

DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

September 2012



W3OK

CORRAL

Club Meeting September 6th 7:30PM

At the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School

SEPTEMBER MEETING PROGRAM

Jon / NJ3I

“EMP EVENT – First Strike!”

AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM

REPEATER ETIQUETTE

Bob / KE3AW presented this month's program on repeater etiquette. Beginning with the primary rule of thumb, that being common courtesy. Common courtesy and the FCC Rules Part 97, is a brief summary of an operators requirements for proper usage of any repeater.

IDing is required every 10 min., not at the end of brief transmissions. The use of phonetics is not necessary unless for clarification of a call sign or information. “CB” style language is not used on repeater. Language. Aside from some of the techno-syncretics inherent in amateur vernacular, should be plain conversational English. Remember the repeater is not “R” rated.

Another good rule is to listen, before keying up, to be sure you are not interfering with an ongoing conversation. When in a conversation, remember to leave a break before keying up, to allow other operators to enter into the conversation or handle an emergency situation. Another rule of thumb would be to hesitate after keying your microphone to allow the repeater to open up. Thus preventing your initial information from being clipped off. Never use the word BREAK unless it is an emergency.

Remember that your transmissions are open to the general public as well as other amateur radio operators. With this in mind., the general public will get a positive reaction to our local activities and our hobby as well.

Bob presented more ideas and plenty of examples on how the W3OK repeater should be used. And had additions from the floor which covered the topic and then some. (Editor's Note: If you missed this presentation, set up by Pete / NL7XM, you missed another excellent program in this 2012 series)



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S POOPDECK

Arrrrrr! Avast me hearties (CQ CQ) ya scurvy dogs!
 Wednesday, September 19 is talk like pirate day.
<http://www.talklikeapirate.com/piratehome.html> . I have not seen any Hallmark cards for the holiday yet but they cannot be to far off.
 It's holidays (and other things) like this that drive my wife nuts... "Honey, what are ya gonna get me for Talk Like a Pirate Day?"
 "What ARE you talking about?" she'll ask.
 Ah, marital bliss.
 Anyway, here is how a seadog writes it...

We be at th' final meetin' fer nominations (givin' ou' a black spot) fer th' board. Th' opportunity t' run fer a slot or nominate someone closes at th' end o' th' Septembree meetin'. Watch ou' fer th' pressgang...

I would like t' thank th' followin' bilgerats fer servin' on th' board this voyage:

- Yardarm Scarlet Dave (N3EYT)
 - Iron Joe (AB3OS)
 - Sealegs Truelove Mike (KB3LOD)
 - Geedunk George (N3SQD)
 - Barnicle Bob (NE2C)
 - The Dread Pirate Jay (N3OW)
 - Frosty Seabass Gary (N2AUO)
 - Jolly Swordfish Jon (NJ3I)
- And Gunwalls Archibald Dave (KA3IWC)

Arrrr!

PA QSO party be here before ye know 't. If ye be unable t' get on th' air at homeport, come ou' t' th' club station an' help wrack up points fer th' club's call sign. Ya scurvy cur.

Last Octobree brought th' first an' arguably only snow o' th' season. If ye be havin' a 4x4 an' can help move essential swabbies around th' valley, dasn't forget t' talk t' Keelhaul AI (W3CE).

Well, this be short an' sweet. I hope ya sea dogs an' land lubbers finishes ou' yer summer safely an' in one piece. I look fore t' seein' ye all at th' next meetin'.

Tally ho (73)

Dirty 'OI Chuck (W3OPA)

SEPTEMBER 2012 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

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

VE TEST SESSION

There will be a test session this month on September 7th at 7 PM at the Northampton County 911 center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at george@bioserv.com or AI / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net

MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST MEETING

The general membership meeting of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc. Was held at the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School in Bethlehem Township on August 2nd 2012.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by George / N3SQD.

President Charlie / W3OPA - Apologies for absence.

Members and Guests: 34 with 1 guest.

REPORTS:

Approval of the July Minutes: 1st Dave / KA3IWC, 2nd Doreen / K3PDL – **Motion Carried**

Approval of the treasurer's Report: 1st Jay / N3OW, 2nd Gary / N2AUO – **Motion Carried**

Club Station: AI / W3CE reported the D-Star Gateway computer died and Dave NB3R was preparing a new computer for that purpose. Phone back in service.

