

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
JANUARY 2013



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting January 3rd 7:30PM At the
Bethlehem Township Community Center**

JANUARY MEETING PROGRAM

**"My American Freedom Via Amateur Radio"
Elix / AC7HU**



ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

NEW MEETING LOCATION

Effective with the January 3rd 2013 meeting, the DLARC will have a new meeting location. It will be The Bethlehem Township Community Center. It is located at 2900 Farmersville Rd. Bethlehem, Pa. 18020.

This is the location where we have met before when unable to use the scheduled location.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

JANUARY QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (W3CE)	3 DLARC MEETING	4 VE SESSION	5
6	7	8 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	9 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KC3II)	10	11	12
13	14	15 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	16 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD)	17 News Letter Articles Due	18	19
20	21	22 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	23 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KB3CTX)	24 DLARC Board Meeting	25	26
27	28	29 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	30 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (NB3R)	31		

JANUARY CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

January 5 & 6 - ARRL RTTY Roundup
January 12 & 13 – North American QSO Party - CW
January 19 & 27 – Hungarian DX Contest
January 26 & 27 - CQ 160 Meter Contest - CW





FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Happy New Year!

Unlike last year, at least at the moment, I won't be able to tie in the NHL Winter Classic. They're on strike.

My move is done and a long, long 2012 is finally coming to an end. I enthusiastically look forward to a brighter new year in 2013.

Probably one of the bigger things the club is looking at this year is an over haul of the by-laws. As everyone's schedules get tighter and volunteer time gets harder to come by we are looking at many ways to simplify the clubs procedures and record keeping. We are starting with the dues and membership structure first. Hopefully we will have something to present to the club at the January meeting. If you see something you think might need adjusting in the by-laws, let us know.

I know it is really very early for this, but we have such trouble putting a slate together anymore for elections. This year at the very least the club will need a new President and possibly Vice President. Please, start thinking about whether or not you could put time into the club as a board member. You can also start to think about folks you think would be good on the board. The board meets once a month on the Thursday two weeks before the general meeting at 7PM.

We just finished up our national elections and this month we will be inducting President Obama to his second term in office. Whether or not you feel this is a good thing, whether or not you feel the country is heading in the right or wrong direction, COME OUT to the January meeting because our presenter I am sure will help us understand that at the end of the day we still wake up in the greatest country in the world! The title of the program is "My American Freedom Via Ham Radio" given by the DLARC's own Elixander AC7HU who came to the USA from Cuba.

In the event of inclement weather please watch the DLARC web forum, the web site and the repeater.

Okay folks, until next time.

Charlie W3OPA



MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING

The general membership meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc. (the Club) was held on December 6, 2012, at the Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School located in Bethlehem Township, Pennsylvania.

Call to Order: Charlie Lazarchak / W3OPA, President, called the meeting to order at 1931 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Charlie / W3OPA

Moment of Silence: A moment of silence was observed for Carolyn Fehr / K3UMY, a club member, who passed away on November 23rd.

Opening Remarks: Charlie / W3OPA reflected on what brought Carolyn the club. Al / W3CE thanked the members who were able to attend Carolyn's funeral; he explained the family considered the club members to be Carolyn's brothers and the family honored the members by asking for them to be pallbearers.

What Have You Been up to Lately: Charlie / W3OPA opened the floor to members who wished to share any recent personal ham radio related activities, projects, or events:
Barry / KU3X described a remote A/B antenna switch he built that will handle 1,500 watts at a reasonable SWR. He explained that the parts are readily available and estimates the cost of the parts to be around \$30 or less depending on what components you already have on hand. A schematic and parts list will be in an upcoming newsletter.
Don / KC3II described his experience in the CQ WW DX Contest. It was his best contest ever with 270 contacts in 14 hours of operation.

