

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

*June 2012*



# ***W3OK***

# ***CORRAL***

**Club Meeting June 7<sup>th</sup> 7:30PM**  
**At the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School**

## **MAY PROGRAM**

### **“ Critical Tools for the Casual Operator”**

The May meeting brought us again another fine program from Paul / N0KIA. Beginning with a block diagram of a basic ham shack well presented us with an economic way to build a shack for the present-day technician. Using Harbor Freight and hamfests the necessary components could be purchased. Paul began with an older model rig, possibly obtained at a local ham Fest, adding a power supply also obtained at a hamfest, he presented the beginnings of a ham shack. Adding a cantenna to be the dummy load, the development of the shack continued. Then adding a wire antenna, the shack was almost ready to go on the air. The next step was adding a SWR meter, allowing the operator to check for the match of the antenna to the rig. The next addition would be replacing the SWR meter with the antenna tuner, which would allow the rig and antenna to be matched, preventing any damage to the rig. The final item to the shack would be the clock. Paul, continued to include the development of a VHF station. Which followed basically the same development as a low band station. He concluded with a question and answer session from the audience.

## **MEETING PROGRAM**

### **“Home Weather Stations And The CWP”**

**Ben / KB3CTX**



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S SHACK

### It's June already. Time for Field Day. One of the highlights of our hobby.

Mid May I went to the Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Associations bee hives and also to one of their meetings. It was really a very interesting thing to see. While there, I heard some of the club members talking about fly-fishing, something I used to do more regularly than I do now.

I've learned no matter where I go, the thing that brings everyone together often shows what a small world it is as you find out that the person next to you also shares some other similar interests.

Back to Field Day... If there is someone you already know that you share a number of similar interests but maybe not Ham Radio, invite them to Field Day. You might add another piece of common ground between you and them.

It's important to consider Field Day as a family event as well, I think anyway. Invite your family. To the rest of us, remember to be courteous when non-members are there visiting, especially children.

A change from what I said last month... George N3SQD is part of an operation by committee to run Field Day this year. Find out who is on this and let them know if you can help.

We are already forming the nominating committee as well. Think about whether or not you could devote a year to spending time on the board. If you think someone should run, talk to them before nominating them, but please do approach them. We won't know if they'll run unless they're asked. Don't be shy about volunteering yourself to run either!!!

As many of you know, when it rains it pours. Those of you close to me know its been pouring for a few months now. Knee surgery, house for sale and more importantly, my Mom getting diagnosed with a brain tumor. These things have taken up a number of my hours and I have relied heavily on Dave N3EYT and George N3SQD to carry the ball for me. I want to thank them publicly for that. Also, to the many who have expressed concern in regards to my Mother, Thank You. I feel its only fair to let you know what is happening behind the scenes, a little, in regards to me and why you may not see me at a meeting.

One last thing...

If you watch TV, you may want to catch the reruns of "Last Man Standing," someone's QSL card is being displayed prominently at the main characters operating station. Pete NL7XM can help you out on who that is. It has been the last couple of episodes.

Well, as we push into summer -- keep your toes in the sand.

73 de Chuck W3OPA

## JUNE 2011 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	6 DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KC3II</b> )	7 <b>DLARC MEETING</b>	8 <b>NO VE SESSION</b>	9
10	11	12 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	12 DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>N3SQD</b> )	14	15	16
17 <b>Newsletter Article Deadline</b>	18	19 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	20 DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>NB3R</b> )	21	22	23 <b>FIELD DAY</b>
24 <b>FIELD DAY</b>	25	26 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	27 DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KB3CTX</b> )	28	29	30

## JUNE CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

June 2 & 3 – 10 - 10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest

June 9 & 10 - VK Shires Contest

June 16 & 17– West Virginia QSO Party

June 23 & 24 – ARRL Field Day





## MINUTES FROM THE MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING

A general meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc. was held at the Bethlehem Area Vocational Technical School at 3300 Chester Avenue, Bethlehem, PA, on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
**Call to Order:** The meeting convened at 1938 hrs. with Dave Blankenship / N3EYT, Vice-President, presiding. President Charlie Lazarchak / W3OPA was absent.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Dave / N3EYT

**Members in Attendance:** 47 and 4 guests, Ron B., Wayne R., Steve / KB3SKD, and wife, Sonja.

**Moment of Silence:** Dave / N3EYT asked for a moment of silence for Diane Myers, wife of Lyle Myers / KB3SXI, and Bruce B. Navarre, Sr. / KA3TIU who recently died.

