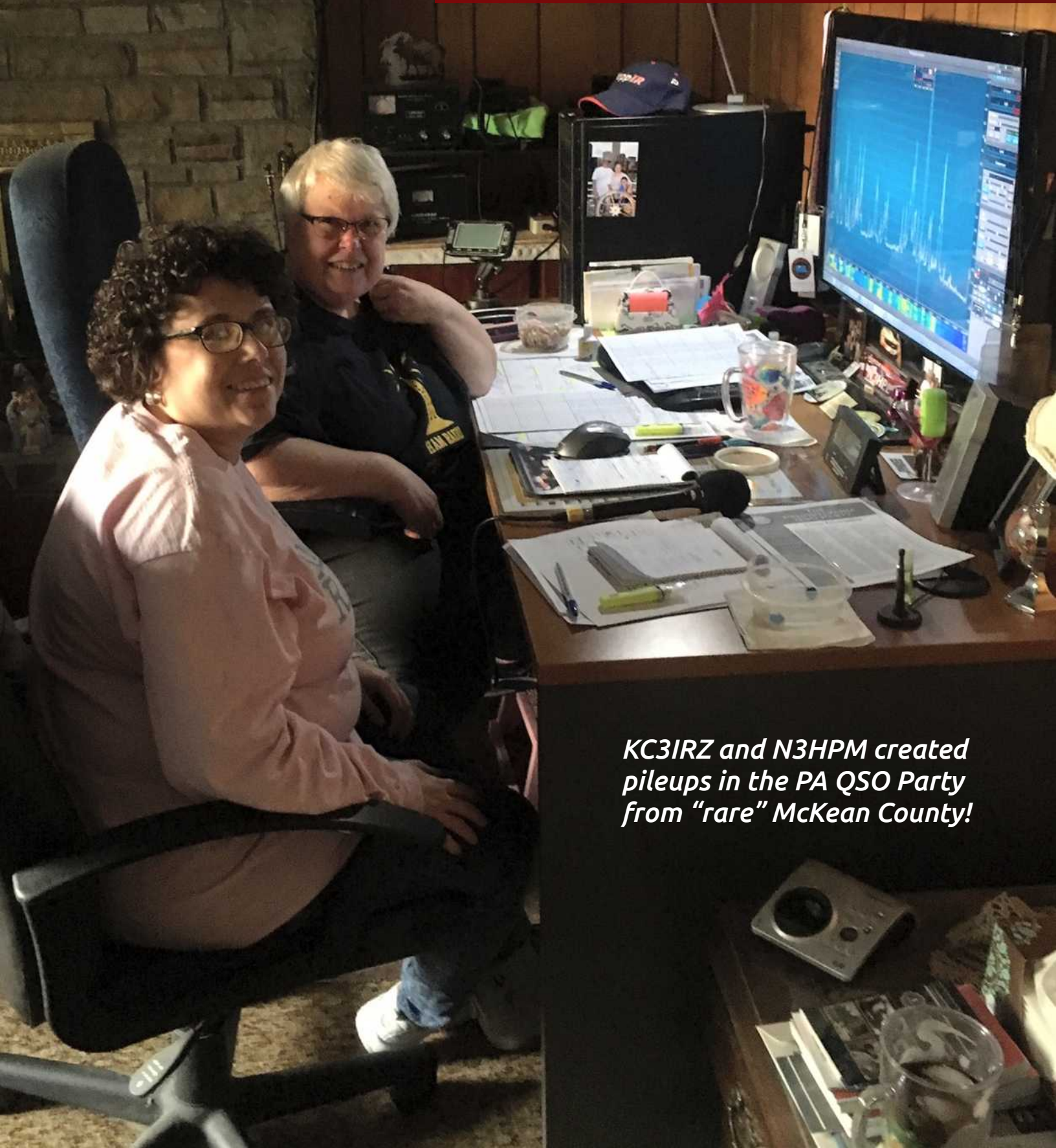




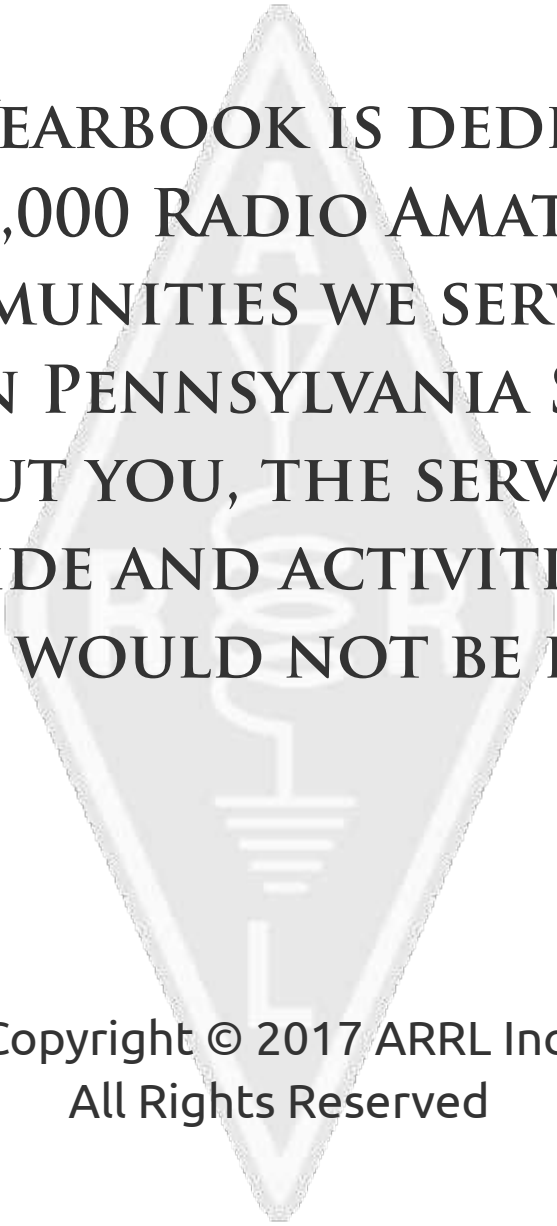
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION

2017 Yearbook

SERVICE ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ EXCELLENCE



KC3IRZ and N3HPM created pileups in the PA QSO Party from "rare" McKean County!



THIS YEARBOOK IS DEDICATED
TO THE 11,000 RADIO AMATEURS AND
THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE IN OUR
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION.
WITHOUT YOU, THE SERVICES WE
PROVIDE AND ACTIVITIES WE
SUPPORT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

Copyright © 2017 ARRL Inc.
All Rights Reserved

Contents

Section Manager's 2017 WPA Report - 1

WPA Section Staff - 3

Station Appointments - 8

On The Air - 11

 Winter Field Day - 15

 Field Day 2017 - 19

 Contests and Awards - 29

Clubs & Meetings - 31

Affiliated Club Directory - 33

Hamfests - 37

Public Service - 41

Education - 45

Technology - 51

Facts & Figures - 56

Districts and Counties - 57

ARRL Members - 58



Section Manager's 2017 WPA Report

Welcome to our Western Pennsylvania Section's *2017 Yearbook!* It's a genuine pleasure to present this retrospective of the past year's activities and achievements. During 2017, we certainly did Amateur Radio right in our Section, and hopefully, our Western Pennsylvania Section Staff and I were able to help with your activities and answer all your questions.

I would like to extend a big "Thank You!" to each and every one who is reading this. Your volunteer work and activity most

certainly made life better for everyone in Western Pennsylvania. The Public Service, Educational activities, Communication and Technical expertise you provide free of charge to our communities is priceless—and irreplaceable!

Our service doesn't stop there! Countless hours of instruction, Volunteer Exams and *Elmering* made more than 450 new Radio Amateurs feel welcome as they take their first steps into this wonderful activity.

Club leaders kept our clubs vital, setting up many interesting and enjoyable gatherings, projects and activities for their members and the communities they serve. Club membership is up in many communities, and the level of on-the-air activity is gratifying, to say the least!

Hamfest Time

What would summer be without plenty of interesting Hamfests to visit? We are lucky indeed to live in Western Pennsylvania—home to more hamfests than any other section!

Our Western Pennsylvania Section staff made a commitment to set up a strong ARRL and Section presence at every hamfest, and we did just that in 2017!



KA3HPM gets ready to check QSL Cards

There were 13 Hamfests held all across our Section—from Chambersburg to Erie to Washington to Uniontown, Somerset and many, many more! And every one of them had an awesome turnout of fellow hams! Vendors were happy to go home with empty trucks and full pockets!

