

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

W3OK CORRAL

February 2008

Club Meeting February 7th at the 911 center

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Please accept the Executive Board's and my apologies. When we sent out the information card with the membership renewal, we omitted to indicate that mailed hard copy newsletters were meant for members who do not have internet access. Approximately one quarter of our membership has requested mailings. We have added up the cost per member for receiving a mailed copy. This turned out to be \$10.00 for each. This includes paper, ink or toner, and postage. Many of the recipients are retired and paying a \$12 yearly membership fee. This is obviously a burden to our treasury! At our next meeting, the board will discuss alternate means of delivering the newsletter. One possibility will be email push, where a copy is automatically sent to your email address.

For those of you who attended my talk on Winlink AirMail, there is an alternate telnet server that proves more efficient. The Telnet Settings are as follows;

Remote Callsign - WL2KS
Remote Host - SanDiego.winlink.org
Port - 8772
Timeout (sec) - 120
Local Callsign - your call
Password - CMSTELNET

73

AL / W3CE

MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 3RD MEETING

Call to Order: President Al / W3CE; @ 1930L

Visitors/Guests: Brian / KB3PJP

Pledge of Allegiance: led by W3CE

W3CE thanks Pete / NL7XM for securing room for meeting. Announced most probable return to 911 Center next month (FEB 08).

Approval of December Minutes: Motion Bob / NE2C, 2nd Bill / NC3P; passed unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Motion Bryan / AA3WM, 2nd Carl / AA3IX; passed unanimously. For full report, see W3OK Corral.

Reports:

Website: AA3IX asked if For Sale section is ever updated. Don / KC3II reported that Webmaster Barry / N3NVA must be informed of updates, otherwise what's there stays there.

Repeaters: No report.

License Classes: Bob / KE3AW reports that classes will be held at Northampton Community College (NCCC). Class is prominently listed in mailed course catalog. Classes to begin 11 MAR 08.

VE Session: George / N3SQD reports no pre-registrants for the January 4th session, to be held at the Bethlehem Township Community Center.

W3OK Club Station: W3CE reports nothing new. Open every Wednesday evening around 1900L for any interested person, amateur or not, to come and talk about radio and technology. Still looking for an XP computer with 1GHz or better processor to replace the elderly machines already in place.

Membership: Chairman Vic / N2OFF reports that DLARC has 117 members as of this meeting: 14 Associate, 5 Earned, 5 Family, 4 Honorary, 89 Regular. N2OFF also announced one application for membership: KB3PJP. Motion to accept, Don / KC3II, 2nd Mark / K3MP. Motion carried unanimously. (Which makes for 118 members, by the by.)

Announcements:

Newsletter: W3CE announced that many members had opted for delivery of a hard-copy newsletter. He noted that hard-copy was and is intended for those members who lack Internet access. He asked all members who opted for hard-copy delivery and also have Internet access to rethink their choice, as every hard-copy delivery adds to the funds drain on the Club. See a board member to make your switch.

Upcoming Events:

1-2 MAR 08: W3CE announced that he will be putting W3OK on the air for the ARRL International DX Contest. Contact Al for details or just show up at the Milk House.

APRIL 08 (exact date TBD): W3CE reports a Spaghetti Dinner will be held at Nancy Run Fire Co. for DLARC members and guests. Stay tuned for details.

MAY 08: W3CE will coordinate a Transmitter Hunt (or Foxhunt). Date TBD. Stay tuned!

Old Business:

W3CE, regarding December Meeting, reported that 911 Center staff complained about a mess in the meeting room. According to staff, the furniture was in disarray, and food remains were strewn about. Al and N3SQD, the next day contacted and met with 911 Center management, including Dick Teasdale. Mr Teasdale sympathized with the Club, stating that the problem probably stemmed from over-enthusiastic lower management, though the Club was at fault for not resetting the room's furniture. At no time was the Club's use of the room in serious jeopardy, though repeated infractions may cause Center management to review our use of the facility. Al noted in his report that we did overlook the need to "reset" the furniture, but that the food situation was not our fault, as we traditionally leave some snacks for the Center staff in appreciation for the space and assistance.

