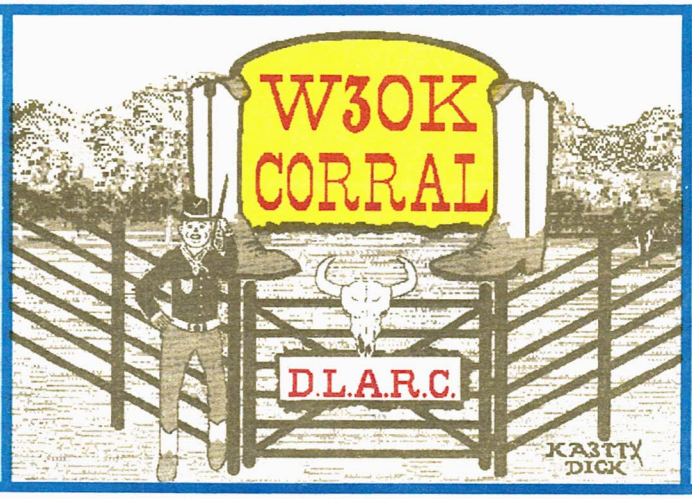
DELAWARE - LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W3OK

February 1995



SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

ARRL Affiliated Club

"Communicating in the fast lane" by Joe, W3JD

DLARC in Novice Roundup

by Blair, K3YD

The ARRL Novice Roundup is a mid-winter operating event for all amateurs with HF operating privileges. It's a slow speed (5-10 wpm) CW and phone contest which takes place only in the novice sub-bands. Besides being a great activity for a cold winter evening or snowy weekend, DLARC members can earn a trophy for their efforts. Official rules should be published in January 1995 QST . Expected rules are summarized below:

DATE/TIME: ***0000Z, January 28, 1995 to 2400Z February 5, 1995.*** (Novice or Technician+ entrants submitting logs to ARRL for official participation are limited to 30 hours operating time.)

EXCHANGE: Signal report and ARRL/RAC section or DX country. Stations can be worked ONCE PER MODE, regardless of band.

FREQUENCY: Novice sub-bands of the 3.5, 7, 21, 28, 220 and 1270 MHz amateur bands. All operators are limited to 250 Watts on these frequencies.

CONCEPT: Novice and Tech+ operators work any amateur station; higher class operators work only Novice and Tech+ stations. To identify license class, all participants are encouraged to suffix their call indicating license class. For example "KC2XYZ Extra Class" on phone; on CW use /N, /T, /G, /A, or /E as appropriate.

SCORING FOR ARRL: QSO points (1 per phone, 2 per CW) times the sum of sections plus DX countries. There are bonus points for ARRL code proficiency certificates. SEE RULES IN QST.

SUBMISSION Send log to ARRL within 30 days of the end of the contest.

SPECIAL DLARC NOVICE ROUNDUP CONTEST RULES

1. Operate in the Novice Roundup. Follow the ARRL rules regarding eligible stations, time limits, etc.

2. Submit a copy of your log to the NR Contest Committee of DLARC on or before March 9, 1995. Logs may be written hardcopy, or CT.bin files. If written, logs with more than 100 QSO's MUST have a dupe sheet (cross check listing of calls in sequence order). Logs can be mailed to DLARC at Gracedale or hand carried to the March meeting. Logs MUST indicate operator s license class!

3. **DLARC SCORING:** 1 point for each CW QSO, there are NO multipliers. The object is to make as many **CW QSO**'s as possible.

4. **AN AWARD**: Will be presented to the DLARC member with the most CW QSO's in three category groups: A.) Novice/Tech+, B.) General/ Advanced, and C.) Extra Class. If any category has no entries, that category award will not be given.

SPECIAL RULE: The operator's license class at the time of the QSO determines entry level. Operators upgrading between categories (i.e. novice to general) in mid-contest may submit two logs, one for each category group.

The promise and problems of the information super highway.

by Joe W3JD

At the meeting of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club on **February 2nd** at **Northampton Community College in the College Center, 2nd floor Room 261-262** beginning at **7:30PM**. I'll talk about the convergence of wired and wireless systems, the changed understanding of what the mass media consist of, and some potential problems that are overlooked in the current excitement over new communication technologies. Talk in on 146.70 if needed. ***de Joe, W3JD***

ARRL director presents award to Robin WA3T

de Bob, KE3AW

Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, ARRL Atlantic Division Director, made a surprise visit to the January DLARC club meeting.

