Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

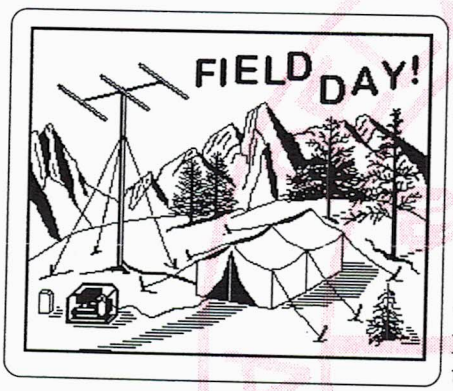
JUNE 2001

Meeting June 7 at IU20

Field Day

by Jim, N3DFF

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 23 and Sunday, June 24 for Field Day 2001! DLARC will again toss up the antennas and fire up the generators for the annual outdoor event. The location is the Plainfield Farmers' Fairgrounds, see the Club's web page for directions and a map.



Last year we ran 10, 20, 40, and 80 meters, plus the Novice/Tech station. We also had an APRS station setup for demonstration. This year we plan to have the same operating bands.

The whole point of Field Day is to check out our preparedness for handling emergency communications under less than ideal conditions. This means setting up the stations, the antennas, the genertors, feeding the volunteers (very important), and, of course, making contacts. This also means we can have a lot of fun and good times enjoyng the company of fellow hams.

So, if you're an OT or just beginning, come out and join in.

de Jim, N3DFF

Program for June 7 Meeting

Field Day

by Don, KA3JWE

This month's program will be a Field Day planning discussion. Topics will include improving our stations and antenna systems, using CT for logging, and other Field Day specific items. Come and lend your expertise to make this year's Field Day the best ever.

Red Cross and Derriere on the Delware Sunday July 15

by Charlie, N3VUO

The American Red Cross is asking that the D.L.A.R.C. members to provide communications for the 11th American Red Cross Lehigh River Relay-Run. The run will be on Sunday July 15.

As in the past, the run will be along the canal between Allentown Canal Park and finishing at Riverside Park in Easton. We need about 10 operators to cover the route. Interested members please contact Charlie, N3VUO via e--mail at N3VUO@JUNO.COM, by telephone at 610--266--0278 or on the 146.700 repeater. Thank you for your consideration and support in this matter.

Following the race as usual we will be doing the safety watch for the **Derriere in the Delaware** float. **Jeff, N3QZT** will charing the float group. More information as it becomes available.

Californian turns in ticket'
FCC Still wants expanation

A California ham has turned in his Technician license in the wake of an FCC inquiry into his involvement in alleged rules violations on a Los Angeles-area repeater. But the FCC has told Gregory S. Cook, ex-KC6USO, of Chico that he must still address the allegations of broadcasting, playing music, and one-way phone patching before he'll be allowed to get another license.

FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote Cook earlier this year, citing information that Cook had been party to the transmission of "a lengthy broadcast" in the late evening and early morning hours of February 1 and 2 over the W6NUT repeater in the Los Angeles area.

Hollingsworth also wrote Technician licensee Ted R. Sorensen III, KC6PQW, of Agoura Hills, citing information alleging that Sorenson had acted in concert with Cook, who was hooked in via phone patch while Sorenson facilitated the actual transmission. A similar transmission February 4-5 was said to have featured only Cook, again via phone patch to Sorenson's transmitter, Hollingsworth said.

Responding on March 10, Cook sent the FCC his ham ticket, which was due to expire May 7. Cook said he would agree to not renew his ticket and to stay off the air for a year if the FCC would consider the case closed.

Hollingsworth obliged him, but only to a point. In an April 18 letter, he said the FCC had accepted Cook's license for cancellation and that he could

reapply in a year. But before that, Hollingsworth said, Cook would have to "respond satisfactorily" to the allegations outlined in the FCC's February 21 letter.

In a separate reply, Sorenson told Hollingsworth that he intends to cooperate fully and adhere to FCC rules. He suggested that a "fair-punishment" would be suspension from the W6NUT repeater for a year. Sorenson also offered to provide information on other rulebreakers on the W6NUT repeater.

On February 20, Hollingsworth initiated a separate inquiry with the repeater's trustee, Kathryn Tucker, AA6TK. Hollingsworth told Tucker that the FCC had received complaints that control operators and the repeater licensee "fail to address long periods of jamming by users, broadcasting, usic playing as well as a plethora of other violations."

