

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**



# ***W3OK***

# ***CORRAL***

***SEPTEMBER 2009***

**Club Meeting September 3<sup>rd</sup> At  
The Nancy Run Fire Company**

#### **UP COMING EVENTS**

**September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Nominations for 2009/2010 Executive Committee**

**September 12<sup>th</sup> – N.C. EMS Safety Expo**

**September 15<sup>st</sup> - License Preparation Classes**

**September 20<sup>th</sup> – DLARC Picnic**

#### **MEETING PROGRAM**

### **"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.**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

I want to take this time to talk about our club station at the milk house at Gracedale. Over the past few months the club station has been bursting at the seams with visitors on Wednesday nights. On occasion we have had over 20 members present.

The place has been cleaned and straightened up to the nth degree. A new antenna patch panel has been installed, along with lightening arrestors on each feed line. Also new operating desks are being installed, and little used gear will be stored in the barn.

If you haven't visited the W3OK station in quite a while, I encourage you to stop by any Wednesday night starting about 7 PM. Also you can join us at dinner. Just monitor the club repeater on 10/70 in the afternoon to find out where we are dining that evening. We usually meet for food around 5:30 PM.

de AI / W3CE



## MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING

**Called to order:** by President AI / W3CE at 7:30 PM

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by W3CE

**Approval of July Minutes:** - No Changes , 1<sup>st</sup> – Gary / N2AUO, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dave / KA3IWC, - Passed

**Treasurer's Report:** No Changes, 1<sup>st</sup> – Jay / N3OW, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ray / W3TDF - Passed

### REPORTS:

**Web Page:** By Laws can be found by logging in, they are only accessible by members this way.

**Repeater:** Question about the Fleetwood receive site: Does it work? - This will be addressed in an e-mail to Barry N3NVA along with a request for a copy of the repeater codes for the Vice President\*  
\*Vice Presidents duties have been expanded to include being responsible for a copy of keys to Club Station and Barn, Passwords for QRZ web site (W3OK & WX3MAS) and repeater codes, etc. as a back up in the event of emergencies in any of these areas and the need to access them.

**W3OK Club Station:**- 12 to 20 people on Wed. nights, Work party Saturday August 8, Howard KB3RTB

**VE Session:** No tests this month, Next session September 4<sup>th</sup>, At the 911 Center.

**License Classes:** Start September 15<sup>th</sup>, at the 911 Center.

**Picnic:** Bicentennial Park on Sept. 20, AI / W3CE

**Membership:** 203 members, meeting attended by 38. New members voted in John / N3SQV, Ron / N3ZO, Dave / N3LWY and Charles / K3BCV - Motion 1<sup>st</sup> – Bryan / AA3WM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob / NE2C, Passed

### OLD BUSINESS:

**July Meeting:** Positive remarks were made in regards to the Riley Hollingsworth event in July

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Nominating Committee:** Was named and is looking for nominees, Committee is Bryan / AA3WM, Bob / KE3AW and Bob / K3SNZ

**Milkhouse:** Has a phone, phone number is 484-895-7038 - The voice mail is not yet set up and Bob / KE3AW and the club's V.P. (currently George / N3SQD) will be responsible for voice mail retrieval.

**Safety Expo:** Northampton County. will be holding a Safety Expo 9-12-09 at the Bethlehem Ice Rink, on Illicks Mill Road. The club will have a demo station.

**Fund Raising:** Available to the membership to be bought and or sell will be Lehigh Valley Entertainment books - See Howard / KB3RTB. Also Howard / KB3RTB is taking orders for black t-shirts with DLARC on the back and your call sign on the front (\$25) - Next month he will be taking orders for polo shirts with embroidered Club logo and call sign on the front of the shirt. should be \$20.

**Meeting adjourned:** by AI / W3CE

After a brief break, Charlie / W3OPA presented a program on "Near Vertical Incident Skywaves".

Respectively Submitted: **Charlie / W3OPA**, Secretary.



