Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

February 1999

Slow Scan TV Come See

Meeting on February 4th
7:30 pm NCC

Our program for the February meeting will be amateur **Slow Scan TV.** Marvin-KA3TEO has been working SSTV for some time. He says it's easy to do, and a lot of fun, too. Let's take a look at another dimension of amateur radio. The meeting will be held at the Community College. Check nets to find out room number.

General Classes

General License classes began on Monday, January 11. We have eight people registered for the class, with the possibility of two more starting next week. There's lots of enthusiasm and interest!

de Bob, KE3AW

Computer problems

This is too funny not to be true!

submitted by Howard KB3SX

In March 1992 a man living in Newton near Boston, Massachusetts received a bill for his as yet unused credit card stating that he owed $0.00. He ignored it and threw it away. In April he received another and threw that one away too. The following month the credit card company sent him a very nasty note stating they were going to cancel his card if he didn't send them $0.00 by return of post.

He called them, talked to them, they said it was a computer error and told him they'd take care of it. The following month our hero decided that it was about time that he tried out the troublesome credit card figuring that if there were purchases on his account it could put an end to his ridiculous predicament. However, in the first store that he produced his credit card in payment for his purchases he found that his card had been canceled.

He called the credit card company who apologized for the computer error once again and said that they would take care of it. The next day he got a bill for $0.00 stating that payment was now overdue. Assuming that having spoken to the credit card company only the previous day the latest bill was yet another mistake he ignored it, trusting that the company would be as good as their word and sort the problem out.

The next month he got a bill for $0.00 stating that he had 10 days to pay his account or the company would have to take steps to recover the debt. Finally giving in he thought he would play the company at their own game and mailed them a check for $0.00. The computer duly processed his account and returned a statement to the effect that he now owed the credit card company nothing at all.

A week later, the man's bank called him asking him what he was doing writing a check for $0.00. After a lengthy explanation the bank replied that the $0.00 check had caused their check processing software to fail. The bank could now not process ANY checks from ANY of their customers that day because the check for $0.00 was causing the computer to crash. The following month the man received a letter from the credit card company claiming that his check had bounced and that he now owed them $0.00 and unless he sent a check by return of post they would be taking steps to recover the debt.

The man, who had been considering buying his wife a computer for her anniversary, bought her a typewriter instead.

de Howard, KB3ZX

Government sets up Y2K hotline

via the Hudson Loop 110.

The President's Council on Year 2000 is establishing a tollfree information line for answering consumers' queries about possible millennium problems. By dialing **1-888-USA-4-Y2K**, consumers can access prerecorded messages seven days a week, 24 hours a day on how personal computers, small business, telephones and other products or services will be affected by the approaching year 2000.



John Koskinen, chairman of the council, said "We are committed to providing consumers the latest information on how the problem may, or may not, affect government services, banks, household appliances and other things they depend upon in their daily lives,"

The information on the line comes from government agencies, companies or industry groups, reporting on what measures they are taking to prepare for 2000. That is when computer systems performing calculations involving dates may begin generating incorrect data if they recognize only the last two digits of a year because they will assume that 2000 is 1900. Information specialists supported by researchers also will be on hand to answer consumer questions from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM EST Monday through Friday.

At the end of the month, the line will provide a "fax-ondemand" system, enabling callers to receive printed material on the **Y2K** problem with the touch of a button. Similar consumer information also can be obtained through the council's Web site at **http://www.y2k.gov.**

US Commerce Department

via This Week in Amateur Radio

January VE Session Cancelled Weather bad

February VE's will are scheduled as follows: Leader-**W3IYG,** Francis Lisicky; **K2YIY**, Cary Rufe; **AA3IX,** Carl Seier

March VE's are scheduled as follows: Leader-**W3ZF**, Dan Ruth; **KE3AW,** Bob Green; **NS3J**, Bill Newman; **KA3MVQ**, Glade Schroeter

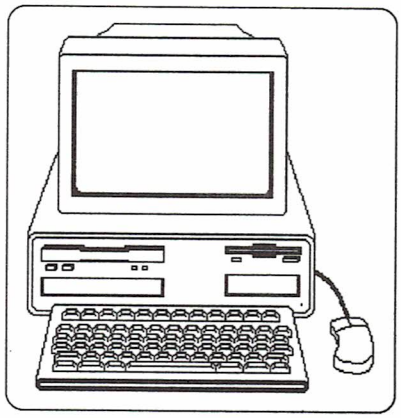
de Jill, N3ZSR

VETest Session Contact Person

You and your computer

submitted by Jeff, KB2EVB

A pastor of one church who was previously a sailor was very aware that ships are addressed as "she" and "her." He often wondered what gender computers should be addressed. To answer that question, he set up two groups of computer experts. The first was comprised of women, and the second of men. Each group was asked to recommend whether computers should be refereed to in the feminine gender, or the masculine gender. They were asked to give four reasons for their recommendation.



