

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.
JULY 2021



W3OK

CORRAL

Club Meeting July 1st, 7:00PM
Via ZOOM

JULY MEETING PROGRAM

Jason Oleham / KM4ACK
“Raspberry Pi”

MORE HISTORY



Al Wiemann W3CE and Bob Green KE3AW promote amateur radio at a demonstration station at the Easton Area public Library, 2005 or 2006.



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JUNE MEETING MINUTES

A General Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on June 3, 2021 via a Zoom video-conference. President Jim Matlack / KC3MKP called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with 33 members online.

President's Report: Jim opened with the news that Walt Tremer / KC3MNP has become a SK. Members expressed their condolences and talked about Walt's varied interests and careers. A discussion ensued concerning the amount the Club would donate to one of the charities the family has designated in Walt's memory. Jim asked if there is a monetary amount set by the Club. Pete / NL7XM noted that when he was on the Board, the Board approved a \$25 donation to the preferred charity. Frank / W3WOW made the motion to approve a \$25 donation to a charity designated in Walt Tremer's obituary. It was seconded by Dean / AB3BD and so moved.

Jim said there had been an incident at the Milkhouse. Jim said the security cameras in the Milkhouse do not record audio. At a special Board Meeting, the situation was resolved. In addition, Jim said the restrictions have been lifted. Masks are now up to the individual members.

Announcements: None

Guests: None

Secretary's Report: Larry / AB3TY, announced the Minutes for the February General Meeting. Dean / AB3BD motioned to accept. It was seconded by Sharon / N3SET and so moved.

Treasurer's Report: Larry / KC3JTK reported on the Club's financial status for April 2021. Stephanie / WX3K motioned to accept. It was seconded by Dean / AB3BD and so moved.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Terry / KC3JHT announced there are 138 voting members, 3 associates, and 9 life members for a total of 150. Unfortunately two members have become Silent Keys.

Club Station: Steve / NS3L said Sharon / N3SET cleaned the Station as it had not been since the Covid shutdown. Steve said he has a MMDVM hotspot running in the Milkhouse for member use. Steve asked if the Club has a DMR ID for W3OK. Dean / AB3BD said the Club does not have a DMR ID. Al / W3CE said the Trustee needs to apply for one.

Tech Committee: AL / W3CE deferred to George / N3SQD who reported the rotator has again developed a problem--one leg of the position POT is open and will not work with the Green Heron controller. The fix will entail the use of a climber to remove the rotator and bring it down. George said at this time he is unsure why the last repair failed. George said he is contemplating making an open loop controller as an interim fix.

AL added there had been a port issue with the new internet router as the security cameras have been interfering with the D-Star gateway. Steve / NS3L said there have been internet dropouts. He was monitoring the system and the problem appears to have abated. Steve said the problem might be with the internet modem. Steve / N2IYR suggested and the modem will go silent.

Website: Larry / AB3TY reported no issues.

Repeater: No issues reported.

Old Business:

Field Day: Stephanie / WX3K said the setup team will be ready to go at 9:00 a.m. The Club will operate as 2A. The primary bands will be 20, 40, and 75m. Stephanie said the last Field Day held at Bicentennial Park, the Club had a 6M setup and would like to see it again this year. There will be a FT8 mostly on 40m. She encourages CW operators to work. Stephanie said there is a sign up sheet on the website. Stephanie said that members should bring their own food considering the Covid restrictions. Bob / K3AEW said that in the past the Club offered food to visitors. Bob asked if there was going to be a GOTA station. AL / W3CE said he planned to bring his tri-bander. Stephanie said there are now security cameras at the restroom near the pavilion.

Steve / NS3L said he was going to prepare packages for the radio installations. He asked that members who plan to setup, be at the Milkhouse by 8:00 a.m. to load the equipment. He added that he will have a satellite setup at the Field Day. It will be a fixed fully automated.

