

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

**JUNE 2020**



***W3OK***

***CORRAL***

**JUNE MEETING June 4<sup>th</sup>  
7:00pm Via ZOOM**

**JUNE MEETING PROGRAM**

**“Whose Shack Is It?”**

**Skip / KD2BDA**

**APRIL PROGRAM REPORT**



**“Powerline Interference Detective”**

**Mark / W3BQD**



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### MAY MEETING MINUTES

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on May 7, 2020 via a Zoom video-conference. President Stephanie Koles / WX3K called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm

#### **President's Report:**

Stephanie opened the meeting relating how we are all dealing with the fallout of Covid-19 and how the Club is planning future events dependent on the State ordered shutdown. Stephanie said plans continue for Field Day with the expectation, Bicentennial Park will be open. George / N3SQD will be checking on the status of Bicentennial Park. Ed / AA3OU said Louise Moore Park may be an alternative as it is scheduled to open.

#### **Announcements:**

Stephanie asked if there were any health and welfare information concerning Covid-19.

Mark / W2MB said that Dean / AB3BD's son Harold / KC3IEN was in the hospital. Dean added that Harold was on a ventilator.

Ed / AA3OU said he had chest congestion and tested negative for Covid-19.

Doreen / K3PDL said she was making face masks.

Stephanie asked if anyone was doing any ham activities. Ed / AA3OU said he purchased a loop antenna that presently was in his living room.

**Guests:** Bill Phillips / W7AJP from Oregon. Bill is a friend of Larry / AB3TY.

**Secretary's Report:** Larry / AB3TY, announced the Minutes for the March 2020 General Meeting. Steve / N2IYR motioned to accept. It was seconded by Adam / KC3OJA and so moved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike Gower / KB3LOD reported on the Club's financial status for March 2020. Dean / AB3BD motioned to accept. It was seconded by Mark / W3BQD and so moved.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Membership Chair Terry / KC3JHT reported there are currently 168 paid members. With the Covid-19 shutdown there have no new members.

**Club Station:** No Report.

**Classes:** Bob / KE3AW said that he had taken phone calls from those signed up for classes asking when classes will continue. Bob said all is dependent on whether the 911 Center reopens to non-essential people. With the shutdown, there have been no VE sessions. It is anticipated that a VE session will be held at Field Day if Field Day happens. In addition, a discussion ensued about VE virtual testing.

**Tech Committee:** Al / W3CE reported that the D-Star repeater had to be re-booted several times and a programming change should be the fix. Al also said that a power outage resulted in one of the shutdowns. Larry / AB3TY said he has an APC battery backup to donate to the Club. George / N3SQD said he also had one to donate.

**Website:** No issues reported.

**Presentation:** Mark / W3BQD—Powerline Interference Detective

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59p.m.

Larry / AB3TY, Secretary

### VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be when the Northampton County 911 center opens. Pretest registration is required. Contact John / NT3P at nt3p@arrl.net

**JUNE QUICK CHECK CALENDAR**

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 DLARCC Net (W3NAM)	4 <b>BY ZOOM 7:00</b>	5 <b>NO VE SESSION</b>	6
7	8	9	10 DLARCC Net (ND3JJ)	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 DLARC Net (KC3MKP)	18	19	20
21	22	23 <b>DLARC BOARD MEETING</b>	24 DLARCC Net (W3CE)	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**JUNE CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL**

- June 6 & 7** – Digifest
- Dutch Kingdom Contest
- June 13 & 14** – SMIRK Contest
- DRCG WW RTTY Contest
- June 20 & 21** – All Asian DX Contest – CW
- Stew Parry Top Band Challenge
- June 27 & 28** – Field Day \

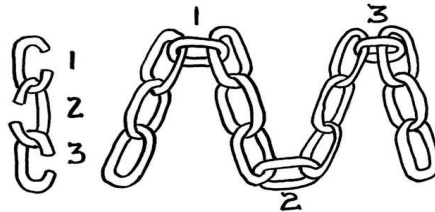
**MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER**

"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

**MAY BRAINTEASER ANSWER**

Only 45 cents. Take one of the groups of three links and break each one (cost: 15 cents.) Then use each link to join two of the other segments (cost for three welding jobs at ten cents: 30 cents.)



