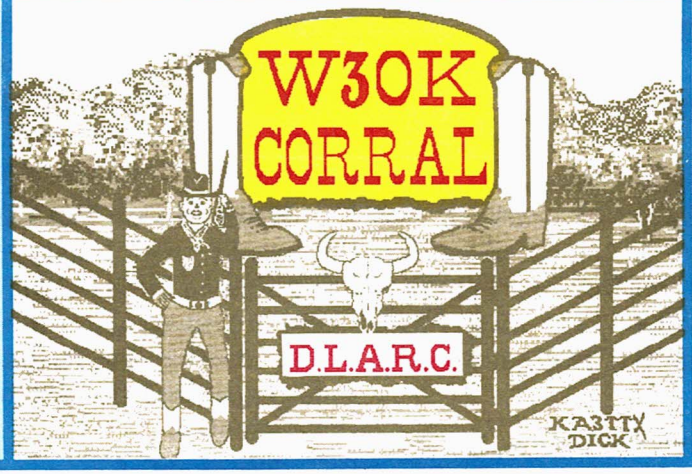
DELAWARE - LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W3OK

March 1996



SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB
ARRL

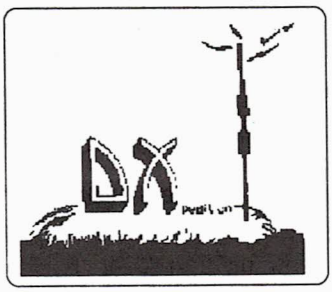
ARRL Affiliated Club

Ham radio what is your pleasure?

DX the hard way

by George, AA3JU, program chairman

What is your ham radio pleasure? DXing, digital modes, connections to the internet, politics, andventure, or maybe breaking new ground? Well Marchs' program with **W3UM** has something in it for you. Our guest speaker John Hilbish was one of the movers and shakers with the **XR0Y** DXpedition to Easter Island. This expedition cut so much new ground in the field of Ham Radio you really owe it to yourself to ome out and hear John.



Easter Island one of the more picuresque places on the DXCC map was the destination of a group of expeditioners that for the first time made there logs almost instantly available via a satelite link to the internet. Instant notification of valid contacts was possible as well as computer generated QSL cards. And these almost as quickly as sent were held ineligable by the ARRL! Come hear the whole story on **March 7 at Northampton-Community College in Rooms 262 & 263 of the college center.** ***de George, AA3JU***

To get to Rooms 262 and 263 use the bridge to the College Center and go straight ahead.

Meeting time is 7:30

Talk in on 146.70 if needed

Novice/Tech classes

to begin March 4th

by Chris, NU3L

Free classes for the Novice & Technician licenses will start on Monday, March 4 and continue for 10 weeks. Classes will be held in the Greystone Building at the Gracedale Complex near Nazareth, PA.from 7 to 9 PM. At each session 1 hour will be devoted to theory and 1 hour to Morse code practice.



For a complete information package please have potential students call the **DLARC** telephone answering machine at **(610) 820-9110.** After the messages are finished they should leave their name, complete address, phone number and a brief message.

While code is not required for all license grades students should expect us to strongly encourage them to learn CW. For those wishing to purchase a text in advance, we will be using

"Now You're Talking" published by the **American Radio Relay League**

de Chris, NU3L



Minutes of General Meeting

February 1, 1996
by Bob, N3OLH, Secretary

The February meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:40 P.M. in the College Theater of the Northampton County Community College on Thursday February 1, 1996 by Tom Frobase, N3LLL, the Club President. Approximately 65 members and guests were present.

Barry, N3NVA, moved to approve the minutes of the January General Meeting as published in the February issue of the W3OK Corral. The motion was seconded by John, WD8SCX, and approved by the membership.

The Treasurer's report was presented by the Club Treasurer, Dick, KA3MOU. The report showed a cash balance of $9,581.06. Clarence, W3PYF, made a motion to accept the Report. The motion was seconded by Amy, KD3TI, and approved by the membership.

Tom, told the group that the 440 repeater had been taken down so that he and Barry, N3NVA, could correct the problems and that they expect to have it back in about a month. He also announced that Ron, K3LPR, has requested that he no longer have the lead role on the Repeater Technical Committee because of his work load. However, he will continue to serve on that Committee as a technical advisor.

Chris , NU3L, reported that the General Classes at Gracedale are continuing and that a new round of Novice-Tech classes will begin on March 4. Anyone interested in attending should leave a message on the Club answering machine. In case of inclement weather, class participants should check the Club answering machine for information about possible postponement.

George, AA3JU, Program Chairman, said that John Hilbish, W3UM, will be the featured speaker at the March Meeting. John will tell the group about the recent XR0Y DXpedition to Easter Island.

Tom announced that he had asked Bob, KE3AW, and Chris, NU3L, to do a little research find out what other radio clubs are doing and to report their findings back to the group. Their findings will be used as the basis to develop long range objectives for the DLARC.

Tom reminded the members that public service is one of the main objectives of our Club. He then read a letter from Frank and Jayne Johnson, KE3RR/N3WDP, thanking the Club for the use of a short wave radio for their daughter Kim who is suffering from cancer and telling us of the pleasure she receives from listening to it.

