Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

March 1999

RF Safety at March 4th Meeting

Why do we, Amateur radio operators need to be knowledgeable of RF Safety?

by Glen, N3ULW

Reason #1; it's the FCC ruling that that we do! Look at your form the next time you renew or upgrade your license. By signing your name on the form, you are certifying that your station is in compliance with Section 97.13(c) regarding RF Safety. **Reason #2;** by being in compliance you are protecting yourself, your loved ones, friends and neighbors from the unnecessary harmful effects of RF radiation!

The program will be presented by W1ATA, William H. Fairing, an Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator. Some of his experiences are as follows: An Amateur for 46 years, 4 years as an electronics instructor, 37 years of teaching various seminars, 15 years of RF design/fabrication/testing at M.I.T (including Lincoln Radar Lab.), 17 years as a Sr. RF and Systems Engineer for Sig. Int. He is retired from GE Aerospace/ Martin Marietta. Enough, just a bunch of RF Knowledge and Experience to share

Bill is providing this knowledge free of charge, naturally.

For those who attend and wish to have a certificate, one is available (suitable for framing) for a small fee of ***$4.00.***

The certificate will have your call sign and name on it and will be mailed to you. In order to have sufficient hand-outs available for those staying for the program, please contact me at HYPERLINK mail to:**gbrodt@epix.**net so I can have an idea as to how many to have him bring to the meeting as soon as possible.

de Glenn, N3ULW

CW gone for ships

via Hamradio online

End of the Line for Morse Code **"SOS"** Signals as of 1 February 1999 The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System **(GMDSS)** replaced the use of Morse code as of **1 February 1999.**

This new system is based upon a combination of satellite and terrestrial radio services, and has changed international distress communications from being primarily ship-to-ship based to ship-to-shore (Rescue Coordination Center) based.

Ships are now required to carry **GMDSS** equipment and **satellite EPIRBs**, marking the end of maritime **"S-O-S"** signals and the last official use of CW communications.

via hamradioonline

Special Event

by John, WX3TAZ

There will be a Special Event Station at the **NWSFO, Mt Holly, NJ**, on **March 21** from **10am to 3pm,** to promote the **Severe Weather Awareness Week in PA.**

There will be two simplex frequencies, one on 2 meters and one on 440. We are hoping to have one or two frequencies on HF. Check the WX2PHI Web Page **(http://wx2phi.skywarn.net)** for updated information on the Special Event and frequencies.

John Holmes, WX3TAZ
Vice-Chairman-NEPA/Secretary of
SKYWARN Tech. Committee,

DLARC Novice-Technician Classes

by Bob KE3AW

The spring series of 10 Monday evening classes to prepare potential amateur radio operators for entry level FCC license exams will begin **March 15, 1999, 7 pm** at Gracedale. Each class will run from 7 pm - 9 pm.



As in the past, these free classes welcome anyone interested in becoming an FCC licensed amateur radio operator. (Licensed hams are always welcome, too.) We offer both theory and Morse code instruction. Chris/NU3L and George/N3SQD will be the instructors.

Please pass the word to friends, family, and acquaintances who might be interested.

As mentioned, there is no cost for the classes, however study guides are strongly recommended. We use ARRL materials in the classes, and study materials will be available for purchase at cost at the classes as a convenience, or participants may wish to purchase them on their own.

So that we have an idea of the size of class to anticipate, interested persons should call (610) 432-8286, leave their name, address and telephone number, and e-mail address (if available), and any questions they might have. That's all there is to registration. Confirmation of the registration and directions to Gracedale will be provided.

de Bob, KE3AW

WASHINGTON, DC. Feb 10. (BS NEWS)--President Clinton returned yesterday from the funeral of King Hussein of Jordan, stating that he found one secret of the late monarch's popularity. "It was Ham Radio," said Clinton.

Hussein, known to Amateurs by his call letters JY1, used his radio equipment to foster good will around the world. He often operated from his royal aircraft during trips abroad.

