Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

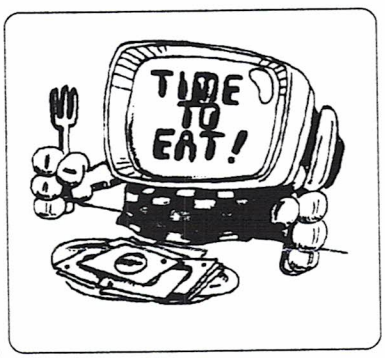
August 2000

Club meeting August 3rd NCC

D.L.A.R.C. Annual Picnic Place : Hacketts Park, Easton

August 20, 2000 Time: 12:00 noon

The Annual Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club picnic will be held again at Hacketts Park in Easton, please plan on attending and bring along the spouse and family. The club will provide food items like the hamburgers and hot dogs and beer and soda. Its up to us to bring the other items that we all like to have at a picnic, like chips and pretzels and different kinds of salads and deserts (individual servings are best for desserts).



Listen to the Wednesday Ares Races Net for announcements as to how you can sign up to bring your favorite dish. I will also be passing a list around at the August meeting for sign up.

Please let **Jeff / N3QZT** or **Jill / N3ZSR** know if you plan on attending this FUN event, this will help greatly in making sure that we have a sufficient amount of things to eat and drink. You can get hold of me, **N3QZT** on 146.70 or leave a message for me at ***jeffk@enter.net***

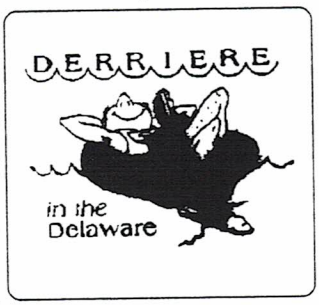
Thanks and see you on **August 20** at the picnic.

de Jeff N3QZT

Derriere in the Delaware

by Dick, KA3MOU

Sunday July 16, 2000 sitting on the banks of the Delaware I was chatting with Clarence W3PYF. Clarence told me this was the 16th year the Club did this event. By 1 p.m. two hours before the event's completion, 175 people had registered at Scott Park. There they took the bus to Eddyside Beach, where innner tubes adorned with red, white and blue balloons awaited them.



The rider's cruise took about 45 minutes on the calm, slow-moving water, but a section of rapids injected a little excitement into their journey.

By 4 p.m. the total count was 431 tubers who had taken the journey down the Delaware. Glad to report no mishaps with the tubers.

I would like to thank the club members who were the eyes and ears for this year's Derriere in the Delaware: **John WX3W, Glenn N3ULW, Jill N3ZSR, Chris N3QIM, Jeff N3ZST, Bob KE3AW, Charlie N3VUO, Clarence W3PYF, Joe W3JD and Malcolm N3XRL.** A special thank you to **Charlie N3VUO, Jeff N3QZT, Bob KE3AW and Joe W3JD** who helped with the Lehigh River Run and then helped with the Derriere in the Delaware. I also felt **Amy KD3TI** watching over us. I know Amy would have made the trip from Lehighton to help with the River Run and the Derriere in the Delaware. ***de Dick KA3MOU***

Just the Minutes

6 July 2000

The July **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** meeting was called to order by club president, Don, KA3JWE, at 1935 hours EDT. Don announced that there were a number of sign-up sheets being distributed, along with a get well card for Norm, K3NZ.



A motion was made by Clarence, W3PYF, and seconded by J.P., N3GWR, to approve the minutes from the June club meeting as printed in the W3OK Corral. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

In the absence of club treasurer Dick, KA3MOU, the treasurer's report was presented by Jeff, N3QZT. With a balance on 31 May of $5,622.04, June income of $45.00 and expenses of $668.07 produced a 27 June balance of $4,998.97. There were 274 members on that date. A motion to accept the report was made by George, N3SQD, seconded by Eddie, W3APE. The motion carried with no discussion.

Barry, N3NVA, presented the repeater report. He noted that, because of continuing problems, he has been shutting down the UHF repeater each night. He also said that the club will have access to better locations on the county tower for its repeater antennas when the county completes construction of a new emergency dispatching center within a year and a half or so. The milkhouse, the new location for the club station, still had not been cleared of county materials by the meeting date.

