

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
DECEMBER 2020



W3OK

CORRAL

Club Meeting December 3rd, 7:30PM
Via ZOOM

DECEMBER MEETING PROGRAM

NO ANNUAL PARTY DUE TO THE COVID PANDEMIC

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU & YOURS

NOVEMBER MEETING PROGRAM



“RF Exposure For the Average Ham”

Stephanie / WX3K



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NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on November 5, 2020 via a Zoom video-conference.

President Jim Matlack / KC3MKP called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. with 33 members online.

President's Report: Jim opened the meeting with Larry / AB3TY giving a brief overview of the new website that it is up and running with all the newsletters from 2003 to the present. Larry added that Dave / N3EYT has done a terrific job with Club pictures that have been posted in an organized manner. In addition, Larry said new members can easily join on the website as well as members can renew. Jim asked if there were any results on the PA QSO Party. None was available.

Jim said that there continues to be a need for a Program Chair for 2021 and the position of Club Station Manager. Steve / NS3L will continue to be the Station Manager until a replacement can be found. Stephanie / WX3K said she would assist the next Station Manager.

Jim announced the Club will be conducting an online survey. Stephanie / WX3K explained the survey was conceived to find out why, with a membership of 175 plus, the attendance for general meetings remained relatively the same 40 or so members. It is hoped the survey will identify those reasons and what members would like to see and what would be of interest. Larry / AB3TY said that once the survey questions were finalized by the Board, he would post the survey on the website. Stephanie added the survey would be anonymous.

Jim turned to the topic of the FCC Docket 20-270. Stephanie / WK3X explained Docket 20-27 as proposed by the FCC would raise licensing fees to \$50. A discussion concerning the steep fee increase and how it would affect new Hams, particularly the youth. Stephanie urged members to go the FCC website and voice the opinions.

Jim reviewed the hard work of the Bylaws Committee in producing the set of bylaws. Pete / NL7XM explained the changes made, emphasizing the clarification of paid versus voting member, that all members are paid but associate members do not have a vote on Club matters. Pete made the motion to adopt the proposed Bylaws without amendments. It was seconded by Dean / AB3BD, and was so moved. Jo Ann / ND3JJ questioned the need for -under Article VIII: Officers, Section 1 President, c. The President shall lead the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the General Meeting. Jo Ann asked how this provision was germane to amateur radio. Pete explained that we are licensed by a Federal agency and this was a way to recognize as such. Don / KC3II said that the Club decided to do the Pledge years ago. Pete further explained there were times when members were hesitant to start reciting the Pledge until the President began. Secretary Larry AB3TY polled the members in attendance individually as to their vote yes or no on the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Announcements: It was noted the passing of George / N3SQD's mother.

Secretary's Report: Larry / AB3TY, announced the Minutes for the October 2020 General Meeting. Dean / AB3BD motioned to accept. It was seconded by Jo Ann / ND3JJ and so moved.

Treasurer's Report: Larry / KC3JTK, reported on the Club's financial status for September 2020 as prepared by former Treasurer Mike / KC3LOD. Jo Ann / ND3JJ motioned to accept. It was seconded by Dean / AB3BD and so moved.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Membership Chair Terry / KC3JHT announced two membership applicants. The first—Robert Davis / KC3QCH, a General. Jo Ann / ND3JJ motioned to accept. It was seconded by Steve / N2IYR and so moved.

The second applicant—Seth Irwin / KD2QZG, a Tech. Steve / NS3L motion to accept and seconded by Dob / KC3II and so moved.

Club Station: Steve / NS3L reported no issues at the Milkhouse.

Tech Committee: Al / W3CE had nothing to report.

Website: Larry / AB3TY had nothing to add to his opening review.

Repeater: No issues.