The winner is Skip / KD2BDA

**JUNE BRAINTEASER**

**According to the bible book of Genesis, how many different kinds of animals did Moses bring with him onto the Ark?**

**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

## **Silent Key**

***The D.L.A.R.C. Wishes to honor and to express its sadness at the passing of a club member or former club member.***

***Rob Haitmanek / KC3FU***

### **WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNER CLUB**

Shut down until further not

### **DID BILL KNOW SOMETHING?**



**K3ANS**

### **REFLECTIONS FROM THE PAST**



**TWO BIRDS - ONE YOUNG AND ONE OLD -- W3TDF and FRIEND**

\*\*\*\*\* **NOTICE** \*\*\*\*\*

**The Executive Committee wishes to support the growth of our hobby. They feel that a youth program would be the ideal way to do this. To do this we need a member to step forward and chair and form a committee to get this idea rolling. Any interested member or members should contact any member of the Executive Committee to get details. The Executive Committee member information can be found on the web site or on the back page of the newsletter.**

### **ARRL ANNOUNCES NEW LIFE 70+ MEMBERSHIP**

The ARRL Board of Directors recently voted to create a special Life Membership opportunity for individuals who are at least 70 years old. Starting on June 1, the Life 70+ Membership will be available to individuals who have turned 70 and have a combined 25 years of paid annual ARRL membership.

Life 70+ Members receive all benefits of an annual membership, including their choice of print magazine delivery (*QST* or *On the Air*), and digital access to these publications, plus the digital versions of *QEX* and *National Contest Journal (NCJ)*. In addition, each Life 70+ Member will receive a Life Member pin and a window decal and may purchase an exclusive Life Member plaque.

Qualifying members selecting this level of membership will enjoy the convenience of having to make a single payment for their entire tenure as an ARRL Member and not be subject to any future ARRL dues increase.

To apply for Life 70+ membership, individuals must complete the special Life 70+ Member application -- available on June 1 -- and submit proof of date of birth, if this information is not already on file with ARRL. The Life 70+ membership fee must be made in a single payment. Past membership dues payments will not apply toward Life 70+ Membership, but a credit will be applied for applicants who paid their dues in full between April 1 and May 31, 2020.

#### **Life 70+ Membership Dues Rates**

\$750 US Life 70+ Membership

\$750 International Digital Life 70+ Membership

\$1,515 International Life 70+ Membership with a Print Subscription

\$250 Family Life 70+ Membership as an add-on to a paid Life 70+ membership

ARRL reserves the right to change or substitute the benefits, products, or services associated with a member's original Life 70+ Member package at any time during the membership. Dues are non-refundable.

Life 70+ [membership applications](#) will be available for download beginning on June 1.

### **13 COLONIES SPECIAL EVENT WEBINAR**

**We will be hosting a special Zoom Webinar on June 15<sup>th</sup> for the 13 Colonies Special Event.**

The annual Original 13 Colonies Special Event will mark its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The event gets under way on July 1 at 1300 UTC and runs through July 8 at 0400 UTC. Special event stations with 1 × 1 call signs will represent the original 13 US colonies, including K2M in Pennsylvania, plus bonus stations WM3PEN in Philadelphia and GB13COL in Durham, England. Participating stations try to contact at least one or all 13 Colony Stations plus the two bonus stations. Earn a nice certificate and collect unique QSL cards.

WM3PEN trustee, Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, will talk about the 13 Colonies Special Event and WM3PEN's participation over the past 10 years, and efforts to get hams, who do not have HF capability, involved with special event operations. He will also discuss how incoming QSL card requests have opened up doors to talk about ham radio to people who are not familiar with the hobby.

Join us Monday, June 15, at 7:30 PM for a presentation on the 13 Colonies Special Event.

**Registration for this event is necessary. Email [w3gwm@arrl.org](mailto:w3gwm@arrl.org) to register and receive log in information.**

### **RADIO AMATEUR FINDS ANOTHER "ZOMBIE SATELLITE"**

British Columbia radio amateur Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, has found another "zombie satellite," as he calls them. This time, he tracked and identified radio signals from the experimental UHF military communication satellite LES-5. Tilley says he found the satellite in what he called a geostationary "graveyard" orbit after noting a modulated carrier on 236.7487 MHz.

"Most zombie satellites are satellites that are no longer under human control, or have failed to some degree," Tilley National Public Radio (NPR) earlier this month. It's not clear whether LES-5 is still capable of receiving commands.

LES-5 was built by MIT's Lincoln Laboratory and launched in 1967 as part of the military's Tactical Satellite Communication Program. It was supposed to be shut down in 1972, but it continues to operate as long as its solar panels are facing the sun.

