

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

DECEMBER 2011



W3OK

CORRAL

**Club Meeting December 1st 7:30PM
At the Nancy Run Fire Company**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to up-coming construction at the Nancy Run Fire Company, the regular monthly meetings will be move to the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School beginning with the January 5th meeting . The Vo-Tech is only a short distance from the Fire Company, at 3300 Chester Ave. Checking Google Maps can give you exact directions, if you are not familiar with the area.

MEETING PROGRAM

Annual Holiday Get Together

MEETING THEME

Mr. & Mrs. Claus & Elves Nite



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



FROM THE SHACK OF THE PRESIDENT



Happy Holidays!

Where has 2011 gone? Heck, the last 18 years for that matter. For those of you who remember the little girl who used to follow me almost everywhere, well she turns 18 in a few days.

Those of you who have experienced teenagers of your own know that this can be a pretty hectic time for a parent. Lately I have been explaining to Briana what is expected of her not as a teenager but as an adult. These conversations get mixed reactions.

When talking, one person to another, life and how to live it is more a game of suggestions. So much in life is built on choices and experiences.

There is a point though that comes along where these things come to compare against societies laws. Then there is really no choice.

As President and with the other board members, we are kind of like parents of the D.L.A.R.C. Granted we are a democracy but once in place we are in effect, the parents. Our main goal is the protection and well being of the club. Yet we only have arms so long.

Prospective Members should know what is expected of them if they would like to join the club, as well as our membership at large.

It is built out of this; unlike a stamp club or astronomy club, etc. our club doesn't just have rules... IT HAS U.S. GOVERNMENT LAWS. No choices in some of our areas of the hobby. The FCC counts on us in this day and age to police ourselves to a great degree.

So like parents, the board is looking at how we let members in (who comes around our family); how we act with possible consequences (behavior) and we want to make sure everyone stays aware that we are bound by laws outside the club as well.

With the idea that to fix the world, the first step begins at home, the board has begun to tackle this topic. The family needs rules and guidelines. In other words, just because the Jones' kids might be doing it, it doesn't mean its right. What other cliché's do I have, hmmm... If Johnny jumps off a bridge are you going to jump too?

Still, as I said, the D.L.A.R.C. is a democracy and I think we would like input from the club as to the standards we would like to see us have. Something that will give PRIDE to saying I belong to the DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB!

We can't bend the laws but we can cut the grass, paint the house and wash the cars, take care of what we can.

Moving on, thanks to Dave NB3R for being the Program and Membership Chair this past year. Thankfully he will be staying on as Clubhouse Chair. You will also see him taking pictures still, so smile.

December is our annual Christmas party. Lots of goodies; bring some yourself. This is usually a well attended meeting, come out and see some faces you haven't seen in awhile.

Also we should have the official announcement about our move to the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech.

Again, Happy Holidays! I hope they're safe and most of all... FUN!

Until next time... 73

Charlie W3OPA

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.*

Stephen J. Luisser / W3HFT

VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be January 6th 2012 at 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.

NOVEMBER THEME WINNER

The November Theme was Pajama Nite, and Pete and Doreen were the only contestants. Doreen with her colonial nightgown and sleep bonnet and Pete in his Jamies with his teddy bear ready to bed. After the membership it was decided that Pete was the winner.



MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING

The general meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc. was held at the Nancy Run Fire Co. in Bethlehem Twp., PA, on November 3, 2011.

Call to Order: The meeting convened at 1931 hrs. with President **Charlie Lazarchak / W3OPA** presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by **Charlie / W3OPA**

Members in Attendance: 44 with four guests: Jon / student in Technical class, **Will / N1VEV**, **Bruce / KC3JS**, and **Dick / KB3ALG**.

Moment of Silence: **Charlie / W3OPA** asked and received a moment of silence for **Stephen J. Luisser / W3HFT** who recently passed away. Stephen was well into his 90's when he passed and had been a ham for many years.

Recognition of Veterans: Charlie took a moment to ask all veterans in attendance to stand, noting that Veterans Day was in a few days. About half the members in attendance stood and received enthusiastic applause in honor of their past service. All four of the military branches were well represented..