New Business: Pete / NL7XM said that with a change in Treasurers, an audit of the Club's financial records is required by the Bylaws. Pete asked President Jim to appoint a committee. The committee was appointed with Pete / NL7XM as the chair with Dave / 3EYT and the two treasurers as members.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Program: Stephanie / WX3K—"RF Exposure for the Average Ham"

DECEMBER QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 DLARC Net (W3CE)	3 DLARC MEETING 7:30 PM	4	5
6	7	8	9 DLARC Net (KC3II)	10 Hanukkah Begins	11	12
13	14	15	16 DLARC Net (N3SQD)	17 WX3MAS	18 WX3MAS Hanukkah Ends	19 WX3MAS
20 WX3MAS	21 First Day of Winter	22 DLARC BOARD MEETING	23 DLARC Net (N3WR)	24	25 Merry Christmas	26
27	28	29	30 DLARC Net (K3PDL)	31		

DECEMBER CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

- December 5 & 6 – Pro CW Contest
- EPC Ukraine DX Contest
- December 12 & 13 – ARRL 10 Meter Contest
- International Naval Contest
- December 19 & 20 – Croatian CW Contest
- December 26 & 27 – Stew Perry Top band Challenge

MEETING PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

The DLARC is still in need for a General Meeting Program Chairman. Someone who can plan and organize programs for each monthly meeting, beginning in January 2021. This chairman can select a committee to assist him and can get ideas from his committee and the general membership. Ideas from the general membership, will enable the Chairman and his committee to get an understanding of what subjects would be of interest to those attending the meetings. Subject matter does not have to be amateur radio related, but just of interest in general. If you are interested in volunteering for this position, contact any member of the Executive Committee.

WANTED – CLUB STATION MANAGER

The position of Club Station Manager. Is open, Steve / NS3L is stepping down due to other responsibility, so this position is open. Stephanie / WX3K says she will assist the new station manager as needed. Our thanks to Steve for the fine job he has done while handling the position.

INVENTION TO SHARE YOUR FUN

What I have in mind are articles from members relating your interests, hobbies etc. These articles will be in posted in the this news letter for everyone to enjoy. Even if not ham radio related, they are something that would be nice to share with the membership. And maybe find someone else with the same interests to further your enjoyment.

Don / KC3II, Editor

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 Robert Davis / KC3QGH and , Seth Irwin / KD2QZG.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

It's that time, already! DUES are payable for the calendar year 2021. Here's how easy it is to remit your club DUES and keep your valuable D.L.A.R.C. Membership current. Whether in person or by mail, **CHECKS made payable to the D.L.A.R.C.** Is one method of payment to more accurately record your timely renewal. Please ensure that your callsign appears somewhere on the instrument, such as in the memo field. Payment may also be made using PayPal. Paying with cash is discouraged, but if you really, *really* have to, kindly make certain you are prepared with the correct sum according to the rate table shown below. Remember, if your DUES are not paid by December 31st, your membership will expire.

2021 DUES Rates

Regular Membership 18-64 years of age:

Jan. - Dec.\$20.-

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

Jan. - Dec.\$15.-

Additional Family member
each \$5.-

Associate Individual Membership
\$12.-

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:

Lawrence R. Butler

800 Maple Lane

Easton, Pa. 18045

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 Larry / KC3JTK, DLARC Treasurer



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 second scientist, both scientists asked for water but the bartender thought the second scientist asked for H2O2 (because he said H2O, too). H2O2 is actually hydrogen peroxide, which is deadly when ingested.

The Winner is **Skip / W1PV**

DECEMBER BRAINTEASER

An old man dies, leaving behind two sons. In his will, he orders his sons to race with their horses, and the one with the slower horse will receive his inheritance. The two sons race, but since they're both holding their horses back, they go to a wise man and ask him what they should do. After that, the brothers race again — this time at full speed. What did the wise man tell them?

NOVEMBER PROGRAM REPORT RF EXPOSURE FOR THE AVERAGE HAM STEPHANIE / KX3W

The FCC has released "Supplement B," the Amateur Radio supplement to "OET Bulletin 65." This answers our questions about the "routine environmental evaluation" required by the rules. The actual requirements are not nearly as onerous as they sound!

