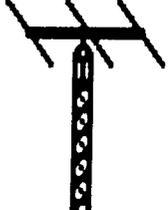


DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.



JUNE 2008



W3OK

CORRAL



Club Meeting June 5th At The 911Center

UP COMING EVENTS

June 28th & 29th Field Day

JUNE MEETING PROGRAM
AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS
By Gary / N2AUO



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

We just ran a Foxhunt for DLARC members on May 7th. We had five hunters with the N3SQD and W3DEA team finishing first. I had fun setting up the hunt and preparing a small picnic for all entrants. The fox was found after 90 minutes of searching. Look for another hunt to occur this Fall. By the time you read this we will have run our demonstration station for the Boy Scout Jambo at Kutztown University. We have five club members volunteering at the event. Plans are to demonstrate voice and CW communications along with the Winlink go-kit and a bunch of static exhibits. Look for more in my next message.

I am still trying to get APRS running on my bicycle so all can follow me as I ride in the MS 150. Might have to use "more power". I can't emphasize enough the need for volunteers to help with communications at the various checkpoints and aboard the several SAG buses. You will get fed and have accommodations for Saturday night if needed. If you are thinking about it, take the plunge. It will be rewarding and fun.

73

Al Wiemann / W3CE



MINUTES FROM THE MAY 1st MEETING

Call to Order: President Al / W3CE. 1930

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by W3CE

Visitors/Guests: Gil / WB3ESR; Zeke / W3GMN; Jay / N3OW

Approval of April Minutes: One error noted by Bryan / AA3WM: time for VE Testing should have read "1845", not "1745" as published. Moved to accept by Bill / NC3P; 2nd Bryan / AA3WM. Amended Minutes approved without dissent.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Moved by Ken / N3IYX; 2nd Bob / NE2C. Approved without dissent.

Reports:

Website & Repeaters – W3CE reported that the 145.11MHz machine is back on-line.

W3OK / Milk House – W3CE purchased a used Windows XP machine on eBay for W3OK. Cost was \$162.45. It is a 2.4GHz machine with 512MB of RAM and a 40GB HDD; Al thinks this will last, technologically, for the foreseeable future. This computer is running the replacement software for TelPac – WinLink RMS. Al invited all to stop by every Wednesday evening to play radio, talk radio and technology, and join in the fellowship. Listen to the W3OK repeater system for who's going. The Club is still soliciting donations for flatscreen monitors. Contact W3CE to donate!

VE Session: George / N3SQD reported that the next session was to be 02 MAY 08 at the 911 Center at 1900L; examinees should report ten minutes early. 1 pre-registered examinee.

Membership: Vic / N2OFF reported two new applications for membership: Zoltan "Zeke" Biro / W3GMN and Jay Mason / N3OW. N3SQD moved to accept the above as members of the Club; seconded by Gary / N2AUO. Approved without dissent, with applause for the new members!

Appointment: W3CE announced from the chair on behalf of the Board that Charlie / W3DEA has been appointed Awards Chairman for the Club. Charlie will oversee the acquisition of all award paraphernalia for such awards as The Army Zimmerman Award, Honorary Members, etc.

M/S Walk: N3SQD reported that the Easton Walk went very smoothly. The MS Society had everything under control, and there were no real issues with which DLARC's operators had to deal.

Upcoming Events:

Allentown MS Walk: W3DEA is coordinator for this event, and asks for volunteers. Meet at 0845 at Cedar Beach Rose Pavilion, OR meet at 0745 at the McDonald's on Cedar Crest Boulevard.

Transmitter Hunt – W3CE will run a foxhunt on 7 MAY 08 from 1800-2000L. The only hint Al would give is that the fox will be hidden in the eastern half of the Lehigh Valley (Bethlehem/Easton area). Meet at the Giant supermarket on Route 248 in Nazareth before kickoff.

Boy Scout Jamboree – W3CE reminded members of the Boy Scout Jamboree scheduled for 17 MAY 08 at Kutztown University. Don't waste your time at Dayton; stick around and help out the Scouts! More help is needed; contact Al to volunteer.

