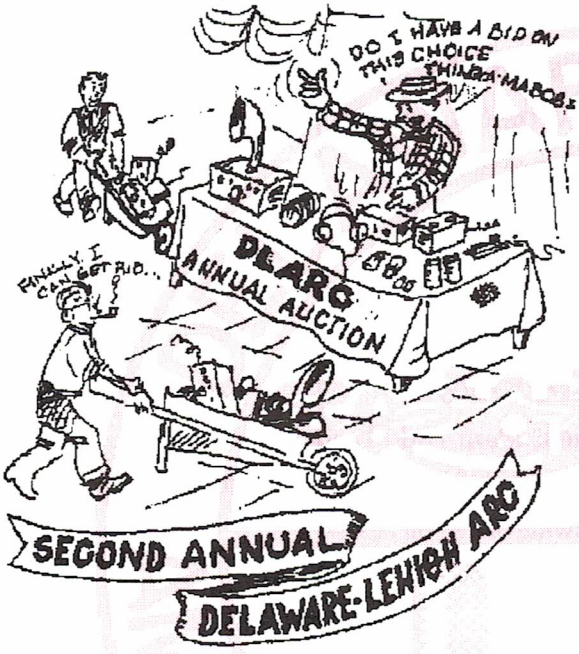
Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

May, 1998

Club auction at meeting on May 7th



drawing courtesy The Blurb @ Sam, N3QIE

Club Auction May 7th

KIVA HALL, 7:30 pm

by Bob, N3QQ

Hey...One dallah...one fifty..how 'bout two...Come on folks he does NOT wanna cart this boat anchor home again tonight...!!!!

Yes its that time again...the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** auction! You bargain hunters, junque dealers, people wanting to **GET RID OF STUFF,** the may meeting of our club will again offer the auctioneers platform where anything can and will happen. No, you will not pick up a new Kenwood HF rig for 3 bucks...BUT you never know what will show up AND if there is **NO MINIMUM** placed on the article by its owner...??!! Well, you get the idea. Soooooo...bring your **USABLE** gear cuz nobody wants other peoples stuff that **DOES NOT WORK**. Although not necessary, you may mark a minimum you will accept as an opening bid (or donate the piece(s) to the club for our treasury) Hey, you can learn a lot about the history of our hobby just by looking at the **OLD** gear! Make your way to May!

The club will ask for a small donation of 10% up to $10.00 on sale price so mark the items to sell, since the treasury will benifit. I will be the auctioneer again and am really looking forward to **MOVING MERCHANDISE!!** By the way. **BRING MONEY!!**

de Bob, N3QQ

July meeting schedules

Becuase of the holiday week, of July 4, the July meetings will be held as follows:

Regular meeting.....July 9

VE testing.....July 10

Coming up as well after this will be the Club Picnic at Hackett Park Easton on August 16

Just the minutes

by John, N3IGA, secretary

The April meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh ARC was called to order at 7:42pm, on April 2, by the club's president, Joe Chuk, W3JD. There were 55 members and guests present.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. A motion to accept the minutes was made by John, WX3C, and seconded by Thomas, N3YRP.



The Treasurer's Report was given by Dick, KA3MOU. Starting Balance was $5,231.27. Income came to $244.00. Expenses for the month were $625.12. Ending Balance, as of March 31, is $4,850.15. JP, N3GWR, moved and Jim, N3SQF, seconded that the report be approved as read.

Barry, N3NVA, informed the club that he got the two Poly Phasers for the repeaters. There has been no lightning protection on the repeaters. Barry got them through his work. The price was $100.00 a piece. Barry's boss is also a club member, Charlie Adams, K3HKZ. Charlie donated them to the club. Don, KA3JWE, also gave the club a phone adapter for protection on the phone lines.

Bob, KE3AW, announced that the Novice-Tech Classes have started. The ages of the students run from 12 or 13 to 50s. They have a lot of enthusiasm.

Mark, K3MP, has a made up a schedule for the examiners. This will make it easier for all. Mark is still looking for more VEs. If you are interested, contact Mark.

Joe, W3JD, showed the new traffic vests that the club bought. These vests will be used at the club's public services and events. These vests will make the wearer more visible to the public and/or sponsors of the events.

Applications for membership were received from:

Kevin L. Cupples, N3ZHQ Reinstated

Ronald Garber, N0XOH

Gerald L. Richmond, N5ZXJ

The membership that was present voted to accept them into the club.

