

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
MARCH 2017



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting March 2nd, 7:30PM At the
Bethlehem Township Community Center**

MARCH MEETING PROGRAM

"Restoring Old Radios"

Ken / KB3MDT



Elissa Garofalo
"INSPIRING CONNECTIONS"
The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

MINUTES FROM THE FEBUARY MEETING



A general membership meeting of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on February 2, 2017 at the Bethlehem Township Community Center, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Bill / W3MJ.

The President welcomed and thanked all for coming and asked if anyone had anything special ham happenings or events for the membership. Skip / KD2BDA stated he took part in and enjoyed this year's winter field day event from inside his house and did better this year than last year with more contacts.

Pete / NL7XM stated he and three others John / KC3OK did the 1st WFD contest 10 years ago and took 1st place in points.

John / KC3OK stated he was finally getting back on the air after a number of years. And Jim / W1KOU wanted to know if anyone could look and check out his old Yaesu rig.

Secretary's Report: Lester / W3LES read December's minutes and on a Motion to accepted from Mark / W2MB and seconded by Jay / N3OW the Motion was so moved by vote.

Treasure's Report: Mike / KB3LOD gave his report and on a Motion to accept by Skip / KD2BDA and seconded by Bob / NE2C the Motion was so moved by vote.

Club Station: Lester / W3LES reported that Mark / W2MB and Skip / KD2BDA had installed the new coax and connectors that was needed in the milk house. And the 2 new Security cameras were hooked up and working fine but there is a need to have a secure network setup again and to find someone who knows how to do this, as well as installing cable for the donated flat screen TV from Dean / AB3BD. And we are still looking for more members to get involved at the club station, anyone that would like to setup any type of Elmering class on any aspect of ham radio ie: kit building, antenna building, contesting, how to work the club radios or just helping with whatever is needed should contact the President or Lester. Lester state that as warmer weather sets in we are going to put up some wire antennas and inspect or replace some of the rope supports that have been up for some time if needed, so help could be needed for that. Also he stated again it's your club station come out and use it. Hours for the Club Station are Saturdays 9am to noon and Wednesdays 5pm to 9pm or so for both days. If anyone would like to stop by at other times just contact Bill or him. A **BIG THANK YOU** to All those that have stepped up to help so far.

Remember to bring your QSL cards to hang up.

A report was given by the Skip / KD2BDA chairman of the Key committee stating that after checking with the County (they have 4) and gathering all the names of 5 key holders we know now who has keys the Milkhouse.

Club Repeater: The problem with the D-Star computer software is being looked into.

Web Site: No report, but it was stated that that there is a need to get things updated on it.

Membership: Jo Ann / ND3JJ is now in charge and has the membership Cards so if anyone has any updates or address changes and such please contact her.

Classes: Bob / KE3AW stated that there were 25 folks signed up for tech class as of now and will start on March 3rd contact him for more info. Also there were some items from a SK and his wife would like to sell and let him know.

Old Business: The President reminded all that if you need Club Badges please see David / N3EYT. Club apparel can be purchased though Mark / W2MB. We are still looking for committee people for milk house and a Chairperson for Field day and Picnic, Please contact him. Also again we need Elmers Jay / N3OW said he will help out. And Bob / NE2C reminded all that some members meet for diner before the Wednesday night net, just listen in on the Repeater. Also there is a need to get more members qualified for FEMMA ARES & RACES.

Barry / KU3X reminded all of the need to Log Out for Any of the Club Loaner gear, and remember to return it.

Under Field day George / N3SQD stated that this year we will be setting up at Bicentennial Park in East Allen Twsp. More info to come.

New Business: Mark / W2MB introduced the ideal of possibly doing a swap net on our repeater maybe after Wednesdays' net and is looking for feedback. Bill stated that there were a few things for sale at the Milk house.

Pete NL7XM reminded all he had club items for sale and then did his trivia program on Old Health Kit Gear.

