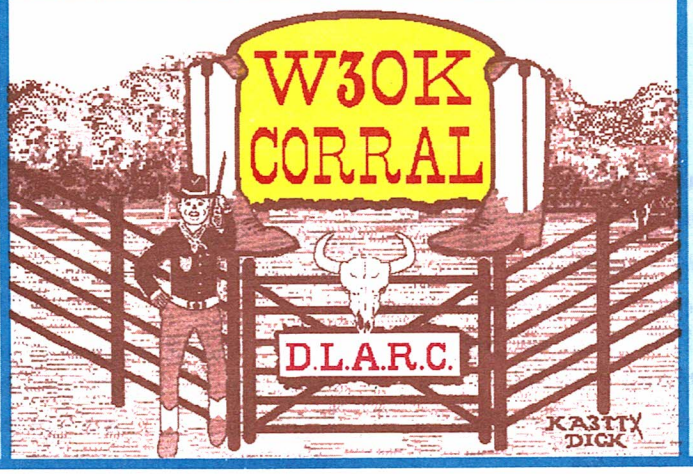
DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W3OK

June 1996



SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB ARRL

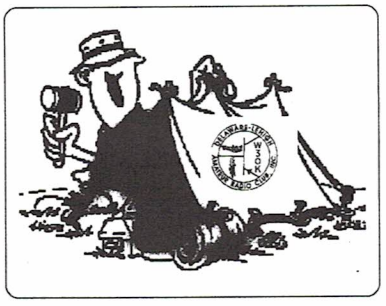
ARRL Affiliated Club

FIELD DAY JUNE 22-23

June Meeting to Feature KU3K

by George AA3JU, Program chairman

You may know our featured speaker for **June 6th** as that familiar voice from the AM broadcast radio in your car. You may know him as that high scoring contestor in the PA QSO party **KU3K**. Or you might know him only as that smiling gregarious fellow at the club meetings Bob Kratz. But come June we all know him as just one thing **"Mr. Field Day."**



Every ham loves field day it's a great time to get together with friends out doors enjoy "playing radio" and showing the public just what we can do if needed. Not to mention a chance to load up on all the picnic type goodies that go with it. But Bob takes that love of field day to a new level he is passionate about it. So come and share in the plans hear all the old stories and learn how you can be part of some new ones. The meeting will be held in Kiva Hall, NCC begining at 7:30

DLARC MEETING
JUNE 6 AT NCC KIVA HALL
FOR INFORMATION
CALL ON 146.70 FOR DIRECTIONS TO KIVA

Vanity call sign filing gate 1 Opens May 31.

from ARRL bulletin 26, May 2, 1996

The vanity call sign program is almost here. The FCC has announced that gate 1 of the vanity call sign program opens **May 31**, and eligible hams may file applications on or after that date.

Under gate 1, you can file for a previously held individual or club call sign or for a call sign formerly held by a deceased close relative. To request a vanity call sign for your primary station, you must already hold an unexpired amateur operator/primary station license. To obtain the former call sign of a deceased close relative, your license must be of the proper operator class. To request a vanity call sign for a club station, you must also hold an unexpired club station license listing you as the trustee. **Vanity call sign applicants must use FCC Form 610-V to file.**

Applicants should refer to the licensee data base to make sure the call sign they are requesting is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration,

Surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void Ab Initio, or death of the grantee. FCC fact sheet **PR5000 Number 206-V,** Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign System, has details. For explanations of groups A, B, C and D and the geographic regions, see fact sheet PR-5000 206, Amateur Station Sequential Call Sign System.

For more information about the vanity call sign program, call the FCC Consumer Assistance Branch, **800-322-1117.**

More information on the vanity call sign gate 1 opening is in the latest ARRL Letter, available on the World Wide Web at:

http://www.arrl.org/

It's time to get a new hobby when!.....

You're talking on the phone with a ham buddy, and you end the conversation with, "KDlHZ clear."

Michael Deignan, KDlHZ

You're saying grace over a meal with your family, and you finish, "N4TMI clear, er, Amen."

Michael Covington, N4TMI

You end a face -to -face conversation with "dit dit." *Paul Flaherty, N9FZX*

You spend two hours trying to crack a pile-up on 20 meters to work a KJ2 station who is portable in Manhattan.

Your spouse points out that all of your children were born during sunspot minimums.

Paul Valko, WB2ZJL

You're enjoying a Saturday breakfast when, to interrupt conversation and ask for the salt, you say, "call please." *Dave Bushong, KZl0*

You answer your phone, "QRZ?"

Mike Gauland, AA7JF

The minute a caller on the telephone identifies himself, you say, "You're 5 and 9 in Virginia."

Ben Cline, AC4XO

You say things like "QSO" and "73" in casual, face-to-face conversations.

Mike White, N4PDY

At the checkout counter you endorse your check with your callsign. James Proctor, KE3HO

To get the attention of your ham buddy who lives across the street, you yell, "CQ! CQ! CQ!"

Your spouse starts talking to youwhile you're on the phone, and you tell the person on the other end you're getting intermod.

Your cat "CQ" thinks it's dinner time whenever you operate 20-meter SSB.

Dave Bushong, KZlO.

You're talking to a friend face-to- face in a noisy place. You say, "Let's QSY my office," and the friend knows exactly what you mean! -

Doug Renze, N0YYW'

You find yourself typing CW shthnd to cowrkrs on internal e-mail.

Youtell people over the phone, "I'm at my work QTH." Fred Davis, VA3FD

*Your kids'names relate to radio, like mine does. I'm RF Casey. Robert F. Casey, WA2ISE

From inside your car,you see a friend walking down the street. Instead of beeping once and waving, you pound out "CQ" on the horn.

Ed Bathgate (awaiting license)

Your 5-year-old son picks up your HT and says, "SQB monitoring!" That does it! I'm takin' him fishing right away, and the radio stays home!

N9SQB

You'd rather send someone a packet radio message on 2 meters, though you know they also have a fully functional telephone answering machine.

You name your boat "Sea Cue" (not once, but twice!). -*W30TC*

You wonder why trains always send a"Q" before crossing a road. Greg Bassett, KJ6EP

from the August 94 IBMARC of Boca ^Baton, Florida "WB4ONX- Neal Osborn, N4PYB, ^Editor. Reprinted from the March 1995 ARNS Bulletin

Looking for new prefixs?
FCC okays olympic call signs operating in Georgia

from the ARRL Letter

Hams operating within the state of Georgia may use special call signs from April 15 until August 31, 1996, to commemorate the 1996 Olympics, under a Special Temporary Authority issued by the FCC. Here's how it works: An FCC-licensed radio amateur operating in Georgia with a "4" in his or her call sign may replace that number with "96" (representing the year) or "26" (commemorating the 26th Olympiad) during the period of the STA.

Hams with any number in their call signs and operating within the State of Georgia may add "00" to the existing number (to mark the centennial year of the Olympic Games). So, WA4BKD in Georgia also could identify as WA96BKD, WA26BKD or WA400BKD, while NG3K, when operating in Georgia, could identify only as NG300K or as NG3K. The Olympics start in July. The STA stemmed from an initiative by James Altman, N4UCK, of Atlanta and the Georgia Amateur Radio Operators Group he organized, with the support of ARRL.

Generation Change

It's hard to say when one generation ends and the next one begins--but it's somewhere around nine or ten at night.

thanks to N0AHH

June 22-23 Plainfield Township fairgrounds

by Bob, KU3K Field Day chairman

Please join us for the most summer fun you have ever had **Field Day** is a great invention of the **A.R.R.L.** designed as both a fun ham radio contest operating weekend and 48 hour picnic rolled into one!!



Make sure you keep a log. We need the points

The purpose of **FD** is to check and hone operating skills under emergency conditions. Usually this means operating at someplace other than the comfort of home although many entries are those operating home stations. The created emergency is simply operation from a "field" using emergency power and rough cut antennas simulating what might be necessary during the real thing. ..hurricane, flood, earthquake, tornado, H bomb ...you get the idea!

The Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club has as our "field" the Plainfield Township fairgrounds at Kesslersville road and route 191. This has proven to be a favorite spot with members since it is easy to find, is on relatively high ground and has great facilities for setting up equipment and antennas. It's also very "public accessible" which is an important part of the exercise. (The ARRL gives BONUS points for this) Public awareness relates to better understanding of TVI, Towers, unsightly antennas, etc. When our precious frequencies are up for grabs by commercial factions, having a great history of providing emergency communications can't hurt!

The day starts on **Saturday June 22** at **8 am**. We meet at Gracedale at the Northampton County Home to load the **DLARC** gear. We store antennas in the barn other stuff in the milk house and our radios in the radio room of the Greystone building. If you can make it please let me know ...or just show ...After the load up at Gracedale we head for the fairgrounds for a fun morning of setup including donuts and coffee. Operation begins on **Saturday June 22 at 2 pm and we operate until 2 pm Sunday**. We begin the tear down process and put it all to bed usually by 5 pm!

Want to have fun, help the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** Maintain its status as one of the scoring leaders in its class. See you there..

de Bob, KU3K

VE session
MAY 3rd, 1996

At this session, the VE's had the candidates outnumbered, but they were not intimidated: five candidates took a total of eight elements, and there were two new licences and one upgrade...

Daniel J. Moscovitz up to Technician Plus
Brian T. Cook new Technician
Elaine S. Smith new Technician

Congratulations to all, and particularly to Daniel, one of our up-and-coming young members.

The VE's at this session were: Ray, **W3TDF**; Martin, **N3RCA**; Bob, **KE3AW;** Bill, **K3ANS**; Don, **KC3II**; Walt, **KE3SP**; and Robin, **WA3T.**

The next test session will be on **June 7th.**

de Robin, WA3T, team liason

Field Day songs

Wet Field Day (in lieu of White Christmas)

I'm dreamin' of a wet Field Day
Just like the one I had last year.
With blue sparks flyin'
And grown men cryin'
My rig just got doused with beer!
I'm dreamin' of a wet Field Day
with every log entry I'll try
to keep the QSO rate high.
But may this year's Field Day be dry!

Hit the Fields. (in lieu of Deck the Halls)

Hit the fields with generators
Fa la dahdidahdit dahdahdidah
Hang dipoles and resonators
Fa la dahdidahdit dahdahdidah
June's approaching Field Day's coming
Dahdahdidah dididit didahdidit
Hark the keyer's CQ humming
Fa la dahdidahdit dahdahdidah.

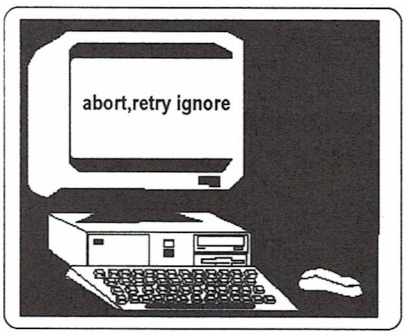
Remember:

Field Day begins at 2:00 PM Saturday and concludes at 2:00 PM on Sunday. 24 hours

Edgar Alan Poe on Computers

Abort, Retry, Ignore?

Once upon a midnight dreary, fingers cramped and vision bleary, System manuals piled high and wasted paper on the floor, Longing for the warmth of bed sheets, still I sat there doing spreadsheets. Having reached the bottom line I took a floppy from the drawer, I then invoked the **SAVE** command and waited for the disk to store, Only this and nothing more.



Deep into the monitor peering, long I sat there wondering, fearing, Doubting, while the disk kept churning, turning yet to churn some more. But the silence was unbroken, and the stillness gave no token. "Save!" I said, "You cursed mother! Save my data from before!" One thing did the phosphors answer, only this and nothing more, Just, **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

Was this some occult illusion, some maniacal intrusion? These were choices undesired, ones I'd never faced before. Carefully I weighed the choices as the disk made impish noises. The cursor flashed, insistent, waiting, baiting me to type some more. Clearly I must press a key, choosing one and nothing more, From **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

With fingers pale and trembling, slowly toward the keyboard bending, Longing for a happy ending, hoping all would be restored, Praying for some guarantee, timidly, I pressed a key. But on the screen there still persisted words appearing as before. Ghastly grim they blinked and taunted, haunted, as my patience wore, Saying **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

I tried to catch the chips off guard, and pressed again, but twice as hard. I pleaded with the cursed machine: I begged and cried and then I swore. Now in mighty desperation, trying random combinations, Still there came the incantation, just as senseless as before. Cursor blinking, angrily winking, blinking nonsense as before. Reading, **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

There I sat, distraught, exhausted, by my own machine accosted. Getting up I turned away and paced across the office floor. And then I saw a dreadful sight: a lightning bolt cut through the night. A gasp of horror overtook me, shook me to my very core. The lightning zapped my previous data, lost and gone forevermore. Not even, **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

To this day I do not know the place to which lost data go. What demonic nether world us wrought where lost data will be stored, Beyond the reach of mortal souls, beyond the ether, into black holes? But sure as there's C, Pascal, Lotus, Ashton-Tate and more, You will be one day be left to wander, lost on some Plutonian shore, Pleading, **"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"**

-Author unknown

-This message was taken off the internet..

Lifestyle Change

Ad found in the Sonora, Calif., Union-Democrat:

"Stationary bike. **Lifestyle change**. Fat guy wants money for new sofa."

Contest calendar

by Barry, KU3X contest editor

Jun 8-9	WW South America CW Contest TOEC WW Grid Contest, CW
Jun 8-10	ARRL June VHF QSO Party Portugal Day Contest
Jun 15-16	All Asian CW DX Contest SMIRK QSO Party
Jun 22-23	**ARRL Field Day** RSGB Summer 1.8 Mhz Contest
Jul 1	RAC Canada Day Contest

Exchanges:

Portugal Day Contest: Signal report plus serial number

ARRL VHF QSO Party: Grid, signal report is optional

TOEC WW Contest: Signal report and grid square All **Asian Contest**: Signal report and two digit number denoting age

SMIRK QSO Party: SMIRK number and grid square

RSGB Summer 1.8 Mhz contest: RST and serial number

de Barry, KU3X

MS Walk-a Thon

by Jeff, N3QZT

On April 14, 14 amateurs from the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club helped to provide communications for the Multiple Sclerosis Walk-a-thon held in Allentown. The event was a 5 mile walk for charity and was attended by about 1100 walkers. The course started at the Muhlenberg college gym and went around west Allentown. Hams who participated manned ten different posts and also the lead vehicle, an ambulance, a sag bus provided communication to the parking area and a bicycle mobile. The members are **KA3MTY, N3OLH, N3RBK, N3UGS, WA3KIF, W3JD, KA1RAH, KA3TIU, N3RPV, KD3TI, N3MFT, N3QZR, N3UGH, AND N3QZT.** A special thanks to the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club for allowing the use of their repeater for the event.

MS
Multiple Sclerosis Walk-a-thon

On April 21 the second **MS** (Multiple Sclerosis) event in as many weeks. This event was held in Hugh Moore Park in Easton. It was a 5 mile walk-a-thon that wound its way along the bike path that goes though out the park. The **DLARC** once again provided point to point communications as well as handling any MS traffic from their starting point at the main pavilion, the turn around/rest stop at the Canal Museum and points in between.

I am told that about 450 walkers participated. Twelve amateurs helped provide the communication which was done on simplex. I would like to extend my personal thanks to the hams who helped out they include: **WA3KIF, N3SQF, KD3TI, KE3AW, N3RBK, N3UGS, KA3MOU, WF3H, W3JD, N3UGH**. A special thanks to **KA1RAH** who helped me prepare for the event. Thanks to all the hams who helped out with this event and also the one last week...

de Jeff N3QZT

New tax Law

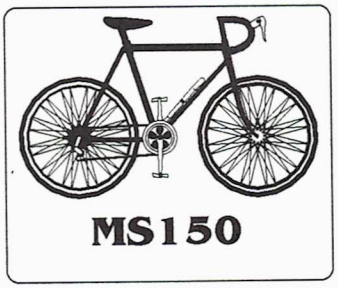
I understand a tax will be levied on unkept political promises...
It will be known as the "**Lying Item Veto**"...

de Tom WB9YTG

MS150

by Bob, WF3H

Many organizations have discovered that amateurs are an excellent resource for providing communications assistance. We have for the past several years given our help to the **Multiple Scelerosis Society** for the **MS150** bike tour which stretches from the Velodrome in Allentown to Millersville University. This year the tour will be on **June 22 and 23** (which unfortunately coincides with Field Day). In spite of this, we are asking your help to provide communications with ambulances, sag wagons, and other vehicles, as well as to provide emergency and tactical communications along the route.

