

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

August 2011



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting August 4th 7:30PM
At the Nancy Run Fire Company**



Dave / NB3R Presenting CW SKIMMER

MEETING PROGRAM

George / N3SQD

PICT Programming

MEETING THEME

Beachwear / Bathing Suit Nite



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Field Day 2011 – WOW!
George / N3SQD

It's July and that means that another Field Day is history. This years Field Day was memorable for a number of reasons. Wow about sums it up.

The quick summary is that we worked six bands and made 1455 QSOs for a score of 4184 plus what should be close to a thousand bonus points (the final score wasn't ready for this article). We had 272 contacts on 80M, 360 on 40M, 431 on 20M, 141 on 15M, 14 on 10M, and 237 on 6M. There were 818 phone contacts, 619 CW contacts, and 18 Psk contacts.

A couple of items in the operating summary stand out. First 237 contacts on 6M, really! Now, I don't have the prior years summaries in front of me, but I would bet that in the prior 15 years of Field Day that I have attended, we didn't have that number of contacts (on 6) in total (let alone in one year). I was never a big fan of 6M, but this years Field Day may have converted me. Another item that stands out is the large number of CW contacts. It is a bit counter-intuitive (but encouraging) that, given the elimination of CW from the licensing requirements, that CW is still such a popular mode of communication.

We operated from Northampton's Louise Moore park this year with a number of waivers from the Parks and Recreation Department. We needed the waivers to allow for 24 hour operation, the use of generators, and permission to use stakes in the park (and we really do use a lot of stakes).

The fact that the park is officially closed over night presented no difficulties to our operations as operators found their way into and out of the park over the evening hours. Fortunately our generators are quiet enough to not create a noise issue. This probably can't be said for our operators, though they did quiet down as the sun fell.

As always there was plenty to eat and drink. Several operators had tents or campers to provide sleeping accommodations. We were pleased to get a visit from the press and a government official (think extra points).

Some other interesting firsts (at least for the last 15 years) were that this the first year that all of our transmitting antennas were supported with portable masts and towers. By rough count we had half a dozen masts or towers erected. We did not use any trees for the transmitting antennas, although we did use them to string up a Beverage antenna (which may also be a first).

Thanks to Tom KB3IUE for chairing the event, Ed AA3OU for food logistics, Ben KB3CTX and Jeff N3QO for computer system support, Jon NJ3I for masts and Mojitos, Bob NE2C for cooking breakfast, Ray W3TDF and Bill W0RSJ for suggesting 6M and demonstrating how to erect a "something less than portable" tower in a portable fashion, Jim KB3IOZ for showing up Saturday evening and operating 80M for something like 12 hours (please visit us at a club meeting when you get a chance), Barry KU3X for antenna support, Ken N3IYX for moving our gear, and anyone else that I forgot for forgiving me for being forgetful. Finally a collective thanks to everyone that showed up to operate or visit and make this years Field Day a success.

Field Day next year is June 23-24. Mark your calendar.
73 - N3SQD / George

AUGUST 2011 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (W3CE)	4 DLARC MEETING	5 NO V. E. SESSION	6
7	8	9	10 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KC3II)	11	12	13
14	15	16 NewsLetter Articles Deadline	17 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD)	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KR3U)	25	16	27
28		19	30 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KB3R)	31		

VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be September 2nd 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at george@bioserv.com or Al / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net.

MINUTES FROM THE JULY MEETING

The general membership meeting of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club inc. was held at the Nancy Run Fire company in Bethlehem Township on July 7th.2011

Call to Order: The meeting convened at 1930 hours, President **George / N3SQD** presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by **George / N3SQD**

Members & Guests in Attendance: 51, guest - **Joe / KB3BZP**

Moment of Silence for SK K3EXW

REPORTS:

Approval of the minutes: 1st **Rich / N3UB**, 2nd **Jay / N3OW** – **Motion Carried**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: 1st **Carl / AA3IX**, 2nd **Jeff / N3QO**. -- **Motion Carried.**

Repeater : **Barry / N3NVA** aware of problem with Wind Gap voter, and will handle it.

Web page: **Brad / W3JXQ** is working on sometime failure to access web page.