Approval of the Minutes: Charlie / W3OPA asked for a motion to the minutes of the last meeting. It was moved by Gary / N2AUO, second by Doreen / K3PDL to approve the minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Mike / KB3LOD presented the Treasurer's Report. It was moved by Barry / KU3X, second by Bill / NC3P to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Motion carried.**

Club Station Report: George / N3SQD provided a report on the club station. Additions to the equipment at the Milk House include a flat screen television for news and ham-related programs and a Keurig single-cup coffee brewer. Both are expected to see use during emergency activations.

Christmas City Special Event Station WX3MAS: Al / W3CE provided an update on behalf of Jon/ NJ3I. The Christmas City Amateur Radio Club, a DLARC's companion club, will be on the air with the Christmas City Special Event Station, WX3MAS, on Saturday December 8th and Sunday December 9th from 9 am to 6 pm on both days. Saturday will feature a turkey dinner. The Christmas City Special Event Station was started 45 years ago and except for a few brief interruptions this has been an annual event. All are members are welcome to come to the Milk House and operate during the event.

Membership/VE Test Session: George / N3SQD presented the membership report. There are no candidates for membership this month. There is no VE test session this month. The club has about 180 members.

- Dues Reminder:** Charlie / W3OPA reminded everyone 2013 Club dues are due. Annual membership dues are \$17 per person (\$12 for retired individuals) and \$3 for each additional family member. Charlie advised that a change to the by-laws will be coming up that would eliminate the mid-year reduction of membership dues. Initial membership in November or December will still carry through the following year. A more detailed discussion of the proposed change will be in the newsletter early next year.
- New Meeting Location:** Charlie / W3OPA reminded everyone starting that with the January 2013 meeting, the Club's meeting location will be the Bethlehem Township Community Center. The Community Center's address is 2900 Farmersville Road in Bethlehem Township and was the location of this year's July meeting. Directions to the Community Center will be in the Club newsletter and posted on the Club website.
- Club Calendar:** Charlie / W3OPA advised that the club calendar will be updated. The scheduled general membership meetings, board meetings, VE test sessions, and other club functions will be posted on the calendar. Charlie asked members, who may have an event the club participates in, to contact Don / KC3II or him to add the event to club calendar. The monthly club calendar will be in the newsletter and posted online on the club website.
- Amy Zimmerman Award:** The award is given to an amateur radio operator for service to the community through amateur radio. Charlie / W3OPA encouraged everyone to review the award criteria and nomination sheet in this month's newsletter. If you would like to nominate someone, fill out the nomination form and get it to the board.
- Redner's Save-A-Tape Program:** Pete / NL7XM explained the Save-A-Tape Program. You sign-up for their save-a-tape card and each time you use the card, your receipt will be designated as a save-a-tape receipt. The card is similar to other loyalty type cards issued by other stores. Under the program, Redners will contribute 1% of what is spent on designated receipts the Club collects. When you are done with your Redner's receipt give it to Pete. When Pete has accumulated enough tapes to receive a meaningful contribution, he will deliver them to Redner's for processing.
- Net Control Operators:** Al / W3CE informed everyone the ARES/RACES/DLARC Wednesday night net needs a few more net control operators. Although the net is associated with ARES and RACES, it is only a practice net, the only requirements are a valid amateur radio operator license and a commitment of about 20 minutes every so often on a Wednesday evening. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Al / W3CE.
- Club Photographer:** Charlie / W3OPA explained a volunteer is needed to take photographs at the general membership meetings of award presentations, program presenters and other items of visual interest. Dave / NB3R has been taking these photographs, but he is currently not able to attend the meetings. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Charlie / W3OPA or Don / KC3II.
- License Classes:** Bob K E3AW reported the fall classes have been completed. Fran / KB3YTG inquired about the schedule for the next exam and the spring classes. Bob / KE3AW reported the next VE session is January 4th and classes would start again on March 5th.
- Break Related Entertainment and Preview of Upcoming Programs:** Pete / NL3XM is seeking ideas for an entertaining activity or pastime for the break between the monthly meeting and program. Pete apprised everyone that the January program to be given by Elixander / AC7HU and the February program by NASA astronaut Terry Hart should not be missed. Pete encouraged members who have school-aged children or grandchildren interested in space exploration to bring them to the February program. Charlie / W3OPA added that as it will be a school night, the February meeting may use an expedited format out of respect for the students who may be attending the program.
- Response During an Activation:** Gary / N2AUO thanked those who volunteered during the Hurricane Sandy activation. He suggested to everyone that after you ensure you and your family are safe, if you are able to help, please check in with net control as even small commitments of time can add up quickly to lighten the load for all operators. Al / W3CE added that Pa Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) recognizes that many hams have not completed the FEMA courses, but are willing to volunteer in an emergency. PEMA has new program, the Pennsylvania Auxiliary Communications Service that is open to all hams.
- Adjournment:** There being no further business before the Club, the meeting was adjourned by Charlie / W3OPA at 2007 hrs for the Annual Club Christmas Party.

