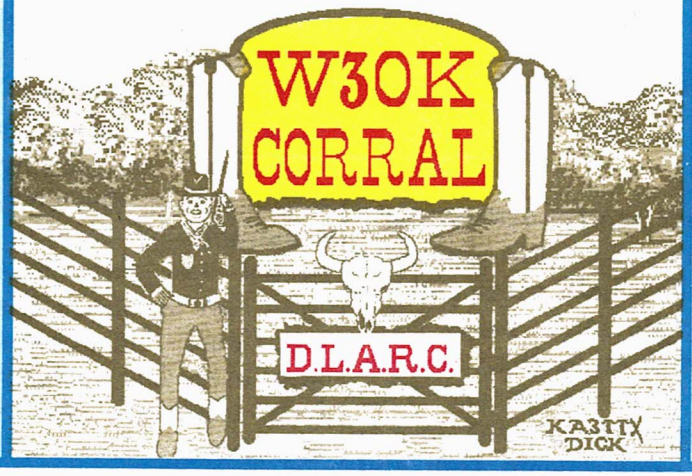
DELAWARE - LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
W3OK

April 1996



SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB
ARRL

ARRL Affiliated Club

DLARC PAQSO PARTY WINNER AGAIN

PA QSO party

(de Ray, W3TDF **,March 6)**

Just got off the phone with Doug(W3HDH) who says the Summary/Results should be in the mail sometime next week. (I heard this before!).



Our club the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was again number 1.

A new plaque, to be sponsored by DLARC, based on Aggregate score divided by the total active licensed members, was won by Western PA Hilltoppers. Their score was 951,856; there are 17 active members, (9 were in the Party), for an average of 55,951. ((Average per participant was over 105K !!)). This is a very small, ACTIVE, club.

The runners up for this award were Penn-Wireless and Dauberville, which won the small club award again this year. A bit of history concerning the Party. It was first run about 1957 or 58, by a Harrisburg club and Nittany picked up the ball about 1965 or so. Records for the early 60's showed about 10 logs from out of state, and about 20 from PA!!!

Get ready for **Oct. 12/13**. YOUR Club needs your support so we can keep the Trophy. There is only room on it for DLARC to be engraved 3 or 4 more times, then we will probably get to keep it.

de Ray, W3TDF

QSL Cards and how to get them

by George, AA3JU, Program Chairman

April 4th meeting to feature N3ADL

OK so you finally worked that guy in East Trinesia for a "new" one. Now the trick is to get it confirmed or in other words get this fellows QSL card from his desk to your mailbox. It doesn't matter if your personal East Trinesia is a rare island on the other side of the planet or a grid square that is inhabited by moose and groundhog on the other side of the state you still need that card.

Luckily at our meeting at NCCC April 4th we will be lucky enough to host none other that N3ADL Doug Priest a well known expeditions and QSL manager, as well as being a dynamic speaker he has a wonderful sense of humor. He will let us in on the secrets of just how to extract the QSL card of your dreams out of the Trinesian station you just worked. Everything from how to properly fill out your card to how much the return postage is from Trinesia. Don't miss this meeting!

de George, AA3JU

At press time, the room location for this meeting was not available. The room will be announced on the Sunday and Wednesday nets.
Keep tuned. Or call the DLARC info line at 890-9110

New antenna type

SPECIAL ADDITION FOR APRIL 1st

by George, AA3JU

After just having finished yet another HF contest I wanted to help my non contesting fellow amateurs with an antenna that will help both them and me on the crowded 75 meter phone band. Hence after much research I came up with an exciting new design: "The wireless indoor 75 meter special" This antenna is specifically designed to help the 75 meter rag chewer effectively communicate each and every utterance to his or her favorite listener.

First you must cut exactly 1/4 wavelength electrically of a good 50 ohm feedline. Don't forget to take into consideration the velocity factor of the coax! Attach to one end a PL259 connector and to the other end in parallel solder 32 6.4K 10 watt carbon resistors. Place this whole thing into an old paint can filled with mineral oil (this provides your ground counterpoise)

You will notice immediately how quiet 75 meters is! No unwanted QRN and as bonus you will find that it also seems to filter out most of the unwanted chatter from contesters, DXers and Nets. This wireless antenna will also load up perfectly 1:1 across the band. And you should with out too much difficulty get this wireless antenna to load up pretty well on most amateur bands. Also amazingly many people who use this new antenna design have found that TVI interference complaints have also ended.

So go on and try out this April construction article and get in on the fun and excitement of using a Wireless indoor antenna for 75 meters. I know that you will enjoy and get many years of use out of it.

de George, AA3JU

Romeo Stepaneko barred from DXCC

from Amateur Radio Newsline

One of the world's best known DXers has been barred for life from participating in the DXCC program. The ARRL Awards Committee says Romeo Stepaneko, who holds several DX calls including 3W3RR(Vietnam), violated operating ethics in documentation submitted for his 1992 to 1993 P5RS7(North Korea) operation. This disqualification is based on DXCC rules 12 and 13. It means Stepanenko is not eligible to participate in the DXCC program in any manner. This also means that contacts made with any station or DXpedition operated by him from the time of this action will be disallowed. Stepaneko took the DX community by storm in the early 1990's with unexpected and sometimes unannounced operations from rare locations that were impossible for any other ham. He was the idol of the DX community until early last year when questions began to surface regarding the validity of some of his operations.



from the Amateur Radio Newsline

Stepaneko was a visitor at the home of Bill, K3ANS. At the time of visit to K3ANS, his reputation was still solid. He had supposedly operated from Afghanistan, Libya, Sparatley Island, and others.

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 Techs for their entire ham radio career

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Digital Communication

by Joel, K9TBD

The Last Resort

This resort is not Cancun. It is what do you do with your disk drive when it will not spin up - under any prodding - knuckles, back end of a screwdriver whack! Still no good. The following is the procedure that I followed to fire up that disk one last time! Indeed, the last resort! NOT recommended for the faint of heart.



I have an old, but, quite reliable 8088 computer which has an original 10 MB disk drive but it also has a 20 MB 'hardcard' to supplement the original disk drive. It has been an Idiot Savant for years - useful, brilliant at times, but for the most part mundane.

Here is what happened. Knowing that the 'hardcard' would not spin up one more time, I recorded its directory on a more reliable medium. You see, I had to move my office six feet to the right to allow space for another - more modern desk - that meant all computers and radios had to be stopped for a while. This little 8088 had not been stopped for the past four years, knowing that it would not start again. Yup, I powered down everything during the move, and, yes (no) the little hardcard would not spin up again. Coaxing with the back side of a screwdriver did not help.

