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SHARC Mariner™

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KS3R / N3WX/W3PIT

South Hills ARC Celebrates its 33rd Anniversary!

SHARC sets up an Amateur Radio demonstration at the South Fayette Community Day!

Pittsburgh, PA – SHARC was founded on August 23, 1993. Last year we celebrated our 32nd anniversary by sponsoring an Amateur Radio demonstration booth at 2 local Community Day events (Upper St. Clair & South Fayette). This year, we set up a demonstration booth at South Fayette's Community Day on August 22nd. There were over 100 booths with activities for all ages, as well as various food vendors.



Bob Mente (NU3Q) and wife Joyce (KB3ORO) set up a Go-Box, Eagle-1, antenna (HF), Compactenna (2m/70cm) and operated 146.52 simplex and FT8.



Jim (KA3EBX) set up a Comet GP-3 dual band antenna and an Alinco DR-735 2-meter/70cm transceiver in a demonstration with a MFJ-464 Morse memory keyer with iambic key and laptop.







The Morse code demonstration attracted a lot of activity again this year especially with kids typing in their names on the laptop and hearing their names coming back to them in Morse Code. They also had fun learning how to use the iambic key.

Jim's wife Danielle (KC3ZQT) talked to visitors about the importance of Amateur Radio during disasters and about various activities offered by the club. She passed out Amateur Radio brochures also she operated a SHARC ring toss game with various prizes for the kids.



SHARC ring toss game with multiple prizes



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Jim & Danielle's granddaughter, Paisley (Age 7) who is our youngest SHARC member, greeted visitors and visited various booths and took pictures with various mascots

SHARC will participate once again in "Trunk or Treat"





Last October, Jim (KA3EBX) & wife Danielle (KC3ZQT) participated in a "Trunk or Treat" sponsored by the South Hills Assembly of God church in Bethel Park. They offered candy to kids and allowed them to win various prizes playing our SHARC ring toss game. Both Jim & Danielle plan on participating again at this year's event.

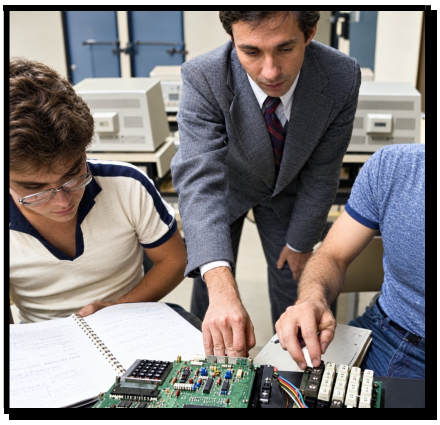
A Tribute to former Penn Tech Instructor, Richard Gideon, KC3RU – Silent Key



By James Mounts – KA3EBX

Former Penn Technical Institute Instructor, Richard Gideon passed away on March 14th, 2026, at the age of 77. Richard was born on May 4th, 1948, and served as a Sergeant in the US Air Force (Viet Nam). He was a radio DJ for WAVZ in New Haven, CT. He later served as an on-air reporter for KQV in Pittsburgh. Richard earned his Private Pilot's license in 1975. Richard then became an Electronics Technology Instructor at Penn Technical Institute in Pittsburgh. Richard was my 5th quarter instructor (1980) and we became good friends. He was also an Amateur Radio operator (KC3RU) and served as a trusted Control Operator for South Hills Amateur Radio Club's 2-meter repeater (SHARC-1 - 145.130 MHz) and occasionally made trips to the repeater site to check on things. After retiring from Penn Tech in the mid 90's, Richard became a Vexillologist (one who studies flags) and started his own company, Richard R. Gideon Flags, where he provided military streamers and historically accurate reproduction flags for museums and Civil War reenactors. At home, Richard loved animals, especially dogs and teaching them tricks. Years ago, Richard and his wife were generous to invite my girlfriend and I over for dinner on the 4th of July. Richard was a wonderful individual and true friend. He will be greatly missed. SHARC expresses its sincere condolences to Richard's wife Katherine and daughters, Heather, Beth and Kathryn, as well as his grandchildren, nieces & nephews.

Portions of article information courtesy of Laughlin Memorial Chapel, Inc.



Richard teaching Penn Tech students about the KIM-1 computer.

SHARC Field Day 2026

This year, SHARC held its 2026 ARRL Field Day at the Boys Home Park in South Fayette Township. Participating in this year's event was Bob Mente (NU3Q) and his wife, Joyce (KB3ORO), Jim Mounts (KA3EBX) and his wife, Danielle (KC3ZQT), Jack Kelvington (K3DMY), Mark Phillips (N8UVQ) and Paul Mulcahey (WB3EDL). Tatyana Alexander assisted Danielle (KC3ZQT) with set-up and cooking



Jack (K3DMY) left and Mark (N8UVQ) right, having fun with Jack's homebrew multi-element microwave beam.