Respectfully submitted by John / NT3P, Secretary

VE TEST SESSION

There will be a test session this month on January 4th at 7 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.

FUTURE PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The program for the February 7th, 2013 will be Lt. Colonel and NASA Astronaut Terry Hart., who was a mission specialist on STS 41-C Challenger. Presently a professor at Lehigh University. **Be sure not to miss this program!! Mark it on your calendar now.**

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

It's that time, already! DUES are payable for the calendar year 2013. Here's how easy it is to remit your club DUES and keep your valuable D.L.A.R.C. Membership current. Whether in person or by mail, **CHECKS made payable to the D.L.A.R.C.** are the preferred method of payment to more accurately record your timely renewal. Please ensure that your callsign appears somewhere on the instrument, such as in the memo field. Paying with cash is discouraged, but if you really, *really* have to, kindly make certain you are prepared with the correct sum according to the rate table shown below. Remember, if your DUES are not paid by February 1st, your membership will expire.

2013 DUES Rates / No Changes

Regular Membership 18-64 years of age:

Jan. - Dec.\$17.-

65 and over, or retired from all forms of employment (no age limit)

Jan. - Dec.\$12.-

Additional Family member
each \$3.-

Associate Individual Membership \$10.-**You are strongly encouraged to MAIL your DUES** so that I may conduct the bulk of the record-keeping duties apart from where I believe you deserve the most of my attention. In person at Club Meetings, I'd prefer to answer your questions, address your concerns, and welcome your thoughtful revenue raising and savings ideas. Therefore, it is firmly advocated that DUES correspondence be mailed to:

Michael J. Gower
1511 Shelbourne Drive
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

de Mike / KB3LOD, DLARC Treasurer

HARD COPY SUBSCRIPTION

You must sign up if you want a hard copy newsletter subscription. The rate stays the same this year at \$10. This is exclusively for the newsletter only to cover printing and mailing. The price of maintaining a Bulk Mailing Permit is too expensive to justify with the size of our Membership, thus the first class postage requirement. This will squarely cover the cost of paper and printing supplies for 12 issues. To subscribe contact Pete / NL7XM at nl7xm@arrl.net.

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.
Carolyn Fehr / K3UMY***

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.
BOB SHARP / W3DYN***

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@arrl.net or Al / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.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.

MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER

"A special prize awaits the first Club Member to submit the correct answer to this month's Brainteaser to the Pete / NL7XM at nl7xm@arrl.net. The winner 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**



NOVEMBER BRAINTEASER ANSWER

**"Whoopee! Man, that may have been a small one for Neil,
but it's a long one for me."**

Conrad later revealed that his off-cuff comment on his first lunar walk was actually a bid to win a bet with a journalist that believed that all the comments the astronauts made were scripted by NASA; Conrad bet \$500 that it wasn't so and won the bet with his "Whoopee!" comment.



