THE DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

NEWS

RD #4
GREYSTONE BUILDING
NAZARETH, PA
18064

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* AUGUST 3, 1989 *
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FROM SPARK TO SPACE

TWO GREAT VIDEOS

Vern, N5IEP has secured two great videos for the August 3rd Meeting. The first is a video of a working Spark Gap generator, which represents the beginning of Amateur Radio and the second is a tape of a club station in contact with one of the Space Shuttles involving voice and slow scan TV. This will be a little different than the types of programs we have been running but, even your old president, W3PYF has never seen the operation of a Spark Transmitter.

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FIELD DAY 1989

by Bob, KU3K

I would like to share with you the reason this day means so much to me. The term "Field Day" does not have the proper ring to it to establish its true importance!! Certainly the ability to perform in the face of a disaster is the main reason for this day in the first place...yes we make a "contest" out of it but the most important feature is to see how well we as hams can face the "EMERGENCY" that may come our way at any time. Well, our amateur radio possesses the manpower, equipment and ability to establish a communications link almost anywhere in the world...WITHIN HOURS. Not just our club of course, but clubs and people from across the country, each person adding there own measure of expertise to the "team effort". This is why I am so fond of this most special day..we hams show the world that we richly deserve the frequencies on which we operate and that this greatest of hobbies is not just so much "B.S."

We had a super time during the weekend and rubbed elbows with some of the best operators in the world. The food and drink were the best I have ever seen in over thirty years of field days! If I start thanking people some will be forgotten. Thanks to those who came to help even though not on any "list", and the people who can always be counted on, you know who you are! THANKS TO THE TEAM Special kudos go to N3GMI who raised his hand when nobody else would and kept the team well fed and happy! Did I enjoy myself?...I am offering to be field day chairman again next year!!!

P.S.: OVER 2000 QSO'S..NOT BAD FOR W3OK 3A EPA de KU3K, Field Day Chairman

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OH! WHAT A DAY!
Derriere on the Delaware 1989

None of 20 members of the DLARC had to dip their derrieres in the Delaware during the Red Cross Benefit float on Sunday July 16th, in order to get wet.

The rains that hit, before things started did not stop our gang. Although very wet, all stayed on location until the final floater made it to Scott Park, Easton from Eddyside Park. With the small turnout, of floaters, one of our members however was first down the river on a tube. K3CP, Van, made it as the first to finish. The "float" was cancelled at 12:00 noon, because of the weather. Participating were: KA3MOB, W3BPP, N2FSY, N5IEP, N3GOC, N3CVH, KB3RI, KA3IJL, WA3ENE, KA3ODI, W3CJI, N3EBH, N3GRK, N3GXW, NS3J, KA3MOU, N3DSP, N3FWU and W3PYF. Two standbys were KA3MNY and W3IRX. de <W3PYF>

THE PREZ SEZ
by Clarence, W3PYF

What a month! With three bike races, the Derrierre in the Delaware, our group has again proved our value to the community. This is what Amateur Radio is all about.

The cooperation this month, and every month gets better all the time. Our value as communicators is becoming more known all the time. The first two bicycle races were on the agenda for the club, but when another group could not get the necessary help, our group came through.

All of you received the last newsletter and in it was a questionaire designed by Blair, K3YD, make sure you fill yours out and get it in. It is important to your boards plans for coming programs.

I must add a few words about our Field Day which was after we went to press last month. I have been participating in Field Day with the Delaware Lehigh Amatuer Radio Club for over 40 years and this year was by far the best planned, organized and operated that I have ever seen. This kind of help shows that planning makes the big difference. To mention any one special would be a mistake, because it was a great *TEAM* effort.

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DIGITAL (ANALOG) COMMUNICATIONS
de Joel, K9TBD

TWO METER VERTICAL ANTENNAE

This month I would like to pass along some of the experimentation I've made with vertical antennae on two meters. This past weekend I made another one just so I could bend over the hill to my north. Here is a little compendium of results (mostly qualitative) from the past twenty or so years of playing with two meter antennae.