Mark Miller, WA3KIF, District Emergency Coordinator read letters of thanks from Gracedale and Easton Hospital for the service that club members provided in seeing that nurses got to and from work during the recent snow emergency. Mark also expressed thanks to all of those members who participated.

Tom said that we still need a Hamfest Chairman if we are going to have the event again this year. He also said that plans for the Club's 50th Anniversary Celebration are under way.

Applications for Club membership were submitted from :

Louis Ferrucci, KB2WTK;
Douglas McNair, N3WGH;
Susan Zlotnick, KB2JKI
Jeffrey Zlotnick, KB2EUB.

Carl, AA3IX, presented a motion to accept them as new members. The motion was seconded by Jim, N3QZS, and was approved by the members. Tom welcomed the new members into the club and then recognized those guests present.

Tom announced that the officers had voted to give the Club's portion of the this meeting's 50/50 drawing to the evening speaker, Joe Fairclough, **WB2JKJ**, in support of his **"EDUCOM"** program at Junior High School 22 of New York City.

Joel, K9TBD, Contributing Digital Editor, thanked all of those members who sent him information about the way they are accessing and using the Internet.

The meeting as adjourned at 8:10 p.m..

de Bob, N3OLH, Secretary.

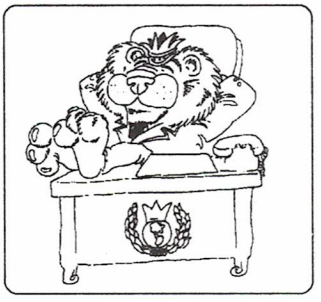
For Sale

Kenwood TS-830S
Kenwood MC-50 desk microphone
Kenwood SP230 matching speaker
owners manual and service manual.
Asking $550.00. if interested you can call Darrel , **N3NNI** at 258-6644 12 noon to 9PM daily. or leave message on W3PYF-3 BBS

Prez Sez

by Tom, N3LLL

Many thanks to **Joe / WB2JKJ** for his heart rendering story of how Amateur radio is applied to learning in the New York city school system. Imagine spelling and vocabulary being studied by Morse code. We wish Joe and the 22 Team continued success, Clarence has asked Dick, KA3MOU to add Joe's school to the Clubs newsletter mailing list so they can keep up with what is happening at the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club. The program has a continuous need for used equipment. If you have items for donation we can certainly help you get in touch with Joe.



I have long thought it would be of benefit to the club to provide a forum special interest seminars. The problem is there is never enough time on DLARC's regular meeting night to do a business meeting as well as a program, let alone a special interest topic. I have asked for and received the executive boards permission to organize a bimonthly mid month meeting at Gracedale dealing with special topics. I need your help to identify the topics.

A few that I have in mind are emergency traffic handling, Packet basic and advanced, Circuit board repair including soldering techniques, antenna design and fabrication. There will be many subjects to choose from. We also will need Elmers to help provide the training. I hope you will be as excited about this approach as I am. Please forward your topics and comments to me **n3lll@w3pyf** or **n3lll@n3lll.**

Clarence has excepted the task of collecting and organizing our Internet email addresses please forward yours to Clarence **w3pyf@w3pyf** on the 144.99 packet or via **csnyder@fast.net**. . This now gets a little confusing since there is ham access to the internet via TCP/IP amateur packet software. Oh what a web we weave. I look forward to seeing all of you at our March meeting.

de Tom, N3LLL.

I bet you didn't know...

From: G4BDY (via packet)

I found these "exam bloopers" in a quote from Lowells "Treasury of Humour" and felt you should all be kept informed:-

Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies, and they all wrote in hydraulics.

They lived in the Sarah Dessert, which they cultivated by irritation.

The Bible is full of many interesting caricatures.

Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.

Moses went up on Mt. Cyanide to get the ten commandments.

Solomon had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

A myth is a female moth.

The Romans conquered the Geeks.

Their leader, Julius Caesar, extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul and when the Ides of March murdered him, he expired with these immortal words upon his dying lips: "Tee hee, Brutus!"

Then came the Middle Ages, when everyone was middle aged.

Magna Carta ensured that no free man should be hanged twice for the same offense.

Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak.

They also put on morality plays about ghosts, goblins, virgins, and other mythical creatures.

The fifth commandment is: Humor thy father and mother.

Holy acrimony is another name for marriage.

Paraffin is next in order after seraphim.

The patron saint of travelers is St. Francis of the seasick.

from G4BDY

How to prepare a (RACES) Ham perfectly

by Amy, KD3TI

Hopefully, by now, you're eagerly awaiting the call to action, ready to answer net control when they announce, RACES is now activated'. Ready to grab your H-T and coat and answer the call for help. That's great, but hold it! Sure, you could make do with just your H-T or mobile radio and coat, but you won't be nearly so comfortable, or quite so able to help as you could be with just a few minutes of preparation. Best of all, you don't have to do this preparation in a last-minute rush when RACES is actually called. Take the time now to grab a bag or box and have a ready to grab RACES kit.