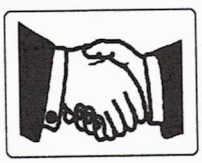


Your help is DEFINITELY needed and Everyone will find their assistance very welcome and there will be no "make work" projects. The event starts early on the 22nd as the bikers travel the 75 miles to Millersville.

That night, for those hams who travel in the support vehicles to the university, a dinner and awards ceremony is held, and a great get together with all the participants ends the night. This event is one of the biggest and best of the year, and we really need your help in providing a mobile "field day" that has become a **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** tradition. If you can help please contact me, **Bob, WF3H** at **261-9137** or **Jeff, N3QZT at 863-8587**

Editorial

Where did every one go. I listen to the repeater of a club which has almost 400 members and when I hear someone call for a contact, the repeater might just as well be off the air.



For years, **W3OK** has been know as the friendly repeater, why not return it to that status again?

Let's go back and at least acknowledge the calls.

de Clarence, W3PYF

Hagal International News

Israel Amateur Radio Association

via the internet

Some thoughts on the obsolescence of Ham Radio

As we leaf through the different amateur radio publications, indeed almost all of them, we see some interesting soul-searching.



Ideas which not too long ago would have been considered heretical have now even popped up on the pages of the rather conservative magazine QST of the American Radio Relay League.

To sum up the concept in a few sentences: You can now pass messages and even talk with voice to any spot in the world on the Internet. The financial outlay on the hard and software plus local telephone calls is cheaper than that of a ham station with good world-wide communications capabilities. And of course the Internet isn't affected by sunspots and doesn't cause TVI. And emergency communications? Cellular telephones are almost universal, so help can be easily summoned. No need to hope that someone else is on the repeater and can make a phone call for you when you're in trouble.

Now, as you no doubt know, last month, here in Israel, we experienced some ghastly terror bombings. When the bombing massacre occurred at Tel-Aviv's Diezengoff Centre shopping mall during a school holiday, the national telephone network became overloaded by phone calls. The result was that the system crashed and all telephones were temporarily rendered useless. Hams jumped in to help on the Tel-Aviv 2 meter repeater, this being the only workable form of communications at the time.

A week later after driving some friends to the airport, the car I was driving broke down. On the Tel-Aviv repeater one ham took care of the vital phone calls for me home while another ham, a mechanic by profession in the general vicinity at the time and monitoring the repeater, at his own friendly initiative, drove over to where I was stuck to help me out.

The day before that I was in Jerusalem, and accompanied by a non-ham friend, I dropped in to an informal get-together of hams. My friend was most impressed by warmness of group, and commented to me when we left on our way home that "you must be really good friends with all these people."

Actually, I had to admit that I had only seen them face-to-face on a few occasions, but we had been talking together on the radio for years.

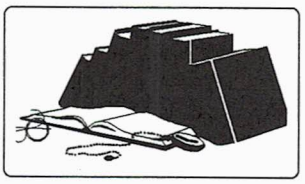
Then it hit me. Ham radio is much more than just a mode of communications. Ham radio is friendship. Ham radio is a fraternity. Ongoing contacts build a community of people who are not strangers to each other. Ham radio counters alienation. Thus the willingness to help each other, to host visiting amateurs from other countries. People is what ham radio is all about.

The actual mode of communications via radio was not long ago technically advanced beyond what was available to the general public. But for most of us that was not necessarily the attraction of it. Now that the Internet and cellular phones have liberated amateur radio of having to be "useful", it is simple to see what distinguishes it from the former. Ham radio is an art form. We are into it because we like it for what it is. In the words of the "global village" guru Professor Marshall McLuhan, "The media is the message." Long live ham radio!

(de 4X1MK)

73 from Ron and Ahron.

Kitchionary



Baste: "finest" in Cajun, as in Baste damm gunbo ah evah ate!

Pesto: someone who keeps bothering an Italian chief.

Antipasto: people who don't like Italian cooking.

Blanching: cooking with ingredients borrowed from your neighbor, Blanche -

What do you call the guy who understands everything you say? **Roger.**

What do you call the fellow you find lying on your porch? **Matt**

What do you call the woman who never stands up straight? **Eileen**

Field day June 22-23

Plainfield Farmers Fairgrounds

Intersection of 191 & Kesslersville Rd

BE THERE!!

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update

FCC denies W5YI petition to end one way transmissions

Citing overwhelming opposition, the FCC has denied a Petition for Rule Making, RM-8626, filed last year by Frederick O. Maia, W5YI, that would have prohibited one-way transmissions of bulletins and code practice--such as those aired by W1AW--on frequencies below 30 MHz. Maia had argued that such transmissions were outmoded and that some one-way, broadcast-type transmissions have interrupted two-way communications already in progress.

Maia publishes the commercial newsletter the W5YI Report, manages the W5YI-Volunteer Examiner Coordinator and publishes training materials for amateurs.

When he filed his petition, Maia expressed concern over the level of anger directed at certain one-way transmissions. "The proliferation of these stations has caused chaos in the amateur community that has now reached crisis proportions," he said.

The ARRL said that Maia's arguments were overstated and inflammatory, and the League urged the FCC "in the strongest possible terms" to deny or dismiss the petition without further consideration. The League cited W1AW's 65 years of free service to amateurs; other countries whose amateur societies also conduct informational bulletins on the air; the absence of any allegations that W1AW creates any significant interference to ongoing amateur communication; and the value of W1AW's bulletins in alerting amateurs to emergency situations.

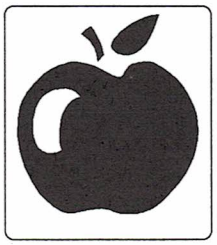
The League said that "any on-air anger perceived by Maia" ought to be the subject of FCC enforcement action, not rules changes, saying such situations were the direct result of the Commission "allowing abuses to continue for months and years" rather than addressing them in a timely manner in the context of the existing rules.

The ARRL also said that W1AW code practice as a free alternative to Maia's retail sale of code practice products "is sufficient rebuttal to the allegation that the code practice has 'outlived its usefulness'."

During the comment period, the FCC said it received 371 comments opposing Maia's request and 20 comments supporting it. While acknowledging some disagreement about the propriety of one-way transmissions on HF bands, the Commission said the overwhelming opposition to Maia's petition "persuades us that the amateur service community continues to view the one-way information bulletins and the text for telegraphy practice to be of great value to the service.".

How big the BIG APPLE really is

They don't call it the Big Apple for nothing!



Three out of every 100 Americans -- more than 7.3 million people -- live in the 301 square miles of New York City.

Incredibly, that's more than all the people who live in the 930,000 square miles of Kansas, Nevada, Wyoming, Alaska and Mississippi combine

13 year old hero

13 year old Vince Bernotas III, N2WXE, is a real life ham radio hero. Vince is an active member of the Burlington County New Jersey ARES / RACES. And on March 17th, he turned out to be in the right place at the right time. Just ask one of the participants in a 100 mile dirt bike race.

Vince and his parents were among those helping provide communications for the 1996 Sandy Lane Motorcycle Enduro. This endurance race takes place in the most barren part of southern New Jersey. When a rider hit a tree a mile from Vince's checkpoint, Vince assisted in locating the paralyzed accident victim. Upon learning that the rider might be suffering from a fractured back, Vince coordinated response of an ambulance and emergency vehicles, including a rescue helicopter

.Now if all this sounds routine, hold on a minute.

It might have been routine, had there not been a catastrophic radio failure in both the ambulance and the state police car.