Stephanie, KB3DNA, reported that the ARRL was still processing the influx of applications and tests from the test sessions conducted before and immediately after the change in the licensing structure in April. There were no candidates at the club's June VE test session.

One new applicant for club membership was presented by Al, WO4H. A motion by Al was seconded by Carl, AA3IX, and Gerald Fehnel, KB3DKA was unanimously voted in by the club members present. The club also welcomed back Joel, K9TBD, who has been reinstated as a DLARC member.

Don passed around a plaque that was presented by the MS Society in appreciation for the assistance provided by club members for the 2000 MS-150 Bike Tour. Jeff, N3QZT, noted that, while the club has received such plaques in past years, this one was different in that the DLARC was designated a "sponsor" for the 2000 MS-150 Sponsor status means that the event could not have been accomplished without the club's participation. Jeff reported that this year's tour took place with fewer problems than in any previous years.

Carl, AA3IX, asked any members who have not yet volunteered to help with the club hamfest in September to do so by filling in the sign-up sheet being distributed. A discussion followed concerning the need for publicity for the event. Carl asked members present to take hamfest fliers with them to distribute at appropriate locations.

Since club Field Day chair, Jim, N3DFF, had been away on vacation since the event, his report was postponed until the August meeting.

Bill, K3ANS, announced the opportunity to contact stations in Slovenia during a contest scheduled for the weekend after the club meeting, and Tom, KB3LAN, asked if anyone with radio equipment resembling that used in 1912 would lend it f..or a stage production of Titanic.

On a motion by Dennis, KB3DFW, which was seconded by George, N3SQD, the meeting was adjourned at 2023 EDT.

Respectfully submitted

for club secretary N3DFF by W3JD

New Meterological net starting

by Charlie, WA3RSQ

I am starting a Meteorolical Society. The name of the Society will bye The **"Giannetta Meteorological Society"**

To be a member, all you must have is an interest in Weather & Meterologogy. No Dues, No meetings we will meeting on the internet via E-MAIL or chat. The goals are to get together

I have constructed a web page that will be located on my web site. At this time the page is not open to the public, but it will be soon.

If you would like to view this page, check it .
www.enter.net/~wxdata/giametso.tm
The regular page is and is avail able at all time is:
www.enter.net/~wxdata.

de Charlie, WA3RSQ

1000 Marbles--Makes you think

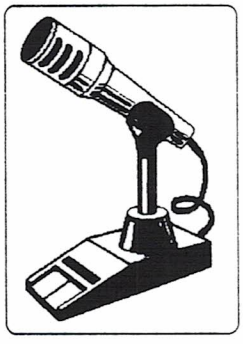
A story worth reading

submitted by Bill K2IPX

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings.

Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work.

Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.



A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning, turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time.

Let me tell you about it. I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net.

Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind, he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business.

"He was telling whoever he was talking with something about "a thousand marbles." I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. >>

Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet.

"Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital." He continued, "Let me tell you something Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities." And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles."

"You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years."

"Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900 which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now stick with me Tom, I'm getting to the important part."

"It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail," he went on, "and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy."

"So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to roundup 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside of a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear.

Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away." "I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight."

"Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time."

"It was nice to meet you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. 75 year Old Man, this is K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!"

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss.

"C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile.

"Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles."

HAVE GREAT WEEKENDS AND MAY ALL SATURDAYS BE SPECIAL.

FCC's Hatfield tells Hams to Walk the extra Mile

The FCC's Dale Hatfield, **W0IFO,** predicts a bright future for Amateur Radio. But the Office of Engineering and Technology chief says that amateurs "will be under a certain amount of pressure" to justify their free use of the radio spectrum. As a result, he said, it will be more important than ever that hams actually fulfill their service, good will and educational roles--not just talk about them.

Hatfield offered his observations as keynote speaker for AMRAD's 25th anniversary dinner in Virginia. Hatfield told the gathering, "the key issue for the amateur service is maintaining access to an adequate amount of spectrum." While emphasizing that he was not suggesting any immediate threat, Hatfield said hams will have to do a better job of justifying their current allocations.