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Jack's (K3DMY) Icom-1271A 1296 transceiver w/CW, FM & SSB. Notice the alternate coffee can antenna on top of the left carrying case.



Jack's homebrew 8' long, 1296 MHz, 22 element Yagi (+17dBm), 500W ERP.





Paul (WB3EDL) listening to Field Day chatter on a Yaesu FT-891 HF transceiver, with FC-50 auto tuner, powered by a +12 VDC deep cycle marine battery.



Paul (WB3EDL) and Jim (KA3EBX) operating on 40m SSB on a Yaesu FT-891. Transceiver.



Danielle (KC3ZQT) (left) and daughter, Tatyana (right) provide breakfast, lunch & dinner to the Field Day crew.



Breakfast consisted of bacon, sausage links and eggs. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and drinks were provided for lunch & dinner.



Lead cable running up to our G5RV set up in an inverted "V" configuration. We didn't get a chance to set up our 2nd G5RV or HF vertical. There's always next year! However, we could reach anyone that we could hear.

Field Day Flashback

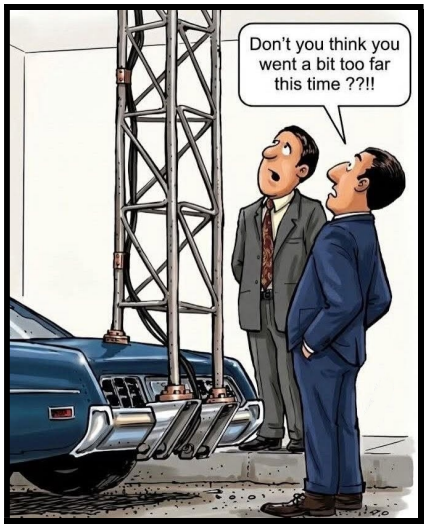


Jim (KA3EBX's) daughter, Sasha, age 8, holding the "infamous" shark in 1999.



Fast forward, twenty-seven years later, Sasha's son, James, is attacking our Field Day crew with the "infamous" shark.

Amateur Humor



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Congratulations SHARC Exam Graduates!

On Saturday, April 18th, 2026, Jim (KA3EBX) and wife Danielle (KC3ZQT) sponsored a one-day Technician Crash Course at the Upper St. Clair Township Library. One week later, on Saturday, April 25th, SHARC sponsored an exam session. Attending as Extra Class Volunteer Examiners were Cory Sickles (WA3UVV), Mark Phillps (N8UVQ) and Jim Mounts (KA3EBX).





SHARC wishes to congratulate the following examinees for passing their Exams:



Paul Baldauf (KD3DDA) - Technician



Eric Gironda (KD3DDB) - Technician



Jim Miele (KD3DDI) – Technician



Tom McNulty (KD3DDS) - Technician





Ric Catalucci (KC3KMX) – Upgrade to General

SHARC wishes to thank all the examinees and Volunteer Examiners for attending.

Photos and the snacks/coffee table were provided by Danielle Mounts (KC3ZQT)

A big thank you to the Upper St. Clair Township Library for allowing SHARC to use their multi-purpose room for our crash course, exam session and monthly get-togethers.

New SHARC Community Group

We've set up a Community Group that will allow those wishing to communicate in a group forum. Participants will be able to ask and respond to questions, either directly to the originator or to the entire group. If you wish to join our new group, please visit the following URL: https://groups.google.com/u/1/g/ks3r. Postings should be Amateur Radio and/or Electronics related.

Upcoming SHARC Get-togethers

SHARC meets on the 4th Saturday of each month at the Upper st. Clair Township Library, from 2-4 PM in the Multi-purpose Room on the 1st floor.

Here is our upcoming 2026 schedule:

Saturday, October 24th, 2-4 PM
Saturday, November 28th, 2-4 PM
December 26th, 2-4 PM

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Our schedule can be found at the following URL:
http://www.sharc.net/meeting.htm

The USC library is located at 1820 McLaughlin Run Road, Upper St. Clair, PA 15241
Snacks & drinks will be provided.
Restrooms are just across the hall. Our get-togethers are very informal, and we cover everything from Amateur Radio to Electronics. You don't have to be an Amateur Radio Operator to attend our get-togethers or to join SHARC.

More Amateur Humor



Club Statistics

South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc. currently has 25 members, its youngest member is 7 years old. We have (3) repeaters in the Pittsburgh area:

KS3R, 145.130, Bridgeville, PL: 131.8Hz
KS3R, 442.500, Bridgeville, PL: 131.8 Hz
N3WX, 51.94, Bridgeville, PL: 131.8 Hz

A Little South Hills ARC Trivia

The following facts are gathered from original *SHARC* club documents on file.