Hoping to capture some of this popularity for himself, Clinton has filed a request with the Federal Communications Commission for the call letters K1B (King One Bill). He also has directed the Air Force to install a radio operating position for him aboard all aircraft likely to be used as Air Force One.

Sources close to the Pentegon say that "Air Force One" is not a particular airplane, but is the designation for any aircraft in which the President is flying. This will make compliance with Clinton's request difficult and expensive.)

At the White House, Clinton's wife Hillary issued a statement saying, "It is well documented that Ham Radio is addictive and consumes the major portion of one's free time, to the exclusion of one's family and outside activities. Amateurs even display a preference for 'chasing DX' instead of having sex. Therefore, I fully support my husband in this matter."

Val Sez

by Val, W3EFL

How do crazy people go through the forest?
They take the psycho path.
How do you get holy water?
Boil the hell out of it.
How does a spoiled rich girl change a light bulb?
She says, "Daddy, I want a new apartment."
What did the fish say when he hit a concrete wall?
"Dam".
What do Eskimos get from sitting on the ice too long?
Polaroids.
What do prisoners use to call each other?
Cell phones.
What do the letters D.N.A. stand for?
National Dyslexics Association.
What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work?
A stick.
What do you call cheese that isn't yours?
Nacho Cheese.
What do you call Santa's helpers?
Subordinate Clauses.
What do you call four bull fighters in quicksand?
Quatro sinko.
What do you get from a pampered cow?
Spoiled milk.
What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
Frostbite.
What do you get when you cross an elephant and a skin doctor?
A pachydermatologist
What has four legs, is big, green, fuzzy, and if it fell out of a tree would kill you?
A pool table.
What is a zebra?
26 sizes larger than an "A" bra.
What kind of coffee was served on the Titanic?
Sanka. ...and what kind of lettuce? ...
Iceberg.

FCC issues 5-MHZ experimental license to ARRL

The **FCC** has issued an Experimental Radio Service license to the **ARRL** to permit two-way tests in the vicinity of 5 MHz, the most likely site of the next amateur HF band. The license, bearing the call sign **WA2XSY**, was issued January 8. A group of 15 current amateurs in various parts of the US and the Caribbean will conduct experimental, two-way RTTY and SSB transmissions within the band 5.100 to 5.450 MHz. To avoid interfering with existing services, the participants will confine their operations to the least-populated 50-kHz segment.

The idea is to show that an amateur allocation there will improve our emergency communication capabilities by filling the gap between the 3.5 and 7.0 MHz bands," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. Sumner pointed out that several of the participants are phone net members in the Caribbean and Gulf area who frequently handle hurricane-related traffic and now must alternate between 75 meters and 40 meters. Other participants are members of a nationwide digital data-forwarding network.

The Experimental license is good for two years. Two studies by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) include an allocation at 5 MHz among the future spectrum needs for the Amateur Service. The subject is not likely to show up on the agenda of a World Radiocommunication Conference for several years, however.

Participants in the **WA2XSY** experiment may run up to 200 W effective radiated power. Similar multiband trap dipoles capable of operation on 80 and 40 meters as well as at 5 MHz will be employed at each station location. Operation by participants will consist of short transmissions to determine propagation characteristics.

Participating stations are located in New Hampshire, Tennessee, Ohio, Florida, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Utah, New York, Texas, the US Virgin Islands, and Maryland.

via The ARRL Letter.

The Directory attatched to this newsletter will only go to members

Errant cell phone jams service

Crystal River, Fla. (AP) -- When the mysterious white car with tinted windows and a small satellite dish on top pulled up to Calvin Simpson's motor home, the retired engineer was puzzled.

"I thought, `What are those guys doing?' Then they came up to me, and I said, `Uh-oh.'" The men, engineers for GTE Wireless, had found their culprit. For 10 days, Simpson's cellular phone had been jamming cellular service for tens of thousands of customers in Florida's Citrus and Hernando counties. GTE Wireless customers in the region began reporting trouble with their phones on January 4 -- the same day Simpson, 74, brought his motor home to the Crystal Isle RV Resort for the winter from his home in South Portland, Maine.

