Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

August, 1998

Fists!!!

Fists

by Mark, K3MP

The topic will be about the **FISTS CW Club**. **FISTS** is a organization to promote the use of CW, encourage newcomers to use CW and to engender friendships among members. Our motto is **"Accuracy Transcends Speed".**

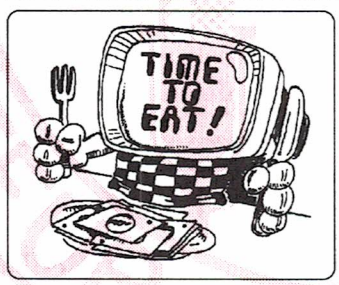


"When You've Worked A **FISTS**, You've Worked a Friend"

See you at the meeting in Room 190 at Northampton Community College on August 6th at 7:30 PM. Talk in on 146.70 if needed.

DLARC CLUB PICNIC

Will be **Sunday, August 16th**. at **Hackett's Park Easton Pa.** Starting about **12:00 PM. until ? Josh N3VJA** is the picnic chair person this year. Please leave Josh know what you will bring to the picnic.



The Club provides the Beverages and hot dogs and hamburger. See you at the picnic.

de Dick, KA3MOU

Try to make the Wednesday and Sunday nets of DLARC. It can make a difference.

Easton Hospital Run

by John, WX3TAZ

Once again we have been asked to handle the safety communications for the 9th Annual **Easton Hospital 5K Run** to be held on **Sunday, August 9.** We need at least 10 operators for no more that 3 hours. We will meet at the Hospital Parking Garage on 22nd Street in Wilson Boro at 8:30am. We must be in position by 9am. Those who operate will receive a T-shirt.



Please contact John, WX3TAZ, either by Email **jholmes@fast.net**, or on the .70 repeater.

de John, WX3TAZ

VE test session July 10

A test session was held July 10th with the following results. Total of twelve (12) elements were given to 6 candidates, with eight (8) elements being passed.

Name	License Earned	Call
Arthur Gorman	**Tech Plus**	**KB3CVV**
Jonathan Mordosky	**Tech Plus**	**N3ZUI**
Matthew Fila	**Tech**	**KC2DWC**
Joseph Smith III	**Tech**	**KB3CVW**

VES in attendance were **K3ANS, Bill, AA3IX, Carl, K2YIY, Cary and myself, K3MP**. This was a great session for all. Anyone interested in becoming a VE or helping out at the test sessions please contact me at my email address or call at 264-8343 after 4 PM.

de K3MP Mark ARRL Team Liaison

Just the minutes

by John, WX3TAZ, secretary

The July meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held in Room 190 at the Northampton County Community College. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President, Don, KA3JWE, called the meeting to order. There were 50 members and guests present. June's meeting minutes were accepted as written in the newsletter with Thomas, N3YRP, making the motion and Josh, N3VJA, seconding.



Dick, KA3MOU, gave the Treasurer's Report. Beginning balance, as of May 31 was $3,957.38. Income for the month was $119.00. Expenses for the month were $1,103.33. The Ending balance, as of June 30, is $2,973.05. Ed, W3APE, made the motion to accept the report with Walt, KE3SP, seconding.

Novice-Tech Classes will start on September 14. If you know anybody who is interested, let them know. Further information will follow as September gets closer.

Don, KA3JWE, gave the preliminary Field Day scores. 1509 Phone contacts and 421 CW contacts to bring the score to 4864 points. The score was down from last year, but there were more contacts on 20 and 40 meters. There were 560 contacts on 20 meters. It was a good turnout. Chris-NU3L, Bob-KE3AW, and Barry, KU3X, did a terrific job on coordinating Field Day.

Josh, N3VJA, has volunteered to chair the Club Picnic. It will be at Hacketts Park in Easton on August 16. Contact Josh to let him know what food you will bring and he may inform of some foods that are needed.

The DLARC would like to welcome the following new members:

Bob Esch, KB3CSS

Thalia Twaddell, KB3CSR

Cleonl Swartzentruber, N3YAH

Caryn J. Swartzentruber, N3YAF

Clair Swartzentruber, N3YDO

Edwin Olavarria, N3YKL

Charles Lazarchak

Carl Stevenson, WA6VSE

Motion to accept them was made by Josh, N3VJA, and seconded by Norm, K3NZ.

There was a lengthy discussion about what is the problem with the club and why members don't volunteer to help the club with public services. It still seems that 20% of the members still do the majority of the work. What does the club have to do to get more participation? It was brought up about what to do with the club station. It seems that it's hard to get to use it since EMA has moved out. In order to get to use the station, you have to contact someone who has the keys. It was brought up that maybe we should move the station somewhere where it is available to use. It was suggested that the Executive Board should talk this over and decide what needs to be done for the future of the Club's station. As far as the problem with members participation and attendance at meetings, it was suggested that somebody looks over the Minutes for the last three years and make a list of new members. Then scan over the sign in sheets for meetings to see how many came. There will be future discussions on these subjects.

The members that stayed to hear the speaker of the night, **Kay Cragie, WT3P, ARRL Atlantic Division Director** received a lot of information and was well informed on what the **ARRL** is doing. She gave an excellent talk on what is going on in Amateur Radio. She told the members present what is planned for the future. She even talked about the same problems that other clubs seem to have with members and members participation. Kay didn't have all the answers, but her answers and information was worth the slightly longer meeting. It was worth it!

de John, WX3TAZ

SILENT KEY

Jim Hartman, N3NYA

Jim Hartman a member of the DLARC for many years died during July. His son, Mike N3JYA has remained a member for many years as well.

Jim died of Liver Cancer which developed after he moved to Florida

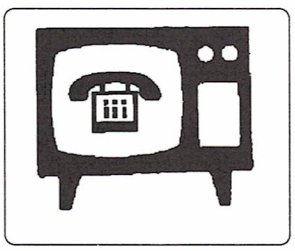
Rest in peace Jim.

New Media Systems

There's Digital... and Then There's Digital

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

One of the confusing things about the new digital television (DTV) system that will be kicked off this Fall is the fact that we've been using digital technology for a number of electronics applications--including television -- for years. In fact, anyone using a Digital Satellite System (DSS) 18-inch dish for direct broadcast satellite (DBS) reception is actually receiving a digital television signal. And now, as of July 1st, movie viewers on the most popular DSS service (DirecTV) will be able to receive the same multichannel audio that will be part of the DTV signal. But that doesn't mean those viewers will be getting DTV on their DSS DBS from DirecTV. Got it? Let me explain...