The speaker for the night was **Dick Teasdale, WA3MDP**. Dick is the 9-1-1 Director of Communications. Dick showed slides of the Northampton County 9-1-1 Center. His program was very interesting and quite informative. He answered questions that the members asked. He told us that the dispatchers were informed on how to handle calls from Hams. He also praise the club on how well we do when we call into the Center. We are calm when we talk, speak clearly, and give the necessary information. If you missed the meeting, you missed one of the most interesting topics in a while.

de John, N3IGA

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Income & Loss Statement.

Balance 2/28/98	$5231.27
Donation Income	24.00
Dues Arrl Mis	220.00
TOTAL INCOME	**244.00**
EXPENSES	
Guest Meal Dale Long	23.40
Memory Of Bob Neifer, John Marazi	50.00
Newsletters for April	148.40
Novice Class Materials Bob Green	5.25
Postage	96.00
Renewal	132.00
Supplies Gall's Inc, Vest	134.74
Telephone	35.33
Balance 3/31/98	**$4,850.15**

Total Membership 343

de Dick, KA3MOU Treasurer

Don't forget

DLARC AUCTION, May meeting, May 7 in Kiva Hall.. 7:30 PM.

Come hear Bob Kratz do his thing..

DX news

by Bill, K3ANS, DX editor

In the April 1998 issue, I described our activity in the ARRL DX CW and Phone contests. However, our multi multi unaudited claimed phone score was omitted by the Editor, as he was trying to squeeze space.

Band	DX QSOs	Countries	Comments
160	**58**	**38**	**Despite very high QRN and noise.**
75	**323**	**74**	**High QRN, mostly split operation.**
40	**382**	**88**	**Split operation which is tedious.**
20	**1,117**	**119**	**Great conditions and runs!**
15	**1,033**	**130**	**Surprisingly good band openings**
10	**203**	**43**	**Starting to open after 5 years.**
Totals	**3,116,492**	**= 4,569,696 points.**	

That is a lot of talking in 48 hours!

Unofficial score reports place us 6th in the USA, multi multi class. Not bad considering we had generally only one transmitting antenna per band, with only a few operators and four positions. Most multis have many transmitting antennas per band. We do have more coming. The bigger guns have two stations per band, one for multiplier chasing and one for running, with separate antenna arrays.

I read **KA3ONZ's** diatribe against DX stations avoiding the American general, novice, and tech plus bands. Yet, during the contests the DX were all over the bands, well into the lower class areas. Many rare DX stations avoid leaving the extra class bands because they operate under tremendous demand for contacts. They can reduce the pile ups by cutting the number of stations who can work them, in the extra class sections. After they work down the extra pile ups, they start to listen split up into the general bands. For example, on CW many will transmit on 14020 kcs. and listen around 14030 kcs. On phone they often transmit on 14195 kcs. and listen above 14225 kcs for generals. You cannot blame them. Many DX stations have very high speed, skilled, sharp operators who do not want to be held back by the unskilled general or lower class ops. They are similar to NASCAR racers avoiding student drivers. They do not want to share their race track until the new "drivers" learn the skills and rules of the DX game. Many DX stations do operate CW in the general bands. 30, 17, and 12 meters are loaded with DX and generals have the whole bands with full privileges. Then there is DX vs. rare DX. The latter are always contending with big pile ups. So start with common DX and work up to rare DX.

In appreciation of the frustration expressed by the general class hams about missing the rare DX, the biggest and most sophisticated DX pediton in our time, VK0IR, Heard Island, made a special effort to operate in the general bands during their last weeks, BEGGING for QSOs. They complained that the general class stations were not calling them, or even understanding what was going on. You know the problem: Some operators FLY along, other operators watch the HIGH FLIERS, and some operators wonder what FLEW BY. So the techs and generals need to not only learn the CW and theory skills to upgrade, they should learn the operating skills and knowledge to use the advanced and extra portions of the bands as they were intended. You do not want student drivers on the race track.

KA3ONZ asked what "tech minus" means. It was an intentional jibe at entry level techs who have not bothered to learn CW, and therefore are minus or without the necessary skills to operate in the exciting DX bands of 160 through 10 meters. Many challenges are available to them on 6 meters and on up into the gigahertz (or giga hurts) bands, where DX is measured in grid squares rather than by countries. However, I think if you tell your neighbor you talked to Nepal, she may be more impressed than if you tell her you just talked to a grid square in Virginia. Tech licenses were intended to be entry level classes to introduce radio to new hams, expecting them to upgrade into higher license classes, with expanded privileges and communication opportunities. They are encouraged to try experimental UHF, but I see very few doing so. The FCC and ARRL call it incentive licensing. Technician was not intended to be the ending or top class for the majority of hams, which is the current, but very depressing, status of our valued radio sport.