The winner is **NO WINNER**

JANUARY BRAINTEASER

A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

2012 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The year began with a move to a new meeting location, the Bethlehem Area Vocational – Technical School in Bethlehem township. The first programs of the new year were presented by Mel / W3SQ. "Digital Modes for the military" and Col. James Follwiler, "General Scope of Modern Warfare" Also the "High Altitude Balloon Project" began.

Being that it was "The American Heart Month" the program was Dr. K. Khalighi, and Easton heart specialist. Plans were made for the club participation in the 2012 MS walk and the Hanoverville 5K events. Final results from the 2011 PA QSO Party have the DLARC 2nd in the club competition.

March brought the DLARC's Annual Mini Ham Fest. Equipment changed hands and there was room for new stuff. The modifications and/or improvements to the Club Station / W3OK (The Milkhouse) were made and the extra space and convenience are being enjoyed. The DLARC participated in the St Lukes Hospital Emergency System Test.

April didn't bring showers, it brought Ray / W3TDF presenting "Lightning and What You Should Know". The DLARC assisted a local Cub Pack in building crystal radio sets, with great results. And the DLARC participated in the St Luke's Hospital emergency test.

May's program was Paul / NOKIA presented "Critical Tools for the Casual Operator" The annual MS Walk was successful again.

June's program was Ben / KB3CTX presenting "Citizen weather Observer Program". The DLARC had a fun and successful Field day. Also aided with communications for the Hanoverville 5K Walk. Run.

July's program was George / N3SQD presenting "Standing Waves Demystified"

August's program was Bob / KE3AW presenting "Repeater Etiquette"

September's program was Jon / NJ3I presenting "EMP Event -First Strike". Events were announced for for October, which made it the DLARC Busiest month of the year. With the Gap gallop, PA QSO Party, Black Bear Bike Run, the Emmaus Halloween Parade and the Runner's World 1/2 Marathon. Plus a group of members made a visit to the National Air and Space Museum. (Reporting a fine time there)

October was the BIG month beginning with the elections of the 2012-2013 Executive Committee. And the awarding of the awards to the members who served the club in any capacity through the past year. The awarding to Bill / WI2E, the K3NZ award for the 2011 PA QSO Party. Finally the awarding of the Honorary Life membership to George / N3SQD for service above and beyond for many years. The many events th DLARC served in during the month went smoothly and were appreciated by the sponsors. The month ended with the Lehigh Valley being hit by Superstorm Sandy, and the RACE / ARES Team being called out for service to the Northampton County EMS.

November's program was Al / W3CE presenting "Long Delayed Echoes"

December brought the annual Holiday get together and The Christmas City Special Event Station operation.

This was just a short resume of the club and its activities for the year 2012. Come out in 2013 and enjoy the fun and excitement of being a DLARC Club Member.

NOTICE – NOTICE

Due to changes in his work schedule, Dave / NB3R , is unable to continue as newsletter photographer. Any member interested in accepting this position, please contact, Don / KC3II at editor@dlarc.org

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Having been your editor for several years, the question arose in my mind as to what the membership feels about the content of the newsletter. Are there any suggestions as to content, any additions and/or deletions? I haven't received very much feed-back or other comments on the content, so I have no feeling for what the membership would like to read . So far it has been only what I thought would be interesting to the membership. So I am looking for that input.

Contact Don / KC3II at editor@dlarc.org



TWO POSITION REMOTE ANTENNA SWITCH

By **Barry G. Kery, KU3X**

Did you ever erect an extra antenna and not have enough coaxial cables running back to the primary station to make your new antenna active? If so, this may be the answer to your problem.

Shown in the diagram are the plans to build a two-position remote antenna switch that does not need a control cable to activate the relay. The DC power is supplied to the relay through the coaxial cable. Just by turning the DC power on or off will trip the relay and change from one antenna to another.

In the diagram, you will see four each .01 @ 1KV disk capacitor located on the input and output of both control boxes. These capacitors will pass RF and block DC from feeding back to the radio and on the antenna. The 250 micro henry chokes will pass DC to supply control voltage to the antenna relay and stop RF from going to the relay and the power supply.