**JULY 2009**  
**D.L.A.R.C. EXPENDURE REPORT**

**Expenditures:**

Honorarium for R.H.	300.00
2009 Field Day Food & Fuel	289.25
Nancy Run F/H (Remainder of 2009)	100.00
Tickets/Copies/Notary Services	80.15
Telephone	<u>17.68</u>

**Total Expenditures:** **(787.08)**

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

**SEPTEMBER 2009 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>2</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>W3BUD</b> )	<b>3</b> <b>DLARC</b> <b>Meeting</b>	<b>4</b> <b>V. E.</b> Session	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>9</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net( <b>KB3MHY</b> )	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>EMS</b> <b>SAFETY</b> <b>EXPO</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Newsletter Articles due	<b>15</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>16</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KR3U</b> )	<b>17</b> Executive Committee Meeting	<b>18</b> Newsletter goes on the Web Page	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>DLARC</b> <b>Picnic</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>23</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KB3RTB</b> )	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>30</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>W3CE</b> )			

**SEPTEMBER CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL**



September 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> --- All Asia - SSB  
September 6<sup>th</sup> --- North American Sprint - CW  
September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> --- ARRL VHF QSO Party  
September 13<sup>th</sup> --- North American Sprint – SSB or CW  
September 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> ---CQ WW RTTY Contest



**VE TEST SESSION**

There will be a test session this month on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 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.

**FUND RAISING**

Entertainment Books, Club T shirts and Club polo shirts will be available. For details, contact Tracy / KB3TAE or Howard / KB3RTB. The sale of these items are to enable the purchase of equipment for the various functions and events the club participates in. The T shirts have the D.L.A.R.C. On the back and your name and call on the front. The polo shirts will have the club logo and your call on the front.

## 2009 ANNUAL DLARC PICNIC

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club will have its annual picnic on Sept 20st 2009. We'll meet at Bicentennial Park in East Allen Township. This will be a pot luck picnic with members bringing salads, casseroles, or desserts. Please contact AL at w3ce@arrl.net, or 610-262-6977 with the item you are bringing. Everyone is encouraged to bring games or activities that we can participate in.

### \*\*\*\*\* BICENTENNIAL PARK DIRECTIONS \*\*\*\*\*

#### FROM AIRPORT RD (Rt. 987) & NOR-BATH BLVD (Rt. 329)

Travel SOUTH on Airport Road about 1 mile to Dogwood Road, on your right is sign for Bicentennial Park  
TURN RIGHT onto Dogwood Rd., follow about ½ mile where road turns LEFT and becomes HANOVER ST.  
CONTINUE on HANOVER ST. to Park entrance RIGHT on LIBERTO LANE

#### FROM AIRPORT RD South (Allentown/Bethlehem area)

TRAVEL NORTH on Airport Road past intersection at Hanoverville Road, about .3 miles, just over the highway overpass. TURN LEFT on Dogwood Road at the sign for Bicentennial Park FOLLOW about ½ mile where road turns LEFT and becomes HANOVER ST. CONTINUE on HANOVER ST. to Park entrance TURN RIGHT on LIBERTO LANE Follow driveway through park to parking lot. Speed limit is 5 M.P.H. Pavilion is at top of hill among the trees. Please use the stone road to drop off at the pavilion, then return to the parking area.

## PA QSO PARTY

Now is the time to check antennas, coax, rigs and and your logging program. Don't wait until the QSO Party week to begin. Be ready and help the DLARC reach the high scores again. It has been some time since we won the Club Category Trophy. Last year we demonstrated our ability to contest and continuing that effort should bring our scores up again.

## THE DLARC K3NZ PAQSO AWARD

This award is named in honor of Norm Zoltack, K3NZ and will be awarded to the club individual earning the highest score in the club during PAQSO party. Norm was a super contester and a guiding force in his 40 plus years with the DLARC.

#### Requirements:

1. You must be a single operator.
2. You must apply your score to the DLARC's aggregate.
3. Portable, mobile, rover and home operations count.
4. You can operate from any county.

