

The WACOM HAM

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REMINDER—Next WACOM Board of Directors meeting is **Thursday, July 27 at 7 PM** at the WACOM Club room. All are welcome.

JOIN US ON THE AIR

2 meter net: Every Tuesday at 8:30 PM

On the WA3CYO repeaters 145.49
and 443.3 MHz

10 meter net: Every Tuesday at 9:00 PM
at 28.340 MHz



BUTTERFLY FOREST AT PHIPPS 152 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19101 06/29/01 17:18

Washington Amateur Communications, Inc.

1696 East Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301



Fay Frankenberg KA3VOM
362 Linnwood Rd
Eighty Four PA 15330

15330X2909 03



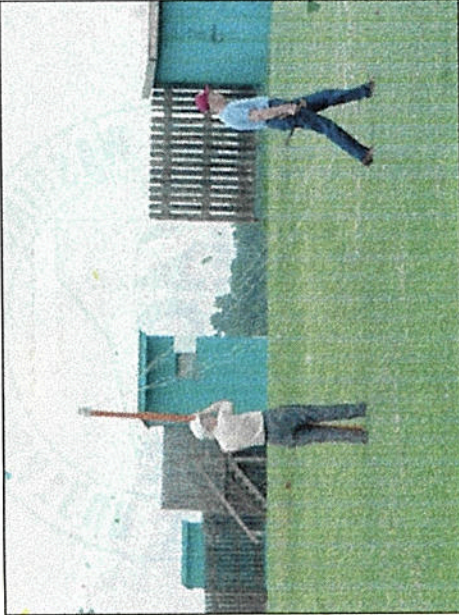
The WACOM
HAM
JULY 2001



Serving
Washington
County

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

Scenes from Field Day



WACOM members getting ready for the big day !



**WACOM is on the web at
www.wacomarc.org**

Special Event Station

**USPS – National Safe Boating Week
Vermilion, Ohio, June 9 and 10**

Thanks to all the WACOM members who worked the special event station. It was a great success.



**In the “Canopus” Pilot House, Mac
McDonald, KA3YTS, Mary Lou Marzina;
Richard Clark, KC8QFD; Don Stark,
N3HOW; Marjie Stark, N3HOZ; Ian Camp-
bell, WA5OFT; Hank Marzina, KB3FNM.**

THE EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Don Stark, N3HOW

In 1984, The FCC overhauled commercial radiotelephone and radiotelegraph licenses. The first and second class licenses were discontinued and replaced with a special lifetime General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL).

Who needs GROL? The FCC requires the GROL commercial license to service and adjust part 87 aviation radios, Part 80 marine radio, and Part 23 international fixed service short wave stations. The FCC still requires a radar endorsement for servicing aviation and marine radar equipment in addition to the GROL.

Why should this be of interest to us? If you have an Extra class license, you will find that almost 70% of the technical questions look almost identical to what was on the old Advanced and Extra class ham written exams and on the present amateur radio Extra class test. When they were establishing the test, they had to come up with a good set of test questions in a matter of a few days. Where better to find a ready set of test questions than in the Amateur radio question pool! So if you think this license might serve you well, you can check out the details. You can download a copy of the GROL and GMDSS license test questions from <http://www.qsl.net/n5wxfcc.html> or from the FCC license page at <http://www.techservice.net/tests/fcc/default.htm>

Also, the Extra class element 4 question pool will be reviewed and updated this summer. They are requesting your input. The update should be completed by this December for implementation on July 1, 2002. Send your suggestions to QPC Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW at w4ww@arrl.net. All the question pools can be viewed on the Internet at www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html

RACES REPORT

Bob Kettell, KB3IN

Thanks to all those who attended the Hazmat Identification training session. The seven WACOM attending were Dave Demotte, N3IDH; John Moninger, WA3VKC, Ted Lockman, WB3BZK; Clay Hamilton, KB3CHY; Ed Oeschlager, N3ZNI, Jacqueline Gosselin, N3ZEL, and myself. There will be a table top emergency exercise coming soon. I will announce details as I know them.

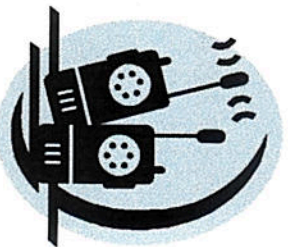
ARES REPORT

Dave Demotte, N3IDH

There are three events coming soon that could use your help in providing communications. The Vintage Grand Prix is held in Schenley Park in July. Contact the assistant EC for Allegheny County, Mark Stabryla, N3RDV for more information.