The small relay will actually handle 1500 watts of RF at an SWR value of 3 to 1 or less on 10 to 160 meters. You can use this system on 6 metes but I would limit my power to no more than 1000 watts. Even though it is such a small relay the contacts can easily handle 10 amps. DO NOT hot switch this relay or any relay used to handle RF.

A lot of the parts shown can be purchased through Marlin P. Jones & Associates Inc. (www.mpja.com)

Description	Part number
2 each aluminum enclosures:	16285-BX
5 each SO 239 connectors	0501-RC
1 each 12 VDC wall power supply	17565-PD
1 each diode 1N5408	4999-DI
1 each toggle switch, SPST	18398-SW

www.partsandkits.com is good place to purchase ferrite material as well as powered iron cores. Two each FT 114 43 ferrite cores are needed for this project. FT 240 43 cores are widely used to suppress RF common mode in the shack. Partsand kits has a nice selection of various sizes of 43 material used in the HF range.

Radio Shack stocks enamel / magnet wire. If you are planning on building the remote antenna switch and do not have any enamel wire to wind the chokes, I would be more than happy to give you enough enamel wire for the project. You only need about four feet of wire to make the two chokes. The relay draws very little current and you could use any size wire ranging from 20 to 28-gauge wire.

The hookup wire used to make all of the RF connections inside of the two boxes is 16-gauge bare wire. This gauge wire can easily handle 2KW plus on the HF bands. There is no need to use heavier wire.

If you like the idea of not needing a control cable to remotely switch from one antenna to another, but don't feel like building the above project, MFJ has two different models available that work on the same principle.

MFJ-4712 Two position remote antenna switch. List price: \$79.95

Ameritron RCS-4 (sold through MFJ) Four position remote antenna switch. List price: \$159.95

C-1 to C-10 .01 @ 1KV

RFC-1 / RFC-2 250 micro henry choke *

D-1 3 amp @ 1000 PIV diode 1N5408

RL-1 SPDT relay, contacts 125 V @ 10 A, coil 12VDC

5 each SO-239 connectors

12 VDC @ 100 ma supply 250 micro henry FT 114 43 ferrite core wound with 20 turns #20 enamel wire

This antenna switch is rated at 1500 watts up to 3:1 SWR



NEWS FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

Jeff, N3QO demoed his drone at the clubhouse. It is controlled with an RC link with full telemetry to his laptop using a 70cm radio. He also has 1080p HD video using 5.2 ghz link to his laptop.



CLEANING UP THE 10.0 – 10.5 GHZ BAND RULES

In addition, the FCC stated that is looking for comments on the whether the concept of requiring individual amateur stations to be “quasi-coordinated” for fixed use at a specific location still holds merit. The FCC did not pursue this option in 2003. “Are there other steps, such as limiting operating privileges in this frequency band (e.g., to Amateur Extra Class licensees) that would better facilitate amateur use of the band?” the FCC asked. “We also seek comment on the relevance of studies that discuss the potential for in-band Amateur Service radio transmitters to operate compatibly with PLC systems in light of any developments since our 2003 decision. In particular, we seek comment on the appropriate maximum field strength level and minimum separation distance from PLC systems for secondary Amateur Service operations in this band.”

Cleaning Up the 10.0-10.5 GHz Band Rules

With the concurrence of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (**NTIA**), the FCC proposes to amend the Federal Table by revising the “10-10.45” GHz band and the reference to “G2” to read “10-10.5” and “G32,” respectively. In the WRC-07 Table Clean-up Order, the FCC combined the 10-10.45 GHz and 10.45-10.5 GHz bands in the Federal Table. In doing so, the frequency band was inadvertently not changed to 10-10.5 GHz. In addition, the reference to G32 was mistakenly changed to G2.