The visit centered around the presentation of an award, an ARRL plaque to Robin for his highly technical and detailed QST article on Digital Signal Processing. The impressive plaque has on it the April, 1994, QST cover plate used in printing the magazine; the month of Robin's article.

Hugh also provided us with updates on various activities of the ARRL and FCC and answered questions from the club members.

It was our pleasure to have Hugh at this meeting. We hope to see him with us again in the near future.

Congratulations again to Robin! If readers haven't seen Robin's article, or need a refresher, remember it was the APRIL issue of QST.

New Media Systems

The FCC Agenda

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

The single most important influence on all users of communications technology in the United States, including the Amateur Radio Service, is the FCC. As we begin a new year, it might be a good idea to take a look at some of the priorities of this federal agency. Hundreds of FCC documents and decisions are generated each year, but few of them provide much insight into the reasoning behind the decisions. For that, we need to turn to such things as the speeches given by FCC Commissioners before various groups. One such speech was given by Commissioner Susan Ness before the Women's National Democratic Club on 15 October 1994.

The FCC

Ness noted that the FCC has three principal functions, the first of which is allocating spectrum. Assigning channels for high definition television and personal communications services (PCS) were mentioned as specific areas where the FCC exercises this responsibility.

Creating ground rules for each service is the second function. Ness used ownership limits on broadcast radio stations, interference standards for unlicensed telecommunications and computer equipment, and rate regulation for telephone companies to illustrate this part of the FCC's job.

The third function is licensing of service providers. Since (in this writer's opinion) licensing is the most important function of the FCC, Commissioner Ness used the most examples in explaining this task. Deciding on whether a telephone company may offer a video dialtone service or whether a television station may be established in a particular market are both parts of the licensing function - - although only the television station is issued an actual "license" with a call sign. Even approving requests by foreign companies to invest in American communications common carriers above a certain level (20%) is an exercise of the licensing responsibility

. In continuing to describe this third FCC function, Ness went into a number of the details of one way of awarding licenses that is occupying much of the Commission's time and attention currently: the auction of narrowband and broadband PCS channels.

The practical working out of each function cannot help but to reflect policy positions of the FCC. Ness used the analogy of a soccer game to explain that the FCC clearly has the ball (of responsibility) at its feet, but needs to make sure that it is heading in the right direction. She identified that direction as defined by the goal of competition, and repeated FCC Chairman Reed Hundt's reference to the FCC as the "Federal Promotion of Competition in All Communications Markets and Protection of Consumers from Monopoly Commission." Ness used cable television, video dialtone, PCS, and the information superhighway as areas in which competition will be the guiding principle in upcoming FCC decisions.

Although Ness did not specifically mention the Amateur Radio Service, it's obvious that the FCC's emphasis on competition cannot help but have its effects on hams. We've already experienced the loss of 220 to 222 MHz. Current deliberations over the assignment of spectrum in the 2400 MHz. band for which the NTIA is relinquishing its primary assignment -- but for which the Amateur Radio Service also has secondary status -- is another area of concern. All we have to do is take a look at the long list of communications companies that have filed comments on this issue to realize the commercial (and thus "competitive") value of these frequencies. Commercial PCS spectrum is now going to the highest bidder. Will frequencies to which hams now have access follow the same path? We'll have to wait and see the importance that the FCC attaches to the commercial feasibility of these channels. It'll be an interesting 1995!

A reminder: For current reports on telecommunications topics, check the packet bulletins on W3JD-4, the PBBS at W3JD-2 at Kutztown University on 144.99 MHz. If you can't connect directly, use any of these nodes: JDNODE (W3JD), FAR (WF3H), or EBA (W3PYF). de Joe, W3JD

IMA LIDD

Capacitors

(Conclusion)

By Van K3CP



When we left Ima Lidd and Elmer last time they were discussing capacitors. Elmer had explained their use as filters and as DC blocking devices. Ima asked about the ratings of the capacitors. Elmer said that they are rated according to their capacity. The unit of capacitance is the farad. It is too large a unit for amateur radio work. So we use micro and pico farads.