**Activities of Members:** Dave / N3EYT asked the membership what they had been doing recently? Jimi / KB3WGE reported that he has recently enjoyed exchanging QSL cards with other ham radio operators. Ben / KB3CTX was happy to report that he spotted Pete / NL7XM's QSL card on an episode of "Last Man standing", a relatively new TV show starring Tim Allen. Bob / KE3AW added that Pete / NL7XM has been in correspondence with the show's producer (John Amodeo) and it resulted in the exchange of QSL cards. Pete / NL7XM then arrived to confirm what had been reported and to state how thrilled he had been when he spotted his card prominently displayed in Tim Allen's shack during a scene in the show.

**Guests Recognized:** Dave / N3EYT asked whether any guests were in attendance. Ron B., Wayne R., and Steve / KB3SKD with wife Sonja stood and were recognized.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Joe / AB3OS reported the April minutes were correct as reported in the recent newsletter and asked for a motion to approve the April minutes. George / N3SQD so moved; 2nd by Bill / K3ANS. **Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike / KB3LOD gave the March Treasurer's Report which was approved on a motion by Carl / AA3IX and 2nd by Dave / KA5IWC. **Motion carried.**

**Milk House:** With Dave / NB3R absent, Ken / N3IYX reported that Chris / Nu3L had recently toured the Milk House with visitors from Japan. Though none were hams they all seemed to enjoy the visit. Ken also reported that activity at the Milk House has been good with many members using the equipment and students visiting from the technical classes. Ken / N3IYX closed by reminding the membership that the Club is open Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The Club House is open many Friday nights and Saturday afternoons as well.

**Repeater:** Ben / KB3CTX reported that he had recently installed some D-STAR repeater updates on the system. He asked members to report any problems to him that they suspect may have been caused by these software updates. Carl / AA3IX asked whether any problems existed with the repeater, since he had recently noticed that the repeater's range did not seem as great as previously. George / N3SQD responded that there may be a problem with the coordination in the operation of the Wind Gap and the Nazareth repeaters. When an operator thinks he is in communication with the Nazareth repeater, it may be the Wind Gap repeater that he is communicating with. Ed / AA3OU reported that he has experienced noise when using the repeater. George / N3SQD reported that Barry / N3NVA is aware that a problem may exist and is working on it.

**Spring Sprint:** Ray / W3TDF asked that logs for those competing in the Spring Sprint be turned in the next few days, but he was unhappy to report that he was only aware of 7 participants so far with Bill / W0RSJ in 1st place, George / N3SQD in 2nd place, and Ray, Brad / W3JXQ, and Ben / KB3CTX tied for third. The final standings will be announced next month.

**High Altitude Balloon:** Dave / N3EYT asked Al / W3CE to report on the status of the High Altitude Balloon Project. Al / W3CE reported that two balloons are on order with a planning committee scheduled to meet in the next week or two to decide when, where, and with what payload the launch will take place. The launch is expected to reach an altitude of close to 100,000 ft. with the equipment costing a few hundred dollars. Al / W3CE upon a question from Dave / N3EYT stated that the project had yet to receive any contributions which prompted Mike / KB3LOD to report that a contribution had just been received in the amount of \$100.00. (With the Club's promised match of \$100.00 that meant that \$200 would flow to the Project.) Pete / NL7XM upon recognition from Dave / N3EYT then made a motion to increase the Club's match to \$250.00. Pete / NL7XM observed that it is money that the Club could well afford at present and it would encourage members to contribute more to the Project. This motion was 2nd by George / N3SQD and, after some questions and discussion, passed on a vote of the floor. **Motion carried.**

**Technical Classes:** Bob / KE3AW reported that the technical classes were over with a VE Session planned for the next night. An addition VE Session was planned for Tuesday night, 5 days from the meeting.

**MS Walk:** Dave asked for a report for the MS Walk that he observed was scheduled for May 6th. Howard / W03P was not present to report, but Ken / N3IYX announced that Howard is without a car at present and needs a volunteer to drive him to the event. Anyone interested should contact Howard / W03P.

**Field Day:** George / N3SQD announced that Field Day will take place on June 23rd and 24th at Louise Moore Park. The Setup will commence at 9:00 A. M. on June 23rd with operations commencing at 2:00 P. M. on June 23rd and ending at 2:00 P. M. on June 24th. We have permission to enter and leave the Park during the 24 hour period the contest is going on.

