

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
AUGUST 2010



W3OK

CORRAL

Club Meeting At the Nancy Run Fire Company
7:30 PM August 5th 2010



Ben / KB3CTX Presenting Tracking and Resolving RFI
The July Meeting Program

AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM

ARRL Technical Coordinator

Joe Dozpat / WA3UVP



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Things I learned at Field Day 2010

Field day has come and gone and, as usual, it was an opportunity to learn and try new things. For the first time in over a decade, we erected a tower and beam antenna. We found out that there were precious few places where we could place the tower; where a tower failure wouldn't be a hazard to personnel or property. It turns out that using a winch to erect and lower the tower is quite a bit safer, not to mention easier, than doing it with eight pairs of hands. That being said, it still takes about half a dozen people to make quick work of the assembly and keep the operation safe. While we had a rotator on the top of the tower, it was used so infrequently that we probably could have dispensed with it. Of course, had we not used the rotator, we would have needed it. I found that we could remove most of the heavy stakes by hand, and that the inevitable stubborn one could be removed by pulling it out with a pick-up truck (though that does tend to leave it in a bent shape).

I learned that my butt gets sore after sitting on a picnic bench operating for several hours. I was able to remedy this problem by taking a blue tarp and folding it as you would before putting it away and then using it as a cushion. Mental note for next year, bring a cushion.

Thanks to **Jon / N3INJ**, many of us learned that after sweating over a hot radio on a warm Saturday afternoon, the frosty cold Mojito is a perfectly refreshing drink. It turns out that it is also very refreshing later in the evening. I'm also sure that after a few, your operating enthusiasm (not to mention technique) may suffer a bit.

In another first, this year, we ran a home-brew triplexer on the beam antenna. This gave us the capability of running three transceivers off of one tri-band beam antenna. The design for the triplexer came from a recent QST magazine article and was built by **Bob / NE2C** in the weeks prior to the event. While we could have used three stations, we just ran it on 15 and 20 meters. It worked reasonable well, with some issues that can probably be resolved with some additional isolation and grounding. I'm sure we'll work on perfecting it next year.

Continuing with "firsts", this year **Ben / KB3CTX** and **Dave / K3GMT** networked all of the logging stations. It was nice to be able to see how the other stations were doing as the day progressed. In addition to the networking, we had WiFi access during the event courtesy of Dave's air-card. The Internet access also enabled us to monitor the packet cluster. Of course, there wasn't all that much "spotting" as we were probably in the minority in having Internet access at our site.

There was plenty of food and drinks during the event. The "pot-luck" dinner Saturday evening provided a variety of wonderful entrée's. The **Miller Family** pitched in on the cooking detail during lunch and **Bob / NE2C** covered breakfast. It was remarkable to note how accurately **Ed / AA3OU** estimated the amount of food required for the event. I'm sure we'll be looking for him to do the same next year.

It's not possible for me (in the space of this article) to thank individually all of the folks that came out and helped make field day a success. So, my heart-felt thanks to all that came out and enjoyed the weekend. If you weren't able to make it this year, be sure to make your calendars for June 25 -26 next year and come out and join us for a great time.

73 de George / N3SQD

AUGUST 2010



D.L.A..R.C. Treasurer's Report	
<u>Ending Balance June 30th 2010</u>	<u>\$2547.05</u>
Pete Varounis / NL7XM Treasurer / D.L.A.R.C.	



UP COMING DLARC EVENTS

- September 19th – DLARC Picnic
- October 2nd – Easton Garlic Festival
- October 3rd – Lehigh Valley Wheelman Century Bike Run
- October 9th & 10th – Pennsylvania QSO Party**
- October 16th – Emmaus Halloween Parade



MINUTES FROM THE JULY 1st MEETING

The general membership meeting of Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc. was held at the Nancy Run Fire Co. in Bethlehem Twp., PA on July 1 2010

Call to order: The meeting convened at 1932 hrs, President **George Wieland / N3SQD** presiding.

