

Amateur Radio...

Serving Your Community



Events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in disaster and post-disaster situations. But did you know we also provide communication services to the public during special events?

How Amateur Radio Works With Event Sponsors and Public Safety Officials

We’re called “amateurs” because we are not paid. Our services are provided at no charge. Like amateur sports, we do it for the love of it! We may be called “amateurs,” but our communications services are professional.

Amateurs and their equipment can interface with both public safety efforts and event organizers.

Our equipment can be made operational quickly inside a building, in a mobile command post or out in field units.

Hams are trained, organized volunteers willing to meet the communications needs of the event sponsor.

Police and fire radios are for tactical or operational traffic in emergencies. Amateur Radio offers administrative radio communications options for use in your overall management and coordination of the event.

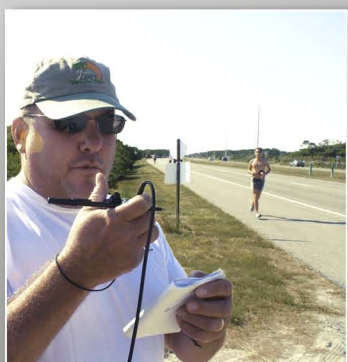
Hams have a readiness to receive specific training for your individual event.

You have instant communications from the starting line to the finish line, the official's area, net control, water stations, aid stations, medical facilities, sag wagons, floats, grandstands, parking areas, review stands and medical command facilities.

Once the necessary introductions have been made, the rest is easy because Amateur Radio people are indeed the experts in meeting communications requirements of every sort. This is what we love to do!

Our radio messages can go to just one location at your event, or event-wide, instantly. Hams can even track the locations of multiple mobile units in real time and display them on a map.

**It's symbiotic.
You need us,
and we want
to help.**



What's Needed for Event Communications?

- The event organizers want Amateur Radio help to be there.
- The event organizers and participating amateurs meet and agree on Amateur Radio's role in the operation.
- Everyone understands and endorses the operational plan.

You will want to place radio amateurs in a lot of different areas. This, of course, will depend on the specific nature of your event, but some places might be: mile markers, half-mile markers, the reviewing stands, start and finish lines, water and aid stations, sag wagons, parking areas, medical stations, event HQ, shadowing coordinators, message centers, floats, and scoring areas.

Relationship to Event Organizers

All event officials should have a clear understanding of the operational plan that defines our role, what we can and cannot do. Amateurs are volunteer, experienced and trained communicators.

The communications plan is developed jointly between the organizers and the hams to meet the needs of the event. A post-event review aids in making the next event even better.

Participating Amateur Radio operators need to be identified by vest, badge or other easily recognizable item and given area access.

Liaison is always maintained with the event leadership to provide flexibility as situations change.

What Do the Hams Get Out of It?

Besides the basic enjoyment in using our hobby and knowing we are serving our neighbors, we get practice!

No two special event operations are going to be the same. Your operational plan will depend on your own requirements and your resources. But hams are adaptive! They've been providing public service communications for a century in all sorts of situations.

**If you want a GREAT event,
you need great communications.
We can help.**



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO
225 Main Street • Newington, CT USA 06111
(860) 594-0200 • www.arrl.org

Or contact the Amateur Radio group
in your community by calling:

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Contact: James Mounts
Email: KS3R@sharc.org
Phone: 724-263-1289
www.sharc.org
Club Callsigns: KS3R/N3WX/W3PIT



WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?



There are over 700,000 licensed radio operators in the US and nearly 3 million worldwide.



Amateur radio is a non-commercial radio communication service on radio frequencies assigned to the Amateur Radio Service by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the United States and the International Telecommunication Union worldwide.

How is amateur radio used?

Ham radio is used for a variety of recreational and service-related activities. Amateur radio operators, also called “hams,” use amateur radio equipment to engage in two-way personal communications with other hams, as well as:

- Participate in competitive events and earn awards in contests
- Aid communication during public events, such as parades and road races
- Act as a vital communications link during emergencies and disasters
- Advance their technical skills and build their own radio components

What is ARRL?

ARRL is the national membership association for amateur radio in the US. We provide opportunities to discover radio, develop skills, and service your local community.

Learn more at arrrl.org

Who can become a ham?

Anyone of any age who is not a representative of a foreign government can be an amateur radio operator in the US. Before you can get on the air, you'll need to be licensed and know the rules to operate legally. In the US there are three license classes — Technician, General, and Amateur Extra.

What kind of equipment will I need to get on the air?