Field Day – 28th-29th JUN 08 is ARRL's annual Field Day! Tom / KB3IUE is chair again this year. Field Day will be held at our usual site, the Plainfield Township Farmer's Grove. All members and families are invited to come out, operate (or not), have a good time, eat and be merry! Tom asked all to attend, and specifically asked for help for setup Saturday and tear down Sunday.

MS-150 – AA3WWM reminded us that the annual MS-150 bicycle ride will be held on July 19th - 20th. Bryan is recruiting volunteers for our usual mission of providing communications support. Contact him for details.

Old Business:

Revision of By-Laws: Motion was made at the MAR 2008 General Meeting to revise the Club's By-Laws - AA3WWM moved that the Board devise restructuring of membership categories to incorporate newsletter costs in accordance with DLARC Bylaws. 2nd by Barry / KU3X.

The following changes were approved by the Executive Committee – acting as a Committee of the Whole – and presented by W3CE at the APR2008 General Meeting:

Article III:

Section 3: Part A To read "Full members are those who pay dues and have a valid Amateur Radio License."

Part B To read "Family members are those who reside at the same residence as a full member; but pay reduced dues."

Part C To read: "Associate members are those who pay a nominal fee, but have no voting rights and may not hold office."

Part D To read "Honorary members are those who have distinguished themselves for outstanding contributions to this club and for the benefit of amateur radio. They shall not pay dues. If they were a full or currently licensed family

member prior to being proposed for Honorary membership, they will retain all rights and privileges, including voting and officer/director candidacy.

Article V:

Section 2: To read "Meeting notices shall be in the form of a monthly newsletter, The W3OK CORRAL, which will be made available to all members prior to the regular meetings. Hard copies will be available by mail for an additional subscription fee."

KD1GT moved to adopt the above changes, pending and pursuant to the required consideration in this Newsletter, 2nd N2AUO. President W3CE tabled the motion until the MAY2008 meeting, as required by the Governing Documents.

W3CE called the issue to a final vote, which passed without dissent. The Chair instructed Don / KC3II to act as a liaison with Webmaster Barry / N3NVA to post the revised By-Laws on the Club website, www.dlarc.org.

New Business:

N3SQD moved that the Club devote \$500 annually from the general fund to act as a budget for the W3OK Club Station at the Milk House. This budget will not carry over year-to-year, and will be operable from January 1 to December 31 each year. The funds will be used to purchase items necessary to the maintenance of the station. Any big-ticket items, such as transceivers, will be presented to the Membership at a General Meeting before funds are earmarked for that purchase, and will not come from this budget. Seconded by W3DEA. Approved without dissent.

Pete / NL7XM is selling limited-edition DLARC coffee mugs. See the June W3OK Corral for details.

Bob / NQ3X has set up a Café Press shop featuring items imprinted with the Club logo, including t-shirts, polo shirts, mouse pads, etc. See <http://www.cafepress.com/dlarc> for details. A small markup has been added to each item; all proceeds will be donated to the Club.

Upcoming Programs:

May – Howard / AE3T will present Software-Defined Radio (SDR)

June – Satellite communications by Gary / N2AUO

July – USMC MARS in South Vietnam by Mike / KB3PDR

Meeting closed from the Chair at 2020L.

-Respectfully submitted by Secretary **Bob / NQ3X**

FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMS

For July 3rd it will be Mike / KB3PDR relating his experiences as the "First Marine MARS station in Southeast Asia" during the Viet Nam war. 1963 to 1967.

August 7th: "PowerPoles Revisited" by George / N3SQD. Standardize all the equipment from your shack or mobile with the latest protocol. Bring your 12v power leads from all your radios and accessories, and George will neatly and correctly attach PowerPoles for you at this practical demonstration. Provide your own PowerPoles, or buy them at the Meeting.

September 4th: "Making Your Own QSL Cards" by Charlie / W3DEA. Save a ton of Green Stamps while providing "The Final Courtesy" to your contacts. Charlie will show you how easy it is to make a personal, unique QSL Card you'll be proud to send!

