

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

March 2011



W3OK

CORRAL

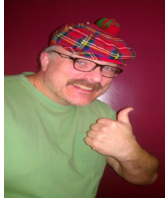
**Club Meeting March 1st 7:30PM
At the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School**

FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM



Dr. K. Khalighi MD Presenting Heart Health

**MARCH MEETING PROGRAM
D.L.A.R.C. Spring Mini Ham Fest**



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

Half way.

Half way to what? It's March.

Well, half way thru the board's term this year. We are six months from needing a finalized slate for the 2012-2013 term.

Time flies when you're having fun you might say.

Fun comes in the form of the Mini-Hamfest this month. I hope to see many of you there as I have had favorable feedback from some other clubs that should be showing up as well.

I'd also like everyone to start thinking elections. Yes they're seven months away but I would like to have a real slate to look at this year. A real election. Start looking at the time and schedule you have and see if maybe being on the board would fit in. There are many of you that I think could be a real asset to the club.

I would also like to encourage everyone to try to make an appearance at the club station at some point. The job that has been done there is wonderful. We have a very personable clubhouse chair in Dave NB3R who is willing to show all comers the ropes there and he is very encouraging about getting on the air.

We still need a program chair. If you feel you would like to fill this spot let me know. The job requires finding programs for the general meetings. You would need to find basically 10 programs since March is the annual Mini-Hamfest and December is always the Christmas party. You would have the boards help putting the dues reminder cards together and realistically a reminder card could go out with just the first six months programs on it so you would not have to stack the whole year up front. You would not be alone in the task.

I cannot stress the importance of the need for good programs each month. Without programs our numbers will fade.

At the last meeting under the "What have you done at home this month" portion of the meeting I introduced the option to bring something you might want to show off. I want to remind you all about that. Just remember that you only have a minute or two to talk about it so others can have a chance to brag or show.

I don't know where you go in March to find a four leaf clover but if you are the first to e-mail me at president@dlarc.org "four leaf clover" you'll get a free raffle ticket at the March general meeting.

Okay, again I hope to see you all at the March general meeting.

Everyone be safe.

Charlie / W3OPA

MARCH 2012 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 DLARC MEETING	2 V. E. SESSION	3
4	5	6 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	7 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (W3CE)	8	9	10
11 Daylight Savings Begins	12	13 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	14 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KR3U)	15	16	17 NewsLetter Articles Deadline
18	19	20 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	21 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (N3SQD)	22	23	24
25	26	27 D-Star Mid – Atlantic 7:30 PM	28 DLARC RACES/ARES Net (KC3II)	29	30	31

VE TEST SESSION

There will be a test session this month on March 2nd at 7 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.



MARCH CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

March 3 & 4 – ARRL Int. DX Contest - SSB

March 10 & 11 - EA PSK 31 Contest

March 17 & 18 – Russian DX Contest

March 24 & 25 – CQ WW WPX Contest - SSB





MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 2nd 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,

Call to Order: The meeting convened at 1932 hrs. with President Charlie Lazarchak / W3OPA presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Charlie / W3OPA

Members in Attendance: 50 and 1 guest.

Activities of Members: Charlie / W3OPA opened the meeting by asking the membership what they had been doing recently? Charlie / W3OPA mentioned that Barry / KU3X has an idea for a "show and tell" segment for the Club meetings that may find a place in future meetings. Charlie / W3OPA then shared that he had recently picked up a J38 straight-key for \$5 at a flea market. It is a military training key that was recently listed on eBay for about \$40. George / N3SQD then shared that he has been checking out the 10m band and found that it has been very active. Those with a technician license should take advantage of this opportunity to do some DXing on the 10m band. Jay / N3OW reported that he had recently worked two DXpedition stations. Jay also was happy to report that he had recently learned that his station was the winner for Berks county in the 2011 PA QSO Party. Jeff / N3QO reported that his station was the winner in Montgomery county for the PA QSO. Jon / NJ3I reported working a distant station in CW at .05 W! Pete / NL7XM, in answer to a question from the floor, briefly talked about Winter Field Day, which had recently taken place January 28th to January 29, 2012. In response to the popularity of Field Day of mid-summer, Winter Field Day came into being a few years ago and has been gaining a little more traction each year that it has been in existence. Pete and fellow competitors won the event in its inaugural year. The object of the event is familiar to most Amateur Radio operators: set up an emergency-style communications and make as many contacts as possible during the 24 hour period.