Starting simple is often recommended. A reliable handheld radio is a good and affordable way to get started while building your station over time. A complete amateur radio station typically includes a transceiver, power supply unit, antenna, amplifier, headphone, and microphone, and can include several accessories and related devices.

Learn more by contacting us, or visit www.arrrl.org/what-is-ham-radio



ARRL the national association for amateur radio®

225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111

1-888-277-5289 (US) | membership@arrrl.org

Why You Should Give Amateur Radio a Try



Make Global Connections

Meet great people all over the world, from every walk of life and every generation. Over 2 million smart and inspiring people are on the amateur airwaves and eager to talk to you!



Get Involved in Public Service

Community events, such as parades and road races, require radio communications along their routes for logistic support, scoring, and first aid.



Explore Technology

Discover **how radio works** by building projects and experimenting. Build a simple radio receiver and make a wire antenna to listen for far-away signals.



Compete & Win

From “foxhunting” for hidden radio signals to on-the-air contests for awards, amateur radio offers many challenging & fun ways to compete.



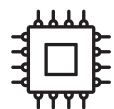
Make a Difference

When cell phones, the internet, and other systems are down, amateur radio still gets the message out. It is a vital service that can save lives when regular communication systems fail.



Expand Your World

Talk through satellites and with astronauts on board the International Space Station.



Get Creative

Design, build, and test your gear, whether from scratch or a kit. Challenge yourself to make a one-of-a-kind electronic project.



Develop New Skills

Don't be afraid to try new things and learn new skills. Through amateur radio, you can develop communication skills to improve your career, friendships, and life!



What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio (ham radio) is a popular hobby and service that brings people, electronics, and communication together. You can use ham radio to talk across town, around the world, or even into space, all without the internet or cell phones. It's fun, social, educational, and can be a lifeline during times of need.

Who are Hams?

There's no one type of person who becomes a “ham”—from doctors to students to celebrities, all ages and lifestyles are linked by their interest in wireless communications and technology.

Get Started — Get Licensed!

There are three classes of amateur radio licenses in the US—Technician, General, and Amateur Extra, each with increasing airwave privileges. The Technician-class license is the entry-level license and requires passing an exam with 35 questions on radio theory, regulations, and operating practices.

With this license, you can communicate locally and often throughout North America. It also allows for some limited privileges on the HF (also called “shortwave”) bands used for international communications.

Want to Learn More? Discover the ARRL Community

ARRL, the national association for amateur radio, offers many resources for people looking to get into ham radio. From free webinars and information, to the *On the Air* magazine, blog and podcast, we'll help you get on the air and active in the ham community.

ARRL has over 100 years of experience supporting hams in pursuing their interest in amateur radio. Visit us today at www.arrl.org/new-ham-resources



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What is ARRL Field Day? You're Invited!

ARRL Field Day is a radio communications event that brings together amateur radio operators (also called “hams”) within your community. The theme for 2025 Field Day is “Radio Connects” – highlighting the many ways that wireless technology connects people across distances near and far. The event is part picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal contest, and most of all, fun! ARRL Field Day is the most popular ham radio activity held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations.

For many radio clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights on their annual calendar. A typical Field Day site will show off many aspects of amateur radio and its many roles.

Some groups use Field Day as an opportunity to practice their emergency communications readiness. ARRL Field Day is an annual demonstration and invites the general public and organizations to see how amateur radio can serve in an emergency, When All Else Fails®. Hams are well-known for their communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations. Despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they are so complex — ham radio has been called into action, again and again, to provide communications in crises when it really matters.

Amateur radio also inspires the next generation of technical leaders by providing a hands-on sandbox where students gain experience in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

For those with a competitive spirit, Field Day stations compete to make radio contacts with as many other stations as possible while learning to operate radio equipment in challenging situations and less-than-optimal conditions. These same skills are used by hams who volunteer to help with large, preplanned, non-emergency events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fundraisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades, and exhibits at fairs, malls, and museums.

Who are the ARRL?

With more than 137,000 members, ARRL is The National Association for Amateur Radio in the US. Our mission is to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs. ARRL and our affiliated radio clubs provide benefits to members to discover radio, to develop new skills, and to serve your local community.

What is Amateur Radio?

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service is a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. It is made up of people who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data, and pictures through the airwaves to places near and far without depending on commercial systems. The amateur radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Not only can hams build and modify their equipment, but they can also create new ways to communicate via the airwaves — and do it as a globally connected community. Many people in the hobby form lifelong friendships with people they wouldn't have otherwise met. Many rock stars, Hollywood actors, and heads of state (and even your neighbor down the street) are ham radio operators. You can be, too! Get started at ARRL Field Day!