Pledge of allegiance: Led by **George / N3SQD**

Members in attendance: 50 and 2 visitors

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by **Gary / N2AUO**, 2nd by **Jay / N3OW** Motion Carried

Approval of Treasurer's report: Motion was made by **Don / KC3II**, 2nd by **ED / AA3OU** Motion carried

Repeater: **Dave / K3GMT** gave report on the D-STAR repeater, still have an issue with the power supply

Web Page: **Jay / N3OW** had an issue logging onto the web page

Club Station : **Dave / K3GMT** gave report on last months activity's

Tech Class/ VE Session : There will be a VE session on 02 July 2010 at the 911 center, The next VE session will be held on 03 September 2010. The next license class will begin after labor day

Events: Field Day was held on June 26-27, **Ben / KB3CTX** gave report, 56 people showed up over the weekend, we had an approximate score of 3972

Bryan / AA3WM is still looking for volunteers to help out with the MS 150 to be held on July 24-25

Bob / NE2C is looking for help with the Easton Garlic Fest to be held on October 2nd

AI / W3CE is looking for operators for the Lehigh Valley Wheelmen's Century Run on October 3rd.

Club picnic will be held at Louise Moore park, Pavilion #5 in September

PA QSO party will be held on October 2 2010

Christmas city special event will be held on December 11, 12 2010

Membership: As of 01 July 2010 the club has 223 members, Report given by **Vic / N2OFF**

Old Business: **Pete / NL7XM** is looking for someone to take over as Program Chair starting in January 2011, Anyone interested please contact Pete / NL7XMat nl7xm@arrl.net

New Business: **George / N3SQD** is looking for anyone interested in being on the Nominating Committee

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1955 hrs by **George / N3SQD**

Respectfully submitted by **Howard Miller / WO3P** Secretary

VE TEST SESSION

There will **not** be a test session this month. The next session will be September 3rd. 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.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE

There is a need for a program committee and chairperson for the 2011 calendar year program scheduling. This job has been done by Pete / NL7XM for the past 3 years, but he can no longer devote the time necessary to properly secure talent and arrange scheduling of all the Club's Programs. A program chairperson can choose to put together their own series of programs or put together a committee do do the same, distributing the work load over a group. The Executive Committee feels the high quality programs that Pete had supplied over the past year, has had some effect on the membership growth experienced over this period, and would like for this growth to continue. This year is taken care of and December's are the annual Christmas get together. Programs do not need to be Ham radio related, the only requirement is that the programs be of interest to membership. Looking back over the past programs, the variance of subjects cover a lot of interesting subjects.

POSSIBLE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The following Members expressed interest in Programs when they submitted their applications to join the DLARC. Your Club is in need of a Program Committee or Chairman for 2011. There is a tremendous amount of talent on this list, and all get along quite well. So why not collaborate with some friends who share your interest and help put together a slate of Presentations for the DLARC next year?

Bill / WS3Q, Greg / KB3QFA, Don / AI3N, Mike / KC2SJT, Dave / K3GMT, Pete / KA3VRQ, Claude / KB3TQP, Greg / WB2CLL, Lyle / KB3SXI, Dave / KC2OBJ, Ed / W3HER, Mike / K3LKA, Howard / WO3P, Bob / N3SNZ, Mike / KB3TSJ, John / KB3TKP, Jon / N3INJ, Joel / WB3IWC, Charlie / N3WXO, Brad / N3TNL, John / KØPKE, Patric / AJ3B, Rich / N3MSH and Bill / KA7YJX.

AUGUST 2010 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD)	5 DLARC MEETING	6 NO V.E. TESTING	7
8	9	10 D-STAR Net 147.165 1900 Local	11 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KR3U)	12	13	14
15	16 Newsletter Articles Due	17	18 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (K3GMT)	19 Executive Committee Meeting	20	21
22	23	24 D-STAR Net 147.165 1900 Local	25 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (WO3P)	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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

JULY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

When does $10 + 3 = 1$?

On a 12 hour clock...10 o'clock plus three hours = 13 o'clock, but not on a 12 hour clock. There it is 1 (o'clock).

The winner is Bob Green / KE3AW

(1st correct answer supplied: June 30, 4:40pm)



AUGUST BRAINTEASER

Why did the cookie go to the Doctor?