**Woman's 5K Walk/Run:** Don / KC3II announced that Charley / N3WXO needs volunteers, for June 9th. The event starts at 9:00 AM, and 12-15 volunteers are needed. Refer to the Club newsletter for details.

**Nominating Committee:** Dave / N3EYT reminded the membership that October meeting elections are approaching and volunteers are needed for the Nominating Committee. Anyone interested in serving should contact Dave / N3EYT.

**Membership:** George / N3SQD announced two new candidates for membership. Donald J. Boehrer / KB3YGR and Carl "Joe" Post / KB3TOD. After a brief introduction of their backgrounds and areas of interest, George / N3SQD asked for a motion to accept them as members of D.L.A.R.C. Dave / KA3IWC so moved; 2nd by Ben / KB3CTX. **Motion carried.** George reported that membership now stood at 152.

**Final Moments:**

**Paul/N0KIA:** On prompting by Dave / N3EYT, Paul /N0KIA gave a little tease for his program for the evening.

**Hamfest - Wrightstown;** Barry / KU3X suggested that the members may be interested in a hamfest in Wrightstown on Saturday, two days hence.

**Black Bear Ride:** Ben / KB3CTX expressed his concern that the Club may not be able to provide communications for the Black Bear this year since it is scheduled on October 13th and conflicts with the PA QSO Party. And many volunteers are needed to man the Black Bear due to the communication problems presented by the topography of the area. Al / W3CE added that this would be a perfect event for those new to ham radio with a technical license since it is a 2 meter operation well within the ability of a novice operator. Those interested in volunteering should contact Ben / KB3CTX.

**Adjournment:** With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

**Raffle:** Dick / KB3ALG won the raffle and donated his winnings to the Club.

**Scavenger Hunt:** Pete / NL7XM led the membership in a scavenger hunt with three door prizes at stake:

Pete asked for a cork screw. No one.

Pete asked for a cork. Again, on one.

Pete asked for a fortune cookie. Carolyn / KB3UMY won.

Pete asked for a Buy One/Get One Free coupon. No one.

Pete asked for a sticker from produce. Again, no one.

Pete asked for a skeleton key. Again, no one.

Pete asked for a blue rubber band. No one, yet again.

Pete asked for a dollar coin. Still, no one.

Pete asked for a \$5 bill with at least two 7's. Ed / AA3OU and Jim / KA3LEO won.

**Program:** "Critical Tools of the Casual Operator" by Paul / N0KIA

Respectfully submitted by Joe / AB3OS, 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.***

***Diane Myers, wife of Lyle / KB3SXI***

***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.***

***BRUCE NAVARRE / KA3TIU***

**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 Don Boehrer / KB3YGR and Joe Post / KB3TOD.

**VE TEST SESSION**

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be July 6th at 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911

Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at [george@bioserv.com](mailto:george@bioserv.com) or Al / W3CE at [w3ce@arrl.net](mailto:w3ce@arrl.net).

## FIELD DAY HERE AT LAST !

Field Day! Field Day! Here at last!!!  
Make them Q's and make 'em fast.  
Pitch those tents and raise them towers,  
Lots to do in 12 short hours.  
Swattin' skeeters and dodgin' bees  
Keep that 'ivy' off your knees!  
Shoot that rope through that there branch  
Turn the park into "Radio Ranch."  
Hold your rate and never fear  
Cuz good ol' Phil has brewed your beer!  
Pray for sunspots and high MUF  
Maybe this year won't be so tough!  
Now's the time for extra gain,  
A beam on 40 so don't complain!  
Make those bonuses when you kin  
And don't forget that bull-e-tin!  
GOTA, sats and natural power...  
at least THIS year we've got a shower!  
Keep on workin', don't you drool.  
We've got A/C to keep you cool!  
Write up traffic and work the nets  
Like a bunch of long-time vets!  
The work we know is such a pain  
And, as always, there's chance of rain!  
Barbecue, beans, and bratwursts, yum!  
Try to save the CW guys some...  
And don't forget why we're all here:  
It's all for fun and bragin' rights, true,  
But one big reason for which we do...  
Field Day every summer, late in June  
Our preparations to finely tune  
So when there's need a for emergency comms  
We hams stand ready, the call to arms!

**Jim / KU0G**

Best of luck to all for Field Day, 2012!