REPORTS:

Approval of the Minutes: Joe / AB3OS reported a problem with the minutes in January. The minutes of the January meeting were misleading in that the reader was led to believe that membership cards would automatically be sent by mail to those members paying their dues for 2012. But in fact, each member was expected to pick up their membership card at the Club general meeting unless they had enclosed a self-addressed- stamped-envelope with their dues payment. This was noted on the Dues Reminder Card that was sent to all the members. So please come to a general meeting to pick up your card and save the Club postage. With this correction or clarification to the minutes of the January meeting, Charlie / W3OPA asked for a motion to accept the minutes as corrected/clarified. Dave / KA3IWC so moved; 2nd by George / N3SQD.

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Mike / KB3LOD gave the December Treasurer's Report which was approved on a motion by Don / KC3II and 2nd by Ken / N3IYX. **Motion carried.**

Milk House: Nothing to report.

Repeater: Nothing to report.

Web Page: Brad / W3JXQ reported that the table of user information has been corrected. Charlie / W3OPA asked members to check their personal information on the website for items that need to be corrected. George / N3SQD requested that members send any change information to him for processing.

Membership: George / N3SQD presented two new candidates for membership: Brian Klock / KW3K, Extra, and Stephen Harper / KB3WYJ, Technician. Upon a motion by Pete / NL7XM, 2nd by Doreen / KB3PDL, to accept Brian and Stephen as new members, a vote was taken. **Motion carried.** George / N3SQD took a moment to urge the membership in attendance to pay their dues for 2012 and to ask fellow members that they know to do the same. Charlie / W3OPA reminded members that those who have failed to pay their dues by the end of the evening meeting are required by the bylaws of the Club to reapply for membership. Charlie asked that members pay their dues before the close of the meeting. Charlie / W3OPA informed the members in attendance that a committee has been charged with the job of calling members who have not paid their dues to ask them to please continue their membership.

OLD BUSINESS:

Phone Push: Ben / KB3CTX has been working to restore the "phone push" where computer-generated phone calls are sent out to the members reminding them of general meetings. Ben asked members to comment upon the quality of the calls so generated. Charlie / W3OPA also asked members to make comments.

Program Chairman: Charlie / W3OPA reminded the members that the Club is still without a Program Chairman. Anyone interested in signing on should contact Charlie.

NEW BUSINESS:

MS Walk: Charlie / W3OPA informed the membership that Howard Miller / WO3P is looking for volunteers to work the MS Walk on May 6th. Anyone interested in working this event should contact Howard.

March Minifest: Charlie / W3OPA reminded the membership that the program for the March meeting will be the March Minifest. The Club is renting out tables for \$2. The X-mas City and the QCWA clubs have expressed an interest in participating; we have not received a response from OI club.

Spring Technician Classes: Bob / KE3AW announced that the Club will once again be conducting classes for individuals who want to obtain their Technical or General license. The classes will take place at the Northampton County 911 Call Center on Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM. Classes start March 6th and will run for 9 weeks. A VE session will take place at the end of the 9 weeks of classes.

Scavenger Hunt: Pete / NL7XM then led the members in the weekly Scavenger Hunt: He was looking for a photograph of a pick-up truck. No one. He was looking for a cooking recipe. Again, no one. Pete was looking for lip balm. Yes, Jim / KA3LEO. Pete was looking for a pen that writes red ink. No one. Pete was looking for a spool of thread. Again, no one. Pete was looking for an uncanceled postage stamp. Again, no one. Pete was looking for a mechanical pencil. Yes, Doreen / KB3PDL. Pete was looking for a "D" cell battery. No one. Pete was looking for a nail. No one.

Raffle: Carolyn / KB3UMY won the raffle. 1st door prize was won by Steve / KB3WYJ. 2nd door prize was won by Brad / W3JXQ. 3rd door prize was won by Jim / N3DW. 4th door prize was won by Ed / K3IFE.