For starters, you'll want a heavy-duty, water resistant carryall, strong and big enough to carry the items you want, but light enough to carry when loaded. Anything that fits this bill will work, you might even have something suitable already. If you want to buy something, here's some ideas, gym bag, footlocker, backpack, overnight bag plastic or rubber storage box with lid. Hint- forget cardboard boxes, they'll crumble when wet and won't last very long.

Got your carryall? Good. Now let's think about what to put in. First, there are some items that you will absolutely need.. .starting with the ol' H-T. Besides the H-T, do you have all your accessories? Extra battery(s) should be fully charged, include speaker/mike, mobile power cord or adapter and telescoping whip or other extra antenna, you'll quickly discover the limitations of a standard 'rubber duck'. Don't forget personal neccessities, like appropriate clothing," for the season (such as hat, gloves or raincoat) and, if you'll be gone more than a day, prescription medecine(s). Add your amateur license and ARES/RACES ID cards and you have the bare essentials.

Now we have some fun, the conveniences which make life easier and are limited only by your imagination and the size of yourkit. These are my personal favorites... emergency antennas (my collection includes an extra 'super duck', 1/4 wave mag-mount, a dual band j-pole made of twin lead and a suction- cup mount for the rubber duck antennas); a small regulated power supply OR gel-cel battery with cigarette lighter plug; coax adapters to fit most standard antenna connectors (BNC, PL-259 and N. If your H-T doesn't use a BNC, I'd also suggest at least one adapter for it); a clipboard with paper, pens, pencils (the cheap nechanicals don't need a sharpener!) a repeater directory; Public Service Communications Manual; Special Events Communications Manual; Emergency Coordinator's Manual; my ham badge that I wear at hamfests; AM FM transistor radio with batteries; small flashlight with batteries; sunscreen; insect repellant; Tylenol (or your favorite headache pills); my favorite drinks and munchies (I also take a small ice chest plus my kit); and, if I'm going to be stationary, a lawn chair or camp stool.

Again, the above are my personal favorites. Feel free to pick your own, also see the Emergency Coordinator's manual for a more complete list for some serious emergency or portable work. The above publications are availible from ARRL. Now you're ready to provide effective public service and be fairly comfortable doing it to boot!

de Amy, KD3TI.

For sale.

Kenwood TH27A 2 meters with usaul standard accessories. **Asking $225.**

Icom ICW2A dual band with expanded receive (up to 800-900 Mhz). Includes usual standard accessories plus 2 extra BP-84 batteries, BP-90 alkaline battery case, BC-72 rapid desk charger, and soft case. **Price is $325.** Radio is in excellent condition. Please call (610) 799-4044 anytime. **de Norm, K3NZ**

WHY ASK WHY

* 1. Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor when you can't drink and drive?
* 2. Why isn't phonetic spelled that way?
* 3. Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii and Alaska?
* 4. Why are there flotation devices on planes instead of parachutes?
* 5. Why are cigarettes sold in gas stations if smoking is prohibited?
* 6. Do you need a silencer to shoot a mime?
* 7. Can you imagine a world with no hypothetical situations?
* 8. How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work?
* 9. If a cow laughed, would milk come out its nose?
* 10. If nothing sticks to Teflon, how does Teflon stick to the pan?
* 11. If you're in a vehicle going the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?
* 12. Why do they put Braille on the keypad of the drive up ATM?
* 13. Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
* 14. Why is it when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment but something sent by ship is called cargo?
* 15. You know that indestructible little black box used on planes? Why can't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

reprinted from Ham Radio Online (internet)

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This is a filthy message!

de Rolf, LA9JG

Hi there,

For the filth, you'll have to wait till the end of my story. First, I will explain the title and the address. I got the idea from a cartoon I read long, long ago. A hollow-chested, typical radio amateur is consulting a physician. Asks the physician: Besides winding your own transformers and using the Morse key, do you get any other exercise?

As a method of getting this additional exercise, my idea is that the Silly Walk, as designed by the great John Cleese, might be just what we radio amateurs need.

This, then, is how I visualize the great idea of how we may perform our daily Silly Walk, while AT THE SAME TIME operating our radio:

Cordless earphones are easy to come by, they can be bought in most radio shops. Now, if we also had a cordless microphone, we would put on the phones and mike, then we could be Silly Walking around the shack, and at the same time carry on QSO'ing. Round table QSO's can last for hours, so we can Silly Walk our legs off without having to touch the radio set to change frequency.

Given a sufficient operating range of the devices, we could even go to the loo, or to the kitchen for a sandwich, all the time carrying on our QSO! Just think of all the times you have had to finish a QSO when your wife called 'grub's ready!' - now you just keep the QSO running its course, even during a three-course dinner!

Don't this strike you as a most brilliant idea? A cordless mike would of course also be practical for a lot of other uses around the house. 'Hook' it up to a tape recorder, and you have a very convenient audio notebook - you can take notes while clinging to the top of your antenna tower, or taking measurements in various cramped quarters, even when working in a remote, dark corner of your cellar.

Being the resourceful people most hams are, you no doubt will find your own uses for this gadget.

So, who comes practical design for an easy to build cordless mike?