REPORTS:

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the October meeting were approved upon a motion by **Dave / KA3IWC**, 2nd by **Doreen / KB3PDL**. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: **Mike / KB3LOD** gave the September Treasurer's Report which was approved on a motion by **Robert / KB3ULG** and 2nd by **Ken / N3IYX**. **Motion carried.**

Repeater/Web: **Ben / KB3CTX** reported that minor problems with the repeater required some repairs. He is still troubled by a bit of noise that he hears on the repeater from time to time that he can't explain, but it is not serious.

Don / KC3II reported that he received a complaint from a member who had trouble logging on to the website. **Charlie / W3OPA** observed that, if the member had let his membership lapse, he may be blocked from logging on to the site. **Charlie / N3VUO** suggested that the member's security software may be the cause of the problem.

Milk House: **Dave / NB3R** reported that the work making the Generator Room part of our operations at the Milk House is progressing well. The aluminum vents have been removed and the windows have been sealed. The doorway connecting the Generator Room to the club facilities is open. Dave briefly talked about possible uses for the new space.

VE Session: **AI / W3CE** reported that a VE session was scheduled for 7:00 pm, November 4th, at the Northampton 911 Call Center, will be headed by him. A quick polling of the membership indicated that AI will have a sufficient number of VE's to conduct the session.

Technical Classes: **Bob / KE3AW** reported that the Technical and General classes are moving along smoothly. Hopefully, we will have 7 new techs and 6-7 new generals. Another test session will be conducted on November 22nd to give all a second try to obtain their initial license or to upgrade. This was confirmed by **AI / W3CE**.

AI / W3CE took a moment to appeal to the membership for new instructors to help with the classes conducted by the Club. Members should contact **AI**, **Bob / KE3AW**, or George / **N3SQD** if interested.

Membership Report: **Charlie / W3OPA** announced that **Dave / NB3R** has resigned as Membership Chairman. Charlie asked for a round of applause thanking Dave for his past contribution as head of Membership. After the applause, Charlie asked for members to consider serving in this post. Those interested should contact **Charlie / W3OPA**.

OLD BUSINESS::

Project Lifesaver: **AI / W3CE** reported that County has not returned his e-mails, and we are on hold at present..

PA QSO: **Charlie / W3OPA** queried the floor as to how individual members did in the recent Party.

Charlie reminded the membership of the Norm Zoltack Award that is awarded annually to the member that scores the highest in the PA QSO Party. He asks the members to submit their score summaries to **Ben / KB3CTX** to help determine the winner.

Black Bear Run: **Ben / KB3CTX** reported that the Black Bear Run went very well. 15 operators participated. 5 SAG wagons patrolled the length of the course for a field of 275 riders. The coordinators were very happy. No serious issues occurred. **Charlie / W3OPA** added that he understood that the APRS system that **Jeff / N3QO** devised to work independently of the Internet worked very well and impressed the coordinators.

Emmaus Halloween: **Bob / KE3AW** reported that the parade proceeded without serious incident. Bob took time to single out **Ed / A A3OU** for his efforts in helping to apprehend a "light-stick" vender that was operating illegally along the parade route. In summary, the organizers were once again very happy with the Club's contribution to the event, and the only black mark on the evening was the very poor service the Club members received at a Perkin's where they gathered for something to eat afterward.

NEW BUSINESS

Amy Zimmerman: **Charlie / W3OPA** reminded the members that it is time to consider who would be a fitting recipient of the Amy Zimmerman Award for 2012. This award is given in March to an amateur radio operator for unselfish contribution to Amateur Radio and the community during the previous calendar year. See a very good description of the award in the November newsletter. Any name a member thinks worthy of consideration for this award should be submitted to Charlie/W3OPA or another member of the executive committee.