The women reported that the computer should be referred to in the masculine gender because:

1. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on.

2. They have a lot of data, but are still clueless.

3 They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they are the problem.

4 As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer you could have had a better model.

The men, on the other hand, concluded that computers should be referred to in the feminine gender because;

1. No one but the creator understands their internal logic.

2 The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.

3. Even your smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for later retrieval.

4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

de Jeff, KB2EVB

FAR offers scholarships

The nonprofit Foundation for Amateur Radio Inc--an ARRL-affiliated federation of more than 75 Amateur Radio clubs in the Washington, DC, area--plans to administer 66 scholarships for the 1999-2000 academic year to help licensed radio amateurs with their post-secondary education. Ten of the scholarships are fully funded with income from grants and the foundation's annual hamfest. FAR administers the remaining 56 scholarships without cost to the donors.

Licensed amateurs are eligible to compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of study beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted at an accredited university, college, or technical school. Awards range from $500 to $2500. In some cases, preference goes to those pursuing certain courses of study or to residents of specific geographical areas. FAR encourages all clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin, to spread the word on the availability of these scholarships.

Application forms and additional information are available by letter or QSL postmarked prior to April 30, 1999, **from**

FAR Scholarships,

PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738.

Contributions to FAR are tax-deductible..

DARA scholarship program

The **Dayton Amateur Radio Association** is accepting applications for its annual scholarship awards. The DARA Scholarship Program is open initially to any Amateur Radio operator graduating from high school in 1999. There are no restrictions on course of study, nor does the student need to be pursuing a four-year baccalaureate degree, but schools selected must be accredited. Awards are made on a nondiscriminatory basis. Selection criteria include financial need, scholastic achievement, contributions to Amateur Radio, and community involvement.

Decisions of the DARA Scholarship Committee are final. Maximum individual awards are **$2000**. For an application and full details, send an SASE to

DARA Scholarships,

45 Cinnamon CT, Springboro,

OH 45066. Application deadline is **June 15, 1999**.

The ARRL Letter" December 18

FCC acts in alleged exam, license fraud cases

The FCC has acted in several Amateur Radio cases where it appears that individuals attempted to obtain an Amateur Radio license or upgrade by fraud or misrepresentation.

On December 14, the FCC downgraded two amateur licensees and canceled the ticket of a third in Michigan. Busted from Advanced to Tech Plus were Lawrence A. Repp Jr., N8HFN, and Alan E. Quirie, KA8ZRR. The FCC pulled the Tech Plus ticket of Steven A. Penn, formerly KC8HUM. The FCC had not updated its database as of December 17.

The Commission said the three filed amateur applications claiming to have taken Amateur examinations at Oak Park, Michigan, on June 3, 1997, at an ARRL VEC session. The FCC says its evidence shows that the three did not sit for the exams. It says their names "were adde and signatures forged, sometime after the tests were administered, by one of the four examiners." That examiner--the father of one of the exam candidates involved--reportedly forwarded the session package on behalf of the VE team to the ARRL VEC for FCC filing.

The FCC said that three of the examiners knew nothing of the scheme. The other three VEs brought the situation to the attention of the ARRL VEC and the FCC. The FCC said it would act in the case of the fourth examiner by month's end. The Commission also is looking into possible enforcement action against another ham whose name was added to the list after the test session but whose application never was submitted to the FCC. The FCC also dismissed two amateur applications in Puerto Rico after the applicants failed to reply to FCC inquiries. In the case of Jose R. Velez-Rivera, an FCC official said it appears that an impostor tried to change another amateur's call sign, address, and date of birth to his own to get a license without taking an exam. In the second case, the FCC dismissed the renewal and General class upgrade application of Hector A. Santiago, WP4DCB. An FCC official said it appears Santiago tried to renew as a General when he only had a Novice ticket.

Velez-Rivera and Santiago were notified by the FCC October 23. The FCC updated its database this month to reflect the dismissals.

via **ARRL Bulletin *106***

SKYWARN Technical Committee Meeting

by John, WX3TAZ

The quarterly meeting of the SKYWARN Technical Committee was held at the Warren County, NJ 911 Center. The following attended the meeting: Rob, WX3ROB; Joe Miketta, John, WX3TAZ; Cully, N3HTZ; Boyd, W2HOB; Dave, N2VRC; Kathy, W2KAT; Art, N2QAE; Steve, N2KBD; Stephanie, KD2RZ; Jeff, N2FFA, and John, K2WJ.