Amateur Radio Classes

Technician Class

General Class

Extra Class

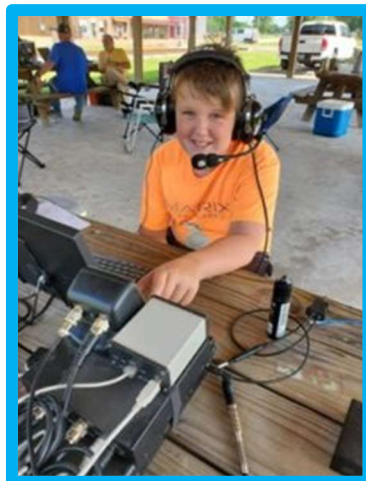
No Morse Code Required!

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

KS3R- N3WX - W3PIT

www.sharc.org

KS3R@sharc.org

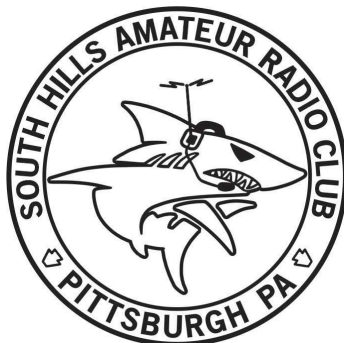


AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY JUNE 28TH, 2025

Watch Ham Radio Operators communicate with other Hams nationwide. Join in and participate!

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is sponsoring a Field Day operations event on June 28th, 2025, from 2:00PM to 10:00PM at Lafayette Park, South Fayette Township. There will be (3) stations operating on multiple frequency bands using voice and Morse code.

Restrooms and refreshments are available on site.



**Learn About Amateur
Radio!**

**Learn How to Get
Your Amateur Radio
License!**

**Make Contacts with
Other Hams
Nationwide!**

**Help Score & Log
Contact Points for
the Club!**

Fun for Kids & Adults!

SOUTH HILLS ARC

*Meetings: 4th Saturday
of each month, 2-4 p.m.*

*Upper St. Clair Library
1820 McLaughlin Run Rd.
Multi-purpose Room, 1st Floor
Upper St. Clair, PA 15241*

724-263-1289

KS3R@sharc.org

www.sharc.org

The History of South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

In the late summer of 1993, a small group of friends got together to form a new Amateur Radio club in the Pittsburgh area. The purpose of the club was simple; work together as a team to concentrate on the promotion of Amateur Radio. During this time, the group didn't have a name or even a meeting place to call their own. As a result, Jim - KA3EBX began working on a logo that incorporated the two repeaters that he owned, 145.130 MHz and 442.500 MHz. On August 23, 1993, he coined the name "*South Hills Amateur Radio Club*" (SHARC) and incorporated the name into the logo that he was designing. After completing the logo on August 28th, 1993, Jim had the logo & club name notarized on September 15th, 1993, thereby protecting his original work. A copy of the original 1993 notarized document is on file (microfilm) with the Pennsylvania Corporation Bureau. Our group had its first meeting at "King's Restaurant" in Heidelberg.

Around the same time, Steve Hunter - N3MAA, began working diligently on a club constitution & bylaws that were later adopted on September 28th, 1993. Corky - N3MJP - assisted by providing Steve with copies of bylaws from local surrounding clubs. Ron - N3WX also helped as well. Jim began writing numerous letters to various organizations to secure a meeting place for the new group. Up until then, the group had gotten together at a local restaurant and Municipal Park. One of Jim's letters found its way to a secretary at a local church in Bethel Park (John McMillan Presbyterian Church) who was familiar with Amateur Radio. She indicated that during the 60's when her husband was overseas in the military, Ham Radio operators provided phone patches so she could speak with her husband. The secretary had mentioned Jim's letter to the church's pastor, and he agreed to let the group use one of their classrooms.

Jim and Ron drove over to the church to check out the facility and discuss their plans with the church's Pastor. On September 22nd, 1993, Jim signed a liability/ reservation agreement for use of one of the church's classrooms for the club's meetings. On December 21, 1993, Jim wrote and submitted a letter to the ARRL requesting club affiliation. On January 10th, 1994, Jim received a response from ARRL Club Administrative Assistant, Vicky Armentano that his affiliation application was in progress. On March 7th, 1994, Jim received the affiliation charter from the ARRL, which still remains in Jim's possession even to this day. Jim also received a letter from Rick Palm - K1CE, dated March 17th, 1994, confirming the affiliation.

