

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

JULY 2017



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting July 6th, 7:30PM At the
Bethlehem Township Community Center**

JULY PROGRAM

ARRL Atlantic Division Director

Tom Abernethy / W3TOM



**“ Field Day 1992 “
Tom / N3EBH**

MINUTES FROM THE JUNE MEETING

A general membership meeting of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on June 1, 2017 at the Bethlehem Township Community Center, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Called to Order: Bill / W3MJ, President at 19:30 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Our President

The President welcomed and thanked all for coming and asked if anyone had anything special ham happenings or events from and for the membership. Nothing was mentioned.

Secretary's Report: Lester / W3LES stated the minutes had been posted on line. President ask if there were any corrections. The Secretary stated that he did find a mistake after the fact and it will be corrected. A Motion to accept the minutes with the correction was made from Mark / W2MB and was seconded by Dean / AB3BD, the Motion was so moved by vote.

Treasurer's Report: Mike / KB3LOD gave his report and on a Motion to accept by Jay / N3OW and seconded by Jo Ann / ND3JJ, the Motion was so moved by vote.

Club Station: Lester / W3LES reported that all was well and reminded all that it's your club station come out and use it. Hours for the Club Station are Wednesdays 5-9pm and Saturdays 9 till noon or so.

Web Site: Rich / WC3T reported on the increase in web page hits, and if anyone is still having trouble with the page to email him. Also it seems that there maybe concern on security for our page

Membership: Jo Ann / ND3JJ read 5 new Applications from: Donald Pedersen / KC3JHU, Terry Swinney / KC3JHT, Kim Murray / KC3JHS, James Siverly / KC3JHV and Ian Law / KC3JEQ. A motion was made to accept from Dave / N3EYT and seconded by Dean / AB3BD was made, the Motion was so moved by vote and they were greeted by a round of applause.

Classes: Bob / KE3AW stated that the classes are going along well and there will be testing at Field Day.

Special Events: Since we need a new Trustee for the WX3MAS Special Event Station (aka the Milk house) that is done at Christmas time the President appointed Dean / AB3BD for this, and Dean accepted.

Old Business: Mark / W2MB stated that since there was not enough interest in doing a swap net Wednesdays after our regular net the idea was going to be put on hold for now.

New Business: Bill / K3ANS stated that there should be some type of information put out to the membership on how to get on the DLARC Form so they can post and read it. It was stated that the how to do it is in the Newsletter also if anyone has anything to put in the newsletter they should sent it or contact Rich / WC3T or Don / KC3II.

Jay / N3OW proposed that we setup a IRP or Echo Link for Techs or anyone that wants to get on the air. All thought it was a good idea and Jay will gather more info and report make. He also stated that he is trying to get the Lap Tops donated though his Employer and will keep us informed.

Also it was pointed out that we need to somehow get the Club W3OK QRZ Page and other sites under our call turned over to us from John / NJ3I (who is the register admin for them) since he is no longer a club member. It was stated that Our President is looking into this and get this done ASAP

*Steve, V.P. / W3NAM announced that there will be Board positions opening up for next year and if anyone is interested to see him. Also that WE need the following for next year: Program Chairman, Awards Chairman and a Special Event Chairman. If no one steps up, then these programs and events will not happen next year.

And finely a discussion was had on getting the Call Fire Program restarted again. Ben / KB3CTX stated that he will check on setting it up again. A Motion was made by Pete / NL7XM that we buy a Block of credits do get things going. This was seconded by Dave / N3EYT to do so, the Motion was so moved.