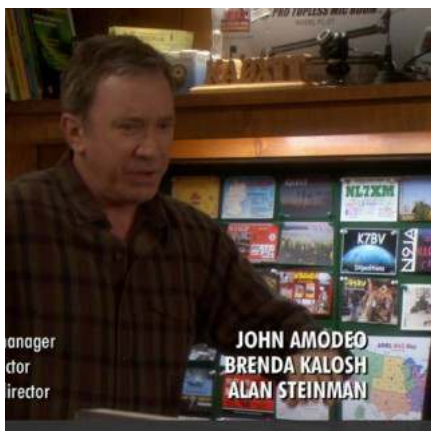
## FIELD DAY 2012

The 2012 Field Day will be held on the week end of June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. At the Louise Moore Park in Bethlehem Township. The DLARC will be located in Pavilion #5 which is located on the east side of Country Club Road. The same location as last years picnic and Field day.

Tom / KB3IUE is chairman of this event and will be looking for volunteers to help with all phases of the event. A sheet will be at both the May and June meeting for signing up. Help is needed with setting up, tearing down and also putting

together the food and drink. It is not too early to make your plans to be there. Come and operate, log or just to see old

## LOCAL HAM'S QSL CARD MAKES NATIONAL TV



ABC presented a new show this season last man standing, in which actor Tim Allen, plays a marketing director of an outdoor sporting goods store. The producer, John Amodeo / NN6JA decided that Tim Allen's character would be a ham. With help from ARRL Media and Public Relations Director, Allen Pitts / W1AGP it was arranged for the character to have the amateur call, KA0XTT.

If you look at the picture to the right, at about halfway down on the right side, there is the QSL card of Pete, NL7XM. It was shown on the closing credits of the TV show. Pete exchanged email with producer John Amodeo and found they were looking for items to represent a ham shack. QSL card and various ham awards, like WAS, DXCC etc were also added. Several hundred QSLs were received. They were posted so as to fill the shack wall. So be sure to watch when the show is being televised and look for Pete's QSL card on the wall.

## A LITTLE HUMOR

*This has to be one of the funniest things in a long time. I think this guy should have been promoted, not fired. This is a true story from the WordPerfect Helpline, which was transcribed from a recording monitoring the customer care department.....*

*Needless to say the Help Desk employee was fired; however, he/she is currently suing the WordPerfect organization for 'Termination without Cause.'*

Actual dialogue of a former WordPerfect Customer Support employee.

(Now I know why they record these conversations!):

Operator: 'Ridge Hall, computer assistance; may I help you?'

Caller: 'Yes, well, I'm having trouble with WordPerfect.'

Operator: 'What sort of trouble?'

Caller: 'Well, I was just typing along, and all of a sudden the words went away.'

Operator: 'Went away?'

Caller: 'They disappeared'

Operator: 'Hmm. So what does your screen look like now?'

Caller: 'Nothing.'

Operator: 'Nothing??'

Caller: 'It's blank; it won't accept anything when I type.'

Operator: 'Are you still in WordPerfect, or did you get out?'

Caller: 'How do I tell?'

Operator: 'Can you see the 'C: prompt' on the screen?'

Caller: 'What's a sea-prompt?'

Operator: 'Never mind, can you move your cursor around the screen?'

Caller: 'There isn't any cursor; I told you, it won't accept anything I type..'

Operator: 'Does your monitor have a power indicator?'

Caller: 'What's a monitor?'

Operator: 'It's the thing with the screen on it that looks like a TV. Does it have a little light that tells you when it's on?'

Caller: 'I don't know.'

Operator: 'Well, then look on the back of the monitor and find where the power cord goes into it. Can you see that??'

Caller: 'Yes, I think so.'

Operator: 'Great. Follow the cord to the plug, and tell me if it's plugged into the wall..'

Caller: 'Yes, it is.'

Operator: 'When you were behind the monitor, did you notice that there were two cables plugged into the back of it, not just one?'

Caller: 'No.'

Operator: 'Well, there are. I need you to look back there again and find the other cable.'

Caller: 'Okay, here it is.'

Operator: 'Follow it for me, and tell me if it's plugged securely into the back of your computer..'

Caller: 'I can't reach.'

Operator: 'OK. Well, can you see if it is?'

Caller: 'No..'

Operator: 'Even if you maybe put your knee on something and lean way over?'

Caller: 'Well, it's not because I don't have the right angle -- it's because it's dark.'

Operator: 'Dark?'

Caller: 'Yes - the office light is off, and the only light I have is coming in from the window.'

Operator: 'Well, turn on the office light then.'

Caller: 'I can't.'

Operator: 'No? Why not?'

Caller: 'Because there's a power failure.'