We held our WPA Section Convention in June at the Breezeshooters Hamfest. Our ARRL Speakers were Tom Abernethy W3TOM our Atlantic Division Director, and

Mike Corey KI1U ARRL HQ Emergency Preparedness Manager. The forums were well attended and the response was enthusiastic from all who took part.

The Road Show

Our WPA Section is vary large—over 20,000 square miles—and driving on our mountainous highways to attend a Section event can mean a day of travel for those near the edges of our Section.

This year we tried something different—we had a District Meeting in each of our four districts. Topics included a briefing to update the participants on ARRL news, ARES training and procedures, Leadership programs for Club leaders, followed by questions and answers. And usually some good food as well!

The hams attending these meetings were supplied with “Report Cards” to evaluate the meetings and presentations. The very encouraging results of these surveys—and their comments—are presented in the following

pages of this *Yearbook*.

I could go on, but why don't you just look through the rest of this *Yearbook* and enjoy the memories, thanks to all you good people who sent us your photos!

73 and Press On!

Joe Shupienis W3BC
WPA Section Manager



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION

SERVICE ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ EXCELLENCE

*Serving, supporting, coordinating and representing
radio amateurs and their communities in the 33
western counties of Pennsylvania since 1926*

WPA Section Staff

Section Manager

Joe Shupienis W3BC

96 Third Street
PO Box 73
Falls Creek, PA 15840-0073

District North-2, Jefferson County
Home: 814-371-3235
Mobile: 814-771-3804
w3bc@arrl.org

Assistant Section Manager

David M. Wellman WX3E

85 W High St
Union City, PA, 16438-1239

District North-1, Erie County
Home: (814) 438-3127
Mobile: (814) 881-8676
wx3e@arrl.net

Assistant Section Manager

Dr. Juan Manfredi NA0B

105 Berwick Dr
Pittsburgh, PA, 15215-1101

District South-1, Allegheny County
Home: (412) 956-4228
Mobile: (412) 624-0790
na0b@arrl.net

Section Emergency Coordinator

Bud Plants N3TIR

236 Chambers Ridge Rd
West Alexander, PA, 15376-2270

District South-2, Washington County
Home: (724) 484-0207
Mobile: (724) 350-6745
n3tir@arrl.net

Assistant Section EC

Steve Fazekas K3FAZ

123 Leasureville Rd
Sarver, PA, 16055-8612

District South-2, Butler County

Home: (724) 524-1524

Mobile: (724) 316-6894

k3faz@arrl.net

Section Traffic Manager

Herb Gilliland W3YNX

640 Fleming Rd
Sarver, PA, 16055-9505

District South-2, Butler County

Home: (724) 524-1303

Mobile: (412) 915-0464

w3ynx@arrl.net

Public Information Coordinator

Cory Sickles WA3UVV

PO Box 864
Uniontown, PA, 15401-0864

District South-2, Fayette County

Home: (724) 434-3172

Mobile: (724) 434-3172

wa3uvv@arrl.net

Technical Coordinator

Dennis Presky K3PSP

1480 Washington Rd
Washington, PA, 15301-9647

District South-2, Washington County

Home: (724) 225-6153

Mobile: (724) 225-6153

k3psp@arrl.net

Section Youth Coordinator

Bruce E. Gibson K3BEG

1753 Harbor Edinburg Rd
Edinburg, PA, 16116-5411

District North-1, Lawrence County

Home: (724) 658-0272

Mobile: (724) 944-8551

k3beg@arrl.net

Affiliated Club Coordinator

Michael A. Haney KF7GRQ

147 E Bissell Ave
Oil City, PA, 16301-1987

District North-1, Venango County

Home: (814) 671-2655

Mobile: (814) 671-2277

kf7grq@arrl.net

Volunteer Legal Counsel

Barney Scholl K3LA

32 Shenango Ave P O Box 673
Sharon, PA, 16146-1502

District North-1, Mercer County

Home: (724) 866-5352

Mobile: (724) 981-4800

k3la@arrl.net

James Lazeroff K3AIR

227 Woodside Dr
Washington, PA, 15301-3035

District South-2, Washington County

Home: (724) 228-4778

Mobile: (724) 256-8859

k3air@arrl.net

DXCC QSL Checker

Jack Buzon KA3HPM

47 Grubbs Rd
Cheswick, PA, 15024-1701

District South-1, Allegheny County
Home: (724) 265-4237
Mobile: (724) 265-4237
ka3hpm@arrl.net

Bruce Manning NJ3K

784 Pine Grove Rd
Port Allegany, PA, 16743-4824

District North-2, McKean County
Home: (814) 642-2211
Mobile: (814) 331-3095
nj3k@arrl.net

District Emergency Coordinators

North-1

Jamie Tolbert WW3S

21986 Russet Dr
Meadville, PA, 16335-5562

District North-1, Crawford County
Home: (814) 337-2315
Mobile: (814) 397-3556
ww3s@arrl.net

North-2

Kevin Snyder KA3YCB

6659 Home Camp Rd
Du Bois, PA, 15801-5643

District North-1, Clearfield County
Home: (814) 503-8581
Mobile: (814) 541-7584
ka3ycb@arrl.net

South-1

Terrence Nemitz KA3UTD

311 Fairview Dr
Irwin, PA, 15642-8915

District South-1, Westmoreland County
Home: (724) 875-1935
Mobile: (814) 771-6452
ka3utd@arrl.net



Skyview members help out on Race Day

Emergency Coordinators

Allegheny County

Robert Timmins AB3ED

Pittsburgh, PA
Home: (412) 576-9149
Mobile: (412) 576-9149
ab3ed@arrl.net

Armstrong County

Steve Fazekas K3FAZ

Sarver, PA
Home: (724) 524-1524
Mobile: (724) 316-6894
k3faz@arrl.net

Emergency Coordinators (cont'd)

Beaver County

John F. Cole N3TN

Beaver, PA

Home: (724) 643-8558

Mobile: (724) 643-8558

kb3tn@arrl.net

Bedford County

Steve Elliott KA3UDR

Manns Choice, PA

Home: (814) 623-6147

Mobile: (814) 201-0047

ka3udr@arrl.net

Blair County

Drew McGhee KA3EJV

Altoona, PA

Home: (814) 935-9199

Mobile: (814) 935-9199

ka3ejv@arrl.net

Butler County

Bill Hastings KB3TBT

Prospect, PA

Home: (724) 789-7075

Mobile: (724) 856-9695

kb3tbt@arrl.net

Cambria County

Dylan Beaty KC3DVR

Nicktown, PA

Home: (814) 421-9455

Mobile: (814) 421-9455

kc3dvr@arrl.net

Centre County

Carmine Prestia K3CWP

State College, PA

Home: (814) 238-7857

Mobile: (814) 574-0108

k3cwp@arrl.net

Clearfield County

Steven K. Smith K3SKS

DuBois, PA

Home: (814) 371-2950

Mobile: (814) 371-2950

k3sks@arrl.net

Crawford County

Jamie Tolbert WW3S

Meadville, PA

Home: (814) 337-2315

Mobile: (814) 397-3556

ww3s@arrl.net

Erie County

David M. Wellman WX3E

Union City, PA

Home: (814) 438-3127

Mobile: (814) 881-8676

wx3e@arrl.net

Fayette County

Jason Smereczniak KC3EUL

Belle Vernon, PA

Home: (724) 454-8688

Mobile: (724) 454-8688

kc3eul@arrl.net

Emergency Coordinators (cont'd)

Franklin County

Anthony Ogburn KB3WOX

Scotland, PA

Home: (717) 552-1909

Mobile: (717) 552-1909

kb3wox@arrl.net

Greene County

Larry Shumaker KC3DQY

Rices Landing, PA

Home:

Mobile: (724) 231-9417

kc3dqy@arrl.net

Jefferson County

Steve Waltman KB3FPN

Brookville, PA

Home: (814) 849-3398

Mobile: (814) 715-5040

kb3fpn@arrl.net

Lawrence County

Gregory Singer K3VLR

New Wilmington, PA

Home: (724) 946-3926

Mobile: (724) 983-2933

k3vlr@arrl.net

Mercer County

Michael Varga NR3C

Fredonia, PA

Home: (724) 475-2115

Mobile: (724) 813-9412

nr3c@arrl.net

Venango County

Russ Campbell KA3WNL

Franklin, PA

Home: (814) 432-4139

Mobile: (814) 673-1660

ka3wnl@arrl.net

Warren County

Lisa Bush WC3PO

Youngsville, PA

Home:

Mobile: (814) 706-6067

wc3po@arrl.net



Washington County

Robert Ketzal, KB3IN

Washington, PA

Home: (724) 228-0425

Mobile: (724) 809-6274

kb3in@arrl.net

Westmoreland County

Paul Byers N3LQE

West Newton, PA

Home: (724) 309-9934

Mobile: (724) 309-9934

n3lqe@arrl.net



OFFICIAL RELAY STATION

This certifies that

Floyd Schmertnick, W3LID

has met the qualifications for an official ARRL Field Organization appointment in the Western Pennsylvania Section, and agrees to abide by the rules set forth by the League. All appointments require regular activity and reporting.