Adjournment 8:32PM

Respectively Submitted

Lester Morrow / W3LES

MARCH CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL



- March 4 & 5 – ARRL International DX Contest – SSB
- Open Ukraine RTTY Contest
- March 11 & 12 – South American 10 Meter Contest
- TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest
- March 18 & 19 – Russian DX Contest
- BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- March 25 & 26 – CQ WW WPX Contest – SSB



NOTICE --- NOTICE --- NOTICE
DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE IV Section 3

Failure to pay annual dues by the February meeting shall result in the membership being terminated. Reinstatement to membership by the March meeting shall be accepted without penalty. Thereafter, a reinstatement application shall be required the same as a new membership..

MARCH QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 DLARC Net (W0ROY)	2 DL ARC MEETING 7:30 PM	3 VE SESSION	4
5	6	7 Classes Begin	8 DLARC Net (KC3II)	9	10	11
12 Day Light Savings Time Begins	13	14	15 DLARC Net (N3SQD)	16	17 St. Patrick's DAY	16
19	20 First Day of Spring	21	22 DLARC Net (KB3CTX)	23 DLARC BOARD MEETING	24	25
26	27	28	29 DLARC Net (K3PDL)	30	31	

VE TEST SESSION

There will be a test session this month on March 3rd at 7 PM at the Northampton County 911 center. Pretest registration is required. Pretest registration is required. Contact Dean / N3HOG at dk28@ptd.net

RACES EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS

As of September 2006, NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 course certifications are required in order to receive the county issued photo IDs. The photo IDs are required by federal law for participation in, on site RACES emergency operations. These courses can be taken on line by going to www.fema.gov and following the directions. These requirements are not needed to participate in the weekly Wednesday nets. The only requirement for these nets is a valid amateur radio license and an interest in emergency communications.

FIELD DAY EQUIPMENT CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

This person will over see the setting up and tearing down of the stations, antennas and the balance of what is required for the operation of the 2017 Field Day, which will be held at All-American Park, located in East Allen Township. This is a new location due to the unavailability of Louise Moore Park.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Jo Ann / ND3JJ has assumed the chairperson position of the membership committee.

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.



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



FEBRUARY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

Winner – **NO WINNER**

MARCH BRAINTEASER

A man hijacks an airplane transporting both passengers (8 of them) and valuable cargo. After taking the cargo, the man demands nine parachutes, puts one of them on, and jumps, leaving the other eight behind.

Why did he want extra eight?

MARCH MEETING TRIVIA THEME: General Geography

Past years have brought Door Prize Class gifts to attendees participating in fun activities during the 50/50 break between the DLARC Business Meeting and the formal Program Presentation.

This year, a modest prize (along with perpetual bragging rights) will go to someone in attendance who correctly answers direct Ham Radio history, related General Science, or Geography type trivia questions every month during 2017. (You do *not* have to be a DLARC Member to participate.)

Certain rules will strictly apply, such as no assistance permitted whatsoever from portable devices, or whispered coaching from non-participants. Snitching on cheaters is encouraged. Scoundrels will be stripped, lashed, tarred and feathered, placed in stocks for 3 days and nights without food before being water boarded and publicly executed.

The Category for the February Meeting is, "**General Geography.**" Brushing up on as much of this subject as possible should give you a great advantage to answering the prepared, secret questions. No maps are permitted to assist you.

I will be the sole judge in determining the winners each month

. Vy 73, es GL.

de PeteTheGreek / NL7XM

FEBRUARY MEETING TRIVIA WINNER

Don / KC3II

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PAST



1950s Station, Operators unknown a W3PYF Photo

FEBRUARY PROGRAM REPORT

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor was the subject of February program, presented by Elissa Garofalo. This is one of 49 areas in the United States established by act of Congress in 1988. This region has been recognized for its unique qualities and resources. It is a place where a combination of natural, historic and recreational resources that shaped a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape.

Anthracite coal was the basis for this route. In the early days of our country coal. Was the foundation of industry and the canal systems of this area allow the shipping of the coal to Philadelphia. These canals also carried other goods over the years. These canals were in use until railroads developed systems to carry these words. It is noticeable how these railroad lines follow the paths of the canals.