GAIN	DESCRIPTION	YEAR	ANNOTATION
1/4	Short Duckie		Short-short helix
1/2	Rubber Duckie		Short helix
3/4	1/4 wave whip	1972	Full 1/4 wave
1	Ordinary 1/4 wave	1983	Matched 1/4 wave (on car)
2	Bazooka	1988	Balanced Vertical Dipole
3	5/8 Whip	1977	home brew.
5	1/4 + 5/8 Wave		Hustler collinear
6	5/8 + 5/8 Wave		G-7 (1977)
10	5-element Yagi	1975	curtain rod type
12	11-element Yagi		commercial

The dates indicate when I built these antenna. The gain is measured or guessed power ratios from a reference vertical dipole. This represents experience - not precise measurement. Some of these antennae have appeared in the Milwaukee (91) and Nazareth (70) newsletters - others (low band antennae) - Ham Radio. It is fun to experiment and the antenna can perform wonders without the expense of power amplifiers. Maybe this article will inspire you to play a little with some coax and a chunk of wire!!!

What do you need to experiment with antennae? A little patience, some wire, and no fear of heights. Here is a list of materials:

1. Patience
2. Drill
3. Screws and nuts
4. Coax and connectors
5. Ladder
6. Hand tools - screwdriver, pliers,.
7. Steady hand on the ladder
8. Remote station with S-Meter
9. Willingness to play for hours.

Here is the only technical information that I will pass along in this article:

1/4 wave in feet can be computed as: 234/freq(in MHz). DB in power is 10*log (P2/P1) where P2/P1 is the power ratio. Doubling the power is 3 dB.

That last one is important - If you increase your signal by 3 dB by improving your antenna - that is the same as doubling your power.

Think about building an antenna before building an amplifier that doubles your power.

The cost of the antenna may be a piece of wire and a couple of connectors - the price of an amplifier may not be compatible with your marriage..

de Joel, K9TBD

Joel spells more than one antenna as antennae, I spell it as antennas..What do you think, W3PYF editor.

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WEAR YOUR BADGES!

A FEW MINUTES WITH NQ3D

The monthly meeting of the DLARC was held on July 6, 1989 at the Greystone Building in Nazareth. There were 74 members and guests in attendance with President W3PYF presiding. The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved.

New members elected were:

KA3UIU...Gene Hull KA3UUV..Joseph Ver
KA3ONZ...Bruce Hull KJ3R..Charles Bersch

W3PYF opened the meeting by offering thanks to everyone who participated in Field Day with a special thanks to N3GMI for his extra effort.

KD3HS reported there is no sked for future QSO's with GB8OO in Northampton, England at this time but a regular schedule will probably be established. About 6 local members did work the Northampton Radio Club during the June 3rd sked.

N5IEP reported that DLARC volunteers successfully assisted the organizers of 3 area bike races. Verne also reported the July 16th "Derriere in the Delaware", had 14 volunteers to date.

Upcoming ham and computerfests:

Computerfest.....Lancaster, August 6.
HamFest.....Warrington, August 13.

A Northampton County resident is needed to act as ARRL Emergency Coordinator. This is an ARRL appointed position that requires have a General Class license or better and be a League Member.

The committee announced that the club's Clipperton Amplifier, 10 to 160 is still available for purchase for $400.00.

N2FSY and N3GOC volunteered to handle the monthly 50/50 drawings.

K3EX had six members express interest in a Tech to General course. Novice to Tech generated no interest. Contact K3EX if interested.

Vice President W3TDF has begun generating interest in the 1989 PA QSO PARTY. Ray has info about "Farm Vacation" facilities for those interested in a DX-Pedition to a "hot" county.

The business meeting adjourned, and K2BPP/6Y5 presented an excellent program on his encounter with Hurricane Gilbert in Jamaica and his emergency traffic handling as the "Voice of Hurricane Gilbert".

de Mike, NQ3D

GRAMMAR AND OTHER SUCH OBSERVANCES

by Ray, W3TDF

I overheard a conversation, or should I say a call on the repeater again tonight which went like this: "W3PYF - W3TDF are you there Clarence?". Now just think about that for a second. You never ask a question of someone until you get their attention, and you sure haven't gotten their attention by just giving their call. By just saying "W3PYF - W3TDF" or "W3PYF this is W3TDF", you are actually saying. "Hey Clarence this is Ray". Asking a question like 'are you there Clarence' is akin to saying 'ya got yer ears on?'. and I sure hate that phrase.

Now here is another one. "Where are you at?". I don't remember what kind of word 'at' is, but I know you ain't(!) supposed to use it at the end of a sentence. Whasamattawid 'where are you?', also another, 'where are you now'? are you gonna be anywhere else?

