studded night making contacts.

By 11:30AM the plug was pulled and the stations went off the air.

Special thanks to all who helped out and particularly to Bill Hill; Norm and Susan Torisky for their hard work.



Top photo: Bill Hill, W3IBT, stares down the photographer. Guess he's a little camera shy.

Lower photo: Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, tightens an element on the 11 element two meter beam. His picture appeared on the front page in the O-R on Saturday, June 25th.

Photo at left: Club members drag Sam Mayberry's generator back to the truck for storage.

N3KLR

Norm Torisky
124 Cecil Street
Canonsburg, PA 15317
July 1, 1994

Dear Clubmember,

On occasion a Net Control Station for our Tuesday evening Washington County Public Service Net finds he or she is unable to run the net as scheduled and cannot readily get a replacement. If the Net Manager is unable to arrange for a timely backup there may be no one to run the net. Should this happen, any club member is welcome to assume net control duties, on an emergency basis, so that the Net may proceed.

To facilitate this, I am mailing you a copy of the current net script. If you find yourself in a position to help as emergency net control, please keep a record of your check-ins and send this record to me at your earliest opportunity.

Thanks for your help!

***** WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE NET *****

[rev June 94]

* * * * *

ON 145.49 "Calling all radio amateurs.....calling all radio amateurs.....The Washington County Public Service Net will follow....."

(Touch keys 7,8,9 to activate emergency tones)

"Good evening, this is the Washington County Public Service net. This net meets every Tuesday evening at 8:30 P.M. on the W3CYO repeater. The backup repeater is K3PSP on 146.79 MHz. The purpose of this net is for training, passing traffic, taking weather data, and general information. The net is sponsored by Washington Amateur Communications, Washington County ARES and RACES. This will be a directed net, and all amateurs in or out of Washington County are invited to check in. Your Net Control Station this evening is < >."

"We will stand by for any stations with emergency or priority traffic.....any mobile stations.....any Novice stations on 224.4 MHz."

"We will now have the roll-call:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. KB3IN RACES RADIO OFFICER (Bob) | 7. KA3NIY CLUB SECRETARY (Tom) |
| 2. NW3X WACOM HAM EDITOR (Jim) | 8. N3LIK E.M.E.LIAISON (Dave) |
| 3. N3BKW ARES EMERGENCY COORDINATOR (Walt) | 9. W3CYO REPEATER/DIGIPEATER OWNER-TRUSTEE (Sam) |
| 4. N3IDH CLUB PRESIDENT (Dave) | 10. WB3GTE TEN METER NET MGR (Joe) |
| 5. KA3MZS CLUB VICE-PRESIDENT (Joe) | 11. KC3HW EDUCATION DIRECTOR (Jim) |
| 6. N3NEL CLUB TREASURER (Russ) | |

"Any stations wishing to check in, with or without comments, please call < >."

(CLOSING THE NET) "If there are no additional check-ins, we will close the net. The total number of check-ins this evening was < >. We would like to thank all who checked in, your participation is greatly appreciated. Next week, Net Control will be < >. Net Control for this evening's TEN METER NET on 28.340 MHz will be < >."

This is < > closing the net at <(time)> and returning the frequency back to general amateur use. This is < > clear of the net."

new height for location



Top photo: Club members lower tower at end of Field Day.

Lower photos clockwise: Club members rag chew on top of the hill just after the picnic.

Ken Frankenbery, AA3GM, works with one of many rigs he brought to Field Day.

Judie McNutt, KA3RNM, was the last official club station operator before going off the air Sunday.

(Front page photo:) Bill Hill, W3IBT, hauls the club trailer down the hill to civilization Sunday afternoon.



WACOM Calendar of Events for July 1994

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	SATURDAY/SUNDAY	
DATE	2 Mtr NCS	10 Mtr NCS		
5	N3KDP	KA3VOM	7	WACOM Meeting
12	N3KLR	KD3VX		
19	KA3RNM	WB3GTE		
26	KA3YTT	W3IBT		
			2/3	Wilkes-Barre Hamfest
			9/10	N. Hills ARC Hamfest
			16/17	
			23/24	Indiana ARC Hamfest
			30/31	

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)

July 3 -- Wilkes-Barre Ham & Computerfest
 Luzerne Co. Fairgrounds
 July 10 -- North Hills ARC Hamfest -
 Northland Public Library
 July 24 -- Indiana Co. ARC Hamfest
 Indiana, PA

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