Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2004

Meeting June 3rd at IU20

The Prez Sez

by Bryan, AA3WM

Why did you join the DLARC? Why do you renew your membership each year? What activities does the club do that interest you? What activities do you wish the club would do? How often do you get involved with DLARC activities? How do you, or how can you, contribute to the DLARC to make it a better radio club? These are just some of the questions I, and others on the Executive Board, are interested in knowing the answers to.

The DLARC currently has 231 members, yet it is hard to tell that by the turn out at club meetings and club activities. Do I really expect that all the club activities will interest all the club members? Absolutely not! I do, however, expect that each and every member has at least one reason why they are a member of DLARC. What are those reasons? How can we turn those reasons into more participation by more club members? If you have any input to these questions, or if you would like to answer the questions in the first paragraph, please talk to me, call me, or email me - my email address is: sbw1@enter.net - I really do want to hear from you. If you don't want to talk to me, talk to one of the other board members - there is a list of phone numbers and email addresses on the back of this newsletter.

One of the events that the DLARC has done in years past, but one that we currently have no one willing to take the lead on, is the DLARC Hamfest. As has been mentioned in the past newsletter, several meetings, and several Wednesday night nets, we are in need of a chairman for the DLARC Hamfest. So far, no one has come forward to volunteer for this position. Why? Is there no interest in doing a hamfest? Are you interested, but don't think you are capable of doing it? Do you like attending the hamfest, but think it is someone else's responsibility to make sure that it happens? What ever the reason(s), there is no hamfest chairman, and this was the subject of much discussion at the Executive Board meeting this month. It was time to make some hard decisions, and here is the one that the executive board made:

If no one volunteers to be Hamfest Chairman for the DLARC 2004 Hamfest by June 4, 2004 at 7:00 PM, the DLARC Hamfest for this year will be canceled!

One final question: If you don't want the hamfest to be cancelled this year, what are you going to do to help out?

de Bryan, AA3WM

It is very important that all members should be present at the June 3rd general meeting. We will be discussing as a club at large the scheduling and cancellation of events.

de DLARC Board

Double your fun?

by Charlie, W3DEA

Where do I start?

So often I want to set some groundwork in regards to the story that is about to unfold. Some, closer to me than others, do not need the build up. Those that are not on a day-to-day basis often find themselves slow on the uptake without a brief, "this is what led up to it" kind of opening.

This is where Bryan (AA3WM) comes into it, then.

Bryan and I met at church and he basically revitalized my waning interest in ham radio. His enthusiasm lifted mine to continue on my quest to achieve the goals I set when I had initially entered the hobby. You can say that Bryan is my "Elmer."

Elmer has lent me a 2meter mobile rig. He wasn't sure if it still put out its max on hi power but it would be better than chasing my make shift hand held mobile across the passenger seat while trying to keep my car out of the neighbors yard.

Elmers are good for sound ham radio advise.

After having it in the car for a day or two I discussed the idea of practicing cw with him and Brad (KB3JXQ) on simplex if the radio still put out its max. Bryan said this sounded like a good idea and suggested testing the radios as we drove apart at the next meeting.
All right, I know I could have borrowed a wattmeter, but then this story would have ended at, "where do I start?"

"AA3WM, W3DEA."

"W3DEA this is AA3WM."

So far we're about a block apart and things are still good.

Bryan is giving Clarence (W3PYF) a ride home so I call for him quick too. As Clarence answers I turn my radio to hi power so I do not have to when I am on Rt.33. I give Clarence the send up as to what Bryan and I are setting out to do.

I wait for a reply.

I wait some more.

I look at my radio. It's off. I press the power button and it remains off.

Brad is with me and he pushes on the cigarette adapter and still no power.

Brad and I are looking at the radio, power connecters and cigarette adapter. Somewhere in the back of my mind my mother is yelling," WATCH THE ROAD, or you will never get the keys to the car!"

Well, it is my car Mom but I get the point, and, anyway, my underwear is clean.
After pulling the car to the side of the road I proceed to get under the dash to take a look at the fuse box. Brad has pointed out that the problem is more than likely a blown fuse.