Operator: 'A power .... A power failure? Aha. Okay, we've got it licked now. Do you still have the boxes and manuals and packing stuff that your computer came in?'

Caller: 'Well, yes, I keep them in the closet..'

Operator: 'Good. Go get them, and unplug your system and pack it up just like it was when you got it. Then take it back to the store you bought it from.'

Caller: 'Really? Is it that bad?'

Operator: 'Yes, I'm afraid it is.'

Caller: 'Well, all right then, I suppose. What do I tell them?'

Operator: 'Tell them you're too damned stupid to own a computer!'

## WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

[Click here: VW Passat 78.5 MPG \(Imperial gallon\) 65.2 MPG US gallon in the Uk - YouTube](#)  
( Ctrl – Click to activate))



### WOMAN'S 5K WALK / RUN

I have been contacted again by Robert Cepin as the race director for Lehigh Valley Woman's 1st Strides. It's Woman's 5K Run as a satellite of the LV Road Runners which supports breast cancer. We are asked to be at the Hanover Township 5K Walk/Run to help with communications support for the event and point the runners the directions to run. For those of you who have helped before know it's an easy event and a great community to be at. Which makes it perfect for 1st time helpers. The event is on Saturday morning, June 9th. I was requested to have 12 to 15 operators to support the event for communications. I will be at the Hanover Township Community Center around 0800, or earlier, to get things started, and will need operators with 2 meter HTs (and batteries) or mobiles. I will hold a pre-deployment meeting/briefing at the Community Center parking lot between 08:30 and 08:40 and for those coming to help, talk-in will be on the W3OK 146.700 repeater system. It is a rain or shine event and is located at 3660 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, Pa.. Stations should be deployed to course locations (certain intersections and turns) between 08:45 and 0850.

At this point, I also want to mention that there is a possibility that I may not be able to attend due to a new job. I will still be fully coordinating this event as well as being the liaison with Robert Cepin at the Community Center. I know that someone will step up to be net control for the event if I can't attend. I'll keep everyone posted and will take any offers from anyone to be my back-up NCS.

The start of the race is 09:00 with walkers at about 09:02, and expect to go to about 09:45 with the last walker crossing the finish line. This is a more serious run so we won't have many walkers but they are expecting well over 400 runners. Frequencies will be finalized the morning of the race, but expect to be using 147.535 simplex and the W3OK repeater as a backup. I will give further updates as I know more. Be sure to bring anything you may need (water, soda, snack foods, etc.) while deployed. If you are able to lend your services, please contact me directly with any of the information below. I need to know in advance who I have available. If you are able help, please contact me regarding your intentions at your earliest convenience so I enough time to finalize plans and perform any other coordination activities. Thank you in advance for your response and support to the event and community.

Also, if you have an ARES vest, be sure to wear it. If not, other orange or yellow vest will also help to highlight you on the course.

Contact me if you can help and thanks in advance. ( [n3wxo@ptd.net](mailto:n3wxo@ptd.net) )

N3WYO Charles A. Zimmerman, Carbon County AEC & Assistant Skywarn Coordinator

### 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](mailto: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



#### MAY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

20 hams were required. 48 days times five per shift equals 240 total shifts, but if each ham could only work 12 shifts, 20 were needed (240 / 12 = 20)



The winner is Paddy / AJ3B

### JUNE BRAINTEASER

One coded message reads "FLANG BRONO HASSI" This was interpreted to mean, "WE COME IN PEACE"

The second coded message read, "MANSO NASI FLANG." This was interpreted to mean, "PEACE, LOVE AND FREEDOM."

A third coded message read, "BRONG BRANGO VANX." This was interpreted to mean, "IN THE LAST MINUTE."

Assuming correct translations, what does the coded word "HASSI" mean?

### CONVERSION CHART

I don't know where this chart has been all these years, but what a lifesaver it will be! As some of you know, I enjoy antique electronics, and as such, they used "cycles" in the old days. Since we use "Hertz" today, I was always pulling out the calculator for manual conversion:  $(\log[\text{cps}]/(\text{Hz}))2 = 1$ . This chart will avoid all the potential for error.

I hope that you will find it handy as well.

Follow link: [www.kirtland.com/CyclesperSecondtoHzConversionChart.pdf](http://www.kirtland.com/CyclesperSecondtoHzConversionChart.pdf)

de Pete / NL7XM

### 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.

## REPEATER ETIQUETTE

Atlantic County ARES Web Page Via **Bob Green / KE3AW**

Every couple of years it seemed we used to "remind" operators using our repeaters of the proper etiquette to be used on W3OK. With numerous new hams over the past couple years, or hams new to this area, it may be worth considering using/altering to suit us some such guide to operators in our club. I know, from recent questions to me about a number of points covered in this article, below...

