

**DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

**MARCH 2024**

**W3OK**

**CORRAL**

Club Meeting March 7, 7 PM at the  
Nancy Run Firehouse.

3564 Easton Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18020

Will be also a Zoom meeting.

**March Program**

**Building A Low-cost Morse Code Practice Oscillator  
By Mark Hoffman, KC3BNV**



## *FEBURARY MEETING MINUTES*

The General Meeting was held at the Firehouse and on Zoom.  
The meeting was called to order by the Terry, KC3JHT at 1919 hours.

**Pledge of Allegiances:** Led by Terry.

**President's Report:** None

**Guests:** None

**Secretary's Report:**

Terry, KC3JHT, asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Meeting Minutes as printed in the Newsletter last month. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Dean, AB3BD and seconded by Doug, K6PGH and the motion was carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Terry, KC3JHT, presented the report for January. A motion by Dean, AB3BD, to accept the report. Doug, K6PGH seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Terry. KC3JHT said there were 89 paid members and 6 Associate members.

**Club Station:** Up and running

**Tech Committee:** No report

**Website:** New revisions made with positive feedback from membership.

**Repeater:** No report

**Old Business:**

The Board approved \$100.00 donation to Wounded Warrior Project.

The Club now as control of all the website domains.

Winter Field Day was a success. More information is in this Newsletter further down.

**New Business:** The following was unanimously voted into the Club:

KC3YBV, KC3VMX, and KC3VJV.

**Announcements:** None

**Awards:** None

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1934 hours.

**Program:** Geochron Clocks presented by Patrick Bolan, KJ7ZSU via Zoom.

### **VE TEST SESSION**

On 8 March 2024, there will be a VE Testing Session at the Northampton County 911 Center at 7pm. Candidates are required to pre-register. You must contact Bob Green, KE3AW by phone 610-419-9286 or email address [ke3aw@arrl.net](mailto:ke3aw@arrl.net). Bob will inform the candidate on what is required and prohibited, etc., the date, time, location, verification required, directions, etc. The candidates need to know they should get their FRN number prior to the testing. If they do not have that FRN number (SS number cannot be used), it will slow their paperwork flow and delay the license delivery to them. They also need to know the fee set by ARRL for their part in the checking process before their paperwork is sent to FCC in Gettysburg, and if paying by check, it shall not be made to any member of our VE Team nor to DLARC. And finally, the \$35 the feds are charging for their 10-year license.

### **WINTER FIELD DAY 2024**

The Winter Field Day 2024 was a big success. There were 9 operators with one non-Ham operator who was 7 years old and daughter of a Club member.

The following are the operators – Wayne, N3FQ; Doreen, K3PDL; Doug, K6PGH; Angelo, KD2HOG; Dave, N3LWY; Kyle, KD2VQE; Bill, KD3FLY; Skip, KD2BDA; Adam, N3LAY; and Ellame Nebzydoski, 7 years old, daughter of Pete, KC3EVL.

Total QSOs were 355 contacts made from the Milkhouse with the addition of 22 QRP. We operated from 1400-2330 on Saturday and from 0700 until 1330 on Sunday. Food was provided by Wayne. Pizza was ordered from Mountain Side Pizza in Moore Township. The Milkhouse was a buzz of activity with all 3 stations operating at one time. Fun was had by everyone present. Adam would like to thank everyone who showed up and hope to see more of a turn out in future events.



Ellame, 7 yrs. old, daughter of Pete, KC3EVL making contacts

## Dr Bob Heil, K9EID, FOUNDER OF Heil Ham Radio SK



Heil Ham Radio

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Our beloved founder, Dr. Bob Heil, K9EID, is now a Silent Key. Bob fought a valiant, year-long battle with cancer, and passed peacefully surrounded by his family. Bob's lifelong passion for amateur radio was clear to everyone involved in the hobby. Everything Bob did for the betterment and growth of amateur radio - from his instructional handbooks and countless presentations to his support of the ARRL and youth programs - was based on the foundation and spirit of service. Bob was an Elmer to all of us. While Bob's presence will dearly be missed, his impact on the hobby and everyone in it will forever be felt. On behalf of Bob to all ham radio operators worldwide, 73.