Barry Smith has been appointed as the SKYWARN Liaison for Warren County, NJ. Barry will take the SKYWARN information as far as what is going on with SKYWARN , what's new with SKYWARN, and pass this information on to RACES. Barry will be getting his information from Dave Slawson, N2VRC, who is the SKYWARN Co-ordinator for Warren County.

There was a discussion on the Bear's Repeater System and the problems that have been occurring. There are still problems of coverage in the Pocono area and in the Warren and Sussex Counties of NJ. Cully said that Bill, WA3BXW, is working on the system and also on 2 meter linking system. There is a lot of planning being done. Not much can be done now that the weather is changing. There is a repeater near Dover, DE that can be linked to the system. This repeater works well into Maryland that had no coverage before. The repeater is on 449.725.

Another topic that was discussed was the Thursday Net and Net Controllers. The Net is on the first and third Thursday of the month for right now. In the Spring, when Severe Weather Season starts, the Net will probably go back to every Thursday. There is still a need for Net Controllers. Don't be afraid to volunteer as a Net Controller. You may make some mistakes the first time, but after that it only gets easier. The more Net Controllers we get, the easier it is for everyone. If anybody know someone that would be interested in being a Net Controller, have him or her contact John, WX3TAZ at wx3taz@wx3taz.net. John will make sure that all the Net information will be sent to anybody who wants to the net. Joe Miketta said that he would be available on the January 7th net to have a Q & A session.

There was talk about having a Special Event at the Mount Holly NWSFO. It would be held in March at the beginning of the Pennsylvania Statewide Weather Drill, which is normally held on the third or fourth week. There would be two simplex frequencies, one on 2 meters and one on 440.

There will also be some HF frequencies. Rob asked Dave, N2VRC, and John, WX3TAZ, to co-chairman the event. Joe asked John to send him some information so that he could get some ideas for the certificates.

The next subject on the agenda was SKYWARN Training Sessions. Joe suggested that we should try to group the areas together. Monroe, Carbon, Northampton, and Leigh Counties could have one training session for example. Joe said that he needs to check his schedule for dates. There was a suggestion that maybe Joe could have a training session for SKYWARN trainers. This would help Joe and these extra trainers could cover more area for Joe.

The Technical Committee has been asked to come to the Pocono Amateur Radio Klub on the second Thursday of February, which is the 11th. The club would like to know what SKYWARN is doing, where we are going as the Technical Committee, and what Mount Holly is doing. This is not a SKYWARN Training Session, but an information session. Rob suggested that it would be a good idea to put on an APRS demo since APRS is an important tool to NWS & SKYWARN.

Stephanie, KD2RZ, had a question about APRS. Boyd answered the question. Boyd also went further and discussed what the State of NJ is doing as far as Wide Digipeaters. There was a suggestion that there should be a meeting set up between the PA Wide Digipeaters that is along the state line and the NJ System. This would prevent a lot of problems with the Wide Digipeaters.

The next Technical Committee meeting will be on either March 7 or 14. The final date will be announced. The Committee would like to thank Warren County for allowing us to use their facilities for our meeting. The next meeting site has not been decided on yet. When they do, it will be on the

WX2PHI Website <http://wx2phi.SKYWARN.net>

de John WX3TAZ, Vice Chair and Secretary.



ARRL E-mail Addresses to be Available to Members

ARRL members soon will be able to announce their ARRL membership through their e-mail addresses! Starting February 1, 1999, a new membership service will be available for those wishing to have an ARRL e-mail address, and you won't have to switch e-mail services to do it. Not only that but it will be free-of-charge to League members! The new, personalized League e-mail addresses will consist of the member's call sign @arrl.net. Electronic mail sent to the address automatically will be forwarded to any e-mail account you choose.

As long as you remain an ARRL member, you'll never have to notify people of an address change--even if you change Internet service providers.

As soon as the service becomes available, members will be able to sign up quickly and easily through the ARRL Members Only Web Site. If you are not already registered for the Members Only Web Site, you can do so at */members/">http://www.arrl.org/members/*

Household hazardous waste for Northampton Lehigh, Schuykill and Monroe Counties.

Nick Tylenda, head of the Emergency Management of Northampton County has issued the following statement for residents:

Northampton joined Lehigh, Monroe and Schuykill Counties earlier this year in establishing a regional collection program which would allow county residents to properly dispose of **paints, paint thinners, solvent, motor oil and other substances that should not be put in regular garbage.**

The County is providing funding for this program and with certain limitations, residents will not be charged for the service.