Most hams will not have difficulty meeting the requirements. In fact, most hams are already in compliance with the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) levels. Some fear, however, that they'll have to do difficult measurements, perform extensive calculations or file paperwork with the FCC. Wrong on all counts. The evaluation is often as easy as using tables to determine that your antenna is far enough away from people.

The rules set limits on the RF exposure levels people may be subjected to. The MPE limits vary with frequency. The MPE levels represent the amount of energy that can be present *where and when* people are being exposed. They do *not* limit the permitted radiated strength from a radio station and do *not* change the maximum power levels permitted to Amateur Radio operators.

The rules define two exposure environments, each with different MPE levels. The *uncontrolled* environment applies to areas where people would not normally know they are being exposed. This includes "public" areas such as your property line or a neighboring apartment.

Controlled environments apply where people are aware of their exposure and have the ability and knowledge to control it. Greater MPE levels are permitted in controlled areas. A good rule of thumb is that the controlled exposure limit can be applied to those areas in which you can control access. An example of this is your fenced-in backyard. Your own household can also be a controlled environment if your family or guests have been given instruction about RF exposure and safety.

The rules also require that some amateur stations be evaluated to *verify* that they are in compliance with the MPE levels. It's this aspect of the rules that raises eyebrows among hams.

The good news is that most amateur stations *do not* need to be evaluated. The following classes of amateur stations are exempt from the evaluation requirement because their power levels or operating duty cycles are low enough that they are presumed to be in compliance with the MPE limits:

- Stations using the low power levels and most mobile or portable stations (hand-held).
-

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

Additional Net Controls are needed for the Wednesday Night ARES, RACES & DLARC net. If we have enough interested operators, it will only be necessary for each operator to have only one net session in each three month period. Actually 13 weeks in a period, so 13 net controls would be ideal, and maybe some extras to fill in if needed. This would give us a pool of experienced controls, for any emergency which would arise. Interested operators should contact Don / KC3II at kc3ii@arrl.net. The NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 courses are not required to be a net control, but should the need arise and we do supply controls and operators for real emergencies, then the courses requirement will be in effect and EMA issued IDs will be needed to be on the scene of an emergency.

FCC RELEASES PROPOSAL FOR NEW FILING FEES STRUCTURE

NEW FEES FOR HAM RADIO

On Wednesday, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270 which implements portions of the Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act of 2018 (or RAY BAUM'S Act), which gives the FCC statutory authority to collect application fees. As a part of the Act, the FCC is required to switch from a fee structure mandated by Congress 20 years ago to a new cost-based system. This change will result in some fees being reduced and in some cases, such as the Amateur Radio Service, new fees are being added.

Proposed new fees for Amateur Radio and reduction in GMRS fees

Section 8 of the RAY BAUM'S Act does not provide any kind of statutory exemption for filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service, which, historically has had no filing fees. Citing the costs involved in the automated processes, routine maintenance of the Commission's Universal Licensing System (ULS) and limited instances where staff needs to be involved in the application process, the FCC is proposing an across-the-board fee of \$50 for new and modified licenses in the personal radio services, which includes Amateur Radio and the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS). For GMRS, this is a reduction of the current \$70 fee. The FCC also proposes these fees for license renewals and requests for vanity call signs, the latter which had its filing fee eliminated several years ago. The FCC is proposing to still not charge for administrative updates, such as mailing address changes on amateur or GMRS applications. Amateur Radio will remain exempt from annual regulatory fees under Section 9 of the RAY BAUM'S Act.

Commenting on the changes

Once the NPRM is published in the Federal Register, filing deadlines for comments and reply comments will be established. Those dates will be announced by the FCC in a separate Public Notice. Comments will be accepted in the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System under proceeding **20-270**.

