

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
AUGUST 2020



W 3OK

CORRAL

Club Meeting August 6th, 7:30PM
Via ZOOM

AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM

“The W3OK Repeater System”
Barry / N3NVA

JULY MEETIN PROGRAM



“ OUR ARRL TODAY “
Bob / K3RF



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JULY MEETING MINUTES

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on July 2, 2020 via a Zoom video-conference. President Stephanie Koles / WX3K called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. with 26 members online.

President's Report:

Stephanie opened the meeting with 6m continues to offer contact opportunities. Bob / K3RF joined the discussion and told his history with vintage equipment and 6m Stephanie gave a recap of Field Day and expressed appreciation to field Day Chairman Jim / KC3KMP for a wonderful job at the Lower Milford Fire Company Stephanie said Steve / NS3L will be working with Ben / N3WR on the Field Day logs. The process is to combine home logs with those of the Field Day radios. The deadline for submission is the end of July. Stephanie said the Club garnered publicity through the efforts of Bob / KE3AW. WFMZ aired a television segment along with a column with pictures in the Morning Call. John / NT3P said 3 individuals tested at the VE session with one tester gaining his Tech license. Bob / KE3AW said this individual came through the abbreviated classes and was awarded a Club membership.

Announcements: None

Secretary's Report: Larry / AB3TY, announced the Minutes for the May 2020 General Meeting. Dean / AB3BD motioned to accept. It was seconded by Adam / KC3OJA and so moved.

Treasurer's Report: No report

Committee Reports:

Membership: Membership Chair Terry / KC3JHT reported there are currently 159 paid members, 9 Associates, and 9 life members. He also said that he purchased the membership cards for 2021 and 2022. Bob / KE3AW would be sending to Terry information on the new licensee from the VE Field Day session.

Club Station: No Report.

Classes: John NT3P said there have been inquiries for Testing and asked for sites to be considered since the 911 Center is not an option with Covid-19 restrictions. Jim / KC3KMP said the site used for Field Day would be available. John said he would ask those inquiring about testing to see how many would want to attend.

Tech Committee: Al / W3CE said the D-STAR repeater gateway is now on the UPS. The modem and router will be on the UPS shortly. George / N3SQD said he would be taking a look the #2 Honda generator that would not start at Field Day.

Website: Stephanie related issues with the website. There is a problem with uploading new files which include the Monthly newsletters. The present hosting service cannot resolve the problem. Stephanie said Webmaster Rich / WC3T has backed up the files on the website to insure against any other catastrophic event. Rich is preparing a requirements document for a new and improved website as our present commitment to hosting service ends in October, and the Club will not be renewing the subscription. Stephanie said that Secretary Larry / AB3TY has assumed the distribution of the newsletters and other necessary email.

Presentation: ARRL Atlantic Division Vice-Director Bob Famiglio / K3RF

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38p.m.

AUGUST QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 DLARCC Net (ND3JJ)	6 DLARC MEETING 7:30 PM	7 No VE SESSION	8
9	10	11	12 DLARC Net (KC3MKP)	13	14	15
16	17	18 DLARC BOARD MEETING	19 DLARCC Net (W3CE)	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 DLARCC Net (KC3II)	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

- August 1 & 2 – 10 – 10 International Summer Contest
- ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest
- August 8 & 9 – SKCC Sprintathon
- Maryland – DC QSO Party
- August 15 & 16 – SARTG WW RTTY Contest
- ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
- August 22 & 23 – CVA DX Contest
- 50 MHz Fall Sprint
- August 29 & 30 – ALARA Contest
- World Wide Digi DX Contest
-

W3OK CLUB STATION

Better known as the “Milkhouse” the W3OK Station is closed until further notice.. Our repeater 146,700 is always on ... So just call W3OK and check.

de Steve / NS3L

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

JULY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

“72”

The winner is **Doreen / K3PDL**

AUGUST BRAINTEASER

If $4 + 2 = 26$

$8 + 1 = 76$

$6 + 5 = 111$

What does $7 + 3 =$



JULY PROGRAM REPORT

OUR ARRL TODAY

Who, What Where and Why

We had a return visit from Bob / K3RF, Atlantic Division, Vice director. Who brought us up to speed on the latest news from the ARRL, and some other information about operations.

Covered was what the ARRL's mission in the relationship to the amateur radio community members. Items covered were, (1) advancing the art, science and enjoyment of amateur radio. (2) Support wrote of amateur radio. (3) Access to radio spectrum, (4) encouraging experimentation, (5) organize and train volunteers to serve the public, (6) strive to get members active and on the air.

The ARRL is public service supplying valuable volunteer emergency communication service and public resources. It supplies education to members which is a primary research for a lifetime of learning. It promotes amateur radio operators who have contributed to the advancement of radio for over 100 years.