Floyd Schmertnick
W3LID
Airport Manager

Joe Shapiro W3BC
Authorizing Official

Station Appointments

Local Government Liaison

Carmine W. Prestia K3CWP
State College, PA

Elmer L. "Bud" Plants N3TIR
West Alexander, PA

Official Bulletin Stations

Michael A. Kowalcheck KV3L
Greenock, PA

Charles N. Gessner W3ON
West Mifflin, PA

Richard M. Bender W3SYY
Ebensburg, PA

Official Emergency Stations

Elmer L. "Bud" Plants N3TIR
West Alexander, PA

David H. Parkhill AA3YW
Sarver, PA

Carmine W. Prestia K3CWP
State College, PA

Timothy J. Duffy K3LR
West Middlesex, PA

Lloyd Bankson. Roach K3QNT
Bedford, PA

D Daniel McGlothin KB3MUN
Saint Thomas, PA

Shawn Hastwell KB8UDE
Industry, PA

Charles R. Maggi N3CRM
State College, PA

John V. Rodgers N3MSE
Butler, PA

John F. Cole N3TN

Midland, PA

Chuck R. Davis N3UUZ

Oakdale, PA

Robert Livrone N3WAV

Lower Burrell, PA

Robert G. Gutshall W3BTX

Altoona, PA

John E. Passaneau W3JXP

State College, PA

Harry P. Bloomberg W3YJ

Pittsburgh, PA

J Patrick. Campbell WA3UOE

State College, PA

Theodore J. Holland WB3AVD

Duncansville, PA

Carmen J. Peca WO3T

Williamsburg, PA

Official Relay Stations

Harry P. Bloomberg W3YJ

Pittsburgh, PA

John W. Buchignani K3JHT

Pittsburgh, PA

Lawrence F. O Toole K3LBP

Mt Pleasant, PA

Timothy J. Duffy K3LR

West Middlesex, PA

James A. Brinson K4WOP

Mercersburg, PA

Thomas C. Vaughn N3EE

Glassport, PA

Kent Badger N3KB

Sarver, PA

John V. Rodgers N3MSE

Butler, PA

Robert Livrone N3WAV

Lower Burrell, PA

Robert J. Mente NU3Q

Carnegie, PA

E T. Chesworth W3IA

Boalsburg, PA

Carl Volz W3SMV

Boalsburg, PA

Public Information Officers

Robert J. Mente NU3Q

Carnegie, PA

Stephen E. Billetz AA3KC

Dilliner, PA

William S. Warmuth K3FQI

Connellsville, PA

Lloyd Bankson. Roach K3QNT

Bedford, PA

Drew R. Mc Ghee KA3EJV

Altoona, PA

Blanche Bender KA3VXR

Ebensburg, PA

Bruce M. Ericksen KB3OPM

Chambersburg, PA

Bill Edgar N3LLR

Bradford, PA

Elmer L. Plants N3TIR

West Alexander, PA

Michael S. Varga NR3C

Fredonia, PA

Joe Shupienis W3BC

Falls Creek, PA

Charles F. Barr WA3GQU

Du Bois, PA

Bryan J. Simanic WA3UFN

Du Bois, PA

Tony Zona WB3KGT

Waterford, PA



Technical Specialists

William P. Lyons WM3G

Meadville, PA

David H. Parkhill AA3YW

Sarver, PA

Andrew L. Marhefka K3ELP

Vandergrift, PA

Edward S. Morrison K3JE

Clearfield, PA

James L. Stewart K3JLB

Oil City, PA

D Daniel McGlothin KB3MUN

Saint Thomas, PA

Frank J. Rossi N3FLR

Irwin, PA

John V. Rodgers N3MSE

Butler, PA

John S. Szwarc N3SPW

Kylertown, PA

Elmer L. Plants N3TIR

West Alexander, PA

Richard M. Bender W3SYY

Ebensburg, PA

Theodore M. Leonard W3VG

Bradford, PA

Charles S. Mathewson WA3FFC

Brookville, PA

Barry H. Capell WA3GSH

Saegertown, PA

Robert E. Bair WA3HDK

Union City, PA

Gary W. Laska WB3KFO

Titusville, PA

[Note: Our 11 Official Observers are not listed to safeguard their privacy. If you need to consult with an OO, please ask the Section Manager to arrange contact.]



On The Air

Operating activities take place all year long, in any weather and under any conditions. Some people like the challenge of a 30-hour marathon contest. Others prefer the icy cold of Winter Field Day. Following the success of the 2016 National Parks on the Air event, 2017 saw many State Parks being activated in the SPOTA event.

There is truly something for everybody to enjoy in our favorite hobby. All across our WPA Section, we are experimenting with antennas, radios, technologies, modes and operating strategies. Thanks to all of you for sending in photos of the on-the-air activity in your part of our Section.

Have a look at some of the highlights of the past year, from clubs and groups in every part of our Section. From Special Event stations, to club hamshacks, to contests, including Field Day to hill-topping, our WPA hams do it all—with style!

So, let's get the show on the road!





McKean County ARC members did double duty at the Kinzua Bridge State Park—first, they activated the Park for State Parks On The Air, and second they used the event to generate public interest in Amateur Radio, fielding many questions from inquisitive visitors!



New ham **KC3IDU** enjoys his first Field Day courtesy of the Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club's Field Day site.



*Inside the **W3SO VHF Contest Station**, high atop Wopsonnock Mountain near Altoona. The station routinely earns top scores in VHF contests from the heart of Western Pennsylvania Section.*



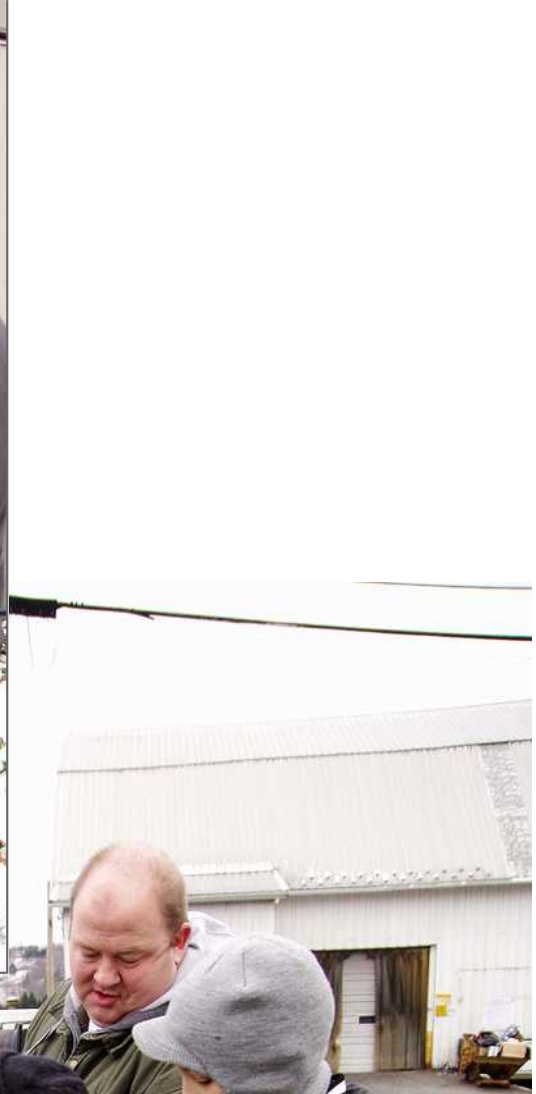
The Two Rivers ARC (W3OC) put 4 transmitters on the air using emergency power in a well organized Field Day effort. Nice work, guys!

A tall, slender antenna tower stands in the foreground, supported by several guy wires extending to the ground. The background features a vibrant sunset sky with streaks of orange, red, and pink. In the lower-left corner, there is a covered pavilion with a dark roof and several support pillars. Inside the pavilion, some vehicles and people are visible. The overall scene is set in an open field or park area.

