

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

*AUGUST 2022*

# **W3OK CORRAL**

Club Meeting August 4, 7:30PM at the Nancy Run Firehouse. It will be another hybrid meeting with members at the Firehouse and on Zoom.

**AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM**

**TBA**



## *JULY MEETING MINUTES*

The General Meeting was held at the Firehouse and on ZOOM.

President Jim Matlack, KC3MKP called the meeting to order at 7:31p.m.

**President's Report:** Jim congratulated Adam, N3LAG, on the outstanding effort on everything he did at Field Day. Jim said that if it wasn't for Adam, he didn't think it would have happened. There was a pretty good turnout. As of right now there are no results yet for what the club did.

**Guests:** Two new members from the last License class and a reinstated member. The reinstated member was Bill Tanzolz, N3BIB and his XYL, Janice. The new members were Wayne Hillmann, KC3UMO, and Jennifer Dietrick, KC3UKZ. When you hear them on the air, give them a big welcome.

### **Secretary's Report:**

John, N3IGA, asked if there was any additions or corrections to the Meeting Minutes as printed in the June Newsletter. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Dean, AB3BD and second by Terry, KC3JHT and motion was carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Larry, KC3JTK, presented the report for May 2022. A motion by Terry, KC3JHT to accept the report. Adam, N3LAG second the motion and so moved.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Terry, KC3JHT, reported that before he left the house, there were 115 paid members, 2 Associates, 9 Life members, and by tomorrow 3 more members which will bring the total to 129 members.

**Club Station:** Adam, N3LAG, reported that nothing major at the Milk House. Everything is back and setup from Field Day.

**Tech Committee:** No report

**Website:** Bob, KE3AW, had a problem getting into the membership page. Other members said they didn't have any problems. Bob said he will check it out more.

**Repeater:** No report

**Old Business:** Jim asked George, N3SQD, about the rotator and what was going on. There was a big discussion on who is going to do all the repairs. Jim told George that it would be great to know roughly how much all the repairs will cost to fix everything because it has to go before the Board before any money is spent. George said he will try to get the figures by the Board Meeting this month.

**New Business:** Al, W3CE, present to the club a total of \$996.00 from the latest estate sale. That brings up the total of the estate sales to \$1700.00

**Awards:** None

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Adam, N3LAG and seconded by Dean, AB3BD. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18p.m.

Since the weather is nice and is a perfect time to get wire antennas up and ready for contesting especially the PA QSO Party, I thought this would be an excellent subject for the Newsletter. Hope you enjoy it and maybe try it. De John, N3IGA

### **Slingshot Tips**

By Gordon Gibby, KX4Z

#### **North Florida Amateur Radio Club**

We've been using slingshots for years to place antenna supporting lines in trees, up to about 50 feet. I'm certainly not an expert, but it has worked well for us. Some of the Alachua County (Florida) crew have purchased or constructed air-powered mini-potato rifles also, which have even greater range. This article gives just a few tips on using a simple slingshot to place lines.

*Accuracy* -- I think there are two key factors here. A wrist brace seems to be key. I use a simple slingshot purchased from Amazon that has a folding wrist brace. Without that brace, I can't keep a simple "Y" type hand-held slingshot still during the release. The brace makes it easy. Secondly, that very floppy leather "pocket" seems to be extremely important for accuracy with a lead fishing weight. A replacement band with a stiffer pocket turned out to be completely useless. Replacing the "pocket" with the old leather one brought it back to perfect working order.

*Projectile* -- I prefer an "egg sinker" fishing weight in the 1-1/4 to 1-1/2-ounce range. Heavier doesn't go as far, and I get concerned about possible accidental damage. These already have a hole drilled straight through, which makes it easy to attach a line. Acquire several.

*SAFETY* -- Obviously we aren't perfectly accurate, and the lead fishing weight can often hit a branch or a tree and go somewhere we didn't expect. Stay AWAY from power lines! Always try to avoid choosing a direction toward windows, cars, and other expensive items. At Field Day, it's best to get lines up and over limbs before all the cars park in risky locations.