October 2nd: "PA QSO." 2008 Rule changes; operating tips; logging programs; winning strategies. What county are YOU going to this year?



APRIL 2008 D.L.A.R.C. EXPENDITURE REPORT

Expenditures:

Foxhunt Refreshments	50.00
Award Plaques	144.69
Clubhouse Equipment Insurance	117.00
General Liability Insurance	320.00
Brochure & Application / Print+ Fold	139.92
Telephone	<u>17.69</u>
Total Expenditures:	(789.30)

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

VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be September 5th at 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at george@bioserv.com or Al / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net

HARD COPY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Due the increased number of newsletter hard copy requests, the escalating costs have made it necessary to establish a subscription rate of \$10.00 per year for hard copies. This rate is strictly for the mailed hard copies, and not for anything else. And with first class postage increasing in May, there will be an increase in that portion of the hard copy costs. Our club membership number no longer allows us to use bulk mailing, thus the first class postage requirement. That plus paper and printer supplies have to be covered since a club member is doing the printing on his own printer. His costs have to be covered. Subscriptions will begin with the July issue, at \$5.00 for the remaining 6 months of 2008 and then \$10 next year.

FIELD DAY

Hello Everyone!

The Birds are singing, the fish are jumping and the sun is shining down on the Lehigh Valley.... That can mean only one thing... Spring is in the air! If Spring is here, can ARRL Field Day be far behind? NO ! It can't !!! Just a reminder, my personal favorite event will be held June 28th and June 29th this year....We need you! Come help us set up, come operate, come help us take down. What ever you can do will be greatly appreciated. Enjoy the great outdoors of Upper Northampton County. Feel the self satisfaction of quickly erecting radio stations and talking across the country. Rub elbows and chat with some of the area's most distinguished Hams. Form a bond and create memories that will last forever. Well perhaps I'm being a little dramatic, but, at least stop by and have a bite to eat and a cup of coffee. What ever the case, we'd love to see ya! Don't miss the fun.... Be there !!! Thanks!

de Tom / KB3IUE

BY-LAW CHANGES

The following changes were approved at the May 1st general meeting.

Article III:

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Article V:

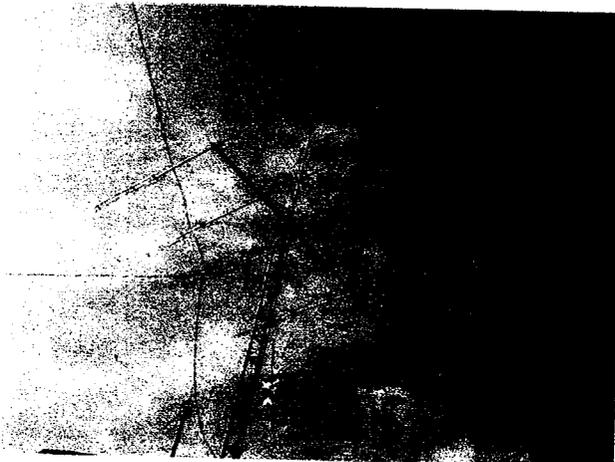
Section 2: To read "Meeting notices shall be in the form of a monthly newsletter, **The W3OK CORRAL**, which will be made available to all members prior to the regular meetings. Hard copies will be available by mail for an additional subscription fee."

The newly updated Constitution and By-Laws is now posted on the D.L.A.R.C. website under the Membership Info heading.

MS 150 BIKE TOUR

This years MS-150 Pa. Dutch Bike tour will be held July 19th and 20th Bryan / AA3WM has some radio operators to handle the safety aspect of the event. But the more operators on scene, the better the safety coverage. Come out and volunteer.

FREE FOR THE TAKING



Interested in a **FREE** KLM KT-34 Tri-bander w / a new 2el upgrade kit? How about a 15' 2m Hustler base station vertical rated at 600w & 100mph, also **FREE**? What's the catch? You have to climb a 50' Tower to get them down. Located in Bethlehem. Write for details.

nl7xm@arrl.net

LIMITED EDITION DLARC COFFEE MUGS Are On Sale For \$12.