Weather Balloon Project: AI / W3CE reported that the launch site appears to be Potter County, no later than September 30th.

Meeting Location: The club will continue to meet at the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School until December, then moving to the Bethlehem Township Community Center beginning with the January 3rd 2013 meeting.

Nominations for 2013 Officers and Board of Directors:

President – Charlie / W3OPA

Vice President – Dave / N3EYT

Secretary – John / NT3P

Treasurer – Mike / KB3LOD

Board of Directors: Jon / NJ3I

Gary / N2AUO

Dave / KA3IWC

Pete / NL7XM

There is an opening for the Board of Directors, if you are interested make it known at the September meeting.

The final Board Member spot is filled by the previous past president and not an elected position and is held by George / N3SQD.

Membership: George / N3SQD present two applications for membership: George Isleib / W3CPR & Kurt Chambers / KA2QYS. 1st Bob / KB3ULG, 2nd Dave / N3LWY. **Motion Carried.**

Repeater: George N3SQD reported Barry / N3NVA is working on it.

Talk-in: A knowledgeable operator is needed to handle talk-ins for the meetings.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Annual Club Picnic - August 26th at the Louise Moore Park in Bethlehem Township.

Tech and General Classes – Beginning September 4th.

Lehigh Valley Wheelmen Gap Gallop – October 7th.

Black Bear Bike Run – October 13th

PA QSO Party – October 13th and 14th.

Emmaus Halloween Parade – October 20th

Volunteer Operators will be need for the bike run and the parade

FINAL MOMENTS:

Bill / K3ANS announced there would be a Knife Show on September 29th & 30th at the Charles Chrin Community Center.

Jay / N3OW questioned the possibility on a club sponsored ham fest type flea market for local hams

ADJURNMENT: George / N3SQD adjourned the meeting at 8:18

Respectfully submitted by Don / KC3II acting secretary

The August program was Repeater Etiquette by Bob / KE3AW

SEPTEMBER CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL

September 1 & 2 All Asian DX Contest - Phone

September 8 & 9 ARRL September VHF QSO Party

September 22 & 23 ACCW VHF / UHF Contest

September 29 & 30 CQ World Wide DX Contest – RTTY



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 George Isleib / W3CPR, and Kurt Chambers / KA2QYS.

QCWA MONDAY NIGHT NET

Monday evenings at 8:30 PM, the QCWA Chapter 17 Net, convenes on 3962+/- depending on conditions with Mel / W3SQ serving as net control.

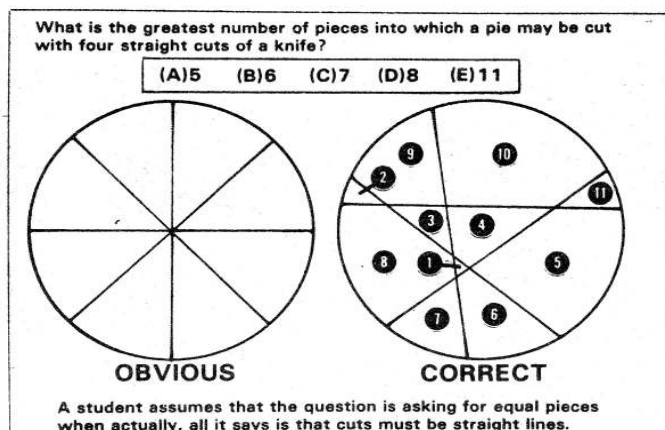
MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER

"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

AUGUST BRAINTEASER ANSWER

11



11

The Winner is Chris / NU3L

THE SEPTEMBER BRAINTEASER de KB3LIC

A group of Hams volunteered to provide communications overnight for a festival's duration. Five hams had to be in the shack each night. Each ham was to serve 12 shifts only. The festival ran for 48 consecutive days. How many different ham operators were required?

HAM CLASSES

On September 4th DLARC will begin this fall's series of free amateur radio classes for non-licensed persons who wish to learn about amateur radio and earn their licenses. DLARC also is planning General Class license upgrade classes starting at the same time. If you know anyone interested in this offer contact ke3aw@arrl.net or telephone 610.432.8286. Likewise, if YOU are interested in upgrading your license contact me at by email or phone.