Today these canal areas are trails that follow the rich of the three historic transportation systems between Wilkes-Barre and Bristol Pennsylvania. Only and/or canals in the Lehigh Valley Railroad systems were responsible for transportation of anthracite coal from mines in the right amounts of Carbon and Luzerne Counties to the industry and homes in eastern Pennsylvania and beyond. This also spurred unprecedented industrial growth in the region and enabled it to become a birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution.

Today, the D&L trail connects people to nature, culture, communities, recreation and other industrial heritage. This trail is a 165 mile multi-use path that follows the three historic transportation system roots between Wilkes-Barre and Bristol, Pennsylvania .Included in the system, in the Lehigh Valley, is the Delaware Canal Museum located in Hugh Moore Park in Easton. There also, during the summer the canal boat rides, which are a big favorite with children and adults alike.

Elissa concluded with the usual question-and-answer session, and gave out pamphlets and chanced off several books on the corridor.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight saving time (DST)—also **summer time** in several countries including in British English and European official terminology is the practice of temporarily advancing clocks during the summertime so that evenings have more daylight and mornings have less. Typically clocks are adjusted forward one hour near the start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn. Modern DST was first proposed in 1895 by George Vernon Hudson and it was first implemented during the First World War. Many countries have used it at various times since then; Details vary by locations.

The practice has been both praised and criticized. Adding daylight to evenings benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems for evening entertainment and other occupations tied to the sun. Start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn.

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The practice has been both praised and criticized. Adding daylight to evenings benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems for evening entertainment and other occupations tied to the sun. Its effect on health and crime is less clear. Although an early goal of DST was to reduce evening usage of incandescent lighting formerly a primary use of electricity, Modern heating and cooling usage patterns differ greatly, and research about how DST currently affects energy use is limited or contradictory

DST clock shifts present other challenges. They complicate timekeeping, and can disrupt meetings, travel, billing, recordkeeping, medical devices, heavy equipment, and sleep patterns. Software can often adjust computer clocks automatically, but this can be limited and error-prone, particularly when DST protocols are changed.

So now having read this brief history, do not forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 12.

THE RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES NEW "WIRELESS WOMEN" SECTION ON WEBSITE

In an effort to encourage more participation of women and girls in the wireless industry, the Radio Club of America has created a new "Wireless Women" section on its website, designed to assist women considering careers in wireless and encouraging them to get involved in technology. Information includes resources such as "Notable Women in Wireless," "RCA's Vivian Carr Award," and "Professional Wireless Organizations for Women," as well as web resources for women and girls interested in wireless. There's also a list of universities that have an engineering focus and significant enrollment by women.

"RCA has a long history of recognizing the achievements of women in wireless," RCA President Tim Duffy, K3LR, said. "Three former RCA presidents are women, and we have many female officers, directors, and committee members. We created the Vivian Carr award in 2014 to recognize women who have contributed significantly to the wireless industry, and Director Carole Perry [WB2MGP] has led RCA's effort to educate youth about wireless for decades."

Duffy credited the efforts of several female RCA members, including Secretary Margaret Lyons P.E., Executive Committee member and Marketing & Development Committee Chair Elaine Walsh, former RCA president Mercy Contreras, and others, for assembling the information that might be useful to women and girls who are interested in wireless. "We welcome additional ideas or input from the wireless community to help this section of our website become more useful," Duffy said.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY



Saint Patrick's Day, or the **Feast of Saint Patrick** (Irish: *Lá Fhéile Pádraig*, "the Day of the Festival of Patrick"), is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick (c. AD 385–461), the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland), the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and celebrates the land heritage and culture of the Irish in general. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals, céilíthe, and the wearing of green attire or shamrocks. Christians also attend church services and the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day, which has encouraged and propagated the holiday's tradition of alcohol consumption.