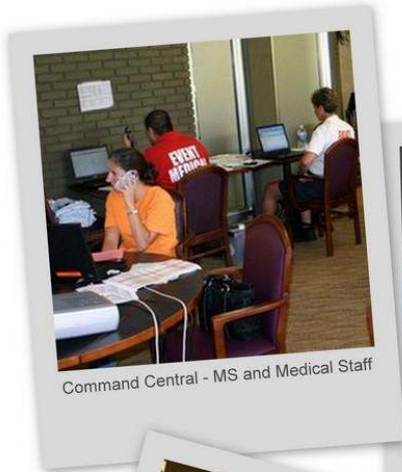
## Another Successful Bike MS: PA Dutch Ride 2009

by Bryan, AA3WM

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bike MS: PA Dutch Ride took place on July 18th and 19th. This fund raising activity for the Multiple Sclerosis Society guided approximately 427 bicyclists through the rolling hills of Montgomery County and the scenic Amish farmlands of Chester and Lancaster counties, and is projected to raise \$270,000 to \$300,000 this year. The unique route had 25-mile, 50-mile, 75-mile, and 100-mile options each of the two days for riders with lesser or greater expectations. As has been the case for many years, members of the DLARC and other interested hams provided communications for event vehicles and locations over the entire route. The net control station, along with the overall Command Central (a first for this tour), was located at Millersville University. This year's event went smoothly, with no major accidents that we know of. All communication traffic that went over the two repeaters used for the event was handled efficiently and courteously by all operators. I would like to extend our appreciation to the owners and users of the 147.210 repeater in Pottstown (K3ZMC), and the 145.310 repeater in Lancaster (K1CWB) for allowing the use of their machines for more than twelve hours on each of the two day event. I would also like to thank the owners and users of the 146.580 repeater in Reading for giving us permission to use their repeater as a backup.

I want to mention and thank each one of the hams (hopefully I didn't miss anyone) that helped with this year's event. They are (in no particular order): KB3PDL, KB2VCI, KB3MPX, W3HEH, N3SQD, KE3AW, N2AUO, KB3HMK, N3QZT, KB3RTB (and Carissa), KB3CTX, AB3FY, KB3SXG, NE2C, AA3WM, and KB3MGZ. The long hours spent by each volunteer operator were also greatly appreciated by the bike riders and the MS Society staff. Thank You!





Command Central - MS and Medical Staff



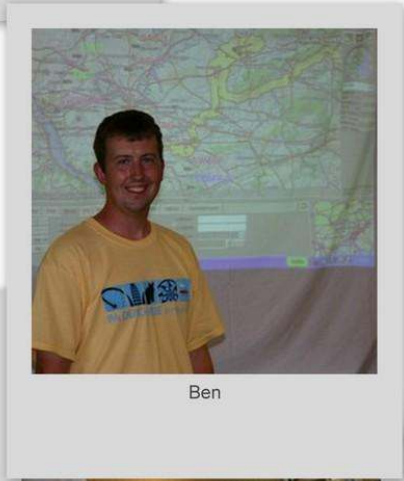
Command Central - MS Staff (Central PA's Net Control in background)



Net Control - Bryce and Bryan



Howard, Carissa, Brandon, and John - Saturday Evening



Ben



DLARC's President as a rider at a rest stop



Brandon, Howard, Carissa, and Bob

## REPEATER ETIQUETTE

Atlantic County ARES Web Page Via **Bob Green / KE3AW**

Every couple of years it seemed we used to "remind" operators using our repeaters of the proper etiquette to be used on W3OK. With numerous new hams over the past couple years, or hams new to this area, it may be worth considering using/altering to suit us some such guide to operators in our club. I know, from recent questions to me about a number of points covered in this article, below...

**Here is the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur radio Club Repeater Etiquette.**

Use of the W3OK Repeater

- 1-Usage will be in accordance with FCC Rules Part 97.
- 2-Users will comply with directives of the control operator.
- 3-Transmissions will be courteous and professional. (See Basic Repeater Etiquette Below)
- 4-The time out timer is set for 90 Seconds. Keep transmissions under that time. Leave breaks between transmissions so the repeater can drop and the time out timer resets.