In order to use this service, (NO CHARGE), call Toll free, **1-800-HHH-PKUP (1-800-449-7587)** and a collection kit will be sent to the caller. This will be placed beside the house and will be picked up on a regular schedule.

This household waste will be transported to the appropiate facilty for recycling or disposal

Antennas in space

by Roy Neal. K6DUE,

Amateur radio operators have been erecting antennas since the earliest days of radio. So, perhaps it is apropos that it be am amateur radio operator putting up another set of antennas that would help to write a new chapter in space communications.

The ham radio operator is Jerry Ross, N5SCW. He was part of all ham crew that flew mission STS-37 in the early 1990's. And now, Jerry is one of two astronauts who ventured out on a spacewalk on Wednesday, December 9th to attach the antennas to first United States section of the international space station.

The module called **Unity.**

This was the second of three excursions outside the shuttle Endeavor for Ross and James Newman in less than a week. They completed installing two 100 pound antennas on Unity at about 3 ½ hours point of a planned 7 hour spacewalk. They then successfully pried open a stuck antenna on the Russian built Zarya space station module.

Even with the antenna repair, the spacewalk was not nearly as difficult as the one on Monday, December 7th. During that excursion, Ross and Newman hooked up forty electrical connections between Zarya and Unity. This essentially tied the two as the first stages of the ISS.

But the antennas that Ross and Newman installed outside of the Unity module may be just as important. They are part of an elaborate communications system between Unity and NASA's Mission Control in Houston. Once activated, the system will provide a direct, virtually uninterrupted communication link between the two without having to rely on Russian ground stations for relay.

Rounding out the mission, Ross and Newman also took a third spacewalk and checked out the new space station. And typical of ham radio operation, they kicked those stuck antennas -- freeing them for future work when Russian spacecraft come in to dock.

All of this totaled seven spacewalks for N5SCW during his 18 year career as an astronaut. That's the most spacewalks by any American.

I'm Roy Neal, K6DUE, reporting for Newsline

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Income & Loss Statement.

Balance 10/31/98	**$4038.38**
INCOME	
Donation Income fifty-fifty	26.00
Dues ARRL Misc. 1580.110	
Hamfest Income Books sold	37.90
TOTAL INCOME	**1643.90**
EXPENSES	
New Member ARRL	87.00
Newsletter for January	100.00
Postage	112.00
Renewal ARRL	32.00
Telephone	31.05
TOTAL EXPENSES	**370.05**
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	**1273.85**
Balance 12/31/95	**$5312.23**

Total Membership 369 as of 12/31/98

de, Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

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 , KA3MOU treasurer

Ham helps nab road rage

A California ham was instrumental in helping police to nab an angry motorist who had seriously injured another motorist after being cut off on the freeway in mid-December.

According to an account in The Orange County Register, the angry driver followed the other driver for miles "before confronting him on a busy city street, shoving him under an accelerating big rig, and kicking him even after he had been run over." The account says that the angry driver and his two co-workers drove off. But they were caught later in the morning when Ed Greany, KB6DOL, of Corona, heard a broadcast description of the vehicle and then saw the men pass by. He notified police via ham radio, and they arrested Richard Snyder, 28 and two others on suspicion of attempted murder.

The newspaper said Snyder had a string of previous convictions, and his license had been suspended. The injured motorist was reported in serious condition.

According to the FCC database, the Greany household includes three hams: Roberta Greany, KC6AEP, and Michael Greany, KE6RDT. All are ARRL members.--thanks to Charlie Clifford Jr, W6QMY ***(no relative of your editor)***

The ARRL Letter

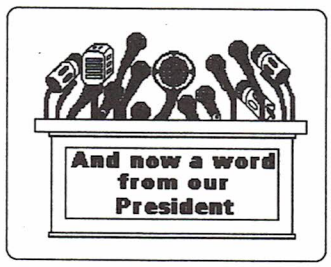
The Prez Sez

Up to Snuff

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

If the title of this month's column got you curious -- good! Actually, it's simply a reference to the program that took place at the January meeting. More on that later.

The first DLARC club meeting of the new year generated a couple of impromptu discussions in addition to the usual committee and event reports. The first topic was related to, well, topics -- for club meeting programs, that is. It's becoming a trend that a good number of the members who show up for a club meeting are departing after the break, thus leaving a much smaller number in attendance for the scheduled program. While it's understandable that not every topic is of interest to every member in attendance at club meetings, it becomes a bit of an embarrassment if a presenter is brought in from outside the club, only to see somewhat of an exodus take place before the beginning of the program.