Vince Bernotas saved the day by forwarding information about the patient's location and condition to net control Doug McCray, K2QWQ. McRay then relayed the information to rescue service dispatchers. As a result of Vince Bernotas' quick thinking, the injured rider is recovering.

via Amateur Radio Newsline

Proposed BONUS points and AWARDS for our FIELD DAY
by Andy, KE0UL

editor note: *don't tell Bob Kratz KU3K*

25 points per antenna or power connection that had to be kluged because there were no mating connectors on hand. 100 point bonus if ALL connections made without using clip leads or solder. An extra 50 points per 250' roll of duck tape used.

500 points for getting a signal on the air without using any duck tape at all.

50 points for installing a PL-259 while dangling from the mast, at least 15-feet above the ground. Extra bonus of 25 points for remembering to install the sleeve before soldering. Additional 5 points if the sleeve was placed in the proper direction.

50 points if 3 or more beam elements lie in the same plane with no greater than 10-degrees deviation. An extra 150 points if the plane is within 10-degrees of horizontal.

50 points for each successful re-raising of the antenna if task was completed within 30-minutes of its falling.

100 points per square inch of bandage material used to treat cuts and abrasions incurred while erecting the antenna or trying to position the generator. (You may substitute 500 points per stitch-- whichever is greater)

Lack of Culinary Adventure Penalty: deduct 20 points per can of Dinty Moore beef stew eaten. Cancel penalty if eaten cold.

Ben Franklin Bonus: 10 points per contact made during a severe thunderstorm. Additional bonus of 2 points per contact made under a collapsed tent. Additional bonus of 2 points per contact if tent interior is flooded with more than 3-inches of water.

Add 10 points per dollar value of damage caused to any transmitting or receiving apparatus that was known to be working at the onset of the Field Day weekend.

10 points per inhaled moth or fly, while speaking into the microphone. 5 points per stuffed mosquito, squashed on log; must submit log.

25 points for receiving a "59" signal report from a station who had to ask you to repeat your "check" over 10-times. (Or giving a "36" signal report to a station known to be running an automated contest exchange system.)

The "Yeah, Right" Bonus: add 100 points for each 20-meter net control operator who appears on your frequency -- and, who, after listening to your plea, apologizes and politely agrees to let you continue.

200 points for each pileup you generate and immediately abandon by switching bands or turning the microphone over to an inexperienced beginner.

2,000 bonus points for not working California, Florida or Western PA.

50 point bonus for not even hearing W1VT throughout the contest period.

1 point per volt of RF energy on the microphone housing - or 10 points per lip blister. 50 points if entire mustache is burned off.

Penalty of 50 points if the campfire was prematurely started by a falling end of the inverted- Vee that arced through the starter gasoline. 50 point bonus if this was done intentionally because no one remembered to bring matches.

Saturday evening campfire scoring: Skewer marshmallow and approach fire, remaining 24" above ground. When marshmallow melts or burst into flame, record distance (in feet) to edge of fire. Multiply this figure by 100.

10 points per antenna insulator manufactured from melted glass popbottles, thrown in the campfire.

250 bonus points for working someone who asks, "what's Field Day?" and taking the time to answer him.

10 points for each successful tent set-up that was accomplished by using plastic tent stakes, exclusively.

100 points for bodily providing the electrical return path to ground for the generator.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

Conservation of Resources Award: for the cost-saving practice of using a 100-foot, 14/3 extension cord for the 2-kW linear.

Joe Cool Award: for non-chalantly asking W1AW to repeat its call phonetically... and then asking several times for a repeat of its Section.

Special-Friend Award: a certificate of achievement for creative engineering -- earned for attaching the output of the linear to the RX input of your best friend's IC-781.

E. Kneivel Award: for filling the generator gas tank without bothering to shut it off first.

Good Faith Award: for powering the logging computer and the linear from the same quad-box.

Maxwell Award: for packing the log disks on top of the powersupply/speaker cabinet of the FT-757 for the trip home from Field Day.

Iron Ear Award: for spending 90-minutes or more attempting to raise someone on 160-meters.

Adm. R.E. Byrd Award: for running an exhaust hose from the generator to keep the operating tent warm during the early morning hours.

Diplomacy Award: for patiently explaining the difference to the 125th visitor who asks, "oh... isn't that sort of like C.B?"

Diplomacy Award-II: for deftly fielding the question, "I have a cousin who lives in Madagascar -- could I talk to her now?"

de Andy,KE0UL.

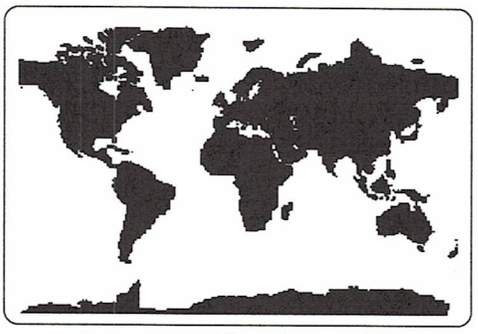
Who Do You Think is A Ham Radio Operator?

Notable Ham Radio Operators Around the World

List maintained by Dave Horsfall, VK2KFU

Reprinted with permission of the author.

This is a list of the "notable" Amateur callsigns that I have been gathering for some time. I consider it as someone in the (non-Amateur) public eye.



Another way of putting it is: "Did you know that XXX is/was an Amateur?"when explaining to someone what Amateur radio is all about. Thus, people like Monk Apollo etc would be regarded as notable (who would think a monk would be an Amateur?). Note that I have deliberately left out the current crop of Astronauts - it doesn't seem to be a novelty any more. [Most of the Space Shuttle and Russian Mir astronauts are now licensed Amateur Radio operators - Editor]

They have been gleaned from various places: amateur magazines, USENET postings, and straight-out rumour :-) It is probably out of date, and most likely contains errors. However, over time it should develop into an accurate list, suitable for PR purposes. Please note that I have no way of authenticating most of these entries.Reproduction in part or whole permitted if the source is acknowledged.

Thanks to all who contributed - I tried to acknowledge each one. Editor's note: You can find the most receipt copy of this list at: http://sydney.dialix.oz.au/~wiansw/articles/lona.html

Enjoy!

7L2NJY Dr Mamoru Mohri, Japanese astronaut
9K2CS Prince Yousuf Al-Sabah
A41AA Qaboos Bin Said Al-Said, Sultan of Oman
DP3MIR Dr Ulf Merbold, astronaut
EA0JC Juan Carlos, King of Spain
FO5GJ Marlon Brando aka Martin Brandeaux, actor
GB1MIR Helen Sharman, astronaut
HS1A Bhumiphol Adulayadej, King of Thailand
HS1LY Prince Titiphan of Thailand
HZ1TA Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia
I0FCG Francesco Cossiga, former President of Italy
JY1 King Hussein of Jordan
JY2 Queen of above
K0DWC Lt. General Francis Griswold
K0HWY Tex Beneke, band leader
K1JT Dr. Joseph Taylor Jr, 1993 Nobel Prize winner in Physics
K1OKI Mickey Schulhof, head of Sony US
K2ORS Jean Shepard, author
K2ZCZ George Patacki, Governor of New York
K4LIB Arthur Godfrey, TV performer (SK)
K4TPJ David Funderburk, member USA House of Reps
K6DUE Roy Neal, television reporter
K6IR Ken Miller, executive of many companies
K7TA Clifford Stoll, author ("Cuckoo's Egg") & astronomer
K7UGA/K3UIG Senator (US) Barry Goldwater (ret)
KA6HVA Burl Ives, singer (SK)
KA6UXR Dr. Alex Comfort, author of "The Joy of Sex"
KA7EVD Donnie Osmond, entertainer (lapsed)
KB2GSD Walter Cronkite, former news anchor
KB6LQR Jeana Yeager, Voyager '86 pilot
KB6LQS Dick Rutan, Voyager '86 pilot
KB6OLJ Paul J Cohen, mathematician
KD6OY Garry Shankling, comedian
KD6WUS Hugh Downs, TV compere ("Concentration")
KG7JF Jeff Duntemann, author and publisher of Coriolis Group
N4KET David French, CNN newsman
N4RH Ralph Haller, FCC PRB chief
N5YYV Kathy Sullivan, Chief Scientist NOAA (former astronaut)
N6GGM Laura, XYL of N6FUP
N6KGB Stewart Granger (born James Stewart), actor (SK)
N6NHG Kevin Mitnick, cracker
N6YOS Priscilla Presley (Lou Lou Beaulieu), actress (Elvis?)
N9LC George Sweigert, inventor of cordless phone (was W8ZIS)
ON1AFD Count Dirk Frimouth, Belgian astronaut
SV2ASP/A Monk Apollo
VE3RX Arthur Meen, former Ontario Cabinet minister
VK2DIK Dick Smith, entrepreneur & millionaire
VK2KB Sir Allan Fairhall, politician
VK2YOW Bob Hughes, radio announcer
VK4HA Harry Angel, centenarian
VK5NIV Ivan Venning, Australian MP
VU2SON Sonia Gandhi, XYL of VU2RG
W0ORE Tony England, astronaut
W2TQ Joel Miller, IEEE lawyer
W3ACE Armin Meyer, former US Ambassador to Japan
W4ZG Worth Gruelle, started "Raggedy Ann and Andy"
W5LFL Owen Garriot, astronaut
W6EZV General Curtis LeMay (SK)
W6FZZ Samuel F.B. Morse III, grandson and speed record holder
W6JKV James Treybig, CEO of Tandem
W6OBB Art Bell, talk radio host
W6QYI Cardinal Roger Mahoney
W6UK Alvino Rey, musician/bandleader
W6ZH Herbert Hoover III (former ARRL Pres, grandson of US Pres
W8JK John Kraus, radio astronomer
WA2MKI Larry Ferrari, organ player
WA4CZD Chet Atkins, guitar player
WA4SIR Ron Parise, astronaut
WA6TJM President of ISD Inc
WB4KCG Ronnie Milsap, singer