When DSS was launched (literally!) in 1994, subscribers began to receive their television programs in a digital data stream. The large number of channels (150+) and the "near video-on-demand" pay-per-view movie system (which requires four transmission channels for each movie) were made possible with digital compression of the data on that stream. The picture quality of DSS services like DirecTV, USSB, and Primestar (with its rented 36-inch dishes), however, is about the same as that from analog broadcast stations. DSS is simply a digital version of the good ol' NTSC standard that has been around since 1941.

Like DSS, the DTV system also uses compression on a digital data stream, but it does so to fit the much greater amount of information on the same 6 MHz channel used by NTSC transmissions. With more information on the data stream, the HDTV pictures of the DTV system will look much better than the current DSS digital pictures.

Because it's a digital system, DSS requires a special converter to turn the data stream into an analog signal that an NTSC television set can understand. That converter also changes the frequency of the gigahertz-region transmission to VHF. These necessary D/A and frequency conversions are the reason why signals from DSS dishes, unlike a cable TV feed, need separate converters for each TV set in the house.

Another difference between NTSC terrestrial broadcasts and DSS transmissions is the digital audio sent by the satellites. That's already better than the audio from TV stations, and now the DSS transmissions of movies on DirecTV will have the same 5.1 Dolby Digital Surround Sound that's part of the DTV standard. An important point to remember, though, is that the video will still just be a digital version of NTSC broadcast transmissions -- right down to the 3 by 4 aspect ratio.

In order to provide the higher resolution of "high definition" television and the wider (9 by 16) picture, the DBS providers will have to refit their transmission facilities just as the broadcast stations are doing. The satellite services will just have to go from one type of digital technology to another, while the broadcast stations will have to convert from an analog system to a digital one (with simulcasting as an intermediate step).

Although the satellite broadcasters aren't under the same FCC mandate to convert to the DTV system as are the terrestrial broadcasters, the pressure of competition is enough to get the DBS companies to begin the conversion to a signal that will take full advantage of the new digital television sets that American consumers will start buying this Fall. DirecTV has already committed to providing two HDTV channels for pay-per-view movies and special events by the time the new sets start making their way into the first households.

Since DirecTV has more than 3.5 million subscriber households, that means that one of every 28 television households in America will be able to experience full-time high definition television this Fall, at a time when the broadcast networks will only be programming a few hours of HDTV programming a week. Whatever the programming source, however, that HDTV experience requires a new HDTV television set. And the difference between either a digital DSS signal or an analog broadcast transmission and a DTV signal on that new set will be equally striking for both satellite and terrestrial station viewers.

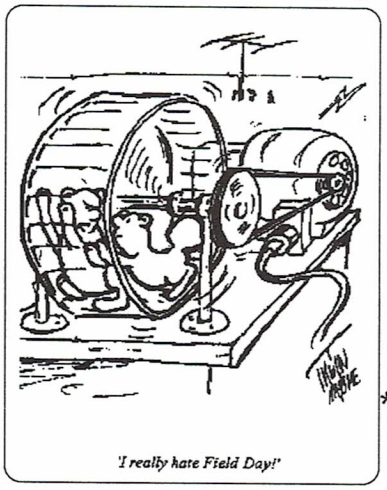
de Joe, W3JD

One of our board of directors, N3PNT has changed his call to that of his late father, Gary is now W2AZZ

1998 Field Day report

by Bob, KE3AW

This year's Field Day was held at the Plainfield Farmers Fairgrounds, north of Nazareth on Route 191. While the attendance was down noticeably from last year, in large part by QCWA members who worked their own station this year, for those who attended, a good time was had by all. Everyone who wished to operate had the opportunity to do so.



It was good to see the stations busy with active operators during the 24 hour period. Some newly licensed hams (and some guests) made their first contacts on HF, with a "problem" occasionally being an incoming pile-up. Great way to start!

Of particular interest were two operators at the Novice-Tech Station. **KB3CLQ** was the control operator for a yet to be licensed guest operator, both doing a fine job. One must keep in mind that **Sara/KB3CLQ is 8 years old.** Her guest operator, **Chelsea (daughter of Mike/N3OUC), is 7 years old!**

This year's efforts to go with wire antennas, rather than towers and beams, was successful in that installation was quick and efficient, and operation was effective. The antennas performed very well all through the contest. Complete tear down of the four stations was completed without a hitch, and we were ready to leave the site within 45 minutes of the close of Field Day.

Thanks to our DLARC members who supported this years test of our emergency preparedness; **Ken/KA3EED** and **Glenn/N3ULW** for generators, the crew at Gracedale at 8:00 am with vans, trucks, and willingness to pitch in, the set up crew, the operators, loggers, technical assistants, and Sunday tear down and clean up crew. And once again, **Don/KA3JWE & Sharon/N3RZQ** provided a delicious variety of foods. A special note of appreciation also goes to **Nick Tylenda** for his assistance at the EMA site in our coordination for Field Day.

A breakdown of the operation follows, with a comparison of this year against last year's results:

QSOs	1998		1997	
	CW	PHONE	CW	PHONE
80 meters	119	198	400	457
40 meters	110	537	231	520
20 meters	150	561	229	166
15 meters	42	110	62	194
2 meters	14	23		
NOVICE/TECH		170	1	161

PHONE QSO = 1 POINT EACH CW QSO = 2 PTS EACH MULTIPLIER FOR <150 WATTS IS X2

Bonus points were included for 100% emergency power, media publicity, public location, information booth, W1AW Field Day Message received.

TOTAL SCORE 1998 score 4864
1997 score 6738

We were interested to see **Len/N2BSC** operate **QRP** so well from the site, too! Nice going Len!.

de Bob, KE3AW

W6RCL wins Murrow Award

NBC News producer **Alan Kaul, W6RCL**, has been selected to receive the **Edward R. Murrow** Award for excellence in television journalism for his role in producing NBC's coverage following the death of Mother Teresa.

Kaul was one of five on-site producers in Calcutta, India. The team produced eight reports that aired September 5 to 13, 1997. The stories examined the life and work of the Roman Catholic nun who pledged herself to those she called the "poorest of the poor."