Final Moments:

Magazines Offered: Bill / K3ANS, as he often does, brought some old Amateur Radio magazines to the meeting to offer to the members present. Bill suggested that many members could benefit from some of the articles contained within these old issues. He observed that, in addition to some other excellent articles, these magazines contained some very good articles focused on how to excel at contesting. Bill / K3ANS also shared that a long time ham, Harry Jones of Bangor, has recently died and left behind a cache of ham radio stuff. Members interested in what Harry left behind should contact Bill / K3ANS for details.

Cub Scouts Visit: Al / W3CE reported that 11 cub scouts paid a visit to the Milk House on January 23rd and received a ham radio demonstration that enthralled the scouts and the scout parents as well. The visit went very well.

The Board Stands: Charlie / W3OPA asked the members of the Board to stand. While recognizing the Board, Charlie asked the members in attendance whether they had any questions for the Board. No questions were posed.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2006 hrs.

Program: "Heart Health Month" by Cardiologist, Dr. K. Khalighi, M.D. Thank you, Dr. Khalighi.
Respectfully submitted by Joe Garvey / AB3OS Secretary.

THE 2012 DLARC (2-METER) SPRINT

This year's event will be held on Saturday, April 14, from 10:00AM until 11:00AM EDST. All activity will be 2-Meter FM SIMPLEX in the 146MHz portion of the band. Each individual simplex frequency will have a letter assigned as if it were a different band as hereby shown, 146.43=A, 146.46=B, 146.49=C, 146.52=D, 146.55=E and 146.58=F.

It is important that the letter designation must be entered in your log for each contact. You are encouraged to make QSO's with each station on as many different frequencies as you can, (see scoring). Times should be entered for each contact.

The EXCHANGE will be a personally chosen 3 letter group. Suggested is the 3 letter abbreviations for the PA Counties as used in the PA QSO Parties. Or, you can use your personal initials. Choose one of the county abbrevs as shown here,

ARM, ADA, BUX, BRA, CMB, CAR, DAU, DCO, ERI, FAY, FRA, GRE, HUN, INN, JUN, LAW, LUZ, MGY, MER, NUM, NHA, PHI, POT, SCH, SUS, TIO, UNI, VEN, WAR, WAY, YOR.

SCORING will be ONE point for each contact, (all freqs totaled). A multiplier will be determined as follows; ONE mult will be awarded for each station that is contacted on a minimum of 4 different Freqs.

These requirements will make it truly a sprint atmosphere. Chit-chatting will be less productive, so be forewarned. If you want to make a real splash then be sure to have all the Freqs programmed into your radios.

LOG REQUIREMENTS are; Each page must show in the header your CALL and your chosen 3-LETTER exchange sent. The individual log entry must include; TIME, FREQ LETTER, CALL and PERSONAL 3-LETTER INFO RECEIVED.

Final score may be your arithmetic, but will be checked by the committee.

Logs may be mailed to Pete, NL7XM, or to me, or may be turned in at the May meeting. The winner awards will be made at the June meeting. A list of the scores will be available.

[If you work 25 people on all 6 Freqs, (that's 150 QSO's) which would give you a multiplier of 25, your score (max.) would be 3750 points. Surely possible, but? 150 Q's in one hour?]

Questions? e-mail to w3tdf@ptd.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



FEBRUARY BRAINTEASER ANSWER

All the numbers are prime, except 133. (133 = 19 x 7)



The winner is Andrew / WV1B

MARCH BRAINTEASER

Mike, Jimmy, Nader, Kevin, and Larry were the top five finishers in the regional 500-mile race. They drove yellow, orange, green, red and blue cars but not necessarily in that order. Neither Kevin nor Larry drove the green car. Kevin finished faster than Mike and Larry. The blue car finished earlier than Larry's and Nader's car. The yellow car finished faster than the green car and the orange car. Mike's and Larry's car finished ahead of the orange car. Jimmy's car finished before the blue and the yellow car. Who drove what color car and what place did each driver finish?