Looked all over for W3PYF but could not find him on the list, do you think I should submit it to the keeper of the records?

Guess not

73 Clarence

Minutes of General Meeting
May 2, 1996

by Bob, N3OLH, Secretary

The May meeting of the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** was called to order at 7:35 P.M. in the gymnasium of the Schnecksville Elementary School on Thursday May 2, 1996 by **Tom Frobase, N3LLL,** the Club President. Approximately 60 members and guests were present.

Joe, W3JD, moved to approve the minutes of the April General Meeting as published in the May issue of the **W3OK Corral**. The motion was seconded by **Lee, W3BIM**. and approved by the membership.

The Treasurers report was presented by the Club Treasurer, **Dick, KA3MOU**. The report showed a cash balance of $8,875.74. Clarence, W3PYF, asked the Treasurer for a detail of the telephone expenditures. Because the information was not immediately at hand, the President said that the information will be shown in the newsletter. Clarence, W3PYF, then made a motion to accept the Report. The motion was seconded by Amy, KD3TI and approved by the membership.

Tom gave an update on the status of the 440 repeater. He said that it was very distorted on the air but that it is performing well on his workbench using a dummy load without the cans. He and **Barry, N3NVA**, will pick up the cans and test them. He hopes to have the unit operating shortly.

Chris, NU3L, told the group that the Novice-Tech classes are about 8 weeks into this session and at least three of those persons attending have taken and passed their license exams. One is expected to take the General code test at the next session.

Bob, WF3H, said that he need volunteers to help with communications for the MS-150 bike tour. Although the event will be held the same weekend as Field Day we are still are going to support it. If you can volunteer for either or both days please contact Bob

Tom reminded the group that the June program at the General Meeting will be presented by **Bob, KU3K**, and will be about Field Day. This year's Field Day will be used as a "show and tell" in conjunction with the Club's 50th anniversary celebration. Tom also mentioned that the **Morning Call** is working on an article for their Neighbor's section about the 50th anniversary of the Club and we hope that it will invite the general public to see our Club in action at this year's field day.

Amy, KD3TI, the Hamfest Coordinator is still looking for volunteers to help at this year's event. Contact Amy if you are willing to assist.

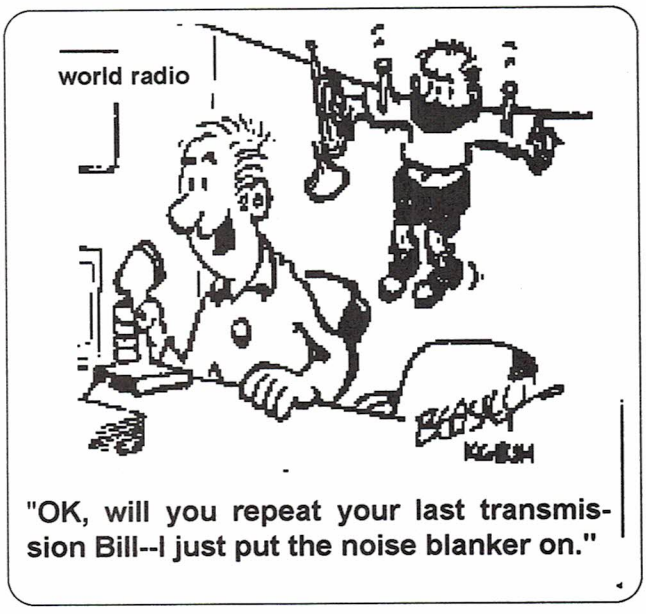
George, AA3JU, the Program Chairman, said that the programs are scheduled for all meetings through October. Details will be given in future issues of the newsletter.

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 which is scheduled for September 28.

Tom said that several items will be purchased for the loaner program, the Club Library and for Field Day. The items will be listed in the newsletter. He also informed the group that the Club will file with the FCC to obtain the Vanity Call WX3MAS. He also mentioned that the group Peddle PA will stop by our field day site as a rest stop and eat their lunch (a catered affair) on Saturday.

David Hill, N3XGE, and **David Moscovitz, KB3BOM**, submitted applications for membership. Clarence, W3PYF made a motion to accept them as members. The motion was seconded by Ray, W3TDF and approved by the membership.

de Bob, N3OLH, Secretary



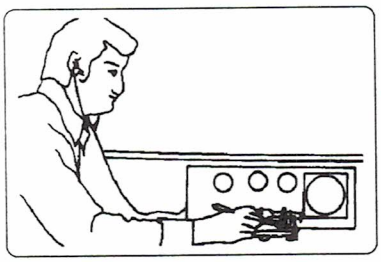
"OK, will you repeat your last transmission Bill--I just put the noise blanker on."

Product review

MFJ 40 meter QRP

by Barry, KU3X

I was ask to purchase a number of items for the club's lender program. One of the many items was



the MFJ 9040 QRP CW transceiver. This is a great little single conversion superhet transceiver that puts out about 5 watts of power. The VFO range is 7.000 Mhz to 7.150 Mhz. The tuning is very smooth and I didn't notice any drifting as I used the radio. The unit also has an RIT that probably has a range of plus or minus 1 Khz. The built in speaker is adequate but a little on the weak side if you have any background noise. By just plugging in a remote speaker will make a world of difference. For mobile use, an amplified speaker is a must.

The optional audio filter is also installed. I am guessing that with the filter turned on, the band width is about 400 Hz. There is an external button on the rear panel of the radio for turning it on and off. To install the filter is a very easy task. If you know how to use a screwdriver, you can install this filter. Remove the radio's lid, remove a small jumper, plug filter in, and now replace the lid. It is just that simple. You can also get an optional keying board for this radio. Installing the keying board is just as simple. The club's radio does not have this board installed. The receiver is hot! You will be suprised what you will hear with the use of a simple dipole attached to this radio. It has an adequate AGC circuit.

The transmitter circuit will put out 6 watts when 13.8 volts is supplied to the radio. The radio is designed to handle a 3:1 SWR and still supply full power out.

The keying of the radio is very fast. It is almost full QSK. As the relay is very noisy, I have the a little delay put on the relay. This is adjustable by an internal trim pot. As it stands now, the relay will unkey between words. You should be able to send at about 10 WPM without the relay opening between characters. The keying is very clean as I watched what the wave form looked like on a monitor scope.