Discussion among the membership took place, including concerns about Northampton County's commitment to and care for the Club. It was suggested that the Club consider a long-term plan for an alternate venue, should our relationship with County sour; the Board will take this suggestion under advisement. As of now, DLARC is not actively seeking new facilities.

WX3MAS Special Event Station: Chairman Louis / KB2VCI reported that around 200 QSOs were made by WX3MAS. Two stations were set up, but one antenna - DLARC's Cushcraft vertical - went stinko, so the operation was essentially a single-station event. QSL requests are already flooding DLARC's PO Box; help was solicited for QSLing sessions on Wednesday evening Milk House gatherings. K3MP noted that too few operators attended the event, compared to previous years; a lack of camaraderie was felt. More ops should come out and kibbutz!

New Business:

W3CE solicited a volunteer from the Membership for Program Chairman and /or a Committee for Programs. Currently the Board is acting as a Committee of the Whole in this capacity. Bob / NQ3X noted that, as the first half of 2008's meeting programs are already scheduled, the intrepid volunteer will have an easy time. See any Board member to volunteer.

Upcoming Programs:

FEB 08 - Chris/NU3L's photographic tour of Africa. K3ANS raved, "It's spectacular! Outstanding! Not to be missed!" Don't say we didn't tell you.

MAR 08 - Barry/KU3X's always interesting and informative discussion of antenna-matching techniques.

APR 08 - D-Star; presenter TBA.

Future - Amateur Satellite Operation, Contesting, and more!

Tonight's Program: W3CE presented a demonstration and explanation of WinLink 2000 operation.

Motion to Adjourn: Bob / NE2C, 2nd Doreen / KB3PDL. Carried without dissent. Meeting closed 2010L.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Bob / NQ3X

DECEMBER 2007

D.L.A.R.C. Treasurer's Report

Expenditures:

Member Renewal Mailing	84.09
Membership Software	33.95
Club Station Lightning Arrestor	61.95
Telephone	<u>35.38</u>
Total Expenditures:	215.37

Respectfully Submitted,
Pete Varounis / NL7XM
Treasurer / D.L.A.R.C.

PEMA 2008 WEATHER DRILL

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) in conjunction with the National Weather Service (NWS) will conduct the 2008 Weather Emergency Preparedness Exercise on THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008, for all the counties of the PEMA Western, Central and Eastern Areas.

Time and where to report will be given out the week of the 13th. We will be asking for volunteers the first week of March.

de Dick / KA3MOU
Radio Officer, Northampton County

MEETING PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

The DLARC is still in need for a General Membership Meeting Program Chairman. Someone who can plan and organize programs for each monthly meeting. This chairman can select a committee to assist him and can get ideas from his committee and the general membership. Ideas from the general membership, will enable the Chairman and his committee to get an understanding of what subjects would be of interest to those attending the meetings. Subject matter does not have to be amateur radio related, but just of interest to the membership in general. If you are interested in volunteering for this position, contact any member of the Executive Committee.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

There will be a renewal of an old DLARC practice. That being the annual spaghetti dinner. It will be held on April 5th from 5 to 8 PM at the Nancy Run Fire House, located on Easton Avenue in Bethlehem Township. Just East of the Butztown traffic light. Or at the blinking amber light as you travel west on Easton Avenue (William Penn Highway). Tickets will be \$5.00. You can get your tickets from AI / W3CE beginning at the February 7th meeting.

EPA SECTION COORDINATOR

Effective January 18, 2008 Bob Wiseman / WB3W, a DLARC member, has been appointed the Section Emergency Coordinator for the Eastern Pennsylvania Section. Bob has been serving as the EPA District 2 Emergency Coordinator where he has been doing an outstanding job. Bob is an exceptional addition to the EPA Section Cabinet. Bob is now looking for someone to fill the EPA District 2 Emergency Coordinator's position. Any interested person, can contact Bob at wb3w@wb3w.net.

VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be March 7th at 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at george@bioserv.com or AI / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net

RIDES NEEDED OR OFFERED

Have you stopped driving at night, but would still like to come to meetings once in a while? Do you drive after dark? Would you be willing to pick up someone and bring them to a meeting and back home again? If you do drive after or don't drive after dark, contact me and I will try to get you two together.