In a lengthy reply, Tucker, said the repeater's owners had not monitored the alleged February episodes involving Cook and Sorenson.

"The policy of the W6NUT repeater is not to attempt to remove unruly operators from its use," she told the FCC, adding that "an extensive educational campaign" has been conducted to inform users of proper operation.

Tucker said the W6NUT owners have received "numerous complaints" about the repeater's operation. "The policy is to let them 'go in one ear and out the other'," she told the FCC.

The ARRL Letter

FCC puts regulatory ball in amateurs' court

Via ARRL Bulletin

The FCC says the ball is in the court of the Amateur Service to determine the course of future Amateur Radio regulation. Speaking May 20 at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, said that the days of Commission-imposed regulation are past.

"Detailed regulation of the nitty gritty of communication services, including the Amateur Service, is not in the picture," Cross said."Rather, the FCC is shifting to strong and effective enforcement of truly necessary regulations." The FCC, he said, now plans to look to the amateur community to reach consensus on any new regulations it thinks it wants and needs.

"I hope that those of you who are thinking about asking us to carve up a band by fiat will think again," he said. "You really are asking us to tie your hands regarding your use of your spectrum."

Before the FCC initiates any rulemaking proceedings in the Amateur Service to change privileges, Cross said it wants to see proposals involving the implementation of "new and more modern communications technologies," such as digital. In addition, he said, any future proposal "must include all licensees, and it must include all bands," and--most important--the amateur community must reach a consensus on the topic.

Cross said the FCC does not want and cannot handle "multiple proceedings that address piecemeal changes in operating privileges" that affect only certain classes of licensees or certain bands.

The Prez Sez,

by Don, KA3JWE, president

The warmer weather is finally here and naturally our thoughts turn to Field Day. There have been a few comments floating around in the magazines, reflectors and email concerning Field Day. Some are questioning the whole concept and others are calling for a complete overhaul of the system.



In my opinion, Field Day's main purpose is to give us the opportunity to practice our skills in emergency communications. This once-a-year event allows us to get together and set up a number of stations and antennas, run them on emergency power, and try to make contacts with other stations doing the same thing. Unfortunately, Field Day has become too routine.

Most clubs, including ours, have everything down to a science. While that's not altogether a bad thing, it tends to lead to complacency. Not much experience is gained when you set up at the exact same place every year and use the same antennas strung in the same trees. The same old thing every year gets boring. And with boredom comes lack of participation. Field Day needs to be more exciting and more fun especially for the newer Hams.

One of the reasons that Ham radio is not attracting and keeping a lot of the younger Hams is that there is a lack of "Elmering". Most of you OM's had an "Elmer" who took you under his wing and helped you get your license. He explained proper operating techniques and answered the technical questions. A lot of your "Elmer's" knowledge was gained from his "Elmer" and unless you are "Elmering" someone, that knowledge will not be passed on. Are you an "Elmer"?

de Don, KA3JWE

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Kid's Day

Kid's Day is June 16: Kid's Day is just around the corner. **On June 16, 1800 to 2400 UTC,** kids of all ages are invited to experience ham radio.

Amateurs are encouraged to invite youngsters into their shack to enjoy the fun. Kid's Day began in 1994 with a one-hour program created by the Boring Amateur Radio Club in Boring, Oregon. The youngsters exchanged names and their favorite color.

Forty kids participated. Last year, more than 1000 took part in the event, now sponsored by ARRL. All participants can download personalized certificate. There's no limit on operating time. The suggested exchange is name, age, location and favorite color.

You are encouraged to work the same station again if an operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day." Kid's Day rules, frequencies and other information are on the ARRL Web site, **http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html** and in the June issue of QST, p 48.

The ARRL Letter

Jambo Demonstration Station

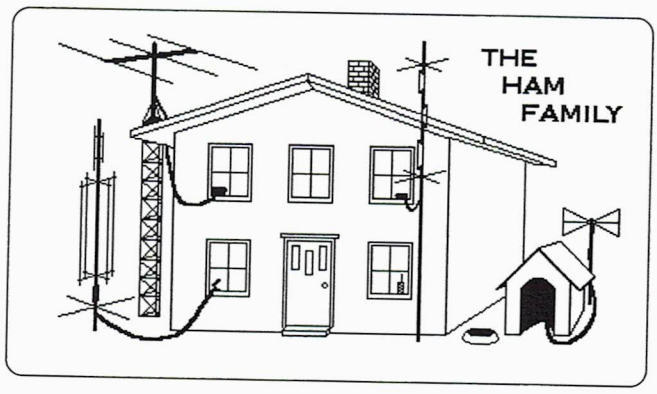
by Jim KB3BYU

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club operated a demonstration station at the Minsi Trails Jambo 2001 on Saturday May 19. Although the day began with the threat of rain, the clouds soon gave way to a beautiful day.