The radio takes only 12 volts to operate on. It draws only 66 ma. on receive and 1.2 amps on transmit. You can run the radio on 8 D cell flashlight batteries for hours before they go dead. You won't be running a 48 hour contest on one set of batteries. If using a power supply, it must be a regulated supply. You can not use one of those cheep wall adaptors as it is not regulated enough to operate this radio and may even cause damage to the radio.

The first station that I worked with this radio was AA3JI in Pittsburg, PA. Oh my, that was probably long path. Hi Hi ! Then we were on a roll. Here is a short list of what I worked with a simple dipole: N3ELN in DE, N1CBI in CT, VA2II in QUE, N8WYO in MI, VE3OU in ONT, K8JJC in MI, CM8JY in Cuba, and W3FYK (Bill) in PA. With the 40 meter beam, I was able to work DJ5PE and EA2FHN with a 569 report from both DX stations. Remember 5 watts is only 13 DB down from 100 watts. That is less than 3 S units on the S meters. You will be suprised what you can work with this radio. I will probably be getting the 20 meter version for myself in the near future.

As mentioned before, this radio is part of the club's lender equipment. Here is what the package will consist of: The MFJ QRP transceiver with audio filter installed, A.C. power supply with power cable, CW cable to be attached to your key, 150 feet of RG-8X coax with connectors, a 40 meter dipole with rope, and a carrying case for everything but the antenna and coax. In the future, the club will be getting a gell cell and charger to go with this package. This will make for a nice portable package to be set up anywhere. I called MFJ when the radio was ordered and they are back ordered. The factory rep. told me that AES buys the largest amount of equipment from them and they should have the best stock. AES stocks and sells the radio for $169.95. The optional filter board sell for $29.95 and the CW keying board sell for $39.95.

de Barry, KU3X

No code silent keys?

Just one quick question for one of the

"Hams who want to know!".

If a no code tech dies, is he a

Silent key, or a Silent push to talk button?

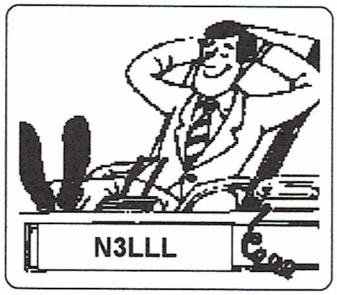
de Alan N7EAY

The Prez Sez

Where are the mentors?

by Tom, N3LLL, president

When I was growing up in Western Ohio I had a series of adult mentors who guided me through my teens and into adulthood. As I grow older, I find in my work, they no longer exist. At age 46 I am the old guy. Where are all of those older wiser individuals. I can not say where they all are at but I found a great assortment of them in the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club.**. I marvel at the skill and the wealth of life experience that our senior members are willing to share.



As we go through this, our fiftieth year let us make a point to ask how it used to be. When you ask those questions it makes understanding what is current a lot easier to understand. We are fortunate to have this a great wealth of life experience in our club.

I want to express the clubs and my thanks to **Tom Daniels / N3CXP** and the crew at Schnecksville for the great tour of the Space Bus Blake. It is a wonderful program and we should be proud to have it in the Lehigh valley.

As I stated at the club meeting we will be attempting to start a roving lending library. In order to make the material available we chose to bring the books to club meetings, the books will be can be checked out for one month. **Barry / KU3X** will be collecting the initial volumes as well as items for the loaner program and field day..

de Tom, N3LLL

Provided by John Sittler of Roswell, Ga., through the KidULTS newsletter. They are actual insurance form statements by car drivers.

> The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

> I was on my way to the doctor with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.

> I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat found that I had a fractured skull.

> The pedestrian had no idea which way to run as I ran over him.

> I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the roof of my car.

> A truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.

> An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.

> I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

> I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.

> Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.

> I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.

> The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.

supplied from the Morning Call by Mike AA0AO

An ode to the contesters

Contesting was Chester's life—he ate ,breathed and slept for the hobby. He was such a fanatic that he consulted a psychic to see if there was amateur radio activity in the hereafter

Holding Chester's hand, the psychic closed her eyes and said,

"I have good news and bad news."

"I'll take the good news first," said Chester.

"They have ham radio in the hereafter," the psychic said.

"That's great!" Chester crowed. "What's the bad?"

"You're booked for a multi-op contest this weekend," said the psychic.

author unknown

For Sale

Drake 2B Receiver **$100.00**

Heathkit SSB Transmitter (SB401)**$100.00**

With all books.**Call Earl, K3MGP @ 610-866-3766**

10 Meter Repeaters - Lots of Fun!

by Darrel, N3NNI

Tuesday, May 7th from 17:00z to 19:30z 10 meters was open. Since I bought my Yaesu FT-840, I've been having fun with 10 meter FM. The voice quality is that of 2m as many of you know, but the real fun is working the 10m repeaters. Many of them are not PL toned, so if your rig has dual VFO's you can use splits, e.i. 29.640 rec. 29.540 tx. Or just dial 29.640 and use your minus offset. 29.600for simplex.

Mike, N3DZM, has a great 2m/10m link repeater. For those of you who don't know about it, 2m is 145.23 and 10m 29.640. A great repeater with good coverage.

Anyway, Tuesday when 10m was open, I was on the 10m side hearing some 4 land calls and gave a call. I a few contacts with Virginia, Kentucky. Then a little later the band shifted to the west and 0 and 9 land came in. Lots of Qso's with IL, MO, and even a few VE3's.

At one point I was talking with a station in Long Island, New York, but the weird thing is we were talking through a repeater in St. Louis, MO. Like I said 10m FM repeaters are fun and interesting, you never know who you will talk with.

I know we all don't leave our rigs on 10 meters, so what I do is program 29.640, 29.660, 29.620 in my scanner, that way when you here stations from 4,0,9,5 land, you know the band is open.

So, listen around, and when you here 10m opening, get on 10m FM and have some fun on those repeaters.

de Darrel, N3NNI.

From the ARRL via N3ET via ARRL Bulletin 28 5/9/96

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE FCCS MOST RECENTLY ISSUED CALL SIGNS

AS OF MAY 1, 1996.

DISTRICT

	GROUP A EXTRA	GROUP B ADVANCED	GROUP C TECH/GEN	GROUP D NOVICE
0	AB0BS	KI0CS	++	KB0WHV
1	AA1PY	KE1EO	N1XFI	KB1BXY
2	AB2AW	KG2GV	++	KB2YSX
3	AA3OF	KE3WL	N3XHP	KB3BOP
4	AE4TZ	KT4PM	++	KF4JEE
5	AC5HR	KK5ZR	++	KC5UHB
6	AC6UL	KQ6FX	++	KF6DMG
District				
Group A		**Group B**	**Group C**	**Group D**
Extra		**Advance**	**Tec/Gen**	**Novice**
7	AB7QN	KJ7XJ	++	KD7AAC
8	AA8WV	G8WW	++	KC8DNZ
9	AA9SA	KG9GG	++	KB9NNQ
HAWAII	++	AH6OO	++	WH6DAW
ALASKA	++	AL7QI	++	WL7CSZ
VIRGIN IS	WP2X	KP2CJ	NP2JF	WP2AID
PUERTO RICO	++	++	++	WP4NLY

++ All calls signs in this group have beeen isued in the area

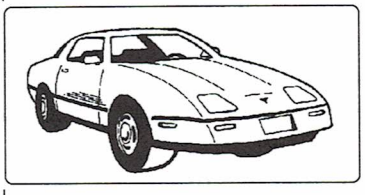
The Darwim Award

"Darwin Award" Recipient: You all know about the Darwin Awards --- It's an annual honor given to the person who did the gene pool the biggest service by killing themselves in the most extraordinarily stupid way.

Last year's winner was the fellow who was killed by the Coke machine, which toppled over on top of him as he was attempting to tip a free soda, out of it.