The Edward R. Murrow Awards will be presented September 23, in San Antonio, Texas, during the Radio and Television News Directors Association convention.--thanks to Newsline

The ARRL Letter

Don't forget Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

Saturday September 12

Schnecksville Fire Company

Answering machine messages.....

supplied by Dave, WD5BRP

Actual Messages Heard on Telephone Answering Machines

"My wife and I can't come to the phone right now, but if you'll leave your name and number, we'll get back to you as soon as we're finished."



"Hello, you've reached Jim and Sonya. We can't pick up the phone right now, because we're doing something we really enjoy. Sonya likes doing it up and down, and I like doing it left to right ... real slowly. So leave a message, and when we're done brushing our teeth we'll get back to you."

"A is for academics, B is for beer. One of those reasons is why we're not here. So leave a message."

"Hi. This is John. If you are the phone company, I already sent the money. If you are my parents, please send money. If you are my financial aid institution, you didn't lend me enough money. If you are my friends, you owe me money. If you are a female, don't worry, I have plenty of money."

(Narrator's voice:) "There Dale sits, reading a magazine. Suddenly the telephone rings! The bathroom explodes into a veritable maelstrom of toilet paper, with Dale in the middle of it, his arms windmilling at incredible speeds! Will he make it in time? Alas no, his valiant effort is in vain. The bell hath sounded. Thou must leave a message."

"Please leave a message. However, you have the right to remain silent. Everything you say will be recorded and will be used by us."

"Hi. I'm probably home, I'm just avoiding someone I don't like. Leave me a message, and if I don't call back, it's you."

"Hi. Now you say something." "Hello. I am David's answering machine. What are you?" "Hi! John's answering machine is broken. This is his refrigerator. Please speak very slowly, and I'll stick your message to myself with one of these magnets."

"Hello, you are talking to a machine. I am capable of receiving messages. My owners do not need siding, windows, or a hot tub, and their carpets are clean. They give to charity through the office and don't need their picture taken. If you're still with me, leave your name and number and they will get back to you."

"This is not an answering machine - this is a telepathic thought-recording device. After the tone, think about your name, your reason for calling, and a number where I can reach you, and I'll think about returning your call."

(in a bored voice) "Heaven, God speaking.." "Greetings, you have reached the Sixth Sense Detective Agency. We know who you are and what you want, so at the sound of the tone, please hang up."

SAREX will not fly on Glenn mission

via ARRL Bulletin

NASA has scuttled plans to include the **Space Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX)** payload aboard **STS-95** this fall. That's the flight that will carry US Senator and astronaut John Glenn into space. Five schools, four in the US and one in Japan, had been tentatively lined up for Amateur Radio schedules to talk with the shuttle crew during the highly publicized October mission. Glenn, the first astronaut to orbit Earth, will be 77 when he returns to space later this year.

NASA flight managers also removed nine other "secondary" payloads because of time constraints on the already-busy mission. NASA expressed regret at having to drop the educational SAREX payload.

Two hams--US Astronaut Scott Parazynski, KC5RSY, and European Space Agency astronaut Pedro Duque, KC5RGG, of Spain--will be among the international crew aboard STS-95.

"We're really disappointed," said ARRL Educational Activities Department Manager and SAREX Working Group Member Rosalie White, WA1STO. The Glenn flight had generated a good deal of enthusiasm within the ham radio community. Schools to be included had only recently been notified that they would be on the list. White said the US schools involved now will be first in line for consideration on future missions, such as STS-93 early next year and the International Space Station.

Future shuttle missions are heavily loaded with activities involving construction of the ISS. Eileen Collins, KD5EDS, the commander of STS-93, is said to be enthusiastic about the possibility of including SAREX on her flight. Amateur Radio also is an official payload aboard the International Space Station.

Meteorology

by Charles A. Giannetta, WA3RSQ
Meteorologist Emeritus
Professor

Radiation

1. The earth receives heat from the sun by radiation (the transfer of heat by wave motion.

2. Radiation from the sun is called Insolation. "Sol" being Latin for Sun. About 45% is visible as sunlight. 46% infrared. 9% ultraviolet radiation.

3. Electromagnetic radiation. This form of energy has both electrical and and magnetic properties.

4. The angle of the sun above the earth is called solar altitude.

5. Radiation from the sun travels app. 186,000 miles per second.

6. It takes about 8 minutes for the sun's radiation to reach the earth.

7. The Sun is the bases for all living things.

8. Black Bodies absorb and reflect all frequencies of radiation.

9. The sun and the earth are Black Bodies

10. White light contains all frequencies of light.

11. White reflects all light reaching it.

12. Black absorbs all light reaching it.

13. The angle of incidence equals the angle of radiation.

14. A wave is measured from crest to crest or trough to though.

15. Red light travels faster through glass than blue light, therefore, red light is bent less than blue light.

16. The closest star to the earth is: **Alpha Centauri,** 4.3 light years away

17. One light year is: 186,000 mps X 60 Seconds. X 60 minutes X 24 hours X 365 days.

18. Sirius is the brightest star in the heavens. It is one of the nearest stars to the earth, however, the light from it takes 8.6 light years to reach earth.

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editors note:
This is the first of a series that our new member, Charlie, WA3RSQ has written for our newsletter.

Charlie, WA3RSQ

by Clarence, W3PYF

I asked Charlie to give me a little background on his experience with weather and that of his XYL, Gini, who works with him work as a Weather Data Expert from their home in Bath. Follow his round-up

My background

Retired in 1992 with over 35 years of gov't service as a Meteorologist with the National Weather Service. Duty stations at Washington, DC. Buffalo, NY. and the LVIA, Allentown from which I retired.

After I retired, held a position as Adjunct Professor at Moravian College and taught Meteorology for 5 years. Presently I hold a position as Adjunct Professor at Northampton Community College and teach Meteorology for the past 2 years.

Hobby is amateur radio. Been a ham since 1959. Operate 160 meters through 2 meters. Occasionally act as Net Control for the Rooster Net on 3.990. Heavy into 6 meters. 85 countries worked on that band. Have all states except Hawaii worked and conformed on 6 meters, all SSB. Fishing, hunting, surfing the internet. working in the yard and garden. Help Gini with her weather station which as you know we produce a monthly weather news letter. Hoping to get all our WX info on the internet soon. Collect barometers. Play the banjo and hammand organ. Do a lot of writing of weather articles for various newspapers and newsletters.

Working on formatting my Meteorology course at NCC for the internet. Also, formatting my course so you or whoever can take the Meteorology course from home.