*Amateur Radio – Any time,
any place... Give us room for a
radio and antenna and we will
bring you the world!*

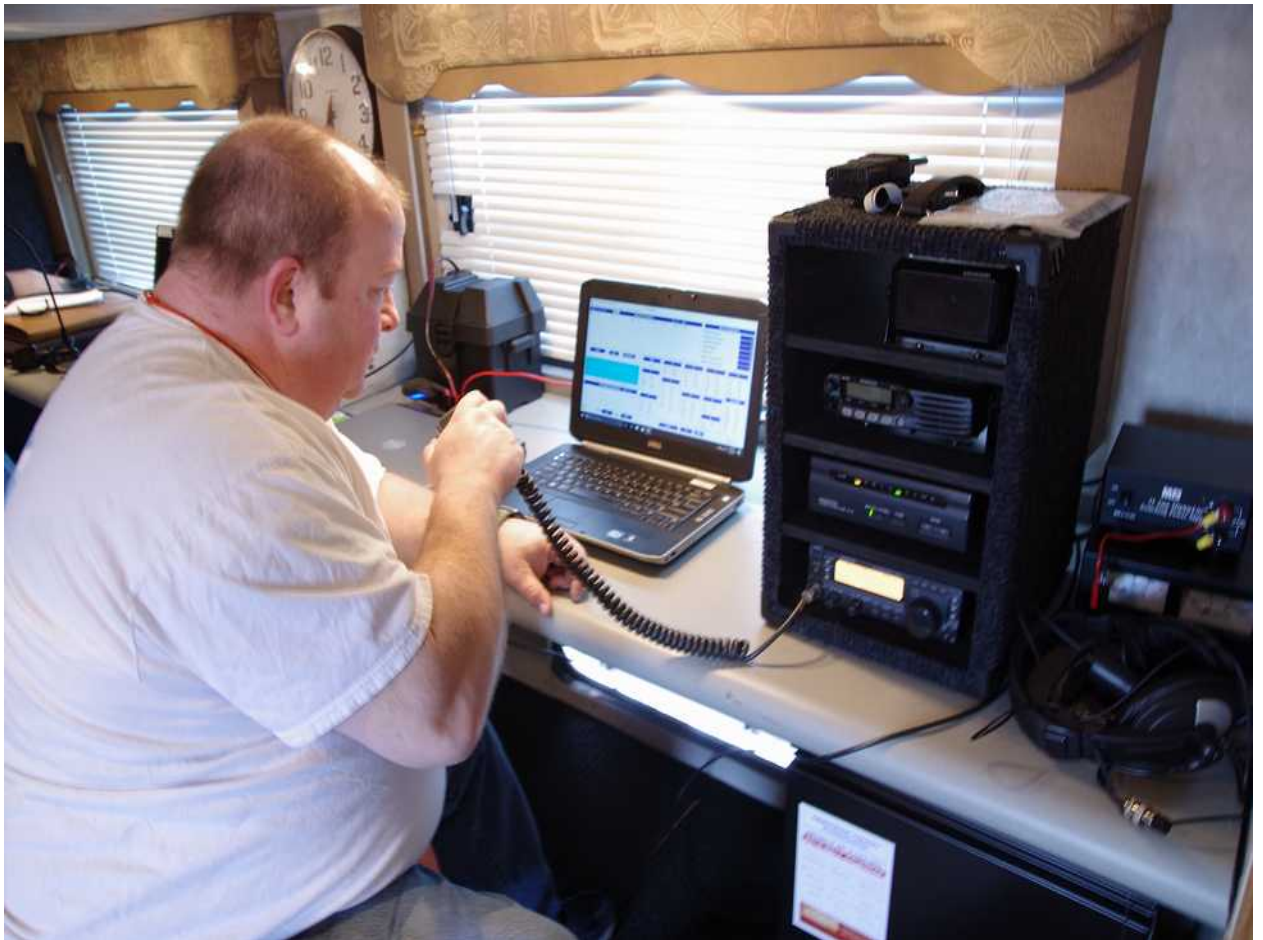


Winter Field Day



Field Day is always a lot of fun for everyone! Winter weather adds a different twist with icy cold wind and snow. The rewards to those brave hams who venture outdoors the last weekend of January include a sense of accomplishment and knowing that we can get on the air, no matter what!





Fort Armstrong Wireless Association Winter Field Day)



The reports are in, and they confirm that nobody got frostbite, the radios all worked without a hitch, and most importantly, everybody had a great time!

Maybe the winter weather makes us appreciate our warm hamshacks all that much more!

See you at Winter Field Day!





Field Day 2017



All day and all night, in darkness and light, big station or small, on and on goes the call—"CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY..."

Field Day is the most popular operating event in all of Amateur Radio, and here in

our Western Pennsylvania Section, we really put up a great showing.

Our Section Staff hit the long lonely highway and altogether logged over 1,200 miles to visit as many Field Day operations as possible. It is truly amazing to see so much enthusiasm for our favorite hobby, right here in our very own backyard!



Somerset County Amateur Radio Club, Holsopple PA



Crawford County ARC members evoke memories of Iwo-Jima as they raise an antenna in the park. This clever system is really a multi-band inverted Vee array, supported by the center mast. Club Leader Jamie WW3S measured the performance with his antenna analyzer and the result was “near perfect!”

When science, technology, skill and teamwork combine, you simply can't lose!

This is a great antenna for Field Day, disaster communications, or just having a great time outdoors. Don't leave home without one!



Do you see a pattern here? (TNX John Seiler, Two Rivers ARC)



This was our second year at the North Strabane Township Park. We did a bit of a free for all this year instead of a structured setup and ended up with a few first time field day participants setting up impromptu stations. Mike K3AIR was our most dedicated operator and made good use of his awesome roll-up solar panel.

— Joe Caldwell, N3XE, WACOM President



Steel City Amateur Radio Club W3KWH heated up the bands in their cool clubhouse!



Bedford County hams manned the "Brass Pumphandle" for many CW QSOs



Nittany ARC Members put together a remarkable Field Day presence every year. I counted no less than four HF beams, countless wire antennas and rigs galore. This is the big time, folks!

WA3FET (right) manned the CW position night shift under the stars in the well appointed communications trailer designed and built by N3EB.





Horseshoe Radio Club members take a breather before the 80 meter onslaught!



Mercer County ARC was graciously hosted at the K3LR superstation.



Butler County Public Service Group set up shop at the Rodeo Grounds in the most house-like tent ever made!



Field Day is all about the Fun, Friends and Food—Lots of great Food!

“The real object of this contest is to test ‘portables’ wherever they may be available... If successful, we want to make it an annual affair.”

—F. E. Handy W1BDI, 1933





Contests and Awards



Our Western Pennsylvania Section has always been home to some of the biggest contesters and award chasers in the world—and they have the papers to prove it!

One service our Section offers is our team of QSL Card Checkers. We had someone on hand to check your cards at almost every hamfest in 2017, and we plan to continue that service in 2018. It's simple—bring your cards to the ARRL table, to have them officially checked.

Several Western Pennsylvania groups sponsor contests and awards—the Breezeshooters hold a very popular 10-meter groundwave contest every year. Nittany Amateur Radio Club sponsors the Pennsylvania QSO Party every October, which is among the largest state QSO parties on the air.

Big Gun contest stations abound in our section, including DX superstation K3LR on the Ohio line in Mercer County, and the W3SO VHF contest powerhouse on Wopsonnock Mountain near Altoona.

A good number of individual contesters, DXers and Award Chasers can be found in just about every part of our Section. Some have reached the heights of the DXCC Honor Roll, and many others turn in high individual scores in contests all year long!

Our WPA Section offers awards, too. The first recipient of the Gilbert L. Crosley Award for Service and Leadership was Bob Bastone WC3O of the Skyview Amateur Radio Club. The award is named for the first WPA Section Communications manager Gil Crosley W3YA. He was elected WPA SCM in 1926, and served as Section Communications Manager, and Atlantic Division Director for many years. He was the founder of the Penn State Amateur Radio Club, and a member of the Nittany

Amateur Radio Club in State College. The club honors his memory with the W3YA memorial station in State College.

Another WPA award created this year is the Frank Dawson Bliley Award for Advancing the Radio Art. The first recipients were Bruce Gibson K3BEG and



The image shows a certificate from the Western Pennsylvania Section of the ARRL. On the left is a vertical red banner with the WPA logo (a diamond with 'WPA' and 'ARRL' text) and the ARRL logo at the bottom. The main text on the certificate reads: 'WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION', 'SERVICE ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ EXCELLENCE', 'FRANK DAWSON BLILEY AWARD', 'FOR ADVANCING THE RADIO ART.', 'CORY D. GIBSON W3CDG', 'AMATEUR RADIO TRACKING & TELEMETRY', 'NEAR-SPACE BALLOON LAUNCH', 'PITTSBURGH PA • SEPTEMBER 20TH 2017'. At the bottom right is a signature of Joe Shupina, W3BC, Western Pennsylvania Section Manager.