Am I boring you? If so well just read on anyway. Maybe we can both get an education, or should I say we can get some learnin! How about "73's". That is the double plural of a 'CW' abbreviation. (Its probably used by more hams who do not like CW) but, lets get down to basic facts. In CW 73 means 'Best Wishes'. Note - 73 without the 's'. means 'Best Wishes'. With the 'S' it means *Best Wisheses*!

Now let us go one step further. The purpose of an abbreviation is brevity! If you say seventy threes, that is 4 syllables. If you say Best Wishes that is 3 syllables. Now how about those CW-Q signals. "CUE ES ELL" (QSL) syllables means Roger, 2 syllables.

One other thing, if you say QTH that means you location..When you say Work QTH, that is redundant..If you are at work you are at work, if you are home, you are home, not 'Home QTH'.

Well it is bedtime in Pleasant Valley, so I'm gonna QRT and QSY to the upper level. 73 & 88(where applicable). de Ray, W3TDF

This Ray's first article for the Newsletter, don't know what you think, but I think his "down home style is great". Tell him to write more, de W3PYF, editor.

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DON'T FORGET - PA QSO PARTY OCT 7th and 8th..GET READY.

ACTION BETWEEN THE HAM BANDS
(from Packet Radio)

Hello Mr. President! Listening in on Air Force One has always been interesting and it's getting even more popular! The frequencies everyone are talking about: 415.700 and 407.850 on your scanner! The plane flies at an altitude of more than a few miles...so if Mr. Bush is over any of the surrounding states you're bound to pick him up. Almost all traffic is not scrambled and consists of phone patches and clearances. "CROWN CONTROL" by the way, is the White house. Now for half the information: Absolutely fascinating listening can be found in upper side-band on 11.076, 14.686, 18.666, 23.403. However, I can't be positive as to what it is! Lots of code names and short announcements like, "subject approaching" or "stand by, entering perimeter". The Gilfer's Confidential Frequency list has these as possible CIA/DEA/USCG. Give it a try during daylight hours. These are good freq's to have on in the shack when you're working on something else. If one freq doesn't yield something within 15 minutes try another. Whatever it is, it's fascinating. If you have RTTY equipment (a KAM, MFJ-1278 or PK-232) try watching 6456.78 at 170 shift, 75 baud, reversed (170/75R). I've been watching interesting english traffic of scientific nature..."Science support expedition" is the only ID! Try around 1000-1030 UTC.

Kenwood U.S.A. now has it's very own computer bulletin board. Reach it at 300-/1200/2400 baud at 1-213-761-8284. Open 1700-0800 pst M-F and Fri 1700 to 0800 pst Monday. Want to find out a lot more about Short Wave Listening? NASWA is a great club that puts out a high quality monthly magazine full of what you want to know. Write to them at: 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA 19057.

de Jim KS1A

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INCREASED SUN SPOTS 'TIL 1990

According to the NOAA, the current sunspot cycle began in 1986 and is expected to peak by the end of this year or the beginning of 1990. This according to the Associated Press.

12 BOTTLES OF WHISKEY
Submitted by Ann, KO3M

I had 12 bottles of whiskey in my cellar and was told by my wife to empty the contents down the sink - "OR ELSE!!"

I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

Took the cork from the second bottle and did likewise, with the exception of one glass which I also drank. I then withdrew the cork from the third bottle and poured the whiskey down the sink with the exception of one glass which I also drank. I pulled the cork from the fourth sink and poured the bottle down the glass and drank one sink of it and then poured the cork from the bottle. Then I corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink , and drank the pour, and when I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, counted the bottles, corks, glasses, and sink (There were 29). And as the house came by, I counted them again, and finally had all the house and one bottle, which I of course drank. I'm not under the alcofluence of incohol, but thinkle peep I am.. I'm not half as thunk as you drink I am..I fool so feelish, I don't know who is me, and the drunker I stand here the longer I get...DRINK UP..de Ann, KO3M

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WE DID IT AGAIN!

When communications were needed for safety reasons for the Future Bicycle Riders for three events, two on Saturday June 24th and one on Sunday June 25th, the DLARC came through again.

With one race on the Lehigh South Campus and hill climb on the main campus on Saturday and the Criterion Race in Allentown on Sunday, the following members participated:

KA3MOU, Dick; N3FWU, Dave; KA3IJL, Amy; K3CP, Van; W3PYF, Clarence; KA3MNY, Roy; KA3RBH, Bill; N2FSY, Art; K3YD, Blair, KA3ONZ, Bruce and director of operations for communications N5IEP, Vern.