E-mail me at nl7xm@arrl.com.

de Pete / NL7XM

SELL YOUR UNUSED EQUIPMENT

Don't forget the DLARC has a website section where you can sell your excess or unused equipment. It is listed under MISC and the website header, as "For Sale Items". To use this service, contact Barry / N3NVA at n3nva@epix.net.

And be sure to include a photograph if you have one, with this information. Also if you are in the market for a particular item, check this listing, it may be there.

***** **ANNOUNCING THE** *****

Old DLARC Fiftieth Anniversary Radio Trophy Sprint

A sprint is a short, and usually very quick, competition. In ham radio it's just that. A short fast contest. In celebration of the DLARC's 50th Year of incorporation, I have been asked to put together rules and guidelines for this 1 (one) hour **FUN** event.

DATE & TIME = Saturday, March 1, 2008: 1500Z to 1600Z, (that's 10 AM to 11AM EST)

ELIGIBILITY = Must be a paid up DLARC member, as indicated in the 2008 roster.

OBJECTIVE = Contact as many other DLARC members, (**ONCE ONLY**). As you can.

FREQUENCIES = Any 2-meter FM simplex frequency, (ie. 146.52, 146.55, 146.58). No repeater contacts permitted. (This does not restrict you from asking someone on a repeater to QSY to a simplex frequency).

CATEGORY = Single operator only. Mobile contacts are valid, but only one log to be submitted, which should show all contacts made.

EXCHANGE = A sequential serial number, (starting with 1), and the day of the month of your birthday. (Example; if your birthday is February 14 – you give 'Check 14', [but not the month]).

LOGS = You must use, and submit, paper (handwritten) logs only. The top of the log sheet should show your call and the check number sent. The columns of the log should look like this;

I # Sent | Time | # Rcvd | CALL | Day # | (You can pre-number the #Sent column). Example; If you are my 5th contact, and my Birthday is Feb. 14, my exchange to you would be,

“NUMBER 5 from W3TDF, Check 14.”

SCORING = It's very simple. 1 (one) point for each completed contact made. No multipliers.

LOG SUBMISSION = Completed logs may not be mailed. They must be turned in at the March 6 General Membership Meeting. The winner will be announced at the April 3 meeting. Grand prize will be an all expense paid, (by you), vacation trip to Bermuda. Remember this is a **FUN** event. No doubt everyone has 2-meter capability. You could probably even sit in your car with an HT on top of a hill, (for 1 hour) and make lots of contacts.

GOOD LUCK. de Ray (W3TDF)

DLARCforum USAGE GUIDELINES

The DLARCforum is meant to be used to pass relevant information about the club, its activities, events and other amateur radio related topics. You can use it to ask questions of a general or specific nature relating to the club or anything which concerns amateur radio. Round-table discussions are encouraged but please try to stay focused on the specific topic being discussed. You may advertise items for sale as long as they are amateur radio related.

Topics of general interest may be discussed but please be sure the topic is appropriate for the club forum and general membership. Please refrain from using the forum to discuss volatile topics unrelated to amateur radio. Occasional anecdotes may be posted if relevant to the membership. However, the forum is not to be used as a "joke bulletin board".

If you are uncertain about posting any information that could possibly be inappropriate or controversial but has relevance to amateur radio or the membership then please contact the list administrator or an executive Committee member for advice and/or approval.

Please refrain from forwarding messages to the forum without verifying the accuracy and validity of the information. Many messages received from unsubstantiated sources concerning computer viruses, missing children, alleged scams, etc. that prompt you to "send this to everybody you know", often turn out to be highly inaccurate or complete and total hoaxes. Forwarding this type of information without verifying its authenticity and accuracy is irresponsible. (You should follow this guideline when forwarding any emails whether to the forum or the membership in general.)

The general rules of amateur radio concerning non-commercial usage also apply to the forum. It is not to be used for commercial purposes, solicitation for profit or personal gain (excluding sales of radio related equipment, etc.) by individuals or groups.

To avoid delays when posting messages to the forum, please remember to configure your email program to send "plain text" messages.

You can usually find this setting in the options or configuration section of your particular email software.