Cory Gibson W3CDG, for their Amateur Radio APRS support of a near-space balloon launch by the students of the PA Cyber Academy Charter School, in September.

Like Gil Crosley, Frank Dawson Bliley was born and raised in Erie in the early days of radio. He went on to start the Bliley Electric Company, manufacturing the quartz crystals that control the frequencies in radio equipment. The company is still headquartered in Erie, and is a leading Defense contractor.



Clubs & Meetings



Your local Amateur Radio Club is the heart and soul of amateur radio activity in your community. It's usually where you go to get started and get your license. It's where you go to find an Elmer and learn the ropes. It's where you make friends with other hams.

The Club meeting—along with all the other club activities, dinners, events and other service opportunities—is the central focus of Amateur Radio in your community.

Our Western Pennsylvania Section is truly fortunate to have a large number of clubs, all over the Section. And these clubs are busy with Public Service, Licensing Classes, VE Exams, group projects, technical

programs, contesting, special events, and much more!

Our Section also has meetings. Our Section Convention at the Breezeshooters Hamfest in June was well attended and a very informative and interesting experience for everyone.

We have also instituted District Meetings in each of our Districts to bring the show to you and reduce your travel time and distance. These District meetings were also well-received, and have encouraged us to prepare even better programs going forward!

Club social activities round out the benefits of club membership, and our clubs have many wonderful opportunities to socialize with other local practitioners of our favorite hobby. So let the fun begin and support your local club!



District Meetings were a great time to exchange ideas



Westmoreland Emergency Amateur Radio Service Members and Officers



Affiliated Club Directory

North Hills ARC W3EXW

Allison Park, PA
Edward C DeHart WA3YOA
(412) 519-3339
WA3YOA@NHARC.ORG

Horseshoe ARC W3QZF

Altoona, PA
Thomas D Cooney W3SF
(814) 931-0060
tom@cooneyjr.com

Bedford County Radio Society K3NQT

Bedford, PA
Lloyd Bankson Roach K3QNT
(814) 310-2415
k3qnt@aol.com



McKean County ARC W3VV

Bradford, PA
Sandra Pistner N3HPL
(716) 373-8010 496
sandee_don@verizon.net

Butler County ARA W3UDX

Butler, PA
James H Love W1JHL
(724) 482-2656
jlove517@zoominternet.net

BUTLER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO PSG K3PSG

Butler, PA
Dennis K Stokes KA3LVG
(724) 443-6581
dkjstokes@zoominternet.net

Steel City ARC Inc W3KWH

Carnegie, PA
Arthur J Mueller WA3BKD
(412) 356-7381

Cumberland Valley ARC W3ACH

Chambersburg, PA
Anthony L Ogburn KB3WOX
(717) 552-1909
KB3WOX@arrl.net



CLEARFIELD COUNTY ARC W3CPA

Clearfield, PA
Garry J Byers W3CUB
(814) 937-7836
av8r.garry@gmail.com

Radio Amateurs Of Corry W3YXE

Corry, PA
John J Lis N3NKV
(814) 823-6482
jjlis165@gmail.com

Headwaters ARC N3PC

Coudersport, PA
Wayne E Stahler WS3PC
(814) 274-9436
ZIP.DOE@GMAIL.COM

Quad-County Amateur Radio Club N3QC

Du Bois, PA
Joe Shupienis W3BC
(814) 771-3804
info@qcarc.org



ELLWOOD CITY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION N3EC

Ellwood City, PA
James H Klingensmith N3ZJM
(724) 971-1235
JAMESH@ZOOMINTERNET.NET



WATTSBURG WIRELESS ASSOCIATION K3WWA

Erie, PA
Ronald J Rycek KB3QBB
(814) 833-6829
rjrycek@roadrunner.com

Radio Association Of Erie W3GV

Erie, PA
Douglas A Sweet AD4UL
(321) 255-7637
dsweet.ad4ul@gmail.com



TWO RIVERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W3OC

Greenock, PA
Merle T Shotwell K3HIR
(412) 754-0451
k3hir.merle@verizon.net

WESTMORELAND EMERGENCY AMATEUR RADIO SER WC3PS

Greensburg, PA
Jay D Schall KB3NSJ
(724) 610-1661
kb3nsj@comcast.net

Indiana County ARC W3BMD

Homer City, PA
Douglass M Fitzsimmons K3LAB
(724) 915-8096
douglass.fitzsimmons@gmail.com

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W3TCA

Irwin, PA
Dennis Lovett N3VYZ
(724) 863-9437
n3vyz@yahoo.com

CAMBRIA RADIO CLUB WA3WGN

Johnstown, PA
M Scott Zimmerman N3XCC
WA3WGN@gmail.com

Crawford ARS W3MIE

Meadville, PA
 James J Cihon K3TLP
 (814) 724-1413
jcihon@zoominternet.net

**Huntingdon County ARC W3VI**

Mount Union, PA
 Andrew J Ketner N3OGT
 (717) 247-3327
aketner@outlook.com

**TRIPLE'A' AMATEUR RADIO ASSN;
INC. N3TN**

New Brighton, PA
 John F Cole N3TN
 (724) 643-8558
n3tn@comcast.net

**AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE OF
LAWRENCE COUNTY NC3LC**

New Castle, PA

LCARES KB3YBB

New Castle, PA

Skyview Radio Society K3MJW

New Kensington, PA
 Robert L Bastone WC3O
 (724) 448-5774
radiofreebob@gmail.com

**PHILIPSBURG AMATEUR RADIO
ASSOCIATION W3PHB**

Philipsburg, PA
 Filip Cerny AB3HK
 (814) 342-0975
fcerny62@gmail.com

**CARNEGIE TECH RADIO CLUB
W3VC**

Pittsburgh, PA
 Michael Reiss KB3SOZ
ar99@andrew.cmu.edu

Panther Amateur Radio Club W3YI

Pittsburgh, PA
 Juan J Manfredi NA0B
 (412) 624-0790
juanmanfredi@me.com

**WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTH HILLS WA3SH**

Pittsburgh, PA
 Carol Danko KB3GMN
 (412) 884-1466
n3sbf@comcast.net

**WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTH HILLS WA3SH**

Pittsburgh, PA
 Carol Danko KB3GMN
 (412) 884-1466
n3sbf@comcast.net

**Punxsutawney Area Amateur
Radio Club K3HWJ**

Punxsutawney, PA
 Stephen D Waltman KB3FPN
 (814) 715-5040
mytoy37@windstream.net

Mercer County ARC W3LIF

Sharon, PA
 Timothy J Duffy K3LR
 (405) 222-8877
K3LR@K3LR.COM

**ATLANTIC WIRELESS SOCIETY INC
K3AWS**

Sharon, PA
 Timothy J Duffy K3LR
 (405) 222-8877
K3LR@K3LR.COM

Somerset County ARC K3SMT

Somerset, PA
Stewart R Saylor AK3J
(814) 444-0637
ssaylor@earthlink.net

Beaver Valley ARA W3SGJ

South Heights, PA
Robert J De Marco WA3ZRM
(724) 378-7070
wa3zrm@yahoo.com

Nittany ARC W3YA

State College, PA
Richard L Thompson K3BIE
(814) 342-5520
rlt2@psu.edu

Irwin Area ARA W3NDP

Trafford, PA
Joseph R Nelis K3JZD
k3jzd@nelis.net

Uniontown Arc W3PIE

Uniontown, PA
officers@w3pie.org



**Washington Amateur Comm Inc
WA3COM**

Washington, PA
Joseph E Caldwell N3XE
(724) 413-9019
joe@n3xe.com



North Coast Contesters NC8C

West Middlesex, PA
Timothy J Duffy K3LR
(405) 222-8877
K3LR@K3LR.COM

**ALLEGHENY VALLEY RADIO
ASSOCIATION W3WPA**

Wexford, PA
Pete Finnegan W3WC
(724) 935-4124
finnpii@consolidated.net





Hamfests

Western Pennsylvania has always been home to hamfests since its early beginnings in 1926. Today, the tradition continues with 12 hamfests being held across our Section in 2017.

Our Western Pennsylvania Section made a point of providing a solid presence and

support at every one of the ARRL-sanctioned hamfests in Western PA. Having the opportunity to meet Section staff, ask questions and get answers and assistance is a valuable service we offer, free of charge.

From QSL checking to technical advice, ARRL supplies, membership services and much more, we were there at every hamfest—and we'll continue our tradition.





Seeing the latest products or winning one of the many prizes, our WPA Hamfests truly have something for everybody!





Even at Dayton, our WPA Hams are well represented!





Inside or outside, hamfests are very popular in our WPA Section!



