

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

**AUGUST 2021**



***W3OK***

***CORRAL***

**Club Meeting August 5th, 7:30PM**

**At the Nancy Run Fire House**

**AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM**

**JULY MEETING PROGRAM**



**Jason Oleham / KM4ACK  
"Raspberry Pi"**

## REMEMBER TO USE WHEN BUYING AT AMAZON



### MINUTES FROM JULY 2021 MEETING

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on July 1, 2021 via a Zoom video-conference. President Jim Matlack / KC3MKP called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with 27 members online.

**President's Report:** Jim opened with the announcement of Steve / NS3L has resigned as Club Station Manager as of August 1. Jim thanked Steve for his hard work and added Adam / KC3OJA will be the next Station Manager. Adam has been Assistant. Steve will maintain the security system.

Jim said the Club continues to be in need of a Program Chair with the passing of Walt Tremer / KC3MNP. Jim added the Club is need for programs. Programs do not have to be radio related.

Jim apologized for not being at Field Day. He said his daughter had purchased a vacation for him not realizing it was during Field Day.

Jim said it is necessary to find a new location for the General Monthly meeting as there is no date on the horizon when the Bethlehem Township Recreation will be open for the Club's use. Jim said there may availability at firehouse in Nazareth. Ed / AA3OU said he was checking on the availability of the Nancy Run Fire Department's social hall.

Jim said Bob / KE3AW notified him that the 20 people minimum had not been met for the Iron Pigs game.

Jim asked Stephanie / WX3K for Field Day details. Stephanie thanked all who worked to setup, tear down and purchase food. Stephanie said there were not many signups to operate, but there were a number who did operate for a lot of time. The Club is down a 100 contacts from the previous year. She said that there are members hesitant to operate due to the logging that is required and their being unfamiliar with the equipment. Stephanie asked that any member who would like to be brought up to speed on Field Day operations email her or any board member. Stephanie gave a shout out to Ben / N3WR for networking the computers. Stephanie said she was looking forward to hearing from members what their observations were—what worked and what did not.

**Announcements:** Steve / NS3L relayed the news of John / NT3P being ill and was in the hospital the last Steve had heard.

**Guests:** None

**Secretary's Report:** Larry / AB3TY, announced the Minutes for the February General Meeting. Dean / AB3BD motioned to accept. It was seconded by Don / KC3II and so moved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Larry / KC3JTK presented the report for May. Steve / NS3L motioned to accept. It was seconded by Dean / AB3BD and so moved.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Terry / KC3JHT announced there are 138 Or 139 voting members, 3 associates, and 9 life members for a total of 149-150. Terry said there is a discrepancy between his database and the treasurer's.

**Club Station:** Steve / NS3L reported he has the radios in place that were used for Field Day. He requested volunteers to be at the Milkhouse this coming Saturday between 8-9 a.m. to return Field Day equipment to the barn. Steve said the new Deputy County person, who is in charge of the barn had approached him, saying he needed more room up in the barn. Steve said there is Club material that is no longer used. Steve said Jim needs to setup an onsite meeting with the Technical Committee to ascertain what material and equipment can be disposed. A meeting with County person than can be arranged.

Steve said, over the coming weekend, he planned on taking a look at the Field Day logs to be able to send a preliminary report to Don / KC3II for the august newsletter.

**Tech Committee:** Nothing to report..

**Website:** Larry / AB3TY reported no issues.

**Repeater:** No issues reported.

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m. Dean / AB3BD made the motion. It was seconded by Ed / AA3OU and so moved.

