

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
DECEMBER 2017



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting December 7th, 7:30PM At the
Bethlehem Township Community Center**

DECEMBER PROGRAM
Annual Holiday Get-together and Party



NOVEMBER PROGRAM
"Getting Started With Amateur Satellites"
Steve / NS3L

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2017 DLARC GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on November 2, 2017 at the Bethlehem Township Community Center, Bethlehem, PA.

Call TO Order; President Steve Harper / W3NAM, called the meeting to order at 19:30 hours.

President's Report: Steve acknowledging that a request was made that we use a PA system during the General meeting for those who are hard of hearing. George / N3SQD, informed Steve that he will get PA system to him . Steve emphasized that DLARC Board meetings are open to all members. However, if someone wishes to address the Board with a concern or issue, Steve asked that they submit a request in writing to himself, the Vice President or Secretary at least 2 weeks in advance. This will ensure that the matter is given a slot on the agenda. As our regular Board meeting falls on Thanksgiving, it was decided to cancel the November meeting. Steve also mentioned that we received comments regarding the proposed revisions to the Club constitution and by-laws from Bob Green / KE3AW, and Pete Varounis / NL7XM, both of whom will be invited to address the Board at a future date.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Jay Mason / N3OW to approve the minutes for the October General Meeting, which was emailed to members on October 27, 2017. The motion was seconded, and so moved.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Gower / KB3LOD, gave his report. A motion was made by Pete Varounis / NL7XM, to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded, and so moved.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee: George Wieland / N3SQD, reported that Tech and General classes are finished for this year, and licensing tests will be held on Friday and next Tuesday.

Membership Committee: JoAnn / ND3JJ, announced that there are two applications for membership. Thomas Zellman / N2TDZ, and Ian Morrissey / KC3KCQ, who attended our Tech class. Adam Waters, K3ACW, moved that their nominations be accepted. It was seconded and the motion was carried.

Club Station: Les Morrow / W3LES, reported that 7 operators came out for this year's PA QSO Party. The club now has five radios, but only four antennas. Unfortunately, there were some problems with getting the Logging software up and running, so we got off to a late start. Our total score was 77,385, and were only able to make contact with 61 out of 67 counties.

General Announcements:

Steve announced that for the 2016 PA QSO Party Pete Madsen / K2PM was #1 in North America on single sideband, operating from Upper Michigan. He had a clean sweep of all 67 counties.

Pete / NL7XM, announced that on November 17, the Radio Club of America will honor Pete Madsen / K2PM, with the Fed M. Link Award for notable achievements in land mobile radio communications. Last year, they awarded Bill Murphy / W0RSJ, the Sarnoff Citation for exceptional contributions of a technical nature to the advancement of electron communication.

Al Wiemann / W3CE, reported that on October 21st, he hosted a group of local Cub Scouts at the Milk House for the Boy Scouts' Jamboree on the Air. They were able to work the main Boy Scout campsite station outside of London, UK. Al wants to make this an annual event for the Club.

Old Business:

Ed Pitosky / AA3OU, asked what the status was of the Magic Jack phone at the Milk House. Les said that we will have to set up a new account, at a cost of \$30 a year. He did not know if we would get the Club's old number. Les said he would go to Wal-Mart and make the purchase.

New Business:

Les / W3LES, said that it was discovered that when someone is on CW at the Milk House, it tears up the front end of the receiver on the other radios, or harmonics on single sideband and copying would sometimes be rough. To solve this the club needs to purchase filters, and will require expenditures over and above its annual \$500 allocation for the station operation.

Les discussed the matter with several other members, and it was decided that filters would solve the problem. Array Solutions has a set of 6 luxury band pass filters that will handle up to 400W sideband and 200W CW. They did not feel that because we really don't run anything over 800W, bigger, more expensive filters are needed at this time. The band pass filters because of their size and usefulness will also come in handy at Field Day. The 6-filter package will cost \$710. They also sell the 2kW for 20-40-80-160, but per radio, we would have to spend at least \$1000, and portability is limited. We also need more coax cable for field day plus connectors. Les suggested purchasing either DX Engineering's 500 ft. of RG8x cable for \$389 plus tax, or 1,000 ft. roll. After much discussion among the members, Mark Bond / W3MB, moved that the membership authorize the purchase of the band pass filters as specified by the station manager. The motion was seconded and carried.

