

# The W.A.COM HAM



April 1995

Editor: Kevin Smith

## Club to Determine If It Will Co-Sponsor Christmas Parade

*Story by Jim McNutt; NW3X*

A meeting was recently held with the Washington Firemen's Union concerning the possibility of WACOM joining forces with the Firemen to host the annual Washington Christmas parade. In years past WACOM members have been the main support in the event by providing communications at the staging area and along the parade route. It has been mentioned in club meetings that the club would like to be more involved, so consequently a meeting was set up with the firemen.

Joe Manning, the coordinator for the the club become more involved. It was discussions and approve the increased that were still involved were in need of extra became involved that it would be as a Several things were discussed including the Many participants were reluctant to continue poor lighting at night and lack of attendance from



firemen expressed a sincere interest in having stated that the club would have further participation. Joe said that the few firemen help. It was made clear that if WACOM cosponsor. He seemed pleased by the idea. move from Friday night to Saturday morning. their involvement in the parade because of the the viewers.

It was suggested that better communications between the participants in the parade and the organizers might produce better results. Like providing a map of the staging area so participants would have a better idea of where they were supposed to be rather than finding out upon their arrival. Several other ideas were exchanged and Joe said that he usually begins to plan the parade in August. That will give the club plenty of time to decide if it wants to officially become a cosponsor or not, and if so - organize a committee before August to map out plans of our own to improve the parade. More discussion will be held at the April general meeting. If you have a suggestion bring it up at the meeting or contact Jim McNutt at 941-5159.

## Time Running Out to Sign Up For Dayton Bus Trip

Time is running out to reserve a bus seat to Dayton. The response has been inadequate to hold a bus for the trip. A total of 45 seats are available on a first come first served basis, but you must act immediately. The bus will leave Washington PA at 2:00 AM and leave Dayton at 5:00 PM on Saturday April 29, 1995. Contact Joe Stout to make reservations. Reservations from non WACOM members are welcome.

# Speaking Out

by Kevin Smith, N3HKQ  
Newsletter Editor



As of this writing, I am informed that about 80 members have renewed their membership in WACOM for 1995. That is very close to the membership total from last year. It is very encouraging to have nearly everyone back for another year.

One of the things I have heard from the club officers in their

pursuit of the elusive 501C3 status is about the spending habits of the club over the last few years. To put it succinctly, WACOM is spending more money than it takes in. This echoes what the committee of Russ Burnhem, Ted Lockman, and Bill Hill said at a club meeting last September. I for

one was skeptical last September and said so. Hearing the same thing from the current club officers vindicates what Russ, Ted, and Bill said earlier. May I be the first to apologize for my skepticism.

It has been said that our annual dues do not even cover the expenses of the newsletter. I don't know about that, but what I can do is save a little on postage by waiting to send out the newsletter until after the monthly meeting. Members of the club who attend will receive their newsletters then. I will mail the rest after. This could save the club \$8 to \$10 a month.

Members may have to cover some of the costs of Field Day and other activities this year.

## 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	Joe Stout, KA3MZS	228-1090
Vice President	Walt Piroth, N3BKW	746-2327
Secretary	Ted Lockman, WB3BZK	222-6473
Treasurer	Cheryl McGrevin, N3PYC	225-9545
Education	Jim Burtoft, KC3HW	228-0546
2mtr Net Mgr.	Norm Torisky, N3KLR	745-6154
10mtr Net Mgr.	Joe Musante, WB3GTE	223-0897
Newsletter	Kevin Smith, N3HKQ	258-4153
Repeater	Sam Mayberry, W3CYO	222-0367
VE Testing	???	???

## Latest 610 Form Obtainable From FCC Via FAX

To obtain a 610 form from the FCC via FAX, call 1-800-418-3676 from a FAX machine. Follow the instructions when asked for a "document retrieval #", enter 000610.

You cannot get any of the other 610 variants via fax, only the basic 610 "Application for Amateur Operator/Primary Station License". You can also use the 800 number to have a 610 form mailed to you. If the 800 number is busy and you can't wait, call 1-202-418-0177.

# A.R.E.S. Report

by Walt Piroth, N3BKW  
Washington County EC



The March of Dimes WalkAmerica will be held in the City of Washington on Sunday, April 30. The Walk will take the same shortened route as it has for the past few years. The times are also the same. We will need to have people on the course by 8, and the Walk starts at 9. It should be over by Noon. I will have a sign up sheet at the April Meeting. If you can't make the meeting, and want to help, give me a call. A course map is elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Pittsburgh Marathon is set for Sunday May 7. 200 amateurs are needed for this major event. As of this writing I believe about half that number have signed up. For more information check the Sunday evening A.R.E.S. Net at 7:30 on the 147.09Mhz repeater. Or give Konrad Kammerer N3EKJ a call at 831-6478. Generally, hams are given a choice of operating locations and for first time volunteers you are assigned to be with someone who has had experience. This is an exceptional event and a lot of fun.