**Program:** Jason / KM4ACK—All things Raspberry Pi

### 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.

### AUGUST QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 DLARC Net (KC3MKP)	5 DLARC MEETING 7:30 PM	6	7
8	9	10	11 DLARC Net (W3CE)	12	15	14
15	16	17	18 DLARC Net (KC3II)	19	20	21
22	23 DLARC BOARD MEETING	24	25 DLARC Net (N3SQD)	26	27	28
29	30	31				

#### PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Walt KC3MNP, our program director, has become a Silent Key. A chairperson is needed for scheduling and presenting programs for the monthly meetings. For more information contact any board member, at their addresses listed at the end of this newsletter.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNER CLUB

Don't forget the Wednesday Evening Dinner Club. Club members get together for dinner prior to heading up to the "Milkhouse" for the weekly gathering. Listen to the Wednesday Net for the following weeks location. Each week is a different location. Also it is posted on the club FORUM. A fun get together!

#### 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

" Throw it straight up in the air "

The winner is Sharon / N3SET

#### AUGUST BRAINTEASER

**We kill, and we give life. We are either poison or fruit.  
You choose. What are we?**

#### AUGUST CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

- August 7 & 8 – BATAVIA FT8 Contest
- 10 – 10 Int. Summer Contest – SSB
- August 14 & 15 – Run For The Bacon QRP Contest
- 50 MHz Fall Sprint
- August 21 & 22 – SATRG WW RTTY Contest
- CVA DX Contest – CW
- August 29 & 29 – CVA DX Contest – SSB
- YO DX HF Contest



# FIELD DAY 2021





## **HAM RADIO LEGISLATION :** **Why it Matters to Community Associations**

“Ham radio” refers to amateur radio operations and antennas, which has a surprisingly large following among local hobbyists and enthusiasts. While the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 ( “Telecommunications Act”) is the ultimate authority on regulating satellite dishes and television antennas, it does not apply to amateur radio (“ham radio”) antennas. The Telecommunications Act prohibits community associations from restricting a property owner’s right to install a satellite dish or television antenna on property exclusively within the property owner’s control. The Act’s protections, do not, however, extend to ham radio operations. The Federal Communication Commission’s (the “Commission” or “FCC”) PRB-1 document, an 11 page Amateur Radio Memorandum Opinion and Order, provides that local governments must reasonably accommodate amateur operations, but these regulations do not extend to private land-use restrictions such as deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions (“restrictive covenants”).

The long standing belief held by condominium or homeowner’s associations is that ham radio installations constitute safety hazards, cause interference to other electronic equipment, or are eyesores that detract from the aesthetic and tasteful appearance of the development/community. To avoid these negative consequences, community associations often enforce restrictive covenants or pass rules and regulations to govern the location and height of antennas or, in some cases, prohibit them altogether.

It is worth noting that the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) passed a ruling that provides that local governments must reasonably accommodate amateur radio operations. But in the same ruling, the FCC noted that the ruling does not reach restrictive covenants in private contractual agreements. The FCC further stated that because restrictive covenants are entered into at the time of the sale or lease of the property and purchasers are free to choose whether they wish to reside where such restrictions on ham radio antennas are in effect or settle elsewhere, it was not within the scope of the FCC regulation to govern private agreements. This means that the governance of ham radio antennas by community associations is not subject to federal regulation.

### **Potential Legislative Changes Regarding Ham Radios**

A bill before Congress, however, seeks to change that by extending the protections afforded to owners of satellite dishes to those who own ham radio communication hardware. The bill, the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2016 (the “Ham Radio Act”), calls on the FCC to require that private parties acting under contract reasonably accommodate amateur radio operations in the same manner that it requires local governments to provide such reasonable accommodations. Whether this bill becomes law is something that associations, and their managers and attorneys, should watch out for.

Specifically, the Ham Radio Act directs the FCC to amend station antenna structure regulations to prohibit a private land use restriction from applying to ham radio operation if (i) the restriction precludes communications in an amateur radio service, (ii) fails to permit a licensee of amateur radio service to install and maintain an effective outdoor antenna on property under its exclusive use or control, or (iii) is not the minimum practicable restriction to accomplish the lawful purposes of a community association seeking to enforce the restriction. The bill does, however, require an amateur radio licensee to obtain a community association’s prior approval before installing an outdoor antenna. In addition, the Ham Radio Act would still allow a community association to prohibit installations on common property not under the exclusive control of the licensee, and to establish installation rules for ham radio antennas and support structures.