Hatfield said hams should actually engage in experimentation to advance the state-of-the-art, provide communication and train operators for emergencies, encourage international cooperation and good will, and offer an important technical educational outlet. "Or, to use a bit of slang, it seems to me that it will be even more important for all segments of the amateur community to 'walk the walk' not just 'talk the talk'," he said.

Hatfield encouraged his audience to explore advanced techniques that conserve spectrum, especially digital techniques. As the rest of the telecommunications world transitions to digital techniques, Hatfield said, "the amateur service will look antiquated if it is not making progress in that direction as well."

Hatfield also said software defined radios could facilitate "a new era of amateur experimentation" and, in many ways, represent "a final merger" of radio communications and computers.

The text of Hatfield's prepared remarks is available on the FCC Web site at **http://www.fcc.gov/Speeches/misc/dnh061700.html**

The ARRL Letter

Remember, there is no more Sunday Drills only at 7:00pm on Wednesdays.

A Great Guy

by Darrell, N3NNI

Boy, Dave's a great guy!!!!!!! I had one leg of my G5RV down for about a week, and needed to get it back up. It tuned up with one leg on the roof , but signals were not the greatest for traffic handling. Anyway, Saturday, July 1st. I was outside getting some sun and was on .70 talking to someone, and **Dave, N3LWY** popped in to say Hello.

We moved to his repeater, and somewhere along the QSO I asked him if he knew anyone with a good throwing arm?? He thought I meant for baseball. I said no, I have one leg of my antenna down and need someone to throw a wrench or ball up the tree. He was mobile heading to a friend's house and said he was coming my way and would stop in and get it up for me.

I said NO!!!!!! I didn't mean him. I felt bad, but he insisted. Well, we got it back up in the tree in a half hour and I got to see him again and talk for awhile. Then he had to get going to his friend's place for a picnic and to help out with a tree house.

Dave's a hell of a guy, and I just had to pass this along to the guys who know him. Thanks again Dave!!

de Darrell N3NNI

Income and Loss Statement

Balance 5/31/00		**$5,622.04**
INCOME		
Donation Income Fifty - Fifty	24.50	
Dues Arrl	20.50	

TOTAL INCOME		**$45.00**
EXPENSES		
Field Day Ice & Film	31.38	
Insurance Equipment	146.00	
Postage	183.53	
Renewal ARRL	95.00	
Supplies 400 Certificates	180.00	
Telephone	32.16	

TOTAL EXPENSES		**$668.07**
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES		**623.07**
Balance 6/30/00		**$4,998.97**

Total Membership 275 as of 7/6/00

de, Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

My Thoughts

by Jill N3QZR

Its the first Thursday of the month, and I'm sitting in the monthly meeting of the **D.L.A.R.C**. Amateur Radio Club. The President is conducting the meeting, as the sign in sheet for being present at the meeting, along with several event sign up sheets are passed around the room. The Secretary and Treasurers reports are approved by the attending membership. Maybe a new member or two are also approved by the membership. Now we get an update about how the repeaters are working, and that The classes will be starting up shortly or that they are progressing nicely with how many people attending them.

I guess I can take a nap now, the president is having the different chairpersons talk about the event sign up sheets that went around, and what good things these organizations do for their causes. First up is to tell us about the MS Walk and or the MS 150 Bike Tour. I dont care that the MS Society raises money from these walks and bike tours to help the families and persons who have MS. Nobody in my family has had MS so let the families help themselves. Besides I know there is a football, baseball, basketball, etc. game to watch on TV that day and if Im not home my wife will forget to tape it for me. Next up the Red Cross River Run. BIG DEAL, they also help families in need. Why should I care, I dont live near the rivers so Im never going to lose my house to a flood. My house is all stone and will never burn down. I have no family who lives where tornadoes or hurricanes could destroy their home and or their lives. So lets get on with the next boring event so that I can get to meeting B. Now on to the Derriere in the Delaware. My children are grown, and I dont know any young children worth benefiting.