Pete / NL7XM, made a companion motion that we purchase three high-powered filters for 20-40-80 meters at an approximate cost of \$1500, which was seconded, and the motion was carried.

John Barbaz / NT3P, made a motion that we purchase 1000 feet of RG8X coax cable for \$300 plus the cost of connectors. It was seconded and the motion was carried.

Pete / K2PM, suggested that before anything was purchased, that a technical committee be set up to explore the various options available for reducing interference among the station's radios. Steve / W3NAM, appointed Al / W3CE, to head the committee.

Steve / W3NAM, announced that we now have an expense reimbursement form for approved purchases. Completed form may be given to the Treasurer or Secretary for processing.

The Christmas Cities Event will be held on December 16th and 17th between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Steve / W3NAM, said that because the Annual Picnic attracts fewer and fewer members each year, we should consider combining it with Field Day. Jay / N3OW, made a motion to combine Field Day and the Annual Club Picnic. It was seconded and so moved.

Steve called for a volunteer to organize the Christmas Party. No one stepped forward at the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 20:29 hours,

JoAnn Schaffer / ND3JJ, **Secretary**

DECEMBER QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 DLARC Net (KB3CTX)	7	8 NO VE SESSION	9
10	11	12 HAPPY HANUKKAH	13 DLARC Net (K3PDL)	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 DLARC Net (W3NAM)	21 DLARC BOARD MEETING	22	23
24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27 DLARC Net (ND3JJ)	28	29	30

DECEMBER CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL



- December 2 & 3 – ARRL 160 mtr Contest
– 10 mtr RTTY Contest
- December 9 & 10 – ARRL 10 mtr Contest
– International Naval Contest
- December 16 & 17 – ARRL Rookie Round-up - CW
– OK DX RTTY Contest
- December 23 & 24 – DARC Christmas Contest



VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be January 5th at 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact John / NT3P at nt3p@arrl.net

CHRISTMAS CITY SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Again this holiday season, the DLARC special event branch, "The Christmas City Station" will be on the air. Over the weekend of December 16th and 17th, 9AM to 6PM daily, from the Milk 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. Dave / N3EYT will chair this event and is looking for support from the general membership. Operators will be needed man the radios during the on air period continuing our tradition. Dean also has said that there will be a holiday dinner Saturday evening and left overs for Sunday plus any Christmas goodies you would like to bring. A sign up sheet will be available at the is meeting and also at the December meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

The DLARC is continuing to grow, so be sure to greet our new members, shake their hands, and give them a warm welcome to our club. The newest members are Thomas Zellman / N2TDZ and Ian Morrissey / KC3KCCQ.

2018 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

Enclosing a S.A.S.E will bring your new membership card back to you immediately if you can't attend the next Meeting where they are routinely distributed. You may write to me anytime with questions regarding DUES, or to discuss issues that you believe are my responsibility at: Treasurer@dlarc.org Include your phone number if you prefer a live reply.

de Mike / KB3LOD, DLARC Treasurer

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR by Al Wiemann W3CE

On Oct 21st the Milk House was opened for operation in the annual Boy Scouts of America "Jamboree don the Air".

This was the 60th anniversary of the event. All over the world boy scouts team up with ham radio operators to talk to other scouts around the globe. We hosted some Webelo scouts from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kreidersville outside of Northampton.

They had a good time, Dstar reflector 33 alpha was reserved for the event and several stations were heard on digital voice, including the W3OI club. The last contact was the best. Our guests communicated with the headquarters camp of the Boy Scouts outside of London, England. The main caveat is that we could only talk to countries that we have third party agreements with.

I plan to make this a yearly event. Hopefully we can get more scouts interested.





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, *only*, at nl7xm@arrl.net The winner must be present at the next Meeting to receive it, or it goes unrewarded. Officers, Board members, Newsletter staff, and Brain Teaser Authors are not eligible to win."

de Pete / NL7XM



NOVEMBER BRAINTEASER ANSWER

The winner is **NO WINNER**

DECEMBER BRAINTEASER

Can you work out what the link is between the following words?

MONEY, FREIGHTER, ATTEND AND ARTWORK

THIS YEAR'S EMMAUS HALLOWEEN PARADE

Nineteen DLARC member hams participated in the October 21 Emmaus Halloween Parade. All of our hams were helpful in keeping the parade safe and flowing with a minimum of large gaps. Our 14 vehicles in the parade with hams did have a flurry of reports of prohibited strolling vendors to call in to Net Control, George / N3SQD. From that point the Parade Marshal was notified, and the police were alerted to take care of the situations.