### **Basic Repeater Etiquette**

- 1-Starting a QSO via a directed call. There are two main ways by which a QSO can begin, one is via a directed call and one is via monitoring. A directed call is where one amateur calls another amateur individually, such as "N3XYZ from K3ABC". In such a case, K3ABC is looking for one particular individual, N3XYZ. It generally is not an invitation for anyone other than N3XYZ to return the call. If N3XYZ doesn't answer the call, K3ABC may just clear off by saying "K3ABC clear", or may clear and listen for other calls by saying "K3ABC clear and listening". The "and listening" or "and monitoring" implies they are interested in hanging around to QSO with anyone else who might be listening at that time. "Listening" and "monitoring" don't mean you are listening to somebody else's conversation, they mean you are listening for other people who may want to call you to start a new QSO. Likewise, just saying your call by itself with nothing following it is meaningless. If you were to say "N3XYZ", people listening wouldn't know if that means you were monitoring for calls, whether you were testing, or whether they missed the callsign of a party you were calling. Be concise, but be complete.
- 2-Starting a QSO via a monitoring call. If the repeater is not in use, simply stating your callsign followed by "listening" or "monitoring" implies that you are listening to the repeater and are interested in having a QSO with anyone else. Calling CQ on a repeater is generally not common, a simple "N3XYZ listening" will suffice. There is no need to repeat the "listening" message over and over again as you might do when calling CQ on HF. Once every few minutes should be more than sufficient, and if someone hasn't answered after a few tries, it probably means there is nobody around. If someone is listening and wants to QSO, they will answer back. Avoid things like "is anybody out there" or "is there anybody around on frequency"; it sounds like a bad sci-fi movie.
- 3-Joining a QSO in progress. If there is a conversation taking place which you would like to join, simply state your callsign when one user unkeys. This is the reason for having a courtesy tone: to allow other users to break into the conversation. One of the stations in QSO, usually the station that was about to begin his transmission, will invite you to join, either before making his own transmission or afterward. Don't interrupt a QSO unless you have something to add to the topic at hand. Interrupting a conversation is no more polite on a repeater than it is in person.
- 4-Interrupting a QSO to make a call. If you need to make a directed call to another amateur but there is already another QSO going on, break into the conversation during the courtesy tone interval by saying "Call please, N3XYZ". One of the stations will allow you to make your call. If the station you are calling returns your call, you should quickly pass traffic to them and relinquish the frequency to the stations who were already in QSO; don't get into a full QSO in the middle of someone else's conversation. If you need to speak with the party you call for a significant length of time (say, more than 15 seconds), ask them to either wait until the current QSO has cleared, or ask them to move to another repeater or simplex channel to continue the conversation.
- 5-Roundtables and "Turning it Over". When more than two amateurs are in a QSO, it is often referred to as a "roundtable" discussion. Such a QSO's usually go in order from amateur A to amateur B to amateur C ... and eventually back to amateur A again to complete the roundtable. To keep everyone on the same page, when any one amateur is done making a transmission, they "turn it over" to the next station in sequence (or out of sequence, if so desired). Without turning it over to a particular station when there are multiple stations in the QSO, nobody knows who is supposed to go next, and there ends up either being dead silence or several stations talking at once. At the end of a transmission, turn it over to the next station by naming them or giving their callsign, such as "...and that's that. Go ahead Joe." or "...and that's that. Go ahead XYZ." If it's been close to 10 minutes, it's a good time to identify at the same time as well, such as "...and that's that. N3XYZ, go ahead Joe."