Perhaps we need topics that are of broader interest. With that thought in mind, I asked for suggestions of program ideas. Not only were a good number of topics suggested, but it was also pointed out that the programs for upcoming months should be publicized as widely as possible in the newsletter, on the weekly nets, etc. We certainly do need to pay more attention to publicity. Unfortunately, however, a number of the program slots for the next few months are still open. At the present time, club Directors are sharing the responsibility for planning and organizing programs. They're doing the job well, but the task of finding topics that are of wide enough interest is not an easy one. So if we want to continue having a program for each month's meeting (and the answer to that at the January meeting was a resounding "yes"), we'll need continuing suggestions both of topics and of resource persons. Please pass your ideas along to any officer or board member.

Our second discussion related to the Christmas City Special Event Station. Bob, KE3AW, and Mark, K3MP, did an excellent job of organizing the event, including setting up the operator schedule. A new certificate, designed by Jill, N3ZSR, was available for sending to confirmed contacts. The point of the discussion, however, was the assertion that CW operation was not only not available at the event, but specifically forbidden to a club member who requested it. Unfortunately, neither of the event organizers was able to attend the meeting, and, because the operator in question was also absent from the meeting, the concern was raised by another member who was aware of the incident.

As it turns out, there's more to the story. It is true that no CW frequencies were publicized for the event. It seems that a limitation on the number of frequencies (four) that the editors will allow in QST announcements for special event stations was at least part of the reason for the omission. But the single member who asked to operate on CW during the event was not forbidden from doing so, as reported at the meeting. He was offered the use of the keyer at the club station, but he preferred a straight key. Since there wasn't one available, and he hadn't brought his own, he decided to operate on phone instead. End of story.

It's unfortunate that the sequences of events in incidents like this tend to change in their retelling. We have enough of a recent history of conflicts over preferences in operating modes and bands -- and opinions about upgrading operator privileges -- without an inaccurate report of an event that seems to underline such conflicts. As was correctly pointed out at the club meeting, we need to strive to keep our club activities as inclusive as possible, both in attitude and in fact, to accommodate every license level and operational preference. It would certainly have been wrong for a member's request to operate CW at WX3MAS to be refused. But, as it turns out, that was not the case.

On a more positive note, we were all delighted to see our youngest club member, Sara Saeger, KB3CLQ, receive not only one but two DLARC operating awards, the WAS and the DXCC. In presenting the awards, Barry, KU3X, reminded all of us both of the availability of the awards and of the ease with which they can be acquired -- especially by taking advantage of contest weekends. Both of the awards require only log notations rather than QSL confirmations. I'd like to thank Barry for continuing to take on the responsibility of managing these two awards.

Our program for the night allowed members who had brought radios with them to have their gear tested on analyzers set up and operated by Don, KA3JWE, and Barry, N3NVA. The value of advance publicity for our programs was underlined by the attendance of one guest who wanted to see if his radio was up to snuff. Since there are a lot more radios out there that should probably be tested than those that showed up at the January meeting, it looks like this particular program topic will be given a repeat performance at some point in the future.

One final note: We need a few more Extra Class VE's to bring us up to a full complement of six teams. The commitment involves only two test session a year, and all of the administrative details are taken care of by Jill Brodt, N3ZSR, the club's VE team contact person and test session coordinator. Even if you do not hold a VE badge, you'll find out that it's very easy to become certified as an examiner. If you'd like to help, contact Jill at 588-6977 or gbrodt@epix.net.

de Joe, W3JD.

Just the Minutes

by Dan, W3ZF, Secretary

The January 1999 meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on the Thursday, the 7th, in Kiva Hall at the Northampton County Community College and was called to order by President Joe Chuk (W3JD) at 1937 hrs EST. There was a motion by N3VJA and seconded by WX3C to accept the minutes as they appeared in the January 1999 issue of the newsletter. The motion carried.

Dick, KA3MOU, then gave his Treasurer's report - Balance 31NOV1998 $4,038.38 Total Income $1,643.90 Total Expense $370.05 Balance 31DEC1998 $5,312.23. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made by KB3CSS and seconded by W3APE. The motion carried. Dick also reported that our total membership currently is 368.

Barry, N3NVA, Chairman of the Repeater Committee reported that our 440 repeater is still down while he waits for its free repair. Our good fortune is because of an innocent misunderstanding with Spectrum. Another topic of concern to all members is our current episodes with a bootleg operator causing much interference on 146.10/70. Because of his continual playing with the "touch tones", he has successfully altered the operation of the repeater controller. Because of this, Barry has occasionally had to put the repeater into "bozo" mode; that is, all touch tone features of the repeater are inoperative. Anybody who hears this bootleg operator (or any bootlegger for that matter), would be doing Barry and the rest of us a favor if you could get "a fix" on him with your directional antenna. With the FCC being more active in the area of enforcement, there is a possibility that we could get some assistance from them (if we can get some coordinates on him/her).