However the ARRL has numerous challenges ahead. Loss of spectrum is a large problem, especially at this time. The government has seen it necessary to sell off portions of the spectrum (for big bucks) for cell phone use. Portions of the spectrum used for many years by amateur radio is now being looked at for expanding cell phone industry. These are portions that amateur radio has had for decades, because nobody else wanted it.

Another problem is an erosion of antenna rights. Federal laws is not without loopholes, which are being used by local municipalities and HOA rules to lower and stop antennas totally. These laws need to be tightened up. The ARRL has been for years attempting to make it possible for an amateur radio operator to put up an antenna and operate legally and freely.

RF encroachment and RF noise pollution is becoming a high priority, along with poor operating practices with non-licensee appearing on the bands, due mainly to the availability of cheap radios from China. It is reported that the FCC does not have the manpower or capability to control these problems, but the ARRL **and in** still trying.

With all said and done, the hallmark of all this is, enforcement of the rules of the amateur radio service is still "SELF POLICING ". We with the ARRL must keep going for the advancement of amateur radio.

Bob finished with the usual question-and-answer session with which had a good extra information period. If you had ZOOMED in, you missed a really informative program.

REFLECTION FROM THE PAST

August 2020 marks the 65th anniversary of Hurricane Diane which drowned the Delaware Valley. Easton resident remember that it destroyed the Free Bridge over the Delaware River and flooded the town. DLARC members were very active in emergency communications during the crisis.



1955 Flood Radio Headquarters: The building where club members worked during the flood aftermath.



1955 flood operators: Emergency radio control operators Doug Morick W3NNT and Nelson Crandall W3ZOM in Milford providing communications on Aug. 21, 1955 at 2 AM.



1955 flood Milford: Unidentified club member manning the station at Milford.



1955 flood: Unidentified operators in front of Milford emergency headquarters.



L to R: Nelson Crandall - W3ZOM ; 'Uncle Dave' Marks – W2APF Doug Morick / W3NNT (having fun) after a visit to Milford, PA after the 1955 flood Note the 20m mobile whip on Dave's Cadillac.

FYI

Douglas A. Morick (1918-2008) was president of DLARC for at least three years 1954-1956 (he might have been president longer, but we are missing information for 1953 and 1957-1958). Doug worked for Western Electric in Allentown for 40 years and was an active member of the American Radio Relay League as W3NNT for 60 years. Doug and his wife Elsie retired to Ocala, Florida, in 1982.

From The Morning Call 1995 Anniversary Edition

In Bethlehem, Dr. Robert Refowich, who worked with the Red Cross, can remember the crew of ham radio operators who set up shop on the third floor of the Red Cross building on Market Street.

The late Ernest Smodish was one of those who manned a radio for more than 32 hours straight. His widow recalled that their daughter, Mary Ann Kellow of New Jersey, who was 16 at the time, took messages in shorthand and carried them downstairs to the emergency crews.

Gordon Jacoby was another of the men who took messages and forwarded them. He said, "We handled emergency traffic for the police because they were off the air." It was the one and only time he was called to such duty, he said.

Smodish W3QBF was one of the founding members of DLARC, secretary/treasurer in early 1950s, and president in 1961 and 1962. Gordon Jacoby W3PQX was DLARC president in 1951. From a 1995 Morning Call anniversary article:

Thanks to Barb / W3ATC, DLARC Historian for this presentation

HOW TO REGISTER TO THE DLARC WEB PAGE

I was recently asked how to register to the DLARC site.

First - for those that do not know, the page address is still the same: www.dlarc.org

Only club members can register to the site.

Only club members can post to the site or gain access to the club rosters which includes addresses, phone#s, e-mail etc. I believe there will be more added later that members only have access.

Scroll down on the front page. You will see on the left a place to log in. Under the log in spaces you will see:

-forgot your password?

-Forgot your username?

-Create an account.

Click on "create an account"

Now you will see the registration form. All fields must be filled in. We are a private forum/web page on the site so feel free to use your real name in the first space.