Bob / KE3AW

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

Additional Net Controls are needed for the Wednesday Night ARES, RACES & DLARC net. If we have enough interested operators, it will only be necessary for each operator to have only one net session in each three month period. Actually 13 weeks in a period, so 13 net controls would be ideal, and maybe some extras to fill in if needed. This would give us a pool of experienced controls, for any emergency which would arise. Interested operators should contact Don / KC3II at kc3ii@arrl.net or Al / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net The NIMS IS-700 and ICS-100 courses are not required to be a net control, but should the need arise and we do supply controls and operators for real emergencies, then the courses requirement will be in effect.

SIXTH ANNUAL LEHIGH VALLEY KNIFE SHOW

Easton, PA

Saturday & Sunday, September 29 & 30, 2012 – Show hours: Saturday: 9 AM to 5 PM; Sunday: 9 AM to 3 PM

Buy, sell, and display knives: New, antique, rusty, factory, custom, hunting, military, swords, daggers, folders, Bowies, razors, sharpeners, books!

Charles Chrin Community Center of Palmer Township
4100 Green Pond Road, Easton, PA 18045-2594 [Along US-22]

THE DLARC K3NZ PAQSO AWARD

This award is named in honor of Norm Zoltack, K3NZ and will be awarded to the club individual earning the highest score in the club during PAQSO party. Norm was a super contester and a guiding force in his 40 plus years with the DLARC.

Requirements:

1. You must be a single operator.
2. You must apply your score to the DLARC's aggregate.
3. Portable, mobile, rover and home operations count.
4. You can operate from any county.

DUST PARTICLES REFLECT RADIOS SIGNALS IN THE ATMOSPHERE?

In the W3OK Corral club newsletters November 2011 issue we wrote an article titled "Draconid Meteor Scatter Outbursts". That event had occurred on October 8, 2011.

Well, that report was published ten months ago, thus it's time again to report on a different major annual meteor shower for 2012 – the Perseids.

The Perseids are a prolific meteor shower associated with comet Swift-Tuttle, so called because the point from which they appear to come from in the sky, called the radiant, lies in the constellation Perseus.

Meteor forecasters predicted that the peak of the shower will take place on August 11-12 with 100 meteors per hour zipping across the sky.

Early in the night, 22 -23 UTC on August 11 the radiant will appear near +58 degrees on the horizon in the sky towards the northeast. At this point in time longer shooting stars, fireballs will zooming across the sky at velocity speeds of 58 km/s.

This is the critical time to put your recorders to the "on" position.

According to the International Meteor Organization (IMO) website the typical maximum of the Perseids falls into a period between 12 – 1430 UTC on August 12 for observers in the northern hemisphere. Mid-northern latitudes are favored compared to observers from the southern hemisphere such as Australia, New Zealand.

For those that will spot the shower visually the moon be in the waning crescent phase which will be a nuisance due to its relative proximity to the radiant. Other factors that would impair visibility are local weather conditions such as overcast clouds, rain, fog, etc.

Later, during the pre-dawn hours the radiant will decrease towards the horizon. If you have a high gain horizontal outdoor antenna leveled to the horizon you will start detected more meteors.

0704 UTC (3:04 am EDT) - when I parked my Visteon HD Jump RDS FM radio (analog mode) on a vacant FM channel, 107.5. Within minutes, I heard the baseline background noise increase to a moderate signal strength for a split second with a Spanish announcer abruptly being heard (ping) that lasted about four seconds in duration. Since the time was excessively short, no possible station identification could be determined. Possibilities are WAMR-FM in Miami "Amor 107.5 Radio la Nueva" at 193 miles distance to my southeast. The only Spanish broadcaster in Florida state on that assigned frequency. But then again it could have originated outside the USA, such as Cuba, Mexico or even Central America.

Four minutes afterwards another ping occurred at a moderate signal strength for about 10 seconds, with a male English announcer that had a fair amount modulation distortion due to shifting of the main carrier due to Doppler.

I have noticed the above event had occurring eight times between the hours of 0707 – 0811 having duration times ranging from 3 to 15 seconds due to meteor dust particles the size of grains of sand with its associated ionized smoke trails flashing overhead from the debris field stream of comet Swift-Tuttle.