Here is your 'last resort'. With little recourse, I pulled the hardcard disk drive from the computer and put it in the 'fridge for about 1/2 hour -- or until done -- as they say on the Food Channel. It worked!

Plugged the little 20 MB drive back into the computer - really cold by now and this time with only one whack from the backside of a screwdriver, it spun up.

This little article has been written on that defunct drive, then transferred to another computer using TCP/IP with a local LAN, then sent to the editor with AX.25. Its contents will be 'Zipped' and sent elsewhere for later retrieval.

We all live in the expiring media world. Perhaps you will think, that your precious files are not all that impervious after all!

'The last resort' is not Cancun, it is chilling your drive and whacking it until it submits. This is not recommended procedure for those that are not -'at their last resort'.

de Joel, K9TBD

Talk UP Amateur Radio!

If the repeater could speak freely

by James, KE4IND

It is lonely sometimes here on the hill,
The only time someone comes to see me ,
Is when I'm very ill,
And they leave as soon as they fix me.

I get very Hot on mid-summer days,
And very Cold on long winter nights,
Yet, They expect me to work always,
Don't I have any rights?

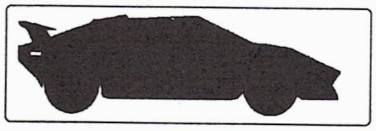
I listen carefully to what they tell me,
Then I repeat every word,
Everything, exactly to the T,
While impersonating the voice I just heard.

When there is a storm a brewing,
I get a lot of use,
And I don't mind a lot of rag chewing,
Yet, I don't like abuse.

Sometimes I get to talk on the phone,
As well as on the air,
But they blame me if no one is home,
And that is not fair.

I work hard every night and day,
With no time off for fun,
And I don't receive any pay,
Boy, I'm sure glad I'm not human.

Indi-500



An Indian was telling his doctor about his chronic insomnia. To the doctor's amazement, the Indian added that 499 fellow tribismen also had the problem. They're all known as the *Indian-Napless 500.*

--Contributed by Dan Maly

If you want to join ARRL or renew your membership, contact Treasurer KA3MOU, our club benefits from this.

Contest Calendar

by Barry, KU3X, contest editor

Apr 6-7 EA RTTY Contest
Holyland DX Contest
MARAC SSB County Hunters Contest
SP DX Contest

Apr 10-12 DXYL-NAYL Contest, CW

Apr 12-14 Japan International DX Contest

Apr 13-14 QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party, CW

Apr 15 ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprints 144 Mhz

Apr 23 ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprints 222 Mhz

Apr 24-26 DXYL-NAYL Contest, phone

Apr 27-28 Helvetia (HB9) Contest
Nebraska QSO Party
YU DX Contest

Exchanges

QRP ARCI Party: RST, State, ARCI number or power

DXYL-NAYL Contest: RS(T), QSO number, section

Japan Contest: RST, prefecture number (01-50)

ARRL VHF/UHF Sprint: Grid-square location

YU DX Contest: RS(T) and ITU zone

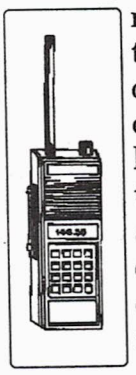
Helvetia Contest: RST, and three digit serial number

de Barry KU3X

How Can I Help?

by Amy, KD3TI

Last article, I outlined what is ARES/RACES, what they do and how they differ. Each ham really needs to belong to both groups, certainly not because they are mutually exclusive, but because they need to work so closely together, and, of course, there are legal/insurance concerns. There may be times when hams need to 'change hats' and dual membership will eliminate any confusions or concerns. This article, let's explore some of the ways hams can help in times of emergency.



First of all, the problems do not need to be major, and an 'official state of emergency does not necceesarily need to exist. Is there any of us who would pass an auto accident and not use our mobile radio to call for help? I doubt it! Acts as simple, and vital as these occur daily.

What about 'the big one', though? What do we do, then? First, do what you can to assure your family and personal safety. Second, turn on your rig to the official emergency frequency (These are usually where your weekly emeroency nets meet) and listen. If you're indoors, just turn the volume up a little so you'll hear calls. If you're outdoors, try giving a listen every hour, on the hour, net control operators should announce at those times that RACES is activated and help is needed. When they do call, be ready to answer and say what kind of help you can ^provide. Keep in mind, even if you can't get out, there are people out there willing to travel OR you may provide a vital link right from your own shack.

Virtually all amateur modes can be used. VHF repeaters give effective, sinple local coverage. HF nets can be used in widespread disasters. For moving lots of data or traffic, nothing beats the digital modes, and today's small rigs and laptop computers nake portable digital work a snap. Even anateur television has gotten into the act, allowing officials to assess damages first-hand without spending a lot of time away from their offices.

During an emergency, communications will be handled like a formal net, sometimes using ARRL accepted 'formal message' protocols.

Please try to check in on the weekly ARES/RACES nets to get a feel for formal net operations, it's not difficult, and after the second or third check-in you'll sound, and feel like an old pro. If you're still shy, start out asking some other operators for help, or dusting off the old Operating Manual for a quick, painless refresher. The same sources can also show you the way to handle forrl-lal message traffic. See you on the net!

de Amy, KD3TI



I don't know what he say... I only got "No-Code License"

Interesting Talk by Professional CW Operator

from Boat Anchor news/submitted by Rich K8MEG

Our radio club tonight had as guest speaker Rod Deakin, ham and professional CW operator for the Globe Wireless station KFS in Half Moon Bay.

First,CW is emphatically not dead. The Coast Guard or has phased it out, and U.S. ships don't use it, but there are about 150,000 ships around the world and most of them still use CW. U.S. ships are about 11% of them, so maybe 89% of the ships in the world use CW. KFS has the receiver site in Half Moon Bay, the transmitter and also operates by remote control a transmitter and receiver site in Slidell, LA.

A competing company has sites in Bolinas and Point Reyes CA, and there is a third company up in Washington. There are perhaps 50 shore- based CW operators with these stations on the West Coast and some more on the East Coast. Marine CW may not go on forever, but the end is not in sight.

