

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.



W3OK

CORRAL

APRIL 2009

**Club Meeting April 2nd 8:30 PM At The
Bethlehem Township Community Center**

For Directions go to mapquest.com and type in
2900 Farmersville Rd, Bethlehem, Pa. 18020-9759

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 15th – Income Tax Deadline

April 26th – Easton & Lehigh Valley MS Walk

MEETING PROGRAM

"Why I Voted For Abraham Lincoln"

by Ray / W3TDF

Ray will tell us what it was like to fight in the Civil War, hunt dinosaurs, and about the time he once shook hands with Moses. Meeting begins precisely at sunset. The evening's Raffle Ticket Winner will receive immediately, a free, live, colonoscopy! (No cameras permitted.) Free food, Phillies and Eagles Season Tickets, and 2009 Lexus SUV's to the first 50 in the door!



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

It's time again to repair all those antennas that were damaged during the winter windstorms. I have only operated mobile for the past year and I guess it is time to get some wire in the air. In the past year our club has grown bigger and our meeting room at the 911 center has grown smaller. I hate to leave the excellent facilities at the center, but a change of location may be in order in the near future. Please, if you have any suggestions for a meeting place, contact one of the board members. Don't forget to participate in the 2 meter DLARC sprint contest on the 28th of March. Those that were in it last year had a lot of fun and I encourage all members to give it a try. Full rules are in recent newsletters.

73

AL / W3CE



MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 5th MEETING

Called to order: 8:40, by President Al / W3CE

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by W3CE

20 Members Present

Visitors & Guests: Dave / N3ZJY and John / W3HEH

Approval of January Minutes: No Changes, 1st Jay / N3OW, 2nd Gary N2AUO - Passed

Treasurer's Report: No Changes, 1st Carl / AA3IX, 2nd Mike / KB3LOD

REPORTS:

Web Page: No Report

Repeaters: No Report

W3OK Club Station: Open Wednesday evenings for general membership get together.

V.E. Session: 1 tested and a new Technician

Technician Classes: 3 Students so far.

Membership: 182 members, 12 family-Regular, 7 Honorary, 144 Regular, 3 Youth Associate

New Members: Ricky / KB3LLM, Dave / N3ZJY, John W3HEH, 1st Howard / KB3RTB, 2nd Ed / AA3OU
Passed

Up Coming Events: DLARC 2 Meter Sprint (March 28th), Lehigh Valley MS Walk (April 26th), Riley Hollingsworth Presentation (July 9th), MS Pennsylvania Dutch 150 Mile Bike Tour (July 18th & 19th)

MS Events – If you would like to help Contact;

Lehigh Valley Walk - Charlie / W3OPA

MS-150 Bike Tour– Bryan / AA3WM

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Need for new meeting location for monthly meetings due to increase membership. Suggestion for possible new sites requested.

Meeting Adjourned – 9:00 PM by Al / W3CE

After a brief break Gary / N2AUO presented a program on building and using a "Spud Gun".

Don / KC3II acting Secretary

NOTICE

All members will need to produce their 2009 DLARC Membership Cards to access the July 9th Program with Riley Hollingsworth without having to pay admission. Because seating is strictly limited, there will be no exceptions. So, find yours now because only a certain number of Guest tickets to meet capacity will be made available.

This notice is being given with plenty of time to locate yours to present it in order to gain free entry. Guests and anyone without a current Membership Card will pay a nominal fee so the DLARC may recover some of the costs of arranging this Special Presentation.



FEBRUARY 2009
D.L.A.R.C. EXPENDURE REPORT

Expenditures:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Telephone | 17.68 |
| Plainfield Township 2009 FD Site & Trash Collection | 125.00 |
| Bethlehem Township - Jan. Membership Meeting | 25.00 |
| 1 st Class Postage (x100) | 42.00 |
| Postcard Postage (x100) | <u>27.00</u> |
| Total Expenditures: | (236.68) |

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

APRIL 2009 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| | | | 1 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KC3II) | 2 DLARC Meeting | 3 NO V.E. SESSION | 4 |
| 5 10 Meter Net 28.430 | 6 | 7 D-Star Net 147.165 1900 L | 8 DLARC RACES/ARES Net(KA2QYS) | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 10 Meter Net 28.430 | 13 | 14 D-Star Net 147.165 1900 L | 15 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD) | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 10 Meter Net 28.430 | 20 Newsletter Articles due | 21 D-Star Net 147.165 1900 L | 22 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (W3BUD) | 23 Executive Committee Meeting | 24 Newsletter goes to Webmaster | 25 |
| 26 10 Meter Net MS Walk | 27 | 28 D-Star Net 147.165 1900 L | 29 DLARC RACES/ARES Net(KB3MHY) | 30 | | |