One micro farad is 1 X 10 to the minus 6 farads or .000001 farads. A micro micro farad (uuf) is the same as a pico farad (pfd) and that is 1.0 X 10 to the minus 12 farads. You can determine the number of zeros by counting from the basic number 1.0, always count from the decimal to determine the power of ten. If the power is negative, count to the left. If it's positive count to the right. A .0001 micro farad (ufd) capacitor can be converted to pico farads (pfd) by moving the decimal 6 places to the right.

That would make it a 100 pico farad capacitor. Remember, if you want to convert to a smaller unit (pfd) move the decimal to the right and to the left for the larger unit (ufd). Ima Lidd wasn't sure he understood all of that, but Elmer said that although it was not easy the first time, it would be easier the next time Ima pondered the subject.

It's important to use the proper voltage rating so as to avoid destroying the capacitor. This is the most common cause of failure. You can add capacitors in series to increase their voltage breakdown value, but this reduces the capacitance. For example:- if a .01 uf capacitor with a voltage rating of 25 volts is put in series with another one of the same rating, the combined capacitance would be .005 uf and 50 volts breakdown. If they were placed in parallel the combined capacity would be .02 and 25 volts. Another use for capacitors is in timing circuits. Consider a circuit wired with a battery, a resistor, a switch, a capacitor and a voltmeter with all components in series except the voltmeter which is across the capacitor.

When the switch is closed the electrons flow from the battery through the resistor to the capacitor. As they charge the capacitor a voltage builds up across it. This voltage is measured by the volt meter. The capacitor will reach full charge after a period of time depending on, among other things, the value of the resistor. The larger the resistor and capacitor, the longer time it will take to fully charge the capacitor. This is known as the time constant and it can be used in timing circuits. For example, when the switch is initially closed and the capacitor is completely discharged, the rush of current through the resistor to the capacitor is the greatest.

When the voltage across the capacitor is equal to that of the battery, the current will stop flowing. If the resistor is 1.0 meg ohms and the capacitor is 1.0 micro farads the time constant would be 1,000,000 ohms times .000001 farads or 1.0 second. Ima started to see why Elmer took time to explain about the powers of ten. He said another way of stating the formula would be to say that 1 X 10 to the sixth power times 1 X 10 to the minus 6th power equaled one.

Elmer said "See". Every time you use your knowledge you build on it. Always remember to start counting at the decimal The figure 1 is really 1.0 (Sentence ending period intentionally omitted.) That is why there is one less zero going to the left.

Elmer said if you replaced the single pole, single throw switch in the above circuit with a double pole, double throw reversing switch you could examine the effect of frequency on the circuit. The faster you reverse the polarity, the more average current would flow. This means that the higher the frequency of the applied voltage the lower the opposition to the current flow. This opposition is known as Capacitive Reactance. An example of how to use this property of capacitors is the cross over networks of hi fi speaker systems. You want to keep the low frequencies out of the tweeters so you insert a capacitor that has a high reactance to those frequencies. It will keep the high power, low frequencies out of the small tweeters and allow the higher frequencies to pass.

Ah ha. Ima said the reactance of the capacitor was high when the reversing switch was thrown slowly and low when it was speeded up. Elmer was delighted that Ima understood. Ima said "See".

de Van, K3CP

Call Correction.. In last months minutes new member **Loring Fisher** call was incorrect. His call is **W2GQ,** not as stated.

Some Do's and Don'ts of Repeaters

1 Reserve the word BREAK for emergencies only. To initiate a contact simply indicate that you are on the frequency identifying and monitoring. To join an ongoing QSO, just identify ahead of the beep.

2. Identify legally. You must identify at the end of a transmission or series of transmissions and at least every 10 minutes during communications.

3. Wait for the beep between transmissions. This allows other hams to use the repeater. (This is especially important for allowing quick access to the repeater during emergency communications.)

4. Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Most machines have a timer which is there for a reason. Don't drop it to clear the time and then go on talking. Try to give a good impression of our service to others who may be listening.

5. Use simplex frequencies if possible. If you can complete your contact on a direct frequency, there is no reason to need to tie up the repeater.

6. Be polite on the air. Don't beak into a contact unless you have something to add to the conversation in progress. Interrupting and changing the subject is just as impolite on the air as it is in person.

7. Use the minimum power necessary to maintain communications. Definition of minimum power, enough power to maintain full or near-full quieting.