Saint Patrick's Day is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland Northern Ireland, the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat. It is also widely celebrated by the Irish diaspora around the world, especially in Great Britain, Canada, the United States, Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand. Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated in more countries than any other national festival. Modern celebrations have been greatly influenced by those of the Irish diaspora, particularly those that developed in North America. In recent years, there has been criticism of Saint Patrick's Day celebrations for having become too commercialized and for fostering negative stereotypes of the Irish.

Irish Stew

Ingredients:

2 lbs boneless lamb shoulder, cut into 1" cubes
4 medium potatoes, sliced 1/2" thick
2 medium onions, sliced 1/4" thick
2 stalks celery, sliced 1/4" thick
4 medium carrots, peeled and sliced 1/4" thick
1 tsp salt
1/4 tsp black pepper
1/2 tsp thyme
1 cup water
2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 325 degs. F. In a large Dutch oven or covered casserole, layer the ingredients in the following order: Lamb cubes, sliced potatoes, sliced onions, sliced celery, sliced carrots, sprinkling each layer with salt, pepper and thyme. Add the water to the pot, cover and slowly bring to a boil over medium-low heat. Let simmer for 5 minutes, then transfer the pot to the oven and bake, without lifting the lid or stirring, for 2 to 2 1/2 hours or until the lamb is tender. Sprinkle with chopped parsley, stir very gently to mix (the potatoes will be very soft) and serve.

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT SPEEDS TO U.S. HOUSE PASSAGE, HEADS TO U.S. SENATE

Just 10 days after being introduced, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the U.S. House of Representatives this week on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules. The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R.

1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 co-sponsors, but failed to clear the U.S. Senate last fall as the 114th Congress wound down. The new bill, again sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), was introduced on January 13 with initial co-sponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the influential House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R. 555 can be found on the web at, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/555?r=27> .

"The grassroots effort of Amateur Radio operators across this nation in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act has been remarkable, nothing like we have ever seen before," ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said. "To all hams, keep going! Now is the time to charge forward with that same momentum to the Senate. We can do it!" The bill arrives in the U.S. Senate with ample time in which to garner its approval through an education campaign.

"We're very encouraged by the speed with which this bill made it through the House. It's amazing that this happened," said ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who has been at the forefront of the legislative initiative. "With the help of ARRL members, we believe we can get this done," Lisenco continued. "We came within a hair's breadth last time, with 110,000 e-mails to members of both houses of Congress, as well as letters and telephone calls. Member participation in this final push is critical."

H.R. 555 calls on the FCC to establish rules prohibiting the application of deed restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio communications on their face or as applied. Deed restrictions would have to impose the minimum practicable restriction on Amateur Radio communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of homeowners association seeking to enforce the restriction.

HIRAM PERCY MAXIM



by Bill Connelly / W3MJ

He was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1869. After graduation from Massachusetts Institute of technology, he held many positions as a mechanical engineer and had created several inventions, among them an automobile. The most spectacular creation was the Maxim silencer for explosive weapons (1908) , but perhaps more useful when the silencers for gasoline engines know today as mufflers. (N.B. His father Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim became a British subject in 1900 and was knighted in 1901. He invented smokeless powder, a delayed action fuse, and an airplane.)

Early in 1914, living in Hartford, Connecticut, Maxim wanted to purchase and Audion tube for the receiver in his 1 KW station that would become W1AW. Eventually, he found one in Springfield, Mass. Hartford is only 30 miles from Springfield, but his station would not cover the distance. He found a station between the two cities that were willing to relay his offer to buy the Audion. It was this experience that led him to realize that an organization was needed to coordinate and standardized procedures of relay messages. One can only imagine what might have gone wrong to cause this perception.

On April 6, 1914, Hiram (1AW) proposed the formation of the American Radio Relay League together with Clarence D Tuska (1AW) . The purpose was to relay messages further than possible with the technology of the time. With the help of the radio club in Hartford, who contributed \$50 and seven volunteers, Hiram and Clarence created application form that explain the league purpose and invited membership.