[#bobheil](#) [#heilhamradio](#) [#hamradio](#) [#amateurradio](#)

## **ARRL AND RENEWALS**

As you know, the ARRL has raised their membership dues starting 1 January 2024.

All ARRL members need to check their QST mailing slip to see when their membership expires. Now members must decide on what they want to do.

The dues went up \$10, from \$49 to \$59. The biggest change is that if you want to continue getting QST or On the Air magazines in the printed form, it will cost you \$25 per magazine. If you are willing to get those magazines in digital form, there are no extra cost. So, your last printed magazine will be the December 2023 issue. If you just renew, you will still only get the digital form unless you pay the extra \$25.

You have a choice in how many years you want your membership. One year is \$59 and 3 years is \$175. You still must pay \$25 a year for the printed form of the magazines.

I have the new forms for renewing or becoming a new member now. It shows all the prices for the dues and getting the magazines. Anybody wishing to become a member or wants to renew, please let me know, and I will send you the information.

The Club benefits from ARRL membership by getting a commission on new members and members that renew. It is not much, but every little bit helps the Club. To be an Affiliated Club, you need to have at least 51% of the voting members be either Full or Associated members in the Club. At least 51% of the voting members must be licensed radio operators.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [n3iga@ptd.net](mailto:n3iga@ptd.net) and I will try to answer your questions.

John, N3IGA DLARC ARRL Membership Liaison



The photo of Larry, KC3JTK in front of the Te Puke community center in NZ. I tried to connect with one of the members while I was there, but was a day early for their meeting, and none of the club members was around.

## **Geochron Clocks Presentation**

The program about the Geochron Clock by Patrick Bolan, KJ7ZSU, was quite interesting. Patrick explains the history of the Geochron Clocks from the Manual ones to the new Digital ones which are a little cheaper.

He showed how the Geochron Digital Clocks work and the different programs that you can get with a purchase and the added programs you can get.

It was quite interesting that you can get a program for viewing the Space Station in real time.

If you are interested in getting a Digital Geochron Clock, check out the website “Geochron.com” for more information.

De John, N3IGA, Newsletter Editor

### **March Program**

#### **Building A Low-cost Morse Code Practice Oscillator**

**By Mark Hoffman, KC3BNV**

Mark said that he is seeing interest in CW, on the 80- and 160-meter, especially among DXers.

So, Mark decided to make a budget code practice oscillator for Morse Code learners.

So come out to the meeting or get on Zoom and learn all about this. He may even give information on CW classes that can be used to learn CW with the Oscillator.

You can find the article he wrote for QST in the December 2023. Easy to follow instructions on how to build the Oscillator.

De John, N3IGA, Newsletter Editor.



## **MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!**

DUES are payable for the calendar year 2024. Here is how easy it is to remit your club DUES and keep your valuable D.L.A.R.C. Membership current. Whether in person or by mail, **CHECKS made payable to the D.L.A.R.C.** is one method of payment to more accurately record your timely renewal more accurately. Please ensure that your callsign appears somewhere on the instrument, such as in the memo field. Payment may also be made using PayPal. Paying with cash is discouraged, but if you really, really must, kindly make certain you are prepared with the correct sum according to the rate table shown below. Remember, if your DUES are not paid by the beginning of March 2024, your membership will expire.

### 2024 DUES Rates

Regular Membership 18-64 years of age: Jan. - Dec. -- \$25;  
65 and over or retired from all forms of employment (no age limit): Jan. – Dec -- \$20.

Additional Family member each -- \$5.

Associate Individual Membership -- \$15.