KE3AW says that it appears that there are 3 candidates for the General Class sessions beginning on 11JAN1999 at 7:00 PM. The classes consist mostly of theory lessons with some code practice. Jill, N3ZSR has reported the need for at least 2 more Extra Class amateurs to fill recently vacated positions. If you are an Extra Class operator and can see your way clear of doing JUST 2 VE sessions a year, please call Jill. The more VEs we have, the less sessions each VE will have to oversee. As the new club secretary, I was going through the old minutes of club and BOD (Board of Directors) meetings and came across some things that I didn't recognize/realize/remember. I had seen in the past (like in 1989) where club members have been the recipient of club sponsored awards - the DX100 and WAS. Then, at this club meeting,

Barry KU3X presented BOTH awards to our youngest member - Sara Saeger KB3CLQ. Boy, my own performance over 20 years of hamming can't even compare to Sara's accomplishments. Congratulations Sara!! For the specifics on how to acquire these awards, members are invited to contact Barry or Daryl KE3VN. The club welcomed two new members:

Ned, N3DRZ (motion by N3VJA, 2nd by KA2VEM) and William, K3OK (motion by W3FYK, 2nd by W3BUD). Welcome aboard!

By the way, we still could use some additional volunteers for the new "welcoming committee". See Al, WO4H for further info. The Christmas City Special Event station garnered 392 contacts (11 countries and 38 states). Ray, W3TDF still has some participatory certificates from 1996 and 1997. If you were involved in this event during those years, please see Ray for your certificates. It was brought up by AA3JU that when Skip, K3ZTJ attempted to contribute to this event using CW, he was told that there were no provisions for operating in that mode. George thought that future repetitions of this event should accommodate CW operations and advertise them. His point was well taken. Joe W3JD then brought up a topic that surfaced at the last Board of Director's meeting. The Board was curious as to the feelings of the membership concerning the monthly presentation of programs. It wondered what the reaction of the membership would be if there was a presentation offered EVERY other month. This situation surfaced with the Board because of the (increasing) difficulty of coming up with topics of interest to club members. The fact that half of the membership vacates the premises after the business meeting led some of the Board to conclude that we weren't doing something right (and besides, it's embarrassing to ask someone to prepare for a presentation and then consistently have half of the membership depart). The following suggestions were offered: *KB3CSS- simple topics for new hams and have them right after our Novice Class program concludes. *N3VJA - let's have a QRP program; Josh also suggested that the evening's presentation begin the meeting and that the Business part of the meeting follow.

There was a straw vote taken on this suggestion and it had very little support. (I supported it! I'll tell ya, this is a most frustrating issue!) *KU3K - use the repeater and Club's web page to "advertise" the upcoming program *NU3L - didn't think we should cut back on the number of programs; revive the "show-and-tell" sessions. *KA2VEM - get Sara's picture in the local newspapers-this is something that would catch other kid's attention *N3DFF - Jim wondered if the club had ever undertaken a club project like building some simple kit. K3ANS added that W3OK used to do this years ago. Before the meeting closed (at 8:20 PM), K3ANS made mention of a few DXpeditions that are coming up. Motion to conclude the evening's business was made by WX3TAZ, 2nd by AA3IX. Leon, KA3HLO was in charge of buying the drinks following the meeting; he picked up $27.00 from the 50-50. There were 47 members and 3 visitors (WA2ELB, KA2QEP, and KB3DEB) in attendance.

de Dan, W3ZF, Secretary

FCC warns alleged major amateur offenders

ARRL Bulletin 3

The FCC has issued strong warnings to two amateurs in Indiana and a third in New York who are on the Commission's top ten list of alleged major amateur offenders. The FCC's amateur enforcement point man, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says the warning letters sent earlier this month are the last step before the FCC initiates formal enforcement proceedings. One case primarily involved malicious interference on VHF repeaters, while the other two involved interference to an HF net.

"We have been cutting bait a while, now it's time for us to fish," said Hollingsworth, the legal advisor for enforcement within the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau.

The FCC did not make the names or call signs public, but Hollingsworth said all those who received the letters were put on the FCC's Alert List with FCC field offices. "The Alert List is the FCC equivalent of an all-points bulletin," Hollingsworth explained. He said Field Office monitors would be making a special effort to listen for further violations by stations on the Alert List. Since taking over Amateur Radio enforcement within the CIB last fall, Hollingsworth says he's sent out dozens of warning letters of a much milder nature. "Now, we're distilling that activity to the worst offenders," he said, adding that similar actions were imminent in other major cases.