By September 1914, there were 237 relay stations appointed, and traffic routes were established from Maine to Minneapolis and Seattle to Idaho, in 1915 the ARRL was incorporated. Realizing that long-distance on 200 m were not possible at that time, Hiram successfully appealed to the Department of Commerce to authorize special operations on 425 m relay stations in remote areas. The federal communications had not yet been created.

By 1916, there were 6000 amateur licenses. QST became the links publication. It is a journal devoted to amateur radio. In this informative magazine, Hiram Percy Maxim wrote under the pseudonym "Old Man". His articles stress proper form and etiquette on the airwaves but that's another story.

Thanks to QST, ARRL, [A Genius in the Family](#) , The Akadine Press, and the Internet.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE WOW!

- 1) The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**.
- 2) The farm was use to **produce produce**.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**.
- 4) We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture.
- 5) He could **lead** if he would get the **lead** out.
- 6) The soldier decided to **desert** his dessert in the **desert**.
- 7) Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was time to **present** the **present**.
- 8) When shot at, the **dove dove** into the bushes.
- 9) I did not **object** to the **object**.
- 10) The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**.
- 11) There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**.
- 12) They were too **close** to the door to **close** it.
- 13) The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present.
- 14) A seamstress and a **sewer** fell down into a **sewer**.
- 15) To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** to **sow**.
- 16) The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail.
- 17) Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting I shed a **tear**.

REDNERS' SUPERMARKETS SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Here's how it works:

Redner's has a terrific program to support the Club **AT NO COST TO THEM**, if our members simply sign up for a Gas Card that records their shopping points, and give their cash register receipts to, **Pete / NL7XM**, He'll do the rest.

Note: This does not affect your gas points in any way.

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Donate your old, empty printer ink cartridges to the Club for recycling. Any brand, model, size or shape; color or black. Please bring them to the meeting in a leak proof ziplock type baggie and give them to Pete / NL7XM. This simple act can help your Club by reducing recurring expenses, and make you feel a lot better about our environment.

HAMVENTION READY TO DEAL WITH ANTICIPATED TRAFFIC FLOW AT NEW VENUE

Hamvention is ready to deal with the anticipated heavy traffic flow when the event opens on May 19 at its new location, the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. Mike Kalter, W8CI, said the all-volunteer Hamvention organizers have turned to professionals to address this aspect of the event. Kalter, who is treasurer of the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association, was interviewed last week by DX Engineering's Tim Duffy, K3LR.

"We recognized that we needed to reach out to a professional engineering firm that does this all over the country to help us to work with the local government officials, so that we can have a good solid plan to keep the people flowing in," Kalter told Duffy.

Kalter said arrangements have been made to have staging areas for those needing to either offload or load equipment from the indoor exhibit areas or the flea market.

He also pointed out that on-site parking would be free, and that no one will have to park in the mud. Kalter said areas set aside for parking are well drained, and he doesn't anticipate any problems, even if it rains during Hamvention. That goes for the flea market area as well, he said, noting that the arena infield area is used for events in good and bad weather alike. Kalter said Hamvention expects to be able to post the plan for flea market spaces on its website soon. The layout for indoor vendor and exhibitor booths is already available on the Hamvention website. Kalter said that if everyone who attended Hamvention 2016 at Hara Arena shows up again this year, they will find plenty of room at the new venue. Maps are available on the website. speed Internet "pipe" to the new venue, and that AT&T will drop telephone lines wherever they're needed.

Kalter said there will be plenty of picnic tables as well as a temporary structure dedicated for socializing. He also promised that Hamvention 2017 will offer "a wide variety of great things to eat." That will include food vendors and food trucks.

Kalter said it takes some 600 volunteers to make Hamvention happen each year, and the leadership team consists of 86 individuals.

Reflecting its new venue, "Hamvention -- Same Friends, New Home" will be the theme for the 2017 event. Last summer's closure of Hara Arena forced the move to the new location more than 20 miles to the southeast.