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight saving time (DST)—also **summer time** in several countries including in British English and European official terminology is the practice of temporarily advancing clocks during the summertime so that evenings have more daylight and mornings have less. Typically clocks are adjusted forward one hour near the start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn. Modern DST was first proposed in 1895 by George Vernon Hudson and it was first implemented during the First World War. Many countries have used it at various times since then; Details vary by locations.

The practice has been both praised and criticized. Adding daylight to evenings benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems for evening entertainment and other occupations tied to the sun. Start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn.

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The practice has been both praised and criticized. Adding daylight to evenings benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems for evening entertainment and other occupations tied to the sun. Its effect on health and crime is less clear. Although an early goal of DST was to reduce evening usage of [incandescent lighting](#), formerly a primary use of electricity, Modern heating and cooling usage patterns differ greatly, and research about how DST currently affects energy use is limited or contradictory

DST clock shifts present other challenges. They complicate timekeeping, and can disrupt meetings, travel, billing, recordkeeping, medical devices, heavy equipment, and sleep patterns. Software can often adjust computer clocks automatically, but this can be limited and error-prone, particularly when DST protocols are changed.

So now having read this brief history, do not forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 11.

2012 MS WALK

The MS walk will be held Sunday May 8 2012 at Coca-cola park, Directions are: Take U.S. 22 W to Exit for Airport Road South. Merge Right off exit ramp onto Airport Road South. Make a Right on American Parkway (at light, with intersection). Make a Left into Coca-Cola Park complex.

Registration starts at 9 A.M.

**Walk starts at 10 A.M.
(Rain or Shine)**

Our members should show up at 8:30 am to get into place,
Thank you, Howard / WO3P

THE DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IS OFFERING FREE AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES, SPRING, 2012:

The spring entry level amateur radio classes will begin March 5th at the Northampton County 911 Center. The class sessions will run from 7 to 9 PM Tuesdays for 9 weeks, ending with a DLARC VE session. General classes will also be available. To enroll in the classes and/or more details, including directions to the class location and answers to your questions about amateur radio, please telephone 610-432-8286 or email ke3aw@arrl.net.

HANOVERVILLE 5K

I have been contacted by Sharon Friedman as the race director for Strides for Shelter. This is a 5K Walk/Run she hosts in memory of her brother which has all of the profits given to the Transplant House at Penn. We, as radio operators, are asked to be at the Hanover Township 5K Walk/Run to help with communications support for the event and to point the runners on their directions to run. We have assisted the Community Center for several with their events and 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, April 28th and will need operators to support the event for communications. I will be at the Hanover Township Community Center around 0800 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.

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. Sharon is expecting about 200 runners this year. Frequencies will be finalized the morning of the race, but expect to be using 147.535 simplex and the W3OK repeater only 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.

Charles A. Zimmerman / N3WXO (n3wxo@ptd.net)

2011 PA QSO PARTY



The winner of the D.L.A.R.C.'s annual Norm Zoltak / K3NZ award for 2011, with a total score 119,302 points, was Joe O'Brien / WI2E. Joe had 527 QSOs, All 527 QSOs were CW contacts, with 58 counties and 54 sections. Second place was Ben / KB3CTX, with a score of 112,341 points Ben had 676 QSOs 46 CW, 453 phone with 67 counties and 51 sections. Third place was Chris / NU3L, with a score of 92,119 points. Chris had 665 QSOs, 46 CW, 619 phone with 66 counties and 62 sections. Perennial winner, Ray / W3TDF had a score of 166,445 points. Ray had 928 QSOs, 229 CW, 629 phone and 67 counties and 67 sections. Ray asked not to be considered for the award, because of having won it so often.

2011 PA QSO PARTY

Club competition scores are out and the D.L.A.R.C. came in second with 1,161,209 points. The winner was the Frankfort radio Club with 1,339,888 points.