The solar flux index has been higher the last few weeks than it had been in 5 years! DX is rolling in on all bands. Get your antennas up and radios turned on. Brush off the CW keys. The best and rarest DX prefer CW. The CQ WPX phone contest was March 28 to 30. The CQ WPX CW contest is May 30 and 31. Unlike most DX contests, the multipliers are prefixes, not countries. Examples of prefixes are K3, WA3, N3, KB3, WF3, K2, N1, 3D2, VU2, 4X4, F5, F6, BY1, BA0, etc. You work each station only once in the contest, not once per band. Mults are issued once per contest, not once per band. Read CQ magazine for details. CQ also issues certificates for working many prefixes.

If you feel your license class precludes you from DX, get out your books and key. Study, practice, operate, and upgrade! We all did it. You are not exempt. Ham radio is not welfare; it is a privilege, which we earn. If you can not afford your own station, use W3OK, our Club station. Attend ham fests and read packet to buy used gear at bargain prices. Offer to help a friend build and operate his station. Operate at a multi multi station.

All ways to have more fun in ham radio.

de Bill, K3ANS

New 'Computer Viruses'

author unknown

The following new computer viruses have been detected. Please be on the alert for them when you scan your computers...

OPRAH WINFREY VIRUS:

Your 200MB hard drive suddenly shrinks to 80MB, and then slowly expands back to 200MB.

AT&T VIRUS:

Every three minutes it tells you what great service you are getting.

MCI VIRUS:

Every three minutes it reminds you that you're paying too much for the AT&T virus.

PAUL REVERE VIRUS:

This revolutionary virus does not horse around. It warns you of impending hard disk attack once if by LAN, twice if by C:>.

POLITICALLY CORRECT VIRUS:

Never calls itself a "virus", but instead refers to itself as an "electronic microorganism."

TED TURNER VIRUS:

Colorizes your monochrome monitor.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER VIRUS:

Terminates and stays resident. It'll be back.

DAN QUAYLE VIRUS:

Their is sumthing rong wit your komputer. ewe jsut cant figyour out watt!

GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST VIRUS:

Nothing works, but all your diagnostic software says everything is fine.

FEDERAL BUREAUCRAT VIRUS:

Divides your hard disk into hundreds of little units, each of which does practically nothing, but all of which claim to be the most important part of your computer.

GALLUP VIRUS:

Sixty percent of the PCs infected will lose 38 percent of their data 14 percent of the time. (plus or minus a 3.5 percent margin of error.)

TEXAS VIRUS:

Makes sure that it's bigger than any other file.

CONGRESSIONAL VIRUS:

The computer locks up, screen splits erratically with a message appearing on each half blaming the other side for the problem.

AIRLINE BAGGAGE VIRUS:

You're in Dallas, but your data is in Singapore.

PBS VIRUS:

Your programs stop every few minutes to ask for money.

ELVIS VIRUS:

Your computer gets fat, slow and lazy, then self destructs; only to resurface at shopping malls and service stations across rural America.

SEARS VIRUS:

Your data won't appear unless you buy new cables, a power supply, and a set of shocks.

KEVORKIAN VIRUS:

Helps your computer shut down while claiming it is performing an act of mercy.

IMELDA MARCOS VIRUS:

Sings you a song (slightly off key) on boot up, then subtracts money from your Quicken account and spends it all on expensive shoes it purchases through AOL.

STAR TREK VIRUS:

Invades your system in places where no virus has gone before.

HEALTH CARE VIRUS:

Tests your system for a day, finds nothing wrong, and sends you a bill for $4,500.

ORAL ROBERTS VIRUS:

Claims that if you don't send it a million dollars its programmer will take it back.

BOB DOLE VIRUS

Removes your most valuable programs. Only the space war games are left behind. It announces its every move, referring to itself in the third person; e.g. "Bob Dole virus believes giving the computer back to the user. Bob Dole virus will eliminate communist programs like shared e-mail folders.

BILL CLINTON VIRUS:

Keeps telling Windows "Ah feeel yor pane," while increasing your system overhead, then blames the resulting system lockup on any other virus. Claims credit for improving your system's performance and never stops running until it controls your entire system.

HILLARY VIRUS:

Always accompanies the Bill Clinton virus. It appears to just sit on your hard drive looking pretty, but the BC virus is just a trojan horse that works in the foreground while the Hillary virus works as a hidden file in the background running the show and calling all the shots.

Field Day Rules changes

Some major changes for FIELD DAY!