The amateurs on had from the club were **Skip K3CC, Ken N3IYX, Andrew KB3EWY**, and **Todd KA3PFA.**

Some stout hearted scouts from Troops 107 and 11 assisted the crew with transporting the equipment and erecting the vertical antenna. Although DX conditions proved to be unfavorable, many of the visitors enjoyed seeing Skip's computer controlled station in operation. The attendance at Jambo was well over 7,000 and I had many scouts give me favorable comments about the demonstration. Special thanks are due to K3CC and N3IYX for their extra effort in transporting all the equipment. This is another example of why hams are some of the nicest people around.

de Jim, KB3BYU



"Thunderstorms"

by Charlie, WA3RSQ

Thunderstorms generated by temperature imbalances in the atmosphere are a violent example of convection. "Thunderstorms Occur In 3 Stages"



1st Stage...Cumulus.

2nd Stage...Mature.

3rd Stage...Dissipating

In the first stage **(Cumulus)** of thunderstorm development an updraft warms air up to where the water vapor it contains condenses into visible droplets and a cloud is formed.

As the clouds form, water vapor changes to liquid and/or frozen cloud particles. This results in a release of heat, **(Latent Heat)** that takes over as the principal source of energy for the developing cloud. As the cloud particles grow by colliding and combining **(Coalescence)** with each other, they may become rain, snow, or hail.

In the 2nd Stage **(Mature)** precipitation which has developed falls creating a downdraft. The cumulonimbus cloud (CB) has now formed. The cloud now contains an updraft & downdraft.

The thunderstorm may be several miles across its base and often towers to altitudes 40,000 to 50,000 feet or more and may well reach into the stratosphere.

The 3rd Stage. "**Dissipating**". This stage is marked by a change in wind flow within the storm cell.

The prevailing updraft which initiated the cloud's growth is now replaced by the downdraft.

On the ground directly beneath the storm system, this stage is often accompanied by strong gusts and cold wind from the downdraft, or heavy precipitation - rain or hail. These downdrafts may well reach over 100 mph and are called (Microbursts or Downbursts)

Lightning always accompanies the thunderstorm. These are nature's warning that the thunderstorm is in it's most violent stage. Tornadoes may also be associated with the thunderstorm.

In the 3rd stage, however, the thunderstorm cell has already begun to die.

The violent downdraft having shared the circulation with the updraft now strangles it.

Precipitation weakens and the thunderstorm, a short lived creature, weakens and dies.

From the 1st stage of a thunderstorm to when the storm dies all takes place in about 30 minutes to an hour.

1. On earth, 2,000+ thunderstorms occur each hour. 40,000 to 50,000 each 24 hours, most occurring near the equator. Millions and millions of lightning strikes each 24 hours

2. Thunderstorms reach up into the stratosphere 50,000 to 60,000 feet.

3. The name given to a thunderstorm is: Cumulonimbus. CB

4. **Cumulus** meaning puffy. **Nimbus** meaning rain.

5. The average thunderstorm lasts about 30 minutes to an hour, and may or may not be accompanied by hail.

If you would like to read more about thunderstorms, check out my graphic on: "3 Phases Of A Thunderstorm" on my web site at:

www.enter.net/~wxdata/storm.htm

de Charlie,WA3RSQ

VE SESSION

by Joe, W3JD, for N2DH

All four candidates at the **DLARC VE** session held on May 4 were successful in their tests.

John E. Sobota, KB3GKO, upgraded from General to Extra

Ronald C. Gingrich, N3SXA, upgraded from Tech Plus to General.

Roger K. Higgins and **Benjamin D. Williams** both qualified for the Technician license.

Volunteer examiners for the session were

K3CC, KE3SP, and W3JD

Membership in ARRL is not just a magazine Subscription.

Ham Radio and Young People

by Jim KB3BYU

One of the big debates in ham radio today is how to ensure the future of our hobby. You don't need to be a demographer to know that the average age of hams in the U.S. is rising, and getting the next generation of young people involved is key to the long-term health of amateur radio. But how do you get kids who are used to the instant gratification of the Internet interested in a hobby whose day seems to have passed?

