Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

January 1999

If it don't work, bring it to the meeting on January 7

Radio Check Please?

by Don, KA3JWE

Have you ever wondered if your radio is really on frequency, what it's power output really is, or whether your deviation is correct? Well, this month's program will allow you to answer those questions. We will be making available for your use state-of-the-art test equipment so that you can check your radios.

We will have service monitors, power supplies, and a spectrum analyzer available for you to perform a variety of tests. We will assist you with setting up and using the equipment to make power, frequency, deviation and other measurements.

You should bring your service manuals and schematics for reference if you wish to make any adjustments. Also, due the infinite variety of DC power connectors, you should bring your own power cable to make it easy to connect to the power supply. If your rig uses something other than 13.8 V, then you will have to bring your own power supply too.

Note: **We WILL NOT** be servicing your equipment for you! Any adjustments that you make will be done by you, yourself.

Holiday Greetings! 392 Times!

de Bob, KE3AW

392! That's how many Qs we had during the December 12-13 weekend operation of the Christmas City Amateur Radio Club/DLARC's special event station, WX3MAS. Many of the operators calling us told us they look forward to contacting our traditional Christmas Cities station from the twin Christmas cities of Nazareth and Bethlehem each year just before the holidays, making it their tradition as well as ours.

The log shows we had numerous DX QSOs in a total of 11 countries, including the Canadian provinces, and QSOs with stations in 40 states.

Thanks to all who helped organize the event, specifically **Mark/K3MP** and **Glenn N3ULW** and those who participated by operating, logging, or visiting this year's Christmas City special event operation. Our sign in sheet included:

Mark/KF3BD,Bud/W3BUD, Bob/KB3CSS and son, Jon, Bob/KE3AW, Richard/KB3DEC, David/N3EYT, Bill/W3FYK, Al/WO4H, Bob/W3HJ, Carl/AA3IX, Don/KA3JWE, Dick/KA3MOU, Mark/K3MP, Carl/N3NGL, Barry/N3NVA, Bob/N3QZR, Missy/N3TFG, Jeff/N3QZT, Scott/N3SQF, Glenn/N3ULW Jill/N3ZSR, Bill/N3WA, Cary/K3YIY, Skip/K3ZTJ, Gerald/N5ZXJ and XYL Karen.

Truly of special note was **Gerald/N5ZXJ,** a relatively new guy on the block. Gerald operated at the station for stints on both days and had many contacts. But to our amazement he connected with some ham friends back in Texas and before long had a pile-up of just about every ham in the Waco-Temple, Texas area, it seemed!

And last, but not least, thanks to the **DLARC/CCARC** members and their XYLs who provided the spread of goodies that we all enjoyed, and to **Jill/N3ZSR** for her talents in designing this year's special event certificate.

All the best wishes for the holidays from the **Christmas City Amateur Radio Club!**

Just the Minutes

by Dan, W3ZF, Secretary

Q. Do you have a minute? A. Why yes, I have quite a few!! (and they are Y2K compliant!) Before I recount the minutes from the December 1998 meeting, I would personally like to thank Greg, KB3CPF for taking and submitting the minutes from the November meeting in my absence. (The "finished product" appearing in the December newsletter convinces me that the club would have be better served had Greg been nominated/elected as Secretary). Nice job, Greg!!



The December meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on the Thursday, the 3rd, in Kiva Hall at the Northampton County Community College and was called to order by President Joe Chuk (W3JD) at 1935 hrs EST. There was a motion by KB3CSS and seconded by Earl, W3BUD to accept the minutes as they appeared in the December 1998 issue of the newsletter (even though some members may not have received the newsletter because of unforeseen circumstances). The motion carried.