I could go on but I think you get my point. Now let me tell you WHY you should help!! MS can attack any family: you do not need to have a family history to get MS. The Red Cross helped me find my husband (Glenn N3ULW) who was out doing field training in the Air Force when his Grandfather passed away. So the Red Cross helps in many ways not just floods, fires, or Mother Natures Temper tantrums.

Besides even though your house is stone there is still plenty of wood inside that burns and will leave your home unlivable if heaven forbid you should have the misfortune of ever having a fire. Well your family may go to Warren Hospital but what if Easton Hospital was the nearest hospital to you and its a matter of life or death that you or a family member gets medical treatment ASAP.

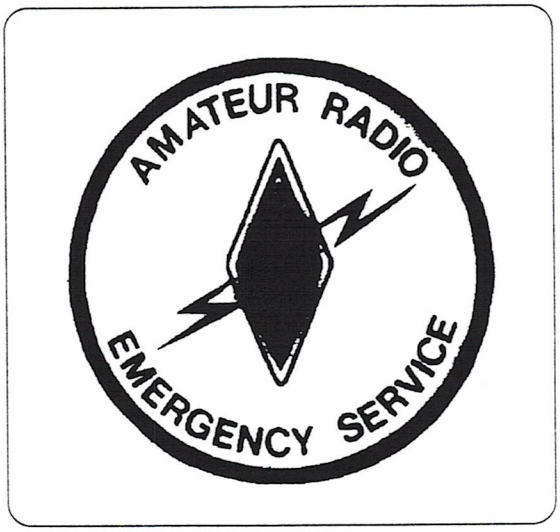
Last is the DID, you may not know any young children but I can tell you first hand the joys these young children receive from the organization, Kiwanis, who puts on the DID. The Christmas Party that they put on for the VERY special children who receive services in 13 school districts in Northampton, Monroe and Pike counties from Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 is just wonderful. Words can not explain the joy on these childrens faces as Ronald McDonald comes into the room and performs magic, and the songs that this group sings with these children, but the best time is when Santa comes. Can you remember the joy you saw on your own children's face when they saw Santa, or even the joy you yourself as a child felt seeing Santa. For some of these children this day is the only day they will see Santa this year, as their families do not have the money to take them to sit on Santa's lap at the mall. Sadly, VERY sadly for one or two this is the last time they will ever see Santa again, because their r health is so bad they will pass away before the next Christmas.

These events are VERY important to someone. Hopefully, you and everyone in your family will NEVER need the help that you could receive from any of these groups. But please do not turn a deaf ear and sleep when the chairpersons for these events talk. Im not saying you should volunteer for every event that D.L.A.R.C. provides radio communication for, but please think about it, and try to help with at least one a year! You may find that you enjoy it. That you like how good you feel just knowing that you helped to make the event as safe as possible, or that a scared lost child came up and you used your radio to get help, or you called net control because a bike rider / runner / walker etc. came up to you with leg cramps or heat exhaustion.

We as Hams are not working the event to help them raise money, but are there to help make the event as safe as possible by sending messages to net control of participant locations, of injuries along the route, of lost participants etc. The message passing that we do during these events is excellent practice for us as we need to be ready if the unthinkable ever happened here like the Oklahoma City and New York City bombings, and the Hurricanes Hugo, Mitch, Diane (in 1955) or even little Floyd this past fall.

THAT'S WHAT IN IT FOR ME!!!

de, Jill N3ZSR



2000 Field Day Report

de Jim, N3DFF, Field Day Chairman

Field Day 2000 was held this year at the Plainfield Farmer's Fairgrounds north of Nazareth on Route 191. We had about 50 people in all that attended the event at various times throughout the weekend.



Setup began at 08:00 AM with a large crew at Gracedale to transport the equipment to the site and simultaneously others began at the site to begin setup.

We operated this year with four transmitters (class 4A) and a Novice / Tech station. The Station Managers this year were Mike N3OUC, 80 Meters; George N3SQD, 40 Meters; Chris NU3L, 20 Meters; Gerald N5ZXJ, 15 Meters, and Sara KB3CLQ, 10 Meters (Novice/ Tech station).

The preliminary results will be published in next month's newsletter. I expect that the scores will improve over last year; we had more overnight operators this year.