Engineers still aren't sure what caused the problem, but they think Simpson's phone was constantly transmitting signals to a "set-up channel" on a cellular phone tower behind Crystal River's City Hall. The channel is supposed to take signals and relay them to their destinations. Simpson's phone, however, sent signals to the channel even when he wasn't trying to make a call. Whenever his phone was on, the constant signal prevented any cellular phone user from making a call via that tower.

GTE Wireless spent days in Crystal River trying to figure out what was causing the outage before tracking the faulty signal to Simpson's cellular phone. They used the same technology cellular phone companies use to track stolen cell phones.

Once they found Simpson on Wednesday, they simply asked him to turn off his cell phone. Like magic, GTE Wireless was back in service in Crystal River.

"When I pulled the plug, they had a big sigh of relief," Simpson said. The engineers who tracked Simpson down got him a new cell phone. The company plans to take his old, faulty phone apart in hopes of finding out exactly what went wrong.

A spokesman for GTE wouldn't specify how many cell-phone customers the company has, but estimated that tens of thousands may have been affected.

-- Associated Press

via Newsline

Just the minutes

by W3ZF, Dan

The February 1999 meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on the Thursday, the 4th, in Kiva Hall at the Northampton County Community College and was called to order by President Joe Chuk (W3JD) at 1935 hrs EST. There was a motion by N2BSC and seconded by N3DFF to accept my "inspirational" (per K3ANS) minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. (I'm blushing!). The motion carried.



Dick, KA3MOU, then gave his Treasurer's report - Balance

31DEC1998 $5,312.23 Total Income $1,354.00

Total Expense $647.40

Balance 31JAN1999 $6,018.83.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report made by K3MP and 2nd by KA3TEO also carried. Dick reported that our total membership currently is 369, but that would shortly change as W3OK would admit 2 new members during this meeting. (Overall, we're down 70+ members from last year).

Barry, N3NVA, Chairman of the Repeater Committee was not present, but our 440 repeater is still "missing in action". Joe mentioned that liability issues with Service Electric (who graciously extends the use of their facilities to W3OK) were formalized with a lease - both for their protection and the club's.

The club is STILL awaiting the results of computer mapping studies to determine what interference patterns may exist, if any, in a move of our repeater(s) to a "better" site.

KE3AW reported that there were 9 students attending the General Class sessions which began on 11JAN1999. Bob noted a high level of enthusiasm within the group which seems to be drawn from the general ABE area including P'burg. Jill confirmed that the VE test materials used in the monthly test sessions are now under lock and key at Gracedale (for the convenience of the VEs). Due to weather, the January test session had to be canceled.

Joe mentioned that there will be an Emergency Drill on March 20th in Lehigh County which will probably activate Northampton County as well. Further information can be obtained from **Chris, N3SIG.**

Joe then introduced an ambitious project that I had suggested to the Board. Since all (except two!) who attended this meeting were "mugged" by my Kodak digital camera, they know the reason for my activity. For those not in attendance, it is my intention to photograph the entire membership of our club (for posterity - and lots of other practical reasons!)

How many of us talk to other members on the repeater (or elsewhere) and we really don't know/remember the other person's call. Or, we hear the call and the voice, but would like to put a face to it? Well, I admit that the impetus for this project is probably because of my own bad memory, but I think the membership as a whole will benefit. I had fun snagging all of your pictures and after cropping them, they were posted on the club's homepage by that weekend (thanks, Barry). When the collection is more complete, it should not be too difficult to print the "thumbnail pictures" of all of us and make it available to the membership (especially for those NOT on the Internet). I am not opposed to making housecalls for picture-taking of those members who can/t attend regular meetings (for physical or work-related reasons), but I;M HOPING THAT I CAN GET MOST OF YOUR PICTURES AT THE MEETINGS!!!

I intend on bringing my camera to every meeting, so please approach me if I haven't taken your picture yet - it only takes 20 seconds. (Retakes can also be taken if youÆre not please with an earlier picture). Now that the pictures are up on the web, IÆve heard only positive remarks about this collage of our (attractive/intelligent/enthusiastic) membership; check out some of those warm smiles! SMILE, YOUÆRE ON CANDID CAMERA . . .