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JAPANESE PIG LATIN

Did you know that Yaesu is actually the reversed pronunciation of USA?

TO OPEN?
by Dewi, N3FNW

Well here I go again. Did you ever see the packages that say "TO OPEN, PUSH IN AT PERFORATION AND TEAR BACK"? Did you try to do this? I have the perfect solution for us poor inexperienced males who do the more simple tasks with ease. You will have to take the boxes into your shop. For now, take any box of powdered soap or bleach for practice and take these instructions with you:

1- Using two sheets of plywood slightly larger than the box make a sandwich using the box for the ham and put it into your vise. Tighten it securely but do no over tighten as that may crush the box and really make a mess on the floor.

2- Drill a 3/8" hole somewhere along the perforation.

3- Now that you have a pilot hole, take your saber saw, push the blade through the pilot hole and carefully cut along the perforation. Some boxes do not lend themselves to the "TEAR BACK" instructions so you may want to use the saber saw to accomplish that too.

I hesitate to recommend the above for edibles like pasta products. The sawdust will probably get into the contents. I keep a sharp wood chisel and a hammer on the kitchen cabinet and open food packages that way. W3TDF may have to get his hammer out of his truck, but don't forget to put it back Ray, you never know when you may need it to get the truck started.

I hear that there is a move afoot by the ARS wives association to pack our new radios in this manner. If their lobby is successful, I doubt if the above instructions will work. The drill or the saw blade may penetrate too far and damage the contents. Think about it, we will probably never get the new rigs out of the boxes and put them on the air. If we do manage to get them unpacked the contents will probably have fallen all over the floor and another six months will pass while we try to reassemble them. I guess that we'll be placed into service doing the jobs that we manage to shirk in the name of amateur radio. One of our innovative officers who shall remain nameless invented a way to cut the grass and play radio at the same time. The trouble is, he cut the rubber ducky off and destroyed the key pad when Gloria threw his H.T. under the mower.

Remember the old milk bottle? "Lift tab and pull up to remove cap". Usually the tab tore off and you wound up pushing the cap into the bottle and the displaced contents went all over the table (or into your lap). Now they have improved that one too, "Pull apart, tear back and squeeze together to open." Now I ask you, has any of you ever been able to open one of those cartons and have a sharp edge to keep the milk (or orange juice) flowing straight down?

The time has come for all good men to come to the aid of their fellow man. With all of the high tech stuff, there should be a better way. Lets all get together and march on the packaging industry. We will do it in style, picket signs and all. Maybe our V.P., W3TDF can organize us. Look at how effective he is for Field Day, banquets etc. Maybe he can arrange a special train to get us there. TOOT TOOT

de Dewi, N3FNW

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FOR SALE

Drake C Line (RA4C/T4XC/Power Supply). Receiver has all filters. Competition Grade Receiver. Original Owner..Original Boxes.- Plus many spare parts. First $425.00 Takes it all. Contact Rick K3OO @ 863-4971..

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MY SENTIMENTS ON NO CODE
by Walt, W3GFA

As an amateur operator, I feel it is a duty of EVERY amateur operator to learn the code. PERIOD.

It is still the recognized method of getting through with:

A: low power emergency
B: high noise level interference
C: automatic emergency equipment

I think the amount of time is justified (for studying and practicing) just as an engineer, etc, has to study english, history and other "useless" courses which broaden total knowledge and comprehension.

If the blind, deaf, and other handicapped people can do it, all can. de Walt, W3GFA

DB'S ARE NOT DOG BISCUITS
by Van K3CP

Ima Lidd had heard about decibels and knew they had something to do with gain and power measurements, but he didn't know much more than that. He decided to ask his Elmer. Elmer was, as always, glad to help Ima. The term comes from the basic unit which is the bel. However, the bel is too large a unit for practical use so decibel is used. A decibel or db as it often abbreviated is one tenth of a bel. A one db increase in power produces a change in the audio level that is barely perceptible to our ear. The basic unit, bel, is named for Alexander Graham Bell, who pioneered in audio amplifiers for the hearing impaired which led to the invention of the telephone.