Continuing with the information on the ARRL Field Appointments. The last two months I covered the Official Emergency Station (OES) and the

Official Observer (OO). This month I'll describe the duties of the Official Relay Station (ORS).

Official Relay Station - The ORS is a traffic handling appointment. The potential value of the skilled operator with traffic know-how to his country and community is enhanced by his ability and station readiness to function in case of emergency. Requirements include full ARRL membership and Novice Class license or higher; code and/or voice transmission capability; highest quality signal; use of standard ARRL operating practices; regular participation in traffic activity; and prompt monthly reporting.

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the PEMA/NWS Drill on Tuesday March 21. Especially Frank UWW and Ted BZK, who ran the show at the EOC at the County 911/Public Service Office. Checking in were; KB3IN, WB3GTE, N3NPV, KA3YTT, N3KDN, KA3VYY, KA3VHK, N3NEL, NW3X, N3PCE, WD8KHV, K3BMF, N3WMF, KA3USK, KA3WAJ, N3LIK, N3LIF, WB3LUC, W4UJM and N3BKW. We passed two pieces of traffic from the Washington EOC to PEMA Headquarters in

Indiana. We established "links" with the Green County on 145.23/R, Westmoreland on 145.15/R, Fayette on 147.045/R, Allegheny on 147.09/R, Armstrong on 147.33, Indiana on 146.91/R, and the Mid Mone Valley on 147.27/R. Incidentally these frequencies most likely will be used this Summer for Skywarn Nets.

April is the beginning of the severe weather season. Our Skywarn Nets will be conducted on the K3PSP repeater on 146.79MHz and the backup is W3CYO repeater on 145.49MHz. When threatening weather is observed tune to 146.79 and NOAA Weather Radio on 162.55Mhz. Report all severe weather as requested by Net Control. I hope this year, with the County Emergency Management Weather Radar in the 911 Center, we have some involvement with EMA.

For anyone with UHF capability, the N3FFP Repeater on 443.650MHz has a NOAA Weather Tone Alert system. When NOAA Weather Radio (162.55MHz) transmits it's "Watches and Warnings" alert signal the audio comes up on the repeater. So if you monitor 3.65 you'll be alerted to any severe conditions. The system turns off the audio and resets in about one minute.