Equipment: They have transmitters by Press Wireless that date back to WW II. They have more modern transmitters using Henry amplifiers; and they are about to replace those amplifiers with other Henry amplifiers designed especially for their kind of service. Transmitters these days run 5KW. They used to use 10 KW but modern receivers are better than the old ones and allow lower transmit power. For receivers they use Kenwood R- 5000s in scanning mode and some old Watkins-Johnson models for copying traffic. They are getting some new receivers made by TCI and some by none other than Ten-Tec. The new receivers are entirely ASCII controlled, have no front panel controls at all. They use ASCIl control with the present receivers from Half Moon Bay to the Slidell site, which is operated entirely by remote control. T-l lines connect Half Moon Baywith Palo AIto and Slidell. I didn't catch what kinds of exciters are used with the Henry amplifiers; might have been Harris. He uses a bug or a paddle driven keyer; no keyboard generated CW. The received copy is typed on a computer keyboard. The monitor has a split screen, part for the message and part for the billing information. When they receive a message from a ship they transmit it to its ultimate destination by email, Telex, voice, fax or in some cases telegraph cable. For antennas they have log-periodics & something like discones. There's no point to point HF anymore so the big rhombics are gone. In addition to CW they use SITOR and Clover. Clover uses the same modem board HAL sells to hams, but with very different firmware, intentionally incompatible with the ham version of Clover. They like CIover because of its speed and its ability to transmit binary files. These days there is a need to transmit software binary files to ships at sea. Big modem ships use INMARSAT; but there are many ships that still have HF radio as their only link to the rest of the world.

A description of the operation is rather complicated. There are bands of frequencies: 5OOKHz and then a band in the 4MHz region, one in 6MHz, one in 8MHz, and more. For each of these bands there is a primary and an alternate frequency; and there are these pairs of frequencies for five different regions of the world and a pair for worldwide. A ship calls on one of these frequencies. The shore station transmits on one of its frequencies in the same band, and tunes the receiver to a frequency in the same band told to them by the ship. The shore station transmitters are fixed frequency; the ship transmitters move off the calling frequency to handle traffIc. The scanning receivers scan the calling frequencies, usually 5OO KHz, the pair of frequencies for the local area of the world, and the worldwide pair of frequencies. Because of the remote site the operator is scanning that set of frequencies locally and also scanning the appropriate set of frequencies for Slidell.

Operators can se things up any way they like; his preference is for Slidell in one ear and Half Moon Bay in the other. On CW ships use call signs rather than their names. The operators typically don't know much English; but many of the messages are of a fill-in-the- blanks nature, and then with Q signals and other universally understood signals they get by.

On a 4-hour watch he will handle typically 50 messages from ships. Some of these are position reports. Ships are required to report their positions and intentions every 40 hours. This information is passed to the Coast Guard free of barge. Ships also report rather every 24 hours and this is passed to NOAA free of charge. Other messages are mostly of a business nature and are charged for. Rates depend on the distance to the destination but might be 50 cents a word. All the rates are actually in gold francs, as an international currency. These business messages are typically to the ship's owners and report position, fuel on board, things needing repair at the next port, supplies needed, expected arrival times, and that sort of thing.

Another kind of activity is for medical problems on board; they communicate with a doctor on shore and get instructions for treating the sick or injured. Very few ships carry doctors, and only those with larger crews carry a nurse. Crew members have at least first aid and CPR training. Then there are all the weird kinds of things that can happen on ships; he gave an example of a crew member who killed another. They locked up the killer, put the corpse into a refrigerated container, and asked the ship's owners whether to bury the body at sea, head for the nearest port, or complete the voyage and deal with the problem then. Bringing a ship into port is about as involved as landing an airplane, except everything is much slower. In SF Bay the ship has to take on a pilot who is an expert at getting to the dock without running aground If the ship arrives too early or two late it will miss its time slot for a berth and have to wait, just like an airliner having to wait for a gate. He told of one tanker ship that needed deeper water than SF Bay has even at high tide; so it had to anchor and off-load the cargo into barges. Lots of messages flew around as they dealt with that problem. CW operation is typically at 18-25 WPM. The shores operators are typically very skilled; they love operating CW and got good at it because they wanted to. Many of the ship operators are awful. They operate CW only because they get paid for doing it and don't care about being good at it. He played a tape, just for laughs, of a particularly lousy ship operator.

Then Rod got to his hobby, witch is the restored Liberty ship Jeremiah O'Brien based in San Francisco at Pier32. Right now you can't go on the ship even the volunteer workers can't go on the ship because of the government shutdown. But in normal times it is open 7 days a week. The radio room is furnished with authentic gear of the period. For the $5 admission you can spend all day on the ship if you wish, and there are docents to answer questions. Every couple of months they have a live steam day when they don't go anywhere but do get up steam and you can see all the machinery operate. They will probably go on a voyage this summer, perhaps to Seattle.

de Nancy WZ8C

(this article submitted by Andy, N3NNH reprinted from the newsletter FISTS

Where to go?

from Amsoft newsletter

via internet

Bill Gates dies in a car accident. He finds himself in purgatory, being sized up by St. Peter.

"Well, Bill, I'm really confused on this call; I'm not sure whether to send you to Heaven or Hell. After all, you enormously helped society by putting a computer in almost every home in America, yet you also created that ghastly Windows '95. I'm going to do something I've never done before in your case; I'm going to let you decide where you want to go."



Bill replied, "well, what's the difference between the two?"

St. Peter said, "I'm willing to let you visit both places briefly, if it will help your decision."

"Fine, but where should I go first?"

"I'll leave that up to you."

"Okay then," said Bill, "Let's try Hell first."

So Bill went to Hell. It was a beautiful, clean, sandy beach with clear waters and lots of bikini-clad women running around, playing in the water, laughing and frolicking about. The sun was shining; the temperature perfect. He was very pleased.

"This is great!" he told St. Peter. "If this is hell, I REALLY want to see heaven!"

"Fine," said St. Peter, and off they went.

Heaven was a place high in the clouds, with angels drifting about, playing harps and singing. It was nice, but not as enticing as Hell.

Bill thought for a quick minute, and rendered his decision.



"Hmmm. I think I'd prefer Hell," he told St. Peter.

"Fine," retorted St. Peter, "as you desire."

So Bill Gates went to Hell.

Two weeks later, St. Peter decided to check on the late billionaire to see how he was doing in Hell. When he got there, he found Bill, shackled to a wall, screaming amongst hot flames in dark caves, being burned and tortured by demons.

"How's everything going?" he asked Bill.

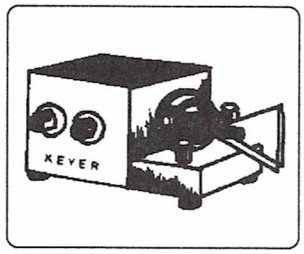
Bill responded, with his voice filled with anguish and disappointment, "this is awful! This is nothing like the Hell I visited two weeks ago! I can't believe this is happening! What happened to that other place, with the beautiful beaches, the scantily-clad women playing in the water?!???