Have 7 computers, three running all the time. Have over 50 yrs. of weather data in them. Formed a Weather Research Enterprise with my son Charles. Do a lot of research.

Now for Gini.

When I retired in 1992. Gini did not. She still maintains the household as though I did not retire. Her work is never done. I could not afford to pay her for all she does. She was a singer for her church choir for 17 years. She is writing a book about her life, mostly as a young girl. She is a cooperative weather observer with the NWS as you know. Been doing that since 1986. She collects light houses. She enjoys working in the yard and garden. Married 41 years this past July 4th. Seems like its only been six months. HI HI.

We have 2 children. A daughter Virginia. A son Charles. 2 four year old grandchildren. Twin boys. Nick and Chris. Which we love and have a great time with.

Charlie. WA3RSQ

Red Cross Drill

by Mark, WA3KIF

On Saturday June 27, 1998, Chris, N3SIG and I participated in a Red Cross Drill representing both **Lehigh and Northampton Counties.** The drill was a coordinated effort hosted by Berks County and was held at St, Michael's Church in Hamburg, PA.

The drill scenario (as defined by the Red Cross) included a bus loaded with 55 eager shoppers from New York City which was on its way to the Reading Outlet Malls when it was involved in a serious accident on route I-78 near PA route 61

A significant number of passengers were injured and transported to two local hospitals.

The local emergency services personnel requested the response of the Berks County Chapter of the American Red Cross to assist the uninjured passengers.

One of the Red Cross's objectives for this drill was, "....utilization of amateur radio operators for communication."

The Red Cross set up their stations at several locations which also included an amateur radio operator for communications among the other Red Cross sites. Two amateurs from Berks County also participated in the drill. They were Randy, KA3DSX and Ray, N3JMX. All Red Cross traffic was handled by these four operators. Communications were held via 2-meters on a simplex frequency as well as occasional communications to the Lehigh County via a local repeater.

Chris and I arrived at the main shelter site about 8:30 am after a talk-in by Randy, KA3ZDX (the shelter/church was on a small rural road). The drill began about 9:15 and concluded about 12:15. Simulated DWI (Disaster Welfare Inquiries - a Red Cross functions) were passed via amateur radio as well as dispatching drivers who transported passengers to and from the shelter was the main content of the traffic.

During the "exit review," the Red Cross declared their exercise a success and commended the communications by the four amateur radio operators.

Congratulations and to those operators who participated in this successful exercise, again showing the effectiveness of amateur radio in emergency situations.

de Mark S. Miller WA3KIF
District 4 Emergency Coordinator.

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

Balance 5/31/98	**$3,957.38**
INCOME	
Donation Income Fifty-Fifty	30.50
Dues Arrl Misc	88.50
TOTAL INCOME	**119.00**
EXPENSES	
Badge Dave Foster Clips & Pouches	86.78
Field Day Food & Beverages Don Reamer & Bill Broad	480.69
Memory Of Rudolph Kaldy & John C Hudson	56.80
Newsletters for June	140.00
Postage Bulk Fee Annual, Permit, Newsletter mail to Norm & Stamps	205.00
Repeater parts Barry Vogt	66.60
Supplies Toner Clarence Snyder	31.79
Telephone	35.67
TOTAL EXPENSES	**1103.33**
TOTAL INCOME less EXPENSES	**984.33**
Balance 6/30/98	**$2,973.05**

Total Membership 361 as of 7/9/98

de Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

FCC Sequential call sign update

The following is a list of FCC sequentially assigned call signsissued as of July 1, 1998. For more information about the sequential call sign system, see Fact Sheet PR5000 #206S or contact the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. The e-mail address is fccitd@fcc.gov.

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0HT	KI0NM	++	KC0DUO
1	AA1TW	KE1JX	++	KB1CZO
2	AB2FK	KG2OP	++	KC2DUP
3	AA3RD	KF3BW	++	KB3CUH
4	AF4KO	KU4TF	++	KF4ZDA
5	AC5QQ	KM5RK	++	KD5EQG
6	AD6FS	KQ6WW	++	KF6RUG
7	AB7YI	KK7ON	++	KD7CEU
8	AB8CW	KI8GG	++	KC8KOH
9	AA9WD	KG9OA	++	KB9TCB

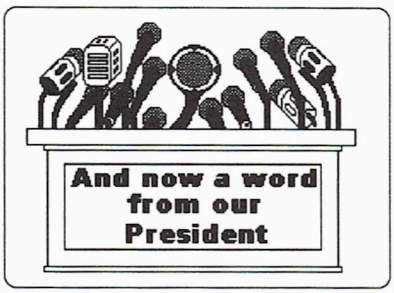
ARRL Bulletin 047

The Prez Sez

Keeping in Touch with the ARRL

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

First of all, I thank our club Vice President, **Don Reamer, KA3JWE,** for stepping in to take on the task of running the July club meeting, which family obligations kept me from attending. From all reports, I missed a good one! Since those of you who were at the meeting know better than I do what took place, I'll keep this month's comments brief.



I know that. as part of the Field Day report, Don extended thanks both to everyone who helped organize the event --- **NU3L, KE3AW, KU3X, N3OUC, N3SQD, KA3JWE, N3RZQ,** and many others -- and to those who operated the station positions. Let me echo those thanks, and add that it was good to see many operators experience Field Day for the first time. They all had a great time -- just like those who lost count of the many Field Days they've participated in!

The renewed discussion of access to and use of the club station is certainly a good topic. While the club's equipment is certainly not state-of-the-art (maintaining that state is a pretty expensive proposition these days!), there are certainly plenty of operators who could benefit from easier access to W3OK. Many newly-licensed hams (who become new club members) find a time gap between getting a license with HF privileges and getting an HF station on the air. There's also the real advantage of gathering a group of two or more hams to operate and socialize at the same time. This is one of the most pleasant aspects of operating the Christmas City station WX3MAS, but the experience need not be confined to that single annual event. We're all looking forward to what K3YD, K3ANS -- and whoever would like to brainstorm and investigate with them -- can come up with by way of suggestions.

The diversity of opinions about both our club and ham radio in general could not have been expressed in a more appropriate context, I believe, than during a visit from Kay Craigie, WT3P, ARRL Atlantic Division Director and our guest speaker for the evening. Kay displayed her characteristic balance and fairness in the discussion, while at the same time providing club members with much useful information about the current state of the League and of the amateur radio service in general. I regret that I wasn't able to hear Kay's comments first-hand, but I do thank her for her always-welcome visit with us.