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For more information contact Pete /
NL7XM at nl7xm@arrl.com

THE AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM

"ARRL Technical Coordinator." **Joe Dozpat / WA3UVP** is our guest this evening as he describes his duties as the League Technical Coordinator for the Eastern Pennsylvania Section, as well as the Technical Specialists in the EPA group. Whether you are an ARRL Member or not, learn how their important work benefits us every day. See you at 7:30!

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 operators should contact Don / KC3II at kc3ii@arri.net. The NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 courses are not required to be a net control, but should the need arise and we do supply controls and operators for real emergencies, then the courses requirement will be in effect and EMA issued IDs will be needed to be on the scene of an emergency.

JULY MEETING PROGRAM

The July meeting program was Ben Ramig / KB3CTX presenting "Tracking and Resolving RFI". Ben, who is an engineer for Ericson (Nextel) related the most common causes of RFI to his company's system and how it coincided with the problems of RFI and Amateur Radio. He began with photographs of the various antennas and layouts of Nextel cellphone system. How Nextel used building and other structures to support antenna, beside the usual antenna structures around the area. After listing the common RFI problems he had to deal with, which ran the usual list of problems to some which amateur radio operators run in to, he told of some of the more rare ones he ran into. He showed some of the test equipment and antenna used to isolate the problems. Running from a spectrum analyzer to commercial antennas to homebrew antennas and other testing tools. This was an informative and entertaining presentation.

(Ben is also chairperson of the DLARC RFI Committee).

ANDERSON POWERPOLE HINTS AND KINKS

I found this on the Elecraft reflector. It has to do with holding the Anderson Power Pole [APP] connectors together. West Mountain Radio, maker of the Rig Runner, recommends against using the pins in the strongest terms on its web site. The issue (they say) is that the pins have a nasty habit of coming out and falling into places they should not go, where they can cause short circuits and extensive damage.

See <http://www.westmountainradio.com/supporttr.htm>. WMR says Anderson recommends using cyanoacrylate glue Also known as "super-glue". I've done that with several sets and the only downside is it doesn't come apart even when you want it to so you have to get it right the first time.

I found a better solution is to use a 2-56 screw and nut combo (I forget the metric equivalent) that works very well. If one is concerned about the "fall out" use the nylon version. If I want to keep a pair of connectors together, I put the smallest size "tie-wrap" through both sets of holes and pull tight. Keeps the shells of each pair in alignment and keeps the mated pairs together.

73 de **K2ASP - Phil Kane**

p.s. Someone also suggested the use of a Q-tip shaft

73 de **K3YD**

BETTER PAY ATTENTION TO THIS ONE.

If you already knew this, you are better informed than most. For your State, click on the URL below.

\$754.00 FINE

NEW TRAFFIC LAW - 2010

New Law: If a patrol car is pulled over to the side of the road, you have to change to the next lane (away from the stopped vehicle) or slow down to at least 20 mph under the posted speed limit. Every state except Hawaii and Maryland and the D.C. has this law. In California, the Move-over law became operative on January 1, 2010. <http://www.moveoveramerica.com/> A friend's son got a ticket for this recently. A police car (turned out it was two police cars) was on the side of the road giving a ticket to someone else. He slowed down to pass but did not move into the other lane. The second police car immediately pulled him over and gave him a ticket. He had never heard of the law. It is a fairly new law that states if any emergency vehicle is on the side of the road, if you are able, you are to move into the far lane. The cost of the ticket was \$754, with three points on your license and a mandatory court appearance. Please let everyone you know that drives about this new law. It is true (see details at the following web address). <http://www.moveoveramerica.com/> **Editor's Note:** Pennsylvania has this law with up to a \$85 fine.

AUGUST CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

August 7th & 8th --North American QSO Party --CW

August 14th & 15th --- Maryland QSO Party

August 21st & 22nd -- New Jersey QSO Party

August 28th & 29th -- Ohio QSO Party



GARLIC FEST

On October 2nd 2010 at the center square in down town Easton, there will be held the annual Garlic fest. The DLARC will be putting on a demonstration of of Amateur Radio. An operating special event station and other related activities to widen public awareness of our hobby. The DLARC has been issued a special event station call of W3G. Bob / NE2C and Jon / N3INJ are chairing this event and will be looking for volunteers. Mark your calendar and sign up when the sheets come out, so we have the greatest representation possible.