"That was a demo," replied St. Peter..

World Radio Amateurs Day

by Rich , N3NXF

I was looking through my copy of the **ARRL Operating Manual,** and I noticed a small blurb on an annual event that does not get much attention. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was founded on **April 18, 1925**, as a "representation of the interests of Amateur Radio at and between meetings of international telecommunications organizations, enhancement and promotion of Amateur Radio, and encouragement of international goodwill and friendship".



The sidebar goes on to state that: "In recognition of the founding of the IARU...the member societies of the IARU have designated April 18 as World Radio Amateur Day. Amateurs are urged to make this day special by breaking out of their usual operating pattern, to try something different, in celebration of the great diversity of activities which Amateur Radio has to offer."

I intend on using the World Radio Amateur Day this year as a lever to get myself to try some CW again (it has sort of fallen by the way-side since I got my general ticket). There are a great variety of Amateur Radio activities that strike the fancy of your fellow Ham brothers and sisters. Why not use April 18 this year as an excuse to explore some of them.

de Rich, N3NXF

Silent to Unspeakable

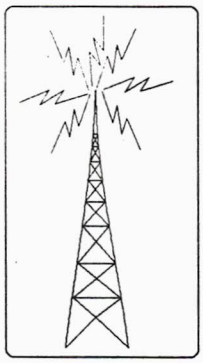
It took only 50 years for movies
to go from silent to unspeakable.

de Leo, N0AHH

Thinking About Tower Work? Read this:

Before you go out and do that Spring Tower work think about this joke. It could happen to you.

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information for block #3 of the Accident Reporting Form. I had put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following detail will be sufficient..



"I am an amateur radio operator and on the day of my accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware had accumulated topside over the course of several trips up the tower. Rather than carry the unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

"Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. You will note in block #11 of the Accident Reporting Form that I weigh only 155 pounds.

"Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed, up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley.

"Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind, and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel.... Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block #11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent, down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

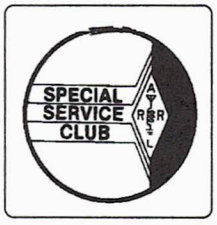
"This encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools, and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me . . . . I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope."

original author unknown -
de Lynn, N9QIP.

Special service club program

by John, N3IGA ACC/EPA

Last month I explained the role of the Affiliated Club Coordinator. One of the main roles is the Special Service Club program. The Special Service Club (SSC) Program was created when it was recognize that local problems are best solved at the local level and that the local club is the best representative of Amateur Radio's interests at the local level. How does a club become an SSC? A club must be actively affiliated with the ARRL. The club must have 51% ARRL membership. A one-page application form must be filled out. To be accepted, clubs must be actively involved in the following areas:



A. New Ham Development and Training

B. Public Relations

C. Emergency Communications

D. Technical Advancement

E. Operating Activities

F. Miscellaneous Activities - these activities make each active club unique and gives it special personality.

There are many advantages that club have who are SSC. They get for free The ARRL Letter, which gives accurate Amateur Radio news.

Free bimonthly lists of new amateurs in their geographical areas. Recognition in QST and Field Forum as your club renews or becomes an SSC.

SSC meetings and contact informationare published in the ARRL Repeater Directory. SSC clubs also receive SSC patches.

In upcoming months, there will be articles about station appointments that help clubs become Special Service Clubs.

de John, N3IGA

MS Walks coming up

by Bob, WF3H

The MS Society has once again asked our help for additional events beyond the traditional MS 150 (which will be held in June). They have asked us to supply communications for walks which will be held:



Sunday April 14 at Muhlenberg College, Allentown, and **Sunday April 21 at Hugh Moore Park, Easton.** .

We will be maintaining communications at several intersections, sag wagons, and ambulances.

These events are good opportunities to show the community the benefits of having ham radio operators around!

As a final detail, the walks are schedule to go from about 8 AM to 2 PM. If you're interested, please contact either me, **Bob/WF3H**, or **Jeff/N3QZT**.

Thanks all, and look forward to seeing you there!

de Bob, WF3H

Web Page for DLARC

DLARC now on intenet

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club can now be found on the World Wide Web. From the DLARC home page, anyone can link to lists of contact people in the club, descriptions of club activities, news about upcoming meetings, materials related to license preparation classes, etc. There's also a page listing several popular amateur radio-related links, some of which contain dozens of other links. All club contact persons with email addresses have links to their e-mail accounts, so users can send mail to them directly from the web page.

All of the files related to the **DLARC** home page reside on a network server at Kutztown University, and the pages are maintained by club vice president, **Joe Chuk, W3JD**. The pages are continually being revised and expanded, and any suggestions for changes and improvements are most welcome. Any ideas can be passed along to Joe from the page itself, or directly at chuk@kutztown.edu.

Here's the address for the **DLARC** home pag

http://www.kutztown.edu/~chuk/dlarc

This is actually an abbreviated form of : **http://www.kutztown.edu/faculty/chuk/dlarc/home.htm**

QST bans Atlas Radio Advertising

by Steve, NSIR

Just got off the phone with the ARRL (QST). They are not allowing future advertising by Atlas Radio! Atlas Radio attempted to advertise their 400x radio in QST

It is QST policy that the advertiser send in the item that is to be offered to them to evaluate. It seemed that the **Atlas Radio 400x** has never been made . It is (fiction) under developement.(does not exist).

QST did allow Atlas Radio to advertise its repair services in December QST magazine. Soon as the readers who were ripped off saw the ad, they contacted the ARRL.

The editor stopped all futher advertising since ATLAS took $933 per customer and never delivered a product!!

de Steve,NS1R

editors note:

I called ARRL and checked with them. This is what happened. Just one more great reason to join ARRL and get QST. What you see advertised there has been checked out as good merchandise before advertising is accepted.

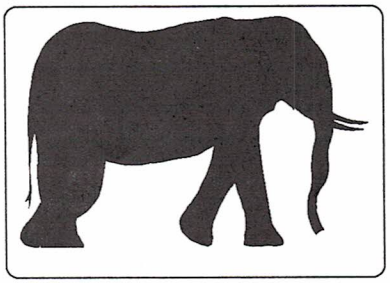


Wait--I can see the ol' boy throgh the window...he's going to connect his antenna.. his hand is near the coax connector---NOW! Throw that sucker now! **(courtesy World Radio)**

Hunting an elephant

supplied by Joel, K9TBD

MATHEMATICIANS hunt elephants by going to Africa, throwing out everything that is not an elephant, and catching one of whatever is left.