(guidelines as published in the Long Wire published by the Liverpool Amateur Radio Repeater Club, Syracuse, N.Y. and reprinted in the The Ground Wave, The St. Paul Radio Club)

Wanted

A reward of 5,000 **MICROFARADS** is offered for information leading to the arrest of hopalong **CAPACITY.** This unrectified criminal escaped from a **WESTON PRIMARY CELL** where he had been clapped in **IONS.** He is charged with the **INDUCTION** of an **18 TURN COIL** named **MILLIE HENRY**, who was **CHOKED** and robbed of valuable **JOULES**. He is armed with a **CARBON ROD** and is a **POTENTIAL** killer. He is also accused of driving a **D.C. MOTOR** over the **WHEATSTONE BRIDGE** and refusing to let the **BAND PASS.** The **ELECTROMOTIVE FORCE** spent the night searching for him in a **MAGNETIC FIELD** where he had gone to **EARTH.** They had no success and now believe that he has returned **OHM** via a **SHORT CIRCUIT**, riding a **KILOCYCLE. EDDY** was playing a **HARMONIC**. Charges against him are under **OHM'S LAW.**

credit to Fred, VE3DX2E, of Ontario, Canada
sent in with his XMAS City QSL request.

The Amateur's Code

ONE
The Amateur is Considerate... He never knowingly uses the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

TWO
The Amateur is Loyal... He offers his loyalty, encouragement, and support to his fellow radio amateurs, his local club, and to the American Radio League, through which Amateur Radio is represented.

THREE
The Amateur is Progressive... He keeps his station abreast of science. It is well-built and efficient. His operating practices above reproach.

FOUR
The Amateur is Friendly... Slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of other, these are marks of the amateur spirit.

FIVE
The Amateur is Balanced... Radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school, or his community.

SIX
The Amateur is Patriotic... His knowledge and his station are always ready for the service of his country and his community.

(Ed: from The ARRL 1986 Handbook)

DLARC Club logos available to club members.

They are 2" diameter, multi-color, with adhesive backing 3 for $1.00 Interested? Contact treasurer, Dick KA3MOU

Check your mail label!!! This will your last chance to stay on the mailing list and have autodial privileges. Mail your check if the expiration date is 12/31/94 to Dick Dech, 120 McIlhaney Ave, Bath, PA 18014-1612.. Check made out to DLARC

Scholarships for seniors

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc, a non profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C. plans to administer fifty-six (56) scholarships for the academic year 1995-1996 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds five of these scholarships with the income for grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-one (51) are administrated by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

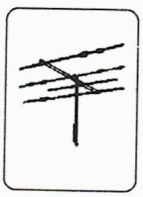
Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment with preference given in some cases at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from $500 to $2000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in **Delaware, Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia** and **Wisconsin** are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, on their nets, during training classes, in their club newsletters.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 1995 from:

Far Scholarships
6903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

de Hugh A. Turnbull, W3ABC
Chairman, Scholarship Committee

New 2 meter record



A new tropospheric ducting, continental distance record has been reported on the 144 MHz amateur band. On November 5, Rene Shaw, WB4MJE, of Big Pine Key, Florida, and Serge Szpilfogel, VE1KG, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, worked over a 1687 mile path.

The previous record was 1468 miles, set by K5WXZ and K1RJH, and had stood since October, 1968.

WB4MJE is crucially located for this work at the southern tip of the Florida Keys.

This information comes from Al Ward, WB5LUA, who maintains VHF and UHF North American distance record information for QST's "World

Above 50 MHz" column. Records on bands from 144 MHz to 678 THz are published in April QST each year. from ***ARRL via KD3OA***

New 5760 MHz record

A new over-land distance record has been reported on the 5760 MHz amateur band. On November 12, Al Ward, WB5LUA in Allen, Texas, and Ron Stefanskie, W9ZIH in Malta, Illinois, worked over a 738 mile path. The previous over-land record was 614 miles, set by N6CA and XE2/N6XQ.

Writing in the North Texas Microwave Society "Feed Point," Ward reports working W9ZIH on the evening of November 11, on 432 MHz with S-9 signals. Those two then tried unsuccessfully to work on 5760 MHz, having previously worked each other on the bands in between.