We also had an APRS demonstration station in operation at the site for the weekend, courtesy of Mike, N3OUC. Thanks to Bill Broad and his GPS unit, we were able to transmit our exact location on the APRS network. This station generated a lot of interest among people attending. You may recall that we had Keith Sproul, WU2Z talk about APRS at the May 1999 meeting.

Thanks to everyone who participated in Field Day this year. A special thanks go to **Don (KA3JWE) and Sharon (N3RZQ)** Reamer for again preparing the all important food and drinks for us. Thanks also go to Charlie Adams, K3HKZ for donating the soft drinks. Again this year we used the generators of Ken, N3IYX and Glenn, N3ULW. These were greatly appreciated. Finally, thanks to the station managers for their excellent work.

I want to personally thank Joe Chuk, W3JD for helping on Sunday to oversee the shutdown. I was unable to attend on Sunday, so his help was greatly appreciated.

de Jim, N3DFF

New Member

by Al, WO4H

Gerald L Fehnel KB3DKA

The Welcoming committee would like to present Gerald L Fehnel, KB3DKA, for membership in DLARC. Jerry attended several meetings and was eligible for membership two months ago. Unfortunately my car broke down the night of the meeting and I was stranded upstate. Don was on vacation and I had no way of getting this introduction to Jeff in time for the meeting; Jerry, I owe you an apology for the delay.

Jerry is a native of Pennsylvania having been born in Schoenersville. He attended Catasaqua High School and presently lives in Allentown.

Jerry's introduction to electronics came in his earlier years having taken several of the National Radio Institute courses. He built much of his own test equipment and for a while did Radio and TV repair work. He also worked as an apprentice Draftsman for Lehigh Structural and continued his education acquiring an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering. He later moved to Air Products but his career was cut short by a serious heart attack in 1976. A second heart attack occurred in 1982 which forced a disability retirement and continued decline in health. In 1994, to save his life, he received a Heart Transplant. Jerry told me the donor was 18 years old and he has the stamina he had before the first attack. Jerry's wife died when she was quite young at 45.

One of the questions I usually ask candidates is how they got involved in Ham Radio. The typical answer is usually my father or husband introduced me to the hobby. In Jerry's case it was his son, David, who was licensed at age 13 as WB3IRO, now N1LZX in North Kingstown, RI. David encouraged his Dad to study for his ticket so they could chat regularly on the HF bands. A little over a year ago, through self study, he acquired his Tech license and is working on the code.

While Jerry has had many hardships, he has a very positive outlook on life. He is now working part time at the Willowbrook Golf course. His hobbies include golfing, computers and an expanding interest in Amateur Radio.

de Al, W04H

The Prez Sez

by Don, KA3JWE, president

Well, I don't know about you, but I had a great time at Field Day. It's always fun to get out there, set up antennas and operate different radios. Even though we, my wife **Sharon, N3RZQ,** and I prepared and served five meals worth of food for the weekend, we had time to operate and socialize with everyone. Sharon deserves a lot of thanks for the preplanning, shopping and preparing of the food and supplies.



Even our son Greg, who is now four years old and has been to five consecutive Field Days, had a great time. Although he doesn't do any operating yet, he loves to play on the wooden toys in the playground area and dig with his shovel and trucks in the stones that make up the parking area. He knows many of the names of Club members and looks forward to seeing them each year. I'm sure that he will make a good operator when he gets a little older.

I was happy to see the number of kids that attended Field Day this year. They helped put up and take down antennas and a few operated or helped log for those that had their licenses. And they sure did eat! I don't know where they put it.

We were fortunate to have almost perfect weather this year. I've been at past Field Days that had everything from heavy rain, lightening, high winds and a tornado in the making, to cold and damp or hot and humid. So this year was a pleasant time for everyone.

At the last Club meeting we were pleased to have **Al Breiner, W3TI,** ARRL Section Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania as our guest speaker. We learned a lot about the field organization and its structure. We got a glimpse of the past as well as a look at where things are headed for the future.