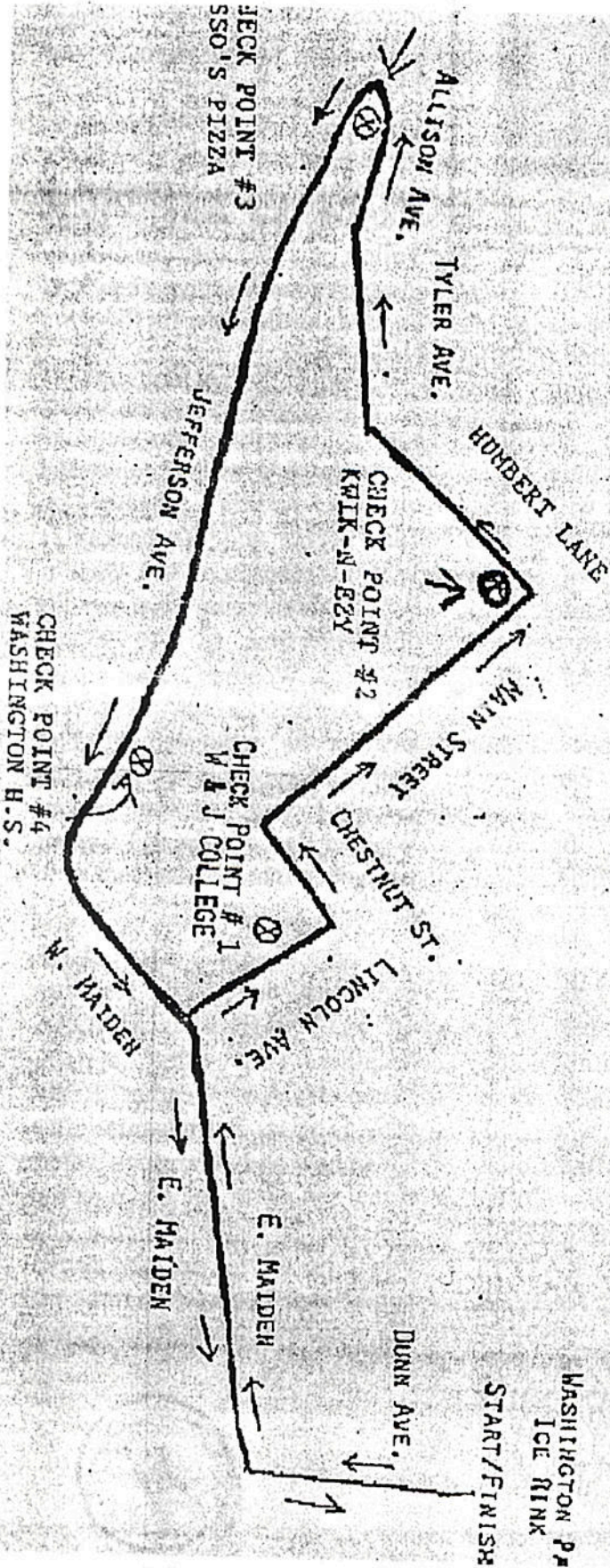


# 1995 MARCH OF DIMES WALKAMERICA WASHINGTON

Washington Park Ice Rink  
Washington Park

## WALK MAP

Sunday, April 30, 1995  
Registration: 8:00 AM  
Walk Time: 9:00 AM



## WACOM Asked to Participate in Emergency Preparedness Weekend for Area Boy Scouts At Camp Anawanna

*Story by Frank Holden; KA3UWW*

All WACOM members are urged to attend the April club meeting to hear about a joint exercise with STAT Flight, BSA, Red Cross and others to be conducted at Camp Anawanna in Amity, PA. This exercise is aimed at teaching Scouts about emergency preparedness in May. The co-coordinator for this event will address the membership at the April club meeting to let WACOM know what will be happening and to invite WACOM members to participate in the activities.

Area Boy Scouts will be trained to use their emergency preparedness skills to go into the woods to find, an injured person, administer first aid, and prepare for helicopter evacuation. We need as many people at this meeting that may be interested in participating. We will be expected to furnish simulated emergency communications and walk in the woods with the scouts on their mission. It will probably be an all day event. The meeting is for us to find out what will be expected of us and to make the requests of our services at that time. This simulation will probably be conducted toward the end of May. If you would like more information, call Frank Holden at 228-0455.

### New WACOM Education Courses Announced

*By Norm Torisky, N3KLR*

*(somebody has to take the blame for these)*

Good news! The Education Committee is expanding its horizons to offer more than just beginning ham courses to the membership and to the general public! We are pleased to announce that course registration will be held after the next meeting for the latest offerings of the A.S. R. L. (American Senile Radio League) Spring Self-Improvement Series. Many expert instructors have already been lined up.

Here are some of the exciting new courses you can take:

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 100 | Radio Career Opportunities in Iran                         |
| 101 | Creative TVI   |
| 102 | High Fiber DX  |
| 103 | SWR and Tooth Decay  |
| 104 | Shack Accessories for the Senile                           |
| 105 | How to Convert your Wheelchair into an Emergency Generator |
| 106 | SSTV and Acne  |
| 107 | Cultivating Computer Viruses in Your Refrigerator          |
| 108 | Convert Your Game Room into a Waveguide                    |
| 109 | Burglar proofing Your Home with High Voltage               |
| 110 | Working DX on Your Microwave Oven                          |
| 111 | Convert Your Dentures into an Inexpensive Straight Key     |
| 112 | QRP Techniques to Work Silent Keys                         |
| 113 | Sinus Drainage with your TNC                               |
| 114 | Convert your Vacuum Cleaner into a Packet Modem            |
| 115 | Packet Under Water   |
| 116 | 1001 Other Uses for the D Layer                            |

# City Of Pittsburgh Marathon

## Amateur Radio Information

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City/Town Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Work

Equipment at your disposal for race day:

	2 Meters	220	440
HT			
Mobile			
Mag Mount			

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Assignment/Location (will try to accommodate):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size:  Small  Medium  Large  X - Large

*On reverse side, please feel free to make any suggestions/comments that would improve our operation!*

Complete and return to: **Konrad Kammerer/N3EKJ**  
 5649 Willow Terrace Drive  
 Bethel Park, PA 15102  
 831-6478


*Walt,  
 May TXXs. Glad to  
 have you  
 Karl*

**RACE DAY - SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1995**

Assignments and race details will be mailed prior to the race date.

# April 1995

## Monthly Planner

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2 7:30 PM ARES WPA Net 147.09 MHz	3	4 8:30 PM 2 Meter Net 145.49 MHz 9:00 PM 10 Meter Net 28.340 MHz	5	6 7:00 PM WACOM Club Meeting	7	8																																																																																				
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**The WACOM HAM**  
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V. President: Walt Piroth, N3BKW  
Treasurer: Cheryl McGrevin, N3PYC  
Secretary: Ted Lockman, WB3BZK

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**2 Meter Net Schedule**  
**145.49 MHz @ 8:30 PM Local Time**

April  
4 N3KLR  
11 N3KDP  
18 N3KLR  
25 KA3YTT

**10 Meter Net Schedule**  
**28.340 MHz @ 9:00PM Local Time**

April  
4 WB3GTE  
11 W3IBT  
18 KD3VX  
25 KA3VOM

# The W.A.COM HAM

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Washington, PA 15301



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Fay, Dave, & Keith Frankenberg;  
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362 Linnwood Rd.  
Eighty Four, PA 15330