New Meeting Location: **Charlie / W3OPA** reported to the members that he has located another site for our general membership meetings. Bethlehem Vo-Tech has offered to allow us to use their facility at no charge. Charlie reported that the meeting space is ample, and the space available for parking is better than exists at Nancy Run. After a floor discussion and questions, a motion was made by **Al / W3CE**, 2nd by **Ken / N3IYX**, to charge **Charlie / W3OPA** with the job of doing all necessary to secure Bethlehem Vo-Tech as the new location for our general meetings. **Motion carried.** At this point, **Charlie / W3OPA** appealed to the membership to be considerate to our fellow members who are mobility challenged by parking a distance away and leaving the "choice" parking spaces for those that need it.

Chairpersons Needed: Chairpersons are needed for Presentations and Membership. Interested members should contact **Charlie / W3OPA**.

EVENTS

Hanover 5K: The Hanover 5K Run will be on November 12th. The event only takes about 1 1/2 hours and has been an easy event for volunteers. Contact **Charlie / N3WXO** if interested in volunteering.

Christmas City Special: **Jon / NJ3I** is soliciting volunteers for a Christmas City Special Event to take place at the Milk House on December 10th and 11th. As mention in the previous minutes, we hope to run 3 stations. Food and drink will be available. Volunteers should contact **Jon / NJ3I** for details. **Charlie / W3OPA** reported that Laurie / KR3Q has kindly consented to design a special QSL card for the event.

Christmas Party: Our annual Christmas Party will take the place of the Presentation at our December general meeting. Members are asked to bring food and drink.

CW Sweepstakes: **Ray / W3TDF** took time to address those members who are interested in improving their CW skills. The exchanges required in the CW Sweepstakes are more elaborate than in other events and require a higher level of proficiency from the key operator. Listening to these exchanges, learning the protocol required, and diving in and participating in the contest would greatly help those interested in becoming better CW operators. The November Sweepstakes, CW occur November 5th, 6th and 7th.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2033 hrs

Program: **Jon / NJ3I** - LP-Pan Panadapter

Raffle Winner: **Bob / KE3AW.**

Theme Winner: **Pete V** won for the best costume.

Respectfully submitted by **Joe Garvey / KB3VZP** Secretary.

CHAIRMAN POSITIONS OPEN

For the up coming year, there a two chairman positions open. The first is the DLARC Membership chairman, who is responsible for the maintaining of the membership records, handling related jobs for the position. The second is the Program Chairman , who is responsible for the scheduling of the DLARC's monthly meeting programs. One member can fill each position or a committee which ever would be the easiest.

If any member or group of members is interested in both or any single position, contact Dave / NB3R who has held both positions for the past year and he will be able to explain the duties.



DECEMBER CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

December 4th & 4th – ARRL 160 Meter Contest

December 10th & 11th – ARRL 10 Meter Contest

December 17th & 18th – Croatian CW Contest



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

December 1st - Annual Holiday Get together

December 10th & 11th – Christmas City Special Event Station / WX3MAS

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

It's that time, already! DUES are payable for the calendar year 2012. Here's how easy it is to remit your club DUES and keep your valuable D.L.A.R.C. Membership current. Whether in person or by mail, **CHECKS made payable to the D.L.A.R.C.** are the preferred method of payment to more accurately record your timely renewal. Please ensure that your callsign appears somewhere on the instrument, such as in the memo field. Paying with cash is discouraged, but if you really, *really* have to, kindly make certain you are prepared with the correct sum according to the rate table shown below. Remember, if your DUES are not paid by February 1st, your membership will expire.

2012 DUES Rates / No Changes
 Regular Membership 18-64 years of age:
 Jan. - Dec.\$17.-
 65 and over, or retired from all forms of employment (no age limit)
 Jan. - Dec.\$12.-
 Additional Family member
 each \$3.-
 Associate Individual Membership \$10.-

You are strongly encouraged to MAIL your DUES so that I may conduct the bulk of the record-keeping duties apart from where I believe you deserve the most of my attention. In person at Club Meetings, I'd prefer to answer your questions, address your concerns, and welcome your thoughtful revenue raising and savings ideas. Therefore, it is firmly advocated that DUES correspondence be mailed to:

Michael J. Gower
1511 Shelbourne Drive
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