What does this mean for community associations? If the Ham Radio Act becomes law, radio enthusiasts living in antenna-restricted communities may have the opportunity to install antennas that reasonably accommodate ham radio communication. For example, the Ham Radio Act would prohibit blanket restrictions against ham radio stations/antennas. Community associations would maintain the right to prohibit installations on common or limited common property, but would no longer be able to restrict a property owner from installing/maintaining an outdoor antenna on property that is under his or her exclusive use or control. Furthermore, any rules and regulations governing ham radio operation or installation would have to be limited to the minimum necessary to “accomplish the lawful purposes of a community association seeking to enforce the restriction.” This means community associations would bear the burden of demonstrating that a particular restriction is necessary to accomplish a lawful purpose before the restriction can be enforced. It is likely that this bill would be interpreted and enforced much like the Telecommunications Act. Therefore, community associations would have to carefully craft and execute their rules regarding ham radios.

The bottom line is that if the Ham Radio Act becomes law, community associations will have much less ability to regulate the installation and operation of radio antennas in their communities.

### **Takeaway**

For now, community associations can continue to regulate ham radio installation and appearance in accordance with their governing documents. The Ham Radio Act was passed by the House of Representatives on September 12, 2016 and is currently in the Senate for review. It proposes significant changes to the current regulation of ham radio station antenna structure regulation and, if enacted into law, will likely have a significant impact on many existing covenants and restrictions. This is a bill that we are monitoring, and we recommend that community associations everywhere do the same in order to ensure that your association’s restrictions are modified as necessary, up to date and enforceable.

## **W3OK CLUB STATION**

Better known as the “Milkhouse”, the W3OK Station will again be open on Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings to all members. Masks will continue to be worn inside the building with an occupancy of 6-8 until further guidance is obtained.

de Steve / NS3L

## **JULY PROGRAM REPORT**

### **RASPBERRY Pi**

#### **Jason Oleham / KM4ACK**

Our program for this month was Jason / KM4ACK, a well-known experimenter with raspberry pi. His experience came about through a tornado. Back in 2009 a tornado hit his town and as a result he found that he needed a system of communication for such things as when there were no cell phone or even electrical power available. So with the prompting of his brother-in-law he looked into ham radio. There he found what he thought to be missing from his emergency preparation.

Once in ham radio he found that he wanted to be involved in emergency communications. And his interests in computers and digital communication presented a means to fulfill his emergency communication needs. Using Raspberry Pi systems he developed a multitude of uses for these systems to meet his needs and thus find even more uses.

Raspberry Pi is a series of small single-board computers developed in the United Kingdom by the Raspberry Pi Foundation with Broadcom. The raspberry pie project originally leaned toward the promotion of teaching basic computer science in schools and in developing countries. The original model became more popular than anticipated, selling outside its target market for such uses as robotics is widely used in many areas, such as where weather monitoring, because of its low cost, modularity and open design. It is typically used by computer and electronic hobbyists due to its adoption of HDMI and USB devices

Covering how effective these systems would be for any uses because of all the available sources for such apps. And also giving ideas as to where to buy various units and even recommended a ground-level unit from Amazon.

More information on various boards and how Jason used them can be found on YouTube under Jason's name and or call sign.

The program ended with the usual question-and-answer., Which was quite extensive and covered even more information. Another fine program for our meetings.



Jason's Mobile Emergency Communications Station

### **THE DLARCforum**

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

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

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

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

So, please consider joining the list if you're not already subscribed. You'll be better informed about current club activities and also have the knowledge and experience of over half the membership at your disposal. Anything you want to know, all you have to do is ask! De Don / KA3JWE List Administrator

**F.Y.I.**

The September Program will be “

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

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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 )

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

**THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Barry Vogt / N3NVA**

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