As a leader of a Boy Scout troop, I am always looking for inventive ways to get the boys interested in amateur radio. The key to generating an interest is to not to try and force amateur radio on them. It has to come to them naturally and as a result of their own interest and curiosity.

The boys in my troop know that I'm a ham, and I have been bringing my 2-meter HT along on our last few camping trips and hikes. Doing this has allowed me to demonstrate to the boys how the repeater and autopatch operate, and gave them an idea of the range possible using 2 meters. With the door now open, I felt that they were ready to learn a little more. I decided on a two-step approach. In phase one, I gave a presentation at one of our troop meetings in which I explained the history of the amateur radio service and some basic radio theory. I then gave them comparisons of the output power of FRS and CB compared to full legal limit power for hams. If you want to get the attention of a teenage boy, more power is always the way to go. This led to a discussion of the licensing requirements and the need to be a responsible operator. I also covered the various modes such as CW and SSB, and especially the digital modes like psk 31.

To generate an interest in a subject, a visual aid is always helpful, so step two of my plan was a visit to an amateur radio station to see HF in action. Fortunately, KE3AW graciously offered to allow us to visit his well-equipped shack. The consensus of the boys and leaders was that if we had a room with ham radio, Internet connection and cable television we would never have to leave. Bob did a great job of explaining about the ionosphere and wave propagation, describing how the beam antenna works, and showing the boys his collection of QSL cards. With the basics out of the way, Bob fired up the radio.

The first QSO was a mobile station in California with an extremely weak signal, and I could see the boys tuning out mentally. We hit pay dirt with the next contact. Charlie, K5USI, was getting back into ham radio. He literally had set a beam antenna on top of a ladder in his back yard and was putting out a solid S9+ signal. Each of the boys took a turn at the microphone, and he had a nice conversation with each of them. Two of the boys are interested in law as a career, and it turned out Charlie was an attorney. One of the boys said he enjoyed hunting and fishing, and Charlie did that as well. He did a great job of showing the boys that hams have other interesting hobbies and occupations, and are not just a bunch of techno geeks huddled in front of a radio.

All too soon, it was time to leave. The bottom line - the boys had a great time and are already asking if we can go back to KE3AWÆs again in the future. Even more importantly, a couple of the boys have expressed an interest in studying for their amateur licenses. Not bad for a hobby whose time has passed! If each of us tries, we can all find an opportunity to spark a child's interest in ham radio. You can work with a group of kids or on a one to one basis. Take this opportunity to have an impact on the next generation of radio amateurs..

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Income and Loss Statement.

Balance 3/31/01		**$4,189.48**
INCOME		
Donation Income Class Books	126.00	
Donation Income Fifty - Fifty	28.50	
Interest Checking YTD	45.33	
VE Test Session 3/11 & 4/5	44.00	
TOTAL INCOME	**243.83**	
EXPENSES		
Insurance Liability & Equipment	471.00	
Postage	114.00	
Supplies	274.40	
Telephone	32.39	
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$891.79**	
OVERALL TOTAL	**-647.96**	
Balance 4/30/01	**$3,541.52**	
C D 6 MONTHS	**$1,000.00**	
C D 12 MONTHS	**$2,000.00**	
OVERALL TOTAL	**$6,541.52**	

As of 5/3/01 total membership 264

de Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

Telephone Scam

submitted by a friend of the Editor in California

I received a telephone call last evening from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service technician who was conducting a test on telephone lines.

He stated that to complete the test I should touch nine (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#), and then hang up.

Luckily, I was suspicious and refused. Upon contacting the telephone company, I was informed that by pushing **90#**, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which enables them to place long distance calls billed to your home phone number.



I was further informed that this scam has been originating from many local jails/prisons. I have also verified this information with UCB Telecom, Pacific Bell, MCI, Bell Atlantic and GTE. Please beware. **DO NOT press 90#** for ANYONE.

The GTE Security Department requested that I share this information with EVERYONE I KNOW.

PLEASE pass this on to everyone YOU know. If you have mailing lists and/or newsletters from organizations you are connected with, I encourage you to pass on this information to them, too. Please let your friends know..