EXPERIENCED MATHEMATICIANS will attempt to prove the existence of at least one unique elephant before proceeding to step 1 as a subordinate exercise.

PROFESSORS OF MATHEMATICS will prove the existence of at least one unique elephant and then leave the detection and capture of an actual elephant as an exercise for their graduate students.

COMPUTER SCIENTISTS hunt elephants by exercising Algorithm A:

1. Go to Africa.
2. Start at the Cape of Good Hope.
3. Work northward in an orderly manner, traversing the continent alternately east and west.
4. During each traverse pass,
   - **a**. Catch each animal seen.
   - **b**. Compare each animal caught to a known elephant.
   - **c**. Stop when a match is detected.

EXPERIENCED COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS modify Algorithm A by placing a known elephant in Cairo to ensure that the algorithm will terminate.

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE PROGRAMMERS prefer to execute Algorithm A on their hands and knees.

ENGINEERS hunt elephants by going to Africa, catching gray animals at random, and stopping when any one of them weighs within plus or minus 15 percent of any previously observed elephant.

ECONOMISTS don't hunt elephants, but they believe that if elephants are paid enough, they will hunt themselves.

STATISTICIANS hunt the first animal they see N times and call it an elephant.

CONSULTANTS don't hunt elephants, and many have never hunted anything at all, but they can be hired by the hour to advise those people who do.

OPERATIONS RESEARCH CONSULTANTS can also measure the correlation of hatsize and bullet color to the efficiency of elephant-hunting strategies, if someone else will only identify the elephants.

QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTORS ignore the elephants and look for mistakes the other hunters made when they were packing the jeep.

POLITICIANS don't hunt elephants, but they will share the elephants you catch with the people who voted for them.

LAWYERS don't hunt elephants, but they do follow the herds around arguing about who owns the droppings.

SOFTWARE LAWYERS will claim that they own an entire herd based on the look and feel of one dropping.

VICE PRESIDENTS OF ENGINEERING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT try hard to hunt elephants, but their staffs are designed to prevent it. When the vice president does get to hunt elephants, the staff will try to ensure that all possible elephants are completely prehunted before the vice president sees them. If the vice president does see a nonprehunted elephant, the staff will (1) compliment the vice president's keen eyesight and (2) enlarge itself to prevent any recurrence.

SENIOR MANAGERS set broad elephant-hunting policy based on the assumption that elephants are just like field mice, but with deeper voices.

SALES PEOPLE don't hunt elephants but spend their time selling elephants they haven't caught, for delivery two days before the season opens.

SOFTWARE SALES PEOPLE ship the first thing they catch and write up an invoice for an elephant.

HARDWARE SALES PEOPLE catch rabbits, paint them gray, and sell them as desktop elephants.

author unknown....

SILENT KEY:

W3EOP

Charles R. Thon, W3EOP became a silent key during March.. Charlie was well known in the DX field and a member of the orginal group which became the DLARC.

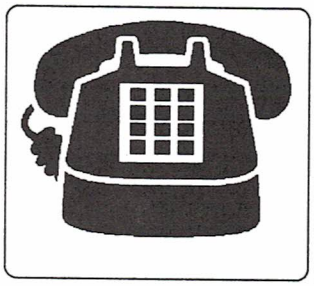
A broadcast engineer by trade, he worked at may local stations, including WEEX, WGPA, and TV Station WGLV.

Digital Communication

by Joel, K9TBD

ISDN

The emerging standard for providing voice, data, facsimile, Teletex, and Videotex is called Integrated Services Digital Network. Its development was started in the late 1950's by AT&T Bell Labs. Now it is part of the world wide Open Systems Interconnect conformant networks.



If you are impatient with your 14.4 or 28.8 baud modem while surfing the net, you may consider redoing the 'telephone' service coming into your home or office. The claim is that a basic service will provide you with about four times the throughput of current analog telephone circuits with the best modems. However, this new service is entirely digital. It combines both circuit and packet switched routing. In the future, you may be issued a 'telephone' number like a social security number, good for life. All the calls/data are routed to wherever you are, not to a physically fixed location.

Wires come into your home as usual and end up in a RJ45 jack in your wall. A box (or card in your PC) is called a Network Termination Device which controls the signaling over the ISDN line. A Terminal Adaptor connects to existing analog devices as long as you still have them. Depending on the manufacturer of the terminating device, this adaptor may be included. Currently these devices cost on the average of $350, not much more than a good modem.

The basic service called a **B** channel operates at 64kbps. Usually you get two **B** channels and one **D** channel. The **D** channel operates at 16kbps and acts as the control (signaling) channel for the service. The channels are entirely independent so the total transfer rate you get with 2B+D is 144kbps. One of the **B** channels might be used for computer communication, the other (at the same time) might be used for 'ordinary' telephone conversations, and the **D** channel may be used for lower speed signaling such as required for a home security system.

Current costs of ISDN service is about the same monthly charge as for your ordinary touch-tone telephone service. Prime time (7am--7pm) usage is charged at 2 cents per minute per B channel and 1 cent on off peak hours. There is an installation charge and of course the cost of the Network Termination Device. If you do consider getting this service, ask whether your network provider accommodates ISDN as it is relatively new.

It is not what this service can do today to improve your voice/data/fax/video throughput but the sorts of services that are possible as service providers jump on the bandwagon. Here is a little scenario of what is technically possible today:

Ms. Plimpton is seeing Dr. Farnsworth on a routine basis to check up on a particular ailment. She calls Dr. Farnsworth at the WDC hospital, however, he is in his Falls Church office. The call (packet switching both voice and data) is automatically rerouted to his office. Since the caller is identified, a request is made of the hospital data base to bring up the latest Xray which appears on Dr. Farhsworth's video display beside the telephone just at the time his phone rings for the voice conversation with his patient. This is possible today, but, one can imagine other altogether new services that may emerge.

What is known as something called 'primary service' as opposed to basic service consists of 24 64kbs channels. One of these channels is designated as the D channel and all the rest B channels. This would accommodate a very active house or a small office used to using a PBX with a number of outgoing telephone lines. The structure keeps on going up in throughput as currently defined and standardized all the way into what is called Broadband ISDN or BISDN.

Recently I explored, with the telephone company, various alternatives of additional services in my home office - from the addition of a second ordinary private line, to a separate business line, to ISDN. You may do the same, the telephone numbers are listed in the phone book. If you are on the web, you may wish to look up Bell Atlantic's ISDN Home Page

http://www.bell-atl.com/customer/consumer/isdn.