The letters sent out January 7 and 8 spell out the agency's expectations in no uncertain terms. In the case of the alleged HF offenders, Hollingsworth's letters state that the Commission "has additional evidence that you have been deliberately and maliciously interfering with the operations of other licensed amateurs," primarily a 75-meter net. Both hams--whose cases are related--already had received official Notices of Violation last fall for similar conduct, and the FCC had imposed restricted operating hours on one of them. But the FCC says that the troublesome behavior has continued.

Hollingsworth said the alleged illegal activities not only put the hams' licenses in jeopardy but open them up to possible fines and even put transmitting equipment at risk of seizure. He said he also has cautioned the controllers of the net involved to not engage hecklers or those attempting to harass or interfere, nor to call up the net on a busy frequency. "One thing these nets have to understand is that the nets don't own the frequency," he said.

The case of the alleged VHF offender had a similar pattern. The amateur license of the ham in question already had been suspended at one point, but violations are said to have continued, even during the suspension period. Beyond amateur violations, Hollingsworth said that the FCC's evidence indicated the amateur had threatened FCC employees and others. He told the ARRL that additional warning letters went out to eight other individuals whom he described as "cohorts" to the alleged prime VHF offender.

Hollingsworth requested that all of the amateurs involved contact him immediately to discuss the allegations .

via ARRL Bulletin 1/14/99

JY1 Completes cancer treatment

Jordan's King Hussein, JY1, left the Mayo clinic Tuesday after months of cancer treatment which Jordanian officials said had been successful. The 63 year old king will spend a few days recovering at his summer residence in suburban Maryland, then will fly to London for more rest before returning home, his brother, Crown Prince Hassan, said. Prime Minister Fayez al-Tarawnah says that "A nightmare which weighed on the hearts of all Jordanians has been lifted." According to a report this week in the Newark Star Ledger, his majesty has undergone six rounds of chemotherapy since mid-July to treat non-Hodgkins lymphoma, a type of cancer affecting the lymph glands.

He intermittently left the Rochester, Minnesota hospital between chemotherapy treatments. Long a pivotal figure in the Middle East peace process, he left the clinic for several days in October to help engineer the Wye Plantation agreement with Israel and the Palestinians.

The king's latest illness was his second bout with cancer in six years. He had a kidney removed in 1992 after tests showed a malignant growth. He also had an operation on his prostate last year and later had a swollen lymph gland removed.

JY1 has been heard on the air several times during his stay in the US, mostly on 20 meters.

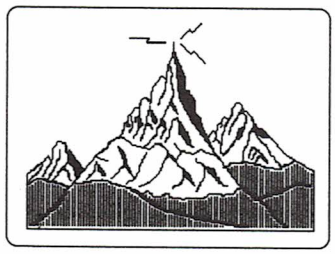
Newark Star Ledger/This Week in Amateur Radio
Via The Hudson Loop

If you can, try to call in on the club Nets on Sunday at 0930 and Wednesday at 1900.

Repeater Etiquette in 12 Easy Steps

by Glen, N3ULW

1) Always use the least amount of power needed to reach the repeater. Not only is this good Amateur practice, but it is also an FCC



Regulation 97.313(a). In other words, if you can access the repeater on 5 watts why use 50?

2) If a conversation is in progress don't interrupt UNLESS you want to join in the ongoing conversation or have something to add to the conversation. Don't join in and try to change the topic.

3) Try to avoid using "Q" codes or signals UNLESS copy is marginal. Think of 2 Meters conversations as being on a phone.

4) Avoid using phonetics EXCEPT to clearup a mistake in mistake or name spelling.

5) If you ask for a **"call please,"** when given the frequency, make you call. But remember, someone else was using the frequency, so keep it brief or try moving to another repeater or simplex **(See 2 Above)**. Conversely, if you hear someone ask for a **"call please,"** be polite and let the operator in. Don't maker him or her wait forever.

6) Locally, the word "break!" means a station has an emergency situation to report. So, with that in mind, if you hear "break!" or "breaker!" -- immediately give the station the frequency. In other areas of the country this term may mean the same as "call please."

7) If you are new to Amateur Radio or new to a specific repeater, it is best to listen in for a bit to see how the people use the repeater.

8) To initiate a contact or to indicate that you are on the frequency, simply state, "KB3XYZ [your call sign] is monitoring." You can also just give your call sign by itself. The message in either case is that you are available for a contact. As always, listen for a while before doing either, to make sure that the repeater isn't already in use.