!!!!The user name **MUST BE YOUR CALL SIGN!!!!**

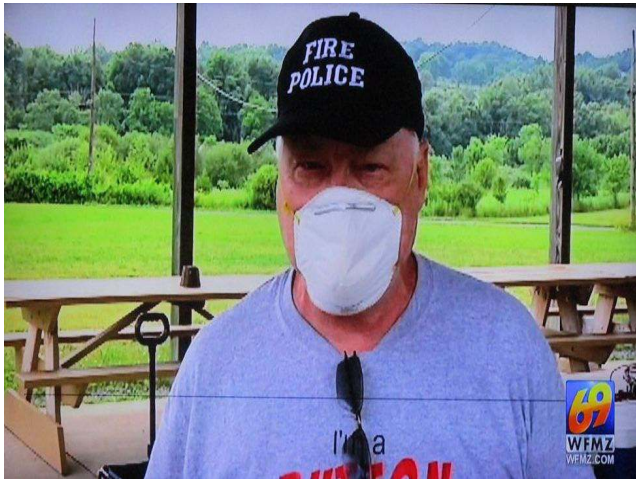
FIELD DAY 2020
Photos by Bob / KE3AW



Pete / K2PM



Pete / K2PM



Jim / KC3MKP



Jim / KC3MKP & XYL



Stephanie / WX3





Stephanie / WX3K



Dean / AB3BD



Bob / KE3AW



Adam / KC3OJA



Adam / KC3OJA



Larry / AB3TY

NEWER SOLAR CYCLE 25 FORECAST RUNS COUNTER TO CONSENSUS

Scientists associated with the National Center for Atmospheric Research, the University of Maryland, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and other institutions are offering a "bold prediction" on how Solar Cycle 25 will play out. In a paper, "Overlapping Magnetic Activity Cycles and the Sunspot Number: Forecasting Sunspot Cycle 25 Amplitude," they assert that the next sunspot cycle will be of major proportions. The forecast stands in stark contrast to the consensus of forecasters who predict that the magnitude of the nascent Cycle 25 may not be much different from the current unremarkable solar cycle, which appears to have reached its low point.

"From the dawn of modern observational astronomy, sunspots have presented a challenge to understanding -- their quasi-periodic variation in number, first noted 160 years ago, stimulates community-wide interest to this day," the abstract points out. "A large number of techniques are able to explain the temporal landmarks, (geometric) shape, and amplitude of sunspot 'cycles,' however, forecasting these features accurately in advance remains elusive."

The paper notes that recent studies have illustrated a relationship between the sun's 22-year Hale magnetic cycle and the production of sunspot cycle landmarks and patterns, but not the amplitude of the cycle.

Using discrete Hilbert transforms on 270 years of monthly sunspot numbers to robustly identify the so-called 'termination' events -- landmarks marking the start and end of sunspot and magnetic activity cycles -- we extract a relationship between the temporal spacing of terminators and the magnitude of sunspot cycles," the abstract explains. "Given this relationship and our prediction of a terminator event in 2020, we deduce that Sunspot Cycle 25 will have a magnitude that rivals the top few since records began. This outcome would be in stark contrast to the community consensus estimate of Sunspot Cycle 25 magnitude."

According to the paper, low-amplitude solar cycles appear to correspond with widely separated terminators, while larger-amplitude cycles correspond to more narrowly separated terminators.

"Our best estimate for the [sunspot number] amplitude of Solar Cycle 25 is 233 spots, with a 68% confidence that the amplitude will fall between 204 and 254 spots," the paper posits. "We predict with 95% confidence that the Cycle 25 amplitude will fall between 153 and 305 spots."

The researchers concede that their forecast is outside of the scientific consensus, based on different paradigms. "Over the coming months, as [Solar Cycle] 25 matures, it will become evident which of these paradigms is most relevant," the paper says. "Very early indications of the spot pattern are appearing at higher-than-average latitudes (~40°). Historically, high-latitude spot emergence has been associated with the development of large amplitude sunspot cycles -- only time will tell."

DLARC's 75th Anniversary

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1946. Next year, we will celebrate 75 years of service, education, and fellowship. Unfortunately, our club archives have little material on the early years. I was able to access the Morning Call newspaper archives and retrieve articles that appeared in that paper; the earliest mention of the club was in 1950. Many of the articles report on field day activities.

But we do not have a record of all of our presidents before 1977, where Field Day was held each year (did you know that the club base for Field Day was in New Jersey one year?), where the club held its meetings, and what activities the club sponsored.

If you have old photos, club minutes and newsletters, documents, memories, or personal accounts of club activities, please share them so that we can fill in our gaps and tell the story of DLARC. You can contact me at blwiemann@gmail.com or 610-262-6977.

PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY 2011

October 10th and 11th are the dates for the 2020 PA QSO Party. As in the past the DLARC is hoping to regain its position as the number one club in the state. Now is the time to check your station and antennas, so you are prepared for the party. The Norm Zoltak / K3NZ award for the highest scoring single operator station will be awarded again this year.

The Party sponsors, the PA QSO Party Association are sponsoring party. 2020 rules are available at paqso.org. So it not too early to begin to get ready for the event, check your antennas, and logging systems etc. so you are ready for this event.

F.Y.I.

The September Program will be **"Linux for Hams" George / N3SQD**

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 2018 – 2019 OFFICERS

President – Stephanie Koles / WX3K ----- president@dlarc.org
Vice President – Steve Harper / W3NAM ----- vicepresident@dlarc.org
Secretary – Larry Kaplan / AB3TY ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Mike Gower / KB3LOD ----- treasurer@dlarc.org

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Bill Connelly / W3MJ ----- cqw3mj@gmail.com
Steve Nordahl / NS3L ----- ns3l@yahoo.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)

Club Station Telephone Number – 484 291-1527 Email Address – w3ok146700@gmail.com

THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Barry Vogt / N3NVA

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