For those of you who read my column last month and responded by email, I thank you for your input. For those that have not responded, I will be selecting call signs at random from the roster and you may be receiving a telephone call. I am conducting an informal survey to find out why approximately two hundred Club members never attend meetings or participate in any Club events. Names and specific details will be kept confidential. Hopefully the information provided will help me and the Board of Directors improve the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** for everyone's benefit for everyone's benefit.

de Don - KA3JWE

FCC Says "NO to SSB, Digital Modes on VHF CW subbands

The **FCC** has turned down a request asking it to permit SSB and digital modes in the 6 and 2-meter CW-only subbands. The petition was filed last August by the California Six Meter Club and was assigned rulemaking number RM-9806. The FCC sought comment on the proposal early this year.

The CSMC said it requested the additional emission types because its survey of weak-signal operations indicated that the CW-only segments are hardly used. The club said most DX and weak signal work takes place on frequencies above the CW subbands.

The FCC said it received one comment, which opposed the petition.

In denying the request, the FCC said it did not believe the requested revisions were necessary or had the support of the amateur community. The FCC said the petition's premise that the segments 50.0 to 50.1 MHz and 144.0 to 144.1 MHz appear "virtually unused" was contradicted by an earlier petition filed by the Central States VHF Society. The CSVHFS had sought additional spectrum to protect so-called weak signal operations from wideband modes. The FCC dismissed the CSVHFS petition last November.

The FCC concluded that authorizing additional emission types in the 6-meter and 2-meter CW subbands "could have an adverse impact on the operating activities of other licensees." Additionally, the FCC said, CSMC did not show that any improvement in communications capabilities would result from opening up another 100 kHz of spectrum for other emission types, which the FCC said already were "adequately accommodated."

The FCC action was released June 28.

The ARRL Letter

Coming Events

Mark your calendars

Entry level amateur radio classes

Please pass this information to family and friends!

de Bob KE3AW

Plans are set for this fall's series of 10 classes to prepare individuals for the FCC radio license examinations.

The classes will begin on September 11, and will run 10 consecutive Mondays, 7-9 pm.

They will be held in the Greystone Building of the Gracedale Complex, Nazareth. Chris/NU3L and George/N3SQD will be the instructors.

Anyone interested in getting into amateur radio is invited to attend the classes, but to give us an idea of how many will be attending, please register if interested. As always, there is no cost for the classes. **Contact Bob/KE3AW** by telephone, radio, or email at **ke3aw@juno.com** for additional information..

A Marble "Funny

"Supplied by Tom, N2TTQ

I received this one from my Mom. makes you think a little and thank God for every day you have on earth! The expression 'have you lost your marbles' takes on a new meaning with this story.

Have a blessed day! The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable. A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other.

What began as a typical Saturday morning, turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it. I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning conversation. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind, he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whoever he was talking with something about "a thousand marbles." I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well, but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital.

" He continued. "Let me tell you something, Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities." And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles." "You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years. "Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900 which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now stick with me Tom, I'm getting to the important part. It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail", he went on, "and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy.

"So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round-up 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them inside of a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear. Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away. "I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight. "Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time."

"It was nice to meet you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. 73 Old Man, this is K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!" You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss.

"C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. "Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles."

Join or Renew Your

ARRL membership via DLARC

Contact Dick, KA3MOU for an application. The DLARC benefits

W5YI-VEC sessions under fire

"The ARRL Letter

Citing past complaints about W5YI-VEC test sessions, the FCC has written Fred Maia, W5YI, with yet another. But Maia says it's much ado about nothing. The FCC letter to W5YI-VEC June 28 included a complaint from Technician licensee Simon Clowes, KD7IEB, of Baker City, Oregon. Clowes protested to the FCC about a Morse Code exam administered at an April 22, 2000, test session by W5YI VE Elwood Fennimore, N7BZ.

Clowes asserted that numerals were not counted as two characters as required by the rules, that the tape was noisy, that other VEs were discussing the text of the tape before the grading was completed, and that the tape speed was erratic. Clowes further complained that Fennimore and the W5YI-VEC were unresponsive to his complaints.
"We have received numerous complaints regarding your testing sessions, and we view the lack of response of Fennimore as extremely serious," wrote FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth.