FIELD DAY

It is not too early to begin planning for the 2009 Field Day. To be held **June 27th & 28th** at the Plainfield Township Farmers Park. This one of several events that the DLARC participates in every year. Tom / KB3IUE is chairman, so when he asks for help, don't be afraid to join in. The help he will be looking for is to set up Saturday afternoon and tear down Sunday after noon. Plus operators and loggers during the 2 day period. Keep your calendar open for these days.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>William N. Goodman, CPA</p> <p>Certified Public Accountant Licensed Insurance Agent Mortgage Loan Officer</p> <p align="right">K3ANS</p> <p align="right">2560 Nazareth Road Easton, Pa. 18045-2793</p> <p>Telephone: 610-253-2745 E-Mail: wgoodman@goodmancpa.biz Web site: www.goodmancpa.biz</p> | <p align="center">YOUR AD COULD BE HERE</p> <p>Your business card here for a ridiculously small monthly fee. A space this size is available for a listing, like the one to the left.</p> <p align="center">For more information Contact Pete / NL7XM at nl7xm@arri.com</p> |
|--|--|



APRIL CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

April 4th & 5th --- QCWA Spring QSO Party
April 11th & 12th --- Japan International DX Contest
April 18th & 19th --- Holy Land DX Contest
April 25th & 26th --- Helvetia Contest



VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be May 8th 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.

MS WALK DATE

April 26th is the date for the **combined** Easton MS and Lehigh Valley MS Walks. The walk will be held in the area of the Iron Pig's Coca-Cola Park. Charlie / W3OPA is chairman for this event, so volunteer now, so he has enough time to gather a team. This is an event that the DLARC has handled in the past and we have been contacted by the event sponsors and hope to handle it this year.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

www.solarcycle24.com

This month's website's motto is "All of your solar and aurora needs in one place." Solar Cycle 24 .com provides both up-to-the-minute and historical data on solar and aurora activity. With its colorful graphics, color enhanced images and wide variety of charts. Cycle 24.com catches your eye while providing a number of windows on the world of propagation. The site, by Kevin Gilles / VE3EN has information on daily WWV numbers, USAF / NOAA Solar Report, Solar Flux, Planetary K-Index, Auroral Oval, X-ray Flux, Cycle 24 Photo Time line and more. Hopefully, as you read this, the sunspots will have continued to grow in number!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

To All,

Well, its time to contact your state representatives again. This time its HB538 - The Use of Wireless Devices while Driving. **PLEASE NOTE** that presently there is an exclusion for "a two-way radio communication device" and Citizens Band Radio. Amateur Radio is NOT specifically mentioned and perhaps it would be best to seek our legislators support for this bill with an Amendment which specifically exempts Amateur Radio.

Again, the Web Site for the Pennsylvania Legislature is:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/>

Once you are at that site go to the top right hand corner and in the small box labeled "Find Legislation By" Check "Bill #" and below that put HB538 in the box then click "Go".

A "Cut and Paste" copy of the proposed legislation but it may be easier to read on the official web site.

Thanks to everyone.

73, Eric, WB3FPL

MARCH MEETING PROGRAM



Due to the meeting date being changed, Dave / KA3IWC was unable to attend and present his program on "Rotatable Dipoles". Gary / N2AUO stepped in and presented a program on "The Spud Gun". An article on the spud gun was present in the March 2009 QST. The spud gun is a launcher to get antennas and other items over high supports and or trees. Built of PVC and other items readily available at your local building supply and auto supply, the gun is capable of launching a projectile over obstacles 100 feet high or even higher. Gary reported the cost was about \$41 and even though it was his first venture working with PVC, that is was an easy project. He also made modifications which he felt improved the over all operation. We are expecting Gary to have his spud gun at field day in June.

FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMS

May 7th: **"Fox Hunting Made Easy."** A practical workshop by DLARC President, AI / W3CE. Starting with an ARRL Fox Hunt video production, this conference will demonstrate how to inexpensively build and use various directional antennas necessary for signal location. The methods learned here can prepare you for assisting in Search and Rescue Operations, as well as tracking sources of harmful interference. Apply your new skills in the upcoming Club Fox Hunt!