And here comes the filth:

I suppose many hams have got computer sitting on a shelf or under the operating desk. Fitted with a fan, computers are great dust collectors. I have found incredible amounts of dust inside some. This dust is of course a potential fire hazard - but perhaps more important - it obstructs air passage - and thus may lead to overheating of components. I suppose I don't have to tell you what heat does to electronic circuitry - especially silicon chips...

If your computer has been running a couple of years, it might be a good idea to rip off the lid and vacuum it.

Let me hear what you think.

de Rolf, LA9JG.

The No-code majority

from Newsline 961

Technician class operators and mainly code free Technician class hams now account for a little over 41% of all radio amateurs licensed by the FCC and that figure is growing. The startling year end statistics released by the government indicate that as of December 1st, 1995 the number of Techs has risen to 289,483 of which 149,745 hold no-code tickets.

Even more shocking are these numbers. From December of 1994 to December of 1995 some 41,244 people joined the ranks of radio amateurs with the majority -- 30,195 -- being no-code Techs.

And very few of the newcomers are bothering to upgrade. There were about 129,500 Technician class hams who had passed a code test in the FCC's records in 1991 when the code free Technician was introduced. Now, almost five years later, there are only about 139,500 coded Techs.

In other words, in the five years since no-code licensing was introduced, only 10,000 or so no-coders have bothered to upgrade. The rest, about 150,000 no-code Techs appear to be very content to live out their ham radio lives on a local repeater using what the Amateur Radio supply industry has come to call a 2 meter ham station on a belt clip. The latest FCC database shows a total of about 706,000 licensed hams and an annual growth rate of about 8%.

Even if you factor in a 2% dropout rate, by this time next year close to half the nations ham population will be Technician class operators. And if the trend continues, the majority of them will be code free hams who will probably remain codeless Tech's for their entire ham radio career.

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ARRL Board Meets

Kay Cragie, WT3P new Atlantic Division Director

from ARRL Bulletin 5 via N3ET

The ARRL Board of Directors met in annual session, January 19 and 20, 1996, at Savannah, Georgia. The following are highlights of the board actions:

A committee will be appointed by the President to draft ARRL policy positions, Based on membership input, on questions to be addressed at WRC-99. Issues to be studied include possible simplification of the licensing structure, harmonization of licensing standards internationally, and consideration of article S 25 of the international radio regulations, The technical and operational rules governing the amateur and amateur-satellite services, including but not limited to the HF code requirement.

The ad hoc repeater coordination committee will continue dialogue with the repeater coordinators' drafting committee and other interested parties, and report to the board at its next meeting any recommendations for regulatory change and suggestions for improvement of the coordination process. The drafting committee was created at last October's ARRL-sponsored open meeting of repeater coordinators in St. Charles, Missouri, to draft documents addressing such matters as the "single point of contact" between FCC and coordinators, recognition of coordinators, and dispute settlement.

The board elected Rodney J. Stafford, KB6ZV, as President Stephen Mendelsohn, WA2DHF as First Vice President and Joel Harrison, WB5IGF, and **Hugh A. Turnbull, W3ABC,** as additional Vice Presidents. International Affairs Vice President Larry E. Price, W4RA, was re-elected. First Vice President Jay A. Holladay, W6EJJ, retiring from the board after 21 years of service, was elected Honorary Vice President.

With the ascension of Directors Mendelsohn, Harrison, and Turnbull to Vice President posts, Hudson Division Vice Director Paul Vydareny, WB2VUK, Delta Division Vice Director Rick Roderick, K5UR, and **Atlantic Division Vice Director Kay Craigie, WT3P,** all automatically assumed the directorship in their respective divisions, effective at the conclusion of the board meeting.

Treasurer James E. McCobb, K1LLU, Executive Vice President and Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, and Chief Financial Officer Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, were re-elected.

Northwestern Division Director Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Roanoke Division Director John Kanode, N4MM, Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, and Southwestern Division Director Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, were elected as members of the executive committee.

Gene Hastings, W1VRK, Rocky Mountain Division Director Marshall Quiat, AG0X, and Roanoke Division Director John Kanode, N4MM, were re-elected members of the ARRL Foundation Board of Directors for three-year terms.

David Mann, VP2EHF and Dorothea Mann, VP2EE, won the International Humanitarian Award for 1995 for hurricane relief efforts.

ARES members of Oklahoma were awarded the ARRL Certificate of Merit for their courageous efforts in providing critical emergency communication services to agencies responding to the Oklahoma City Bombing.

The board awarded Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, the ARRL National Certificate of Merit for his outstanding volunteer service as a member of the SAREX Working Group.

A new procedure for the reporting of Advisory Committee recommendations was adopted.

Scarborough Reef was approved as a DXCC country. A separate DX bulletin will provide details.

A committee will be assigned to review the DXCC program and make necessary recommendations in order to encourage broader participation, make the program more equitable, create better understood criteria for DXCC "countries," improve the process of reviewing requests for additions and deletions to the ARRL DXCC list and increase efficiency in the administration of the program.