Some new rules go into effect this year for Field Day. The popular summertime operating event takes place each year on the fourth full weekend in June. This year, it will be **June 27-28.**



A major change this year is the elimination of bonus-point credit for packet and VHF/UHF contacts. Field Day stations no longer will be allowed to count contacts via digipeaters, packet nodes, or similar arrangements. Class 2A and higher Field Day stations still may operate a "free" transmitter exclusively for VHF or UHF operation (ie, above 50 MHz) without changing their basic entry classification, but not for bonus points. "It's better than bonus points, and groups are likely to spend more time on VHF and UHF because of that," predicted ARRL Membership Services Manager Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH. As in the past, crossband and repeater contacts other than via satellite do not count for Field Day credit.

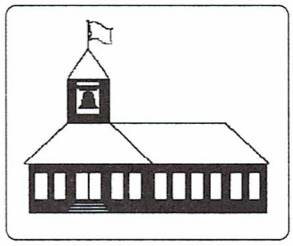
Field Day stations now can earn point credit for digital (ie, non-CW) contacts on each band. The phone, CW, and non-CW digital segments are considered separate "bands" in the Field Day rules. This means, for example, that you now may work the same station for point credit on 40 meters three times: once on SSB, once on CW, and once on RTTY, packet, or one of the 'TOR modes. SSB contacts count one point, and CW and non-CW digital contacts count 2 points apiece, so adding non-CW digital capability presents a real opportunity to rack up substantial additional points! "We're expecting an interesting year because of the digital modes," Hutchinson said.

The complete, official Field Day rules will appear in the May edition of QST. Basic Field Day rules have remained unchanged for several years now. The new rules undoubtedly will generate a flurry of computerized contest logging program revisions as developers scramble to incorporate the changes into their software..

The ARRL Letter *

Youngest hams in the US?

At a time when older hams bemoan the dearth of youthful licensees in the hobby's ranks, along come Samuel Lewis, KB9RYP, and Sarah Bruno, KB9SEG, both Gary, Indiana, and both just four years old. Samuel, who turns five on June 1, just upgraded to Tech Plus; Sarah, who won't be five until September 8, got her Novice ticket February 25.



Both are members of families where both parents and all but the infant members are licensed amateurs. Sarah's parents are the Rev Ronald Bruno Jr, KG9LY, and Pam Bruno, KB9RVX. Her siblings include Ronald III (15), KG9MH, Jeffrey (10), KB9RHO, and Joshua (5), KB9RER, who upgraded to General in December (he said the written test was hard). Their grandfather is the Rev Ronald Bruno Sr, KB9NWM, and their grandmother is Judith Bruno, KB9QZK.

Samuel's parents are the Rev Daryl Lewis, KB9RRG, and LaDonna Lewis, KB9RRK, plus siblings Gabriel (9), KB9REP--who just got his General ticket--and John (7), KB9RRF. Samuel studied several months for his ticket and said passing the code test to upgrade was difficult.

All of the youngsters attend the senior Rev Bruno's Grace and Truth Baptist Academy in Gary, where ham radio has been a regular part of the curriculum for about a year now. The school has a ham station on site and classes run 52 weeks a year. KB9NWM says it's not uncommon for kids approaching age 4 to be able to read pretty well. He says the two families and other members of the church community use ham radio to stay in touch and for potential use during an emergency.

The eldest Bruno says he started out with his Tech license a couple of years ago, but decided he'd like to try HF and began learning the code. While he says the youngsters in his school readily grasp Morse code, he concedes the code was "a killer" for him. He now has his Advanced ticket.

The younger Rev Bruno soon will depart for the Philippines as a missionary and plans to take ham radio along with him.--thanks to Bill Peterson, N9LL

The ARRL Letter

Franklin Institute to remain on the air

by Bob, WA3PZO

Thanks to efforts of the **Philmont Mobile Radio Club**, the Franklin Institute Station in Philadelphia, **W3AA**, will remain on the air. According to Club President Russ Stafford, W3CH, discussions have been taking place and the station will be available to visitors at the science museum.

The upper floor currently has the astronomy and ham radio display. Visitors from around the world have visited the station. Earlier reports had the station becoming an inactive exhibit. The most recent meetings with Institute officials indicate the station will remain an active exhibit.

Originally licensed in 1952 as W3TKQ, this continuously active exhibit has demonstrated to countless thousands of visitors, young and old, the exciting modes of radio communications available to amateur radio operators.

Following its total renovation in 1991, the station was rededicated to its educational purpose by the late Mrs. Gioia Marconi Braga, the daughter of Guglielmo Marconi, "the father of radio."