Public Service



Amateur Radio licenses are granted "in the public interest, convenience and necessity," as FCC Regulations put it. In our WPA Section, our ARRL

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) program is administered by our Section Emergency Coordinator Bud Plants N3TIR, and Assistant SEC Steve Fazekas K3FAZ.





Indiana County Amateur Radio Club ARES members set up an Amateur Radio demonstration at the Jimmy Stewart Airport for the annual Airshow.



NASA went to Mars... Mars, Pennsylvania to be exact! Amateur Radio was part of the event, and two clubs participated—**Butler County Public Service Group** and **North Hills Amateur Radio Club** both set up demonstration exhibits in downtown Mars, PA.





American Radio Relay League The National Association for Amateur Radio®

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION

SERVICE ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ EXCELLENCE



Hello All
October 16, 2017
2017 WPA SET

I wanted to take a moment and thank everyone who contributed their time and excellent planning and professional execution of the Western Pennsylvania S.E.T. Drill 2017.

Congratulations

*"Incident Command"
K3MJW Sky View*

*"District Command"
K3LR/NR3C North One
W3KWH Steel City South One
W3BC North Two
KA3UDR/K3QNT South Two*

These 5 stations performed excellent net control duties including

All WPA DECs and ECs and their local counties EOC's and command and shelter stations.

This was a great exercise in a scalable Incident Command System from the planning to execution of the Voice First S.E.T. Drill.

I want to thank WX3PIT of Pittsburgh and WX3CTP of State College. Both National Weather Service stations served as a major component of this drill. I wish to see a greater participation from our Amateur Radio Operators with the SKYWARN and CoCoRaHs programs.

This was a direct request from the National Weather Service of Pittsburgh. I feel we could do a fantastic job to support their weather collection efforts.

"I would like to see from you all is if we can get more snowfall reports during the winter from ham radio operators via our online reporting system or sign up for CoCoRaHs and report via an app on your phone. I can speak at a meeting or webinar if that helps" Fred McMullen Warning Coordination Meteorologist

The link to sign up to report snowfall is <https://www.cocorahs.org/Application.aspx>

Bud Plants N3TIR

Section Emergency Coordinator
Western PA ARES
sec@wpa-arrrl.org
10/14/2017 section traffic from SEC

Elmer "Bud" Plants N3TIR, Section Emergency Coordinator ♦ 236 Chambers Ridge Rd ♦ West Alexander, PA 15376 ♦ 724-350-6745

The American Radio Relay League does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, or national origin.



Education

From club meeting programs to local seminars and workshops to District Meetings and our Section Convention, many learning activities took place in 2017, all over our Western Pennsylvania Section. Organized Youth activities are on the uptick. We made every effort to assist local clubs to participate with the Scouts for the Jamboree On The Air.

VE Exams and licensing classes resulted in over 100 new and upgraded hams in our Section. Our Section staff began to promote activities on a local level to engage the new licensees in amateur

radio activities, and welcome them into the mainstream of hamdom.

Various clinics and workshops took place on various topics, such as Go-Kit construction, DMR and other Digital Voice modes, and kit building sessions. Many WPA Amateurs picked up a soldering iron and built useful modern radio equipment that works.

We have seen a renewed interest in Morse Code operation, and traffic handling, and in our planning, we have made basic communication skills and Amateur Radio messaging a priority in the October SET.

Many WPA ARES units have expanded their efforts to complete NIMS and SKYWARN training to better serve their communities when needed.



There's a lot of interest in System Fusion® and DMR on VHF/UHF voice at several different presentations we have put on!





The Go-Kit Workshop in Washington attracted a lot of participants, and had a great deal of good information on making the most of our portable gear!





Q *quad-County Amateur Radio Club has been presenting Amateur Radio to an average of 400 Cub Scouts every year during their annual Klondike Derby, at Camp Mountain Run, giving each Cub Scout a turn at the microphone to say hello on the air! Below: JOTA at Camp Mountain Run.*



All in the family...



Supporting the next generation of Amateur Radio is vital to the future of our favorite hobby. Our Western Pennsylvania Section has many younger hams, and the good news is that they are active on the air!

Top left: The youngest ham at the Somerset Hamfest with her new Technician CSCE and proud Dad!

Top right: When Mom and Dad are hams, you can't help but get your license too at a Cambria Radio Club VE exam.

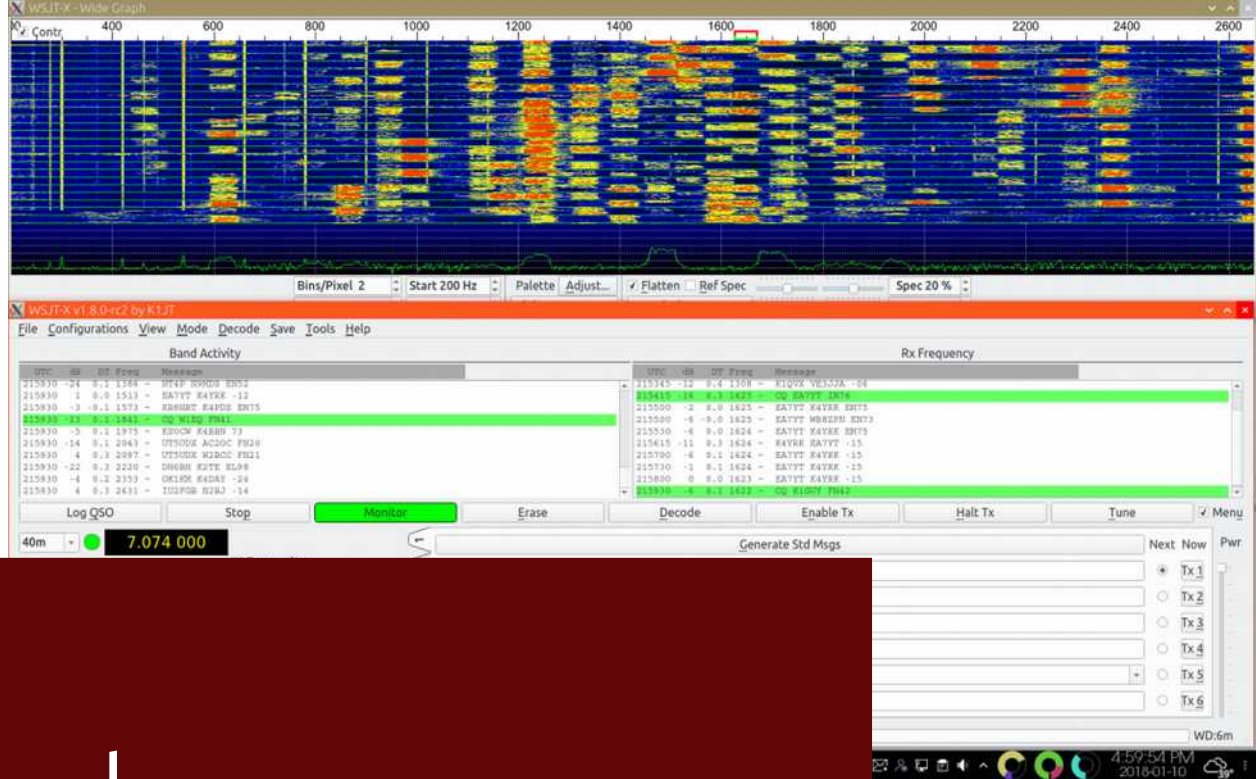
Left: Violetta's whole family are active hams! She earned her Extra and is shopping for HF gear at the Chambersburg Hamfest.



First new WPA Ham of 2017, Bradyn Claycomb KC3IJL of Westmoreland County receives the award from Section Manager W3BC at a WEARS meeting.

Section Youth Coordinator Bruce Gibson K3BEG receives the Biley Award for Advancing the Radio Art for his work in the September Near Space Balloon launch in Pittsburgh.





Technology

For over 100 years, Radio Amateurs have advanced the radio art and operated at the frontiers of Science. Our Western Pennsylvania Section has played a major part in the science and technology of radio since the Section's origin 91 years ago.

Today, we push the boundaries of weak signal detection, digital communications and data transmissions, limited only by FCC regulations that are decades out of date. Still, we press on, and push the envelope with the latest communications technology.


Western Pennsylvania hams are among the first to appear on our new band

allocations at 630 and 2200 meters, and have notably contributed to the research effort to obtain regulatory clearance for their use.

V/UHF enthusiasts continue to push the limits ever higher and make contact over incredible distances on frequencies higher than ever before.