July was a busy month for public service events, and, by the time you read this, I hope your participation in one or more of them was an incentive for you to volunteer again in the future. There will be several more chances to do so before the leaves fall (or before the Fall leaves!).

I don't know if I've met my promise of brevity, but that's it for now. 73, and enjoy the rest of your summer.

de Joe, W3JD

Heritage Day, Easton, 1998

by Clarence, W3PYF

Participating in the Easton Heritage Day event in Easton, our club again supplied the safety for children group which we have done for the past 3 years.



With the County Van there for contact with emergency personnel and police the following members of the club were there.

Kurt, KA3MOB, Dick, KA3MOU, Malcolm, N3RXL, Glenn, N3ULW, Jill, N3ZSR, George, AA3JU, Clarence, W3PYF, Don, KA3JWE, Sharon, N3RZG and their son Greg.

Operation MIR

Near the end of June, the Russian spacecraft **MIR** opened its PMS message board to allow 3rd party traffic. It is now possible to leave messages for other hams around the world who may also have the capability to connect to **MIR.**

Because there is a finite capability (message space)available, I would recommend the following:--

1. Only leave messages for stations with a reasonable chance of connecting and reading the messages.

2. Be sure to kill any messages left for you after you have read them.

Messages for the crew will probably not be answered since the crew doesn't understand English.

The most current information which I have seen seems to indicate that **MIR** will be in orbit for approximately another year. GOOD LUCK to all!

de KA3ONZ – Bruce

Hams volunteer in emergencies

via ARRL Bulletin 049

ARES, RACES, and **REACT** members cooperated to provide volunteer communication and other assistance during the recent wildfire emergency in Florida. Wildfires that began in early June in drought-stricken areas of Northern Florida raged out of control in late June and early July, burning thousands of acres of property, destroying hundreds of homes, and causing upwards of 300 million dollars in damage. Recent rain has offered some relief, but the fire danger continues.

Besides providing communication backup at emergency operation centers, hams also helped at Red Cross shelters set up for those forced to evacuate. Others served as fire spotters, maintained formal and informal nets, or stood by as needed.

Northern Florida SEC Nils Millergren, WA4NDA, says the fires were the worst in memory. "I've lived in Florida all my life and never remember anything like this," he said.

On a day that should have been a holiday--July 4--hams found themselves coordinating firefighter and evacuee relief efforts. Hams even volunteered to load, transport, and unload needed supplies.

Given the ban on fireworks, volunteer firefighter and ham Jeff Capehart, KE4NIV, called it "a very unusual Fourth of July" and definitely one for the record books.

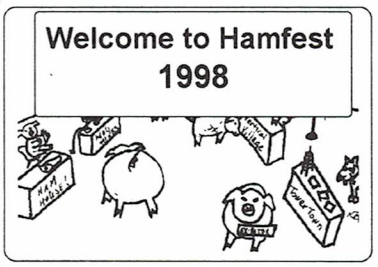
In West Virginia, **ARES** and **RACES** members abandoned their Field Day effort to help out in the wake of flash flooding that affected parts of Kanawha and 16 other West Virginia counties. Hams helped in shelters, assisted relief efforts, and reported on water levels.

In Ohio, hams recently helped during two major flooding episodes, one involving flash floods in at least 20 counties. Ham radio weather spotters played a big part in the early stages of the weather emergencies. **ARES** groups in affected localities supported Red Cross and Salvation Army response teams. Overall, ham radio involvement was minimal because normal lines of communication remained open..

Hamfest coming

by Carl, AA3IX

It is time to start the awful task of cleaning out the shack. The **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** is just around the corner **Satirday, September 12th**, to exchange your junk with someone's great equipment. The flyers have been labeled and are ready to be mailed. The great label application to the 1000 flyers took place on Tuesday July 14th. at my house. We had seven hams arrive to take on the big task. It took a hour and a half of steady work. The steady work included hoagies,brownies,chips, pretzels, drinks, and lots of ham talk. I want to thank the hams that took time out of their busy DX schedule to label these flyers

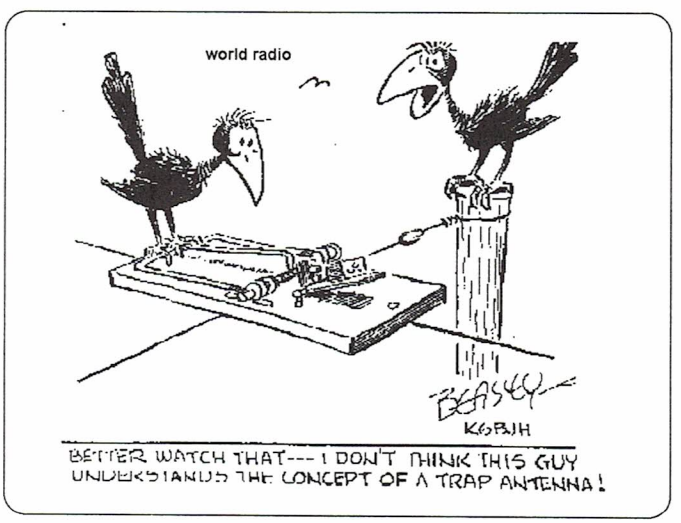


. Mark-K3MP,
Cary-K2YIY,
Bob-WF3H,
Loring-W2GQ,
Dave-N3JGX,
John-WX3C

It was a tough job orginizating who would work the tape dispensers, and who would peel and stick the lables. We had a great time, and we all got out early. We also had the first HF feed-back . This happened when Bob WF3H tried talking to John-WX3C on 20 meters at a distance of three feet. Well enough for now, if you are interested in helping at the hamfest contact me .

Email–cseier@enter.net
Phone–610-261-0403

de Carl AA3IX



DX Clubs and Advice

by Bill, K3ANS, DX editor

So now you are enjoying chasing DX. Where do you go to meet other DXers and learn more? Where do you exchange ideas and experiences? Socializing with other DXers is much fun. Join a DX club. In our area, we have the West Jersey DX Association and the Dauberville (PA) DX Association. They cater to aspiring and accomplished DXers. Some DX associations are more restrictive, but the members are eager to be "elmers" in DXing. I understand the North Jersey DX Association is very selective about members. You must be already a member of the DX Century Club, DXCC.