The db is not a unit of power but rather a ratio of power. In other words it is a ratio or comparison of two power levels. For instance if you establish a dipole antenna as a reference and then measure it's performance against another antenna, the difference in the two antennas is measured in db's. Also, if you are running 100 watts and then add an amplifier, the difference or ratio of the two power levels is said to be x number of db's. You cannot accurately say an antenna has 9 db's of gain without specifying a reference such as a dipole or other source. When you read about front to back ratio of a directional antenna the author means the ratio between the gain of the back side of the antenna compared to that of the front side. Some advertisements for antennas claim to have a certain number of db's gain. This can be misleading. For example - a dipole has 2.1 db's gain over an isotropic antenna. An isotropic antenna is not a real antenna but a point that radiates equally in all directions. Picture a ball with a point at it's center. If radiation from that point covers the inside surface of the ball evenly, you have an example of an isotropic antenna. So, a dipole which concentrates its radiation in two directions has 2.1 db's gain when compared to an isotropic. If an antenna manufacturer wanted to put his product in the best possible light, he could measure his antenna against an isotropic. He then could forget to mention this fact and claim 6 db's of gain. The antenna would be less that 4 db's over a dipole. A more honest manufacturer might compare his product with a dipole and state that it had 4 db's and have more real gain than the first example. QST magazine will not accept ads from antenna makers who claim to have a certain amount of gain. Decibels may be used to measure gain or loss and they can be added or subtracted. Let's compare two ham stations. The first is running 10 watts to a dipole fed with coaxial cable with 1 db loss. The second has 100 watts to a 3 element bean which is fed with a very low loss transmission line. The calculations look like this. One db for the better feed line, 10 db's for the additional power and 9 db's for the beam for a total of 20 db's over the first station. The second station has a signal equivalent of 100 times that of the first although it was running only ten times the power. That looks like a whale of a difference and it is. We can get a better appreciation of (the) this when we remember that 6 db's equals one S unit. The second station would be three and one third S units stronger.

Ima Lidd now understands what decibels are all about. He can get an idea of how good his S meter is the next time a station he is working goes from 100 watts to 1000, it will read 10 db's more if it's accurate. Elmer told Ima to be sure his units are in power. Although decibels can be stated in volts or current, other criteria must be considered. Ima Lidd is learning his theory and the mysteries are starting to clear. Some hams are beginning to ask him questions!

de Van K3CP

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VE TESTING AUGUST 4TH

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club's VE testing program continues to draw people from all over the area according to Don Holmes, KC3II, who heads the club effort.

During the July tests, 9 people took part and there were 2 upgrades and several partial exams past.

The next session will have Team 4 doing the testing.

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NEW COMPUTER GLOSSARY

courtesy N0ACZ

ANALOG-
Horsd'oeuvre, usually made with cheese and covered with crushed nuts. Served at all staff parties.

APPLE-
Typically, a device used to seduce men. Usually equipped with display screens.

BAR CHART-
Places to go when it's Miller time.

BINARY-
Possessing the ability to have friends of both sexes.

BIPOLAR-
Refers to someone who has homes in Nome, Alaska and Buffalo, New York.

BIT-
Similar to nibble. Commonly eight nibbles to a mouthful. See byte.

BPI-
A 1960s term used to describe unmentionable parts of the anatomy, as in "you bet your bpi."

BUG-
Small living things that small living boys throw on small living girls.

BYTE-
A mouthful as in "How many bytes in a Big Mac."

CPU-
A juvenile way of telling your dog he missed the paper.

CHIP-
Any number of small crunchy objects often served with onion dip.

CLOSED LOOP-
A method of execution no longer in vogue except in Iran.

CODE-
Virus lasting about three to five days, accompanied by sore throat, runny nose and fever.

COMMAND-
Statement presented by a human and accepted by a computer in such a manner as to make the human feel as if he is in control.

COMPILE-
A heap of decomposing vegetable matter.

CONVERSATIONAL MODE-
Describes the typical office the day after a major sporting event.

CRT-
A movie about a little alien who forgets his telephone number and must write home.

CURSOR-
An expert in four-letter words.

DEBUG-
The act of placing shoe leather against a small creeping creature.

DOWNTIME-
Coffee breaks, lunch, or Friday mentality in the office.

DUMP-
The EPA's answer to health.

HARDWARE-
Typically, boots, leather and chains. Contrast with software.

INTERFACE-
The opposite of "Getouttamy-face."