### Here is the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur radio Club Repeater Etiquette.

Use of the W3OK Repeater

- 1-Usage will be in accordance with FCC Rules Part 97.
- 2-Users will comply with directives of the control operator.
- 3-Transmissions will be courteous and professional. (See Basic Repeater Etiquette Below)
- 4-The time out timer is set for 90 Seconds. Keep transmissions under that time. Leave breaks between transmissions so the repeater can drop and the time out timer resets.

### Basic Repeater Etiquette

- 1-Starting a QSO via a directed call. There are two main ways by which a QSO can begin, one is via a directed call and one is via monitoring. A directed call is where one amateur calls another amateur individually, such as "N3XYZ from K3ABC". In such a case, K3ABC is looking for one particular individual, N3XYZ. It generally is not an invitation for anyone other than N3XYZ to return the call. If N3XYZ doesn't answer the call, K3ABC may just clear off by saying "K3ABC clear", or may clear and listen for other calls by saying "K3ABC clear and listening". The "and listening" or "and monitoring" implies they are interested in hanging around to QSO with anyone else who might be listening at that time. "Listening" and "monitoring" don't mean you are listening to somebody else's conversation, they mean you are listening for other people who may want to call you to start a new QSO. Likewise, just saying your call by itself with nothing following it is meaningless. If you were to say "N3XYZ", people listening wouldn't know if that means you were monitoring for calls, whether you were testing, or whether they missed the callsign of a party you were calling. Be concise, but be complete.
- 2-Starting a QSO via a monitoring call. If the repeater is not in use, simply stating your callsign followed by "listening" or "monitoring" implies that you are listening to the repeater and are interested in having a QSO with anyone else. Calling CQ on a repeater is generally not common, a simple "N3XYZ listening" will suffice. There is no need to repeat the "listening" message over and over again as you might do when calling CQ on HF. Once every few minutes should be more than sufficient, and if someone hasn't answered after a few tries, it probably means there is nobody around. If someone is listening and wants to QSO, they will answer back. Avoid things like "is anybody out there" or "is there anybody around on frequency"; it sounds like a bad sci-fi movie.
- 3-Joining a QSO in progress. If there is a conversation taking place which you would like to join, simply state your callsign when one user unkeys. This is the reason for having a courtesy tone: to allow other users to break into the conversation. One of the stations in QSO, usually the station that was about to begin his transmission, will invite you to join, either before making his own transmission or afterward. Don't interrupt a QSO unless you have something to add to the topic at hand. Interrupting a conversation is no more polite on a repeater than it is in person.
- 4-Interrupting a QSO to make a call. If you need to make a directed call to another amateur but there is already another QSO going on, break into the conversation during the courtesy tone interval by saying "Call please, N3XYZ". One of the stations will allow you to make your call. If the station you are calling returns your call, you should quickly pass traffic to them and relinquish the frequency to the stations who were already in QSO; don't get into a full QSO in the middle of someone else's conversation. If you need to speak with the party you call for a significant length of time (say, more than 15 seconds), ask them to either wait until the current QSO has cleared, or ask them to move to another repeater or simplex channel to continue the conversation.
- 5-Roundtables and "Turning it Over". When more than two amateurs are in a QSO, it is often referred to as a "roundtable" discussion. Such a QSO's usually go in order from amateur A to amateur B to amateur C ... and eventually back to amateur A again to complete the roundtable. To keep everyone on the same page, when any one amateur is done making a transmission, they "turn it over" to the next station in sequence (or out of sequence, if so desired). Without turning it over to a particular station when there are multiple stations in the QSO, nobody knows who is supposed to go next, and there ends up either being dead silence or several stations talking at once. At the end of a transmission, turn it over to the next station by naming them or giving their callsign, such as "...and that's that. Go ahead Joe." or "...and that's that. Go ahead XYZ." If it's been close to 10 minutes, it's a good time to identify at the same time as well, such as "...and that's that. N3XYZ, go ahead Joe."
- 6-IDing and Who's Who? By FCC regulations, you must always identify at 10 minute intervals and at the end of a transmission. If you are making a test transmission or calling another party, this is a one-way transmission. Since it has no "length" as there is no QSO taking place, you should identify each time you make a call or a test transmission. When identifying yourself and another party (or parties), or when making a directed call, your callsign goes **LAST**. "N3XYZ, K3ABC" means that K3ABC is calling N3XYZ, not the other way around. There is no need to identify each time you make a transmission, only once every 10 minutes. You do not need to identify the station with whom you are speaking, only your own callsign, but it is generally polite to remember the call of the other station. Avoid phonetics on FM unless there is a reason for using them, such as the other station misunderstanding your callsign. When phonetics are needed, stick to the standard phonetic alphabet.
- 7-Demonstrations. From time to time, an amateur may want to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio to another non-amateur. The typical way to do this is to ask for a "demo" such as "N3XYZ for a demonstration." Anyone who is listening to