The Frankford Radio Club, which is the best and most successful contest club in the world is not necessarily a DX club, but many members are serious DXers. The Club dominates the four biggest DX contests and the members are often active in other DX contests. Do not expect FRC to stoop to the level of novices or techs for members. Minimum requirement is general class with expected quick upgrade to advanced and extra class. Around 95% of the FRC members are extra class! FRC is based in Philadelphia, PA and includes active members who live in eastern PA, southeastern NY state, Delaware, Connecticut, and New Jersey. Membership is by invitation only. Invitations are extended only to accomplished and aspiring contesters. They are found by reading the contest scores published in QST and CQ and by hearing them in contests. FRC does not recruit members. It recruits scores. In other words, hams who do not produce are scorned, even if they are nice guys.

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club in New England and the Potomac Valley Radio Club in MD and VA area compete with FRC in their areas, attracting DX contesters. Many other small DX clubs are also found in those same states. You can see listings of them in the contest scores listed in CQ and QST under club competition. Many have comical names such as "The Order of Boiled Owls".

Try some local repeaters which favor DX and contest discussions. W3FRC/R, the Frankford Radio Club repeater on 147.27 mcs. with no PL; W2QW/R, the Raritan Valley Radio Club repeater in Martinsville, NJ, on 146.625 mcs. with 141.3 hz. PL; WB3FYL/R and N3CHL/R, the Dauberville DX Association repeaters in Berks County on 145.490 mcs. and 145.150 mcs., respectively; and WJ2DX/R, the West Jersey DX Association repeater in Warren County, NJ on 147.135 with 151.4 PL. are popular.

Unfortunately talk on W3OK/R rarely includes HF let alone DX or technical discussions. I think DLARC has regressed from a full service radio club, with much HF activity, to a passive, lethargic repeater club catering to "hams" whose sole stations are "shacks on the belts" (HTs). They do not push the limits of technical achievement. They are basically appliance operators, harmless, but not inspiring. I wish they would open the books, study electronics, antenna theory and construction, master CW, and learn HF, VHF, and UHF techniques.

If they want to be technicians strictly on VHF and UHF, let them explore the under used ultra high and micro wave frequencies. Then they should join the likes of the Mount Airy VHF Society, better known as the "Pack Rats". They definitely push the limits of technical skills above 30 mcs. They DX in feet instead of miles. They make me proud of ham radio, even if they do not bother with the frequencies below 30 mcs.

Otherwise these hams are nothing more than CBers using the ham frequencies. I know I hurt feelings, but ham radio is too important to me to let it slip away into obscurity. Pretty soon the FCC will say that hams do not deserve special frequencies, since they do not earn them! Hams are supposed to advance the art and science of radio communication, not just provide public service communication or have free radio telephones on the ham bands.

Speaking of technical discussions, DLARC was honored to have W3NQN as a guest last year. He quietly attended with no advance notice. W3NQN is Ed Wetherhold from Annapolis, MD who is an expert in filter designs. The May, 1998 QST featured his fine article on page 44, "Clean Up Your Signals with Band-Pass Filters". Read it. Many of us contesters use ICE band-pass filters and "W3LPL design" receiving band pass filters when operating multi transmitter stations in one building. They prevent signals transmitted on one band from overwhelming reception on another band. Field Day is a good place where they should be used. I wonder if anyone in DLARC is building the m.

That same meeting featured a speech by Jerry Sevick, W2FMI, who is a famous expert on transmission line transformers, such as those used in the popular Beverage receiving antennas. He authored "Building and Using Baluns and Unun s". Have you read it? CQ book store and I believe the ARRL sell it.

continued on page 11

continued from page 10

Many DLARC members have offered to be elmers to new hams. They have opened their shacks, time, and hearts to help the new hams learn and advance. But I see few new hams taking advantage of such golden opportunities. The old hams are quickly dying off, so we are losing a wealth of knowledge. The members of the Quarter Century Wireless Association local chapter often say that new hams are not interested in learning. Please prove us wrong and call on us. Help the old geezers fix their antennas and gear, learning from them. You provide energy and strength, and the old timers provide wisdom. What a wonderful combination!

The QCWA chapter decided to operate W3GS in field day at Grumpy Acres, owned by W3TDF, near Pleasant Valley. Since DLARC decided to operate a low key training exercise with no yagis and not a serious contest effort, 8 experienced members switched to W3GS, which ran a serious portable effort in 2A class with two transmitters each running 100 watts. One was always on 40 meters, with 950 QSOs, including 633 QSOs on CW. Actual 40 meter QSO count was over 1000, but many stations called W3GS extra duplicate times, which do not count. One station called me 4 times in 10 minutes, trying for 4 separate QSOs! It is easier and quicker to work and log dupes than to explain to them that they are dupes and not log them. Besides we may not be dupes in their logs. The other station was on 80, 20, and 15, making 730 QSOs, including 510 on CW. CW QSOs are worth 2 points, and SSB QSOs are worth 1 point each. So the CW effort is worth it. Note that the 1000 QSOs on 40 meters were in 24 hours, so that is an average rate of 25 per hour. Some hour rates were over 75, but slow hours over night pulled down the rate. Our score is about 6,100 points, which would place us about 30th among 496 entries if compared to 1996. The phonetics, W3 Girl Scouts and W3 Good Sex worked well.

Our antennas were limited and modest, but they worked: dipole aimed north and south on 40 meters 30 feet high; three element wire yagi aimed west on 40 meters 25 feet high; triband yagi for 20, 15, and 10 meters; two vertical ground planes on 20 meters and on 80 meters; and an 80 meter dipole. We did not take the time to earn any bonus points. I did attempt to make Grumpy Acres at W3TDF a municipal park for one weekend. We had 7 operators a nd 3 helping hams. Two came from Michigan.

The next big DX contest is Worked All Europe. Read about it in QST and CQ. On the Contest Reflector on Internet, some are suggesting all state QSO parties be held the same weekend. I am opposed. How do you feel?

de Bill, K3ANS.

editors note: This is strictly the opinion of K3ANS and if you agree or disagree, be sure to send me a note for the next newsletter.