VE Session: To be held at the Northampton County 911 Center, July 8th at 7 PM

Club Station: **Dave / NB3R** reported new TS 590 being checked out and plans to move into the generator room; money to manage around \$200.00 to renovate generator room. County is the hold up at this time.

Bill / K3ANS to donate AC for the generator room.

Membership: **Dave / NB3R** – 176 members. Also presented 2 applications for membership. **Joe Garvey / KB3VZP & Joe DiFrancesca / KB3VRS** – 1st **Jay / N3ow**, 2nd **Jon / NJ3I** – **Motion carried**

EVENTS: **AI / W3CE** announced the club picnic would be held August 28th at the Louse Moore Park (same location as last year). He would like you to contact him at w3ce@arrl.net to let him know how many would be attending and what dish you will be bringing. The club will be supplying hot dog, hamburger and liquid refreshments. QRP station to be set up.

October to be Busy - PA QSO Party, Black Bear Bike Run, Wheelman Bike Run, Emmaus Halloween Parade

OLD BUSINESS:

Field day ; **Jeff / N3QO** reported on field day and gave the basic report on the results.

Elections : **Dave / N3EYT** announced that candidates for the club officers and board of directors would be accepted by the nominating committee

Project lifesaver: **AI / W3CE** reported that it would go into effect August 1st. He would like to run a test/practice session as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall Classes: **Bob / KE3AW** announced that the fall class session would begin September 13th at the Northampton County 911 Center for the tech & General classes. **Chris / NU3L** asked for volunteers to teach this class.

Assistance Needed: **Ed / AA3OU** asked for volunteers to assist in setting up an antenna for a former member who would like to get active again

Club Station Trustee: **Jon / NJ3I** was nominated for station trustee. 1st **AI / W3CE** , 2nd **Ray / W3TDF** **Motion Carried.** **Don / KA3JWE** was thanked for his service as previous Trustee.

Meeting Theme Contest: **Doreen / KB3PDL** was the winner.

July Program: **Dave / NB3R** – **CW SKIMMER**

August Theme: Beachwear / Bathing Suit Nite

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:20 by **George / N3SQD**. 1st **Jeff / N3QO**, 2nd **Barry / KU3X**

Respectfully submitted by **Doreen / KB3PDL**, Secretary

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.*

Ray Dimmick / WA3CLD

AUGUST CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

August 6th & 7th – ARRL UHF Contest

August 13th & 14th – WAE DX Contest - CW

August 20th & 21st – SARTG WW RTTY Contest

August 27th & 28th – YO DX HF Contest



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 at nl7xm@arrl.net. The winner must be present at the next Meeting to receive it, or it goes unrewarded. Officers, Board members, and Brain Teaser Authors are not eligible to win."

de **NL7XM**



JULY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

An Arrow

The winner is **Bob / KE3AW**



AUGUST BRAINTEASER

See if you can figure out what these seven words all have in common?

1. Banana
2. Dresser
3. Grammar
4. Potato
5. Revive
6. Uneven
7. Assess

Have you already given up? Give it another try...Look at each word carefully. You'll kick yourself when you discover the answer. This is so cool..... No, it is not that they all have at least 2 double letters.

EARLY REMINDER

The October program is the DLARC mini-hamfest#2. There is no fee to sell at the hamfest. Contact Dave, NB3R at nb3r@nb3r.com if you want to reserve a table.

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 Joe Garvey / KB3VZP, and Joe DiFrancesca / KB3VRS.

JULY MEETING PROGRAM

Dave / NB3R presented a program on 'The CW SKIMMER'. A sensitive CW decoding algorithm based on the methods of Bayesian statistic. Simultaneous decoding of ALL cw signals in the receiver passband - up to 700 signals can be decoded in parallel on a 3-GHz P4 if a wide band receiver is used. It has a fast waterfall display, with a resolution sufficient for reading Morse Code dots and dashes visually. the callsigns are extracted from the decoded messages, and the traces on the waterfall are labeled with stations' callsigns. The callsigns are extracted from the decoded messages, and the traces on the waterfall are labeled with stations' callsigns. The extracted callsigns are exported as DX cluster spots via the built-in Telnet cluster server. Also included a DSP processor with a noise blanker, AGC, and a sharp, variable-bandwidth CW filter; an I/Q Recorder and player.