Stephanie asked Ben / N3WR if he would network the computers. Ben said that at Bicentennial in 2019 he brought a wifi router. Ben said the GOTA station would not be on the network as it has its own callsign. VHF can be on the network as well. George / N3SQD said he would check if wifi is available at the park. Ben said, the park's wifi needs to be tested to see if the Club can use it. Stephanie added the notebook computers need to be updated. Steve / NS3L said he will update the computers.

Bob / KE3AW said the time for the VE session traditionally has been held at 2:00p.m and he will get the info into his publicity campaign. Bob said he has had interest in the VE session. John / NT3P said if there is a big response for testing, the plan would be to hold several test sessions. Larry / AB3TY said on the front page of the website, there is a section for Field Day with the notification that a FRN number is a requirement for taking a license test. Stephanie stressed the importance for the applicants to have a FRN and an email address. John / N3TP added that an upgrade applicant needs to bring a copy of their current license.

President Jim brought up the topic of alcoholic beverages. Jim said, that at the last Field Day held at Bicentennial Park, the garbage cans were left with beer bottles and such. Members must take home their empties as alcohol is prohibited in the park. Stephanie said there are signs in the park clearly stating alcohol is prohibited.

Steve / NS3L asked if his canopy was still being wanted for the VE session. The answer from Dean / AB3BD and John / NT3P was yes.

A discussion about how a new Ham could participate in Field Day when asked by Don / KC3RDV. Bob / KE3AW and Stephanie / WX3K offered insights about Field Day participation for both new Hams and prospects. Stephanie said the DLARC Facebook page has a video clip showing Steve / NS3L with his satellite setup. Steve elaborated on satellite operations this year.

George / N3SQD said the generators need to be checked. In addition, the extended run tank has to be picked up at his house as he will be out of town for Field Day. Al / W3CE said he would pick up the tank.


Iron Pigs Game: Bob / KE3AW discussed available dates for the Club outing. With Covid restrictions being eased, tickets were tightening. The lone date in June was the Friday before Field Day and Bob said he did not think that was a good idea. July 9 and 23 are available. Bob said July 9 would be the best choice. There is a date also available in August. Ticket prices are \$11 for Field level seats and \$18 for the Pig Pen. Bob will be sending out an email with the details.

New Business: None

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. Dean / AB3BD made the motion. It was seconded by Frank / W3WOW and so moved.

Program: None

JULY QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

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

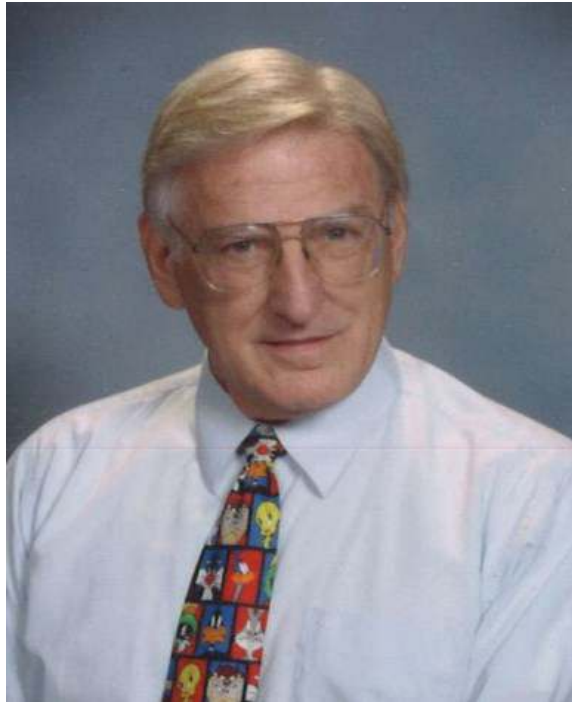
W3OK CLUB STATION

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

Silent Key

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



Walt Tremer / KC3MNP

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.

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!

JULY CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

- July 3 & 4 – Marconi Memorial HF Contest
- Original QRP Contest
- July 10 & 11 – IARU HF World Championship
- SKCC Weekend Sprint
- July 17 & 18 – North American QSO Party
- CQ World Wide VHF Contest
- July 25 & 26 – ARS Flight of the Bumble Bees
- July 31 & August 1 – Russian WW Multimode Contest

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

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 then end of this newsletter.