They tried that night and the following morning. In cooperation with Greg McIntire, AA5C, and W9ZIH, the first record breaking contact took place, between WB5LUA and Roger Schneider, WB9OJR, of Green Valley, Illinois, who had joined the effort. The distance was 633 miles. AA5C and WB9OJR also connected, at 630 miles.

Continuing the effort, about three hours later, at 1652 UTC, WB5LUA and W9ZIH made the 738-mile contact, and AA5C worked W9ZIH, at 733 mles. All contacts were on 2-way CW.

Al Ward said "It is really nice to know there are people active on the microwave bands who are ready to go when the bands open, and also to know that our equipment, which has only worked out to 250 miles under normal conditions, can actually work when the band opens up."

from ARRL via KD3OA, EPA Bulletin mgr

QRM big time

From The W5YI Report

Ambulance interference

The FCC's Kansas City office received a complaint about "foul" language business radio operation on a rural ambulance service frequency. FCC engineers tracked the signal to a tractor-trailer service using the frequency to coordinate traffic at loading docks at a Ford assembly plant. The radio company that installed the radio equipment had mistakenly programmed it with the ambulance frequency.

Russian Interference

FCC engineers in the Seattle area were notified of a safety interference problem affecting the communications of Forestry Service smoke jumpers who were fighting fires in the area. Using a new GPS mobile-direction-finding and mapping vehicle, the FCC traced the problem signal to the Boeing Control Tower in Everett, WA where the Russians had placed a transmitter on the air, testing it in preparation for President Yeltsen's visit. The transmitter was voluntarily shut down and the Russians were advised of the proper procedure for obtaining frequencies.

Norfolk Airport interference

Air traffic control at the Norfolk International Airport called the FCC's Norfolk office to report unauthorized voices on an FAA VHF band frequency. The tower was asked to record the transmissions. The recordings mentioned a "nail inspection" and an address. An FCC engineer drove to the address only to find a roofing crew but no radio. A building inspector had just left the site. Following the lead, the FCC investigator uncovered a defective portable radio being used by the building inspector. The radio was replaced and the interference ceased.

Interference to SAR satellite

The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center contacted the FCC's watch officer to report interference to the Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking (SARSAT) system used to locate crashed aircraft and ships in distress. The SARSAT system determined that an interfering signal was originating from the Seattle, WA area. Engineers from the FCC's Seattle office using a mobile direction-finding vehicle equipped with a new mapping package discovered a discarded emergency transmitter beacon operating in a pile of rubbish on the deck of a commercial fishing vessel.

Emergency Beacon

In another similar incident, The Coast Guard contacted the FCC's Los Angeles office about interference on an emergency beacon frequency which is used when a vessel is sinking. Using direction-finding equipment, FCC engineers pinpointed the interference to an under cover vessel operated by the U.S. Customs Service docked at a marina in Wilmington, CA. Customs agents had removed the emergency beacon from its mounting to hide it from burglars and, in the process, activated a distress call.

More interference to SAR Satellite

Engineers from the FCC's Seattle Office responded to a request for assistance from the Lanley Air Force Base Rescue Coordination Center (RCC). The Search and Rescue Satellite was receiving interference on its 121.5 and 234 MHz distress frequencies. The "hit" area defined by the satellite encompassed about eight square miles. A mobile direction finding unit detected power line noise which was excessive at one location. When the investigator shook a guy wire, the noise signal dropped significantly. The SARSAT operations center confirmed that the interference had stopped. The power company was advised to check the pole and loose hardware and connections were found.

Paging interference

The FCC's San Juan Office issued 55 warning letters to most of the paging companies in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The FCC believes that better compliance with the Commission's technical rules will reduce the problem. Interference cases have suddenly mushroomed with the tremendous growth of private carrier paging on the islands.

The FCC said that compared to their common carrier counterparts, private carriers seem to have insufficient resources to maintain proper operation of their transmitters which causes interference to properly operating systems.

The preceding from The W5YI Report.

de Chris KD3OA
ARRL EPA Bulletin Manager

Ham radio stuff I learned this year.
or
Defining a blivot.



by George, N3OWG

This being the first edition of the **W3OK Corral** that you will read in 1995, and January being the traditional month for columnists to write down lists of stuff pertaining to the previous year, I wanted, to for once to fall into the fold, and do the expected rather than the totally absurd. (Also lists are the truly easiest way out of any column and time is really short during the holidays!) So here is what I have learned in 1994:

All hams are convinced that there little slice of hamdom is the only true path to RF nirvana and that anyone doing anything else is somehow missing the whole point. Be you a rag chewer, net denizen, traffic handler, AMer, contester, DXer, packeteer, moonbounce VHFer, or QRP fanatic I know you look at the others with the kind of mistrust usually reserved for convicted cannibals.