Musings

by Jose, AE4EQ

Keep your nose to the grindstone' your shoulder to the wheel. It's cheaper than plastic surgery.-

Definition of a "punk" haircut...Sheared weird.-

The rural doctor came out to the farm to check on the farmer's wife. Upon arriving, the doctor felt thirsty. He walked over to the well to bring some cool water, but slipped and fell in. The moral of this story is that a doctor shoul take care of the sick but leave the well alone.-

We have made great medical progress in the last generation. What used to be merely an itch is now an allergy.-

In a better-ordered world, the gypsy moth would show up in October and eat the leaves after they'd fallen-

We are lucky that computers are creating artificial intelligence, because we are running out of the real thing.-

The crowd of urchins peered wide-eyed as they caught glimses of the clowns inside the circus tent. A man who had been watching them walked up to the ticket taker and said. "Let those boys in and count them as they pass." As the last one filed through the gate, the attendant looked at the man and said, sixteen, sir. "Shucks," the man replied as he walked away, "Guessed wrong again."-

The salesman to the lady, showing the new features of a washing machine... this digital reader show how much energy it uses, and this other digital reader tells you how many socks it will eat during it's lifetime.-

Did you hear about the restaurant that was so bad, "carry out" referred to the customers?-

The wife said at dinner....That's why it's called..."Hamburger Surprise", Ha- rold, because you are surprised to be getting it three days in a row.-

Memory is something that makes you aware of what you forgot.-

It now costs more to amuse a child than it once did to educate his father.-

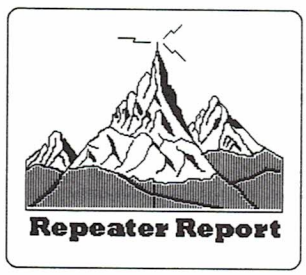
"I am delighted" the lighting bug yelled when He backed into the lawnmover.-

- ***de Jose, AE4EQ***

Recommended Repeater Operating Procedures

Supplied by Barry, N3NVA

Use simplex wherever possible freeing the repeater for necessary uses. Monitor the repeater (listen) or determine if the repeater is in use, and if there are any peculiarities in its operation. After listening for a few seconds, identify, un key and listen to see if it was quiet for a reason, and to allow someone to let you know if there is a reason not to continue (low audio, low signal strength, etc). Then, if all OK, proceed.



Don't break into a contact unless you have something to add.Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person. Interruption without identification constitutes malicious (and illegal) interference. Use the minimum power to key up the repeater. To make contact, simply indicate that you are on frequency . For example "N3XXX monitoring". Do not kerchunk.

Remember amateur radio transmissions are being monitored by many non-hams with scanners. Watch your language and your manners. Please don't bring disrepute on the Amateur Radio Service.

Repeaters are intended to facilitate mobile and portable operation. During rush hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater to commuting mobiles. Some repeater owners have strict rules requiring this Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Do not monopolize the repeater.

Pause between transmissions to allow other amateurs to identify themselves if they wish to use the repeater. Pausing also allows the timer to reset, avoiding a "time-out" Identify legally. In Canada that means at the beginning and end of acontact and every thirty minutes of operation.

Repeaters are installed and maintained at considerable expense and inconvenience. Regular users of a repeater should financially support the individual or club owner in their efforts to keep the repeater working properly.

Autopatch Operation

Many repeaters are equipped with autopatch facilities which, when properly accessed, connect the repeater to the telephone system to provide a public service.

Because of past abuses, use of the autopatch is often restricted by the local repeater owners, but may be available to visiting amateurs on a courtesy basis. Never use an autopatch to avoid a long-distance call, or for any commercial purpose. Even if your use is marginally legal, the repeater owner has the right to terminate your ll. Listen for a few seconds to see if the repeater is in use, then identify, un key and listen to see if it was quiet for a reason, and to allow someone to let you know if there is a reason not to continue (low audio, low signal strength, etc). Then, if all OK, proceed. To use the autopatch, first identify yourself "N3XXX for the autopatch", key in the autopatch access code and the telephone number you are calling. Keep your call short to avoid "timing out" the repeater. You may have to remind the person you have called that you can't hear them when you are talking. Keep the call brief.

When your call is completed, key in the autopatch OFF code, and identify again "N3XXX clear of the autopatch"

de Barry, N3NVA

This was taken from the internet

Radio Amateurs of Canada
720 Belfast Road, Suite 217
Ottawa Ontario K1G 0Z5

IBM develops 1000 MHZ microprocessor

via Newsline

Imagine running your station using a computer that is three to four times faster than anything available to hams right now. It could happen sooner than any of us think. This, after engineers at IBM demonstrate an experimental microprocessor that can run at 1000 megahertz.

IBM's announcement follows a similar one by Digital Equipment Corporation a few weeks ago. That company has already has unveiled a new generation of its Alpha line of processors.

Digital says that by the year 2000 their new Alpha 21264 line will be available in speeds in excess of 1000 MHZ.

Back at IBM the engineers are saying that the design and circuits used in the project will eventually be applied to other integrated circuits using its recently introduced "copper chip" technology.

(Via published news reports and press releases)