K-
A term used in employment ads to disguise how much they are really willing to pay.

MEGAHERTZ-
A very large car rental company.

NETWORK-
The occupation of a fisherman.

ON LINE-
A statement shouted at tennis judges in response to serves being called out.

OUTPUT-
What people who talk backwards do to their cat.

PROGRAM-
What commercials try to do to us.

RAM-
A male sheep.

REAL TIME-
Here and now, as opposed to fake time, which only occurs there and then.

ROM-
A RAM after a delicate operation.

SEMI-CONDUCTOR-
A person hired to lead an orchestra before he has graduated from director's school.

SOFTWARE-
Typically silk nighties, nylons, garter belts. Contrast with hardware.

TERMINAL-
What most people have to be before consenting to see a doctor.

TRANSISTOR-
A sibling, opposite of transbrother.

VACUUM TUBE-
A derogatory term. See "bubble memory."

from WB3DTG Packet BBS.....



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LORD HOWE I. - VK9LA is between 14,222 and 14,232 KHz daily from 1100 to 1200 UTC. There on a 3-year assignment, Tony hopes to be a permanent resident. He is presently using a transceiver into a 3-element tribander. QSL via DJ5CQ.

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MARION I. - ZS8MI is finding good world-wide propagation for his cw and ssb on 28,800 KHz from 1200 to 1400 UTC. (The cw is on request). At 1400 UTC he frequently QSYs to 14,185-190 KHz for an hour. During the past week he has been starting at about 1000 UTC on 14,222 KHz QSX 14,230-240 KHz. Effective immediately, he will begin Saturdays and Sundays with skeds near 1810 KHz from about 0430 UTC. QSL to Peter's ZS6PT CBA.

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MAURITIUS I. - 3B8CF, with a potent signal, likes 21,027-030 KHz nightly from 0300 to 0500 UTC. QSL to his CBA.

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NAMIBIA - ZS3GB is on 28,490-495 KHz weekends from 1600 UTC. QSL to his CBA.

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NEW CALEDONIA - FK8FU's new antenna overrides the QRN most days on 1832 KHz from 0800-1000 UTC. QSL via the '87 CBA of NA5U.

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PAKISTAN - AP2ZA, with Guest-Op K2XR, is regularly near 14,010 KHz QSX up as announced, from 0200 UTC. QSL to: Azim Zaidi, P.O. Box 4787, Karachi 0223, Pakistan.

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RWANDA - 9X5AA is often in the Family Hour on 21,345 KHz from 1800 UTC. On request, he will sked you for a 15-meter RTTY contact. QSL via W4FRU.

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SAO TOME - S92LB, whose tremendous activity keeps this prefix available to DXers, is typically near 21,285 KHz from 2100 UTC. QSL to his CBA.

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TURKS & CAICOS IS. - VP5JM, licensed just last month, is already an experienced DXer as she works an endless series of YLRL Award-seekers on 21,255 KHz from 0001 UTC. QSL to P.O. Box 218, Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Is., B.W.I.

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - TL8NS is usually near 21,285 KHz for daily DXing from about 1500 UTC. QSL via IN3EYY.

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EQUATORIAL GUINEA - 3C1MM roams 10 and 15-meters from 1200 to 1500 UTC. His favorite spots are 21,009-030 and 28,015-030 KHz. QSL via EA1QF.

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JAN MAYEN - JX7DFA is regularly near 14,170 KHz (QSX up 10 to 15 KHz) from 0001 UTC. QSL via LA2KD.

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MALI - TZ6PS roams 21,250-300 KHz daily from 1400 UTC, giving his QSL address as: B.P. 428, Bamako, Mali.

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MARION I. - ZS8MI is active daily between 1400 and 1900 UTC on 10, 15 and 20 meters. Periodically band-hopping, his favorite frequencies appear to be within 5 KHz of 14,180, 14,255, 21,230 and 28,400 KHz. QSL to Peter's home-call, ZS6PT.

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MONGOLIA - JT1KAA is on 21,005-025 KHz most days from 1700 UTC. QSL directly to P.O. Box 639, Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

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THAILAND - HS1BV is within a few KHz of 21,215 KHz most days from 2000 UTC. QSL to his '89 CBA.