My car has blade fuses, which are next to impossible to grip with the fingers I have. In fact I do not know anyone who can pull these out without a fuse puller and I do not have one.

I do have my club id badge with its collar clip, though (well you can not have a ham radio story and not have some home brewing added to it - the clip makes a nice puller).

Now that I have changed some fuses around, the radio still is not working.

"Maybe the cigarette adapter fuse is blown," Brad says as he starts taking it apart," Yup, this fuse is blown."

"I do not have a fuse like that one. Hey, you have your HT, let me call Bryan on that."

Brad has an Icom W32A, which has a nice feature of flashing a light at you when the batteries are to weak to transmit," Huh, the battery is dead. Look."

A pregnant pause ensues.

In the spirit of McGyver, and the fact that my car is a traveling garbage bin, Brad asks, "Do you have any foil floating around in here?"

I immediately start rummaging in and under the seats, bringing back childhood memories of searching the couch for change after my parents company has left. A double mint wrapper filters its way to the top and I look at Brad with a "Gold, I've struck gold!" kind of grin.

We insert the foil and press the power button, which brings the radio to life. I turn the radio to medium power for fear of setting my dash on fire by using high power without a fuse. As the electric flows through our jury-rigged circuit a delicate scent of mint fills the car.

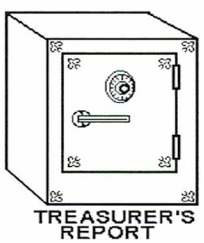
"AA3WM this is W3DEA."
"W3DEA this is AA3WM, what happened?"

"Well, Where do I start…?"

de Charlie W3DEA

Treasurer's Report for April

by Dick, KA3MOU



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

Balance 3/31/04	**$7,168.80**
INCOME	
Club Dues	$4.00
Donation Income 50-50	22.00
Interest Checking	6.41
TOTAL INCOME	**$32.41**
EXPENSES	
Equipment CW Filter Yaesu Barry Kery	$122.95
Insurance Equipment & Liability	449.00
Memory Of Bart Check N3KEC	25.00
Newsletters May	66.25
Postage Permit & Stamps	107.00
Repeater Shielded D25 Barry Vogt	8.65
Telephone	17.77
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$796.62**
Balance 4/30/04	**$6,404.59**

de Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

DLARC General Meeting Minutes, May 6

by Charles, W3DEA



DLARC General Meeting,
May 6th, 2004

Call to order 7:35PM

- ✓ Late due to trying to drag the membership away from the Lehigh County RACES mobile
- ✓ 35 members present / 23 members needed for a quorum

April General Meeting Minutes (Charlie W3DEA)

- ✓ No changes, 1st - Dave N3EYT, 2nd - Ken N3IYX, Passed

Treasurer's Report (Dick KA3MOU)

- ✓ No changes, 1st - Clarence W3PYF, 2nd - Jeff N3QZT, Passed

REPORTS

- ✓ Repeater / Web Page (Barry N3NVA)
  - o Please get event info to him for the web page's quick calendar
- ✓ W3PYF repeater is now a Master 2
- ✓ **MOTION:** To write Northampton County and Industrial Communications thank you letters for what the do for the club, by Pete NL7XM, 2nd - Bill K3ANS, Passed

VE Session (Bill N2DH)

- ✓ One registrant

W3OK Club Station (Ken N3IYX)

- ✓ Looking for donations of ½" copper tubing
- ✓ Painting of the floor is finished
- ✓ CW filter bought by Barry KU3X
- ✓ George N3SQD has installed some Anderson power poles
- ✓ Ceiling still leaks

Classes (George N3SQD)

- ✓ Classes will extend two more weeks
- ✓ Boy Scouts are enthusiastic in regards to CW

Field Day Update (Ken N3IYX)

- ✓ Looking for volunteers

MS Walks (Charlie W3DEA)