What happened next during this meeting was most refreshing. Ya know how there seems to be incessant whispering/talking/(gossiping) during our meetings? Well, the club's new "ritual" for inducting new members was finally unveiled and Al's **(WO4H)** presentation/introduction of **Rich Reinert (KB3DEC)** and **Dennis Clark (KB3DFW)** held the rapt attention of the membership; such decorum is seldom seen. After a very formal informative reading familiarizing us with our new additions, the new members were asked to kindly wait outside of the meeting room while the club deliberated on voting in the two new members.

continued on page 5

continued from page 4

While the decision to grant membership to Rich and Dennis still appeared to be a "no-brainer", the cattleshoot approach (N3VUO) previously used in accepting members is thankfully a thing of the past. Now that you can all see how beneficial this new process is, maybe you would consider helping Al and Malcolm as we still could use some additional volunteers for this new "welcoming committee".

Even though the Christmas City Special Event was completed over 1 month ago, Bob (KE3AW) announced that he was still trying to bestow participation certificates to those who participated in that event.

By the way, Jill, N3ZSR, designed these certificates and KA3OEG produced them. 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 starting time of our monthly club meetings. It was suggested that we begin the meetings at 1900hrs instead of 1930hrs. While there was a temptation to vote on this issue immediately, Van (K3CP) asked that this issue be taken up at the March 1999 meeting so that more members could be alerted and hopefully participate in the vote NEXT MONTH. KA2VEM expressed support for this measure as his work schedule has him up at 0600hrs.

KE4YUK was acknowledged for donating a set of code tapes and materials for general club use. Thanks, Jim! Let's hope they get good use!! KA3LAM ask for our remembrance for a high profile radio amateur barely within our midst - JY1, King Hussein of Jordan. (As I write this, JY1 is already a Silent Key). Motion to conclude the evening's business was made by K3CP, 2nd by N3DRZ. This night's presentation was made by Marv, KA3TEO on SSTV.

Marv had Andy (W3ECT) transmit images from Andy's QTH while Marv's laptop computer displayed the received images for us!! It was a unique chance to experience this aspect of Amateur Radio. As for W3ECT, he was granted credit for attending this evening's meeting. We could hear him (2m) and we could see him (SSTV); we just couldn't touch him.

Steve, K4MMG was in charge of buying the drinks following the meeting; he picked up $26.00 from the 50-50. There were 48 members, 1 ghost (W3ECT) and 2 visitors (Stephanie Clark & K.B. Makoui) in attendance. .

de Dan, W3ZF, Secretary

Income & Loss Statement

Balance 12/31/98		**$5,312.23**
INCOME		
Donation Income fifty-fifty	27.00	
Dues Arrl	1297.00	
Income Novice Books Sold	30.00	

TOTAL INCOME		**1354.00**
EXPENSES		
Newsletters for February	120.00	
Picnic August 15, 1999	125.00	
Postage	116.53	
Refund KB3RI & WA3AWX	10.00	
Renewal ARRL	96.00	
Supplies File Cabinet & Membership cards	149.26	
Telephone	30.61	

TOTAL EXPENSES		**647.40**

TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES		**706.60**
Balance 1/31/99		**$6,018.83**

Total Membership 305 as of 2/4/99

de, Dick KA3MOU, Treasurer

For Sale:

Icom IC-725 Xcvr
Icom PS-55 Power Supply
MFJ Versa Tuner II 949E
w/ PTT Mike, headphones and small cw key
$600.00 for complete HF station
call ***Dave, WB2SAW 759-7673 or email to wb2saw@amsat.org***

News?

Yesterday, scientists revealed that beer contains small traces of female hormones. To prove their theory, scientists fed 100 men 12 pints of beer each. They observed that 100% of them gained weight, talked excessively without making sense, became emotional, and couldn't drive.

No further testing is being planned.