The price of admission to Hamvention has gone up slightly; tickets will now cost \$22 for all 3 days (\$27 at the door). Accompanied minors age 12 or younger may attend free. Online ordering is not yet available, but those planning to attend can order tickets by mail Hamvention, which runs from Friday, May 19, until Sunday, May 21, is expected to attract upward of 25,000 people to the greater Dayton area. Visit the Hamvention website or e-mail for more information.

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING YEAR FOR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING

Last year -- 2016 -- was another outstanding one for Amateur Radio licensing, says ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

"New Amateur Radio licenses issued were up by 1% over 2015, and this is the third year in a row that the total number of new licenses has exceeded 30,000," Somma reported. She said 32,552 were granted in 2016, 32,077 in 2015, and 33,241 in 2014.

Somma said that while 2014 was a record-setting year for new licenses issued, ARRL VEC "continues to see an elevated interest in obtaining an Amateur Radio license."

The overall trend continues to be up, up, up! The total number of US Amateur Radio licensees has continued to grow each year since the FCC eliminated the Morse code exam requirement in 2007. Over the past decade, the net number of Amateur Radio licensees has risen by nearly 87,000, according to statistics compiled by ARRL Pacific Section Manager Joe Speroni, AH0A.

As of December 31, 2016, the total number of licensees in the FCC database was 742,787, topping the 2015 total of 735,405, but down just slightly from the all-time high of 743,003 reached last November.

Somma said license upgrades were down by 5% compared to 2015 -- 10,617 versus 11,224. "A new Amateur Extra class [question] pool took effect on July 1, 2016, which may have impacted upgrade totals in the second half of the year," she speculated.

As of December 31, according to figures compiled by Speroni, there were 143,337 Amateur Extra licensees, 45,071 Advanced licensees, 172,807 General licensees, 371,560 Technician licensees, and 10,012 Novice licensees. The FCC no longer issues Advanced and Novice class licenses. The General and Technician licensee totals at the end of last year were all-time highs, and the Amateur Extra total was nearly so.

ILLEGAL DRONE TRANSMITTERS COULD INTERFERE WITH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

ARRL COMPLAINT ASSERTS

In what it calls an "extremely urgent complaint" to the FCC, ARRL has targeted the interference potential of a series of audio/video transmitters used on unmanned aircraft and marketed as Amateur Radio equipment. In a January 10 letter to the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said the transmitters use frequencies intended for navigational aids, air traffic control radar, air route surveillance radars, and global positioning systems.

"This is, in ARRL's view, a potentially very serious interference problem, and it is respectfully requested that the products referenced...be investigated and removed from the marketplace immediately and that the importers be subjected to normal sanctions," ARRL's letter said. Some of the transmitters operate on frequencies between 1010 and 1280 MHz. "These video transmitters are being marketed ostensibly as Amateur Radio equipment," the League said, "but of the listed frequencies on which the devices operate, only one, 1280 MHz, would be within the Amateur Radio allocation at 1240-1300 MHz." Even then, ARRL said, operation there would conflict with a channel used for radio location.

ARRL said the use of 1040 and 1080 MHz, which would directly conflict with air traffic control transponder frequencies, represented the greatest threat to the safety of flight. The use of 1010 MHz, employed for aeronautical guidance, could also be problematic.

ARRL cited the Lawmate transmitter and companion 6 W amplifier as examples of problematic devices being marketed in the US. Each costs less than \$100 via the Internet. The device carries no FCC identification number.

"The target market for these devices is the drone hobbyist, not licensed radio amateurs. The device, due to the channel configuration, has no valid Amateur Radio application," ARRL told the FCC. "While these transmitters are marked as appropriate for amateur use, they cannot be used legally for Amateur Radio communications." In the hands of unlicensed individuals, the transmitters could also cause interference to Amateur Radio communication in the 1.2 GHz band, ARRL contended.

The League said it's obvious that the devices at issue lack proper FCC equipment authorization under FCC Part 15 rules, which require such low-power intentional radiators to be certified.