Now we present this year's winner:

The Arizona Highway Patrol came upon a pile of smoldering metal embedded into the side of a cliff rising above the road at the apex of a curve. The wreckage resembled the site of an airplane crash, but it was a car. The type of car was unidentifiable at the scene. The boys at the lab finally figured out what it was, and what had happened. It seems that a guy (or gal) somehow got hold of a JATO (jet Assisted Take Off) unit that is used to give heavy military transport planes an extra 'push' for taking off from short airfields. These are solid-fuel rockets which burn as the airplane starts down the runway, then are discarded once the fuel is spent. (They don't have an 'OFF' switch. They burn until the fuel is gone.) He took the JATO and his (her?) Chevy Impala out into the desert, found a long, straight stretch of road, attached the JATO to the car, jumped in, got up some speed, and fired off the rocket. Best as they could determine, he (she?) was doing somewhere between 250 - 300 mph when he came to that curve ... The brakes were completely burned away, apparently from trying to slow the car. **Who will it be next time?**

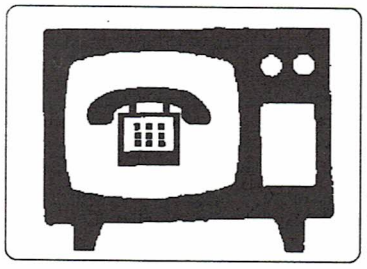


New media systems

DBS: A Real Cable Alternative?

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

For the past year and a half, 18-inch satellite receiving dishes have been showing up on more and more homes--each one indicating a subscriber to one of two direct broadcast satellite (DBS) providers, DirecTV or USSB. An equipment investment of around $600 allows a consumer to pick up standard cable programming -- both advertiser-supported services like CNN, USA, and MTV, and premium services like HBO -- and additional programming like pay-per-view movies that start every half hour. ("near video-on-demand").



DBS service can cost less than what most cable companies call the "extended basic" service that provides the same kind of programming. There's one big difference, though: The DBS systems do not provide the programming that is normally delivered by over-the-air broadcasters -- including network programming, which still captures over 60 percent of the nightly prime time audience.

If DirecTV or USSB subscribers want to view programming from local network affiliates or independent stations, they have to do one of two things: either maintain a basic or "lifeline" cable service (costing usually about $10 a month), or set up an antenna to pick up over-the-air broadcast signals. With cable penetration at around 65 percent, most consumers have either long since removed their antennas, to never had one in the first place.

Taking all the costs into consideration -- initial outlay for receiving equipment, and monthly DBS and basic cable subscriptions -- DBS is not yet an economic competitor for wired cable. DBS service purchasers tend to be people for whom television is an important source of entertainment. These are people who are willing to pay more for the additional programs available. Only when DBS is able at least to duplicate the channel line-up of a modern cable system will the majority of consumers consider switching from cable to DBS. A new satellite broadcasting venture promises to do just that.

Rupert Murdock's News Corporation (owner of the Fox broadcast network) and long distance telephone company MCI have formed American Sky Broadcasting (ASkyB), which proposes to provide broadcast signals to subscribers on a market-by-market basis. The goal is to provide a "seamless combination" of cable and broadcast services to provide a single source for all television programming, and thus become a true competitor for cable.

The technical challenges associated with such a marketing promise are huge. Although the DBS service will cover the entire country, separate satellite capacity will have to be established for the local broadcast programming in each of the markets served by ASkyB. The service will have initial capacity to offer local signals only in the country's largest markets.

Getting ASkyB started means placing more satellites in orbit, and the venture expects to get two 32-transponder birds launched, one in late 1997 to start the service, and the second in early 1998. Between $1.5 billion and $2 billion will be spent before ASkyB begins operation.

News Corporation and MCI hope to include top cable system operator TCI in the partnership -- an interesting development, since ASkyB is being promoted as an alternative to cable service. Moreover, TCI is also already part owner in the medium power DBS service Primestar, which positions itself as the cable industry's answer to the current DBS service from DirecTV. Gaining the participation of TCI, though, would add the capacity of two more satellites that TCI has ready to launch.

For the average consumer, whether or not ASkyB becomes a real alternative to cable service will most likely depend on the single factor of cost. If viewers can get comparable or better programming choices for lower subscription fees with DBS than with cable, they would be tempted to switch. In the ever- expanding world of electronic media, loyalty to a service provider takes second place to economical pricing.

de Joe, W3JD

For Sale

External 28.8 Fax Modem.. Hayes Compatible with power supply and software for fax, et al.
Call **Clarence W3PYF** @610 252-2109 or leave message on W3PYF-3 BBS

Official relay station

by John, N3IGA

This is a traffic-handling appointment that is open to all classes of license. This appointment applies to all modes and all parts of the spectrum. It is for traffic-handlers, regardless of mode employed or part of spectrum used.

The potential value of the skilled operator with traffic know-how to his country and community is enhanced by his ability and the readiness of his statn to function in the community interest in case o f emergency.

The appointed Official Relay Station (ORS) may confine activities to one mode or one part of the spectrum if he wishes. There is no versatility requirement, although versatility does indeed make it possible for anyone to perform a more complete public service.

The basic requirements for an ORS are:

A. Full ARRL membership and Novice Class license or higher.

B. Code and/or voice transmission capability.

C. Transmissions, by whatever mode, must be of the highest quality, both technically and operationally.

D. All ORS are expected to follow standard ARRL operating practices (message form, ending signals, abbreviations or prowords, etc.)

E. Regular participation in traffic activities, either free-lance or ARRL-sponsored.

F. Handle all record communications speedily and reliably and set the example in efficient operating procedures. All traffic is relayed or delivered promptly after receipt.

G. Report monthly to the Section Traffic Manager (STM), including a breakdown of traffic handled during the past calendar month.

This is all the information on the Official Relay Station appointment. Anyone interested in becoming an ORS, please contact me by phone or leave a message on my BBS N3IGA-3 on 144.910. You can also send me Email if you want to at n3iga@n3iga.ampr.org

de John, N3IGA ACC/EPA.

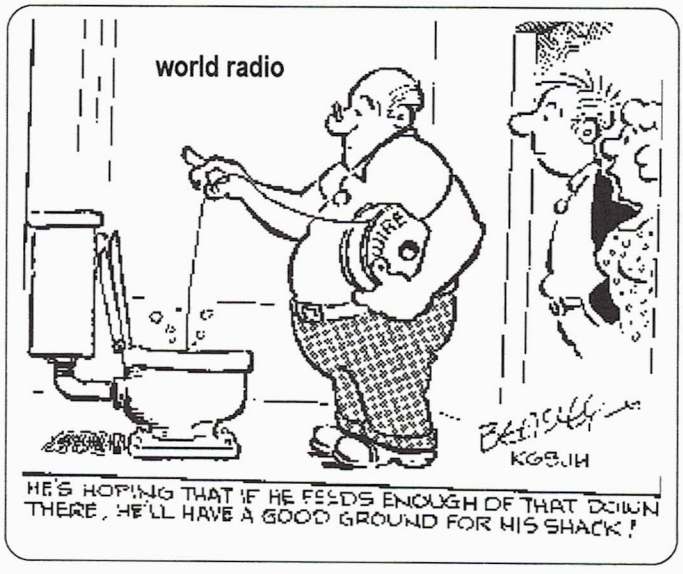
Public service comes first

from the ARRL Section Leader May 1996 Edition

Following a run down of the disasters which have occurred around the country in the past months, from the freight train carrying liquid propane derailment in Wisconsin, the flooding in Oregon, the flooding in Harrisburg in January, the following is a transcript of our involvement in the **"Blizzard of 96"**

In Pennsylvania, the Delaware- Lehigh Amateur Radio Club members lent a helping hand in early January to some 30 nurses during the so-called"Blizzard of 96." Using four-wheel- drive vehicles and keeping in touch via mobile radios, on the club's W3OK repeater, club volunteers transported nurses to work at hospitals and nursing homes in the Allentown-Easton- Bethlehem area. "In this day of cellular phones and beepers, Amateur Radio may be less critical, but it provides us with a way to stay in touch," said Dave Blankenship, N3EYT, who was quoted in a report in The Express- Times newspaper.