The Westmoreland County Air Show will be held at the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Latrobe. Contact Bob Livrone, N3WAY, ARES Emergency Coordinator for Westmoreland County for dates, time, and information.

The Beaver County Air Show will be held at the Beaver County Airport. Contact Dave Leiser, K3NPX, for more information.

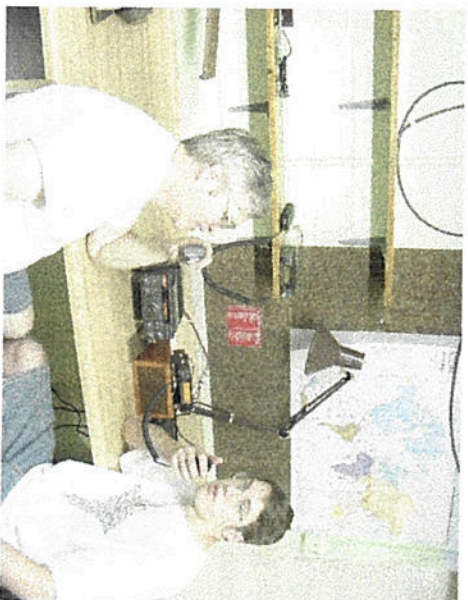


HOW'S DX?

Have you worked any rare ones lately? How are you coming on your DXCC? Do you have any good stories to share?

This column is your chance to talk about the contacts that you have made and the hams that you have met. Please send your information to the editor, Don Stark, N3HOW at stark84@nb.net or 228-4177.

STATION OF THE MONTH



Jim Burtoff, KC3HW, and Joe Caldwell, N3XE, practice dueling microphones in the WACOM club house radio shack. This facility is available to all members of WACOM. Contact Dave, N3IDH for more details.

Each month we will feature the station or new equipment of one of our members. Bring or send a picture of your station or equipment of which you are especially proud to the editor. If possible send a digital picture as an email attachment to Don Stark, N3HOW. The email address is stark84@nb.net.

The Prez Sez

by Dave Demotte, N3IDH



A very big thank you to everyone, and there are many, who helped make Field Day a big success.

First of all, thanks to Allan, KB3EUQ, and the Washington Sportsmen's Association for

hosting us at their facility. It was a great place for Field Day.

Thanks to everyone who came to set-up and/or tear down. Sometimes that's half the fun. Murphy showed up with the gas grill, but John, WA3VKC, saved the day again.

I counted 24 members and guests including Rob Stewart and his daughter from Washington Co. EMA who brought the HazMat #2 truck for us to see.

We operated 4A and it was nice to see so many people operating. The radios didn't get a rest until well after midnight. And special mention goes to Joe, N3XE, who dit-dahed a bunch of CW contacts.

Any contacts we may have lacked were more than made up for by all the great tasting calories we consumed! We may have led the section in that.

Thanks again to everyone

Assisting at field day were the following people: Jim, NW3X; Deke, K3QKS; Tom K3PLM; Paul, N3WMV; Don, N3HOW; Marjie, N3HOZ; Carl, KD3KH; John, N3VDD; Joe, N3XE; Ed, N3ZNI; Jackie, N3ZEL; Don, AA3UV; John WA3VKC; Rusty, Joe, WB3GTE; Allan KB3EUQI Ted, WB3BZK; Dave KB3GOT; Kevin, N3HKQ; Jim KC3HW and his wife; Dave, N3IDH; Russ, N3NE.

There were also many visitors from the Sportman's Association who came to see us. We are very grateful to all of them for their support and for making it possible to use their facility.



MAKE FYI
YOUR INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER
CONTACT FYI AT 1-877-FYI-4NET
ON THE WEB AT FYI.NET
MENTION THAT YOU ARE A WACOM MEMBER
FOR A SPECIAL PRICE OF \$18 / MONTH.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Club Picnic Meeting



August 2, 2001
Details in the Next
WACOM Ham

NEXT WACOM MEETING:

Thursday, July 5, 2001 at 7:30
PM
At the South Strabane #1 VFD
1696 East Maiden St.
Washington, PA 15301

Washington Amateur Communications, Inc.
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Washington, PA 15301

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The editor welcomes articles and timely information of interest to members and the general amateur community.