The Doppler source originates from a local Saint Petersburg broadcaster, call letters – WXGL, slogan "Tampa Bay's Classic Hits Station, 107.3, The Eagle" with a RF power output of 100kW. Their transmitter site is 7.5 miles west of my location across Old Tampa Bay.

WXGL is assigned a signal 200 kHz lower than my parked frequency at 107.5, therefore when a meteor fireball torches through the atmosphere heading towards my QTH it shifts the stations RF carrier up in frequency, then when it pass overhead and flies farther away the signal shifts back down rapidly that produces distorted out-of-phase modulated audio.

Normally, meteor scatter is detected in the forward scatter mode, meaning the transmitter is located well below the horizon. In this case, the transmitter site is not below my horizon. It is within 7.5 miles distance, thus co-located.

What is happening here is that their 100 kW signal is radiated out above the horizon at angles greater than 35 degrees inclination into the sky which then strikes the ionized plasma gas smoke trail causing the signal to reflected back to its emitter source within a co-located area.

This propagation mode is called meteor back-scatter, essentially it's Radar.

According to the International Meteor Organization website (www.imo.net), at 01:19 there were 86 meteors observe per hour (averaged) during the mid evening of August 12. At 10:12, it had risen to 122 during the pre-dawn local hours.

Equipment used was a roof mounted Antennacraft CCS-1843, 180" boom length, extreme deep fringe cross-phase multi-element U/V/FM antenna that is 25 feet off the ground aimed north-northwest with 50 feet of RG-6 quad coax cable terminated to a Visteon HP Jump FM RDS radio set in analog mode. No antenna preamplifier was used, however if you wish to achieve more efficiency thereby increasing meteor detection rates, obtain a low noise, medium to high gain (10-20 db) antenna preamplifier and mount it as close to the antenna feed-point post as possible.

Meteor scatter signals can be heard roughly from 300 to 1,000 km distance majority of the time, but ranges as far as 1,500 km have been reported.

Hopefully, this report will provide some enlightenment to radio amateurs to experiment using alternative techniques, even if the probability of success is low to non-existent. If you do not attempt to make an effort, you might miss out on the next discovery. How many people in our club community has ever heard what meteor back-scatter sounds like in real-time? If, not that sounds like a next project.

ITU ASSIGNS NEW PREFIX FOR NIUE

: E6A-E6Z

On August 3, the ITU updated its Table of International Call Sign Series to reflect a call sign change for Niue. The island will now have the entire E6 prefix block. Niue -- an island located approximately 1700 miles northeast of New Zealand -- is a self-governing island nation that has been in free association with New Zealand since 1974. Prior to the change, the island used ZK2. According to the CIA World Factbook, Niue is about 1.5 times the size of Washington, DC, and has a population of almost 1300 people.

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.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A LID!

Lid...a term used in amateur radio to denote a poor operator; one who is inept at the practice of the art.

A monumental problem facing amateur radio today is the alarming amount of poor operators filling the air waves. It is the opinion of many that one of the reasons for this is the fact that many of the new operators really have not been advised about proper operating procedures. Too many of the "amateur radio classes" produced today spend very little, if any, time correcting operating procedures. Their major thrust is to teach the code, cram the theory, and fill out a 610 form!

It is easy to be a lid, it must be, there are so many of them. If you are already a lid, read on. you may find some new "lid-isms." If you are not yet a full-fledged lid, you may learn some new material for your next transmissions.

Probably the most popular is "QRZ the frequency." Nobody can be quite sure what the exact meaning of this is. The ARRL Handbook lists QRZ as a CW "shorthand" signal meaning "Who is calling me?" On phone it may mean something else, although I can't imagine a frequency calling someone! I even heard a W5 utter "QRZ the channel!" Now this guy is a chief lid. The frequency was silent for a while (Probably as most good operators were in a state of shock) and then a signal from afar responded, "This is the channel and I wasn't calling you!"

I think "QRZ the channel" and "QRZ the frequency" are real winners. Use them a lot. You'll chase the good, experienced hams out of their gourds.