Two current reference texts are: ISDN an Introduction, William Stallings, MacMillen, NY, 1989 (entire book devoted to the topic - extremely well written) and OSI - Conformant Networks, E. A. Yakabaitis, Latvian Academy of Sciences, Allerton Press, NY 1992 (one chapter devoted to ISDN).

Digital Regards

de Joel, K9TBD.

It's a Boy

Our best of wishes to two our **DLARC** members on the birth of their **7#15oz** baby boy during March.



Greg was the product of Sharon Reamer, **N3RZQ** with the help of her husband Don, **KA3JWE.**

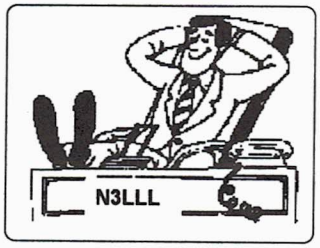
The formal announcment was made on the regular Sunday drill of the club.

Mother and baby are doing just fine...

The Prez Sez

by Tom N3LLL, president

Forget the ground hog winter is still with us. We almost made it through the season without a cancelation. Just a reminder the May meeting will be at Schnecksville Elementary School for a tour of the Space-bus Blake. **Tom / N3CXP** will be using the **W3OK** call for the Space Bus link to Packsat as well as the Shuttle.



Thanks to **Joe / W3JD** and Kutztown University **DLARC** is on "the net". If you have not had the opportunity take a look, Joe has done a bang up job. Once again the address is

http://www.kutztown.edu/faculty/chuk/dlarc/home.html

If you have suggestions feel free to contact Joe on the net or on packet.

Amy / KD3TI will be the clubs Hamfest coordinator for the 1996 Hamfest. It will be held at the Career Institute of technology on August 4. This is a week earlier than last year, we are moving into a slot previously held by the Mid Atlantic Radio Club at the 611 Drive In. There is very little regional competition that weekend. I encourage your participation, this is a great opportunity for each of us to have fellowship and get to know our fellow club members, as well as earn some money for the club treasury.

As you are all aware **DLARC** will be celebrating its **50th birthday** this year. Several events are being planned for the occasion.

Field day will be used to demonstrate to the public and the press how **DLARC** is prepared to deploy and react to a local disaster.

Van / K3CP, a charter member of the club, will be heading up plans for a 50th anniversary banquet this summer. Van could use some help, if you are willing, give him a call.

de Tom, N3LLL

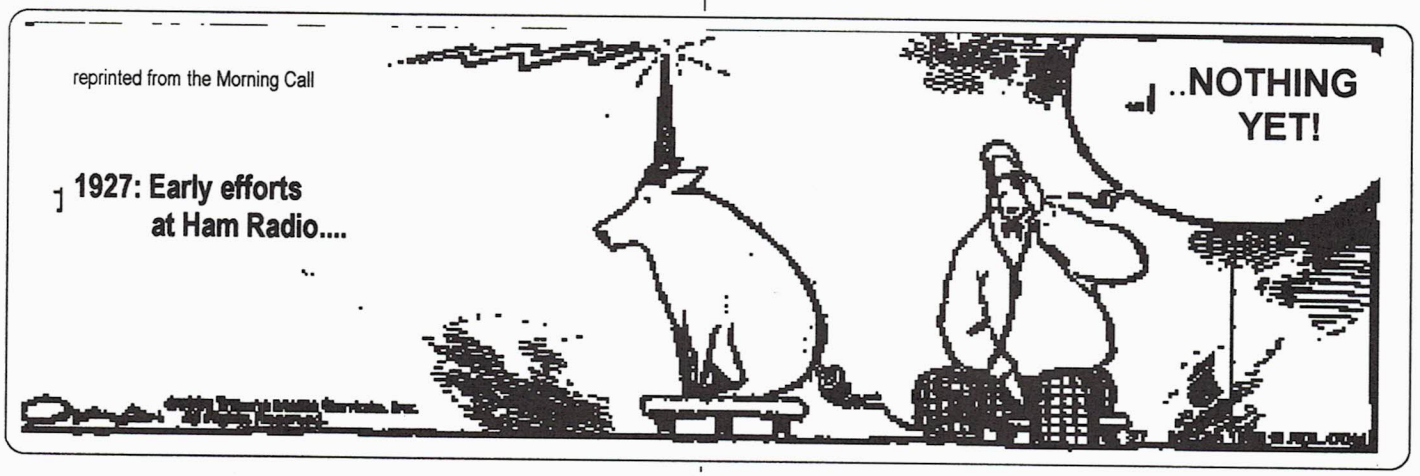
For Sale

Tandy 286/12 computer with 640k RAM, 40 MB HD, monitor, keyboard and mouse

.AEA PK-88, Nov. 1988 Firmware release Radio Shack 1.75 amp power supply (for TNC) All cables to connect TNC to computer

Chuck, N3LAI Phone, 301-818-5072, e-mail at 'centrex@radix.net'.You can contact me on packet by leaving a message on W3PYF-3 BBS.

Radio Shack Pro 2026 100 channel mobile Scanner for sale, Like new with mounting bracket and manuals. $150.00 call for particulars Tom, N3LLL, (610)395-4327

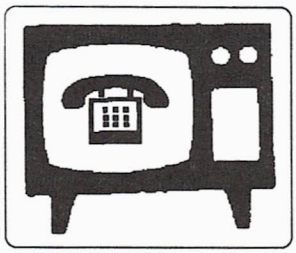


New Media Systems

Changes in Broadcast Ownership Limits

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

Among the biggest changes brought about by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 were those dealing with limits on the number of broadcast stations that may be owned by the same company. Many in the broadcast industry had hoped that all limitations on ownership would be lifted. That didn't happen -but the changes were significant, nonetheless. Radio and television station ownership were treated differently before the passage of the new law, and there continue to be differences now.



Before the early 1990s, each "group owner" (a company that owns more than one radio or television station) was limited by the so-called "12/12/12" rule (an expansion of an earlier "7/7/7" rule). That is, the most one company could own was 12 stations in each service (AM, FM, and TV). Furthermore, "duopolies" -- the ownership of more than one station in each service in a single market -- were prohibited. That, along with the "one to a market" rule (that is, one television or one radio station in a community) limited one company's influence in a single market to, at most, an AM/FM combo. Those companies that owned both television and radio facilities in the same market when the "one to a market rule" was introduced in the 1970s were grandfathered, but had to split up the combination if they ever put the stations up for sale.