Dave also showed with prices the various units which would enhance an amateur radio operator's experience. Aand how this would be what the 21st century operating could be like.

JULY MEETING THEME WINNER



The July meeting theme was; "RED, WHITE AND BLUE (a patriotic theme)" Although there were several entries, the hands down winner was **Doreen / KB3PDL**, who came completely attired as Betsy Ross.

FIELD DAY 2011
Photos by Dave / N3EYT & Bob / KE3AW



Rich / N3UB & George / N3SQD



Jay / N3OW



Doreen / KB3PDL



**Ray / W3TDF - Lori Vernon Editor / Publisher of the
North Valley Gazette Bill / W0RSJ**



John / NC3T



Laurie / KR3Q



Bill / NC3P, Jeremiah / KB3KXR and Jay / N3OW



Masts Going Up



Jon / NJ3I & Bill / NC3P



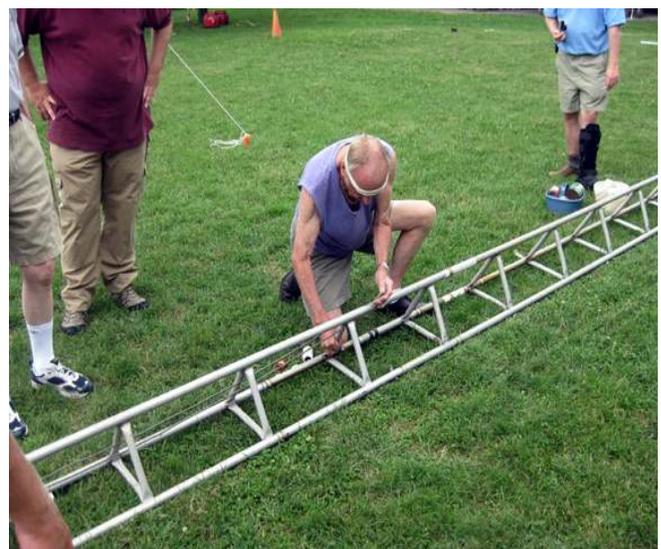
Barry / KU3X & Rich / N3UB



Barry / KU3X & Rich / N3UB



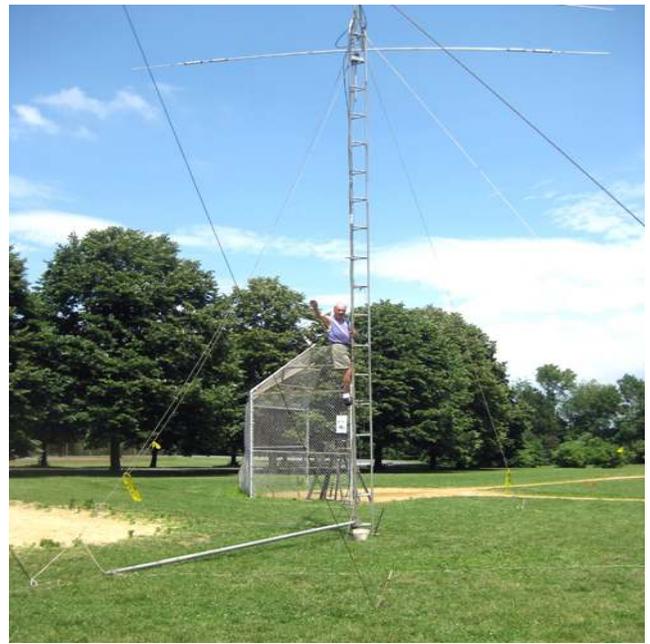
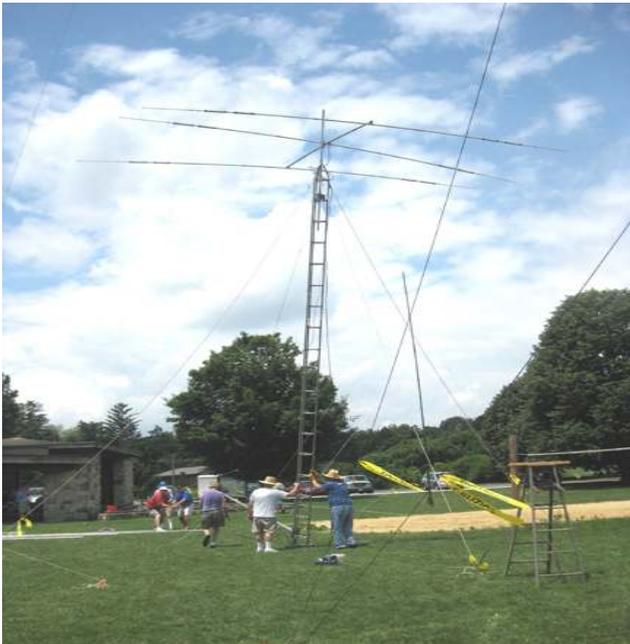
Barry / KU3X