Dick, KA3MOU, then gave his Treasurer's report - Balance 31OCT1998 $3,111.20 Total Income $1,342.00 Total Expense $414.82 Balance 30NOV1998 $4,038.38. A motion to accept the TreasurerÆs report was made by Bob, N3OLH and seconded by Mark, K3MP. The motion carried. Dick also reported that our total membership currently is 367. Barry, N3NVA, who is chairman of the Repeater Committee reported that our 440 repeater is still down while he waits for parts. IIe also mentioned about checking out the club's webpage for articles for sale. Bob, KE3AW, talked about our club's preparations for the Special Event Station. Among those preparations are far-reaching notices in QST and CQ magazines along with a notice on the club's website.

Bob noted that Novice and Technician class amateurs who may shy away from events of this nature should take note that they are more than welcome to operate from the Gracedale site. He even noted the presence of a control operator who can mentor their activities during their stay. Also, there will be "goodies" available which can be used to supplement any holiday weight gaining initiatives that you may be undertaking. There was a sign-up roster circulated during the meeting to permit any interested parties to earmark available timeslots to operate. We hope this year's event challenges the 500+ contacts that have been garnered in the past.

Bob also announced that classes for preparation of the General Class exam will commence on Januay 11th.. The class will last for 6 weeks and will be held at Gracedale between 1900hrs and 2100hrs EST. Bob also brought along a newspaper article highlighting the letter received by fellow member Anne, KO3M from King Hussein of Jordan, JY1.

Jill, N3ZSR, gave a report on the VE sessions. She spent time making phone calls and organizing all of the known available VEs within our club. The evidence of her labors was a nicely prepared and easily understood calendar (distributed immediately to VEs who were in attendence). This calendar lays out what VEs are to be in attendance at future testing sessions and was done in an equitable manner so that no VE was burdened administering more sessions than any other VE. Being a VE myself, I thank Jill for her work. Our president then read a letter from the Lehigh Canal Recreation Committee thanking the club for participating in the October canal walk.

Ray, W3TDF, our PA QSO Party cheerleader cautiously announced that it APPEARS that W3OK has reclaimed the trophy by only 9,000 votes. Stay tuned!! Ray also noted that overall participation from our club is going in the WRONG direction. Al, WO4H, reviewed the new membership policy. (Because of the inaugural inception of this policy at THIS meeting, there were no new members admitted to the club during this session. The first chance that the membership will have to vote in a new member will be during the February meeting.) This new policy calls for a "welcoming committee" to introduce and inform new prospective members about our club. Al related how he is aware that there is much "elmering" going on behind the scenes - unknown to most of us - and that gist of this policy is to provide a type of "mini-elmering" into our great club. Currently, Al is a committee of ONE, but Malcolm, N3XRL quickly volunteered to join him.

Don, KA3JWE brought the lending library with him. Please take a minute to look over the material that the club has to offer. (ItÆll make the exercise Don gets worthwhile, hi hi). The next meeting will be about radio checking. N3NVA and KA3JWE have offered to repair any and every problem that possesses your radio (NOT!!) Seriously, they won't even touch your radio; that's your job, but they will show you some things you can do. HF, VHF and power supplies are permissible patients. We had 3 guests that made themselves known. Chris Peters (Allentown), Charlie Herbster (from up the line) and W3TDF's soon (18DEC1998) to be YL, Greta.

Congrats, Ray; give her some 88s fer me. Gary, W2AZZ was in charge of buying the drinks following the meeting; he picked up $26.00 from the 50-50. There were 40 members and 3 visitors in attendance.

Remember..

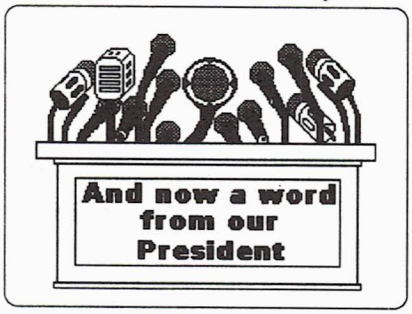
DUES ARE DUE

The Prez Sez

A Minute to Save a Life

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

Our December meeting fell in the middle of a couple of weeks of unusually warm weather, and many members may well have found other things to do on a night that felt more like May than December. Those who were able to make the meeting and program, though, may well have learned how to save someone's life. More on that later.