Wireless Privacy Bill Reintroduced

via ARRL Bulletin 010

The Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999, **HR514**, has been introduced by Rep Heather Wilson of New Mexico. The measure is aimed at amending the Communications Act of 1934 "to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes."

"HR514 is identical to the amended version of HR2369 that passed the House on a 414-to-1 vote during the last session," said **ARRL** Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA. The Senate did not act on that measure.

The original bill, **HR2369**, would have banned most types of scanners and scanner listening, however, the bill's sponsor, Rep Billy Tauzin, worked with the **ARRL** and representatives of manufacturers, public service organizations, and scanner enthusiasts to redraft the bill top to bottom.

HR514 forbids manufacturing or modifying scanners to receive cellular, PCS, or "protected" paging service frequencies. The bill also forbids receiving, divulging, publicizing, or utilizing such communication. The measure is part of a package of legislation introduced early in the session in the expectation that it will pass quickly and help restore Congressional momentum.

Mansfield says, however, that the Senate prospects for **HR514** remain murky.

While Amateur Radio appears to be unaffected by the new bill, the League is on record as opposing the expansion of prohibitions on radio monitoring beyond those that now exist to protect the privacy of services that interface with wireline networks.

HR514 has been referred to the Commerce Committee. The bipartisan list of co-sponsors of HR514 includes Reps Tauzin of Louisiana, Markey of Massachusetts, Oxley of Ohio, Eshoo and Rogan of California, Deal of Georgia, Wynn of Maryland, Cubin of Wyoming,Luther of Minnesota, Sawyer and Gillmor of Ohio, and Pickering of Mississippi.

via ARRL Bulletin

SKYWARN Training Session

by John, WX3TAZ

It has been almost 2 years since the last **SKYWARN** Training Session. Since there are 34 counties in the Forecast Area of Mt. Holly, Joe Miketta has asked to try and coordinate the training so there are not as many miles involved. So some of the Training Courses will be regionalized.

The Lehigh Valley **SKYWARN** Training Session will be held on Tuesday, March 9th at 7:30pm. It will be held at the Lehigh Valley Red Cross building in Room 104. The Red Cross building is located at 2100 Avenue "A". The directions are Rt.. 22 to Airport Road North. Airport Road to Avenue "A". Right onto Avenue "A". Red Cross building will be on the left side at the intersection of Avenue "A" and Avenue "B". If you need more information or more directions, please contact John, WX3TAZ, either on the 70 repeater or Email at wx3taz@wx3taz.net .

There will also be a SKYWARN Training Session for the Carbon/Monroe Counties on March 13. Meeting place to be announced. Check out the WX2PHI Website at **http://wx2phi.skywarn.net/skywarn.html** for more information on this Training Session.

John Holmes, WX3TAZ
Lehigh Valley SKYWARN Coordinator
Vice-Chairman-NEPA/Secretary of
SKYWARN Tech. Committee,
NWSFO, Mt. Holly, NJ

FCC closes unlicensed Florida radio station:

The FCC, in conjunction with the US Marshal Service and the US Attorney's Office, seized radio transmission equipment used in the operation of an unlicensed FM radio station in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on January 15, 1999.--

FCC Daily Digest and The ARRL Letter

Try to call in on the regular RACES, ARES and DLARC nets.

Sunday @ 9:30 am and Thur @ 7:00 pm

King Hussein, JY1. SK

via ARRL Letter

Radio amateurs around the world joined in mourning the recent death of Jordan's King Hussein, JY1.

Silent Key

Hussein, 63, died February 7. The Middle East's longest-reigning ruler, he'd been Jordan's king for 47 years, taking the throne when he was just a teenager. His son, Abdullah, 37, succeeds him.

Hussein had earned a reputation as a catalyst for peace and as a conciliator in the Middle East. President Clinton was among the heads of state from around the globe who gathered in Jordan February 8 for Hussein's funeral.

Hussein had been active in recent months from the US while seeking cancer treatment at Minnesota's Mayo Clinic. A QSO with JY1 was considered by many hams to be both an honor and a privilege. His elegant QSL card was prized.