A copy of the NPRM, which includes the proposed fee structures, can be found **here**. REC is still evaluating the NPRM and is not prepared to make a position statement, but plans to do so in a subsequent news release.

The RAY BAUM'S Act is part of Public Law 115-141 and can be found in [this PDF Document](#) starting on page 734 (Division P). The relevant part of the law starts on Page 736, under Section 8

FROM YOUR EDITOR

I recently saw on television a Representative of the FTC announcing how the FCC was going to sell sections of the radio spectrum to cell phone companies so as to enable the said companies expand their capabilities for 5G systems. I wonder if that is where the 3.4GHz ham band went? And if so what bands and frequencies, we are going to lose while the present administration plays the money game with the industry. I also wonder if the same money game is being played over the \$50 proposed Amateur Radio License fee.

THE TALE OF TWO W7HERs

My daughter Hannah was born in May of 2002. She has always had a ham radio-crazy dad. Whether it was code paddles on the passenger seat, a disembodied voice in the car, Field Day on the porch, or hilltop contacts while hiking, she has always been around ham radio. In one of my favorite photos, from November, 2002, she's sitting on my lap, eating the Yaesu FT-817 microphone during ARRL Sweepstakes, but I don't think she completed the exchange.

Ham radio has given me lifelong friends, and I now have an all-ham family. I love the weird occurrences and coincidences that seem to pop up in ham radio, like going to a hamfest and seeing a callsign you've only heard on the air, an Oregon-to-Japan 20 meter CW contact with the power control set to zero, or finding out that a co-worker was a ham as a kid in the 1950's and has many stories to tell.

Hannah always resisted dad's geeky hobby, although she was always a good sport when I asked her to make a couple of contacts with me during a contest, go to a hamfest, or help set up and operate during ARRL Field Day. But she has always humored me, and I've always appreciated that. I convinced her to study for her Technician class license back in 2013, but she didn't pass the exam, and it sat on the back burner for a while.

Six years later, Hannah found herself in the midst of two years' worth of high school physics. I mentioned that, during the summer, studying for her license would bridge the gap between those physics classes, not to mention that there were scholarships available for hams going to college. She received her Technician's license in August, 2019. A few months later, I mentioned that the General exam would match up well with the electromagnetics and waves section of her physics class. She passed her General exam in December.

When the pandemic hit in March of this year, Hannah decided she would stay close to home and go to the University of Oregon. Her senior year of high school ended abruptly, like everyone else's, and with a six month summer vacation looming, I recommended that she study for the Extra class exam as a way to prepare for college while doing something useful. We also discussed her becoming a volunteer examiner, as it would give us something to do together once the lockdown was over.

Our family of hams belongs to the Valley Radio Club, a large, supportive, active radio club here in Eugene with an active VE team. Hannah turned 18 in May. We administered exams together in June. Her high school physics teacher studied for his Technician license during the "down time," and Hannah was privileged to administer and grade HIS exam (for a change), and sign his certificate and Form 605. She also passed her Extra class exam in June, right before the question pool changed.

I started searching for unassigned callsigns, and to my shock, W7HER was available. It's obviously an ideal callsign for a YL, and "HER" are Hannah's initials, too! After 18 days, the FCC assigned her new callsign, giving Hannah her own amazing coincidence to experience.

The FCC ULS database listed the previous licensee as Harlan E. Rolph, who held the callsign in the 1990's and 2000's, but I figured that it must have been assigned to someone well before that.

I searched for traces of W7HER in the online archive of Radio Amateur Callbooks, and found it assigned in 1939 to Marjory Allingham of Tigard, Oregon. In the late 1940's, her address (and name) changed to Marjory Ramey of Eugene, Oregon, and in 1979, it disappeared..

"Hmmm, she lived in Eugene, and we live in Eugene, how weird," I thought.