All were reminded of the new Field Day location which will be at the Bicentennial Park in East Allen Township. Setup will be Saturday around 9AM and HELP will be needed and.....**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

Adjournment 8:28PM

Respectively Submitted

Lester Morrow / W3LES

VE TEST SESSION

There will be a test session this month on July 7th at 7 PM at the Northampton County 911 center. Pretest registration is required. . Contact Dean / N3HOG at k28@ptd.net

JULY CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL



- July 1 & 2 – DL – DX RTTY Contest
- Marconi Memorial HF Contest
- July 8 & 9 – IARU HF World Championship
- ARRL June VHF Contest
- July 15 & 16 – CQ World Wide VHF Contest
- July 29 & 30 – RSGB IOTA Contest



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 Ian Law / KC3JEQ, Kim Murray / KC3JHS, Terry Swinney / KC3JHT, Donald Pedersen / KC3JHU and James Siverly / KC3JHV.

JULY QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	4 DLARC Net (N3SQD)	6 DL ARC MEETING 7:30 PM	7 VE SESSION	8
9	10	11	12 DLARC Net (KB3CTX)	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 DLARC Net (K3PDL)	20 DLARC BOARD MEETING	21	22
23	24	25	26 DLARC Net (W3NAM)	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 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

JUNE BRAINTEASER ANSWER

The winner is "NO WINNER" this month!

JULY BRAINTEASER

An old man wanted to leave all of his money to one of his three sons, but he didn't know which one he should give it to. He gave each of them a few coins and told them to buy something that would be able to fill their living room. The first man bought straw, but there was not enough to fill the room. The second bought some sticks, but they still did not fill the room. The third man bought two things that filled the room, so he obtained his father's fortune. What were the two things that the man bought and what was able to fill the room?

JUNE MEETING REPORT

Field day 1992

Tom / N3EBH, long time DLARC member returned to present his video of the 1992 Field Day. Tom moved out of the area, but maintained his DLARC membership. He received a VHS camera as a gift back then, and decided to document field day. Two years ago, Tom discovered the tape of this event and decided to put it on a DVD, which is what we viewed at the meeting. The program covered every step of the event. Starting with loading up trucks and trailers with all the equipment needed for the weekend. The trucks and trailers were loaded at the barn on the Gracedale campus, from there moved to Plainfield Township facility where field day was to held. Documented was raising of two antenna towers, and the respective antennas. Upon completion of the installation, stations were put on the air competing in the annual nationwide contest. Tom recorded the stations that different times during the 24 hours of the contest, with a different operators. Also presented was the food layout and tables for their enjoyment. Everything came to a close with the lowering of antennas, breaking down the towers and the packing all the equipment. Thank you, Tom, for the memories.

DLARC'S EQUIPMENT LOANER PROGRAM

Within the last few months the club's loaner program was updated and restructured. Here is some of the equipment that is available and the rules.

HF equipment:

Kenwood TS-440SAT package

The radio has a built in antenna tuner, also comes with a hand microphone, DC power supply and an Off Center Fed 40 meter antenna.

Kenwood TS-430S package

This radio comes with the matching external antenna tuner, power supply and a 20 meter dipole.

Yaesu FT-840

This radio comes with a hand microphone and power supply

MFJ-9040

This radio is a QRP CW only radio. It has the internal audio filter installed, comes with CW key and power supply.

There are two each MFJ antenna analyzers. ***Borrow time on the antenna analyzers is limited to a maximum time of one week.***

The club also has a large selection of books to choose from in its library.

Rules:

1. Fill out the logbook with the following information when borrowing any piece(s) of equipment. Item(s) borrowed, name, call sign, date, email address and phone number.
2. You may borrow the equipment for up to 90 days. At the end of the 90 day period the equipment must be returned to the club's station. If there isn't anybody waiting to borrow the equipment you have just returned you may continue to borrow the equipment for another 90 days. You can repeat this cycle three times for a total borrow time of one year.
3. It is not the club's responsibility to call you for the return of the equipment, it is YOUR responsibility to return it ON TIME !
4. As mentioned above, the antenna analyzers are on the lender program and can be borrowed for no longer than one week. They are in high demand and for that reason the borrow time is very limited.

If you would like to borrow any of the above mentioned items, stop by the club's station, located in the Milk House, on the Gracedale complex any Wednesday evening.