Enclosing a S.A.S.E will bring your new membership card back to you immediately if you can't attend the next Meeting where they are routinely distributed. You may write to me anytime with questions regarding DUES, or to discuss issues that you believe are my responsibility at: Treasurer@dlarc.org Include your phone number if you prefer a live reply.

de Mike / KB3LOD, DLARC Treasurer

HARD COPY SUBSCRIPTION

You must sign up if you want a hard copy newsletter subscription. The rate stays the same this year at \$10. This is exclusively for the newsletter only to cover printing and mailing. The price of maintaining a Bulk Mailing Permit is too expensive to justify with the size of our membership, thus the first class postage requirement. This will squarely cover the cost of paper and printing supplies for 12 issues. To subscribe, contact Pete / NL7XM at nl7xm@arrl.net.

DECEMBER 2011 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 DLARC MEETING	2 NO V. E. SESSION	3
4	5	6	7 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KB3CTX)	8	9	10 XMAS CITY
11 XMAS CITY	12	13	14 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (W3CE)	15	16	17 NewsLetter Articles Deadline
18	19	20	21 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KC3II)	22	23	24
25 	26	27	28 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD)	29	30	31

THE AMY ZIMMERMAN AWARD

Ham Radio-related humanitarian act, deed or service that benefited the community. This award was originally conceived as a memorial to Amy Zimmerman for her service in the community and amateur radio.

- a. Qualifying act, deed or service should benefit those outside of amateur radio. (example: hams working with non-hams)
 - b. A single extraordinary act, deed or service could qualify. (working the 9/11 disaster)
 - c. Qualifications should not include normal everyday operating or contesting.
 - d. Qualifications should not include being an event chairperson of a single event every year.
1. An individual may receive the award more than once, but not for the same reoccurring act, deed or service. Multiple awards will be given for cooperative efforts by any members.
 - a. A description of the act, deed or service which qualified the individual or individuals for the award must be entered into the Executive Committee minutes
 - b and the minutes of the general club meeting at which the award was presented.
2. Only DLARC club members in good standing are eligible for the award. They must also have been members of the club at the time they performed the activities for which the award is being presented.
3. The award is to be considered and reviewed each year, but may not necessarily be presented each year if there are no qualified candidates.
 - a. A three person committee is to be formed each December by the executive committee consisting of the past president and two club members at large.
 - b. The committee's function is to determine candidates who qualify for the award (either through suggestions from other club members and/or their own deliberations) and present them to the executive committee at the January executive committee meeting, as potential recipients. The executive committee may add or subtract from the committee's list of nominees the name of any qualified club whom they believe does not meet the eligibility requirements of the award.
 - c. The award winner will be decided by a majority vote of the executive committee.
The award consists of the following:
The Amy Zimmerman Plaque and a press release to the ARRL and local news agencies .

“AMY ZIMMERMAN AWARD”

Please fill out this form and nominate your choice for The Amy Zimmerman award. The award will be chosen from these nominations by the award committee. The award committee will present their recommendation to the Executive Committee for final approval. The award will be presented at the March general meeting. Return this form to any Executive Committee member.

I nominate _____

for the Amy Zimmerman award. Because: (Use additional pages if necessary)

WANTED: OLD CALLBOOKS

Pete / NL7XM is paying cash for OLD Callbooks. Contact him directly at: NL7XM@arrl.net

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

NOVEMBER BRAINTEASER ANSWER



First weigh three coins against three others. If the weights are equal, weigh the remaining two against each other. The heavier one is the counterfeit. If one of the groups of three is heavier, weigh two of those coins against each other. If one is heavier, it's the counterfeit. If they have equal weight, the third coin is the counterfeit.