Building stuff is more fun than just buying it. I made this antenna tuner in this really cool black box that N3SWA describes a looking "ominous". It doesn't work much better or worse than the commercial transmatch I already had, and actually I didn't even need it, but it does sit here in the shack looking somehow dangerous and filled with lethal voltages. And I can say "I made that".

You will never get tired of getting a QSL card in the mail. I have a whole stack of them already. Yet everyday the first question I ask my wife when I get home is "What's in the mail?" And she will reply with you "did" or "did not" get any cards. I am sure that I would look inside an envelope with an amateur call in the return address long before a certified letter from a lawyer.

If you give a child a world map and your stamps from your international mail you will end up with a child who gets A's in geography in school. "The Squirt" (my cutest harmonic, and future Extra class, 10 year old daughter, Danielle "the princess of hamfest flyers") recently one upped her fourth grade teacher by showing her just exactly where Mauritius Island is. Hmm smart and pretty blue eyes that could make for a lot of broken hearts one day.

Never touch the plate cap of a tube. EVER!

Never do it a second time two minutes later. (tends to scare the wits out of the family members)

Wear comfortable shoes to hamfests and bring along a canvas bag with handles on it. There is nothing worse than having sore feet and loose junk falling out of your arms.

It is completely unnecessary to bring your 2 meter handi talki into the club meeting. I would however like to turn off the lights in Kiva Hall some night and have all of us key up at once to see if we could make the fluorescent lights glow with all that RF.

You and your wife can install wire antennas together and you have enough man power for the project. However putting up a beam even a small one pretty much requires you to spring for pizza and bring in the reserves! I will never forget the look on my 110 lb. wife's face as she fought with the 108.5 lb. pull of a stressing mast with a quaggi perched atop of it.

Learning CW wasn't really that hard. Nor was it that easy. It's a good requirement to keep most of the Ya Hoos off of the HF bands. We already have enough Ya Hoos and importing some more will not enhance the hobby one bit.

Wayne Greene has been whining for at least 18 years and the song has no new words. Maybe he will read this and start attacking me instead of the ARRL? What about it Wayne?

If you want to know what the date is write a regular column for the newsletter then don't write it. On the 27th of the month Clarence will call you on the phone. This is quite similar to an earlier discovery of mine which is: "If you want to know what time it is stay up really late till you are really tired and call somebody on the phone and say HI! When they ask you why you are calling say something like you just wanted to chat. The sure reply is "DO YOU REALIZE IT'S 4:15 IN THE MORNING?"..... set your watch.

When 20 closes 80 opens. And you CAN work Australia on 80 if you get up at sunrise. But then how bad do you really want to talk to Australia you know?

The attention span of a non ham listening to your boring ham radio exploits is on average 1.85 minutes after that there eyes glaze over and thoughts of malt liquor commercials start playing in there mind. (Except Mom who is proud of everything I do and has spent 36 years looking interested in the boring no mater what.) "Thanks Mom! gc"

Not everyone is nice to you on the air, but when they meet you in person and if you stand 6' 2" at 215 lb., claim to have learned electronic theory in a state prison, have tattoos and ride a Harley they suddenly get manners. Except for a few who need some special help I think.

10% of the people do 100% of the work. This is pandemic to life. I am proud to think of myself in that 10%

You can always get an operators spot at field day or a multi op contest station at 3 am. And if you eat Kim Chee while doing it people will let you keep that spot as long as you want it. And due to certain physiological and chemical reactions you will also be given a solo spot on the sofa till the winds of change pass so to speak.

If you listen to 40 meters in the daytime you will become an expert on Social Security, Medicare and a whole host of diseases.

Dogs do not care one whipstich about that noisy box on the desk but if you feed them a steady supply of bowser biscuits they will humor you and hang out by your feet.

Removing the fuse from the TV set will cure the TVI complaints in your house for good.

Birds do not like Morse code. At least not the ones that used to sit on my dipole. Heh heh heh!