Hussein was a life member of the ARRL. ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, called him "an enthusiastic radio amateur whose support was invaluable to us in obtaining new amateur bands at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference." Sumner recalled that in May 1979, International Amateur Radio Union President Noel Eaton, VE3CJ, was invited to Amman to meet with King Hussein.

"Jordan's support of the Amateur Service was much in evidence at the conference that fall, and was a crucial element in our success," Sumner said. The WARC-79 resulted in Amateur Radio's gaining the 30, 17, and 12-meter bands. That same year, JY1 was featured in the film, "The World of Amateur Radio." Hussein regarded his 1983 contact with Owen Garriott, W5LFL, on board the Space Shuttle Columbia, as a high point in his Amateur Radio activity.

King Hussein also participated in the historic 1995 joint Israel-Jordan JY74X operation on Mt Nebo, where hams from both countries participated in a Field Day-like operation. The King put in appearances both on the air and in person, much to the delight of the participants and those waiting to work him and JY74X.

Hussein's friend Bruce "Blackie" Blackburn, W4TA/JY9BB, of St Petersburg, Florida, called him "one of the world's most respected amateurs" and recounted many stories about King Hussein as a person and an avid Amateur Radio operator. Blackburn said King Hussein "promoted Amateur Radio to the hilt in Jordan" and saw to it that Amateur Radio classes were instituted in elementary schools. King Hussein also dropped in on meetings of the Royal Jordanian Radio Amateur Society in Amman. King Hussein also was involved with the early satellite experiments.

Former US Ambassador to Lebanon and Iran Armin Meyer, W3ACE, also recalled Hussein February 8 in a letter to The Washington Post. Meyer said JY1 "has for decades been promoting peace and good will among quite ordinary people." As Meyer put it: "For the king, ham radio was a different world, a community of diverse people."

All members of the Jordanian royal family automatically have Amateur Radio privileges in Jordan. Although the new king does not appear to have a call sign, King Hussein's widow--the American-born Queen Noor--is JY1NH. King Hussein's brother, the former Crown Prince Hassan, is JY2HT, while his cousin, Prince Raad, JY2RZ, is chairman of the Royal Jordanian Radio Amateur Society.--Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, supplied information for this report

The ARRL Letter

VE test session February 5

A test session was held on February 5th with the following results. A total of 13 elements were administered to 8 candidates. 12 elements were passed.

Name	License Earned
Herbster, Charles	**Tech**
Gorman, Arthur; K9TZG	**Advanced**
Hogarth, James; N3DFF	**Advanced**
Stair, Leonard	**Tech**
Fehnel, Gerald	**Tech**
Stair, Derrick	**Tech**
Wood, David	**Tech**
VanHorn, Robert	**Tech**

VE's in attendance were Francis, **W3IYG** (leader); Cary, **K2YIY;** Carl, **AA3IX.**

The **VE's for March 5th** are Dan, **W3ZF** (leader); Bob, **KE3AW**; William, **NS3J;** Glade, **KA3MVQ**

de Jill, N3ZSR, VE Session Contact

The Prez Sez

A couple of "firsts"

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

Two aspects of our February club meeting prompted the title for this month's column, both of which I'll get to in a little bit. From the regular reports, we heard that the 440 machine is repaired and expected back from the manufacturer soon. We also learned from KE3AW that the club-sponsored General Class license classes are going well. The new VE structure with each team having a designated liaison person is now in place, but a few more Extra Class VEs are needed. Contact Jill, N3ZSR, our test session coordinator, if you're either a currently certified VE or want to become one and would like to help with this important club service.



The first "first" to talk about is our voting in the first two members into the club who have gone through the new welcoming program. As you recall, this program was designed to give prospective members a chance to become acquainted with the club and its activities by attending two meetings prior to being voted in. The Welcoming Committee -- currently consisting of Bob, WO4H, and Malcolm, N3XRL -- spends time with each new member to provide an orientation to club practice and activities. Bob introduced Rich, KB3DEC, and Dennis, KB3DFW and gave a short summary of their backgrounds and interests. Both were then voted into club membership.