The FCC will also revise the text of three footnotes (US58, NG42, NG134) that pertain to the 10-10.5 GHz band. First, it will revise US58 by adding the existing Amateur-Satellite Service allocation to the list of permitted non-federal services in the 10-10.5 GHz band so that this footnote correctly lists all permitted non-federal services, and it will renumber this footnote in frequency order as US128. Second, it will combine the text of NG42 and NG134 (which require that non-federal stations in the Radiolocation Service not cause harmful interference to the Amateur Service in the 10-10.5 GHz band and that these stations not cause harmful interference to the Amateur-Satellite Service in the 10.45-10.5 GHz sub-band, respectively) and renumber the new footnote in frequency order as NG50.

CHRISTMAS CITY SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Again this holiday season, the DLARC special event branch, "The Christmas City Station" was on the air. On the weekend of December 8th and 9th from the Club House with the call of WX3MAS. This our way of celebrating Christmas and wishing other hams around the world a "Merry Christmas" from the twin Christmas Cities of Nazareth and Bethlehem. Jon / NJ3I was chairman again this year and a good time was had by all.

Photos by Dave / NB3R



FCCSEEKS TO ASSIGN ENTIRE AMATEUR PORTION OF 160 METER BAND TO PRIMARY STATUS TO AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE.

The FCC is proposing to change the Amateur Radio Service allocation to the 160 meter band (1800-2000 kHz), reallocating the 1900-2000 kHz segment to the Amateur Radio Service on a primary basis. In the NPRM, the FCC noted that “the ARRL has identified the 160 meter band and the amateur HF bands as ‘[b]y far, the heaviest-used [Amateur Service] allocations.’”

Historically, the 1715-2000 kHz band was allocated exclusively to the Amateur Service. In 1953, the FCC removed the 1715-1800 kHz segment from the Amateur Radio Service and allocated the 1800-2000 kHz band to the Amateur Service on a shared basis with the Radionavigation Service. Then in 1983, the FCC allocated the 1800-1900 kHz band to the Amateur Service on an exclusive basis and the 1900-2000 kHz band to the Radiolocation Service on a primary basis for federal and non-federal use and to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. The FCC stated that “[t]he purpose of allocating this band [1900-2000 kHz] to the Radiolocation Service was to provide reaccommodation spectrum for radiolocation users that will have to move out of the 1605-1705 kHz band when AM broadcasting is implemented in that band.” The AM broadcasting proceeding was resolved in 2000, and a review of the FCC’s Universal Licensing System (ULS) database finds that no one is licensed to use this non-federal Radiolocation Service allocation.

Currently, federal use of the 1900-2000 kHz segment is light, with only 10 assignments authorized to operate in this segment. “A single federal assignment authorizes land and mobile stations in the Radiolocation Service to transmit on 1922 kHz using a necessary bandwidth of 600 Hz within a protected radius of 193 kilometers centered on San Diego, California,” the FCC noted in the NPRM. “All other federal assignments in the 1900-2000 kHz band are for unallocated uses, and thus, these assignments operate on an unprotected and non-interference basis.”

The FCC is proposing to amend the US Table of Allocations and remove the federal and non-federal Radiolocation Service allocations from the 1900-2000 kHz band and the raise the secondary Amateur Radio Service allocation to primary status because “there appear to be few (if any) Radiolocation Service stations operating in this band,” it said. “In addition, we note [from WARC-79] that ‘this [Radiolocation Service] allocation was made for reaccommodation purposes and not to provide additional spectrum for radiolocations needs,’ that the Commission has concluded its AM Expanded Band proceeding that would have prompted non-federal RLS licensees to relocate to the 1900-2000 kHz band and that this band was historically allocated to the Amateur Service on an exclusive basis.”

FCC PROPOSES NEW LF AMATEUR BAND AT 135.7 – 137.8KHZ

In the US, the 130-160 kHz portion of spectrum is allocated to the Fixed Service and the Maritime Mobile Service on a primary basis for both federal and non-federal use. Delegates at WRC-07 allocated 135.7-137.8 kHz to the Amateur Radio Service in all ITU Regions on a secondary basis. Delegates also chose to restrict the use of this low frequency allocation to those Amateur Radio stations transmitting with a maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) of 1 W, as set forth in RR 5.67A.