Some of the nicest people I have ever met I know better by a set of federally issued letters and numbers than by there first and last name.

Getting fan mail is a blast! And many thanks to you all who have sent it either my US mail, Packet or just a quick comment on the air. *HAPPY NEW YEAR and Good DX de George, N3OWG*

FCC changes affect ham radio

from Newsline.904

Major changes in the structure of the Federal Communications Commission will definitely affect Amateur Radio. Come 1995 it will be a radically different FCC. Many old faces will be gone. Other unknown names will be taking their place as ham radio moves to the jurisdiction of the new Wireless Communications Bureau.

The FCC's effort to get up to speed on the information superhighway includes creation of the new Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Ralph Haller, a key agency contact on ham radio issues is now a deputy chief.

"The new Wireless Bureau encompasses a much larger scope, if you will, from what the Private Radio Bureau encompassed. Basically my duties are unchanged." Haller.

Haller sez the new bureau groups the various wireless services differently, with the same people in the same specialties.

"The structural change at the commission, but in terms of the day to day operation of the commission with regard to amateurs, I think they are going to see a lot of the names that they are familiar with."

For the amateur community we might see more responsiveness at the commission.

"The new bureau is receiving some resources we didn't have in the past. We have better computer equipment and we will have a few more people in the bureau. So, I think if anything it should be viewed as fairly positive effects on the amateur community." Haller.

In the mean time the FCC's agenda for regulating ham radio has not changed under the reorganization.

"One big concern of ours right now, is the integrity of the license and the licensing processes. And we are monitoring that very closely with the cooperation of the volunteer exam coordinators. So I think that's one of the major areas.

The other area that we are concentrating on tremendously right now is trying to implement the specialty or vanity callsign program." Haller.

And while other communications modes push technology ahead more quickly than ham radio operators, Haller says there is no way they will be lost in the shuffle.

"I don't think that there is much chance of that happening. First of all the amateurs have a long standing history for being the first on the scene in times of disaster. I think that is very well know here at the commission, it is very well known in congress." Haller.

Haller did say rival services looking for frequency spectrum will continue their focus on VHF and above.

"We have a proceeding in the 902 to 928 Mhz band which allows would allow some additional sharing with automatic vehicle locations systems and part 15 devices like cordless telephones. But the amateur service has a good reputation for being able to share with other services. So while we might see some additional sharing on some of the bandn the future, I don't think that the amateurs are going to lose bands." Haller.

Ralph Haller at the FCC's new Wireless Communications Bureau saying he is optimistic the agency and amateur radio operators will continue their long standing cooperation.

from Newsline.904

Quotes

The cost of living is high, but it's worth it.
Doug Larson

Praise loudly, blae softly.
J. Tellechea.

Goodness is the only investment that never fails.
Henry David Thoreau

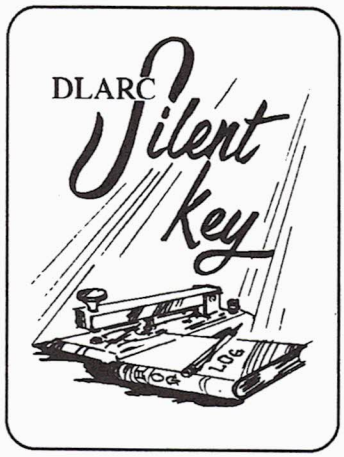
A country free enough to examine its own conscience is a land worth living in, a nation to be envied.
Prince Charles

Deep faith eliminates fear.
Lech Walesa

Just remember, when you're over the hill, you begin to pick up speed.
Charles Schulz

Real courage is when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what.
Harper Lee

de Alfredo, AD4PN and the Happy Club



W3IPS

Russell S. Stocker

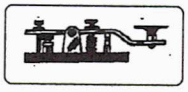
Russ Stocker, 93, who was one of the charter members of DLARC died on December 16, in Easton Hospital

Russ, was a pioneer in operating Amateur Radio from his home in Bangor in 1916, beginning with a spark coil and crystal detector. At that time there was only one other operator in the Bangor area on the air. .

. He worked for AT&T in Easton in the communications maintenance department for more than 40 years. Prior to that he was employed as the manager and telegraph operator for Western Union in Bangor.

In addition he was a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

CW helps ship at sea



by Bob, WF3H

In a broadcast monitored by me from public coast station WLO, Mobile, AL, a story published by the American Radioman's Association detailed how CW was used to assist a ship in distress on the high seas.