Meanwhile, thousands of WPA Hams are experimenting with the latest digital modes for QSOs and contests or awards. A quick tune of the HF bands will reveal many WPA hams using such modes as FT8, FT9 and the 'usual suspects.' Modern radios based upon direct conversion SDR technology are being placed on the air in huge numbers.

The future is here.

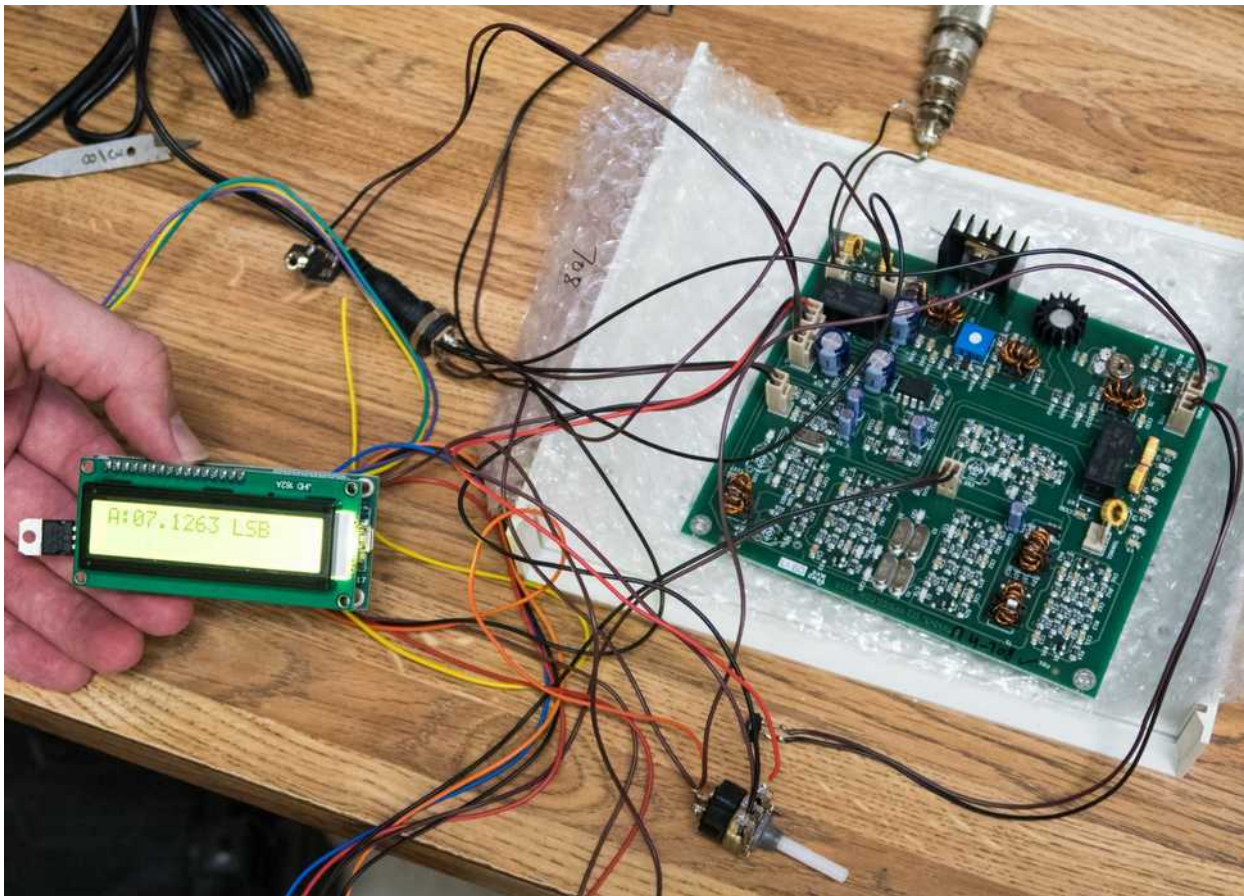
A photograph of a ham radio shack. In the foreground, a Raspberry Pi is connected to a radio repeater. The Pi is connected to a USB power source and a USB-to-UART adapter. A black radio with a whip antenna is mounted on the repeater. In the background, there are stacks of electronic equipment, a window with an 'EXIT' sign, and a person sitting at a desk.

*Maybe you can't teach
an old dog new tricks...*

*But you can teach a
repeater new modes
with a Raspberry Pi!*



BITX40 Kit Building night at WACOM. Imagine a 7 watt 40 meter SSB transceiver for \$59!





Joe -

Here's some photos from my contest activities this summer. My son joined me this year, beginning a third generation of VHF/UHF contesting. Being able to share this with him really been a treat and brings a new appreciation for the time with radios, being the dad, remembering doing this as the son.

For June/September contests we activated 5 grids on all bands 6M up to 5.7GHz. August is bit more casual, but still a fun time. We are considering the January VHF contest for the first time, if the weather and gear cooperate.

73, N2XRE/R





PORIA
Portable
Now Wave Antenna
3520 & 3520
Engineered by
(803) 761-1111
WARNING:
HIGHLY CONDUCTIVE.
KEEP HANDS AWAY
FROM POWER LINES.
GUY IN PLACE.
MADE IN THE USA
BY

SECURE-TITE
ASSORTED
BUNGLES



Facts & Figures

WPA Data

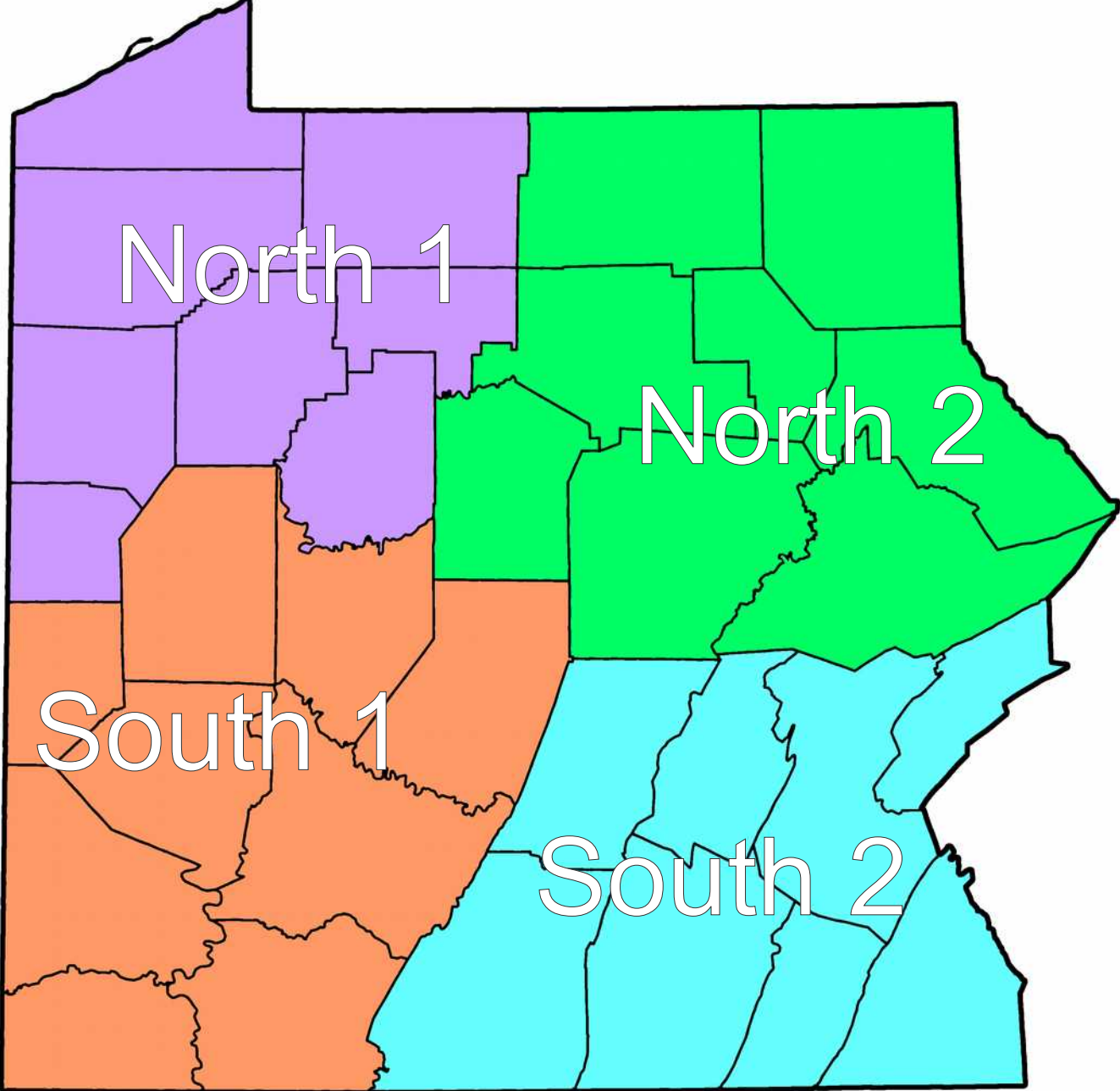
Statistics

Population (2017 est.)	4,278,769
Area (square miles)	25,205
Radio Amateurs	10,732
ARRL Members	1,943
Counties	33
ARRL Affiliated Clubs	41
Special Service Clubs	10