The reasoning behind the restrictions on ownership was to allow for a "diversity of voices" within a community. The FCC reasoned that, if one owner controlled several stations in a market, the viewpoints of that owner could become too influential, even while supposedly serving the public interest in the use of the public spectrum.

Things relaxed for radio with a rule change in 1992 that took two years to go fully into effect. By 1994, companies could own a maximum of 20 AM and 20 FM stations nationwide. More importantly, duopolies became permissible, so that, in the larger markets (those with 15 or more stations), one company could own up to four stations, but no more than two in each service.

Despite the changes in radio station limits, television station owners still could possess only 12 stations nationwide, with a further limitation that the stations owned could not reach more than 25 percent of the television population of the country, which is currently 95.9 million households. On a practical level, this meant that companies that owned stations in the largest markets were limited to seven or eight stations.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 removed the nationwide numerical limits on both radio and television station ownership. Radio group owners also saw significant changes on the per-market limits. In the largest markets -- those with 45 or more stations-- a single company can now own up to eight stations, with a maximum of five in a service. In markets of 30 to 44 stations, the limit is seven stations, with a maximum of four in a service. A group owner may hold six stations, four in a service, in markets with 15 to 29 stations. In the smallest markets (fewer than 15 stations), an owner may hold five stations, with three in a service. A further stipulation is that one company may not own more that 50 percent of the stations in a market.

For television station owners, the national audience reach permitted has been increased to 35 percent. The continued existence of an audience cap is a significant limitation, of course, especially for companies owning stations in the major markets. Some of those group owners would still not be able to go beyond the old station limit of 12. A further limitation is the fact that television duopolies are still prohibited, although it is within the power of the FCC to change that in the future, just as they did for radio station owners in 1992.

While it may seem that there's a big disparity between the way radio and television station owners are being treated by the new telecom law, it's helpful to realize that individual television stations usually have more influence (in terms of ratings) in a community than individual radio stations. A community with four or five television stations will usually have thirty or more radio stations. If the radio station owners held the maximum number of stations permitted, there would be around five separate owners controlling the radio "voices" in the community -- which would be equal to the number of television "voices" in the market.

So while the new Telecommunications Act did much to remove broadcast ownership restrictions, it still reflects a concern for the amount of influence wielded by the users of the public airwaves. The new law provides for other changes in facility cross-ownership, and those will be considered in future columns. ***de Joe, W3JD***

I'm tired

Yes, I'm tired. For several years I've been blaming it on the aging process, iron-poor blood, lack of vitamins, air pollution saccharin, obesity, dieting. under-arm odor. Yellow wax buildup, ozone deletion, exposures to various kinds of radiation, and a dozen other maladies that make you wonder if life is really worth living. But I found out it ain't that at all.



I'm tired because I'm overworked.

The population of the country is 51 million, of which 21 million are retired. That leaves 30 million to do the work.

19 million are in school, which leaves 11 million to do the work

2 million are unemployed and 4 million work for the Federal Gov't (which amounts to the same thing).

That leaves 5 million to do the work.

1 million are in the armed forces, which leaves 4 million to do the work.

Out of that 4 million, 3 million are employed by the city, county, and state government, which leaves 1 million to do the work.

There are 62,000 people in hospitals, and 937,998 in prisons.

That leaves 2 people to do the work.

You and Me And you're standing reading this. No wonder I'm so tired!

de Jim, KA2ICX

Don't let it happen!!!!

by Paul, AB4CY

A few years ago QST ran a contest to locate the worst- mess ham shack. They came up with photographs of disaster areas that would give a rat the willies. I have recently helped the families of several silent keys sort through horrendous collections of gear, some of it 5O year-old WW2 surplus tons of chassis, transformers, steel cases, and boxes of parts. We found such items in the basement, attic, garage, shed, and under everything else in Lhe shack.



Many of us have "stuff' we have kept for various reasons. But there comes a time ... In one-ham families, the survivors often don't know where to start. What is it? Is it dangerous? Is it valuable? Sometimes things gather dust for years because nobody knows what to do with them. I found a 1939 Hallicrafters Super Sky Rider that had been in an actic since Gramps died fifty years earlier. Could that happen to your Kenwood?

Don't leave your family in the dark. It's not fair, and it risks your prized rig being declared worthless and spirited away by a volunteer "helper." What to do? Make a list of your valuable things, and show your family where you keep it. And add (he name and address of a ham friend you trust to help.

It's especially burdensome when a silent key hasn't left a valid will. That makes it difflcult for the family to dispose of items until the Probate Court decides their value and ownership, which adds delay.

A few years ago we had to plead safety hazard to remove a 120 -Foot tower. The lot was conveyed by joint ownership, but the tower was not, and the willing buyer wanted the tower removed as a condition of sale. You can eliminate future burdens on your survivors by making a list, and preparing a will now. Begin by thinking things through

From the February '95 Foundation for Amateur Radio "Auto -call_- Doug Alien, N3FHM, Editor and ARNS October 1995

For sale

Yaesu FT-11R Two Meter Transceiver with PA-10 Mobile Adapter. Contact Gary, N3PNT AT 866-2319.

IC-735 HF Transciever with 250 Hz CW filter. Excellent condx. $750. Bob, W2CCE 610-967-1393

24 pin dot matrix printer Sears SR-5000. They cloned an Okidata and put there name on it. All the manuals and clean.asking $75.00..KW3W Bob, 865-1641

Rambling for 50 years

by K3CP, Van

I was licensed fifty years ago this year. My call was W3LTO. Phonetically .. William Three Lewis Thomas Otto -- honest, you can look it up. Those phonetics are from the ARRL word list of the period. You went to Philadelphia to take the tests. There were two classes of licenses...A and B. You had to have your B 'ticket' for a year before you could be tested for class A. Code speed requirements were 13 WPM for B and 20 WPM for A. With a B 'ticket' you could work phone only on 10 and 160 meters. CW on all the rest. Phone wasn't permitted by any class on the 40 Meter band.

Many things have changed over fifty years. Radios were called rigs and nobody cared if you said 73's. From W3LTO to K3CP. I've had K3CP longer. We worked DX with home brew rigs and more than likely the DX station was using batteries. I worked 9N1MM, Rev. Marshall D. Moran, in Kathmandu, Nepal when he was an altar boy. From MOPA's (Master Oscillator Power Amplifier) to phase locked loops. Some of you will remember CW reports of 579X. The X meant crystal controlled Oscillator. The CW note had a bell like quality - seldom heard today. A 579C meant the note chirped a little. From self excited, modulated oscillators to crystal control to digital control.