Even though there are no non-federal stations in the Fixed Service or the Maritime Mobile Service that are licensed to operate at 135.7-137.8 kHz and federal use of this portion of spectrum is light, the FCC noted that electric utilities operate Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems in the 9-490 kHz band for “communications important to the reliability and security of electric service to the public.” In ET Docket No. 02-98, the FCC considered allocating the 135.7-137.8 kHz band to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis and examined the potential for amateur transmissions to cause harmful interference to the PLC systems. At that time, however, the FCC declined to do so “after finding the potential for interference between amateur operations proposed at that time and the incumbent PLCs, and noting the importance of the PLC operations in helping maintain critical electric infrastructure.” The FCC noted the potential for some limited amateur operations in this band under individual experimental licenses and observed that such operations would “allow empirical data to be developed on the sharing possibilities in this band for future consideration.”

Now that 135.7-137.8 kHz is now allocated internationally to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis in all ITU Regions, the FCC has concluded that “it is an appropriate time to re-examine the potential for shared Amateur Service-PLC use of this band.” It stated in the *NPRM* that it is seeking comments on whether 135.7-137.8 kHz band should be allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis in accordance with RR 5.67A.

“Because PLC systems operating under Section 15.113 of the rules serve important functions, such as tripping protection circuits if a downed power line or other fault is detected in the power grid, we would only consider adding an amateur allocation if we were comfortable that Amateur Radio and utility PLC systems could successfully co-exist in this band,” it stated in the *NPRM*. “We seek comment on the advantages and disadvantages, and other costs and benefits associated with changing our rules. For example, what benefits might accrue to the Amateur Radio community? To what extent do utilities deploy PLC systems on distribution lines in the 9-490 kHz band under our Part 15 rules, and how would those operations be affected were we to add a new secondary amateur radio service allocation in this band? What specific actions would PLC systems operators need to take if there were a secondary amateur radio service allocation in the band, and what are the associated costs?”

DECEMBER PROGRAM REPORT

The December meeting program was as usual the annual DLARC’s holiday party. Attended by members and their families, with plenty of good food and friendship. Old friendship renewed and new friendships made. Just a fulfilling end to the calendar year 2012.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please check the web page roster listing. It is important that your telephone number and email address are correct. This is the only way we can contact members. If you do not receive the newsletter in your email and are registered for the phone tree and do receive the notices by phone, your email address is incorrect on the roster, and the same for your telephone number.

F.Y.I.

The February Program will be STS-41-C NASA Astronaut Terry J. Hart

The D.L.A.R.C. meets the "FIRST" Thursday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Bethlehem Township Community Center, 2900 Farmersville Road, 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 Clubhouse telephone number is 484-895-7038.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012 – 2013 OFFICERS

President – Charles Lazarchak / W3OPA ----- president@dlarc.org
Vice President – Dave Blankenship / N3EYT ----- vicepresident@dlarc.org
Secretary – John Barbaz / NT3P ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Mike Gower / KB3LOD ----- treasurer@dlarc.org

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Gary De Mave / N2AUO ----- captiangdm@gmail.com
Dave Mellman / KA3IWC ----- dbm073@gmail.com
Jon Matson / NJ3I ----- cjfishing@rcn.com
Doreen Gramling / K3PDL ----- country.lady06@yahoo.com
George Wieland / N3SQD ----- George@bioserv.com
Pete Varounis / NL7XM ----- nl7xm@arrl.net

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 Bethlehem Township Community Center

TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4)

THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Jon Matson / NJ3I

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

Editor – Don Holmes / KC3II ----- editor@dlarc.org
Web Master – Brad Snyder / W3JXQ ----- w3jxq@dlarc.org
Photographer –
Circulation – Pete Varounis / NL7XM ----- nl7xm@arrl.net