A team of volunteers from the club keep the station on the air during Museum hours. For further information, check out W3AA's web site at **http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html.**

submitted by Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO

For Sale:

Azden PCS-6000 has tone access 2 meter rig in mint condition.....$85.00

Yaesutt 208R and **Power supply**..Has speaker mike, hand held.....$ 85.00

Midland 13-510 2 meter base with Pacette TNC.....$100.00

85 feet of cable wire with rotor. Brand NEW 6 conductor Alliance HD-73E-1....both $180.00

Outboard Relay **Heath SBA-1400-5**.....$ 10.00

MFJ RF Noise Bridge **MFJ 202B**..... $25.00

Call Charlie, K3BCV @ 432-2805

Stuff you always wondered about!

QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS...

How come you press harder on a remote-control when you know the battery is dead?

Why are they called apartments, when they're all stuck together?



Why does sour cream have an expiration date?

Why do banks charge you a "non-sufficient funds fee" on money they already know you don't have?

Why is the alphabet in that order?

When two airplanes almost collide why do they call it a near miss?? It sounds like a near hit to me!!

How come abbreviated is such a long word?

Why are there 5 syllables in the word "monosyllabic"?

Why do they call it the Department of Interior when they are in charge of everything outdoors?

Why do scientists call it research when looking for something new?

If "con" is the opposite of "pro," then what is the opposite of progress?

Why is lemon juice mostly artificial ingredients but dishwashing liquid contains real lemons?

How much deeper would the ocean be if sponges didn't grow in it?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Do Roman paramedics refer to IV's as "4's"?

Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have an "s" in it?

If all those psychics know the winning lottery numbers, why are they all still working?

Since light travels faster than sound, isn't that why some people appear bright until you hear them speak?

supplied by Bob , KE3AW

Remember Club Auction at meeting on May 7th... Bring all your stuff.

Amateur radio spectrum protection bill introduced

At the request of the **ARRL**, a bill has been introduced in Congress to ensure the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. The bill, HR 3572, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998, would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. The bill was introduced March 27 by Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida, a Republican, with the cosponsorship of Rep Ron Klink of Pennsylvania, a Democrat.

If approved, the measure would amend Section 303 of the Communications Act of 1934 to preclude reallocation of any primary Amateur Radio allocations or diminution of any secondary allocations, and would block any additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to Amateur Radio, unless the Commission at the same time provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" to the Amateur Service.

The bill points out that a basic purpose of Amateur Radio is to provide "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and that Amateur Radio has "consistently and reliably" provided emergency communication during and after disasters. The measure notes that the FCC has "taken actions which have resulted in the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs."

HR 3572 has been referred to the House Commerce Committee. An effort is under way to enlist additional cosponsors for the measure. Amateurs are encouraged to contact their Representatives and urge them to support the bill or to sign on as cosponsors. The full text of the bill is available at
http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c105:H.R.3572

:The ARRL Letter



Vanity fee could drop drastically

The fee to obtain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign would drop drastically under the FCC's proposed fiscal year 1998 fee schedule. If adopted, the new fee will be **$12.90** for the ten-year term, payable at the time of applicationfor a new, renewal, or reinstated license.

The new fee is contained in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MD Docket 98-36, Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 1998, released March 25.

The current vanity call sign fee is **$50** for the ten-year term. The FCC says it has no plans to refund the difference between the current fee and the new fee for applicants who submit applications before implementation of the FY 1998 fee schedule.

The FCC has calculated the new fee based on an expected 10,000 applicants during FY 1998. The FCC says it will announce the effective date for the new fee either in the Report and Order that terminates the fee schedule rulemaking proposal or by a public notice

The ARRL Letter

Visualize a Camping unit travelling down a road pulling what looked like a small "Out House."

Have house--will travel

I looked at this and then rubbed my eyes What I saw was quite a surprise. A traveling family with presence of mind To load up the privy and trail it behind. But, it made me ponder and wonder a bit If each time they stopped they dug a new pit? I got to thinking perhaps I was wrong --Was there some other reason they bring it along?

I walked around it and pondered some more --Yes, there was the symbol upon the door. Then I cautiously looked up and down the street And peeked under to look for the hole in the seat. It struck me sudden -- the guy wasn't a nut --He was going fishing with his ice fishing hut.-

by VE6RMF, Bob

Wireless privacy bill passes House hits Senate

In a resounding 414-to-1 floor vote HR 2369, the Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1998, passed the US House of Representatives in March and now awaits action in the Senate. The house-passed bill includes a report that specifically resolves concerns that the ARRL raised with the staff of the House Telecommunications Subcommittee.