You can only post messages to the forum using the email address which is subscribed. If you subscribed from your home computer using your home email address and attempt to post a message from your work computer using your work email address or any other computer with a different email address it will be rejected. However you can subscribe multiple addresses if you wish to use multiple systems

Messages posted to the DLARCforum must have the address in the "TO" line. Postings with the address in the "CC", or "BCC" lines will be rejected.

As a general rule, if you post a message and you don't get your message back, via the DLARCforum (after a short processing delay) then it probably was rejected. The system may send you an automated message if it can determine why your post was rejected or you may get a message from the list administrator stating the reason for the rejection. If you are having difficulty posting or receiving messages, please contact the list administrator.

The D.L.A.R.C. Executive Committee reserves the right of administration over the contents and membership of the forum.

de Don / KA3JWE List administrator

ARRL DX CONTEST

W3OK will be on the air for this year's ARRL DX Phone Contest. The times of operation are: 00:00 UTC March 1st to 23:59 UTC March 2nd. A multi-op station is hoped for. If you can help out operating or logging, please contact AI / W3CE. Don't make AI do it all himself.

RACES EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS

As of September 2006, NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 course certifications are required for participation in on site RACES emergency operations. These courses can be taken on line by going to www.fema.gov and following the directions. There requirements are not needed to participate in the weekly Wednesday nets. The only requirement for these nets is a valid amateur radio license and an interest in emergency communications.

SILENT KEYS

We would like to remember our past and present members.

James (Woody) Woodhead / KA2ZQI

Francis Hodges / KB3IDX

Paul Fritch / W3HHC

CHAIR PERSONS NEEDED

Many of the annual projects and/or events still need chair persons. The Executive Committee would like these positions to be filled by the February General Meeting. This would allow enough time for the projects to be properly staffed etc. We had a situation last year, where we had to inform the Easton MS Walk that we could not handle their communications. However this notice came less than a week before the event. An action that did not put the DLARC in a good light. Thus having at least the chair persons early, gives them enough time to get their teams together and fulfill our commitments. The chairs at this time that are still open are the Easton MS Walk, The Allentown MS Walk, the MS 150 Bike Tour and the Emmaus Halloween Parade. There are also these chairs open within the DLARC activities, the DLARC picnic and the Christmas City Special Event Station.

BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

May 17, 2008 the DLARC will be putting on an amateur radio station as a demonstration for the Boy Scouts of America's Jamboree at Kutztown University. Al / W3CE is chairman for this event and will need operators and assistance setting the station up. Contact AL at w3ce@arrl.net.

NEW MEMBER

Come shake hands with Brian / KB3PJP and welcome the newest member of the DLARC.

FYI

Mitch Bloom / WA1LLD is living in Melbourne, Fla. He would like to hear from any members traveling in the area. He can be reached by calling 610-428-9824. (He says this is his old Lehigh Valley Cell phone number, hence the 610 prefix.)

James (Jim) Chiddix / K3TFX, Formally of Easton, and a past member of the D.L.A.R.C., and the keynote speaker at the D.L.A.R.C. 50th Anniversary Banquet was recently named to the Cable Hall of Fame. He attributed his success to having started in electronics as an amateur radio operator.

The Eastern Pennsylvania District 2 ARES net meets every Wednesday at 1930 hours local time (Just after the DLARC Net), on the W3HA repeater, 147.255 (pl 162.2).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2007-2008

OFFICERS

President – Al Wiemann, W3CE ----- w3ce@arrl.net
Vice President – George E. Wieland III, N3SQD ----- george@bioserv.com
Secretary – Bob Davis , NQ3X ----- bob@reconstructinghistory.com
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Vic Zeno, N2OFF-----vzeno@rcn.com
Jeff Fehr, KX3Q ----- kx3q@arrl.net

**PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE OFFICERS 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 7:30 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center.

TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4)

**THE W3OK TRUSTEE
DON REAMER, KA3JWE**

The W3OK Corral is published monthly and is the Official Publication of the
DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

ARES, RACES AND DLARC NET

All Radio Amateurs are welcome to participate 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 145.11 (151.4)

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor – Don Holmes, KC3II ----- kc3ii@enter.net
Web Master – Barry Vogt, N3NVA ----- n3nva@epix.net

Any Comments or articles should be addressed to kc3ii@enter.net
Reports, articles, notices and general information should be in before the 15th of the month so as to allow enough time for posting.