Our newly-elected secretary, Danny, W3ZF, found his way home from Hawaii (he says he much prefers the Lehigh Valley) to take the official minutes for the club meeting for the first time. You can find them written in his inimitable style elsewhere in this newsletter. Our last Director, John, WX3C, was officially placed in office at the November Board meeting, so the Board is (hopefully!) in its final form for the year.

As mentioned in this space last month, we have officially launched our new member welcoming program. Al, WO4H, the Board member who is coordinating the program in its inaugural year, has already found out how important it is to make personal contact with prospective members. Al will be joined by Malcolm, N3XRL, and other interested club members in answering the questions and giving some useful club info to hams or prospective hams who apply for DLARC membership. The whole process is really just some old-fashioned Elmering. By their third meeting, the applicants will already know several club members and be familiar with the club's activities. It will be at that meeting that the applicants will be introduced to the club members by the welcoming committee, and they will then be voted into membership.

Since we won't have new applicants attending two meetings prior to their being presented for membership until the February meeting, that's when we will be voting on the first applicants to go through the new program. We will, however, continue to vote on reinstating previous members at the next meeting after their application is received. (They know about the club already!)

By the time you read this column, our 1998 Christmas City Special Event Station, WX3MAS, will have signed off for another year. Thanks to Bob, KE3AW, and Mark, K3MP, for coordinating that event. It hasn't taken place as I write this, but I have no doubt that it was a great success in spreading the holiday message form the twin Christmas cities of the Lehigh Valley.

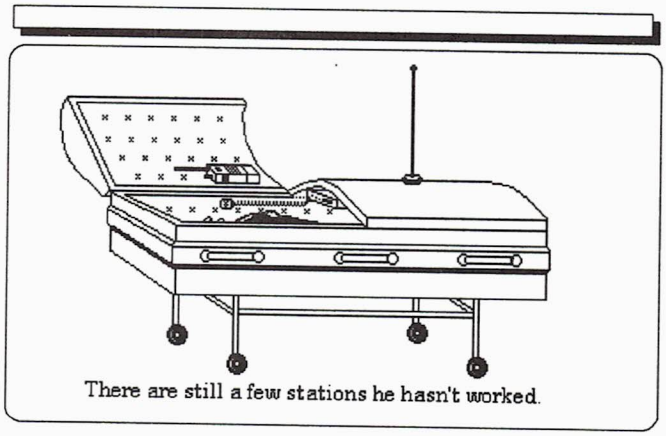
Another event that will have transpired before Christmas is the wedding of Ray, W3TDF, and Greta (no call -- yet!). Congratulations to the club's newest newly-weds!

Now back to the December meeting. Given the fact that we often find ourselves among groups of people eating during the course of the public service events for which we volunteer, our program on the Heimlich Maneuver was especially valuable. Even those who may have previously learned this simple procedure to help a choking victim got a good refresher on what to do, and some practical tips, from our instructor, Valerie. Thanks to her for presenting the program, and to Barry, N3NVA, for making the arrangements for the session.

Our January program will provide the chance for members to check how well their radios (HF and VHF/UHF; bases, mobiles, and HT's) are working. So bring 'em along, and Don, KA3JWE, and Barry, N3NVA, will guide you through opening up the rigs and checking them out with a variety of test equipment. It's sure to be an interesting program, even if some of us find out a few things about our radios that we may not have wanted to know!

Those who have always wanted to upgrade will be able to start that process this month also. The first of six classes for the General Class license will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, January 11, at Gracedale. Be sure to give Bob, KE3AW, a call (432-8286) to register for the classes. Getting that license upgrade makes a great New Year's resolution!

de Joe, W3JD, president



Power-hungry cars may jolt volt level to 42; jury still out

by Aaron Robinson, staff Reporter

DETROIT - The venerable 12-volt electrical system may be headed for the scrap yard.

With power-hogging technology such as electric steering, electric braking and electric engine valves headed for mass production, automakers are considering a voltage increase.