- 6-IDing and Who's Who? By FCC regulations, you must always identify at 10 minute intervals and at the end of a transmission. If you are making a test transmission or calling another party, this is a one-way transmission. Since it has no "length" as there is no QSO taking place, you should identify each time you make a call or a test transmission. When identifying yourself and another party (or parties), or when making a directed call, your callsign goes **LAST**. "N3XYZ, K3ABC" means that K3ABC is calling N3XYZ, not the other way around. There is no need to identify each time you make a transmission, only once every 10 minutes. You do not need to identify the station with whom you are speaking, only your own callsign, but it is generally polite to remember the call of the other station. Avoid phonetics on FM unless there is a reason for using them, such as the other station misunderstanding your callsign. When phonetics are needed, stick to the standard phonetic alphabet.
- 7-Demonstrations. From time to time, an amateur may want to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio to another non-amateur. The typical way to do this is to ask for a "demo" such as "N3XYZ for a demonstration." Anyone who is listening to the repeater can answer them back. Usually telling the calling party your name, callsign, and location is what they are looking for, not a lengthy conversation. Someone doing a demo may ask for stations in a particular area to show the range of amateur radio communications, such as if the calling station is in the Poconos they may ask for any stations in south Jersey or Harrisburg areas, which is more interesting than demonstrating that they can talk to someone in the same town as they are in.
- 8-Signal Reports. If you are unsure how well you are making it into the repeater, **DO NOT** kerchunk the repeater. Any time you key up the repeater, you should identify, even if you are just testing to see if you are making the machine. "N3XYZ test" is sufficient. Do not use the repeater as a "target" for tuning or aiming antennas, checking your transmitter power, etc. Use a dummy load where appropriate, or test on a simplex frequency. If you need someone to verify that you are making the repeater OK, ask for a signal report such as "N3XYZ, can someone give me a signal report?" "Radio check" is a term most often used on CB, "signal report" is what most amateurs ask for.
- 9-Language. Aside from some of the techno-syncretisms inherent in amateur vernacular, use plain conversational English. The kind of English that would be suitable for prime-time television, not R rated movies. Avoid starting or encouraging conflicts on the air. If a topic of conversation starts to draw strong debate, change the subject. Avoid "radio-ese" lingo whenever possible. CB has its own language style and so does amateur radio, but the two are not the same. Amateurs have "names", not "personals". Although many new hams have graduated from the CB ranks, let's try to keep CB lingo off the amateur bands. When visiting a new repeater, take some time to monitor before jumping in to get a feel for the type of traffic and operating mannerisms of that particular system. Some repeaters are very free-wheeling in that there are people jumping in and out of conversations constantly. Others primarily have directed calls on them and discourage ragchewing. Others are member-exclusive repeaters. Listen before you talk, when in Rome do as the Romans do.
- 10-Emergencies. If there is a QSO going on, break into a conversation with the word "Break" or "Break for priority traffic." **DO NOT USE THE WORD BREAK TO JOIN IN A QSO UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY!** All stations should give immediate priority any station with emergency traffic.
- 11-Malicious Interference. If there is malicious interference, such as kerchunking, touch-tones, rude comments, etc. **DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE IT!** Continue the QSO in a normal fashion. If the interference gets to the level where it is impossible to carry on the QSO, simply end the QSO as you normally would.
- 12-Power. Use the minimum power necessary to complete a QSO. However, the minimum power necessary doesn't just mean you are barely tickling the repeater receiver squelch. If someone says that you are noisy, increase power or relocate or take whatever measures you can to improve your signal. Continuing to make transmissions after being told your signal is noisy is inconsiderate to those listening. The amateur radio manufacturers continue to come up with newer, smaller handheld radios, many with power levels well under a watt. Many new amateurs start out with a handheld radio as their "first rig". Although convenient, they aren't the most effective radios in terms of performance. Without a good external antenna, operating a handheld radio indoors or inside a car is going to result in a lot of bad signal reports.

### THOUGHT FOR SEPTEMBER

"Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down." -- Oprah Winfrey

## **William N. Goodman, CPA**

**Certified Public Accountant  
Licensed Insurance Agent  
Mortgage Loan Officer**

**K3ANS**

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**For more information contact Pete /  
NL7XM at [nl7xm@arrl.com](mailto:nl7xm@arrl.com)**

### **\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTICE \*\*\*\*\***

#### **Don't Forget our new meeting location**

Starting with the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting the DLARC will be moving to a new general meeting location. It will be at the Nancy Run Fire Company, located on Easton Avenue in Bethlehem Township.

Coming from the east or west on Rte 22, go south on Rte 33 get off at the William Penn Highway exit. Right at light at the bottom of the ramp. Go through the next four lights, there will be a blinking yellow and that is Nancy Run Firehouse. Distance is 2 miles.

Coming from east or west on 78 go north on Rte 33 and get off at the William Penn Highway exit. Left at the light at the bottom of the ramp and follow the same direction as above.

Coming from Bethlehem, east on Easton Avenue, the blinking yellow after the Butztown light is Nancy Run Firehouse.

Coming from Easton go west on Butler / William Penn Highway / Easton Avenue ( same street, name changes as you change municipalities ) follow the same directions as above after passing under Rte 33.