Barry G. Kery, KU3X

REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST



Clarence Snyder / W3PYF, (circa 1950s) working his buddies on 3.999

25 YEARS AGO IN THE DLARC --JULY 1992

de AI / W3CE

The club provided communications for the American Red Cross' "Derriere in the Delaware" fund raising event.

Ten members took part in the Northampton County test of evacuating Gracedale. The operators included W3PYF, KA3TEQ, N3HQE, KD3SQ, KE3AW, KA3TER, KA3MTY, KA3ONZ, WF3H and KA3MOB.

Van / K3CP explains dipole antennas to Ima Lidd in his volume in the Newsletter.

BUILD YOUR OWN 2 MTR GROUND PLANE ANTENNA from the KB6NU'S Ham Radio Blog

Building an antenna is something that you should do within a month or two of getting your license. There are many reasons for this, including:

Building an antenna will help you learn how antennas really work.

Building an antenna is cheaper than buying them.

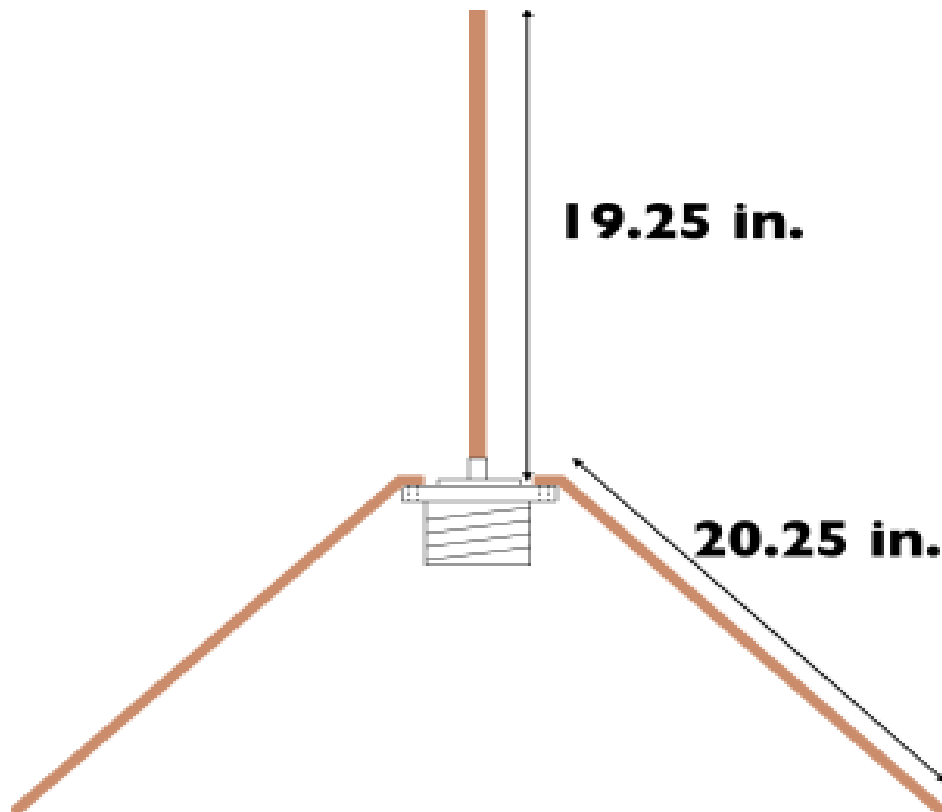
If you're using a handheld with the standard "rubber ducky" antenna, you can build an antenna that will increase the range of your handheld.

It's fun!

Building a 2m quarter-wave ground-plane antenna

The first antenna that you should consider building is the quarter-wave ground-plane antenna for the 2m band. They are very easy to build and will perform better than the antennas that come with most handhelds.

The quarter-wavelength, ground plane antenna is made up of one vertical element, called the driven element, and four radials. The radials make up the ground plane. An easy way to make this antenna is to use an SO-239 coax connector. The driven element is soldered directly to the center conductor, while the four radials are connected to the four holes in the connector's flange. See the figure at right.