Actually, the use of "Q" signals on phone is in itself a true "lid-ism." The "Q" signals were devised by high speed CW operators as a form of "shorthand" in order to speed up their transmissions. What use they have on phone is questionable, as in many cases you can say the actual meaning just as fast. In many cases they cause more confusion than if you would have said the actual meaning. Then you get the real lid who comes off with "QRM-Mary or QRN-Nancy?" Good heavens, why didn't he just say he had interference?

Now, you must be ready with this one at a moment's notice: "HI." Never, ever, laugh if you find something funny. Say "HI" or even better "HI-HI." It doesn't really take the place of laughter, but it tells the other operators that you know how to laugh on CW.

Another one. Always give your callsign phonetically when operating on phone, especially when conditions are good and signals are clear. It's another small way to take up valuable air time without really adding any intelligence to a conversation. To cut a fine line, it is not legal to identify your station by saying "Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." If your call is issued W5VSR, the identification is "This is W5VSR." If copy is difficult and for clarification, then, "This is W5VSR. Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." So continue your lid-ism and show how clever you can be with ridiculous phonetics. A good friend of mine is W5BS; he has a lot of self-restraint!!

Are you interested in DX? Put these on your DX lid list, "CQ Dog X-Ray." jazz it up a little by saying, impressively "CQ Dog X-Ray, beaming Asia." Not only does that improve your antenna's directionality, but it lets everyone hearing you think you have a beam, whether you do or not.

The number one, all time lid award of the century goes to those great DX operators who listen down on one frequency in the foreign part of the band and transmit up in the American phone band without ever listening on the transmitting frequency to see if it was clear. Of course, you must use two processors, in tandem, mike gain wide open, and drive your three 8877 final tubes with an SB-220 while bellowing forth, "CQ Dog X-Ray" for five continuous minutes, before listening. This is the way to attract lots of attention. Lots of it!

Next on the list is the subject of "Break." I do believe that we inherited that one from the CBers. Just find a comfortable round table in progress, and say "Break" or better "Break-Break" or best "Breaker-Breaker." Don't give any calls; neither the station you hear nor your own. Don't listen for a few minutes first to find out if you can hear all of the stations in the round table. Just break in and disrupt everything. If that doesn't work, start tuning up your rig on that frequency. After all, aren't the frequencies there for all to enjoy?

Here are some quickies: Say "Go" or "Come back" or "C'mon, Good Buddy," instead of "Over" if you think you must say anything at all to let the other operator know you are ready to listen to him. Don't forget the all time Broderick Crawford "10-4" or better "That's a big 10-4."

It is a shame the F.C.C. no longer requires us to indicate portable operation. They have taken away another opportunity for the lid-ism---"This is Whiskey Five Very Strong Radio, Port Five." I just typed this on my port typewriter!

RESULTS GUARANTEED!!

Did you ever hear a phone operator who sounds like he's operating from a dungeon? Maybe he is, but even without a dungeon you can get the same effect by turning up your mike gain and holding your Golden Eagle D-104 at least one foot, better at two, from your face. Never close talk a mike. Disc Jockeys never do and they are "cool." When you are on the air, you are "cool" too, so you do the same. Communications microphones are designed to be close talked. Keep that mike gain at a minimum level. That way you won't be transmitting the voices of your wife and kids screaming five rooms away. Of course, to be a super lid in the audio department, do use a "power mike" driving a processor. Everybody knows that the engineers who designed your transmitter purposely made it short on mike gain.

Lastly, when giving your name, refer to it as your "Handle." It's folksy. And be sure to say, "The handle here is Beaver." That's liddier than just plain, "My name is Beaver." It also helps to punctuate your remarks with "By golly" whenever possible and remember whenever in a large round table, especially on a VHF repeater, give each and every call sign in the group complete with phonetics when IDing. Also don't forget to add "For ID" after your callsign. There are many other ways to be a lid, but I feel confident that if more operators were to take a look at this disaster from the lighter side, perhaps we'll all see just how ridiculous most of the phone operation on the ham bands is today. Phone conversation should really not take on a much different atmosphere from talking to your friends on the telephone. Do you say "Over" or "Break" or the worst "Come back" when you are on the telephone? Well then, why do so many do it on the amateur bands? All of that is ever so redundant on a repeater system where most have "End-of-transmission" beep tones; and of course, there is usually a squelch burst ahead of that, so you actually ended up with a fellow ending his sentence with "Come back".... followed by a squelch burst followed by the repeater's beep and in many cases the repeater carrier dropping. You have just four indications that it's your turn! QSL?