What intrigued Tilley about LES-5 was that it might be the oldest functioning geostationary satellite in space. After British Columbia went on lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tilley found himself with a lot of free time for such a search. He located LES-5 on March 24.

From his home in Roberts Creek, British Columbia, Tilley, an amateur astronomer, routinely scans the skies for radio signals from classified objects orbiting Earth. Since he started, he's located dozens of secret or unlisted satellites.

In 2018, while hunting for an undisclosed US government spacecraft lost in a launch mishap, he spotted the signature of IMAGE (Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora Global Exploration), a NASA spacecraft believed to have died in December 2005. The discovery delighted space scientists. NASA and another ham in the UK confirmed his finding. Launched in 2000 on a mission to monitor space weather, IMAGE mapped plasma patterns around Earth.

**MAY PROGRAM REPORT  
POWER LINE INFERENCE DETECTIVE  
Mark / W3BQA**

The presentation began with the explanation of what is considered your power companies service to your home. The power companies responsibility ends at the weatherhead which is where the line from the pole connect to the line that feed your meter.

When you have a noise issue the first thing to do is ask yourself does the problem occur in wet or dry weather, what time of day, and does the wind seem to be causing the change?

To begin your search for your noise problem a good piece of equipment for troubleshooting is a portable AM radio. What you do is tune, the radio to the middle of the noise band and use that setting for your search. To do a inside the house search, switch off breakers one at a time and see if the noise disappears, if it does leave it off and continue on to the next breaker. If you silence a noise like turning off the breaker continue checking because maybe more than one breaker is creating the situation. After you locate the bad breaker, locate what is on that circuit using the radio, check by unplugging the items on that circuit.

Outside problems usually are not usually caused by the transform, but by connected lines leading into and away from the transformer. This is usually caused by damage or deterioration to the connectors and lines themselves. Also because multiple houses are usually connected to one transformer, and these other homes could have a noise problem and feeding back into your home.

When you find the outside source of your noise note the location and number of the pole, and reported to your local electric company.

As a ham when looking for problems, they are usually nearby your cutie gauge and often easy to locate. And the last thing, don't over think the problem.

Mark ended with the usual question-and-answer session. A real informative program, you don't know what you missed by not ZOOMing in!

**ARRL SUGGESTS TAKING A CREATIVE APPROACH TO FIELD DAY 2020**

This year, ARRL Field Day promises to be a unique iteration of this annual event, with many individuals and groups coming up with new and interesting ways to adjust their approach. As an event, Field Day is structured to be versatile and can be adapted for any situation.

Many groups have asked how they can adjust their Field Day planning to address social-distancing guidelines that may be in effect in many areas of the country, as gathering at their traditional Field Day site may not be feasible or safe. Instead of participating in a group event this year, consider operating as a Class B, C, D, or E station, utilizing your own call sign.

ARRL will include club names for all participating stations in the published results, so the efforts of your club's members can be acknowledged. While we will not publish an aggregate club score, seeing the name of your club associated with various individual member's results is certainly a way to highlight your club's activity.

Myriad opportunities are possible in this year's Field Day setting. A few options are as follows:

- Consider having an intra-club competition among members, seeing who can make the most contacts during the Event. You can award prizes or distribute certificates at a club meeting. This can be a fun way to bolster the activities of individual club members, even though they cannot all gather together at the same location this year.

- Set up a Field Day Challenge with rival clubs in neighboring communities. See how many members of each club get On the air from their own stations and participate in the event. In addition to "bragging rights," perhaps

One club is planning to conduct its Field Day as a 4A club group, with participants spaced to comply with social distancing guidelines within the required 1,000-foot-diameter circle and operating individual stations. This club also plans to set up a "Get on the Air" (GOTA) station. The club's plan is to have the GOTA coach at the Field Day site, while GOTA operators participate via remote link.

Another club is planning to set up a remote-controlled station at its usual Field Day site, with club members taking turns controlling the station from their homes. The club is developing a schedule that outlines when each member of the club will be at the helm via the remote link.

Whatever approach you take to this year's Field Day, keep up to date with the current guidelines issued by local and state health agencies that may impact your proposed operations.

**ZOOM PRESENTATION**

The May membership meeting was held via ZOOM, hosted by Larry / AB3TY. The Meeting was successfully held with all members being able to join in, and a proper meeting held. With business conducted as usual. The program resented by Mark / W3BQA, was easy to follow and interesting too. To enroll in Zoom for the meetings contact Larry / AB3ty at his email address.