June 4th: **"RocketMan."** An introduction to the fascinating and exciting world of Amateur Rocketry. Dan Michael is our Guest Speaker and will show us what it takes to successfully build and launch ENORMOUS experimental rockets. Including discussion and video of recent projects. <http://www.vimeo.com/959637>. Brad / W3JXQ will show us how to employ ham radio tracking devices to recover them after each flight. Kids Welcome!

July 9th: **"Riley Hollingsworth - LIVE!"** An exclusive engagement by special invitation, an evening with K4ZDH live and in person. A rare local appearance by former Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. DLARC's 2009 Keynote Speaker, Mr. Hollingsworth will engage us with the compelling challenges he confronted during his famous tenure of enforcing PART 95, followed by a Q&A session. This event will be held at a location to be announced, as many hundreds from NY and NJ who can't travel to Dayton are expected to attend. Seating is limited, so advance ticketing will be required. Information will be made available here well in advance. All are welcome.

August 6th: **"Traffic & Weather Data Retrieval."** Special guest appearance by WFMZ-TV 69 News Traffic Center IT Manager, JC Kelleher will explain how tons of streaming data are collected and sorted to bring you the latest information you need in order to know how to dress and which roads to avoid. If you are curious about how remote meteorological devices and strategically placed traffic cameras scattered around the Lehigh Valley deliver raw live reports and images to the Newsroom and then on to your television, you will find this Program to be very interesting and satisfying!

September 3rd: **"Recruiting Kids for Amateur Radio."** World Radio Magazine columnist, Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum Leader, and New York City Public School Teacher, Carole Perry / WB2MGP was the first in the United States to teach an exclusive Ham Radio curriculum for 30 years as a way to introduce science, math and geography to her Middle School students. Recently elected a Board Fellow of RCA, Carole single-handedly licensed hundreds of kids by administering exams at the end of each term. Come and meet a legend in person. Carole's successful methods to attract "tweens" into our amazing vocation are time proven. Kids of all ages are absolutely encouraged to attend this exclusive DLARC engagement.

October 1st: **"E-M-E / Moonbounce Communications."** Dr. Roger Rehr / W3SZ will describe his long, well documented and successful experience with this amazing mode. Wonder what it takes to bounce a signal off the "Big Cheese", Mother of all satellites? How much power, and how big an array do you need? How do you aim that thing? Can you actually work DXCC off the moon? What frequencies can you use? Does the moon have to be full? What if it's cloudy? You mean, I can do this with a Technician Class License? ...You got questions? ...Boy, do we got answers! Come early for a seat or you'll be standing up for this one.

November 5th: **"Portable Ops From the Road."** What special considerations must one confront when Operating Portable while traveling across North America in a travel trailer with the XYL, 3 dogs, a Yaesu 897D and a Black Widow antenna system? Join us as we ride with W3SQ / Mel & Co., through MI, MN, ND, SD, WY and the Grand Canyon; Alberta and many southern Civil War Battlefields. Lighthearted discussion, liberally sprinkled with lots of photographs will include setting up in campgrounds near lakes, deserts and mountains. Listen as oblivious campers trample the radials and bears trespass through the campsite! Just wait till you hear how kids try to take the antennas to use as fishing poles!

December 3rd: **"Annual Christmas Party!"** Throw caution to the wind and hide the bathroom scale until after St. Valentine's Day. There's no better DLARC Program than this one, where socializing with good friends while sharing great food and talk IS the presentation. Bring a dish or dessert, paper goods or soft drinks. Make handy a few copies of your recipe to share with your new admirers. (Keep a sharp lookout for the famous and anonymously prepared "Rum Balls!")

NEW EPA ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER

To All,

It is with pleasure that I am able to announce that Jose Rodriguez, KB3FPJ, has been appointed as an Assistant Section Manager (ASM) for Eastern Pennsylvania. Jose lives in Bethlehem, PA where he was one of the organizers of The Christmas City Amateur Radio Club. Jose will be an asset to both the sizable EPA Hispanic Amateur Community but to the entire EPA Ham Community as well. Congratulations and Thank you for being willing to serve the EPA Amateur Radio Community to Jose.