Let's all pay more attention to this problem and see if we can help "Clean up" our operations and put amateur radio operations back up to the more professional nature that it enjoyed before many poor habits of the CB band crept up on us. **This article appeared in the September, 1978, Ham Radio Horizons, entitled "So You Want To Be a Lid!," by A.J. "Buddy" Massa, W5VSR.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

October is always a busy month for the DLARC. Beginning with the Lehigh Vally Wheel men's Gap Gallop Bike run on October 7th, The Black Bear Bike Run on October 13th and the Emmaus Halloween Parade on October 20th. Volunteer operators are always needed for these events. For the Gap Gallop contact Al / W3CE at w3ce@arrl.net. For the Black Bear Bike Run contact Ben / KB3CTX at kb3ctx@arrl.net and for the Emmaus Halloween Parade contact Bob / KE3AW at ke3aw@arrl.net.

GOOD VISION IN A DOWNPOUR

How to achieve good vision while driving during a heavy downpour.

We are not sure why it is so effective; just try this method when it rains heavily. This method was given me by a Polish friend who had experience and confirmed. It is useful.... Even driving at night. One method used by Canadian military drivers for years.

Most of the motorists would turn on HIGH or FASTEST SPEED of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility in front of the windshield is still bad.... In the event you face such a situation, just try your sunglasses (any model will do), and miracle! All of a sudden your visibility in front of your windshield is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain. Make sure you always have a pair of sunglasses in your car, as you are not only helping yourself to drive safely with good vision, but also might save your friend's life by giving him this idea. Try it yourself and share it with your friends! amazing, you still see the drops on the windshield, but not the sheet of rain falling. You Can See where the rain bounces off the road. It works to eliminate the blindness from passing semi's spraying you too. Or the "kick up", if you're following a semi or a car in the rain. They ought to teach that little tip in driver training. It really does work .

And for a similar reason, why "FOG" lights must make white light, or otherwise are useless FOG. Those YELLOW "FOG" are great in his blinding lights snowstorms and, in those big snowflakes become virtually invisible,. But YELLOW is useless in RAIN & FOG.

This next warning is another good one! I wonder how many people know about this: a 36-year-old female had an accident several weeks ago and totaled her car. record. A resident of Kinburn, Ontario, was traveling between Kinburn and Ottawa. It was raining, but not excessively, when the car suddenly began to hydroplane and literally flew through the air. She was not seriously injured but very stunned at the sudden occurrence. When she explained to the OPP officer what had happened he told her something every driver should know – NEVER DRIVE IN THE RAIN WITH YOUR CRUISE CONTROL ON.. She thought she was being cautious by setting the cruise control on and maintaining a safe constant speed in the rain. But the officer told her that if this control is on when your car begins to hydroplane and your tires lose contact with the pavement, your car will accelerate the rate of speed making you take off like an airplane. She told the OPP officer that was exactly what occurred. The officer said this warning should be listed, on the driver seat sun-visor. – NEVER USE THE CRUISE CONTROL WHEN THE PAVEMENT IS WET OR ICY, along with the airbag warning. We tell our teenagers to set the cruise control and drive a safe speed but we do not tell them to use the cruise control: only when the pavement is dry. The only person the accident victim found, (beside the officer), was a man had a similar accident totaled his car and sustained severe injuries.

NOTE: +Some vehicles (Toyota Sienna Limited XLE) will not allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on.

WHAT IS THE MAIN INGREDIENT OF WD-40?

Before you read to the end, does anybody know what the main ingredient of WD-40 is? Don't lie and don't cheat. WD-40. Who knew; I had a neighbor who bought a new pickup. I got up very early one Sunday morning and saw that someone had spray painted red all around the sides of this beige truck (for some unknown reason). I went over, woke him up, and told him the bad news. He was very upset and was trying to figure out what to do.... Probably nothing until Monday morning, since nothing was open. Another neighbor came out and told him to get his WD-40 and clean it off. It removed the unwanted paint beautifully and did not harm his paint job that was on the truck. I'm impressed! WD-40 who knew? 'Water Displacement #40'.