When HR 2369 was first introduced, the League feared that it unintentionally could have outlawed all out-of-band operations including MARS and Civil Air Patrol, as well as most scanning and short wave listening. These fears--also voiced by scanner enthusiasts, volunteer fire departments and others--were addressed by the bill's sponsor, Louisiana Republican Billy Tauzin, when the bill was amended last fall. However, the League continued to be concerned that certain provisions in the bill could be interpreted as forbidding the modification of linear amplifiers for 10 and 12-meter operation, as well as the modification of transceivers for MARS and CAP use.

In the days before the bill went to the floor, subcommittee staff worked with the League and with other involved parties to craft a committee report that would put our fears to rest. Committee reports are the official statement of "Congressional intent" on important legislation. The House voted on the bill and the report as a single package.

In part, the report made it clear that the Committee did not intend the legislation to prohibit hams from modifying linear amplifiers after purchase, as permitted by FCC rules, for use on 12 or 10 meters, or from building or modifying one amplifier per year to enable this capacity.

The report also said that the Committee did not intend that the proposed law be interpreted to discourage manufacturers from providing MARS and CAP modification information. The report also clarified other concerns raised by scanner enthusiasts, short wave listeners and ma nufacturers.

During the house debate on the bill, Tauzin and Florida Republican Cliff Stearns both took time to praise the volunteer work of Amateur Radio operators in the wake of natural disasters.

There is no word on what the Senate plans to do about this legislation.--

Steve Mansfield, N1MZA via ARRL Letter

MS Walk 98

by Jeff, N3QZT

On the rainy day of April the 19th the **Multiple Sclerosis Society** held the 10th annual MS WALK, with approximately 1100 people taking part. This year the walk started and ended at Sand Island in Bethlehem. The walkers could choose from two different path ways to walk on, either to the Freemansburg Lock House or to the Allentown Canal Park. Both the paths are about 7.5 miles going round trip.

Our club the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** was asked to help with communication and also to help in parking coordination.

Fifteen ham helped to keep the event running smoothly and safely (a job made more difficult with the rain). Following are the hams who helped out by manning either a post along the path or a rest stop: **Bruce KA3ONZ, Chris N3RPV, Brad KA1RAH, Dave N3LWY, Glenn N3ULW, Mark WA3KIF, Amy KD3TI, and Mitch WA1LLD.**

Others who helped with parking coordination and also with getting the walkers safely across the two streets to the tow path were: **Bob KE3AW, Jeff N3MFT, Hal N3LVA, Paul N3UGH, Bob WF3H.**

I would like to add a special thanks to Brad **KA1RAH** for helping me set up the positions for the event and also doing radio checks along the path.

See you at the next event

de ***Jeff N3QZT***

Marcia Ettl dead

Marcia Ettl, wife of **Carl Ettl/KA3TEQ,** died Tuesday, April 14 in the Liberty Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Allentown after a lengthy illness.

She worked for the Allentown School District for 30 years before retiring as an administrative payroll clerk in 1990.

Survivors are husband of 35 years, Carl, mother, and brothers, Jack of Boston and Victor of Bethlehem.

We remember and mourn the loss of Marcia. She was the devoted XYL of KA3TEQ, and a friend of all DLARC members who knew her. We offer our sincere condolences to Carl.

Gullibility Virus spreads

via Hudson Loop #72

by Brent Venis, KB0SPN

WASHINGTON, DC -- April 1 -- The Institute for the Investigation of Irregular Internet Phenomena announced today that many Internet users are becoming infected by a new virus that causes them to believe without question every groundless story, legend, and dire warning that shows up in their inbox or on their browser. The Gullibility Virus, as it is called, apparently makes people believe and forward copies of silly hoaxes relating to cookie recipes, e-mail viruses, taxes on modems, and get-rich quick schemes.

"These are not just readers of tabloids or people who buy lottery tickets based on fortune cookie numbers", a spokesman said. "Most are otherwise normal people, who would laugh at the same stories if told to them by a stranger on a street corner". However, once these same people become infected with the Gullibility Virus, they believe anything they read on the Internet.

"My immunity to tall tales and bizarre claims is all gone," reported one weeping victim. "I believe every warning message and sick child story my friends forward to me, even though most of the messages are anonymous." Another victim, now in remission, added, "When I first heard about Good Times, I just accepted it without question. After all, there were dozens of other recipients on the mail header, so I thought the virus must be true". It was a long time, the victim said, before she could stand up at a Hoaxes Anonymous meeting and state, "My name is Jane, and I've been hoaxed". Now, however, she is spreading the word. "Challenge and check whatever you read," she says. Internet users are urged to examine themselves for symptoms of the virus, which include the following:

-- The willingness to believe improbable stories without thinking.

-- The urge to forward multiple copies of such stories to others.