A simple 2m antenna can be made with an SO-239 connector and four short pieces of stiff wire.

Now, let's calculate how long the elements should be. Since the wavelength of a radio wave is equal to $300/f$ (MHz), one quarter wavelength will be equal to $75/f$ (MHz). At 146 MHz, therefore, the length of the driven element is:

$$75/146 = .51 \text{ m}$$

In practice, we have to make one more adjustment. Because a radio wave travels more slowly in a wire than it does in free space, the wavelength will actually be about 5% less in a wire than in free space. So, we multiply the wavelength in free space by .95 to get the length of the driven element:

$$.51 \text{ m} \times .95 = .49 \text{ m} = 19.25 \text{ inches}$$

The radials should be about 5% longer than the driven element. This isn't really very critical, so if you make them 20.25 inches long, the antenna will work just fine.

You should make the elements out of a stiff wire. 12 AWG copper wire will work for experimentation purposes. Welding rod might be better for a more permanent antenna.

You need to solder the 19.25-in. driven element to the solder cup of the center conductor of the SO-239 connector. Attach the radials to the holes in the flange of the SO-239 connector with nuts and bolts. You can also use these nuts and bolts to mount the antenna to some kind of bracket. Bend the radials out to a 45-degree angle, connect a coax cable to it, and start having fun!

THE DLARCforum

A few years ago the Executive Committee established an electronic mailing list for D.L.A.R.C. Members and friends to provide an easy way to disseminate information on a timely basis. This mailing list is called the "DLARCforum" and all club members with email capability are welcome to join.

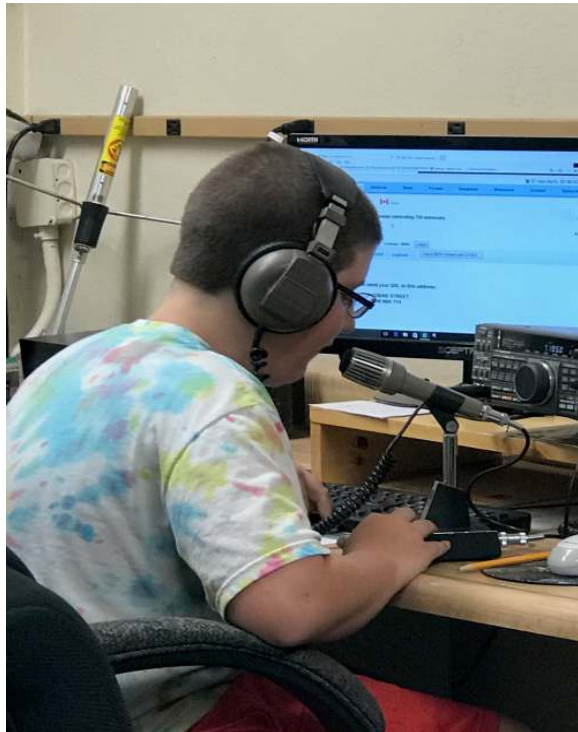
Joining the list is easy, just go to this website :<http://mailman.qth/mailman/listinfo/dlarcforum> and fill in the appropriate boxes. Instructions for the subscription process are available on the page. If you don't have internet service, but do have email service you can still subscribe by sending a subscription request directly to the list administrator, ka3jwe@arrl.net.

The DLARCforum is a "closed" list which means only subscribers can post messages, so your mailbox won't be filled with junk mail from unknown sources. The list uses a "text only" format which means, that only messages in plain text are passed. Messages received in HTML are filtered and stripped of any formatting before being sent out to list subscribers. The list will not accept or pass attachments such as files and pictures. This is done to eliminate the possibility of spreading any type of computer virus or other harmful programs. The forum is an "un-moderated" list, which means that there is no moderator screening messages before they are passed on.