Overall, it was a good evening for a parade with thousands of spectators along the 2.2 mile parade route. The Parade Committee again expressed their appreciation with a donation to DLARC, as well as verbally.

After the parade our annual gathering of parade hams were invited to the Superior Restaurant, and from the photo you will be correct if you say they were having a good time there.

The parade was shown live on SECTV2 and replayed at 6:00 p.m. Sunday. DLARC received numerous recognition's of our assistance by the announcers as we passed by their cameras.

Hams driving, hams along with the driver, and non-ham guests enjoyed the evening as well, getting a different view of a parade, this time from the inside, out.

Those in DLARC's operation were: John Barbaz / NT3P; Mark Bond / W2MB, Pete Madsen / K2PM; David Blankenship / N3EYT, Maury Heller / KC3AVX; Steve Faustner / KC3AOE and wife, Pat; Doreen Gramling / K3PDL; Bob Green / KE3AW and wife, Andrea; Dean Guth / AB3BD and sons Harold Frable / KC3IEN and William Frable; Eric Harper / KC3AOK and friend, Tammy; Steve Harper / W3NAM and wife, Bonnie, and their granddaughters; Steve Levine / K2OPA, wife Josie / K2OMA, and her Mother; Doug McNair / N3WGH (who also provided an ideal station location for our 2-meter/440 MHz cross band repeater); Mark Miller / AK3M; Joann Schaffer / ND3JJ; Adam Waters / K3ACW and wife, Angie; and George Wieland / N3SQD (our Net Control Operator)

Thanks to all!

de bob / KE3AW



After parade celebration photo by Mark / W2MB

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PAST



REFLECTIONS FROM THE PAST

1986 Field Day Hackett's Park, Easton, Pa.

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE, IT'S By David Blankenship / N3EYT

I must say the program content at our November DLARC meeting was over my head. In fact, I am confident in saying the content was over your head, too. We are talking about satellite communication. At least, Steve Nordahl, NS3L -- remember Steve? He is the one who made 17 satellite contacts during our Field Day back in June -- drew our attention upward as he enlightened us about Amateur satellites.

Steve said that most satellites range between 350 and 900 miles in altitude. Our course, the higher the satellite, the larger the coverage area (footprint) on the earth. There are currently 18 satellites in orbit for amateur radio use. However, that number will soon increase. The next amateur satellite is the RadFxSat (Fox-1B), often called a CubeSat, which will launch soon. (The November 14 launch was cancelled due to bad weather.) Sometimes, commercial or educational satellites are also turned over to amateur use after their mission has been fulfilled.

Although there are various modes of operation and you will need to calculate (software app) when a satellite is within 'view', Steve said it is not difficult to get started in satellite communication. Even a HT can be used! For example, some of our own DLARC members have talked with the International Space Station (a satellite) using just their HT. A directional antenna will help focus your energy. In addition, a compass, headset and knowing how to estimate elevation (one hand width is about 10 degrees at an arms' length) are all the basics you will need to be successful, said Steve.

If you are interested in Amateur satellite communication, Steve said that AMSAT, the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, is a great resource. AMSAT is a worldwide group of Amateur Radio Operators (Hams) dedicated to promoting Amateur satellite communication. It was originally formed in the District of Columbia in 1969 as an educational organization. For more information, see www.amsat.org. Check out Steve's impressive page on QRZ.com.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

As amazing as it seems, our annual Holiday celebration is scheduled for our next regular meeting on December 7th. Such events always seem to fall into place, but this year due to unforeseen circumstances, the administrative end of it suffered a hiccup.

Ed, AA3OU and I have decided to ensure that this longtime tradition continues. Please rest assured that all members and friends will continue to share Holiday Cheer this season as scheduled. I have been told that the biggest administrative concern is that too many people might bring Macaroni Salad. Therefore Ed and I will make sure that this doesn't happen.

Please reply to me directly via email with your intentions as far as attending. Also, as this event is run covered dish style, please let us know what you will be bringing to share. I will tabulate all of the data, run an analysis and promptly advise you if we have too much of what you intend to bring.

We are all looking forward to seeing all of our regulars and those that have been away for a while for any reason.

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas

For Santa Claus, We remain

Cordially and Sincerely

Ed, / AA3OU and Mark / W2MB

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.