-- A lack of desire to take three minutes to check to see if a story is true. T.C. is an example of someone recently infected. He told one reporter, "I read on the Net that the major ingredient in almost all shampoos makes your hair fall out, so I've stopped using shampoo." When told about the Gullibility Virus, T.C. said he would stop reading e-mail, so that he would not become infected. Anyone with symptoms like these is urged to seek help immediately. Experts recommend that at the first feelings of gullibility, Internet users rush to their favorite search engine and look up the item tempting them to thoughtless credence. Most hoaxes, legends, and tall tales have been widely discussed and exposed by the Internet community. Courses in critical thinking are also widely available, and there is on-line help from many sources, including:

*rB

-- Department of Energy Computer Incident Advisory Capability at **http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/CIACHoaxes.html**

-- Symantec Anti Virus Research Center at **http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/index.html**

-- McAfee Associates Virus Hoax List at **http://www.mcafee.com/support/hoax.html**

--Dr. Solomons Hoax Page at **http://www.drsolomons.com/vircen/hoax.html**

-- The Urban Legends Web Site at **http://www.urbanlegends.com**

-- Urban Legends Reference Pages at **http://www.snopes.com**

-- Datafellows Hoax Warnings at **http://www.Europe.Datafellows.com/news/hoax.htm** Those people who are still symptom free can help inoculate themselves against the Gullibility Virus by reading some good material on evaluating sources, such as:

-- Evaluating Internet Research Sources at **http://www.sccu.edu/faculty/R_Harris/evalu8it.h**

-- Evaluation of Information Sources at **http://www.vuw.ac.nz/~agsmith/evaln/evaln.htm**

-- Bibliography on Evaluating Internet Resources at **http://refserver.lib.vt.edu/libinst/critTHINK.HTM**

It is possible to design responsible alerts for people to circulate on the Internet. Here is a how-to that draws positive conclusions from long experience with the evils of badly designed alerts

-- Designing Effective Action Alerts for the Internet at **http://weber.ucsd.edu/~pagre/alerts.html**

Lastly, as a public service, Internet users can help stamp out the Gullibility Virus by sending copies of this message to anyone who forwards them a hoax.

de Brent KB0SPN

-- forwarded by Mike Reed, N7ZEF (mreed@trib.com).

via Hudson Loop #72

Don't forget club auction at May 7 club meeting.. Bring your stuff and bring your money.

EPARA Happenings

via Glen, N3ULW Jerry's Gang QRP Poconos

A lot of interest has been generated recently in QRP operation since N3AT's, Lamar, demonstration at the February EPARA meeting. Lamar is heading up a QRP Special Interest Group. Amateurs from as far south as Allentown are getting involved in this group. The QRP group is non-club affiliated and is open to all interested Hams. We welcome Carbon County ARC Amateurs and DLARC Hams as well. The first QRP Project is a 200mw 80 meter cw transceiver. The cost of this simple but effective rig is $11.00. For more details check out this website.

http://www.waterw.com/~knights/

Some of the other projects in the works are a keyer, tuner with swr meter, resonant loop antenna, and more.

The group will meet on Friday nights, maybe twice a month, at the ESU Science building in East Stroudsburg. The meeting will start at about 6:00 P.M. All are welcome. For more information contact Lamar, N3AT or Jerry, N3SEI.

EPARA Happenings

This is the first installment of this column. The purpose of this column is to inform area Amateurs of activities that might be of interest to them. A similar column could appear in the EPARA Newsletter about DLARC if anyone is interested in doing one..

May 3rd, the MS Society will have their 2nd annual walk in East Stroudsburg. EPARA will be providing Emergency Communications along the route. The main frequency will be 147.045 with a back up of 146.730. The walk will start at 9:00 A.M. and conclude in the early afternoon. Anyone interested in joining the walk as a participant or a communicator please contact Glen, N3ULW..

Blockbuster

Human "genius" at work: Here's the set up: I rented a movie from Blockbuster. Before the movie begins a message comes on the screen saying, ***"This movie has been altered to fit your television screen."***

Comment from person: "***How do they know what size screen I have?"***

VE test April

by Mark, K3MP

A total of seven elements were given to four candidates with the following results.

Name	Class License	Call
Doug Mc Nair	**upgrade to General**	**N3WGH**
Greg Kovacs	**New Technician**	**KB3CKD**

VES at the test session were, **N3EBH, Tom, W3ZF, Dan, W3IYG, Francis, K2YIY, Cary** and of course yours truly **K3MP, Mark** ARRL Team Liaison

Next test session will be **May 8th.** The VES who are scheduled please contact me if there are any changes in your plans.

de Mark, K3MP

Computer Wisdom

What if Dr. Seuss wrote computer tech manuals?