The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club

FIELD DAY 1998

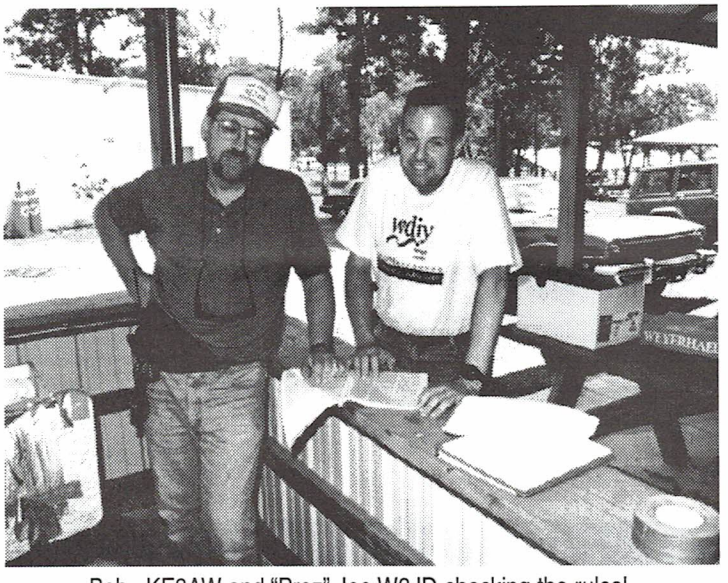
Plainfield Township Fairgrounds



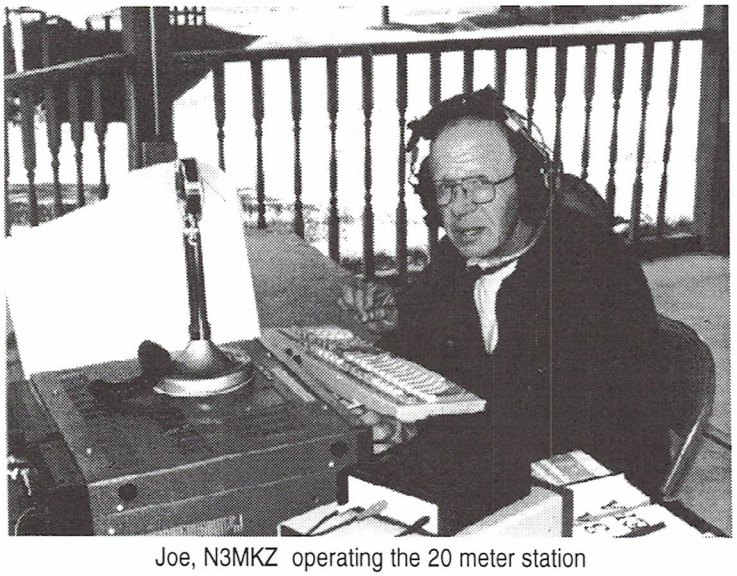
Lunch time - The food was great!!!



Novice Station - Sara, KB3CLQ (8 year old daughter of Rick,K3OO) operating and Chelsey (daughter of Mike, N3OUC) observing.



Bob, KE3AW and "Prez" Joe W3JD checking the rules!



Joe, N3MKZ operating the 20 meter station



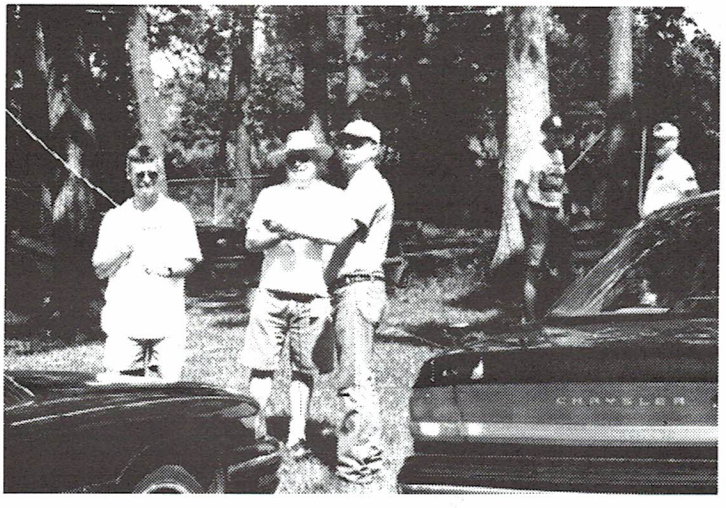
Sharon, N3RZQ - "The Cake Tells It All"



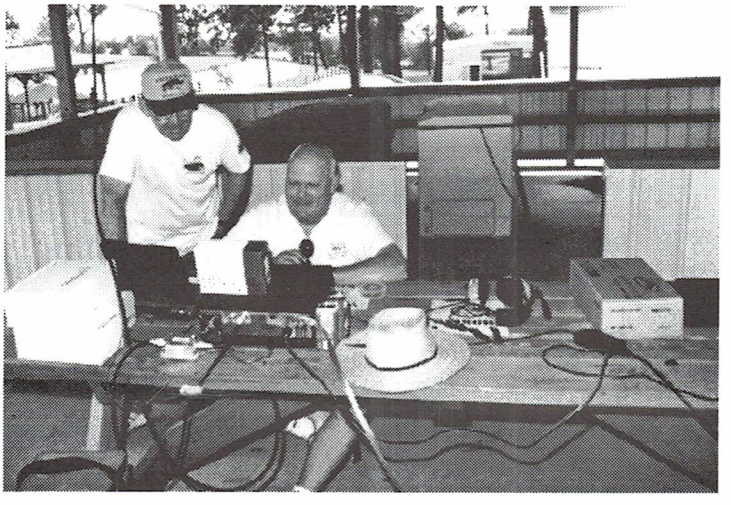
Barry, N3NVA (CW? 23 Q's per Hour?) with Gerald, N5ZXJ



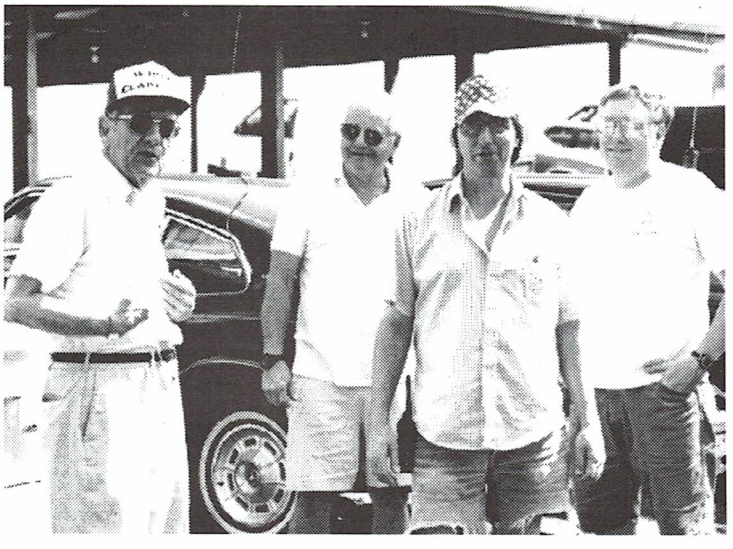
Sharon N3RZQ & Don, KA3JWE
As usual these guys did a great job with the food!



George, N3SQD & Chris, NU3L - Trying to get a kite going?



Bill, NC3P observing George, N3SQD operating.



Clarence, W3PYF (who, me?) Bill, KA3OEG Barry, KU3X Tim, KC3QO

Field Day 1998

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Changes or additions please email jholmes@fast.net

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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The W3OK CORRAL is published monthly and is the Official Publication
of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Inc.

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==1997-1998==

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CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
7:30 PM at Northampton County Community College
TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
should be addressed to(*w3pyf@aol.com*) or Clarence Snyder, W3PYF Editor.
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visit our web page

http://www.kutztown.edu/faculty/chuk/dlarc/

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