The winner is **Paul / NOKIA**

DECEMBER BRAINTEASER

This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Jon / NJ3I presented a program on the LP-Pan Panadapter. Which was designed for K3, K2, Kenwood, Orion, FT-950/2000/5000. Up to 192 kHz display width, up to 24" monitor or larger. Switching quadrature detector for >110dB dynamic range -135dBm noise floor, +22dBm IP3 at -15dBm -145dBm with optional preamp Buffer amp with very high LO isolation Fully isolated inputs / outputs with MIL SPEC audio xfmr's Point and click frequency control with PowerSDR/IF software by U2X, TRX-Pan software by F6DEX and NaP3 software by F5VNB. Provides main & sub-rcvr, linked to the K3 tuning knobs One button band and mode change LP-Bridge allows simultaneous sharing of rig with multiple apps Shielded metal enclosure

Jon had his panadapter hooked up to an antenna and his K3, with the computer also showing the screen presentation on the big screen. The presentation allowed everyone to see an actual operation with the exact operations being shown with the actual signals and how the panadapter sped up the locating and the automatic tuning to the signals.

YOU CAN ENJOY CONTEST EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT A CONTESTER

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I often talk to guys who say that they're not contesters. Some even go so far as to say that they hate contests. I'm really not a contester, either, but I do enjoy operating them from time to time. There are several ways to enjoy amateur radio contests even if you're not a "contester."

This weekend, for example, the CQ World-Wide (CQWW) SSB DX contest was being held. As usual for a Saturday morning, I was down at WA2HOM (www.wa2hom.org), our club station at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum (www.aahom.org). Now, the museum is only open from 10am - 5pm on Saturdays, so there's no way I'm going to score very highly in the contest, but I still decided to participate.

What I did was take advantage of the contest activity to add countries to our DXCC list. Over two hours of operation, I managed to make 63 contacts, including at least five new countries. The new countries that I added to our log included Iceland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, the Cayman Islands, and Madeira Island.

None of these is rare DX, but for whatever reason, we hadn't worked them before. Now, we have. In addition, some of the big contesters will travel to exotic locales and operate from places that normally have no or few ham radio operators. Contests are good opportunities to get those countries in your log.

Operating in a contest is also a good test of your radio and antennas. It's true that contest signal reports are basically meaningless, but if DX stations regularly hear you on your first or second call, then chances are your antennas are working well. If they're continually asking for repeats or never hear you at all, it's a good bet that you need to do some antenna work.

Working a contest can also improve your operating skills. In a CW contest, for example, the good ops are generally operating at 25+ words per minute. That's OK, though, because it forces you to copy that fast, and because you know what the exchange format is, you pretty much know what characters to expect. Try it sometime. You'll be surprised at how fast you can copy during a contest and how much your CW speed improves.

If none of the above reasons convince you, and you're still a bit apprehensive about jumping into one of the bigger contests, let me suggest that you try one of the smaller contests. State QSO parties, for example, are a lot more laid back than say the ARRL Sweepstakes. The CW speeds are a lot lower and the phone contacts are a lot less intense. You may even learn something about a particular state's geography. You will for sure learn a lot of county names.

It's all about having fun. And you can have fun in a contest, even if you don't have the time or the equipment to be competitive.

HURRIQUAKE 2011

The week of August 22, 2011 may go down in weather history as one of the strangest in the Washington, DC area : On Tuesday, August 23, our area was hit with a magnitude 5.8 earthquake. I'm sure the quake took everyone by surprise. It sure surprised me. Damage was light, but widespread, including what looks like about 25 million dollars done to the National Cathedral, and an as-yet undetermined amount of damage to the Washington Monument, which remains closed. There was significant damage to the building housing the ham shack at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. That is not good news for the Marine Corps Marathon radio operators.

Immediately after the earthquake, many cell phone systems buckled under the load of everyone trying to call everyone else. In College Park, Maryland, where I work, even the wire line phones had some problems.

Prince Georges County ARES® activated a resource net on the local repeater to marshal radio resources in case of need. We stood by for about six hours, but as the evening wore on, we ended the net as it became clear that normal communications were working again. The following Saturday night, Hurricane Irene passed just east of the area. The County Government activated the EOC at 4 PM Saturday and called for RACES and ARES communications support for storm shelters in the southern end of the county. RACES operators under the leadership of RACES Radio Officer Ken Greenhouse, KB3IIE, and ARES Emergency Coordinator Jim Montgomery, WB3KAS, deployed to two shelters, one at the Baden VFD and one at the Bunker Hill VFD. As the evening wore on, power failed at the Baden shelter and the generator there failed to start. We provided communications as the Red Cross redeployed the shelter to the Brandywine VFD during the storm. R

RACES operators established HF and VHF radio communications with the State and adjacent county ARES/RACES groups. As the peak of the storm passed at about 2 AM, a large tree fell across the utility lines at the entrance to the EOC property cutting off electric power, Internet and land line phones as well as the cable TV to the facility. It took the county more than one hour to get the generator at the EOC to stay on-line. Of course no one could come into or leave the EOC complex because the tree was blocking the entrance.