Because prospective members are asked to attend two club meetings prior to joining, it's important that everyone who is at a club meeting put his/her name on the sign-in sheet as it goes around, whether or not that person is currently an official member. These lists become a good record both of the attendance of members and guests and of prospective members' required meeting attendance.

Another "first" was the beginning of the effort by club secretary Danny Ruth, W3ZF, to capture individual digital pictures of club members for posting on the club web site. Although a few members at the February meeting eluded Danny's electronic grasp, he did get a good number of pictures of attendees. Danny has also been gracious enough to set up "house calls" for a few members who are unable to attend club meetings because of physical the faces behind the callsigns. If you'd like to be included in that group, make a point of coming a club meeting in the near future to smile for Danny's digital camera.

While probably setting a record in the number of members who stayed for the planned program, our February presenter, Marvin, KA3TEO, gave a fascinating introduction to the world of slow-scan television. With the help of Andy, W3ECT, who sent pictures from across town on ten meters, Marvin demonstrated how simple it is to become involved in this underutilized mode. A shareware program and either a computer sound card or a simple circuit consisting of a few dollars' worth of parts are all that it takes.

The March program on RF Safety promises to be just as interesting, and the topic is something with which every ham needs to be concerned. So make a special effort to attend the meeting at 7:30 on Thursday, March 4. You'll see elsewhere in this issue a notice that there will be a vote to move the meeting time up by a half-hour, to become effective (if voted in) with the April meeting. So there are several good reasons to come to the March meeting: to learn some important information about RF safety, to vote on a new meeting time, and to get your image captured for display on the web page. C U there!

de Chuck, W3JD, president

Change in meeting time to be voted on

At the February club meeting, a proposal was discussed to change the club meeting time from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM, which would allow for an earlier end to the evening's activities. A number of members have mentioned that they cannot always stay for the scheduled program, especially if the business meeting runs longer than usual.

While there were enough members in favor of the change at the February meeting to vote it in immediately, it was suggested that members who could not make that meeting should be given the chance to discuss the change and to vote on it. That vote will take place during the March meeting.



Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club
Email Address

Call	
KZ2A	gabelantos@fast.net
K3ANS	goodmancpa@enter.net
AA0AO	76147.2425@compuserve.com
W3APE	w3ape@enter.net
KE3AW	ke3aw@juno.com
WA3AWX	wa3awx@epix.net
KF4AX	mrfixit@unforgetable.com
W2AZZ	wa2azz@enter.net
KF3BD	mrarrell@nni.com
K3BKT	104021.147@compuserve.com
WD5BRP	wd5brp@att.net
N2BSC	barish@kutztown.edu
KB3BYR	ka3ygf@enter.net
WX3C	jgreenage@compuserve.com
WG3C	aostapenko@papl.com
N3CDO	carldonna@enter.net
W3CE	alw@enter.net
WB3CJU	donsal@fast.net
WA3CLC	cabdrive@enter.net
WA3CLD	wa3cld@juno.com
N3CSQ	j@mosc.com
KB3CSR	n2dh@easy-pages.com
KB3CSS	kb3css@enter.net
N3CXP	n3cxp@ptdprolog.net
KB3DEA	reader7@hotmail.com
N3DFF	jhogarth@nni.com
N2DH	n2dh@easy-pages.com
N3DL	n3dl@enter.net
N8DXR	tds59@im4u.net
N3EBH	cosmo@enter.net
W3ECT	w3ect@enter.net
W3EFL	val@enter.net
WA3ENE	leslohreast@juno.com
WB3ESQ	bshaub@lucent.com
KB2EVB	maddoc007@aol.com
N3EYT	n3eyt@aol.com
K3FEA	k3fea@aol.com
N3FNW	dwilliams4@juno.com
KE4FTY	greyhounds@cyberstreet.com
W3GKC	w3gkc@juno.com
W4GN	w4gn@alaweb.com
N3GRH	dhpctech@enter.net
N3GRK	n3grk@enter.net
N3GWR	jpfox@enter.net
N3GXW	n3gxw@juno.com