Analysis

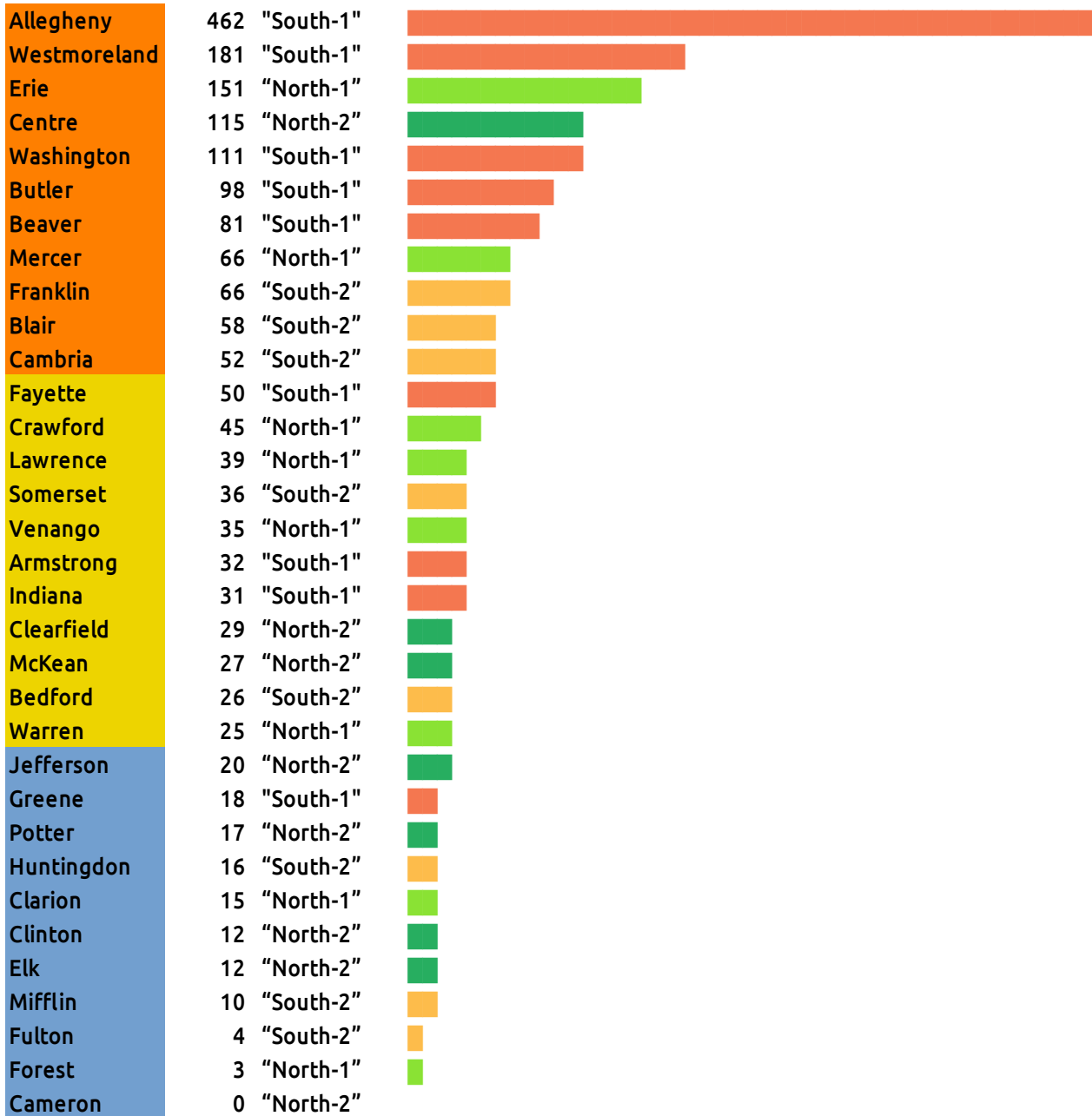
Radio Amateurs per 100 Persons	0.25%
ARRL Members per 100 Licensees	18%
Average Population per County	129,670
Average Licensees per County	325
Average ARRL Members per County	59
Average Clubs per County	1.2

Districts and Counties



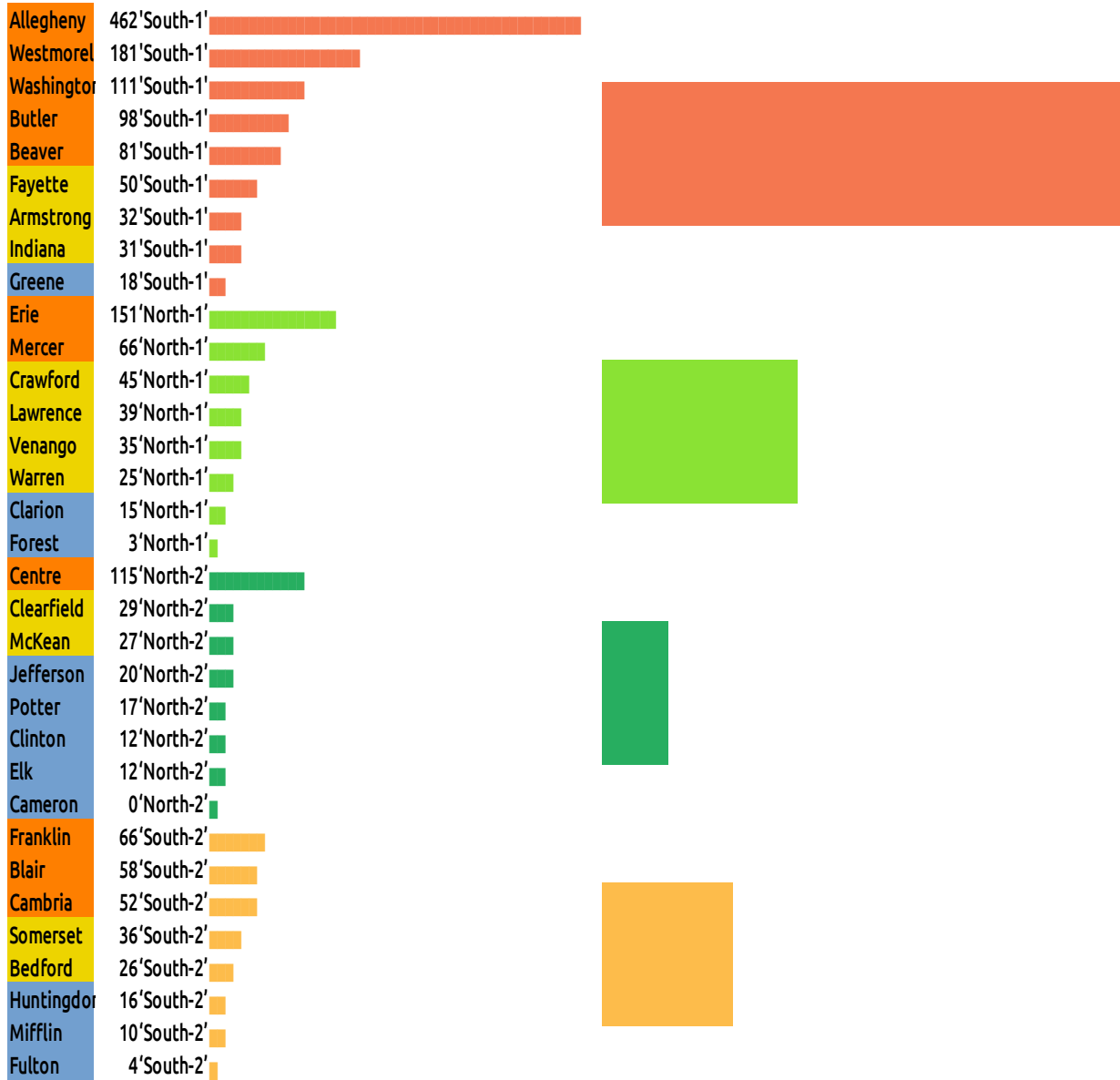
ARRL Members

Rankings by County



Rankings by District

ARRL Members





ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®