The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. WD-40 was created in 1953 by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a 'water displacement' compound.. They were successful with the fortieth formulation, thus WD-40. The Convair Company bought it in bulk to protect their atlas missile parts. Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you... When you read the 'shower door' part, try it. It's the first thing that has ever cleaned that spotty shower door. If yours is plastic, it works just as well as glass. It's a miracle! Then try it on your stove top ... Viola! It's now shinier than it's ever been. You'll be amazed.

WD-40 uses:

1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars.
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floors that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
- 5.. Keeps flies off cows.
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewelry chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.
12. Keeps ceramic / terra cotta garden pots from oxidizing.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly..
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on vehicles and doors in homes.
18. It removes black scuff marks from the kitchen floor! Use WD-40 for those nasty tar and scuff marks on flooring. It doesn't seem to harm the finish and you won't have to scrub nearly as hard to get them off. Just remember to open some windows if you have a lot of marks.
19. Bug guts will eat away the finish on your car if not removed quickly! Use WD-40!
20. Gives a children's playground gym slide a shine for a super fast slide.
21. Lubricates gear shift and mower deck lever for ease of handling on riding mowers.
22. Rids kids rocking chairs and swings of squeaky noises.
23. Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open..
24. Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.
25. Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, as well as vinyl bumpers.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.
29. Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.
31. Removes splattered grease on stove.
32. Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.
37. Florida 's favorite use is: 'cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'
38. The favorite use in the state of New York , WD-40 protects the Statue of Liberty from the elements.
39. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time. Also, it's a lot cheaper than the chemical attractants that are made for just that purpose. Keep in mind though, using some chemical laced baits or lures for fishing are not allowed in some states.
40. Use it for fire ant bites.. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.
41. WD-40 is great for removing crayon from walls. Spray on the mark and wipe with a clean rag.
42. Also, if you've discovered that your teenage daughter has washed and dried a tube of lipstick with a load of laundry, saturate the lipstick spots with WD-40 and rewash. Presto! The lipstick is gone!
43. If you sprayed WD-40 on the distributor cap, it would displace the moisture and allow the car to start.

P.S. The basic ingredient is FISH OIL.

HEATHKIT DECLARES BANKRUPTCY

Closes for Good (Again)

The July 19 edition of *The Herald-Palladium* -- a newspaper serving the communities of Benton Harbor and St Joseph, Michigan -- is reporting that Heathkit Education Company has declared bankruptcy and has officially closed its doors after defaulting on its lease. According to the paper, Heathkit employed more than 1800 people in its heyday after World War II; when it finally closed, its workforce totaled fewer than six people. This is the second time since 1992 that Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits.

Heathkit owner Don Desrochers told the newspaper that he has filed for bankruptcy and a bank now owns what's left of Heathkit; the bank is disposing of some items via online auctions. "The situation was purely one of the economy," he explained in the article. "Heathkit was primarily dependent upon federal and state funding for schools. Spending in education continued to drop down, and it was economically unfeasible to continue operating. When we got back into the kit business, we were losing the education business faster than we were growing the kit business. It was not sustainable."

According to the newspaper, Heathkit abandoned its lease around March, and in May, Phil Maki said he received notice that Desrochers had declared bankruptcy and that Heathkit would be closed. Maki is treasurer of Southshore Companies, the company that owns the building that Heathkit had leased a portion of. "It's a sad thing for the community," Maki said. "A lot of us grew up using Heathkit products, and it's sad they ended the way they did."

In May 2012, the ARRL reported there were rumors of the company's demise, but nothing was certain. Tom Ferriter, of Technical Education Products in Hampden, Massachusetts, told the ARRL at that time that "Heathkit is telling us [outside sales representatives] that they have temporarily closed, but that they are hopeful that they will be able to reorganize. While they're not telling us too much, they did say that they were having poor sales for a myriad of reasons and are hopeful that they will be able to refinance the company and negotiate with the bank to refinance some of the debt."