"Of most concern is the capability of the devices to cripple the operation of the [air traffic control] secondary target/transponder systems," ARRL said. "These illegal transmitters represent a significant hazard to public safety in general and the safety of flight specifically."

The surge in sales of drones has been dramatic. The FAA has predicted that combined commercial and hobby sales will increase from 2.5 million in 2016 to 7 million by 2020.

In Exhibit A of the January 10 letter, "Illegal Drones Threaten Public Safety," the League noted that some of the drones and associated equipment it has come across "are blatantly illegal at multiple levels," with some drone TV transmitters described as "particularly alarming."

"Rated at 6 times over the legal power limit, and on critical air navigation transponder frequencies, these devices represent a real and dangerous threat to the safety of flight, especially when operated from a drone platform that can be hundreds of feet in the air," the exhibit narrative asserted.

LITTLE KNOWN CONVERSION FACTORS

1. Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi
2. 2000 pounds of Chinese Soup = Won ton
3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope
4. Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond
5. Weight an evangelist carries with God = 1 billigram
6. Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour = Knotfurlong
7. 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer = 1 Lite year
8. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Serling
9. Half a large intestine = 1 semicolon
10. 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz
11. Basic unit of laryngitis = 1 hoarsepower
12. Shortest distance between two jokes = a straight line
13. 453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake
14. 1 million microphones = 1 megaphone
15. 1 million bicycles = 1 megacycle
16. 365 bicycles = 1 unicycle
17. 2000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds
18. 10 cards = 1 decacard
19. 52 cards = 1 deckacards
20. 1 kilogram of falling figs = 1 Fig Newton
21. 1000 cc's of wet socks = 1 literhosen
22. 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche
23. 1 trillion pins = 1 terrapin
24. 10 rations = 1 declaration
25. 100 rations = 1 C-Ration
26. 2 monograms = 1 diagram
27. 8 nickels = 2 paradigms
28. 5 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital = One I.V. League

A USEFUL TIP: A COIN IN THE FREEZER

Why you should always put a coin in the freezer before you leave home.

Have you ever come home from vacation, business trip or maybe a weekend away with the family - and noticed your digital clocks flashing the wrong time? You quickly realize that you had a power outage while you were away, but it's basically impossible to tell when it occurred or how long it lasted. It's therefore also impossible to tell just how long the food in your freezer may have thawed, gotten destroyed and then frozen again.

Or is it?

In connection with Hurricane Matthews, which recently swept over parts of the eastern United States, a woman named Sheila Pulanco Russell shared a clever trick on her Facebook wall with anyone who was forced to evacuate their home. But the trick is certainly also good to know in case of any prolonged departure from your home - and will ease your mind about whether or not the food in your freezer is good to eat - or best be thrown out right away.

The trick lies in the magical combination of three simple but effective tools everyone already has at home: a mug, a coin and some tap water.

In a Facebook post which quickly received hundreds of thousands of reactions and shares, Sheila explained how to proceed. She wrote: "For those of you that are evacuating from the coast, I just heard a great tip. It's called the one cup tip. You put a cup of water in your freezer. Freeze it solid, then put a quarter on top of it and leave it in your freezer. That way, when you come back after you've been evacuated, you can tell if your food went completely bad and just refroze, or if it stayed frozen while you were gone. If the quarter has fallen to the bottom of the cup, that means all the food defrosted and you should throw it out. But if the quarter is either on the top or in the middle of the cup, your food may still be OK. It would be a great idea to leave this in your freezer all the time. Then, if you lose power for any reason, you will have this tip to fall back on. If you don't feel good about your food, just throw it out. The main thing is for all to be safe."

Simple, effective - and definitely a money saver, because you don't have to toss loads of food unnecessarily.

DLARC'S EQUIPMENT LOANER PLAN

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:

Icom 706 MK II package

The radio has an attached LDG antenna tuner. It also has an Astron power supply

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

F.Y.I.

The April Program will be "The WNP Radio Expedition" – Paul / N3YNT

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 147.370 (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.

The Clubhouse telephone number is 484-895-7038.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016 – 2017
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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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