9) Don't KER-CHUNK (keying up without ID'ing) just to see if the repeater is operating. If you want to check to see if your programming on your HT is correct, then key up and state your call sign and say "testing."

10) Identify legally. Remember you must identify your station once every 10 minutes DURING a contact AND when the contact is ending. FCC Reg. 97.119a 11) Pause between transmissions. This gives other stations the opportunity to join in or someone the chance to make an emergency call.

11) Most repeaters utilize a courtesy tone at the end of each transmission so there is no need to say "over" at the end of your transmission.

12) Last but not least: Remember that the repeater is heard by many, many people -- both hams and non-hams (listening on scanners). So put your best foot forward. Let's all send out a good impression of Amateur Radio! The preceding information (#'s 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12) is from The ARRL Repeater Directory, 1997-98 Edition.

The ARRL Repeater Directory has many helpful tips on using repeaters. Some areas to check out are: Chapter 1, pgs. 10-14: general information; Pages 16-22: autopatch guidelines;

Chapter 4, pgs. 79-84: repeater lingo/ novice hints.

de Glenn, N3ULW

MS Walks and the MS 150 Bike tour.

by Jeff, N3NXF

Walks:

April 18, 1999

Easton, at Hugh Moore Park need 6 hams

Bethlhem, at Sand Island need 6 - 8 hams

May 2, 1999

Allentown, at Lehigh Parkway need 8 - 10 hams Quakertown, Lake Nockamixon only 2 hams needed

MS 150 Bike Tour:

June 12th and 13th

need 25 - 30 hams (our biggest event)

It will start in **Morgantown and over night in Kutztown**

This is the event schedule for this year, the people at the MS Society count on us for support.

de Jeff, N3QZT

K3ANS	goodmancpa@enter.net
AA0AO	76147.2425@compuserve.com
WB3AMY	rjwalsh@epix.net
W3APE	w3ape@enter.net
KE3AW	ke3aw@juno.com
KF4AX	mrfixit@unforgettable.com
W2AZZ	w2azz@enter.net
K3BKT	104021.147@compuserve.com
WD5BRP	wd5brp@worldnet.att.net
N2BSC	barrish@kutztown.edu
KB3BYR	jedco@juno.com
WG3C	aostapenko@papl.com
WX3C	JGREENAGE@compuserve.com
N3CDO	carldonna@enter.net
W3CE	alw@enter.net
WB3CJU	donsal@fast.net
WA3CLC	cabdrive@enter.net
WA3CLD	wa3cld@juno.com
WB4CVH	wb4cvh@enter.net
N3CSQ	dmosc@fast.net
N3DFF	jhogarth@nni.com
N3CXP	n3cxp@ptdprolog.net
N2DH	n2dh@easy-pages.com
N3DL	n3dl@enter.net
N8DXR	tds59@im4u.net
W3EA	w3ea@aol.com
N3EBH	cosmo@enter.net
W3ECT	w3ect@juno.com
W3EFL	val@enter.net
WA3ENE	leslohreast@juno.com
WB3ESQ	dshaub@lucent.com
KB2EVB	maddoc007@aol.com
N3EYT	n3eyt@aol.com
K3FEA	k3fea@aol.com
N3FNW	dwilliams4@juno.com
KE4FTY	greyhounds@cyberstreet.com
W4GN	w4gn@alaweb.com
N3GRK	n3grk@enter.net
W3GWQ	elmarc@enter.net
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KA3NJR	popekratz@enter.net
N3NNI	n3nni@enter.net
N3NUE	bluesmusic@zdial.com
N3NVA	n3nva@enter.net
N3NXF	samlex@enter.net
N3NXS	jjn@enter.net
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KA3OEG	bbroad@iu20.cniu20.k12.pa.us
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KA3ONZ	scooter@enter.net
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N3RPV	sparky11@juno.com
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W3SB	w3sb@aol.com
KD3SQ	KD3SQ@msn.com
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KA3TEQ	ka3teq@juno.com
KD3TI	kd3ti@ptdprolog.net
KA3TTX	dickkline@enter.net
KR3U	pookie@nni.com
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KA3WSL	earl_toland@juno.com
KU3X	bgkx@juno.com
N3XGE	n3xge@enter.net
N3XKG	dmosc@fast.net
N3XRL	n3xrl@juno.com
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W3ZF	heathkit@juno.com
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N3ZSP	arnoldmj@aol.com
KB3ZX	mosc@fast.net
N5ZXJ	richmond@fast.net

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 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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