73, Eric D. Olena / WB3FPL

2009 MS 150 PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH COUNTRY TOUR

It is not too early to to make plans to participate in this year's bike run. Bryan / AA3WMM is coordinating again this year and would like to have enough operators to cover all the necessary aspects of this tour. It will be held July 18th and 19th and although it is a two day event, it is not necessary to do both days. Any help will assist Bryan to have a safe and enjoyable weekend. Bryan can be contacted at sbw1@enter.net.

APRIL PROVERBS

You know you're gettin' on in years when your knees buckle, and your belt won't.
"Work" is what you call what you're doing when you'd rather be doing something else.
No matter what happens, there's always someone who knew it would.
A female magician is a gal that can get a mink coat out of an old goat.
Too bad people can't exchange problems. Everyone knows how to solve the other fellows.
Gossip: One who's down on who's up, and up on who's down.
Time spent in getting even is better spent getting ahead.
Just when we're being put out to pasture, Social Security is running out of grass.
The trouble is that too many people are educated beyond their intelligence.
The best simple cure for insomnia is to get a lot of sleep.
A halo only has to slip a few inches to become a noose!
Middle age spread is just a waist of time.
Swallowing angry words are easier than eating them.
Should you slow down because you're older than you've ever been, or speed up because you're younger than you'll ever be?
If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?
Never meet trouble halfway. It'll make the whole trip if it's coming.
Friends come and go, but enemies accumulate.
You have to know the ropes if you want to pull the strings.
If you want to forget all your troubles, wear really tight shoes.
Successful Man: One who makes more than he can spend. Successful woman: One who finds him.
Nothing but nothing, makes a kid as smart as being your grandchild.

SAFETY TIPS

DO NOT ride in an automobile; they cause 28.6% of all fatal accidents.
DO NOT stay at home because 19.7% of all accidents happen in the house.
DO NOT walk around the neighborhood. 14.3% of all accidents happen to pedestrians.
DO NOT travel by air, rail or boat; 16.9% of all accidents occur this way.
Only .000001% of all accidents occur at Amateur Radio Club Meetings.

[SO, the safest place to be on the 1st Thursday of each month is at the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Meeting at the Northampton County Emergency 911 Call Center.](#)

APRIL BRAINTEASER

Pete / NL7XM

Three boxes - one containing two black marbles, one containing two white marbles, the third containing one black marble and one white marble - are put before you. The boxes are labeled to indicate their contents - BB, WW, and BW. But you are told that the tops have been switched so that every box is now incorrectly labeled. You are asked to take one marble at a time out of any box, without looking inside, and using this sampling process, to determine the contents of all three boxes. What is the smallest number of drawings you will need to determine the contents of each box?

Explain your answer.

HAM FEST

Save Saturday April 4, 2009 to visit the 2nd Annual Sussex County (Delaware) Hamfest and ARRL Delaware State Convention, to benefit the student members of the Sussex Tech Amateur Radio Club and repeater. Guest speakers include Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, retired Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, and ARRL's Norm Fusaro, W3IZ. Vendors, Tail Gate, license testing, food and fun!

Visit www.K3STR.com for more information and vendor forms.

OBITUARY FROM THE LONDON TIMES

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death, by his parents, Truth and Trust, by his wife, Discretion, by his daughter, Responsibility, and by his son, Reason:

He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

YOU MIGHT BE ADDICTED TO HAM RADIO IF:

1. When you look at a full moon and wonder how much antenna gain you would need.
2. When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, it turns in to an hour long rant on how ham radio is not CB radio.
3. When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
4. When you can look at a globe and be able to point to your antipode (and you know what an antipode is).
5. Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.
6. You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
7. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
8. You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
9. You have driven onto the shoulder of the road while looking at an antenna.
10. Porcupines appear to be fascinated with your car.

FYI

The winner of the March Door Prize was Ben / KB3CTX

Extra 2009 Program postcards are available from NL7XM for anyone who wishes to pass one to a Non-Member friend who may be interested in attending or joining the Club.

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

The OK Corral is an organizational publication for the purpose of informing members of the D.L.A.R.C. of educational and training opportunities, club events, relevant news articles and a monthly calendar of daily activities, meetings and dates. Every member of the D.L.A.R.C. Is welcome to contribute articles of interest to this newsletter. Opinions, items of interest, and even suggestions towards the improvement of newsletter and/or the DLARC itself would also be accepted, a sort of "Letters to the Editor" section.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2008 – 2009 OFFICERS

President – Al Wiemann / W3CE ----- w3ce@arrl.net
Vice President – George E. Wieland III / N3SQD ----- george@bioserv.com
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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
7:30 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

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