Your participation is funding the Club's **New Membership Drive** Campaign. Our numbers are not what they used to be, so please support your Club by purchasing our quality merchandise.

- Now, here's how you can get one for only \$3.00! (The Fine Print)
- Between now and May 31st, sponsor a **NEW, FULL, PAID** membership at either the \$12 or \$17 rate, who gets confirmed at the June 5th Meeting. (\$3 Family Members, Associate Members, or early renewals do **NOT** qualify.) Completed applications **accompanied by dues** have to be in my hands by **May 31st** to qualify. The June 5th Meeting is **NO GOOD**.
- **"This \$3.00 offer is good until May 31st or only while supplies last."**

Each purchase of one of these fine ceramic DLARC Coffee Mugs gives you a chance to take home a special prize, awarded after an undisclosed number of Mugs are sold. Questions? Write for details.

Pete

nl7xm@arrl.net

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. Actually 13 weeks in a period, so 13 net controls would be ideal, and maybe some extras to fill in if needed. This would give us a pool of experienced controls, for any emergency which would arise. Interested parties should contact Dick / KA3MOU at ka3mou@verizon.net or Don / KC3II at kc3ii@arrl.net.

MAY MEETING PROGRAM



Again if you missed the May Meeting, you missed out on Howard / AE3T's presentation on "Software Defined Radio". The presentation based on the FlexRadio system, changes how you look at Amateur Radio Communications. Components which had been implemented in hardware are now implemented using software on a personal computer. Software radios have significant utility for military and cellphone services, both of which must serve a wide variety of changing protocols. In the long term, Software Defined Radio is expected by its proponents, to become the dominant technology in radio communications

SAD NEWS

Our long time club member of both the DLARC and QCWA Chapter 17, Bob Dickensen / W3HJ, has moved to an assisted-living facility in Allentown. Bob was formerly W2CCE. I received the sad news by phone from his daughter yesterday. Bob's wife, Jessie, has been suffering with Alzheimers for several years, and now Bob has dementia since last October. Bob and Jessie are now in the Sunrise at Mountainview, behind the Giant Food Store, near 29th Street and Emmaus Avenue in West Allentown. I have no idea about visiting hours or the like. Bob's daughter and Son will be attempting to inventory his ham radio gear, and send to me, which I'll post here, (probably in 2 or 3 weeks). Bob was active in many ways in the Lehigh Valley, including Field Day and PA QSO Party with both clubs.

de Ray / W3TDF

2008 DLARC NEW MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN MAILING

by Vic / N2OFF - Membership Chair

The Club has mailed approximately 1,150 membership applications and handsome brochures that describe our activities to 1,056 households in the 180xx and 181xx zip codes where area Licensed Radio Amateurs reside.

Collectively produced by W3DEA and NQ3X, they were delivered between April 29th and May 2nd. We are optimistic that this will result in noticeable growth for the DLARC. Along with hams new to the area that may not be familiar with our organization, we expect to see some familiar faces rejoin our ranks and fellowship. Please welcome back our old friends and introduce yourself to those who will no doubt, one day, be the face and future of our Association.

Some wonderful talent and local vendors were discovered in the production and distribution of our presentation, and we expect to benefit by our newly established relationship with them. The Board appreciates their successful effort to be cost effective for us, and we will reward them with our future business requirements.

Personal thanks to the XYL & harmonic of NL7XM, Janice & Chelsea, who risked lethal paper cuts while stuffing those envelopes in two evenings.

MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER

"A special prize awaits the first Club Member to submit the correct answer to last months Brainteaser to the Treasurer via E-mail. He must be present at the next Meeting to receive it, or it goes unrewarded. Officers, Board members, and Brainteaser Authors are not eligible to win."

Don / KA3JWE was the first eligible member to solve the April Brainteaser, and supplied his solution on April 27 at 10:41pm. The answer was 10,990 legs."

JUNE BRAIN TEASER

Five Hams



There are five houses in five different colors. In each house lives an Amateur Radio Operator of a different License Class. These five hams are different ages, use different types of antennas, and prefer different brands of radios. None of them are the same.