The Night Before Christmas, Ham Radio style.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the town, The snowstorm was raging, the phone lines were down; The wind it did howl, the tree limbs did crack, I hope that St. Nick isn't forced to turn back.

The wife making cookies, the kids making noise, While away in the shack, by my rig I was poised. The finals were glowing, the mike gain was set, I was chasing DX to see what I could get.

The bands were all empty, the frequencies clear, Except one lone station that sounded quite near. He was calling CQ and my interest did pique, When he ended transmission with the words, "Old St. Nick".

I answered back quickly, I used great dispatch, If this were St. Nicholas, good God, what a catch! We exchanged information, it was really quite graphic, Then he came back and said, "**I've emergency traffic!**"

His reindeer were tired, his elves in a grump, If he didn't land soon, then his sleigh he would dump. I thought very carefully, I thought very hard, Then I gave him directions to my snow covered yard. As he flew past my window, his hair like a mane, He reined in his chargers and called them by name: "Whoa, Anode! Whoa, Cathode! Whoa, Zenier! Whoa, Diode! Stop, Heater! Stop, Grid leak! Stop, Bias! Stop, Triode! You're flying too low! you're flying too fast! Look out, you dumb reindeer, his antenna mast!"

So into the backyard the reindeer did drop, St. Nick, the elves, and the sleigh went kerplow! Then at the back door, I heard this loud knocking, "**Open up in there, or I won't fill your stocking!**"

As I turned off the light and was leaving the shack, Into the house Saint Nicholas came from the back-- His two-meter rig held to his hip with a strap, "Hams do it in the shack" on the front of his cap.

The sack that he carried made his aged brow furrow, And he handed me a card that read, "QSL Via Bureau".

His clothes were all sooty, from his shoes to his vest; I felt like a novice taking his test. His fingers were calloused and from what I could tell, This came from a straight key that I'll bet he used well.

I offered him coffee, I offered him smokes, I tried easing the tension by telling ham jokes. Then he nodded his head and raised up his thumb, He smiled like an Elmer, did I ever feel dumb.

He grabbed up his sack and went straight for the tree, And placed in it a large present for me. When he finished his work, he stood up, took a bow, Then out the back door to his team he did plow.

But I heard him exclaim as he flew o'er the land, "**Beware the FCC, friend, we were both out of band!**"

"Monday Morning Message."

DLARC CLUB STATION OPERATING GUIDELINES

1. A control operator must be present at all times the club station (W3OK) is transmitting
2. The control operator will be responsible for following all FCC rules and regulations, with special attention to third party rules:
 - a. A third party is defined as any non licensed individual who takes part in communications.
 - b. Included are non-amateurs, Technicians operation HF, and General or Advanced hams operating in band segments reserved for higher class licenses.
 - c. When those mentioned in b. are operating communications should be limited to those countries that the United States has third party agreements with.
3. Log of all contacts and transmissions on the high frequency bands should be kept. 2 meter Local communications need not be logged.
4. **Club member's personal call signs may be used and privileges must be restricted to the license class of that member.**

F.Y.I.

The January Program will be " **Why The Climate Debate**" Jim / KC3JHV

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.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY 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 147.350 (DCS 315) W3OI Repeater.

QCWA Chapter 17 holds a net Monday evenings at 8:30 PM on 3960 +/- depending on conditions. Other inputs are the 146.85 repeater, (151.4 PL) and Echolink at K2PM-R.

Mid-Atlantic D-Star Net meets each Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The following repeaters Dstar repeaters are available in the Lehigh Valley. W3OK -145.11000MHz -0.600 Port C – W3OI -147.16500MHz +0.600 Port C, – W3OI - 445.02500MHz -5.000 Port B All repeaters on the net are linked through **Reflector 020 port A**, so all stations checking into the net should make sure that they have *their local repeater call sign followed by the letter "G" in the eight position of the RPT2 field*. Otherwise, you will only be heard locally and not over the Reflector. Dongle users wishing to check into the net should Log On by connecting directly to Reflector 20, port A, rather than through your local repeater in order to conserve local bandwidth.

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.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017 – 2018
OFFICERS**

President – Bill Connelly - W3MJ ----- president@dlarc.org
Vice President – Stephanie Koles / WX3K ----- vicepresident@dlarc.org
Secretary – JoAnn Schaffer / ND3JJ ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Mike Gower / KB3LOD ----- 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 Bethlehem Township Community Center
TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4)

THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Barry Vogt / N3NVA

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