- **Aug 23, 1993:** *South Hills Amateur Radio Club* is officially formed.
- **Aug 28, 1993:** *The club's first meeting is held at Kings Restaurant in Heidelberg, PA (Saturday).*
- **Sept 15, 1993**: *Club name and logo notarized by its designer, KA3EBX.*
- **Sept 22, 1993:** *KA3EBX & N3WX sign meeting room agreement with John McMillan Presbyterian Church in Bethel Park, PA.*
- **Oct 29, 1993:** *N3MAA orders a pizza via the SHARC-1 auto-patch.*
- **Jan 1994:** *SHARC publishes its first club newsletter, "The Mariner".*
- **Mar 17, 1994:** *SHARC obtains ARRL affiliation status.*
- **June 25/26, 1994:** *SHARC's 1st Field Day.*
- **April 18, 1995:** *SHARC receives Federal EIN number listing KA3EBX as the party responsible.*
- **Nov 27, 1996:** *SHARC is granted first club call sign of KB3BRF with N3WX listed as club trustee.*
- **Jan 1, 1998:** *SHARC incorporates.*
- **Mar 7, 2024:** *SHARC becomes a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*
- **Jul 17, 2024:** *SHARC receives its Pennsylvania Tax Exemption Certificate.*
- **Dec 28, 2024:** *SHARC moves its get-togethers to the Upper St. Clair Township Library.*
- **May 17, 2025:** *SHARC sponsors an Amateur Radio awareness booth at the Upper St. Clair Community Day event.*
- ***Aug 23, 2025:*** *SHARC sponsors an Amateur Radio awareness booth at the South Fayette Community Day event.*

SHARC's founding documents are available for viewing at the following URL:
http://www.sharc.net/dload.htm

Upcoming Pennsylvania Hamfests

SAME LOCATION ! ! !
HAMFEST 2.0
RF HILL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Admission $10.00
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026
RAIN OR SHINE
Talk-in 145.31- PL 131.8
At the Upper County Campus of the Bucks County Community College
Use GPS address: 346 Blooming Glen Road, Perkasie, PA 18944
GPS Coordinates: Latitude 40° 22′ 53″ N, Longitude 75° 16′ 31.8″ W
Gates are open 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM for the General Public
Opens - 7:00 AM for vendors • NO OVERNIGHT PARKING at the College
FREE PARKING !!! NO EARLY BIRDS!!!
Vendor spaces – Spaces DO NOT include admission.
OUTDOOR: approx. 9' frontage, first come, first served on Sunday - $10 / space.
NO LARGE BILLS ACCEPTED AT THE GATE!
VE testing: Inside. Begins at 10:00 AM sharp.
Bring ID and FRN! Fee $15.00
Food available at site
Door Prizes drawn throughout the day (Must be present to Win)
Ham Equipment, Computer Hardware and Software flea market
For Hamfest information contact:
Jim Soete, WA3YLQ
215-622-4344
Email: wa3ylq@hotmail.com
Club website: www.rfhillarc.club
See other side for maps & directions
** Non-ham spouses and kids are free



Local Volunteer Exams - 2026

The following listings are from the ARRL.

10/17/2026 | New Kensington PA 15068-1936, Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society
Location: Skyview RS Clubhouse Meeting Room. Time: 8:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

10/22/2026 | Carnegie PA 15106
Sponsor: Steel City Amateur Radio Club
Location: Steel City Amateur Radio Club
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

10/24/2026 | Elizabeth PA 15037-3033
Sponsor: Two Rivers ARC, Inc
Location: Lincoln Boro VFD Station 184
Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/05/2026 | Washington PA 15301
Sponsor: WACOM
Location: Washington & Jefferson College.
Time: 6:30 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

11/12/2026 | Ambridge PA 15003-9999
Sponsor: Beaver Valley ARA
Location: Beaver County Emergency Services Center. Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

11/14/2026 | Allison Park PA 15101
Sponsor: North Hills ARC
Location: Berkshire Hathaway Home Services The Preferred Realty. Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

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11/19/2026 | Carnegie PA 15106
Sponsor: Steel City Amateur Radio Club
Location: Steel City Amateur Radio Club
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/21/2026 | New Kensington PA 15068-1936, Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society
Location: Skyview RS Clubhouse Meeting Room. Time: 8:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

12/03/2026 | Washington PA 15301
Sponsor: WACOM
Location: Washington & Jefferson College
Time: 6:30 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

12/12/2026 | Allison Park PA 15101
Sponsor: North Hills ARC
Location: Berkshire Hathaway Home Services The Preferred Realty. Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

12/19/2026 | New Kensington PA 15068-1936, Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society
Location: Skyview RS Clubhouse Meeting Room. Time: 8:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Drill

On Saturday, October 3rd, from 9:00AM to noon, Ham Radio Operators established a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) drill on the W3KWH Repeater (147.090 MHz), The SET exercises general emergency communication skills, ARES unit activation, assessment of simplex capability and using the Pennsylvania Red Cross Winlink mailboxes. Bob Mente (NU3Q) participated in the drill and provided these pictures for our newsletter.







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South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
211 Gerrie Drive
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15241

Place Postage Stamp Here

TO:

KS3R / N3WX/W3PIT
Dated Information: Please Deliver Promptly

SHARC Website: http://www.sharc.org

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