Using the following clues, answer the question, "Who owns the Yaesu?"

- The Novice lives in the red house.
- The Technician only uses Kenwood.
- The Extra is 45 years old.
- The green house is on the left of the white house.
- The Ham in the green house is 61 years old.
- The Ham with the dipole uses Ten-Tec.
- The Ham in the yellow house has a vertical.
- The Ham living in the house right in the center is 57 years old.
- The Advanced Class Ham lives in the first house.
- The Ham with the Yagi lives next door to the Collins user.
- The Ham who owns the Icom lives next door to the vertical owner.
- The Ham with the quad is 33 years old.
- The General uses a half-square antenna.
- The Advanced Ham lives next door to the blue house.
- The Ham next door to the Yagi owner is 70 years old.

Submit your answers to Pete / NL7XM at nl7xm@arrl.net

FCC LOOKS TO RAISE VANITY CALL SIGN FEES

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule making and Order (NPRM) on May 8 seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$11.70 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$12.30 for 10 years, an increase of \$.60.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site at, <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/howtocomment.html>.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 12 years of the current program -- from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50; the current fee of \$11.70 is the lowest the fee has been since the inception of the vanity call sign program. The FCC said it anticipates some 15,000 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$184,500 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal two years ago. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS site at, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>, and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain

NEW MEMBERS

Come shake hands with Jay Mason / N3OW and Zeke Biro / W3GMN and welcome them to the D.L.A.R.C. They are past members and in Zeke's case, a past president of the D.L.A.R.C.

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 Key

The D.L.A.R.C. Wishes to honor and to express its sadness at the passing of a club member or former club member.

Ralph L. Buratti / K3AGK

NEW FEATURE

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/30apr_4dionosphere.htm

CONGRADUATIONS

Kurt / KA2QYS successfully upgraded to extra at the DLARC VE Test Session May 2nd 2008.

OUTGOING AND INCOMING QSL BUREAU

With the arrival of Solar Cycle #24, the bands will be opening and you will begin making contacts on many of the bands. And find you would like to exchange QSL cards with stations you work, and DX stations are the real challenges. The down side of the QSL exchange is the cost of mailing directly to a DX station. Today it costs \$0.94 just to mail a card overseas. Plus most of the DX stations want, in order to defray their costs, either postal IPCs or 2 green stamps (dollars). This practice can become expensive, but there is another alternative. If you belong to the ARRL you can use their "Outgoing QSL Service" (Bureau) to distribute your QSLs. For a small fee you can send bulk amounts of cards to the ARRL and they will distribute them to the various DX country bureaus. For 10 cards it would be \$1.75 and for 75 cards it would be \$5.00. There is a down side to this system, and that is, it could take a year or longer to get your cards in return, but the savings make it possible to get your QSLs without breaking the bank. More information can be obtained at the ARRL website.

The incoming DX QSLs are handled on a call area basis with volunteer groups handling the incoming card distribution. For this service it is not necessary to be an ARRL member. The bureau for the Third Call Area is the "National Capital DX Association". There is a link listed on the ARRL website, to get to their website. When you go to their website, the actual details on how to get your incoming DX QSL cards from them, and what they require from you is listed. These cards are one of the ways to show that you have made the contacts necessary for for the various awards available. Even if you don't apply your cards to the various awards, the collecting of them is still enjoyable.

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@vogtrun.com. 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.

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Donate your old, empty printer ink cartridges to the Club for recycling. Any brand, model, size or shape; color or black. Please bring them to the meeting in a leak proof ziplock type baggie and give them to the Treasurer. This simple act can help your Club by reducing recurring expenses, and make you feel a lot better about our environment.

F.Y.I.

The winner of the May 1st Door Prize was Ed / AA3OU.

The EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA District 2 ARES Net meets every Wednesday at 1930 hours local time. (Just after the DLARC Net) On 147.255 (pl 162.2). And linked to 449.375 on Blue Mountain, 443.350 in Allentown and 147.180 in Berks County.