Clarence Snyder, W3PYF, of Easton an EC and club member for nearly 50 years served as the contact point, putting out the calls for drivers as they were needed. Others pitched in by reporting road conditions and problems. The effort drew plaudits from Easton Hospital and Northampton County's Department of Human Services.



The truth about cheap Baluns and other scary stories.

by George, AA3JU

Well gang it had to happen sooner or later. I am going to try my hand at an actual sort of technical article. I am prompted to do this by some recent sad and sorry events revolving around some cheap or nearly cheap baluns I purchased last spring at a hamfest. I say cheap not so much as to denote a small price tag but to give a general description of there manufacturing quality. The axiom of "You get what you pay for" will I think be dispelled in the ensuing paragraphs.



There are several good reasons for the use of a 1:1 balun in an otherwise matched antenna system. Last year I decided that I would add some 1:1 baluns on several of my antennas to eliminate stray radiation from the feed lines shield. I had hoped that this would tend to reduce TVI from front end overload and protect the integrity of the pattern of some of my wire beam antennas. I went to a local hamfest and bought three 1:1 baluns and one 4:1 to add to the system. Each priced at about $25.00, and each testifying to the fact that they would handle a full kilowatt.

I proceeded to brew antennas and add baluns. I found very quickly that the claim of these devices being able to handle a kilowatt was grossly over rated to say the least! The first to go was the 4:1 air wound job it was the most expensive of the lot about $35. I attached it to an antenna that had a known impedance of 300 ohms at resonance. I got an acceptable 1.4:1 SWR from it. That is I got the acceptable SWR at 100 watts. Just as soon as I dumped a full gallon into it the SWR rose FAST!! The ensuing heat and smoke was quit a sight. I am ever so glad that I was carefully watching my meters when it failed. The other three baluns gave me fair service through the winter until this spring when two of them failed in the same fashion.

What's going on here? I disassembled these little buggers to try to get some insight on there innards. Once I cleared out the charred pieces I found that these "high power" devices had been wound with 16 gauge thermalize wire. Now thermalize wire is a lacquer coated wire that when heated allows the insulation to burn off and expose the bare copper for soldering. Apparently it also allows the insulation to burn off when heated by high RF so that a balun can arc wildly. I doubt that I would choose this type wire to carry the 120 volts needed to run a house lamp let alone the voltages and currents in a HF antenna feed point being fed with 1500 watts.

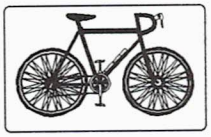
So then a better situation needed to be found so back to the hamfest this time for parts. The first thing needed was some 12 gauge enamel wire. This stuff has insulation that will not burn off. I tried really I did. I heated up this stuff with the old Bernz-O-Matic torch, got it good and cherry red I did and it was still the outside of that wire would not conduct a single electron. Next we needed some ferrite doughnuts big ones. And some ferrite beads also big ones. I do not profess to know the exact specs of these powdered iron devices so I selected them by weight. I figured that the heavier they were the higher the absorption would be. And a few feet of the best 9913 coax I could find. My total expenditure about $20.00.

I built the first balun a 4:1 job with a 1 LB ferrite doughnut. I got the "recipe" right out of "The Radio Amateurs Handbook" 1974 edition. And put it into an outdoor electrical box from the hardware store. Total cost of balun #1 about $14. Now for the test would it handle 1500 watts? I did the unthinkable I put nine feet of wire on each of the terminals (approx.. resonant at 10 meters) and loaded up this with a home brew transmatch (A beefy home brew transmatch) on 80 meters. This provided a radiating load of sorts but far from ideal. Now to turn up the juice. Watching the SWR meter carefully and also the balun which was outside my window I turned on the amplifier. Damn if it didn't hold. I even managed a short QSO with a fellow up in Canada who gave me a 589 signal report. After the QSO I ran out and disconnected the balun and checked its temperature. It was indeed rather warm but not blazing hot. I also checked the coax at both ends nice and cool. This balun handled plenty of power that was to be sure.

The next set of projects would show similar results with a 1.5:1 balun used on a delta loop (100 ohm nominal impedance) And several 1:1 current baluns. These designed or re designed from Jerry Sivicks book "Baluns and Ununs." And I am here to report that similar results were found. And I am happy to report to this point no failures. So for far less in dollars spent on my "cheap" baluns I have produced several inexpensive high power baluns. I figure that honestly the failure point would be at around five kilowatts on these devices. If I was measuring the way the commercial manufacturers did I likely as not could harness the output of a small nuclear facility through one of these babies.

de George, AA3JU

Help needed June 4th to 9th



The Lehigh County Velodrome is in need of volunteers for the **US Olympic Team Bicycle trials** June 4th to the 9th.

contact N3HKX , Dennis at 610 398-3424. if you can help



Ken Stout, W3EGY became a Silent Key on May 11th in Easton Hospital.

Ken a long time member of the **DLARC** was active for many years until his illness in many local organizaitons, including the **QCWA,** The **ARRL**, the National Rifle Association, and after WW2 he was active as a radio operator for Palmer Township in **RACES.**

Our sincerest sympothy to his wife Rosa and their two son s.

This is an open letter of thanks to the friendly members of the DLARC.

from Jim N3QZS

About 18 months ago, a wonderful winter holiday present arrived in the mail. My license from the FCC arrived and my key to a new way of life was here.

My YL (Ruth) stated that I needed a hobby.

Please let me share some of the things that happened. Ruth planned spring picnics for the family next to any many hamfests. Highway maps are not necessary in Maryland, New Jersey, New York or Pennsyvania because friendly hams would talk me into a nearby picnic grove. Amateur radio operators were always willing to share the community resources near the hamfest. My children loved hamfests, especially the local parks and zoos.

I went to Dayton1995 with Bill K3ANS, and bought a radio. Many people helped me shop for this radio. Alan WO4H, Tom N3LLL and Chris NU3L gave time during the day to look for a radio and at night to share some of their knowledge with me.

I met people from around the world. Amateur radio was a common bond for people from all backgrounds and parts of this country.

My HT is a companion when Ruth and I go to New York City. The NYCPD ARC has a great repeater on Manhatten. Guidance or help in NYC is just a call away.

My HT was a strong companion in Alabama when Hurricane Opal turned the lights off and twisted steel beams into pretzel shaped pieces of art. Fortunately the pretzel landed 200 feet from my car and the repeater lasted until the eye of the storm passed. Somebody got the repeater on the air soon after the storm passed by.

During the winter of 95-96 I went to the streets in my 4x4 to help nurses get to work. Behind me were the unseen heroes who would tell me how to get around the snow drifts in Lehigh or Moore Township. At the other end of the phone and radio were **Clarence W3PYF** and **Dick KA3MOU** reassuring everybody that everything was OK.

In March I reported to Ft Sill, Oklahoma. Again, amateur radio opened the way to meet new people. April's meeting was abouth reporting tornados. Tornado reporting is very important here. The repeaters are linked (priority of the net) and provide information the the weather bureau in Norman Oklahoma.

This is a wonderful hobby (actually a lot of different hobbies) and I want to THANK some of the hams who made it possible for me including **Chris NU3L**, **John N3IGA**, and **Bill K3ANS.**

73's Jim N3QZS

editors note:
How do we get an XYL like Jim's

Amateurs to help Salvaiton Army

ARRL Letter Vol. 15, No. 5 May 10 1996

* The Salvation Army plans to use Amateur Radio to enhance the capabilities of its emergency disaster services program within its Eastern Territorial Community Relations and Development Department. Ham gear in the territorial headquarters at West Nyack, New York, will permit communication within affected areas anywhere in the eastern territory and beyond, as necessary. The Salvation Army's eastern territory includes the 11 northeastern states and Puerto Rico. The eastern territory will join the Salvation Army's central territory as part of the national Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), headed by Maj Patrick McPherson, WW9E. The Salvation Army's central territory has successfully taken advantage of Amateur Radio for several years. Five individuals at the eastern territorial headquarters earned their ham tickets following training sessions by Steven Koeper, KF2JA, and Abraham Gittler, K2YHM.

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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==1995-1996==

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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
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this newsletter should be addressed to
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