Engineers and suppliers cannot agree on how to do it, however. Critics say proposals that would roughly triple onboard voltages would cut fuel economy and raise costs.

The topic was the subject of a report by a consortium of 30 automakers and suppliers delivered at Convergence 1998, the vehicle electronics symposium held here last week. The report offered few solutions, however.

The problem is thorny because turning up voltages for electric parts such as relays and small motors is like switching an engine's fuel from regular unleaded to nitromethane. It can be done, but not without a few tweaks.

*D266W

MANY SUGGESTIONS

Some envision parallel electrical systems with separate batteries for low and high voltages. Others foresee a high-voltage generator and battery that powers large systems combined with step-down transformers to provide the lower voltage needed for small motors and circuit boards.

Meanwhile, suppliers await their marching orders. "We still don't know for sure where the architecture is going," says David Kahl, worldwide marketing manager for Eaton Corp.'s vehicle switch/electronics division.

Hedging its bets, Eton displayed a "42-volt Powernet" logo prominently on its stand at Convergence.

The laws of electricity - specifically, the equation volts times amps equals watts - make 42 volts appealing to carmakers.

Volts are the "electromotive force" pushing electrons down the wires; amps are the amount of electrons passing a given point; watts are units measuring the power generated by a device.

To run a 140-watt accessory -say, a rear defroster - a 14-volt system draws 10 amps. But a 42-volt system running the same defroster draws only 3.3 amps. Fewer amps mean smaller wires for supplying current.

Engineers say raising voltages would save up to 20 percent in weight and wiring costs.

Savings are even greater under projections of future power demand, says Xaver Pfab, manager of vehicle electrical control systems for BMW AG. While current luxury cars use one to three kilowatts of power, upscale cars will consume 10 to 20 kilowatts by 2010, he projects. The choice is higher voltages or wiring harnesses as thick as fire hoses, Pfab says.

If a change comes, the cost will be substantial for hundreds of component suppliers now working in 14 volts. For example, relays that turn power on and off to motors would be about 10 percent more expensive in a 42-volt system, says Rolf Weber, technical manager of electromechanical components for Siemens.

The costs will be especially high during the transition, says Weber. "It will take at least 10 years, and the question is what to do until then. To develop relays for 10,000 units is suicide."

Also, a 42-volt system would need elaborate protections. Accidentally jump starting a 14-volt car with a 42-volt car could result in blown electronics. Also, components would have to be engineered to withstand a "load dump," a voltage spike that occurs when the generator is disconnected from the battery.

SOME DOUBTERS

Not all are convinced 42 volts are needed, much less practical.

One problem is that most vehicle electronics require low voltage. For example, silicon-based electronics such as engine management computers need only five volts. The electrical system would have to scrub off extra voltage through transformers, a waste of power and the fuel burned to generate it, says Michael Matouka, a General Motors electrical engineer.

Matouka also says tomorrow's electrically powered accessories will be inefficient compared with today's belt-and-pulley systems. Even in the best electric systems, about half of the power generated by the crankshaft never makes it to the accessory, whereas a Pulley is 95 percent efficient.

"We need to get people thinking about this objectively," says Matouka. "This is going to take a lot more engineering work then people seem to realize.

Submitted by Al Krensavage, WO4H. Reprint permission Communications, Inc., Automotive News 10/26/98 limited to DLARC. Reprinted by permission of Crain

VE test session November 6

A test session was held on November 6th with the following results. A total of 18 elements were administered to 10 candidates. 8 elements were passed.

Name	License Earned
Charles Lazarchak	**Technician**
Ervin Harold	**Technician**
Richard Reinert	**Tech +**
Thomas Mory	**Technician**

VEs in attendance were **Bill, N2DH; Bob, W3HJ; Tom, N3EBH; John, WX3C**

de Jill, N3ZSR, VE Coordinator

League files "Restructuring" comments with FCC

The **ARRL** has filed formal comments in response to the FCC's proposed streamlining of the Amateur Radio rules. The League delivered its comments to the FCC December 1, the final day for comments in the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WT Docket 98-143.