## FROM THE JUNE 1964 SPARK GAP TIMES

(This short story in a series of articles about Charles Ellsworth, an early Marconi operator aboard ship in 1913 is reprinted with permission. -NL7XM)

I was offered a one-trip relief radioman's job on the old SS Bermudian, a British ship running between New York and Bermuda. This was my first assignment to a British passenger liner as a wireless operator and there were differences. In most of my previous jobs aboard ship I had eaten with the crew. Now I was told I would have to wear a white suit and would sit at the head of a table in the first class dining salon. I would also have the exclusive use of a room steward, or valet, who served tea in the wireless room every afternoon at 3PM, and took care of my clothes and even shined my shoes!

I picked up a white uniform coat with three wide gold stripes on it at a hock shop for \$5 and bought three pairs of white pants, and a pair of white shoes. When I boarded the ship, my entire wealth consisted of \$3.00.

The SS Bermuda passenger list included the elite of New York City on Bermuda vacations. After departing New York, the bugle blew for dinner at 7pm. I arrived in the first class dining salon looking like Naval Aristocracy. I was escorted to my own table with all passengers looking on and wondering who this high ranking officer was. I had seven people at my table which included the President of the Morgan Bank and other wealthy brokers from Wall Street.

When I started to sit down, the passengers at my table rose to introduce themselves. The passengers at my table were discussing railroads and bridges and I went right along with them. After the finger bowl had been served, the President of Morgan Bank asked me if they could get the closing stock prices for certain stocks. I invited them up to the wireless room and called the New York Herald wireless station and requested the closing prices.

After I had furnished the information, the Morgan Bank President reached inside his pocket and took out a \$20 dollar bill and handed it to my valet in appreciation for services rendered. After the passengers left the wireless room, we split the \$20.00, which represented an entire week's salary!

I only made one trip on the old Bermuda, and the Captain told me at the gangway should I again come aboard as a wireless operator, to leave the Admiral's uniform ashore!"

**The Spark Gap Times is the newsletter of the Old Old Timers Club. Membership and General Information for the OOTC can be found at: <http://www.ootc.us/>**

## THINGS TO GERT YOUR MIND OFF COVID-19

1. A rat can last longer without water than a camel.
2. Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks or it will digest itself.
3. The dot over the letter "i" is called a tittle.
4. A raisin dropped in a glass of fresh champagne will bounce up and down continuously from the bottom of the glass to the top.
5. A female ferret will die if it goes into heat and cannot find a mate.
6. A duck's quack doesn't echo. No one knows why.
7. A 2" X 4" Stud is really 1-1/2" by 3-1/2".
8. During the chariot scene in 'Ben Hur,' a small red car can be seen in the distance (and Heston's wearing a watch).
9. On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily! (A popular Facebook "news" item declared false, statistics unknown due to lack of required reporting and privacy laws)
10. Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
11. Because metal was scarce, the Oscars given out during World War II were made of wood.
12. The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess are 318,979,564,000.
13. There are no words in the dictionary that rhyme with orange, purple and silver.
14. The name 'Wendy' was made up for the book Peter Pan. There was never a recorded 'Wendy' before.
15. The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin in World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.
16. If one places a tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion, it will instantly go mad and sting itself to death. (Who was the sadist who discovered this??)
17. Bruce Lee was so fast that they actually had to s-l-o-w film down so you could see his moves. That's the opposite of the norm.
18. The first CD pressed in the US was Bruce Springsteen's 'Born in the USA.' (The first commercial, production CD was "The Visitors" by Abba under Polygram Records in November 1982.)
19. The original name for butterfly was flutterby. (and that is a more accurate description)
20. The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.
21. The first product Motorola started to develop was a record player for automobiles. At that time, the most known player on the market was Victrola, so they called themselves Motorola.
22. Roses may be red, but violets are indeed violet.
23. By raising your legs slowly and lying on your back, you cannot sink into quicksand.
24. Celery has negative calories. It takes more calories to eat a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with.
25. Charlie Chaplin once won third prize in a Charlie Chaplin look-alike contest. (???)
26. Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.
27. Sherlock Holmes NEVER said, "Elementary, my dear Watson."
28. An old law in Bellingham, Washington, made it illegal for a woman to take more than three steps backwards while dancing!

**Now wasn't that calming and nice for a change?**

**F.Y.I.**

The July Program will be "Welcome ARRL Directors" – Tom / W3TOM and Bob K3RF

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

**BOARD of DIRECTORS**

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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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