YANKEE DOODLING

GIVING CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE

We came to Field Day, set up, operated, tore down and went home after a great weekend. All of that was part of our great radio hobby. But, for 24 hours we ate and drank very well, and that's not part of radio. A special "Yankee Doodle" salute to the folks who made the Field Day kitchen work so well: N3GMI-head chef, N3GGV-omelet chef, and KB3RI-beverage manager! If I forgot someone, I'm sure that I'll be reminded--about a thousand times!

NORTHEAST ELECTRONICS

On MacArthur Road has closed due to other business interests of the proprietor, Bob Jones, W3GQQ. I recently heard that Bob has a few brand-new, in-the-box ICOM radios which he needs to sell. To avoid liquidation or a punishing re-stocking fee from ICOM, Bob is making the radios available to the local gang at "real good prices." I'm not sure of inventory or prices, but you can call Bob, at home, at 266-9291; or work, at 767-5833.

SUMMERTIME IS ANTENNA TIME

And most of us are planning and building. Here are a couple of Hints and Kinks.

If you're making a resonant wire antenna (dipole, etc) using PVC insulated wire, it will be shorter than a bare or enamel covered wire antenna. The velocity factor of PVC covered wire is 0.965. For example, a dipole for 75 meters, say 3.9 MHz, is supposed to be: $L = 468/f$, where f=freq. in MHZ. Thus: 468/3.9=120 feet. But if we use PVC insulated wire the length will be 120' * 0.965 = 115.8 feet. (Ref QST, Oct 1984, P. 22)

One of the hardest things to do when building antennas is to keep water out of UHF series coax connectors, like PL-259's. I read a really great article in January, 1989, Radio Communications, Journal of the Radio Society of Great Britain, on that subject. It recommended the use of "self amalgamating" electrical tape wrapped around the connectors. The tape should be wrapped with 50% overlap and stretched tightly--wrapping from small to large end. The tape will fuse into a custom-made waterproof boot for the connector. IT MUST BE OVERWRAPPED WITH ORDINARY PVC TAPE (SCOTCH 33+, OR EQUIVALENT) OR THE FUSING TAPE WILL BREAK-DOWN UNDER µV light (read sunlight). In the US of A, "self amalgamating" tape is better known as Scotch 23 Rubber Splicing Tape, and is available at your favorite electrical supply house.

ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST

Nearby **Hamfests**: Aug. 13 at Bucks County Drive-In, PA Route 611, Warrington, PA, and August 19 (Sat.) at American Legion Grounds, Oakland, NJ.

Fun-Contests include: New York QSO party 1600Z Aug. 5 to 1600Z Aug. 6. Exchange is RS(T) and QTH (county/state). CW 40 up, Phone 3880, 7280, etc.

NJ QSO PARTY IS 2000Z Aug 19 to 0700Z Aug 20 & 1300Z Aug 20 to 0200Z Aug 21. Exchange is QSO #, rs(t), QTH (county/ARRL section). CW up 35, check ± 3950/7235 As always in state parties, if you are out of state, work only "the locals." Don't forget to mention the PA QSO party.

WORLD TRAVELER OF DLARC

Bob Janney, KA4NYO, is now /VP5 working on South Caicos in the Caribbean. Mail can be addressed to him at: c/o Atlantic Beacon, Caicos Caribbean Airways, 3500 SW 11th Av., Ft. Lauderdale, FL. I've worked Bob on 17 meters (18.144 MHz LSB), he has a booming signal. His QSL manager is KB2FIN (callbook).

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Last month's column had a brief survey/questionaire enclosed, in the Yankee Doodling column. I've received only about 20 replies. Please guys, take a minute to fill it out and return it. No writing involved, just check the blocks, and get it to me by hand or mail. If you've lost your newsletter, ask? I can read the questions to you during or just after NET time.

WHO'S ON THE NEW WARC BANDS?

If you're active on either 12 or 17 MHz, how about sharing that info w/ Bill, K3ANS. Bill is always looking for good programs for club meetings. Many folks don't know much about these new frequencies. Share your wisdom.

PA QSO PARTY IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 7 & 8. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW.

73 DE K3YD

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
participate in the DLARC Nets
on 146.70 W3OK/rpt.
The Nets are held on Sundays at 9:30 AM
and on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.
The alternate repeater for these Nets
is 145.11 W3PYF/rpt.

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1989

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CLUB MEETING NIGHT

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held
on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM
in the Greystone Building at Gracedale.
Phone....759-2600

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Any comments or articles contributed to
this newsletter should be addressed to
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THE DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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