Over all, N3OW was third highest for Berks County, NU3L was second highest and KE3AW was third highest in Lehigh County. W3TDF was highest in Mifflin County and N3QO was highest in Montgomery County. WI2E was second highest in Northampton County and N3EBH was second highest in Union County.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Long time club member and Pennsylvania QSO party participant, Ray / W3TDF holds the single operator high score records for the following counties: Franklin, Fulton, Indiana, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Sullivan, Union, and Wayne counties. Bill / K3ANS holds the holds a single operator high score record for Northampton County. a DLARC member holds the single operator high score records for 11 of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

CUB SCOUTS VISIT THE MILKHOUSE

On Jan 23rd we had the pleasure of hosting the Tiger Cubs from Cub Scout Pack 29 of the Minsi Trails Boy Scout Council. The scouts arrived at 7 P.M. accompanied by their leader, Jeff Baker, parents and siblings. We introduced them to several aspects of amateur radio including voice, CW, and slow scan television. The SSTV system that we plan to use on our balloon flight later this summer was used to transmit pictures inside the milk house to a laptop running MMSSTV. They enjoyed viewing themselves on the computer screen. We then contacted a Ham in Maryland on SSB and gave many of the scouts a chance to talk on the air and ask questions. The adults there also received a good introduction to amateur radio and hopefully we might see some of our visitors at one of our future Technician classes.

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.

AMATEUR RADIO FINALLY JUMPS ON THE MAKER BANDWAGON

by Dan Romanchik / KB6NU

Over three years ago, I wrote that amateur radio should do more to associate itself with the Maker, or "do it yourself" (DIY) movement (www.kb6nu.com/lets-get-on-the-maker-bandwagon/). Well, it finally looks like it is going to do just that. Just before the first of the year, the ARRL unveiled its DIY campaign (www.arrl.org/news/arrl-launches-new-diy-campaign). The most visible part of the campaign is a video (www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ), but there are also some other bits, including:

- a flier to be handed out to interested persons,
- buttons that say "Ask Why I DIY with Ham Radio," and
- a PowerPoint presentation and speaker's notes that you can use to give a presentation to an amateur radio club or other non-ham group.

These items are available from the ARRL website, www.arrl.org/DIY.

CQ also on board

CQ magazine is also jumping on the bandwagon. They recently announced that they will run a quarterly "Maker" column, written by Matt Stultz, KB3TAN. Stultz is the founder of HackPittsburgh, a "hackerspace" or community workshop for makers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has been a ham since 2009 and has integrated amateur radio into many of HackPittsburgh's activities. Stultz's first column, titled "We Are Makers," will appear in the March issue of CQ. It provides a general introduction to the maker/hacker community for hams, as well as a description of a high-altitude balloon project that brought the two groups together in Pittsburgh.

Hams at the Maker Faire

In 2006, Make: magazine hosted the first Maker Faire (www.makerfaire.com) in San Mateo, CA. Since then, Maker Faires have also been held in Austin, TX, New York, NY; and Detroit, MI. Maker Faires are showcases for all kinds of crazy projects that people are working on.

Hams usually have a presence at these events. This year, the theme for one of the amateur radio groups participating in the California Maker Faire, which is the flagship event, is Arduino (www.arduino.cc) applications in amateur radio. Michael, NE6RD, who is organizing this group has lined up several very cool projects. One of them is an Arduino-controlled satellite antenna system. A project I proposed is an Arduino-controlled keyer. On the face of it, this is not a real exciting project, but my twist on this is that instead of directly keying a transmitter, I plan to have the Arduino actuate a solenoid that will press a straight key. That should make the project a little more visual.

Hams sometimes like to claim that we were the original makers and hackers. We certainly have a long tradition of DIYing. Let's show these upstarts exactly what ham radio is capable of. Perhaps, in the process, we'll even entice a few of them to join us.

ARMY MARS AND WINLINK UPDATE

According to Pudge Forrester, AAA9GL, government liaison for [Army MARS](#), Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use of the [WinLink 2000](#) global radio e-mail system by Army MARS members. Ms Lawrence stated that the Army, after reviewing its capabilities, had decided that the continued use of WinLink 2000 was a valuable asset to Army MARS members and agencies that were using the service. She issued a statement to that effect on December 21, 2011. On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS officially notified his membership that the phase out notice had been rescinded.

Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the service hailed the decision by Ms Lawrence and resumed use of WinLink 2000.