The League's filing promotes the ARRL Board of Directors' restructuring positions, adopted last July and fine-tuned at a special meeting in October. It also takes the FCC to task on a few points. The ARRL said the FCC's NPRM failed to contain "a comprehensive license restructuring proposal or even an overall review of license restructuring" and generally "missed the mark."

The League called on the FCC to adopt the ARRL Board's restructuring plans as the centerpiece of its streamlining efforts. Among other things, the League plan calls for eliminating the Novice and Tech Plus licenses to reduce the number of license classes from six to four. The ARRL plan automatically upgrades current Novice and Tech Plus licensees to General. The General license would become the entry-level ticket to HF. Existing Novice and Tech Plus HF CW bands would be "reformed" to provide additional phone spectrum for General, Advanced, and Extra class licensees.

The FCC also proposed a four-tier license structure, eliminating the Novice ticket and melding existing Technician and Tech Plus licensees into a common database while allowing current Novices and Tech Pluses to retain their current operating privileges. The ARRL said the FCC was on "the right track" in proposing to eliminate the Novice ticket. But the League said its "instant upgrade" plan for Novice and Tech Plus operators is a better approach because it permits "refarming" the underutilized Novice HF subbands. The League called refarming "critical to any comprehensive license restructuring proposal."

The FCC's NPRM sought comments on the issue of Morse code testing and requirements but offered no specific proposals. The ARRL called for a reduction in the number of Morse code examination tiers from three to two--5 and 12 WPM--and changes in the written examinations to make them more relevant and with greater emphasis on current operating practices and newer digital technologies. The League also recommended that the number of written exam questions "increase incrementally" for all license classes above Technician.

The League said that Morse code should not be overemphasized in the licensing process, but should be continued as a licensing requirement above the entry level. It has proposed that General class applicants pass a 5 WPM code test, while Advanced and Extra applicants pass the 12 WPM code test. Subsequent to release of its original restructuring plan, the ARRL Board also decided to ask the FCC to permit Technician operators to use Morse code on the General class HF CW segments without passing a specific code examination.

The ARRL said acknowledged abuses of the CW. disability exemption process were an enforcement, not a testing, issue. For those claiming a disability waiver for the higher-speed CW test, the League urged testing accommodations as a preferable alternative. The League also urged an end to multiple-choice CW exams and rules specifying that a passing grade for a Morse examination be either 70 percent correct answers to 10 fill-in questions or one minute out of five of solid copy.

The League also praised the "new dawn" in amateur enforcement undertaken within the Compliance and Information Bureau by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. The ARRL suggested that it would be "reasonable to withhold any further [rulemaking] action on amateur enforcement" for now and let the CIB continue its work.

The ARRL's comments stressed the value of increasing participation in the hobby and making it available to more people. "By increased participation, Amateur Radio can provide even more service to the United States than it does currently, with a simpler licensing structure," the League asserted.

A complete copy of the ARRL's comments in WT Docket 98-143 is available on ARRLWeb at **http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/** (see "ARRL's Comments to the FCC on WT Docket 98-143"). Reply comments on the FCC's rulemaking proposals are due January 15, 1999. The FCC is not expected to take action on restructuring at least until sometime next spring..

The ARRL Letter December 4, 1998

Check your mail label. If it says membership expires 12/31/98. This will be your last issue

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Income & Loss Statement.

Balance 10/31/98	**$3,111.20**
INCOME	
Donation Income fifty-fifty	32.00
Dues Arrl Misc	1110.00
Gift Received Emmaus Parade	200.00
TOTAL INCOME	**1342.00**
EXPENSES	
Guest Meal	9.68
Newsletters for December	140.00
Postage	130.00
Renewal ARRL	100.00
Supplies Envelopes	3.47
Telephone	31.67
TOTAL EXPENSES	**414.82**
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	**927.18**
Balance 11/30/98	**$4,038.38**

Total Membership 367 as of 11/30/98

de, Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

Asteroid named for John Holliman

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory has named an asteroid in memory of CNN space correspondent John Holliman who was killed in a car accident on September 12. The asteroid, discovered by JPL astronomer Eleanor F Helin on April 30, 1989, at the Palomar Observatory, will now be called 6711 Holliman. It has a diameter< of about 6 miles. It's orbit is inclined 15 degrees to the ecliptic plane -- the plane on which the planets orbit the Sun and moves in an orbit between Mars and Jupiter.