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

JUNE BRAINTEASER ANSWER "96 Cookies"

The winner is **Bob / KE3AW**



JULY BRAINTEASER

How can you throw a ball as hard as you can and have it come back to you, even if it doesn't bounce off anything? There is nothing attached to it, and no one else catches or throws it back to you.

NOTICE

An RF exposure calculation required for all new stations put on the air after May 3, 2021 as well as those stations which increase power, antenna height, or changes on the bands on which the station operates. Stations without any changes must complete an RF Exposure calculation no later than May 3, 2023. Information can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure>.

Although the **\$35 application fee** for amateur radio applications has been finalized, the FCC has not yet modified its systems to collect the \$35 fee so there has been no effective date for beginning to collect the fee. The FCC has announced, however, that the VE teams will not collect the \$35 application fee which will be paid directly by the applicant. More details will follow. FCC Form 605 will continue to be used for the foreseeable future.

Concerning the new requirement to submit an email and have it on file with the FCC, ARRL reports that it has learned that the FCC to block public access to email addresses filed with the FCC.

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club History Chapter 7 The Sixth Decade, 1996-2005

In 1996, the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. The club was a mature organization, with well established radio operations, an extensive and impressive list of service events, monthly programs, and social events. With so many activities, this article will not cover annual or routine monthly events, but focus only on highlights and unique events.

People

Amy Zimmerman KD3TI, was born in 1961 and died March 21, 2000 at age 38 while serving as DLARC Vice President. Amy's passion was community service; she was active in almost every DLARC special service event and headed up several of them. Her three page list of operating tips for public service participants was published posthumously in the W3OK Corral. After her untimely death, the club established the Amy Zimmerman Memorial Award to be presented to DLARC members who provide community service through amateur radio.

Presidents during this decade were **Tom Frobese** N3LLL, 1996-97; **Joseph R. Chuk** W3JD, 1998-99; **Dan Reamer** KA3JWE, 2000-01; **Jeffrey Keller** N3QZT, 2002-03; and **S. Bryan William** AA3WM, 2004-05.

Membership

Membership, which had peaked at 456 in 1994, declined steadily to 233 members by 2004. Officers expressed concern that half of meeting attendees were leaving before the programs, and as the decade progressed, the club could count on fewer volunteers for service events.

In 1999, in an effort to help members identify each other, the entire membership was photographed to put photos on the member section of the club web site. The next year DLARC established an email reflector to improve club communications. In 2001, it was decided to forego a program in December in favor of social time with members bringing goodies to share.

Club Station

In 1999, as Northampton County's 911 Center needed more space in the Greystone Building, DLARC began the long process of preparing the Milk House to house the club station. This required cleaning out the building, repairing and painting the walls, installing new wiring, and building bench stations for the equipment. By 2002, the club house had 2 working computers with plans for 3 simultaneous operating stations, dipole antennas, slow scan TV, and was open on Wednesday and Friday evenings, with plans to staff the station on Mondays during classes. The next year the club antennas were added to the county tower beside the Milk House.

In 2001, using the pro bono service of a lawyer who was a ham, DLARC went to court in Philadelphia to ask a judge to order the phone company to change the club's service from commercial to the less expensive residential rate. The judge ruled against the club because the Milk House had no rest rooms or windows and was not an inhabitable space. DLARC then tried to get the county to pay for the phone, but they refused.

Operating Events

Emergency Nets – In July 2000, **Clarence Snyder** retired after 52 years as Radio Officer and Emergency Coordinator for Northampton County. The club discontinued the Sunday net, and established a policy of no advance or group check-ins – each person could only check in themselves.

Field Day – In 1996, despite being knocked off the air by a storm, the club amassed a score of 7600 and placed 1st in Pennsylvania and 7th in the United States in the 3A class.