- ✓ Thanked those that helped at both walks
  - o E = Easton, A = Allentown
  - o Bryan AA3WM, E A
  - o Jeff N3MFT, A
  - o Jim KA3UQP, A
  - o Charlie N3VUO, E A
  - o Phil KB3HMK, E A
  - o Larry KB3JMS, E A
  - o Dick KA3MOU, A
  - o Jeff N3QZT, E A - With a special note of thanks for getting Bryan AA3WM and Charlie W3DEA pointed in the right direction at Easton
  - o George N3SQD, E A
  - o Brad KB3JXQ, E A
  - o Kathy KB3JMR, E
  - o Bob KE3AW, E A
  - o Jim KB3BYU, A
  - o Charlie W3DEA, E A
- ✓ Mentioned the MS-150 coming up (contact Jeff N3QZT) who also needs volunteers

Visitors:

- ✓ Jay N3OW and Willie AB3BS

New Memberships / Reinstatements:

- ✓ Voted on Joan KB3KZK (family membership / husband is James KB3EJK) ACCEPTTED
- ✓ First Readings to Willie AB3BS, Jay N3OW and Jeremiah KB3KXR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ Need a hamfest chairman QUICKLY
- ✓ MS-150 June 12,13 needs volunteers - contact Jeff N3QZT - If you can only help one day THATS FINE, please let him know which day
- ✓ Lehigh River Run July 18 - contact Charlie N3VUO
- ✓ Derriere in the Delaware - contact Dick KA3MOU or Jeff N3QZT
- ✓ Chairman needed for DLARC picnic September 12
- ✓ Thank you letter from ARRL for donation to BPL fight fund

NEW BUSINESS

- ✓ Barry N3NVA wants to know if anyone is interested in having a fox hunt - General interest and Dick KA3MOU / Barry N3NVA will organize Date to be set
- ✓ Dick KA3MOU - Northampton County will be getting a R.A.C.E.S. mobile
- ✓ Program for May meeting is Lehigh county RACES mobile on display
- ✓ June - Field Day Prep.
- ✓ July - ??Fox hunt??

Adjournment:

- ✓ 1st - Jeff N3QZT, 2nd - Ken N3IYX, Passed

de Charles, W3DEA

Conterra Harness

by Phillip W. Bigg, KB3HMK

The Conterra Harness is a versatile tool when working in the field. Your radio is right in front of you and it keeps your hands free. The harness that I use has a large pocket on the left. This can be used to store an extra battery pack and note pad and what ever else you have. In the middle there is a space for a pen. The compartment for the radio is adjustable, so just about any radio will work. On the right shoulder strap is an elastic band to keep your antenna close to you so it doesn't flop around. I have only used mine twice, and both times it worked great. I will bring my harness in to the next meeting to show everyone.

de Phillip W. Bigg, KB3HMK



MS-150 Bike Tour

By Jeff, N3QZT

On the weekend of June 12th & 13th 2004, the MS 150-2004 bike tour will be held. This two-day event (with dinner, breakfast and lodging provided) is one of the largest public service events, and we can use everyone's help. This year the bikers will be following a route that starts in Trexlertown at the Velodrome and end at Kutztown and then back the opposite direction the next day. So a lot of the early morning travel time is gone, and hopefully this will make it easier for you to participate in the event.

Your participation in the event can vary from a one day or two day assignment and can involve manning and ambulance and helping us keep in contact with them or riding on one of the sag busses (for the tired bike riders) to maintaining communications to any one of the rest stops along the route. Our job with the bike tour is to provide communications for safety and also for logistical support. Why not give it a try this year?

We can sure use your help!!!

Let me now as soon as possible if you can help. Also please indicate what days you will be available (Saturday or Sunday) or if you plan on staying over night and participating both days.

If you have contacted me and you are not sure I have your name please send e-mail back to me.

de Jeffrey L. Keller, N3QZT

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Meeting 7:30pm	4 V.E. Test Session	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 MS-150
13 MS-150	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Field Day
27 Field Day	28	29	30	Send your entries for the calendar to: kb3jxq@snycomp.com		

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate in the DLARC, RACES, and 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 7:00 PM

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== 2003-2004 ==

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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 IU20 Building in Palmer Township
TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
should be addressed to kb3jxq@snycomp.com or Brad Snyder, Editor
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visit our web page

http://www.dlarc.org

18032+7204 04

DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

MEMBERSHIP EXP 12-31-04
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