the repeater can answer them back. Usually telling the calling party your name, callsign, and location is what they are looking for, not a lengthy conversation. Someone doing a demo may ask for stations in a particular area to show the range of amateur radio communications, such as if the calling station is in the Poconos they may ask for any stations in south Jersey or Harrisburg areas, which is more interesting than demonstrating that they can talk to someone in the same town as they are in.

- 8-Signal Reports. If you are unsure how well you are making it into the repeater, **DO NOT** kerchunk the repeater. Any time you key up the repeater, you should identify, even if you are just testing to see if you are making the machine. "N3XYZ test" is sufficient. Do not use the repeater as a "target" for tuning or aiming antennas, checking your transmitter power, etc. Use a dummy load where appropriate, or test on a simplex frequency. If you need someone to verify that you are making the repeater OK, ask for a signal report such as "N3XYZ, can someone give me a signal report?" "Radio check" is a term most often used on CB, "signal report" is what most amateurs ask for.
- 9-Language. Aside from some of the techno-syncretisms inherent in amateur vernacular, use plain conversational English. The kind of English that would be suitable for prime-time television, not R rated movies. Avoid starting or encouraging conflicts on the air. If a topic of conversation starts to draw strong debate, change the subject. Avoid "radio-ese" lingo whenever possible. CB has its own language style and so does amateur radio, but the two are not the same. Amateurs have "names", not "personals". Although many new hams have graduated from the CB ranks, let's try to keep CB lingo off the amateur bands. When visiting a new repeater, take some time to monitor before jumping in to get a feel for the type of traffic and operating mannerisms of that particular system. Some repeaters are very free-wheeling in that there are people jumping in and out of conversations constantly. Others primarily have directed calls on them and discourage ragchewing. Others are member-exclusive repeaters. Listen before you talk, when in Rome do as the Romans do.
- 10-Emergencies. If there is a QSO going on, break into a conversation with the word "Break" or "Break for priority traffic." **DO NOT USE THE WORD BREAK TO JOIN IN A QSO UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY!** All stations should give immediate priority any station with emergency traffic.
- 11-Malicious Interference. If there is malicious interference, such as kerchunking, touch-tones, rude comments, etc. **DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE IT!** Continue the QSO in a normal fashion. If the interference gets to the level where it is impossible to carry on the QSO, simply end the QSO as you normally would.
- 12-Power. Use the minimum power necessary to complete a QSO. However, the minimum power necessary doesn't just mean you are barely tickling the repeater receiver squelch. If someone says that you are noisy, increase power or relocate or take whatever measures you can to improve your signal. Continuing to make transmissions after being told your signal is noisy is inconsiderate to those listening. The amateur radio manufacturers continue to come up with newer, smaller handheld radios, many with power levels well under a watt. Many new amateurs start out with a handheld radio as their "first rig". Although convenient, they aren't the most effective radios in terms of performance. Without a good external antenna, operating a handheld radio indoors or inside a car is going to result in a lot of bad signal reports.

## HOW TO REGISTER ON THE DLARC WEB PAGE

**Only club members can register to the site.**

Only club members can post to the site or gain access to the club rosters which includes addresses, phone#s, e-mail etc. I believe there will be more added later that members only have access. Scroll down on the front page. You will see on the left a place to log in. Under the log in spaces you will see:

- forgot your password?
- Forgot your user name?
- Create an account.

Click on "create an account"

Now you will see the registration form. All fields must be filled in.

We are a private forum/web page on the site so feel free to use your real name in the first space.

**!!!The user name MUST BE YOUR CALL SIGN!!!!**

Next a working e-mail address for your confirmation e-mail

Next pick a password

Next space re-type your password

Click the register button to the lower left.