The transistor was not around then. It was invented in 1947. The ARRL handbook cost $2.50 and had advertisements in the back of the book. The advertisers had names like National, Hammarlund, Hallicrafters, Millen, Johnson, Bud, Centralab, McElroy, Barker and Williamson, and Eimac. They bring back memories. We didn't have coax or know what S.W.R. was. My first rig was a one tube transceiver that was built on a cigar box (they were made of wood). It put out a strong signal in the receive position that was almost as strong as in the transmit mode. I built it for 90 cents that I earned by taking newspapers to the salvage yard. 100 lbs. of old newspapers were worth 60 cents. My second rig was an eleven-tube superhet with plug in coils to change bands. The transmitter was a pair of 807's running about 100 watts of RF. We needed 50 watts of audio for plate modulation. The fifty watts of audio came from a pair of 6L6's that ran so hot you could melt solder on them. We had no meters on our rigs. We tuned the tank circuits to resonance by using a couple of turns of insulated wire connected to a pilot bulb and sticking it between the turns of the coil we were tuning. You peaked the grid circuits and dipped the plate tanks.

Radio Shack didn't have any stores, but you could order parts from their 200 page catalog that was free of charge. They were in Boston, MA. You could also walk into Buss Radio in Bethlehem or Radio Electric in Allentown or Easton and give them a list of parts, take a 30 minute walk and go back and get your parts...capacitors (we called them condensers), resistors, chassis, cabinets, tubes, sockets, etc. From AM to DSB to SSB..things have changed. But I wouldn't want to go back.

Now, after all that rambling (bragging?) let me tell you the reason for this article. The preceding paragraphs were intended to establish the way-things were when the DLARC was started 50 years ago this year. The first meeting was held on Lafayette College campus. We picked the name for the Club at that meeting. There were about six or seven hams present. We barely knew each other. I remember most of them. There was Lew Papp,W3MAC, Ed. Hart, W3NF, both now silent keys. I remember Jack Smith, formally W3JPA now W2ZQK, who along with me are the only ones living. There wasn't much activity on 2 Meters then so the local hams didn't have a great deal of opportunity to get to know each other. We worked on 10 Meter ground wave at night, but with no repeaters.

The club has grown from those few to more than 400 members. The club is fortunate to have good people to serve as officers and directors. It provides support for Field Days, picnics, Christmas operations, bicycle races, contests, training classes, license examining, Public Service, Public events, Emergency nets, News letters, weather watches, Delaware river floats and on and on. The club's officers plan to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary and I'm sure they would like to have ideas and suggestions for events throughout the year to mark the anniversary. I know that there are other members who were licensed 50 or more years ago and I would encourage them to identify themselves to one of the club's officers or directors. You will hear more about our anniversary celebration in the upcoming months. Let's all pitch in and make 1996 a truly enjoyable and interesting year as we celebrate 50 years of DLARC..

de Van, K3CP

Minutes of General Meeting

March 14 1996

by Bob, N3OLH, Secretary

The March meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 P.M. in rooms 262- 263 in the College Center of the Northampton County Community College on **Thursday March 14,1996** by **Tom Frobase, N3LLL**, the Club President. Approximately 60 members and guests were present.



As a way for each member to associate names and call signs, Tom asked each person to introduce himself by name and call sign.

Ray, W3TDF, moved to approve the minutes of the February General Meeting as published in the March issue of the W3OK Corral. The motion was seconded by Joe, W3JD, and approved by the membership.

The Treasurers report was presented by the Club Treasurer, **Dick, KA3MOU**. The report showed a cash balance of $10,049.16. Clarence, W3PYF, made a motion to accept the Report. The motion was seconded by Ed, W3APE, and approved by the membership.

Chris , NU3L, said that Novice-Tech Classes are being held each Monday evening at Gracedale and that about 15 to 18 prospective hams are attending.

Ray, W3TDF, said that he had spoken to the sponsors of the PA QSO Party and had been assured that D.L.A.R.C. was the winners of the 1995 event, with an aggregate score of about 2.3 million. He also showed the new award that our Club is sponsoring in conjunction with the event for the high club average, based on total club membership. The award for 1995 will be given to the Western Pennsylvania Hill Toppers who although have only 17 members had an average score of 55,991. He also pointed out that these points were amassed with only 9 members participating.

Clarence, W3PYF presented awards from **Eric Olena, WB3FPL,** ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, Eastern Pennsylvania, to those members who assisted in getting nurses to and from work during the 1996 snow and flood emergencies. He also showed the Club a certificate of appreciation given to the Club from Bill Brackbill the Northampton County Executive for our work during these same emergencies.

George, AA3JU, the Program Chairman, said that the program for the April meeting would be about effective QSLing. The May meeting will be held at the Schnecksville Elementary School with the evening program being a tour of the **"Space Bus Blake".**

Joe, W3JD, told the group about the **D.L.A.R.C.** Internet Web Page which is now operational. It can be found with the address of:

http://www.kutztown.edu/~chuk/dlarc.

Tom announced that **Amy, KD3TI** will be the Hamfest Coordinator for our Hamfest to be held August 4 at CIT. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Amy if you can help with this event.

The club Picnic will be held on August 18. Details will be forthcoming.

Van, K3CP, is in charge of the club's 50th anniversary celebration. It will be a two part event. One part for the general public in conjunction with field Day and the second part for Club members a special banquet.

Ray, W3TDF, reminded the members that Field Day will be held on June 22 -23. **Bob, KU3K**, is looking for someone to be in charge of the food.

Bob, WF3H, is looking for volunteers to assist at the MS walks to be held on April 14 in Allentown and on April 21 in Easton.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

de Bob, N3OLH, Secretary.

Just a namesake

My husband. an anesthesiologist, often treats women in labor.
One woman was so delighted with the ease of her delivery that she told my husband, "I'm so happy about everything went that I'm going to name my son after you. By the way--what's your first name?"
"Clarence," he responded.
After a long pause she said, "Do you have a middle name?"

from N0AHH via packet

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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DLARC INFORMATION LINE 820-9110

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The W3OK CORRAL is published monthly and is the Official Publication
of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc.

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==1995-1996==

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Vice President - Joe Chuk.....W3JD..799-0337
Secretary - Bob Gerst.....N3OLH...868-8200
Treasurer - Dick Dech..... KA3MOU.837-1585

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Robin Moseley.....WA3T....820-0944
Chris Hornaman .....NU3L.....965-4151
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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 should be addressed to
Clarence Snyder, W3PYF, Editor..717 Porter Street, Easton, PA 18042-1548

The W3OK CORRAL
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