For Sale

Cushcraft A3-S triband beam with stainless steel hardware. Partially assembled. Never used. Asking $200. Call 610-866-4286.

de Daryl K3EX

Heath Kit Thomas electronic solid state organ Model GD--232A with bench assembly book and instructions $25 OR BEST OFFER.
Assembled by me W3HHC. Objective never realized in building it. Used VERY, VERY, LITTLE, I need space. W3HHC Paul Fritsch 610--395--2180
w3hhc@juno.com

Contest Calendar

Compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM
June 2001

Major Six Club Contest	2300Z, Jun 1 to 0300Z,Jun 4
WW South America CW Contest	0000Z, Jun 2 to 1600Z, Jun 3
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1500Z, Jun 3
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Jun 9 to 2400Z, Jun 10
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 9
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 9
TOEC WW Grid Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 9 to 1200Z, Jun 10
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 9 to 0300Z, Jun 11
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 16 to 2400Z, Jun 17
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 23 to 1400Z, Jun 24
ARRL Field Day	**1800Z, Jun 23 to 2100Z, Jun 24**
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 23 to 2100Z, Jun 24

Applying for membership we have 3 applications:

1. ROBERT W. EDWARDS CALL PENDING. Club activities Robert is interesting in, Club Programs. He is sponsored by: BOB GREEN KE3AW.

2. BILL PAGE KA7YJX. Bill holds the General license. He is also a successful DLARC RADIO CLASS GRADUATE. Bill attended the May 3rd meeting. He is sponsored by: BOB GREEN KE3AW.

3. REBECCA MECKES KB3GKM. Rebecca holds the Technician license. She is also a successful DLARC RADIO CLASS GRADUATE. Activities she would consider participating: Field day, Hamfest and PA QSO Party. She is sponsored by: BOB GREEN KE3AW.

de Dick, KA3MOU

Electric bike-mobile nets DX for NJ ham:

Operating bicycle mobile in New Jersey, ARRL member Vincent Diak, WB2PDW, made his first SSB DX contact, working G2BKZ on 20 meters. Diak's station, a Yaesu FT-817 running 5 W to an Outbacker Perth antenna, was installed on his Lafree electric bike (http://www.Lafree.com). The bicycle has a battery-driven motor to assist the rider on grades and a computer that determines when you need help. Signals were Q5 in both directions. Diak said he supplemented the Yaesu's internal battery with a "water bottle" battery--a battery pack made to fit into the water-bottle holder on the bike's frame.

For a closer look at bicycle mobiling, see the Bicycle Mobile Hams of America Web site, **http://www.lafetra.com/bmha/ .**

The ARRL Letter

Just the Minutes

bu Jill Brodt, N3ZSR

President Don Reamer, KA3JWE called the May 3rd club meeting to order at 7:35 PM, with 27 members and 3 guests present.



Ken, N3IYX made a motion to approved the April meeting minutes, as they appeared the newsletter with a 2nd from Dick, KA3MOU. The motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report shown elsewhere in this newletter was accepted with a motion from Mark, K3MP and seconded by Carl, AA3IX.

There was no repeater report in Barry's absence.

The VE Session for May will be held at IU20, with an undetermined number of people taking the test.

The following guests were welcomed to the meeting, Kristina Fransel (from the MS 150), Bill, KA7YJX and Dan, KB3GHT.

Dick told the membership about the phone line at the repeater site. We are going to court in Philadelphia on June 15 to try to get our phone service changed from commercial to residential.

Upcoming events that were announced are as follows:

May 6 - MS Walk at Lehigh Parkway

May 18 - 20 Dayton Hamfest

May 19 - Boy Scout Jam. At Lehigh (contact KB3BYU)

June 9 & 10 - MS 150 Dutch Bike Tour

June 23 & 24 Field Day

July 15 - Lehigh River Run (morning) and Derrière on the Delaware (afternoon)

August 19 - Club picnic

September 15 - D.L.A.R.C Hamfest

New member applications received this evening were from **Robert W. Edwards (call pending)** and **Bill Page KA7YJX**

Dave WD5BRP was presented with a plaque for doing the club badges for over a decade.

The program for the evening was presented by Blair, K3YD entitled Just 100 Feet of Wire.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM on a motion from Joe, W3JD and seconded by, Malcolm, N3XRL.

de Jill, N3ZSR, Secretary

MS Walks

by Jeff, N3QZT

MS Walks Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton

On a warm weekend in April and another in May, the **DLARC** radio club along with some members of **W3OI** club, helped the **MS** people conduct three very safe and successful walks. With close to 3000 people attending the three different walks we had a lot to do and watch.