If a packet hits a pocket on a socket on a port, And the bus is interrupted as a very last resort, And the address of the memory makes your floppy disk abort, Then the socket packet pocket has an error to report!

If your cursor finds a menu item followed by a dash, And the double-clicking icons put your window in the trash, And your data is corrupted 'cause the index doesn't hash, Then your situation's hopeless, and your system's gonna crash!

If the label on your cable on the gable at your house, Says the network is connected to the button on your mouse, But your packets want to tunnel to another protocol, That's repeatedly rejected by the printer down the hall

And your screen is all distorted by the side effects of gauss, So your icons in the window are as wavy as a souse, Then you may as well reboot and go out with a bang, Cause as sure as I'm a poet, the sucker's gonna hang!

When the copy of your floppy's getting sloppy on the disk, And the microcode instructions cause unnecessary RISC, Then you have to flash your memory and you'll want to RAM your ROM Quickly turn off your computer and be sure to tell your mom.

author unknown

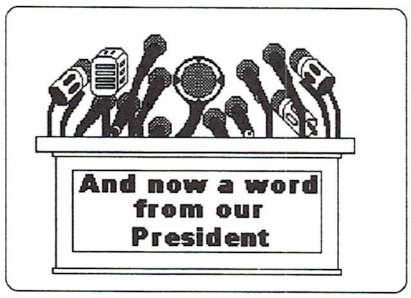
The Prez Sez

What's the Number for 911?

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

The April meeting began with its usual sequence of reports. The repeater report presented by **Barry, N3NVA**, however, included the news that **Charlie Adams, K3HKZ,** has provided polyphasers for lightning protection for our 146.70 and 444.90 repeaters. This improvement to our repeater system was long overdue, and the DLARC greatly appreciates Charlie's generous contribution.

Barry also reported that we are getting closer to the repeater coverage improvements that were announced a few months ago. **Jeff, N3MFT**, provided some details on a diversity reception system that would eventually be put into operation.



We also had the report from **Bob, KE3AW**, that the Novice/Tech classes are going well, with a number of enthusiastic students from a broad spectrum of ages. Two of the class members were present for the meeting.

By way of introduction to the program for the evening, I think it's probably safe to say that most residents of the Lehigh Valley have no idea what happens when they make an emergency call to 911. All that they know is that, by calling that simple number sequence, they are summoning help in the case of any kind of emergency. The April program, however, gave DLARC members an inside look at some of the equipment and the people behind 911 response in Northampton County.

Dick Teasdale, WA3MDP, the 911 Coordinator for Northampton County, took us through the sequence of events that occur when anyone calls 911. Using a series of slides, Dick demonstrated how the 911 operators are immediately aware of not only the address of the calling party, but also the caller's exact location on a map and the police and fire agencies directly responsible for that location.

During his presentation, Dick emphasized that the 911 operators are trained to recognize autopatch emergency calls from DLARC members. He noted that the calls he has heard personally were handled well by the hams involved, and he appreciates our efforts to report emergency and hazard situations.

As fascinating as Dick's description of the system was, he admitted that nothing can take the place of an actual visit to the 911 communications center. With that in mind, he offered to take groups of club members through a tour of the facility in the future, and, of course, we're going to hold Dick to that offer! Sign-up sheets with prospective dates for tours will be available at the next club meeting.

Speaking of the next club meeting, be sure to gather up those electronics "treasures" that have been taking up space in your shack and bring them to the annual auction on **May 7th. Auctioneer Bob Kratz, N3QQ,** will be exercising his trained voice to get the best price for your gear (with a modest cut for the club), and we'll all have some fun in the process.

Also, keep some time open during the weekend of **June 27th and 28th**, which, of course, is the annual Field Day exercise. As usual, W3OK will be on the air for the whole event. We'd like to have operators committed to specific time slots this year to provide for continuous operation. More on that at the club meeting.

Providing Field Day coverage will be even more important this year, because some of the club's operators from previous years will be manning the Lehigh Valley QCWA's first Field Day station. We welcome the expansion of Field Day activities in the Valley, but we do need to make efficient use of the operators we'll have available. If you've never taken part in Field Day before, of if you haven't done so in recent years, here's your chance to help make the DLARC event a successful one.

Just in case:

If you do not have PL on your two meter rig, and want to access the Repeater, use the number 1 1,

Just punch in the number 1 twice this will remove the PL from the repeater and You will be able to access the repeater.

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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==1997-1998==

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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 *(csnyder@aol.com)* or Clarence Snyder, W3PYF Editor.
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