Desrochers -- who served as Heathkit's President and Chief Executive Officer from 1995-2000 before purchasing the company in 2005 -- told *The Herald-Palladium* that closing Heathkit was hard for him: "It was a tough decision, but you can't operate and lose money. Hopefully the employees will find other employment. They were great, loyal employees for a long time." -- *Thanks to The Herald-Palladium for the information and to Lee Lull, WR8R, for bringing this to our attention*

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Create a personal safety net by organizing these fifty items into "Go Kits" in case of a natural disaster -- be it hurricane, earthquake, fire or flood. Use this check list to start stockpiling the necessities you shouldn't be without.

First-aid Kit

(1) 14 day supply of Prescription medications / equipment, (2) 2 pairs sterile gloves, (3) Sterile dressings, adhesive bandages, (4) Multipurpose pocket knife, (5) Soap, (6) Antibiotic ointment, (7) Burn ointment, (8) Eyewash for flushing contaminants, (9) Thermometer, (10) Aspirin/pain reliever, (11) Antacid, (12) Anti-diarrhea medication, (13) Laxative, (14) Sanitation items (Toilet paper, plastic bags, Hand sanitizer), (15) Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, (16) Hearing aids with extra batteries (18) Spare glasses / contact lenses.

Ready-to-go Container

In case of an evacuation, pack these important items along with your first aid kit and essential papers

(1) One gallon of water per person per day, (2) three day supply of nonperishable, ready to eat items, pet food, (3) Whistle, (4) Battery powered or hand crank radio, (5) flashlight with extra batteries. (6) Spare cell phone chargers, (7) An extra set of house and car keys, (8) Matches in a water proof container, (9) lightweight, high-insulation blanket (10) Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes.

Essential Papers

(1) Emergency contact information, family, friends, doctors and insurers, (2) ID Cards (photo Ids, passports, birth, marriage and death certificates), (3) Medical and immunization records and prescriptions, (4) Wills, insurances policies, contracts, deeds and leases, (5) Recent income tax returns, (6) Bank and credit card statements, retirement account records, (7) Local Maps, (9) Videos and/or photos of your valuables and the interior and exterior of your home, (10) Cash and change.

Stay-home Stash

(1) 14 day supply of water 1 gallon per person per day, (2) 14 day supply of nonperishable ready to eat food, and pet food. Manual can opener, (4) Plates, utensils and napkins, (5) Fire extinguisher, (6) Work gloves, (7) Face masks for dust and mold, (8) Small tool box including wrench or pliers for utility shutoff, (9) plastic sheeting and duct tape for sealing windows and doors, (10) Chlorine bleach and eyedropper to treat non-bottled water for drinking, add 8 drops of regular household liquid to one gallon of water, if water cloudy or muddy, add 16 drops. (11) Extra blankets and sleeping bags, (12) Rain ponchos and towels.

PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY 2012

October 13th and 14th are the dates for the 2012 PA QSO Party. As in the past the DLARC is hoping to regain its position as the number one club in the state. Now is the time to check your station and antennas, so you are prepared for the party. The Norm Zoltak / K3NZ award for the highest scoring single operator station will be awarded again this year.

F.Y.I.

The winners of the August Prizes were Paddy / AJ3B, Andy / KB3ETO, Ed / AA3OU and Ben / KB3CTX
The October Program will be "The DLARC Annual Awards Meeting"

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

President – Charles Lazarchak / W3OPA ----- president@dlarc.org
Vice President – Dave Blankenship / N3EYT ----- vicepresident@dlarc.org
Secretary – Joe Garvey / AB3OS ----- secretary@dlarc.org
Treasurer – Mike Gower / KB3LOD ----- treasurer@dlarc.org

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Gary De Mave / N2AUO ----- captiangdm@gmail.com
Bob Oppen / NE2C ----- ne2c@arrl.net
Dave Mellman / KA3IWC ----- dbm073@gmail.com
Jon Matson / NJ3I ----- cjfishing@rcn.com
Jay Mason / N3OW ----- n3ow@rcn.com
George Wieland / N3SQD ----- George@bioserv.com

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

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. Are held on the first Thursday of each month at
7:30 PM at the 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.

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor – Don Holmes / KC3II ----- editor@dlarc.org
Web Master – Brad Snyder / W3JXQ ----- w3jxq@dlarc.org
Photographer – Dave Arwood / NB3R ----- nb3r@nb3r.com
Circulation – Pete Varounis / NL7XM ----- nl7xm@arrl.net