Ray / W3TDF



Getting The Beam Ready



Beam Going Up

Ray / W3TDF



Barry / N3NVA, Ken / N3IYX, Ed / K3IFE & Mike / KB3LOD

Ray / W3TDF



Ray / W3TDF – Former Radioman on Noah's Ark



Field Day 2011, Louis Moore Park, just before the antennas came down

D.L.A.R.C. PICNIC

The annual D.L.A.R.C. Picnic will be held on Saturday August 28th at Louise Moore Park. This is the same location as last year's picnic and this year's Field Day. In Pavilion 5, **AI / W3CE** is chairing this event and would to know in advance how many would be attending and what dish you will be bringing. The club will supply the hot dogs and hamburgers plus the beverages. Contact AI at w3ce@arrl.net for further information and to let him know what your dish will be.

HAM CLASSES

On September 13 DLARC will begin this fall's series of free amateur radio classes for non-licensed persons who wish to learn about amateur radio and earn their licenses. DLARC also is planning General Class license upgrade classes starting tat the same time. If you know anyone interested in this offer contact KE3AW@arrl.net or telephone 610.432.8286. Likewise, if YOU are interested in upgrading your license contact me at by email or phone.

Bob / KE3AW

W3OK STATION TRUSTEE

Jon Matson / NJ3I has been named station Trustee. He is replacing **Don Reamer / KA3JWE**. The officers, board of directors and the D.L.A.R.C. wish to thank Don for his service in this position.

AUGUST WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

<http://wimp.com/pendulumwaves/>

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Tom Root / WB8UUJ

We may be quick to pledge our willingness to assist in providing radio communications during emergencies, but being will to help and being able to help, are distinctly different concepts. An uncharged HT located in your upper left dresser drawer somewhere behind the socks doesn't cut it. Depending on your license class, your level of operating experience and financial abilities, here is some room for thought.

The home-based fixed station should have primary and backup multi-band transceivers, and all needed accessories. In case of weather damage, the primary outdoor station antennas should have backups also. These backup antennas should be stored somewhere indoors. They may be of the wire or roll-up variety, but they should be complete, along with their feed lines, masts, ropes, pulleys and whatever else they may require. And last but not least, the fixed station should have one or more reliable alternate power sources.

Also, any amateur radio operator who professes to be prepared to provide emergency radio communications should have a mobile station. A mobile station allows the ham to communicate while traveling to and while at the scene of the emergency, as well as allowing the ham to relocate as the emergency develops. The mobile station should be multi-band, with all appropriate accessories. Since mobile installations seem particularly susceptible to being damaged by power source hook-up mistakes, and other negatives, a backup mobile transceiver can be a good idea. Some hams carry a variety of power cables with their mobile stations to allow them, while being deployed, to utilize power from non-automobile sources, such as the usual A/C lines, batteries, emergency vehicles, or available generators. And antenna backups for mobile stations are important also. Mag-mounts, screwdrivers and the various hamstick flavors have a way getting snapped off as a vehicle is being driven through unusual environments.

But the ultimate test for any emergency-prepared ham is operation from a completely integrated portable station. This is a self-contained transportable station that can be set up practically anywhere. And this concept is limited only by the imagination! It can be as simple as a go-kit with an HT in hand or as complex as a relatively large custom-made equipment container/console with handle or wheels, or a specifically designed and equipped communications trailer, containing a multi-band station with backups and a wide assortment of operating accessories, power sources and portable antennas.