FCC SETS DATE FOR MEDICAL DEVICES ON 70cm

In November 2011, [FCC Commissioners unanimously agreed](#) to allocate spectrum and adopt service and technical rules for the utilization of new implanted medical devices that operate on 413-457 MHz (70 cm). These devices will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Medical Device Radiocommunication (MedRadio) Service in Part 95 of the FCC rules. In the [Federal Register for Friday, January 27](#), the FCC announced that the effective date for these new rules is Monday, February 27. The new rules expand the existing MedRadio Service rules to permit the use of new wideband medical implant devices that employ neuromuscular microstimulation techniques to restore sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs. These medical devices hold enormous promise to advance the state of medical care, lower health costs, and improve the quality of life for countless Americans. The rules will allow these new types of MedRadio devices to access 24 megahertz of spectrum in the 413-419, 426-432, 438-444, and 451-457 MHz bands on a secondary basis.

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.

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.

POSTAL RATES HAVE GONE UP

BACKGROUND:

Prices for most Postal Service mailing services will change on January 22, 2012. Mailing services includes First-Class Mail, Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services and Extra Services. Prices for shipping services will also change on January 22. We will provide customers the new shipping services prices later this fall.

While actual percentage price increases for various products and services varies, the overall average price increase across all mailing services is capped by law at 2.1 percent, the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

FIRST-CLASS MAIL HIGHLIGHTS:

- ■ Letters (1 oz.) – 1-cent increase to 45 cents. This is the first increase in the price of a First-Class Mail stamp since May 2009.
- ■ Single-piece letters additional ounce rate – unchanged at 20 cents.
- ■ Postcards – 3-cent increase to 32 cents
- ■ Letters to Canada or Mexico (1 oz.) – 5-cent increase to 85 cents
- ■ Letters to other international destinations – 7-cent increase to \$1.05
- ■ The second ounce will be free for First-Class Mail Presort pieces weighing between one and two ounces.

ADDITIONAL PRICE ADJUSTMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- ■ The price increase for Standard Mail Letters is slightly below the overall average at less than 1.9 percent
- ■ A new 3-month pricing option will be available to rent PO Boxes for people on the move and others that need a PO Box for a shorter time period.
- ■ Delivery Confirmation will be free for several parcel products as the Postal Service continues to make tracking an integral component of parcels mailed at commercial rates.

PERCENTAGE OF PRICE CHANGE BY CLASS OF MAIL:

Class	Percent Change
First-Class Mail	2.133
Standard Mail	2.124
Periodicals	2.133
Package Services	2.133
Extra Services	-0.663*

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

A program chairperson is needed. The duties are easy for this year since the schedule is already filled. The only necessary requirements are to check with the scheduled presenter prior to their appearance as a reminder and to fill in any missing openings. Pete / NL7XM can give you more details if necessary.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Going along with February, being The American Heart Month and the fact that heart disease including stroke the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. We welcomed Dr. K. Khalighi, a member of the Easton Cardiovascular Associates to speak at our meeting.

Dr. Khalighi presented, with slides, brief background on the heart, its make up and how it functions. Using a house as an example, with plumbing and electrical circuits.

He spoke on reduced blood flow as being the most common occurrence for heart related problems, the various methods to restore normal blood flow. The use of balloons .and Stents to open these areas.

Dr. Khalighi moved on to pacemakers their purpose and how they are placed in the body. Showing several examples of pacemakers. And how they have changed in size over the years. Defibrillators and how they were used to restore normal rhythm after a heart problem was the next topic. He then showed how defibrillators were inserted into the chest. These were when these defibrillators were large and bulky. The modern defibrillator is due to its smaller size just mounted under the skin on the chest. Several examples of the early large heavy units were passed around, followed by the smaller lighter modern units.

Dr. Khalighi concluded with what is most necessary to good heart health, that being good diet and exercise. There was a question and answer session following his presentation.

You do not know what you missed if you were not here. Another excellent program from Pete / NL7XM

F.Y.I.

The winners of the February Prizes were Carolyn / K3UMY, Steve / KB3WYJ, Brad / W3JXQ, Jim N3DW and Ed / K3IFE
The Scavenger Hunt winners were Jim / KA3LEO and Doreen / KB3PDL.
The April Program will be Ray / W3TDF "Lightning! What you should know."

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.

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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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