The secretary was instructed to poll the ARRL members in Herkimer, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties in the Northern New York Section, to determine their desires, on a county by county basis, regarding their inclusion in either the Northern New York Section or their former section of Western New York. Results are to be communicated to the Executive Committee no later than March 15, 1996, so that the question can be resolved before the next election of section managers in the affected sections.

To improve its operations, the board will experiment with a new system of standing committee and board meetings during 1996. Committee meetings will be held in July and October, in conjunction with meetings of the full board. The consolidated meetings will save time and money.

Details will appear in March QST..

Do you have an internet address?

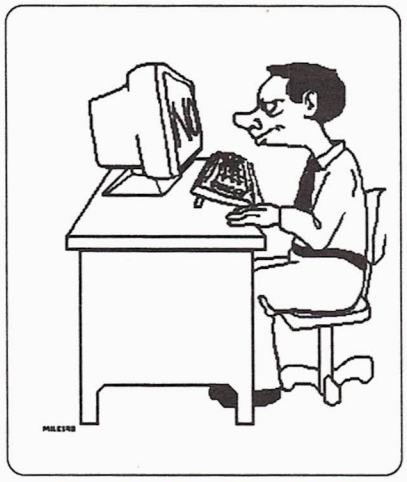
If you do why not list it with the club. We had some listed in this issue, in the Digital Column. If you have an address, why not forward it to your editor, W3PYF ....Internet address is **csnyder@fast.net**

Digital Communication

by Joel, K9TBD

Ham Radio Users of Internet

My wife asked if I would send our son a message on Elston-mail. All these years she has heard me talk about internet, the information highway, and e-mail. She thought I invented it and it was really named for me! It is really true -- we all invented it and it works just great!



Last months meeting of the DLARC, I promised to survey the ham users of internet. I am delighted at the response so far. An estimate is about 10 to 25 % of our club use internet services. This was about the same percentage of digital users the first year or so after the packet explosion. Now packet has between 25 and 50 % local users. This percentage is what I expect with the internet explosion in a year or so.

A general consensus of use of the internet includes: e-mail (electronic mail correspondence with friends, relatives and other hams); browsing the world wide web of information for newsletter material, science class preparation, library services, callsign lookup, zip+4 lookup, computer group user round tables, acquisition of public domain software, and various news group browsing and participation. I personally use it for e-mail (two kids in college) and library searches for my research activities. No longer do I get the phone call home -- instead I get a terse e-mail message, "Send Money".

In no particular order - some of the services and service providers are: aol.com, fast.net, node99, compuserve, lehigh.edu, lvcg.org, postoffice.ptd.net, prolog, prodigy, youtools. I actually can not distinguish the service provider (company) from the network address. In addition, there are linkages from the "wired" internet to the "wireless" network -- our local gateway is gw-ampr.nadc.navy.mil located in Philly.

The cost (very competitive market) associated with some of the services (again in no particular order) are: $35/yr @ 2hr/da; $9.95/mo for 1st 5hr; $60/yr unlimited; $17/mo unlimited. For my kids (college students @ Penn State) we pay a computer usage fee of $35/semester which includes unlimited access to the internet as well as library, paper, etc. other overhead. The best deals are still at the universities or a company you work for that is connected.

About a dozen members of our club responded to my query directly on internet using my radio address. These messages went from the "wire" somehow into my radio box and appeared magically on my screen --- "Look Ma, no hands!". I could have traced some of the routes for this mail delivery but I really don't even care these days - it is so roundabout, but, I compliment all the hams and non- hams that make it possible.

Here is a brief collection (date of writing this newsletter) of the DLARC members who responded to my request (no particular order):

ka3mou dick	ka3mou@enter.net
n3pnt gary	n3pnt@enter.net
w2cce bob	rvcd@ptd.net
ka1rah brad	bradp@enter.net
w3pyf clarence	csnyder@fast.net clarence71@aol.com 70047.57@compuserve.com
wf3h bob	wf3h@enter.net
k9tbd joel	a326@lehigh.edu k9tbd@k9tbd.ampr.org
w4yid bud	albert.tamm@node99
w3zif roy	w3zif@aol.com
n3nxf rich	samlex@enter.net
n3sqv john	john.gilbert@lvcg.org
ka3sit chris	cascomp@fast.net http://www.users.fast.net/~cascomp

All of the local TCP/IP stations running some variant of ka9q's NOS code (ax.25 suffix usually -8) have radio linkage capabilities (whether implemented or not). The internet recognizes those that have registered -- for example: k9tbd.ampr.org translates to 44.80.16.45 anywhere in the world. That is the computers address (node of the internet), a message to user k9tbd is addressed as mail as : k9tbd@k9tbd.ampr.org. The ampr part stands for AMateur Packet Radio.

The future may be read in many current technology journals as well as the local and national newspapers.. My prognostication is that there will be a merge of all communication services - many companies struggling to become top contenders in the information provision services - and like the computer market, a few big ones will be left after the dust settles. The internet information services I believe totally killed ambitions of many captive service providers (such as cable) to monopolize this market. The openness of this world wide network started in the same spirit of ham radio - those who become close minded providers will just loose out.

73 Joel,K9TBD

March 8th meeting will be held in the NCC College Center.