Whatever maybe the level of your involvement in emergency operating preparedness, the key to it all is planning, design, construction and testing. Never ever assume that your emergency station will work as expected. Put it on the air regularly, perhaps during the weekly ALERT net, or a public service event, the TEST it, TEST it, TEST it.

NEW RUSSIAN PREFIX SYSTEM

If you have been on the HF bands lately, you may have noticed that a number of new prefixes are in use by stations in the Russian Federation. Here is a summary of the changes recently adopted by the Russian telecommunication authorities. Thanks to SRR President Roman Thomas, R5AA (ex-RZ3AA) for the information.

- Russian prefixes with the numeral 2 are no longer limited to Kaliningradsk. Stations with RA2 and UA2-UI2 (with F and K as the first letter in the suffix) are in Kaliningradsk; otherwise, these prefixes will be used in European Russia.
- Stations with the following prefixes are in European Russia: R1, RA1-RZ1 (except RI1 as noted below), R2, RB2-RZ2, R3-R7, RA3-RZ7, UA1 and UA3-UI7. Also, stations with the prefixes R8, R9, RA8-RZ9 and UA8-UI9 (with F, S, T, W or X as the first letter in the suffix) are in European Russia.
- Except for those listed above, all stations with 8, 9 and 0 as the numeral are in Asiatic Russia.
- Russian Antarctic stations use temporary call signs in the series RI1ANA-RI1ANZ and RI00ANT to RI99ANT.
- Franz Jozef Land stations use temporary call signs RI1F, RI1FJ and RI1FJA-RI1FJZ.
- Maljv Visotskij island stations use temporary call signs RI1M, RI1MV and RI1MVA-RI1MVZ.



REDNERS' SUPERMARKETS SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Here's how it works:

Redner's has a terrific program to support the Club **AT NO COST TO THEM**, if our members simply sign up for a Gas Card that records their shopping points, and give their cash register receipts to, **Pete / NL7XM**, He'll do the rest.

Note: This does not affect your gas points in any way.

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Donate your old, empty printer ink cartridges to the Club for recycling. Any brand, model, size or shape; color or black. Please bring them to the meeting in a leak proof ziplock type baggie and give them to Pete / NL7XM. This simple act can help your Club by reducing recurring expenses, and make you feel a lot better about our environment.

10 COMMANDMENTS OF HAM RADIO

Thou shalt not love thy radios more than thou love thy wife and children; as much, but not more.

Thou shalt not covet thy Ham friend's radio, nor Ham shack, nor his packet controller or computer.

Thou shalt not store any antique radios or other treasures on the kitchen table nor in the living room.

Thou shalt not read "CQ" nor "QST" on company time, lest thy employer make it impossible to continue thy payments on the new tower.

Thou shalt not despise thy Ham friend's new Kenwood Dual Bank Mobile, nor continue to deceive thyself in thinking thou hast the most deep and melodious voice on the repeater.

Thou shalt not allow thy sons and daughters to get married on the Holy Days of Ham-Com, Field Day, or Contest Weekends.

Thou shalt not deceive thy wife into thinking thou art taking her for a romantic drive in the country when, indeed, thou art going to look at another radio.

Thou shalt not tell thy wife the entire cost of thy Ham Station, at least not all at the same time, thy treasures picked up at the sidewalk sale are, naturally, not included.

Thou shalt not promise thy wife a new addition to thy house and then use it for a Ham Shack. In turn, thou must stop telling thy wife that the new radios on thy Ham desk belong to a Ham friend and that thou art merely working on them. Telling her that thou won them at Ham-Com is, naturally, okay.

Thou shalt not buy thy wife a new power supply for Christmas, unless of course, thou canst con her into becoming a Ham.

CELLPHONE LEGISLATION

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed a bill this past Wednesday (SB314) setting up new regulations aimed at cell phone usage in Pennsylvania and more specifically focusing on texting while driving, with a majority vote of 41 – 8.

This Bill originally started out to only address "junior" licenses issued to new teenage drivers, and that part of the Bill is now referred to as "Lacey's Law" in honor of Lacey Gallagher.

When this Bill came before the Senate on Wednesday they decided to amend it to also incorporate some cell phone and texting changes to the law, and the good news for Amateur Radio operators that there is one paragraph that specifically excludes mobile Amateur Radio use from the new proposed law changes.