The great thing about re-allocated callsigns is that each one has a unique history, having been used by someone else in a different time. W7HER was originally allocated and used years before transistors existed, when "phone" simply meant "AM" because SSB wasn't used yet. Since Eugene is a "big, small, college town," I searched for "Marjory Ramey" on the web, and immediately discovered a transcript of an interview with "Marge Ramey" of Eugene, in which she talked about attending the University of Oregon, living just east of campus, and working as the UO Director of Housing.

I thought, "wow, the 7th call area is really large, what a coincidence that she had lived a mile from us, went to UO, and worked there." My father-in-law, a retired UO professor, had even met her.

Because the phone book called "the white pages" doesn't exist anymore, I thought I would look online for people named "Ramey" who lived in Eugene. Amazingly, there was an "M. Ramey" listed, with an address identical to W7HER's last published call book address.

I nervously called the phone number, and someone answered.

"Is this the Ramey residence?"

"Yes."

"Is this Marjory?"

"Yes, that's me."

"Were you W7HER?"

"Yes, I was."

I was absolutely stunned to be speaking with the original W7HER.

I proceeded to tell her the story of W7HER, my daughter, who was born and grew up in Eugene, and was also going to be an Oregon Duck. Marjory explained that she'd gotten her license when she was 13, and although she could copy CW at a very young age, it took her five tries to pass the written part. She also said that her father had petitioned the FCC to give her that call. Now 95 years old, she had let her license lapse, but was thrilled to hear from me. We agreed we should all meet before Hannah disappeared into the Covid-19 induced student bubble in the dorms.

September brought historic forest fires that filled the Willamette Valley with thick, choking smoke, so our meeting would have to wait. I searched further on the web for her call, and found a photo of Marjory and her mom (also a ham) from the January, 1940 issue of Radio magazine.

Finally, at the end of September, the day before Hannah checked into the dorms, the smoke finally cleared out of the valley, and the original W7HER and the new W7HER, were thrilled to finally meet. We even heard a great story that most hams can appreciate:

"A young ham was to attend UO, and wanted to bring his ham equipment to the dorm. He went to resident housing to ask for permission to set up his equipment in his dorm room. He obviously expected a response of "no," but didn't realize he was speaking with a ham radio operator at the time, and instead received an answer of, "well, if you hide the wire up under the eaves, nobody will ever see it."

We chatted for about 20 minutes. Hannah received some very sage advice, and will be updating Marjory periodically about how her college experience is going.

One of the greatest thrills of ham radio is how it can link generations. We offered to help Marjory get licensed again, but she graciously declined. At any rate, hopefully this the first of many amazing experiences radio will provide for my daughter Hannah, the new W7HER.

73,

Scott N7JI, Karen K3LUX, Hannah W7HER, Nate K7NAR

WX3MAS SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday through Sunday, December 17 – 20, 2020.

If you are a member of the DLARC you may operate the event from home! Published time is from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET each day, but feel free to extend the time if conditions permit.

Details to follow. T

David / N3EYT

WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNER CLUB

The Wednesday Evening Dinner Club is on hold until further notice due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Listen to the nets and watch the Forum for the latest information on our get together.

F.Y.I.

The January Program to be announced

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 2020– 2021
OFFICERS**

President – Jim Matlack / KC3MKP ----- president@dlarc.club
Vice President – Steve Harper / W3NAM ----- vicepresident@dlarc.club
Secretary – Larry Laplan / AB3TY ----- secretary@dlarc.club
Treasurer – Larry Butler / KC3JTK ----- treasurer@dlarc.club

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Gabe Lantos / KZ2A ----- gpl-3639@gmail.com
Dean Guth / AB3BD ----- babydean1@hotmail.com
Stephanie Koles / WX3K ----- wx3k@arrl.net
Steve Nordahl / NS3L ----- ns3l@yahoo.com
John Barbaz / NT3P ----- n3p@arrl.net

Last director to be filled at a later date

**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

**The W3OK Corral is published monthly and is the Official Publication of the
DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.**

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