"We're a little confused by this," Maia told the ARRL. "Mr Clowes' charge that we didn't respond is totally false." The April 22 session was a "paperwork only" session, Maia said, and the Baker City VE team went out of its way to accommodate Clowes with a code test. Maia said that Clowes -who once held a license in Australia -- first tried to get code credit on the basis of his Australian ticket. Failing that, Maia says that Clowes -- according to an account provided by Fennimore-- sat twice for the code test but was able to copy very little and left with his code test answer sheet in hand. Maia says Clowes didn't complain about the administration of the test until a couple of days later. That complaint arrived via e-mail from the account of another ham. Maia says the W5YI-VEC responded to the same e-mail account, then followed up to ensure the message was delivered to Clowes.

Hollingsworth requested that Maia "fully address" Clowes' complaint within 20 days and provide Clowes with a copy of his response. The FCC also requested a full response from Fennimore, with a copy to Clowes, as well as copies of all documents related to the examination session. Maia said he's preparing a formal reply to the FCC..

"The ARRL Letter

Two arrested for hacking NASA Computers

via The Hudson Loop

A 15-year-old high school student and a 20-year-old man have been arrested and accused of hacking into NASA computers. It was not clear whether the cases were linked.



The teen surrendered Tuesday for allegedly hacking into two NASA computers in Hampton, VA, and a third computer in Bethpage, NY. His name was not released by Suffolk County police. Also, Raymond Torricelli, 20, was arrested at his New Rochelle home Wednesday and charged with breaking into two computers in NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA, and possessing stolen passwords. The lab is the base of NASA's robotic space exploration program, having launched missions to every planet except Pluto. The teen hacker allegedly broke into the NASA computers in November. He was charged with computer tampering and released into his father's custody. He allegedly defaced the NASA Web site by adding the message "SSH is coming," for the hacker name "Sesame Street Haxorz." Police said he replaced system files with computer graffiti, including an image of the Sesame Street character Elmo.

Though he did not access sensitive or classified information, the teen, who said he was being tutored by another hacker online, caused about $5,000 in damage, said Special Agent James Jackson of NASA's Office of the Inspector General.
Meanwhile, investigators said they found 76,000 passwords on Torricelli's computer, including usernames from computers owned by San Jose State University and Georgia Southern University.

Mary Beth Murrill, a spokeswoman for the Pasadena lab, declined to comment on the case but said security has since been improved. "We have a computer security system like any other large organization but we don't discuss it," she said. Torricelli was released on $50,000 bail. If convicted of the most serious charge of "unauthorized password possession" he faces up to 10 years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

– Associated Press

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate to the DLARC, RACES & ARES nets on
146.70 and 443.90 W3OK/RPT (pl 151.4) with an alternate of W3PYF/RPT 145.11
W3OK trustee Chris Hornaman, NU3L
The Nets are held on Wednesdays at 7:00PM

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==1999-2000==

CLUB OFFICER

President -Don Reamer.(donster@enter.net)..KA3JWE...610-252-3063
Vice Pres. Jeff Keller ....(jeffk@enter.net).....N3QZT.....610-868-8507
Secretary -Jim Hogarth..... (n3dff@arrl.net).....N3DFF.215 256-8228
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTE

Joe Chuk.....(chuk@kutztown.edu).....W3JD...610-799-0337
Barry Vogt.....(n3nva@enter.net).....N3NVA..610-863-7204
Al Krensavage.....(wo4h@ enter.net).....WO4H...610-559-1836
Glenn Brodt.....(gbrodt@epix.net).....N3ULW..610-588-6977
Dave Blankenship.....(n3eyt@aol.com}.....N3EYT....610-974-8749
Bob Green.....(ke3aw@juno.com).....KE3AW..610-432-8286

NEWS STAFF

Editor - Clarence Snyder .....(w3pyf@aol.com)..W3PYF.610-252-2109
Circulation....Jill Brodt...(gbrodt@epix.net).....N3ZSR 610-588–6977
Mailing List .Richard Dech.(ka3mou@enter.net)KA3MOU 610-837-1585
Printer- Norm Zoltack.....(k3nz@enter.net).....K3NZ..610-799-4044

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.
717 Porter Street, Easton, PA 18042-1548

visit our web page

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