Holliman reported extensively on the role JPL played in space exploration. He was the network's lead anchor for the Pathfinder mission to Mars in July 1997 reporting on the landing and the subsequent mission as the spacecraft sent back video from the planet's surface. He was scheduled to join former CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite, **KB2GSD,** to cover John Glenn's recent return to space on the shuttle Discovery.-- ***JPL Release/This Week in Amateur Radio, via hudloop***

Dues Reminder for 1999

Dues are due check you're mailing label. If the label is **EXP. 12/31/98** your dues are due. Here is the dues amount and how to pay your **1999 dues.**

Membership 18-65 years of age **Jan to Dec.$17.00**

July to Dec$8.50

Under 18 years, 65 years or Retired (no age limit).

Jan. to Dec.$12.00

July to Dec. $6.00

Additional family Member, each **$3.00**

Associate Membership **$7.00**

If paying your dues at a meeting. Use an envelope with your call on the outside of the envelope. If paying dues by check make the check out to **DLARC.** If you mail your dues, mail the dues to

RICHARD A DECH / KA3MOU
120 MCILHANEY AVENUE
BATH PA 18014-1612

Any questions about dues you can call Dick / KA3MOU at 837-1585.

de Dick Treasurer of DLARC

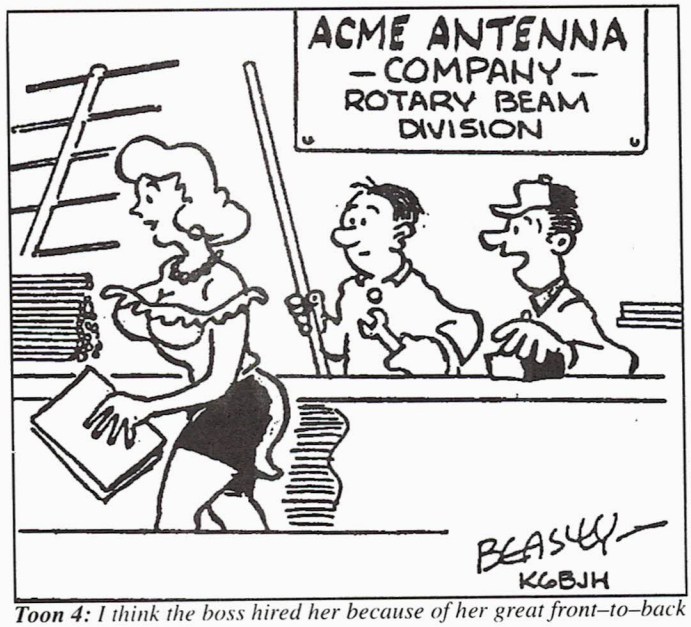
Free to a good home:

IBM 8088 based system w/20 meg hard drive, also (inluding color monitor and 9 pin ptinter).

I will include a free AEA CP-1 Computer Patch Interface so that you will have all you need for most digital keyboard modes.

Instruction manuals and software also available. Everything is working and has been used on C.W., RTTY, etc.