**You are strongly encouraged to MAIL your DUES** so that I may conduct the bulk of the record-keeping duties apart from where you deserve the most of my attention. Mail checks only or bring your check to the Club meetings. In person at Club Meetings, I would prefer to except cash, answer your questions, address your concerns, and welcome your thoughtful revenue raising and savings ideas. Therefore, it is firmly advocated that DUES correspondence be mailed to:

**Lawrence R. Butler**  
**800 Maple Lane**  
**Easton, Pa. 18045**

Enclosing an S.A.S.E will bring your new membership card back to you immediately if you cannot attend the next Meeting where they are routinely distributed. You may write to me anytime with questions regarding DUES, or to discuss issues that you believe are my responsibility at: [lrbutler@ptd.net](mailto:lrbutler@ptd.net) include your phone number if you prefer a live reply.

De Larry / KC3JTK, DLARC Treasurer

# DLARC NET QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 DLARC NET Doreen K3PDL	7 <b>CLUB MEETING 7 PM</b>	8 <b>VE TESTING 7 PM</b>	9
10	11	12	13 DLARC NET Terry KC3JHT	14	15	16
17	18 <b>BOARD MEETING 7PM</b>	19	20 DLARC NET Dave N3EYT	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 DLARC NET AI W3CE	28	29	30
31						

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

Additional Net Controls are needed for the Wednesday Night ARES, RACES & DLARC net. If we have enough interested operators, it will only be necessary for each operator to have only one net session in each three-month period. 13 weeks in a period, then 13 net controls would be ideal, and some extras to fill in if needed. This would give us a pool of experienced controls, for any emergency which would arise. Interested operators should contact George, N3SQD at [george@bioserv.com](mailto:george@bioserv.com). The NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 courses are not needed to be a net control, but should the need arise, and we do supply controls and operators for real emergencies, then the courses requirement will be in effect and EMA issued IDs will be needed to be on the scene of an emergency.

### NORTHAMPTON COUNTY ARES, RACES AND DLARC NET

All Radio Amateurs are welcome to take part in the ARES, RACES and DLARC net. This net meets Wednesday at 1900 hours local time, on the W3OK Repeater 51.76, 146.70 and 444.90 (pl 151.4). With an alternate frequency of 147.135 + DPL 315) W3OI Repeater.

QCWA Chapter 17 holds a net Monday evening at 8:30 PM on 3960 +/- depending on conditions. Other inputs are the 146.85 repeater, (151.4 PL) and Echolink at K2PM-R.

Mid-Atlantic D-Star Net meets each Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The following repeaters Dstar repeaters are available in the Lehigh Valley. W3OK - 145.11000MHz -0.600 Port C - W3OI -147.16500MHz +0.600 Port C, - W3OI - 445.02500MHz -5.000 Port B

All repeaters on the net are linked through **Reflector 020 port A**, so all stations checking into the net should make sure that they have *their local repeater call sign followed by the letter "G" in the eight positions of the RPT2 field*. Otherwise, you will only be heard locally and not over the Reflector. Dongle users wishing to check into the net should Log On by connecting directly to Reflector 20, port A, rather than through your local repeater to conserve local bandwidth.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023–2024

## OFFICERS

**President** – Terry Swinney / KC3JHT ----- Idocapt@gmail.com  
**Vice President** – John Holmes / N3IGA ----- n3iga@ptd.net  
**Secretary** – Doug Wood / K6PGH ----- dwood72679@sbcglobal.net  
**Treasurer** – Larry Butler / KC3JTK ----- lrbutler@ptd.net

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

Dean Guth / AB3BD ----- babydean1@hotmail.com  
John Barbaz / NT3P ----- nt3p@arrl.net  
Adam Gauntz / N3LAG ----- agent1@aol.com  
Dave Frankenfield / N3LWY ----- mycallsign@gmail.com  
Steve Harper / W3NAM ----- sharper3152@gmail.com  
Doreen Gramling / K3PDL (Past Pres.) ----- gramlingda22@myyahoo.com

**PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE DLARC CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE / MEMBERSHIP LISTING CLUB MEETINGS.**

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. Are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Nancy Run Firehouse. TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4)  
Club Station Telephone Number **484-291-1527** Email Address – [W3OK@arrl.net](mailto:W3OK@arrl.net)

**THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Barry Vogt / N3NVA**

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