In January of 1994, Jim created the club's first newsletter, "*The Mariner*", a name he chose to tie the club's nautical theme with space exploration & technology. Jim received a very favorable letter about his work on the newsletter, dated January 14, 1994, from then Atlantic Director, Hugh Turnbull - W3ABC. The newsletter was also favorably mentioned in QST by then Section Manager, Bernie Fuller - N3EFN (QST July, 1994, page 127).

In early 1995, Ron & Jim submitted an application to the Internal Revenue Service, requesting an Employer Identification Number, (EIN). Since April 18th, 1995, and until present, Jim has always been the only trustee of SHARC's Federal Employer Identification Number.

Later, Ron applied for a club call sign, and was granted trustee of the call sign, KB3BRF. This is the "original" and "historic" call sign of South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and which was later used by permission of Ron's family, to obtain the callsign of N3WX after Ron passed away in 2001.

Once the club's founding officers established the groundwork, Jim - KA3EBX went on to design all of the club's jackets, hats, and t-shirts. Ron - N3WX was responsible for bringing in several speakers before the club, such as then WPA Section Manager Bernie Fuller - N3EFN, a representative from Crown Communications, and Civil Air Patrol (CAP). We also watched several Amateur Radio videotapes, and we sponsored a "Test Bench" night, where hams could bring in their radios and check their performance using a wattmeter, spectrum analyzer, frequency counter and deviation meter. Another huge success was 'Auction Night', where members donated various items to be auctioned off for the benefit of the club. These were just a few examples of events that helped to raise interest and bring members together to learn more about the hobby. One approach that made our meetings unique and promoted membership participation was our "round table" approach, where everyone sat in a circle. This created a less intimidating environment and promoted open participation from the group.

In addition to club activities, several of our officers were also involved with public service activities. Co-founders Steve Hunter - N3MAA and Corky Bennett - N3MJP were actively involved with activities such as the Pittsburgh Grand Prix, and SATERN. Corky had also participated in the initial rescue effort with respect to the US AIR, flight 427 crash.

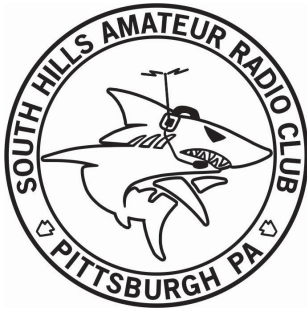
From the very beginning, it's the positive & creative contributions from those mentioned above that made SHARC a respectable and popular organization to join. It's always been SHARC's philosophy to recognize the contributions of its members... past and present. After all, its contributions like these that help establish a club's heritage and good reputation. But more importantly, South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is an organization that is based upon friendship and members who will go out of their way to help another ham or fellow member. It's basic principles like these which have established our true heritage and good reputation. It's principles like these which we hope will continue to flourish in the true spirit of SHARC for years to come.

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

KS3R- N3WX - W3PIT

www.sharc.org

KS3R@sharc.org



South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Membership Application

Revised 1-2025

KS3R / N3WX / W3PIT

Membership Section:

Check (1) Membership & (1) Quarter Selection	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st QTR Jan-Mar	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd QTR Apr-Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd QTR Jul-Sept	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 th QTR Oct-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership (licensed):	\$16.00	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$4.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Discount Membership <18 or 60> yrs (licensed):	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$4.00	\$2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership (licensed/unlicensed):	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$4.00	\$2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (per member – licensed/unlicensed):	\$3.00	\$2.25	\$1.50	\$0.75

Name(s) of family household members (Family Membership) _____

Are you an ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No How long have you been a Ham? _____

What are your favorite modes of operation? _____ List any special skills that you possess: _____

_____ List other clubs that you belong to: _____

Are you an accredited VE? ☐ Yes ☐ No _____

Name: _____ Callsign: _____

Address: _____ License Class: _____

City, State, Zip code _____ Birthday (Month/Day/Year): _____

Phone: _____ Home Page Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SHARC reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals.

Please make your check or money order payable to **South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** (Do not send cash!)

Please return the completed membership form along with your check or money order to:

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
211 Gerrie Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15241-1806

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Legally founded: August 23, 1993

"A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to the Promotion of Amateur Radio"
Web Address: www.sharc.org, www.sharc.net, www.ks3r.org, www.n3wx.org, www.w3pit.org