Once the generator did come on-line, we discovered that the generator does not provide power to the EOC radio room. All of the radios there were useless without AC or DC power. Meanwhile, I maintained contact with the shelters thanks to my trusty Yaesu HT and the Green Mountain Repeater Association's 146.61 MHz repeater. The repeater worked flawlessly through the night and we maintained communications for the Red Cross personnel at the EOC and in the shelters until the shelters were secured late Sunday morning.

The county fire personnel started calling it "HurriQuake 2011." Not many ARES/RACES groups can say that they had to contend with an earthquake and a hurricane in one week.

Special thanks to the Green Mountain Repeater Association for the continued great support and the use of the .61 repeater. We literally could not have done it without them and their machine. - Spence Spencer, NX3SS, AEC for Operations, Prince Georges County Maryland ARES

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.

AMATEURS ASSIST WITH COMMUNICATIONS IN AFTERMATH OF RARE OCTOBER NOR'EASTER

A rare October nor'easter brought historic snowfall and widespread damage and power outages from the Mid-Atlantic into the Northeast United States. Up and down the Atlantic seaboard, radio amateurs provided various critical services to the National Weather Service through the SKYWARN weather spotter program, and provided communications support to local, state and federal emergency management and non-governmental organizations.

"Amateur Radio operations at the National Weather Service office in Taunton, Massachusetts were active on WX1BOX, the office's Amateur Radio station," Rob Macedo, KD1CY, told the ARRL. Macedo serves as the Eastern Massachusetts ARES® Section Emergency Coordinator and SKYWARN Coordinator for the NWS Taunton office. "Hams in Taunton were active for 21 hours supporting meteorological and damage data that was shared not only with the NWS, but also with the media and local, state and federal emergency management. This brought critical situational awareness and disaster intelligence information in near-real time with many agencies."

In the ARRL Connecticut Section, Section leaders were conducting their Simulated Emergency Test (SET) when the storm hit. "Because of the storm, we truncated the SET operational period and braced for the unseasonable October snow," explained ARRL Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV. "The planned hurricane/earthquake SET scenario was quickly displaced by a *real* nor'easter! SKYWARN operators across the Section were activated on Saturday afternoon, and nets went late into the evening gathering snow, rain and wind data for the National Weather Service."

Macedo explained that many SKYWARN nets throughout the Connecticut, Western and Eastern Massachusetts and New Hampshire ARRL Sections activated every few hours to relay meteorological and damage reports: "We received several hundred reports of snowfall measurements, wind measurements and damage reports. Widespread snowfall of 6-12 inches fell over portions of Northern Connecticut, Western, Central and Northeast Massachusetts. In Southeast New Hampshire, they saw with snow amounts of 1-2 feet, with isolated snowfall amounts up to 32 inches in the mountainous parts of these areas. The snowfall -- coupled with foliage still on the trees -- brought the recipe for significant damage and widespread power loss."

SKYWARN weather spotters reported that coastal flooding also affected some shore roads, with wind gusts reported as high as 69 miles per hour over Cape Cod and the Islands. The NWS Taunton Forecast Office issued Public Information Statements and Local Storm Reports detailing snowfall, wind measurement and damage reports.

"This was yet another widespread damage event for our region," Macedo said. "The number of power outages and tree and power line damage rivaled, and in some cases eclipsed, the damage from Hurricane Irene this past August. Despite the loss of power and issues over the region, Amateur Radio SKYWARN spotters stayed in contact with us, utilizing battery powered Amateur Radio equipment to provide their data and information and several hundred reports were passed on to various agencies."