Rooms 262-263

We get letters

Delaware -Lehigh Amateur Radio Club
c/o Mr. Clarence Snyder
717 Porter St
Street Easton, PA 18042- 1548

Dear Clarence,

Please extend to all the members ofyour organization a huge and gracious "Thank you" from Gracedale's residents, staff and administration for your invaluable assistance during the "Blizzard of '96". Getting essential staff to our facility during this emergency weather situation was ofthe highest priority. Your members' generous contribution of their time, concern and desire to help will be remembered far beyond this winter season. It is volunteerism such as you all exhibited that restores one's faith in human nature.

Thank you once again for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Harold Russell, Jr.,NHA
Gracedale Administrator

HWR:mar

cc: Bill Brackbill, County Executive
Jack Bradt, Human Services Director.

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club
c/o Mr. Clarence Snyder
717 Porter Street
Easton, PA 18042- 1548

Dear Mr. Snyder:

On behalf of Easton Hospital, I would Like to thank you and the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club for your assistance in transporting Hospital employees to work during our recent snow storms. Your efforts helped us maintain appropriate staffing levels to care for our patients.

The employees you picked up were grateful and very complimentary towards your efforts in driving them to work.

Again, thank you for your assistance in bringing our employees to work.

Sincerely,

Donna Mulholland
President and
Chief Executive Officer

DM/mk

Clarence,
Please address tis to the members of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club in the next issue of the W3OK Corral newsletter.

In behalf of my daughter Kym Johnston I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude. As many of you may already know she suffers from Neuro Blastoma, an agressive form of cancer that attacks children. I was searching for someone that would like to present her with a short wave receiver and DLARC came through for her. She gets hours of pleasure from it at home as well as when she is in the hospital.
Again we thank you all very much.

Frank Johnston KE3RR
Jayne Johnston N3WDP

What is the Affiliated Club Coordinator?
by John, N3IGA

Many club members don't know what the Section's Affiliated Club Coordinator role is in Amateur Radio. The Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC) is the primary contact and resource person for each club in the section. The ACC specializes in motivating, providing assistance and coordinating joint activities of radio clubs.

The role of an ACC is to try and work with all radio clubs in the section. There are well over 70 clubs in EPA that are ARRL affiliated. Not only does the ACC helps those clubs that are affiliated, but also helps to recuit new clubs to ARRL affiliation. The ACC helps clubs develope effective on going programs under the Special Service Club (SSC) Program, and also asist in the application process and review.

In order to be a SSC, a club must commit itself to establish a more effective presence for Amateur Radio for a period of twelve months. The goal of the SSC Program is to establish a effective presence for Amateur Radio and the ARRL locally. Another role is to coordinate club activities, that is, help local clubs work together where appropriate. If there are several small clubs in an area, the ACC tries and have all the clubs work together in case there is an emergency or just working together on some kind of event. The ACC can provide program ideas and newsletter ideas if needed.
I hope this helps to understand the role of the Affiliated Club Coordinator in Amateur Radio. Watch for next month's article on the Special Service Club Program.

de John, N3IGA ACC/EPA

Contest Calendar

by Barry, KU3X, Contest editor

Mar 2-3	ARRL SSB DX Contest
	European EME Contest, 144 & 1296 MHz
Mar 9-10	QCWA SSB QSO Party
	Cadiz Silver Cup Contest
Mar 10-11	Wisconsin QSO Party
Mar 12-13	CLARA & Family HF Contest
Mar 16-17	Bermuda Contest
	Russian DX Contest
Mar 23-24	European EME , 432, 2304 MHz & up
Mar 30-31	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest

Exchanges:

ARRL DX Contest: Signal report and State, DX gives signal report and power.
Wisconsin QSO Party: Signal report and QTH
Bermuda Contest: Signal report and serial number.
CQ WW WPX Contest: Signal report and serial number starting with 001.

de Barry KU3X

Supreme Court upholds indecency law

from Amateur Radio Newsline 964

The United States Supreme court has said that restricting the hours when legally indecent speech can be broadcast is constitutionally valid. ***This finding could pave the way for the FCC and other government agencies to prosecute hams who use this kind of language on the air.***



In rebuffing free-speech advocates, the Supreme Court on January 8th has told federal regulators that it is constitutionally valid for them to confine television and radio programs containing legally indecent language to late-night hours when children are less likely to tune in. The justices also let stand a federal appeals court ruling that upheld government limits on indecent broadcasts to the hours between 10 PM and 6 AM.

The news media and civil liberties groups had challenged the rule as a violation of the right to free-speech. The appeals court had ruled last summer that the rule was justified by the government's overriding and compelling interest in protecting the nations children.