NEWS FROM THE MILLKHOUSE

The Milk House hosted over 120 visitors in June. Much of the activity in June was related to Field Day. Thanks to all of the members that helped pack up, set up, and take down



George / N3SQD and **Bob / NE2C** finished the tri-plexer for the beam so we could run multiple rigs from the beam. George machined the PVC to wind the coils and Bob machined the enclosure and assembled the unit. As you can see the construction was top notch. **Bob NE2C** and **Ben / KB3CTX** are tuning the tri-plexer with the band pass filters in place



Barry / KU3X and **Jon / N3INJ** continue to spread the QRP/CW infection around the Milk House. Barry and Jon are Wednesday fixtures operating with their small QRP Rigs. Jon has the new 2 band TEN-TEC rig and Barry is using an MFJ Cub.

As you can see even their keys are tiny.



Gary / N2AUO showed off his crank up, hitch mounted, military mast with a Buddy-Pole mounted at the top. **Jon / N3INJ** has a new mast too. His is also a crank up but he is using some reinforced PVC pipe for the top section to hold a dipole.

The Milk House is open every Tuesday and Wednesday and most Saturdays. Stop by and see your Club Station.

de **Dave / K3GMT**

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.*

Frederick (Fritz) Metzger

AC3M

NEW DEC IN EPA DISTRICT 2

To All,

Many Thanks to **Paul Ryan / NOKIA** who served as the District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) in our District 2 (Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton & Schuylkill Counties. Paul's schedule caused him to resign.

The new DEC is **Rodney Wolfe / N3XG**. Rod lives in Northampton County but works in Berks County. Rod is a great addition to the EPA Field Organization and his professional experience in the public service field will be an asset to our Section. Congratulations Rod.

Anyone wishing to have an updated copy of the EPA Section Map showing EC's and DEC's can go to;

www.epa-arrl.org

Look for the EPA Map link on the left. A full size Jpeg copy is there for download.

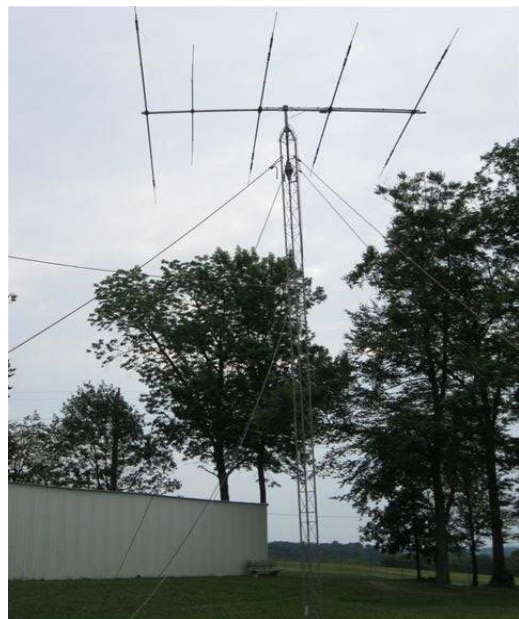
73, **Eric / WB3FPL**

FIELD DAY PICTURES
de Pete / NL7XM









F.Y.I.

The winners of the July Prizes were **Bill / W0RSJ, Carl / AA3IX and Dave / KA3IWC**

The September Program will be " Kit Building For Everybody" – **Paul / N0KIA**

The D.L.A.R.C. meets the "FIRST" Thursday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Nancy Run Fire Company Social Hall (3564 Easton Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18020) at 7:30 PM. Committee reports and announcements of all present and future activities will be presented at that time. Followed by that month's program.

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.

D-Star Mid-Atlantic Regional net meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month on the 147.165 port with a number of other repeaters in Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York City area .

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 telephone is 484-895-7038.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2009 – 2010
OFFICERS**

President – George E. Wieland III / N3SQD ----- president@dlarc.org
Vice President – Ben Ramig / KB3CTX ----- vicepresident@dlarc.org
Secretary – Howard Miller / WO3P ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Pete Varounis / NL7XM ----- treasurer@dlarc.org

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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.**

**14 Gracedale Avenue
Nazareth, Pa. 18064-9211**

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 147.370 (167.9) W3OI Repeater.

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

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