A map can be down loaded from [mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com) or [googlemaps.com](http://googlemaps.com), by entering 3564 Easton Ave. Bethlehem, Pa. 18020

### **NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS**

September is the month when Officers and the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) are nominated for the forth coming club year. You may have been approached about running for office or nominating some one for one of the offices, this procedure is the way the club fills the offices and in that way keep the club functioning to its best ability. So think about it, come to the September meeting and be ready to nominate members or accept a nomination, that will keep the DLARC a club worthy of membership.

### **2009 SAFETY EXPO**

On September 12, 2009 the Northampton County Emergency Management Services will be hold a safety program for the public at the Bethlehem Ice Rink located on Illick's Mill road. The D.L.A.R.C has been asked to present a ham radio demonstration in conjunction with this program. The event will run from 10 AM to 2 PM, and volunteers are needed to man our table. Volunteers should contact Al / W3CE so he has an idea of available members.



## FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMS

October 1<sup>st</sup> "**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 5<sup>th</sup> : "**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!")

### BE PREPARED

The time to prepare for an emergency is before it happens. From the National Safety Council comes this list of items to always keep in a first-aid kit in your home and your car.

- First-aid Manual
- Emergency telephone numbers
- List of allergies and medications of family members
- Antibiotic ointment
- Ipecac syrup
- Acetaminophen, ibuprofen and aspirin
- Bandages and gauze of various sizes (including roller gauze)
- Medical exam gloves
- Adhesive tape
- Antiseptic wipes
- Cold packs
- Thermometer, tweezers and small scissors

### EMMAUS HALLOWEEN PARADE, 2009

The date of Saturday, October 17 has been set for this year's parade, with Monday, October 19 is the rain date. As in past years, amateur radio operators have played a very important part in assuring communications for the safety and welfare of the parade operation.

We'll need about 15 radio operators, with 2-meter rig capabilities, who will ride in their own vehicles in the parade, and a net control operator, who will be with the parade marshal.

This is both a valuable service and a fun event. For those who have participated in past parades, I hope you will be part of this year's event. For hams who have not been involved, and are wondering about any details, please contact me at ke3aw@arrl.net or by phone at 610.432.8286. Thanks!

### HAM RADIO ENTRY LEVEL CLASSES

Members, please help promote ham radio by passing this information to anyone you feel may be interested in earning their FCC ham radio technician license. Fall classes for Amateur Radio Entry-license test preparation will begin September 15, and continue each Tuesday, 7-9 pm through November 10.

The course is suitable for ages 11 years and up. George / N3SQD and Al / W3CE will be the main instructors. The classes will be held at the Northampton County 911 Center. The only cost will be \$24 for the ARRL study manual.

For additional information - answers to your questions about the classes and/or amateur radio in general - contact Bob / KE3AW at ke3aw@arrl.net or call 610.432.8286.

## MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER

"A special prize awaits the first Club Member to submit the correct answer to this month's 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 Brain Teaser Authors are not eligible to win."

de NL7XM

The winner of the August BrainTeaser was Bob / KE3AW.. His correct answer arrived at 7/24/2009: 01:30 AM PM Eastern Standard Time Congratulations, Bob.

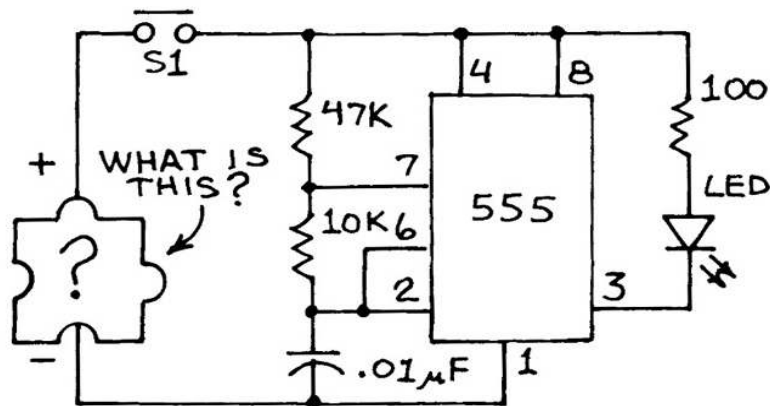
### The August Brainteaser solution:

A: Wielding your sword over your head, chop a swing that slices from 12 o'clock to 6 o'clock, and another from 9 o'clock to 3, leaving you with four traditional wedge-shaped slices. The tendency is to think of a pie AS VIEWED FROM ABOVE in just two dimensions. You need to step back and consider its DEPTH from a side angle. Now make your 3rd and final cut HORIZONTALLY, resulting in TOP and BOTTOM HALVES. If the question had asked you to cut a cake or an orange into 8 pieces with three cuts, chances are you would have seen the solution right away, but the word, "pie" sets your mind on two-dimensional thinking! (KB3LIC)

## SEPTEMBER BRAINTEASER

### What's the Power Supply?

Big Bux Bank needs a totally wireless, stand-alone means to sound a chime when a visitor enters the lobby of its bank during business hours. No wires can be connected between the foyer and the inside of the bank. The system and its 6-volt power supply must be installed in the foyer and should have a working life of at least 15 years. The circuit is shown here.



**Figure 1. Wireless annunciator transmitter.**

The circuit sends a pulsed IR signal from the foyer of the bank, through the glass door and to a receiver inside the bank that activates a chime when a visitor steps on a floor switch (S1) in the foyer. The circuit draws current only when S1 is closed, and its power supply has a life of at least 15 years.

What is the 6-volt power supply concealed behind the puzzle piece? Here are some hints.

### Puzzle Hints

The circuit draws current only when a customer enters the bank foyer and steps on a switch mat, usually for a fraction of a second.

Lithium batteries might work, but maybe not for a full 15 years.

Power is dissipated in the floor switch when a visitor steps on it. But this power is not used to power the circuit.

The system needs to work only during banking hours (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM).

## 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.



## **AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM**

J.C. Kelleher, the scheduled program presenter, had to cancel his appearance due to a family emergency. So Charlie / W3OPA stepped in and presented a program "Near Vertical Incident Sky-waves". Charlie covered the history of the use of NVIS and the modern day use as a possible antenna set-up for the Pennsylvania QSO Party which will be held on October 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Also covered was the technical aspect of the system to the practical construction of said antenna. Charlie finished with his usual "eyeball QSO", which in this case were bananas inscribed with his call. **Thank You, Charlie.**

## **VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO INCREASE**

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40. Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 10, 2009.

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 10 year term.

The notice in the August 11, 2009 Federal Register, entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2009," includes regulatory fees. These fees are expected to recover a total of \$341,875,000 during FY2009, encompassing all the Services the FCC regulates.

For more information, see the recent ARRL Web article, "FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year" at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/18/10825/?nc=1>

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Here are our latest new members. Come shake hands and welcome them to our club. John / N3SQV. Ron / N3ZO, Dave / N3LWY and Charles / K3BCV.

## **PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH PROVERBS**

If a farmer starves ... It is his own fault.

Rain before seven ... Sunny by eleven.

A sunny wedding day means a happy marriage.

One should not work on the day they marry .. or else they will work all of the rest of the days of their married life.

A bad beginning means a good end.

When the stars glitter brightly ... there will be cold weather.

Where there is no woman in the house ... there is something missing.

He understands as much about matter as a pig does Sunday.

Weather changes at the full moon.

Where there is a will there is a way ... even though it be a bad one.

It is always well when one knows he has enough.

It stands on hog feathers ... the thing looks doubtful.

Whoever talks about others will talk about you.

If the shoe doesn't fit ... don't wear it.

If your brain don't work, your arms and legs better.

If you don't have what you need ... use what you have.

If you wish good advice ... contact the old folks.

The young know everything better.

He is as handy as a wheelbarrow in the kitchen.

## **HELP WANTED**

A Club Member is interested in learning more about grounding techniques in the area of lightning safety. Any Member who wishes to donate any literature on the topic can contact Pete, NL7XM. Little has changed in this field in many years, so it doesn't matter how old your books may be. Any would be welcomed and appreciated.

**F.Y.I.**

The winner of the August Door Prize was John / W3HEH

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.

The OK Corral is an organization 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, as a sort of "Letters to the Editor" section.

The Milkhouse now as a Magic Jack Phone with the number 484-895-7038.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2008 – 2009  
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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 Nancy Run Fire Company  
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 ( pl151.4 )

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