The Clay Center Amateur Radio Club activated their Amateur Radio station, WX1CLA, at the Dexter-Southfield School in Brookline, Massachusetts, just outside of Boston. They provided additional reports from various Amateur Radio repeaters and sources during the height of the storm's impact in Southeast New Hampshire and Northeastern Massachusetts. ARES® District Emergency Coordinator Marek Kozubal, KB1NCG, along with Kate Murphy, KB1USO, and Kevin Riggle, KB1QEF, staffed the station for 14 hours.

Macedo said that Acting State RACES Radio Officer, Mike Neilsen, W1MPN, was active on WC1MA, the amateur station at the Massachusetts State Emergency Operations Center. The city of Worcester EOC Amateur Radio Station, WE1CT, was also staffed and was coordinating with the operations at the NWS' Taunton office. The Emergency Operations Center in the Town of Sandwich was active under call sign W1SEM during the overnight hours, monitoring coastal shore road flooding and high winds in their region. The town experienced shore road flooding as well as tree damage in their community. Cape Cod ARES® District Emergency Coordinator Frank O'Laughlin, WQ1O, provided reports into WX1BOX directly and through the Town of Acushnet's Emergency Operations Center and through WA1EMA, the ARES® sub-regional command center.

At the end of the SKYWARN reporting phase of the operation, Eastern Massachusetts Assistant ARES® Section Emergency Coordinator and Assistant SKYWARN Coordinator for NWS Taunton, Carl Aveni, N1FY, who assisted Macedo with operations at Taunton, thanked all the Amateur Radio SKYWARN operators and non-amateur spotters for their support: "There was not a moment during the 21 hours of formal operations that we did not receive critical information from you folks. That information was of immeasurable value to all of our partners (such as the National Weather Service, the media, and local, state and federal emergency management, and all of our non-governmental organizations like the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, hospitals and the Medical Reserve Corps). It is gratifying to see how well the training we go through pays off. Thank you so much for the robust support!"

According to Macedo, communications infrastructure was stressed, with localized phone and communication outages, but they are now largely functional across most of the area. "The primary issue has been power loss affecting infrastructure and with fairly cold temperatures at night, many people are in shelters or hotels until power returns," he explained. On October 29, Eastern Massachusetts ARES® was placed on standby, but continues to be on alert in case communications needs are required either within the Eastern Massachusetts Section or an ARES® Mutual Aid Team to a neighboring ARRL Section is required.

In Connecticut, ARES® groups have also been placed on standby, Gronlund said: "Amateur Radio operators have been assisting in various shelters and Emergency Operations Centers in the impacted areas. Several repeaters are operating on emergency power. Power outages are projected to last up to a week in some areas of the state." As of 1:30 PM November 2, 43 percent of the state is still without power.

Terry Stader, KA8SCP, said that Westford, Massachusetts has a shelter open at the Blanchard Middle School and that it is being staffed by PART of Westford, members who are also part of Northern Middlesex County ARES®, working in conjunction with the Upper Merrimack Valley Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). "With almost 30 percent of the town still without power three days after the storm hit the region, the shelter will remain open for a number of days yet" he said. "The Cameron Senior Center is also open as a warm up center for residents, which is also staffed by ham radio operators."

NEW TECHS AND UPGRADES

Although our Tech and General classes sessions still have one Tuesday session to go, we are happy to announce the success of the following people who tested during the November 4 VE session. Chris Adams / KB3WQM; Gerold Blosssey / KB3WQL; and Nikki Keramas / KB3WQK earned their Technician Class licenses.

Dennis Rice / N3SXI earned an upgrade to the General Class License. Additionally, DLARC member "Jimi" Uttard / KB3WGE earned his Amateur Extra Class license. Congratulations to these new and upgraded hams.

We hope to see more new hams and upgrades by the end of the upcoming VE session.

Instructors of our classes are George / N3SQD, Al / W3CE, and Chris NU3L.

de **Bob / KE3AW**

F.Y.I.

The winners of the November Prizes were **Bob / KE3AW, Joe / KB3VZP** and **Ray / W3TDF**

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 2011 - 2012

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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

THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- Jon Matson / NJ3I

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