Since its beginning, the volume of messages on the DLARCforum has been relatively low compared to other similar mailing lists. So don't worry your your inbox won't be overflowing with messages if you subscribe. There is also the ability to configure your preferences for the list to your personal liking.

So, please consider joining the list if you're not already subscribed. You'll be better informed about current club activities and also have the knowledge and experience of over half the membership at your disposal. Anything you want to know, all you have to do is ask!

FROM THE MILK HOUSE

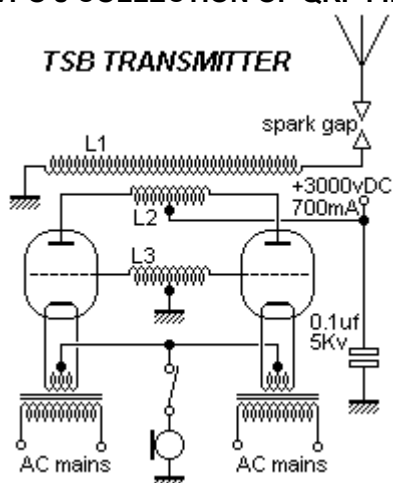


W3RPH enjoying the club station while working some DX

DLARC CLUB ARCHIVIST

Barb / W3ATC has been appointed DLARC Club archivist, (by AI / w3CE). so we would like to get as much material as possible before she starts to organize our records. Although we have thousands of QSL cards, there is not much of anything else. Complete Board and General Meeting minutes only exist between 2015 and the present. We only have bits and pieces between 1981 and 1999. Any and all photographs and other club information will be appreciated,

SM0VPO's COLLECTION OF QRP FILES



USED BY PERMISSION : HARRY LYTHALL / SM0VPO
Bill Connelly / W3MJ

Now this isn't really for QRP (in fact, it's not at ALL for QRP), but it was in the projects list, and since the original poster included it (as a joke), I thought I'd make it available too.

HOW IT WORKS

The two tubes form a push-pull power oscillator, which makes alternating current, but at a radio frequency. This is done by the use of L1, L2, L3 and the two little tubes (type 833 - alternatively F-24-a). The actual frequency is not really important, as the object is to generate maximum bandwidth .. the goal of any phone station. C1 is used to obtain maximum power by resonating L1 to L2's natural frequency.

This RF voltage is stepped up by a factor of 30 to 100,000 volts by L2 & sent on to the spark-gap where the actual RF-to-be-sent is generated. An RFC across the antenna is recommended to keep the antenna circuit at DC ground, yet will not short out the RF ... which is sent from the spark-gap to the antenna.

The antenna wants to be one wire, and end fed. No co-ax required .. just "hook er up and duck". The length of the antenna determines the transmit frequency, the formula to use to get that length is:

$$\text{FEET} = (468 / (((F * F) - (F * F))) * 35.5$$

F = frequency in MHz (rounded off to the nearest 100KHz)

Voice modulation is done by use of a special Carbon Microphone, as used in the 1920's ... which can handle several amperes. Here, rather than sending R.F. through the MIC, as was done back then, only DC is passed through. That way, the operator (or inflict or) won't get an RF burn on his lips if he speaks too close to the MIC. That modulates the power to the tubes, which varies the intensity of the spark which then puts quite a suitable signal on the air. The intelligibility will match the content of some of the QSO's now on the air.

TO OPERATE

1. Place mouth near Carbon Microphone
2. Close PTT switch and adjust C1 for a dip in anode current – QUICKLY
3. Make OINKING and MOOING noises to indicate your presence to everyone
4. Open the PTT switch when you get around to it

NEW PRODUCT

A new product is ready to marketed which will revolutionize amateur radio as we know it today. Ask yourself these questions;

Are you bothered by increasing QRM on the bands?

Does your monster antenna array have difficulty turning in high winds?

Does your XYL get after you to clean up the bird droppings under your antenna?

With new **ANTENNA WAX** your troubles are over. Just apply to your yagi or dipole, quad or vertical and you will notice the difference instantly.