There had been a couple of other bills pending in both the House and Senate (including SB863 and HR8) dealing with cell phone usage, and some were very restrictive in the use of ANY wireless device while driving, which would have included Amateur Radio, among other services.

This new Bill has to be approved by the House and then be signed by the Governor, but hopefully it will go through including the exclusion of mobile Amateur Radio.

Bob / WB3W

PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY 2011

October 8th and 9th are the dates for the 2011 PA QSO Party. As in the past the DLARC is hoping to regain its position as the number one club in the state. Now is the time to check your station and antennas, so you are prepared for the party. The Norm Zoltak / K3NZ award for the highest scoring single operator station will be awarded again this year.

The Party sponsors, the Nittany ARC will be adding a new class for the 2011 party. They have been getting more Multi-op mobiles in the party in recent years, so they are going to divide the mobile division into Single-Mobile, and Multi-Mobile classes. This way the two different classes will be better able to compete. So it not too early to begin to get ready for the event.

TEXAS HAMS INJURED AT FIELD DAY SITE

On the morning of June 26, two Texas radio amateurs -- Danny Caldwell, AD5IP, of Kamay, and Mike Byrne, AE5CO, of Iowa Park -- received electric shocks as they took down an inverted V antenna. According to Wichita County Emergency Coordinator Larry Ballard, KE5KNV, the two were taking part in Field Day as part of the Wichita Amateur Radio Society ([WARS](#)).

"The Wichita Amateur Radio Society decided to terminate the participation in the exercise at 10 AM on Sunday, due to extreme heat and gusty wind conditions," Ballard told the ARRL. "Danny and Mike were injured while lowering the center pole of the inverted V dipole antenna to the ground. They were knocked to the ground when a guy wire, or the antenna lead-in, was hit with very high wind gust that blew it into a high [power] line wire." According to reports from witnesses, winds were gusting up to 40 miles per hour.

Ballard said 911 was called immediately and a rescue van arrived in a matter of minutes. The Fire Rescue Team determined that the two men were stable and they were transported to United Regional Hospital in Wichita Falls. Caldwell received CPR at the scene and was air lifted to Parkland Hospital in Dallas. Byrne was transported to Parkland later by ambulance.

"This was the second year that the Wichita Amateur Radio Society had set up at Oscar Park in the City of Iowa Park for Field Day event," Ballard explained. "The antennas were located in the same location as the prior year, using the same safety practice of locating the antennas a safe distance from power lines and structures. The inverted V dipole antenna had yellow caution tape, marking guy wires and antenna end locations."

Ballard said that Byrne was released from the hospital on Monday, June 27 and was resting at home. Caldwell, who suffered more serious injuries, was released a day later.

F.Y.I.

The September Program will be Jon NJ3I presenting a video of the 2009 K5D DXpedition to Desecheo Island. This is an inside look at a big DXpedition from set up to tear down. K5D worked over 115,000 QSO's in 13 days.

The D.L.A.R.C. meets the "FIRST" Thursday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Nancy Run Fire Company Social Hall (3564 Easton Avenue, 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.

The EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA District 2 ARES Net meets every Wednesday at 1930 hours local time. (Just after the DLARC Net) On 147.255 (pl 162.2). And linked to 449.375 on Blue Mountain, 443.350 in Allentown and 147.180 in Berks County.

D-Star Mid-Atlantic Regional net meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month on the 147.165 port with a number of other repeaters in Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York City area .

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. Every member of the D.L.A.R.C. is welcome to contribute articles of interest to this newsletter. Opinions, items of interest, and even suggestions towards the improvement of newsletter and/or the DLARC, itself would also be accepted, as a sort of "Letters to the Editor" section.

The Milkhouse telephone number is 484-895-7038.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010 – 2011 OFFICERS

President – George E. Wieland III / N3SQD ----- president@dlarc.org
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Secretary – Doreen Gramling / KB3PDL ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Mike Gower / KB3LOD ----- treasurer@dlarc.org

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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 Nancy Run Fire Company
TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4)

THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- JON MATSON / NJ3I

**The W3OK Corral is published monthly and is the Official Publication of the
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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 147.370 (167.9) W3OI Repeater.

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