PA QSO Party - DLARC continued its dominance in this contest, taking 1st place in 1998 and 2nd place in 1999 and 2000. During the 12 year stretch from 1989 to 2000, DLARC garnered 8 first places and 3 second place finishes.

Christmas City Station – After obtaining the special one-time call WX3MAS in 1969 to send holiday greetings, DLARC used its regular W3OK call sign for this event. In 1996, DLARC formed a new club, the Christmas City Amateur Radio Club, which could apply for the WX3MAS call. All DLARC members automatically are of Christmas City, which uses DLARC's mailing address; the immediate past president of DLARC is the president of Christmas City.

Awards

DLARC established two new awards - the **DLARC Friendship Award** in 1996 for working 26 different members (or non-members via repeater) each with a different alphabet letter in the suffix, and the **Worked All DLARC Certificate** in 1999 for working at least 50 members on 160 thru 10 meters (with endorsements available in 50 member increments). These were not contests or for rapid fire QSOs, but to encourage members to get on the air, talk to other members, and improve their operating skills.

Four members were awarded honorary membership during this decade: **Charles Adams** K3HKZ in 1999; **Norman Zoltack** WA3FGS in 2000; and **Richard Teasdale** WA3MDP and **Nicholas Tylenda** KA3REK in 2005.

The first **Amy Zimmerman Memorial Award** to recognize members who provide community service through their radio activities was awarded in 2001 to **Jeffrey Keller** N3QZT. Other recipients during the decade were **Robert Green** KE3AW in 2002 and **Bob Puharic** WF3H in 2003. The club has a plaque with recipients' names at the club station, and each awardee receives a personal plaque for their shack.

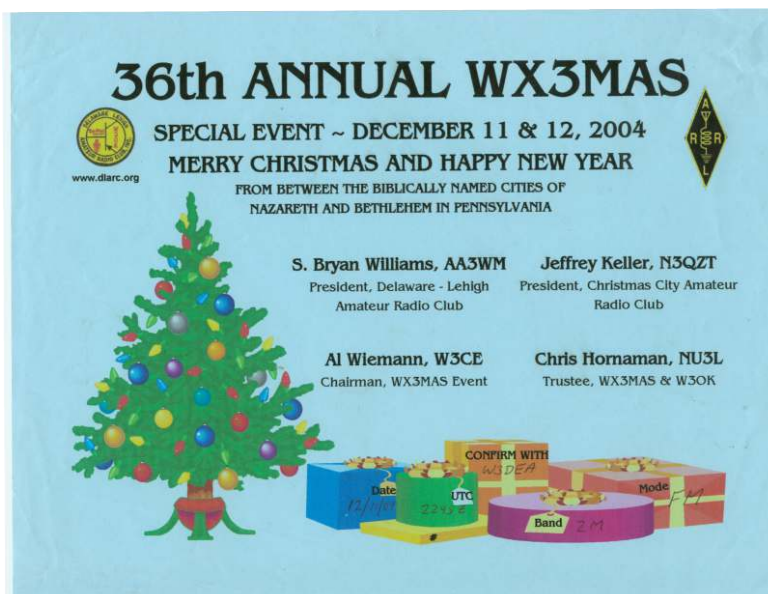
DLARC continued to earn recognition as an **ARRL Special Service Club**. To achieve this status, 51% of club members had to be ARRL members and DLARC had to meet requirements for new ham development, public relations, emergency communication, technical advancement, operating activities, and miscellaneous other activities. In 1998 ARRL presented the club with a plaque to commemorate 50 years of service to ham radio and the community.