On April 22nd two walks were held one in Hugh Moore Park in Easton and the other at Sand Island in Bethlehem. The hams on duty there handled the only problems encountered. A special thanks to Bruce/KB3FIH for being Net Control for the Easton walk.

Last on May 6th DLARC joined forces with W3OI to provide coverage for the Lehigh Parkway in Allentown walk. This is a very large walk drawing nearly 1500 walkers. John Scott SR vice president of this region wanted to thank all of the hams for there dedication to these events because with out our help they would be very difficult to put on. I would like to that the W3OI club for the use of the 146.940 repeater.

Nineteen different Hams, most of who worked at both the April and May walks came out and lent their time and skills. I want to thank each one of them. **A parting note please remember**

June 9th and 10th and help out with the MS 150 bike tour

Here is the list of Hams that helped out: **KB3FIH, N3RPV, K3LAR, AA3WM, W3JD, KB3FDM, WA3KIF, N3XRL, KB3BYU, KE3AW, N3LVA, KB3GHT, W3BUD, N3SQD, KA3JWE, N3ZSR, N3ULW, N2TTQ.**

Thanks to all.

de Jeff N3QZT

ARRL - REACT to Sign Memo of Understanding

Representatives of the ARRL and REACT met in Dallas, Texas, May 16 to sign a memorandum of understanding between the two organizations. The agreement is intended to promote joint coordination of the resources between ARRL and REACT and to facilitate the flow of information to and from the public during emergencies.

ARRL president Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and REACT International president Chuck Thompson, N5IAG, signed on behalf of their respective organizations.

"This memorandum of understanding is part of our efforts to establish a common front in dealing with emergencies and disaster communication and with other issues facing the radio hobby, including such things as antenna ordinances," Haynie said. Thompson said the memorandum will strengthen the organizations' "common goal of providing assistance to the public."

While REACT has been associated primarily with Citizens Band in the past, the organization has widened its focus to embrace amateur and other services. ARRL and REACT share common goals in terms of emergency communication. The primary mission of REACT is "to provide public safety communications to individuals, organizations, and government agencies to save lives, prevent injuries, and give assistance wherever and whenever needed."

The memorandum of understanding calls on the two organizations to "cooperate and utilize their resources from time to time to optimum mutual benefit to both parties." Among specific principles, the agreement will involve cooperation during emergencies and disaster relief and the elimination of "duplicative or technically inferior service" during such responses. "The parties will generally encourage ongoing liaison with each other and urge members of both organizations to develop increasingly effective communications and cooperation," the agreement states.

Thompson and Haynie are long-time friends, and Haynie is a member of REACT in the Dallas area. Haynie was the instructor for Thompson's Novice Amateur Radio license class. He says Thompson recruited him to REACT membership.

A copy of the REACT-ARRL Memorandum of Understanding is available on the ARRL Web site at http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/mou/react.html.

The ARRL Letter.

ARRL ULTRA-WIDEBAND REPLY COMMENTS TARGET INTERFERENCE POTENTIAL

The ARRL says it's not reasonable to assume that the FCC's Part 15 rules can be applied to ultra-wideband (UWB) devices due to their unique transmission characteristics. The League drew that conclusion in responding to comments filed by others in reaction to five reports that address UWB's interference potential.

The FCC has proposed to deploy UWB devices on an unlicensed basis under its Part 15 rules. Last month, it requested comments on five reports. The ARRL commented on the reports April 25 and submitted its reply comments May 10.

The ARRL said tests conducted to date "reveal a significant potential for harmful interference to at least some licensed services, including GPS and the Amateur Service." In addition, the ARRL said, additional "more specific and targeted tests" must be conducted before the FCC can adopt appropriate rules for UWB devices.

The League called again on the FCC to take no action in the UWB proceeding, ET Docket 98-153, until it establishes specific rules, definitions and classes of UWB devices in a further Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Remarking on comments filed by UWB proponent Time Domain Corporation, the ARRL said it would be reasonable to conclude that if UWB devices bother GPS receivers, "there is at least the same degree of interference potential to amateur receivers."

The ARRL also commented on remarks filed by XtremeSpectrum Inc, which proposed a spectrum mask to offer 18 dB of protection below Section 15.209 levels. The ARRL said specifying a spectrum mask for UWB is "an absolute necessity," and it called XtremeSpectrum's proposals "a step in the right direction."