The story states that the Ukrainian cargo ship "Salvador Allende" with a crew of 31 was caught in an Atlantic gale with 60 knot winds 850 miles NE of Bermuda. The ship's radio officer was able to send a cw SOS on 500 KHz as the ship started to sink.

The story states that "As a result of USCG suspension of Morse telegraphy watchkeeping on 500 KHz the signals were picked up by the (Canadian Coast Guard station) VCS, Halifax, and relayed to the USCG Atlantic Command Center". 10 merchant ships and 6 large fishing trawlers responded. 2 crewmen were saved, 7 died, and 22 are missing. This news report was broadcast to ships at sea in SITOR/FEC on 12/17/94.

by Bob, WF3H

Xmas City 94Report

by Bob, KE3AW

Season's Greetings from DLARC, 1994



On December 17 and 18 DLARC members made a total of 459 contacts before the bands "went to bed" early, about 7 pm Sunday evening, in the Christmas City Special Event Station from Nazareth and Bethlehem.

We made 459 contacts in Canada, Mexico, England, and 47 states (we missed only South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Hawaii). This was done with our 100 watt transceiver and our trap dipole antenna at the club station, W3OK.

At least 27 members operated the station over the 24 hour operation. They included: **Len, N2BSC; Bud, WA3BOM; Bob, W2CCE; Ken, N3IYX; Joe, W3JD; Dave, N3JGX; Chris, KE3KN; Dick, KA3MOU; Carl, N3NGL; Andy, N3NLA; Rich, N3NXF; Bill, KA3OEG; Bob, N2OTI; George, N3OWG; Frank, N3QZN; Bob, N3QZR; Brad, KA1RAH; Chris, N3SIG; Roy, N3SII; Dave, N3SQE; Scott, N3SQF; Chuck, KD3SQ; John, N3SQV; Bonnie, N3SWA; Ray, W3TDF; Missy, N3TFG; Jim, WA2ZGO and Tim KC3QO.** To any missed, apologies. It wasn't intentional, just busy!

Besides the operators, a number of other DLARC members and friends stopped by to see the Christmas station operation, and enjoyed a cup of coffee and some Christmas goodies.

Special thanks go out to **Brad, KA1RAH**, for his part in organizing the 1994 Christmas City Special Event.

A REMINDER: The club station is available for club members with HF band license privileges, or when a control operator with these privileges is present, at times other than special events. Please contact a club officer or committee member for a briefing before using the station for the first time.

de Bob, KE3AW

Wife reading mail to husband: "This little note came with our credit-card bill. It says:

"Leave home without it."

-Edgar Argo in Funny Times

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate to the DLARC, RACES & ARES nets
on 146.70 W3OK/RPT with an alternate of W3PYF/RPT 145.11
W3OK trustee Rick Saeger, K3OO
The Nets are held on Sundays at 9:30 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00PM

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DLARC INFORMATION LINE 820-9110

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==1994-1995==

CLUB OFFICERS

President -Bob Green .....KE3AW.....432-8286
Vice-President - Tom Frobase..... .N3LLL.....395-4327
Secretary - Bob Gerst..... N3OLH.....868-8200
Treasurer - Dick Dech.....KA3MOU..837-1585

--EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Robin Moseley.....WA3T.....820-0944
Bob Dickinson.....W2CCE.....967-1393
Ray Bilger.....W3TDF.....346-7313
Don Curtis .....W3LR.....282-4459
Bob Kratz.....KU3K.....866-5879
Chris Hornaman.....NU3L.....965-4151

--NEWS STAFF

Editor - Clarence Snyder, ...W3PYF.....252-2109
Technical Editor.- Wm Van Horn..... K3CP.....691-5979
Digital Editor - Joel Elston.....K9TBD.....252-1515
Contest Editor - Barry Kery.....KU3X.....691-8888
Circulation - Bill Broad .....KA3OEG.. 253-0729
Mailing List - Richard Dech KA3MOU 837-1585
Printer- Norm Zoltack.....K3NZ.....799-4044

--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 Northampton County Community College
TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to
this newsletter should be addressed to
Clarence Snyder, W3PYF, Editor..717 Porter Street, Easton, PA 18042-1548

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ROBERT A GREEN KE3AW
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