For info, call ***Wendell Larsen W3IRX 610-294-9216 or E-mail wlarsen@epix.net.***



Toon 4: I think the boss hired her because of her great front–to–back

Hoaxes & Half Truths

by Don, KA3JWE

It is amazing to me that so many people believe absolutely everything that they hear and read! I don't know about you, but I have been receiving a lot of email lately with some pretty outlandish stories and dire warnings. Actually, two such stories appeared in last month's **W3OK Corral.**

You know the ones. The **"Stolen Kidneys"** story and the **"#90 Phone Scam"** story. Well, I decided to check the phone scam story and it led me to an interesting web site. They have a list of all of the current internet hoaxes and "Urban Legends" currently circulating around the net. Some are kind of amusing and others are just somebody's version of a sick joke. The URL is: **http://urbanlegends.miningco.com/library/blhoax.htm.**

Visit this web site next time you receive an email story that claims to be true but leaves you feeling that something is a little suspicious. You may just find out that you have been duped (and I don't mean worked twice,

de Don, KA3JWE

VE test session December 6th

A test session was held on December 6, 1998 with the following results. A total of 13 elements were administered to 7 candidates. 9 elements were passed, with 2 candidates receiving their license.

Name	License Earned
Lorice Wilczewski	**Technician**
Dennis Clark	**Tech +**

VEs in attendance were **Martin, N3DL; Bill, NC3P; Bob, N3QQ; Bob, KE3AW**

VEs scheduled for **January 8, 1999** are Bill Goodman, **K3ANS;** Bob Puharic, **WF3H**; and Daniel Ruth (leader), **W3ZF.**

VEs scheduled for **February 5, 1999** are Francis Lisicky (leader), **W3IYG;** Cary Rufe, **K2YIY;** and Carl Seier, **AA3IX.**

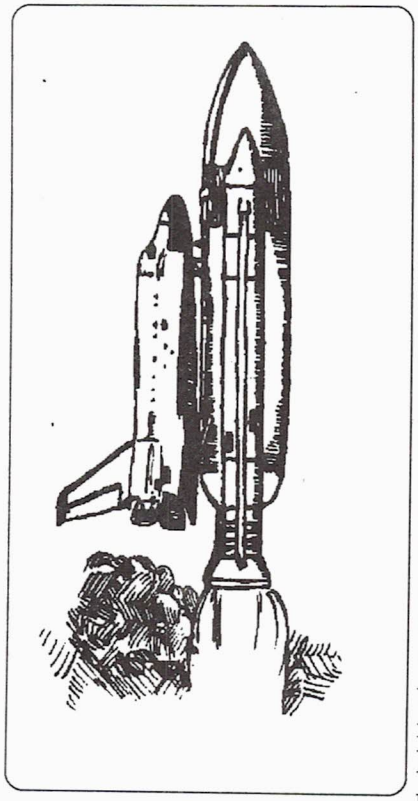
Any scheduling conflicts please notify me as soon as possible.

de Jill, N3ZSR, VE Coordinator

Sputnik 41/RS-18 QRT

via ARRL Bulletin

The second mini-Sputnik satellite, Sputnik 41, went silent on or about December 10, according to reports. The little satellite, also known as RS-18, was launched by hand from the Russian Mir space station during a November 10 space walk by cosmonauts Gennady Padalka and Sergei Avdeyev.



Sputnik 41 was powered by nonrechargeable batteries and designed to operate for up to a month. Its predecessor, Sputnik 40--launched in November 1997 to commemorate the launch of the original Sputnik satellite in 1957--continued to transmit for 55 days. The later Sputnik 41/RS-18 transmitted recorded voice beacons in English, Russian, and French as well as a beacon tone that indicated the satellite's interior temperature. It transmitted on or about 145.815 MHz

Sputnik 41 was financed by the Aeroclub de France to mark its centennial as part of a program of satellites made in a collaboration of Russian and French students. AMSAT-France cooperated with the education department of the Russian Aeronautic Federation in this most recent Sputnik reprise.

Reception reports go to AMSAT-France, Sputnik 41/RS-18 QSL Manager, 14 bis rue des Gourlis, 92 500 Rueil-Malmaison, France. Reports should include a 5x7, self-addressed envelope and two IRCs.

An updated list of reception reports received by the French QSL manager is available at **http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/ascerland/sp41QSL.htm**. The page lists reception reports from some 40 countries around the world.