In past comments in the UWB proceeding, the League has agreed that UWB has potentially beneficial applications, but it says these should only be accommodated under the FCC's Part 15 rules "subject to appropriate interference avoidance regulations."

The ARRL Letter

Dayton Hamvention hosts bouyant crowd

Rain on the opening day of the 50th Dayton Hamvention did not deter the crowd from having a good time. Show-priced bargains offered by some dealers enhanced the enjoyment, and the weather improved immensely on Saturday and Sunday.

General Chairman Jim Graver, KB8PSO, said Hamvention officials believe that between 27,000 and 28,000 turned out for this year's show--nearly the same number as last year. Graver said he was happy to see a good crowd despite higher gasoline prices and Friday's rain.

Unlike past Hamventions, major manufacturers had comparatively little new to offer this year. Among the most noticeable items were: The new Kenwood TH-F6A compact triband hand-held FM VHF transceiver with wideband receive including HF; Ten-Tec's long-awaited 6 and 2-meter all-mode transceiver, the Model 526 "6N2"--the Tennessee company's first factory-built VHF radio; Yaesu's MD-200 desk mike "for elite-class Amateur Radio operators;" and Alpha Power's Alpha 6/2 maximum legal power VHF amplifier--the first amp produced under the company's new management and ownership.

ARRL Advertising Manager John Bee, N1GNV, said he got "almost universally positive comments" from Dayton Hamvention 2001 exhibitors. "'They came to buy,' was a common refrain," he said. Bee called the number of new vendors at this year's show "an encouraging sign" for Amateur Radio.

During the ARRL Forum Saturday, Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "It's been great year for Amateur Radio and the ARRL. Things are moving in the right direction on a number of fronts." ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, echoed Sumner's sentiments. Pointing to his career in sales, Haynie said Amateur Radio is "the best product that I have in my repertoire of things to sell." Haynie called upon those on hand to think about "the product" that is Amateur Radio and how they can share the fun with others.

"I'm asking you to talk to your neighbor, I'm asking you to talk to your brother, your sister, your city council, your mayor, your congressman, and tell 'em about your product, which is Amateur Radio," Haynie exhorted.

Haynie presented a plaque to Graver in recognition of the 50th Hamvention. Speaking on behalf of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and the Hamvention Committee, Graver thanked the League for its efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio.

Saturday morning's AMSAT forum included a telephone visit with "space tourist" Dennis Tito, KG6FZX. Tito told the gathering that Amateur Radio provided a great boost to his recent visit to the International Space Station. "The opportunity to do a phone patch five days in a row was a very important part of my flight, and I looked forward to it every day," he said. A planned ham radio contact with the ISS crew from the Hamvention did not work out, however. In addition to handling the Tito interview, Roy Neal, K6DUE, of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program, also chatted with astronaut Janice Voss, KC5BTK.

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, not only was one of the Saturday banquet speakers but the highlight of the Sunday morning FCC forum. Playing to a packed house, Hollingsworth and FCC colleague Bill Cross, W3TN, of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, reviewed regulatory and enforcement issues confronting ham radio (see below, "FCC to Amateurs: Detailed Regulation "Not in the Picture.")

Hollingsworth told the crowd that amateur enforcement complaints are way down. With tongue only somewhat in cheek, Hollingsworth said "California" topped his list of enforcement issues that keep him awake at night. "If it weren't for California, amateur enforcement would be a one-day-a-week job," he said, "and we wouldn't need most of the rules."

Hollingsworth also cited "stupidity" and unlicensed 10-meter operation as other factors that continue to provide grist for enforcement. He played taped excerpts of contentious on-air amateur discussions to demonstrate his point. "There was nothing illegal--nothing against our rules" on the tapes, he said. But, he continued, their content presents a poor image of the Amateur Service to anyone listening in--and that could include the media, decision makers and the general public.

Graver said there are no current plans for Hamvention to move from the venerable Hara Arena. Dayton Hamvention's contract to use Hara runs through 2003..

The ARRL Letter

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate in the DLARC, RACES & ARES nets
146.70 and 444.90 W3OK/RPT (pl 151.4) with an alternate of W3PYF/RPT 145.11
W3OK trustee Chris Hornaman, NU3L
The Nets are held on Wednesdays at 7:00PM

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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 IU 20 Building in Palmer Township
TALK IN ON 146.70

Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
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