Service Activities

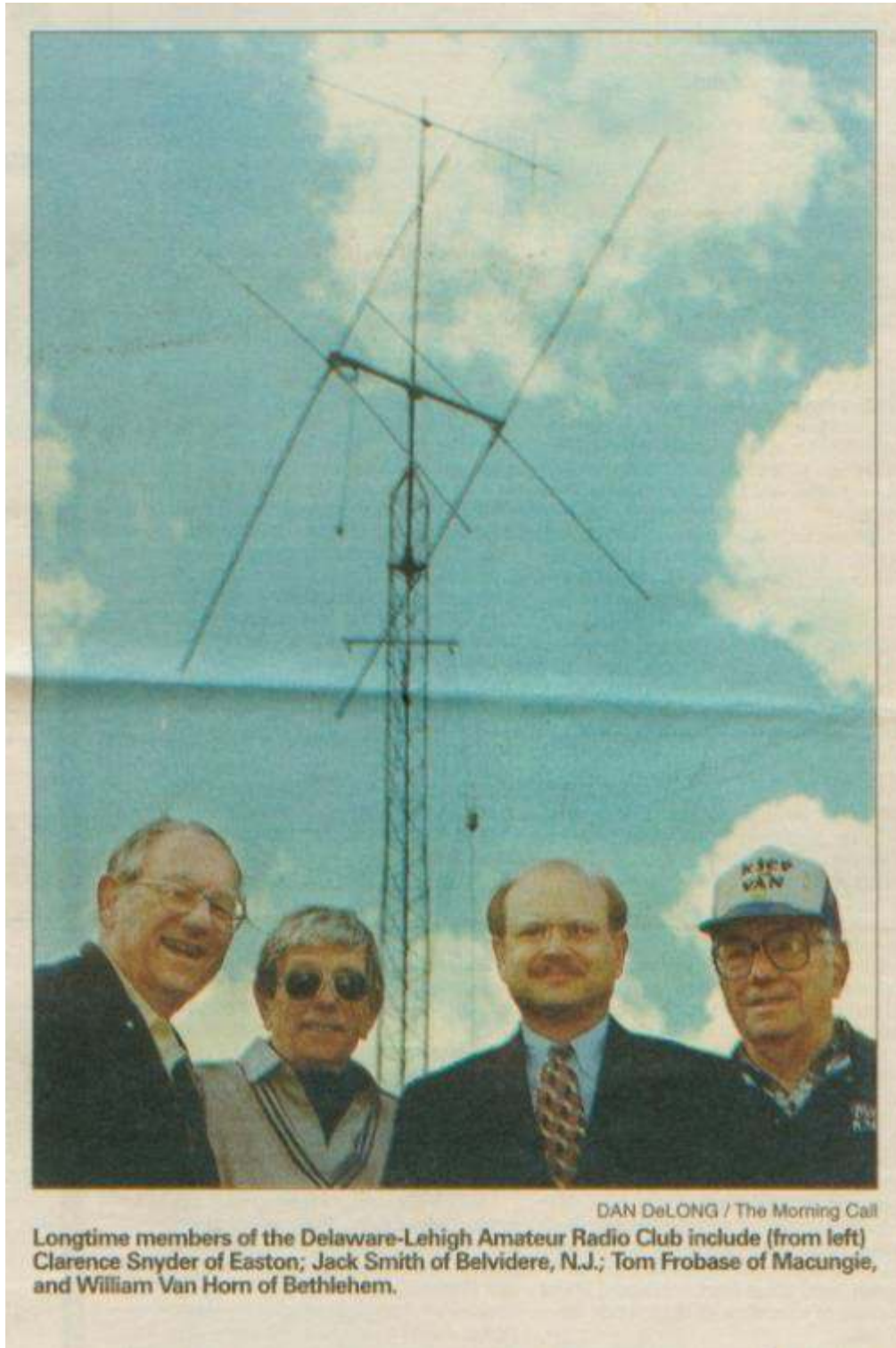
DLARC members responded to a blizzard in 1996 by transporting 30 nurses to Easton Hospital and Gracedale so that those facilities would have sufficient clinical staffing. In May 1997, the club provided communications for three charity walks in two weeks, guarding more than 2200 participants.

In addition to these types of recurring events, DLARC responded to some new requests.