Since 1987, the FCC has deemed as indecent all explicit references to such things having a prurient meaning. Unlike obscenity, indecency is protected by the First Amendment's free-speech guarantee. The high court's action, taken without comment, quite literally opens the door to prosecuting almost anyone who transmits legally indecent language during hours when young children may be listening in. ***This could even include transmissions made by ham radio operators if the FCC so decides to invoke the rule.***

The FCC has long held that a violation in any one service is no different that a violation in any other. For the FCC, this Supreme Court decision could be what it has been waiting for so that they can at least remove the most egregious offenders from the air.**The only question is, will they act?**

Trivia

de Armondo, KC4JMF

The first multiple story restaurant (3 stories housing 2 restaurants) was built at 63 Ellis Street in San Francisco in 1908. The restaurant was the first of its kind to reopen after the famous 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

-

Ham radio operators, some 350 of them, were active participants in effectively building a communications team during the Oakland Hills Firestorm on October 20-21, 1991.

-

To survive, every bird must eat at least half its own weight in food each day. Youg birds need even more. A young robin, for example, eats as much as fourteen feet of earthworms a day.

The largest bird egg in the world today is that of the ostrich. Ostrich eggs are from six to eight inches long. Because of their size and the thickness of their shells, they take forty minutes to hard-boil.

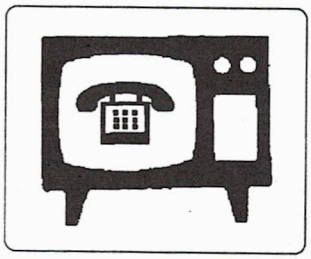
from the Happy Club
de Armando, KC4JMF

Included with this newsletter is a copy of our latest directory as reported by treasurer KA3MOU. It is not included in the copies mailed to those who are not members.

A New Telecommunications Law

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

Unless you've been living on the moon without a rig, you're aware that a new bill was signed into law on February 8 that will have far-reaching effects in all segments of the world of electronic communications. This "Telecommunications Act of 1996" (the short title) effectively deregulates every mass media and point-to-point communications system that the average American uses daily. The bill is a long one: A printout of the text file is 130 pages long. The very fact that this writer was able to download the full text of the bill from the Internet even before it was signed into law, however, is just one indication of the power of the communications systems that are addressed by this law. The technology has grown at an unprecedented rate; the new law is an attempt to provide a framework for the company to prosper using that technology.



It would be foolhardy to try to address every aspect of the law in a single column, and that will not be attempted here. Rather, what follows is a summary of some of its more important features. Future columns will be devoted to more detailed discussions of individual sections of the bill and their implications.

Broadcast TV station ownership: Instead of a maximum of 12 television stations reaching no more that 25 percent of television households, single companies may now own an unlimited number of stations, as long as they reach no more than 35 percent of the nation's viewers.

Broadcast radio station ownership: Before the new law, a single company was permitted to own 20 AM and 20 FM stations throughout the country, with a maximum of 2 in each service in any given market. Prior to 1990, the cap was 12 in each service. Now, there is no limit on the number of stations that can be owned nationally. Depending on the size of the market, an owner may hold up to eight stations, but no more than five in a service.

V-chip: Television set manufacturers will be required to include a circuit that allows parents to block programs encoded as containing violence or other objectionable content. Within one year, the television industry must devise a system for rating program material. If it fails to do so, the FCC is to develop its own system.

Cable rates: Rates for all extended basic cable services will be free of government regulation within three years.

Telco entry: Telephone companies may provide video programming services in their own service areas, but may not simply buy existing cable companies.

Cable entry into telephony: Cable companies may not be subject to state and local regulations preventing them from providing local telephone services. Existing telephone companies are required to negotiate with new entrants on such matters as interconnection, number portability, and access to rights of way.

Communications Decency Act: This portion of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 deals with controversial restrictions on transmitting offensive content over the Internet. Court action is already underway to have this portion of the law declared unconstitutional.

While the Telecommunications Act makes only a single and unimportant reference to amateur radio, the deregulation of a variety of other wireless services may well have an impact on amateur radio operations. Those possible areas of conflict will be among the topics to be considered in this column in the months ahead.

de Joe, W3JD.

Editor note

This is a copy of a packet message, I received from Joe, WB2JKJ after I sent him a packet message thanking him for his great talk. I sent him a copy of last months newsletter and have him set up to receive further copies of the OK Corral.

Clarence:
If there ever was a club deserving our coveted "Great Club" award it is the DLARC group. I have to tell you
I really enjoyed that meeting and all the folks that attended. ANYTIME you want us we are yours.. Glad to get the packet message. . Please say hello to all and keep in touch. And TU for including us in the mailings.
de, Joe & Crew

for your info his packet address is:
WB2JKJ@K2KJC,#NYC.NY.USA.NOAM

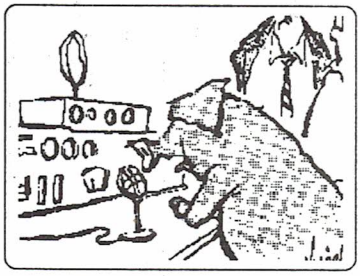
The fine art of conversation

or

What are you talking about?

by George, AA3JU

Hi my name is George and you are 59 here in Bangor, PA where it is very cold out. I have a Kenwood 930 and a bunch of antennas. Now having said those two sentences I never need to have another radio conversation with any of my readers. Seems sad to me that we who are supposed to be the best and brightest we have in society boil their entire lives down to exactly 32 words and are willing to spend umpteen thousands of dollars and hours of preparation to say it over and over again. You would think that a group of people who on average have above normal IQs would be able to find something, anything to say to one another. Yet on any day on any given amateur frequency that is exactly all you will hear! Well that and endless dissertations on prostate problems.