Call	
WO4H	wo4h@enter.net
WF3H	wf3h@ptd.net
W3HFI	rvcd@ptdprolog.net
AA3HG	harlanne@enter.net
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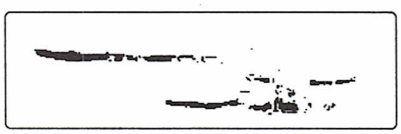
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The Wouff Hong

In an institution as old as Amateur Radio, traditions and symbols of the art appear and become part of it. Our traditions are many, among them our long record of self-policing, our dedication to public service in experimentation, our instant response to the call of our country in time of war. But of the symbols, only one -- aside from the ARRL diamond -- has become a part and parcel of the framework of Amateur Radio, the symbol of its finest traditions, its long and glorious history.



That symbol is the Wouff Hong. Every ham should know its origin.

It seems to us that now is a good time to retell the story of this famous and beloved part of the very fabric of Amateur Radio. Visitors to Headquarters and to W1AW seeing either the original or one of the many replicas in our buildings, ask what it means. New members of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, initiated during the midnight convocations of the Order at League Conventions, ask, "But where did it come from, in the beginning?"

It started back in 1917, in the very earilest days of the ARRL and QST, when an anonymous amateur, writing under the title "The Old Man", created a wonderful series of humorous stories in the magazine. In a pithy, irascible style he assailed all that struck him as criticizable about ham radio operation of the period in his famous "Rotten Radio" series, beloved to this day by all who read it. He pitilessly exposed the poor operating practices of the day, yet did it in a way which drew chuckles even from those recognizing themselves as the special targets of his ire.

In one of those stories, "Rotten QRM", he launched forth with examples of some of the poor sending cluttering up the band in a particular QSO to which he was listening. The gibberish included the words "wouff hong" which, apparently, was being used by someone on somebody else.

It turned out to be one of those pricless pieces of spontaneous word invention. Instantly, it caught on with the gang. Although T.O.M. himself admitted at the time he didn't know exactly what a wouff hong was, it quickly became something with which both to attack bad operating practices and to discipline their perpetrators. Within three months, the editor of QST found it necessary to write an editorial on the growing demand from the membership for wouff hongs. How rapidly this situation might have developed had not World War I intervened is a matter of speculation. But the tradition had been established, the Wouff Hong created in the minds of thousands of amateurs as some mythical instrument of torture to be used in enforcing good operating practice in Amateur Radio.

When QST resumed after the war, one of its first contributors was T.O.M. In as early 1919 issue he contributed an article "Rotten Starting" to work off steam on the slowness with which our goverment was getting around to let us operate again. At the conclusion of this article appeared the following: "In the meantime...I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff Hong which came to light out here when we started to get our junk out of cold storage. Keep it in the Editorial sanctum where you can lay your hands on it quickly in an emergency. We will be allowed to transmit soon and then you will need it."

The object was duly received at Hq. The Editor, fully mindful of the historic significance of the occasion, took the instrument to one of the first Board meetings, in New York, May 3, 1919, subsequently duly reporting in QST that "each face noticeably blanched when the awful Wouff Hong was...laid on the table". By an action still a part of the League's official records, that Board voted that the Wouff Hong be framed and placed on display in the Hq. offices of the League. There it remains to this day.

We know the significance of the Wouff Hong. We don't know the significance of its weird shape. Not even the beloved T.O.M. (revealed after his death, as none other than our first president, Hiram Percy Maxim) ever explained that. Nor was the precise manner of its use ever prescribed, although it perhaps may be guessed with a little imagination. But as the years passed, it continued to grow in the affections of amateurs the country over, old-timer and youngster alike. It became the inspiration of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, the amateur secret society of the ARRL convention. Today, it is thoroughly entrenched in the lore of Amateur Radio as its most sacred symbol.

The Wouff Hong! -- see it when you next visit **ARRL hq.**



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

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Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
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