For more information, visit the 1998 International Year of Air and Space page, **http://www.ccr.jussieu.fr/physio/Satedu/sputnik41.html.**

FCC Enforcement Chief finished "taking names

via ARRL Letter 12/11/98

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, is making his list and checking it twice. And now that he knows which hams are naughty, not nice, he's ready to take enforcement actions against the most flagrant amateur offenders.

"Fully half of the amateur problems on HF relate to a specific group of jammers--malicious interferers who apparently enjoy disrupting as much amateur communication as possible," said Hollingsworth, the FCC's point man for amateur enforcement within the Compliance and Information Bureau. "Enforcement action against this group is long overdue."

Coal could be showing up in some Christmas stockings. Hollingsworth has prepared a report to his boss, CIB Chief Richard D. Lee, detailing his findings and fingering the most serious violators in a "top 10" list which he declined to make public just yet. His memo urged "immediate enforcement action."

Hollingsworth said he's talked with more than 250 people on the amateur enforcement line (202-418-1184) since the end of September, when the FCC's latest amateur enforcement initiative kicked into high gear. In addition, he has received more than four dozen letters and e-mailed comments concerning problems in the Amateur Service. Hollingsworth has concluded that, while most amateurs abide by the rules, a few habitual offenders continue to flout the law.

"We are not going to stand for the Amateur Service to be further degraded or destroyed by them," he said.

Hollingsworth says that jamming and deliberate interference is the most common problem, accounting for 31% of all complaints. Repeater misuse and jamming account for another 29%. But he considers the HF abuses--most typically reported on 75 and 20 meters--to be the more serious offenses because they can be national or international in scope. Other general problems accounted for another 17% of the complaints, Hollingsworth said. A full 10% of complaints concerned an unlicensed individual in California who already has spent time in jail for past convictions.

Hollingsworth has sent out 30 informal "warning letters" to individual operators as a result of complaints. The letters warn the recipients that a complaint has been received about the recipient or someone using his or her call sign, indicate that the allegations--if true--could jeopardize the amateur's license, and request the recipient to contact the FCC to discuss the matter.

"In almost every case the recipient has contacted us," he said. "In one case, the licensee contacted us, apologized, and reports since that time indicate that the licensee has become a model operator." Some amateurs have reported to the ARRL that amateur behavior has improved--dramatically in some areas--since word hit the street that the FCC was taking amateur enforcement seriously. For its part, the League has said it is willing, for now, not to pursue its request to further privatize amateur enforcement.

Hollingsworth says the warning letters will continue, but now he's taking aim at the hard-core scofflaws within the Amateur Radio community. "We have now let everyone out there know we're back," he said. Continued violations will "guarantee" license revocations, fines, or--in extreme cases--equipment seizures.

"Church is out now," he said. "We mean business and we're strapped in and ready to ride." Hollingsworth said Amateur Radio rulebreakers "continue these violations at their own risk.".

The ARRL Letter

Interested in earning more HF band privileges?

by Bob, KE3AW

If so, **DLARC** will help you upgrade to the **GENERAL CLASS LICENSE** with a series of six free Monday evening classes, starting **Monday, January 11, 1999.**

Classes will run for 6 consecutive Mondays, 7 pm - 9 pm, at Gracedale (near Nazareth, PA) barring cancellations due to foul weather.

Interested persons should call me on **146.70**, or by telephone at **610) 432-8286,** or contact me by e-mail at **ke3aw@juno.com** or in person. Give me your name, call sign, address and telephone number. What could be simpler?

If you need directions to Gracedale, let me know that, too. For the General Class License Upgrade Classes we use the ARRL General Class study guide. We will NOT have study guides for sale at the classes.

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Participate to the DLARC, RACES & ARES nets
on 146.70 W3OK/RPT with an alternate of W3PYF/RPT 145.11
W3OK trustee Chris Hornaman, NU3L
The Nets are held on Sundays at 9:30 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00PM

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CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
7:30 PM at Northampton County Community College
TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
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