I was speaking to a fellow in Whales the other day and looked up at the clock and saw that GMT was about 17:30 so I asked him what he was going to have for dinner. The man was absolutely flabbergasted. After a period of silence I asked if he was still on frequency I thought maybe the band had gone out, but no, clear as a bell came some sputtering and popping much like the sound a lawn mower makes when it first starts up and finally he got hold of the words "sausages and potatoes." I guess since I had broken protocol he had to check his copy of international radio law to see if discussion of ones impending dinner was legal. We ended up having a lovely discussion of our favorite foods and restaurants and the exchange rate of currency between England and the US. It was almost like we were real people or something. And know what? I have no idea whatsoever what kind of radio that man has.

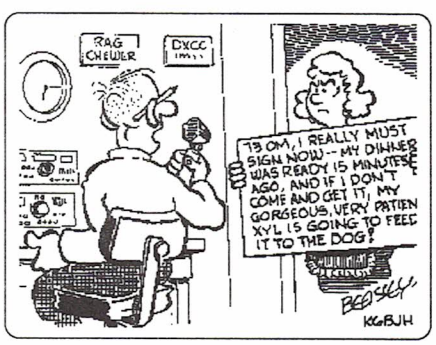
You might think this cannot get worse but believe me it does. At the top of the list of hams that have nothing to say has to be the D Xer and the contester. I speak from personal experience on this one. And I am at a loss as to know how to fix this problem. From the DX angle after you have waited in a pile up for half an hour trying to get hold of Ashahi operating from a scaffold just above the newest DXCC country by the time you say he is 59 the pile up has drowned you out. (By the way Ashahi was no where near 59 and you know it but D Xers are all consummate liars by birthright.) And when it comes to contesting I don't know but it seems vaguely uncomfortable for weeks after CQWW to say anything but "your 59/05" to any one over the radio.

So we have a bunch of people with nothing to say, lots of expensive gear to say it with and the time to do it how can we make this dilemma even worse? Why take it to two meters of course. Yes indeedy the land of FM repeaters with solid telephone quality sound and what do we do? Why use lots and lots of Q codes to make us sound really smart. Yessiree Bob you smatter your conversations with these codes that were designed to make communicating via morse code easier you will sound like an old hand in no time! That just has to be the reason it is so prevalent. Saving time can't possibly be it. Try this experiment: get out a watch with a second hand and time yourself saying: "Where ya at?" Then again saying: "What is your QTH?" Or worse yet the answers to those questions "I'm at, and The QTH here is:" Well you get the picture. But the pomposity on the FM airwaves does not stop with people trying to sound like they taught DeForest the Morse code. No they have to take the giant leap forward. Speaking in the third person plural.

"We truly loved our QSO and must QRT as we must eat our supper." OK I know you are laughing because you have heard this a million times. It just sounds ridiculous. The only time you should speak in third person plural is if: 1 You are speaking for a group of people. 2 You are the Queen of England. or 3 You have an invisible friend who only talks to you. In the case of the latter please feel free to talk to me about this on the radio I am sure I can dispense with the signal/weather report to hear all about it. Maybe this all stems from some misguided sense of self importance we get from having a microphone inches from our collective lips and then finding we have for gotten how to speak. Or a sense of self imposed omnipotence. Whatever the case or cause really I have to say knock it off.

What then is to be the grist for the mill? I do not want to simply take swipes at folks and leave without leaving something behind. Now my dog does this but I hope to have more substance than she does. Mother told me long ago that discussions of religion and politics were taboo, that if I spoke of them that people would get mad at me, think I was too controversial. So you know that I love to talk about religion and politics. Heck I will pick a side that I don't even agree with just to get the ball rolling. I love to talk about gardening. Mind you I usually grow a pretty good crop of weeds and if I ever figure out how to cook them I will be in good shape. And the last ball game. And what people are having for dinner. In fact I like to talk to people about all the things I like to talk to them about in person. Makes for good conversation and lasting friendships. Think for a moment you are a young man (pardon to my female readers please change gender as necessary) I know it is hard but pretend you once again have hair and a slim waist and you are at a gala (A gala? Is this me or my dad writing this?) Anyway you have just been introduced to a charming young lady with auburn hair wearing a slinky red silk dress her name is Raven. Yes a beautiful dark and mysterious woman and you walk up to her and say "Hi our name is George, we see you just fine, we have a Panatochi TV set and we have cable" And of course the lovely Raven just laughs and sashays away.

Fear not if worst comes to worst, keep a copy of this article next to your radio. If you can't find anything else to say just read it to your new chum on the other end. Then you can discuss at length what a windbag I am and who knows you might just get up the courage to ask if he has a daughter named Raven and would she like to say hello. Hey you never know!***de George, AA3JU*** .



....

73 OM must sign now.....*(courtesy World Radio)*

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

DLARC INFORMATION LINE 820-9110

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==1995-1996==

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All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
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TALK IN ON 146.70
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