You will then be brought back to the DLARC home page - at the top of the page will be this message:

"Your account has been created and an activation link has been sent to the e-mail address you entered. Note that you must activate the account by clicking on the activation link when you get the e-mail before you can log in."

Wait for the e-mail and follow the directions from there. The web master will check your call sign against the up to date / dues paid roster for 2009. If you are not on it you will be rejected. If you do not use your call sign you will be rejected.

The DLARC web page forum has a for sale section, a rag chew section etc.

Hope to see you on the site.

Any other questions - post them on the e-mail forum or contact the web master.

## 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.

## 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.**

### **YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2012 WHEN...**

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries...
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen
8. Leaving the house without your mobile phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. : )
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no 9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a 9 on this list

### **HOW TO REMOVE SKUNK SMELL FROM DOGS**

Has your dog been sprayed by a skunk? Even if not, all dog owners should know how to handle it - just in case. You may have heard of skunk odor remedies like tomato juice or vinegar, but they really just cover up the odor. Products like [Nature's Miracle Skunk Odor Remover](#) have been known to work, but may be hard to find in a pinch. You can remove the odor from your dog using household items. It's all thanks to chemist [Paul Krebaum](#), who developed the [recipe](#) in 1993. Skunk spray is very oily and contains sulfur (hence the stench). This recipe causes a chemical reaction that breaks up the oils and neutralizes the odor.

**Time Required:** 30-60 minutes

Here's How: As soon as you realize your dog has been sprayed by a skunk, don some rubber or latex gloves and old clothes and look her over for bites or scratches. Also check her eyes for redness or discharge. If any injuries are found, you should contact your veterinarian before proceeding.

1. Time is of the essence here - the longer you wait to begin the process, the harder it will be to remove the stench. Get set up for [bathing your dog](#) outdoors or in an easy to clean area of your home (laundry room, bathroom, etc). If indoors, open a window to save your nose!
2. Apply a small strip of eye lubricant (such as [Puralube](#)) or 1-2 drops of mineral oil to your dog's eyes. This will help protect the eyes in case any of the solution splashes or drips in.
3. In the plastic container, combine 1 quart hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 to 2 teaspoons of liquid soap. Add lukewarm water if needed (for larger dogs). Mix ingredients well. The solution will fizz, as a chemical reaction is occurring. Use immediately - do not store.
4. Do not soak your dog with water prior to bathing. Promptly begin cleansing the affected areas thoroughly, massaging the solution deep into your dog's coat. You may wish to use a sponge or washcloth. Avoid getting the solution in the eyes, ears or mouth.
5. Allow the solution to remain on your dog for at least five minutes (longer if strong odor persists).
6. Rinse your dog well with lukewarm water. Repeat steps 3-5 as necessary until odor is gone.
7. Dry your dog well and give her a treat!

#### **Tips:**

**NEVER** place the solution in a closed container or spray bottle, as the pressure will build up and the container could burst. This could cause serious injury to you and your dog.

DO NOT use higher concentrations of hydrogen peroxide or substitute baking soda with "similar" products. The altered chemical reaction could cause severe injury to you and your dog.

Be certain you use fresh hydrogen peroxide, as it becomes less concentrated over time. If you are unsure how old your hydrogen peroxide is (or if it is expired) get fresh bottles just in case.

1. The solution can be used to remove skunk odor from clothing and other fabrics. However, it can have a mild bleaching effect on some materials. In addition, your dog's coat may become slightly lighter as a result of the solution. If this happens, it should resolve over time. Don't worry, your black dog will not become a platinum blond!
2. To help avoid future meetings between skunks and your dog, try to prevent skunks from becoming attracted to your property. Do not leave food outside, including bird seed and fallen fruit from trees. Make sure garbage cans are well-secured. Placing moth balls and ammonia-soaked rags around your property might deter skunks from approaching. In addition, keep your dog within eye shot and keep her from running into wooded areas unattended.

## FYI

The winners of the May Prizes were Dick / KB3ALG, Carolyn / K3UMY, Ed / AA3OU and Jim / KB3LEO.  
The July Program will be "Standing Waves Demystified" by George / N3SQD

The D.L.A.R.C. meets the "FIRST" Thursday of each month. Membership, friends and interested persons meet at the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School ( 3300 Chester 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 OFFICERS

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## PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE DLARC CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE / MEMBERSHIP LISTING CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. Are held on the first Thursday of each month at  
7:30 PM at the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School  
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  
**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.**  
14 Gracedale Avenue  
Nazareth, Pa. 18064-9211

## 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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