- In 1996, DLARC satisfied the request of a young girl confined to bed with a terminal illness by purchasing a short wave radio to loan to her.
- In 1997, the club donated the proceeds from four months of its 50/50 drawings to the ARRL Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies.
- 39 club members went on Y2K standby duty in case of computer and infrastructure failure on January 1, 2000. Members were stationed at county and municipal offices and utilities.
- In 2005, the club donated \$200 to the Toys for Tots campaign.



2004 flyer promoting WX3MAS Special Event Station



1996 photo from the 50th anniversary celebration includes DLARC founders John H. (Jack) Smith W3ZQK (second from left) and William P; (Bill) Van Horn Jr. K3CP (right); Clarence Snyder W3PYF (left), who joined the club a year or two after its founding; and Tom Frobase N3LLL (second from right), club president in 1996.

Certificate of Coordination

W3OK REPEATER

This certificate serves as proof that the following repeater has met the qualifications for frequency coordination as set forth by ARCC, Incorporated. This coordination has been approved based on the exact parameters detailed herein. These parameters may not be altered unless an application to modify this coordination has been submitted and approved prior to any such changes being implemented. Any alterations to this operation for which such a coordination modification has not been previously approved will result in termination of this coordination. The coordinated system parameters are as follows:

Transmitter Callsign:	W3OK	Ground Elevation:	890' AMSL
Output Frequency:	51.7600 MHz	Center of Radiation:	990' AMSL / 250' HAAT
Input Frequency:	51.2600 MHz	Transmitter Power:	100W TPO / 79W EIRP
Transmitter City:	Nazareth	Antenna Pattern:	Side-Mounted Omnidirectional
Transmitter County:	Northampton	Antenna Parameters:	Gain= .00dBi / Favored 180 / Shadowed 0
Transmitter State:	Pennsylvania	Antenna Polarization:	Vertical
Transmitter Latitude:	N 40° 45' 4"	Receiver Access Mode:	Tone Squelch 5Z
Transmitter Longitude:	W 75° 19' 44"	Special Conditions:	

This coordination is issued to Delaware-Lehigh ARC (W3OK) and is effective as of August 11, 2002. This coordination is valid for the life of the operation provided it remains in compliance with current ARCC policies, procedures, Constitution, and By-Laws. No other party shall have rights or claims to this coordination. This coordination may not be bought, sold, or transferred, and any such attempted action will result in termination of this coordination.

2002 Certificate of Coordination for the W3OK repeater.

CANADA MOVES TO AUXCOMM MODEL

The May-June 2021 issue of TCA-The Canadian Amateur, which is Canada's Amateur Radio Magazine, contained an announcement that Radio Amateurs Canada (the Canadian equivalent of ARRL) has decided to embrace the AUXCOMM model in order to better prepare Canadian amateurs for service during disasters.

The article states, "RAC will rebrand the 'Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as the new RAC Auxiliary Communications Service whose role will be to provide certified communications operators to supplement communications local emergency management groups and non-government organizations and provide backup radio operators when required".

A full-page story discusses RAC's desire to comply with the Canadian standards and provide certified communications operators who met the national standards for training. "The new RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) will assume the original function of the RAC Amateur Radio Emergency Service (RAC ARES), but its focus will shift to recognize that disaster response management and telecommunications standards are now mandated by Canadian federal, provincial and territorial legislation and regulations and by international agreements."

A related part of the upgrade effort is to expand and emphasize the use of Winlink to connect communities during disasters that disrupt normal communications. (see pages 6 and 39, TCA May/June 2021 found on May 17, 2021 at <https://www.rac.ca/may-june-2021-etca-is-now-available-for-download>).

ALUMINUM SHORTAGE AFFECTING ANTENNA MANUFACTURERS

In addition to shortages of computer chips which is limiting the production of certain SDR radios and the DSP circuits contained in them, word is spreading that the shortage of aluminum will soon cause shortages that affects ham radio. The limited availability of aluminum is likely to limit the manufacturing of hf vertical antennas as well as two way radio type dipoles for vhf and uhf.

F.Y.I.

The August Program will be "TBA"

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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Adam Gauntz / KC3OJA ----- agemt1@aol.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

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

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