*Graded Sizes of Lines* -- My usual goal is to either get the line over a specific limb or over an entire tree if the branches are too thick. Only a very lightweight, low-friction line can be pulled to an apex 50-60 feet by a light fishing weight. And they are amazingly difficult to FIND on the other side! My friend Sam Register clued me into fluorescent orange braided fishing line -- I prefer 60- or 80- pound test. This is much easier to work with than the usual monofilament. Consider a version of: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00MGA5WJ6> I keep a couple of spools on hand. Spread at least twice the desired height in line out over pavement or asphalt or a sheet in long columns in front of you if possible - if there are twigs on the grass, the line will always get tangled and your distance will be severely reduced. After a successful placement of the fishing line over a desirable branch, go to the far side, cut off the fishing weight and tie on a nylon or nylon-polypropylene mix twine, approximately #18 up to 3/32" size. Be certain that the twine you choose is fairly strong. Reel back in all of the fishing line, pulling the line backwards over your limb. Now tie on a stronger line, up to perhaps one-quarter inch size - paracord works well or twisted or braided nylon. Make sure your ties between different sized lines are strong and secure - sometimes a simple knot between a small and a larger line can allow the smaller line to slip out, disastrously. Finally, if the one-quarter inch size isn't up to the task, you can then pull up 3/8" or half-inch rope to finish off the project.

*Stuck* -- Inevitably you will end up with a fishing weight "stuck" up a tree. Be careful when pulling back on such a line - you don't want it to come zinging back and kerplunk right into your face! Sometimes you'll have to give up and simply cut it off (above nuisance height) and leave it. The orange fishing line degrades in the sunlight and will be almost invisible in weeks. Having extra fishing weights and braided fishing line is a good plan. I keep a kit for this purpose in a plastic toolbox. The slingshot band will degrade after a few years, so periodically provide a spare. Just remember to use the floppiest "pocket" you have. - *QST NFL June 2022*

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Please check the web page roster listing. It is important that your telephone number and email address are correct. This is the only way we can contact members. If you do not receive the newsletter in your email and are registered for the phone tree and do receive the notices by phone, your email address is incorrect on the roster, and the same for your telephone number. There has been a new roster put up so it would be a good idea to see if you have all the updated information on yourself is there. Take notice of who is not there and who is new.

## ARRL Renewal and DLARC

By John Holmes, N3IGA

One of the benefits of being an ARRL Affiliated Club is a commission for recruiting new ARRL members and securing timely ARRL member renewals. All membership dues are sent to ARRL to be processed and DLARC receives a commission payment directly from ARRL. ARRL does all the processing. As a result, DLARC could earn money while promoting the many benefits and programs of ARRL to ensure the amateur radio is protected and continues to be strong.

I am going to take charge of this to help the Club out. There is no information informing who is a member and who one isn't. I'll be sending out emails to all members to inform everyone in the club in case they didn't read the Newsletter. If you're an ARRL member already or thinking about becoming one, please send me an email informing me if you are an ARRL member and when does your membership needs to be renewed and how you renew in the past. If you're not an ARRL member, email me and I'll be glad to give you the necessary information. My email address is [n3iga@ptd.net](mailto:n3iga@ptd.net) and remember that this will help DLARC out.

### **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

If any member has anything that they think would interest other club members such as Ham Radio articles, Contesting, and any other interesting subjects, please send them to me to put in our newsletter. It really doesn't have to be any radio subject.

You can send your information to my email address located at the end of the Newsletter. My email has changed due to change in Internet provider. My new email address is [n3iga@ptd.net](mailto:n3iga@ptd.net) so please make sure to change it in your contact list.

# DLARC NET QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

August 2022

| SUNDAY | MONDAY                                    | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                          | THURSDAY                       | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
|        | 1   | 2       | 3<br>DLARC NET<br>Terry<br>KC3JHT  | 4<br>DLARC<br>MEETNG<br>7:30pm | 5      | 6        |
| 7      | 8   | 9       | 10<br>DLARC NET<br>Dave<br>N3EYT   | 11                             | 12     | 13       |
| 14     | 15  | 16      | 17<br>DLARC NET<br>Al<br>W3CE      | 18                             | 19     | 20       |
| 21     | 22<br>DLARC<br>BOARD<br>MEETING<br>7:00pm | 23      | 24<br>DLARC NET<br>George<br>N3SQD | 25                             | 26     | 27       |
| 28     | 29  | 30      | 31<br>DLARC NET<br>Ben<br>N3WR     |                                |        |          |

## 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. 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 George, N3SQD at [george@bioserv.com](mailto:george@bioserv.com). 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.

## 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 evening 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 positions 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 to conserve local bandwidth.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2021-2022

### OFFICERS

**President** – Jim Matlack / KC3MKP ----- jjmatlack@gmail.com  
**Vice President** – Steve Harper / W3NAM ----- sharper3152@gmail.com  
**Secretary** – John Holmes / N3IGA ----- n3iga@ptd.net  
**Treasurer** – Larry Butler / KC3JTK-----lrbutler@ptd.net

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Gabe Lantos / KZ2A =----- gpl3639@gmail.com  
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John Barbaz / NT3P ----- nt3p@arrl.net  
Adam Gauntz / N3LAG ----- agent1@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 Nancy Run Firehouse. 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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