Here are testimonials from hams from all over the world.

"With **ANTENNA WAX** I can actually see QRM and QRN slide right off my antenna"

"**ANTENNA WAX** lets me turn my 36 element 20 meter array with an ordinary electric egg beater, even in the fiercest Santa Ana winds"

"Birds don't roost on my beam anymore since I started using **Antenna WAX.**"

The secret formula for **ANTENNA WAX** is rumored to contain a mixture of ordinary household wax, 30 weight diesel oil and powdered QSL cards from Albania. Easy to use **ANTENNA WAX** simply wipes on and lasts 3-4 weeks. It is available in the following colors; Red (for that Russian DX), Green (for Irish DX), Blue (For moonbounce) and Yellow (for generic DX. The cost is only \$19.95 plus S/H at antennawax.con.

HAMVENTION IMPROVEMENTS ALREADY IN THE WORKS FOR 2018

Even before Hamvention 2017 had wound down at its new Xenia, Ohio, location, plans were on the drawing board to enhance next year's show. Hamvention 2017 "went reasonably well," spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI, allowed, but he acknowledged that there are still a "lot of things to work on" for 2018. Kalter, who lives in Xenia, made the remarks in a [video interview](#) with DX Engineering's Tim Duffy, K3LR, in the wake of the May 19-21 show, which is sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association.

Kalter told Duffy that the staff of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center on its own initiative met with him, Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, and others to say they were already formulating plans for improvements. The food and forum venues at the new location got high marks, Kalter told Duffy, but the flea market suffered badly from the effects of heavy rainfall.

"It rained hard, and it rained a lot," Kalter recounted, adding that the flea market area was not as well drained as organizers had expected. "What exactly we're going to do at this point, I don't know," he conceded. "We felt bad about that."

The exhibitor tents were another issue, with crowded quarters, wind-blown rain getting into booth spaces, and a lack of lighting. Kalter told Duffy that DARA didn't get the tents it wanted, and that more and better tents are high on the list for next year. DARA also has asked the Greene County Commission to purchase another building for the site, and the Commission will be installing air handlers in buildings for 2018.

On-site parking improvements also are in the works, after a massive traffic jam on opening day. "Traffic on Friday morning was pretty rough, for those that got caught in that, but we worked with the officials...and they fixed it overnight," Kalter said.

"We know that we are stewards of a very important event [for Amateur Radio]," Kalter told Duffy. Hamvention "is not just DARA's show," and exhibitors and organizers alike are buying into the concept of "our Hamvention" and contributing to an effort to improve the event. Kalter called Hamvention "a pillar" that helps to keep Amateur Radio alive and "growing and functioning at a much higher level" than anywhere else.

"We're out in front of it," Kalter assured, "and I want to thank all of our volunteers," referring to the 657 individuals who made Hamvention 2017 happen. "Most of what I heard was very positive."

In a [separate interview](#) with [HamRadioNow's](#) Gary Pierce, KN4AQ, Kalter said that while he could offer no firm numbers, attendance was "the biggest I've seen at any Hamvention I've ever been to. It was absolutely wall to wall, from one end to the other."

THE MAYONNAISE JAR

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, When 24 hours in a day is not enough; remember the mayonnaise jar and 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him.

When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and start to fill it with golf balls.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured it into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded With an unanimous 'yes.' The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

'Now,' said the professor, as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - God, family, children, health, friends, and favorite passions. Things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.'

The pebbles are the things that matter like your job, house, and car.

The sand is everything else -- The small stuff.

'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, You will never have room for the things that are important to you. So...

Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups.

Take your partner out to dinner. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the dripping tap.

'Take care of the golf balls first -- The things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.'

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled.

'I'm glad you asked'. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend..'

F.Y.I.

The August Program will be "Emergency Preparedness To self-sufficiency" – Brian / KW3K

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.

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 2012 – 2013 OFFICERS

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Jay Mason / N3OW ----- n3ow@rcn.com

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

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

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