THE DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

NEWS

RD #4
GREYSTONE BUILDING
NAZARETH, PA
18064

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* SEPTEMBER 6, 1989 *
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TWO MEETINGS THIS MONTH!

SKYWARN CLASSES SEPTEMBER 14th

by Bill,K3ANS, Program Chairman

Following the very interesting talk at the August meeting when, Lloyd and Donna, N3HJS and N3HMD explained their association with Skywarn, the enthusiasm of the club is responsible for the following special meeting of our club.

On Friday night, September 14th beginning at 7:30PM at the regular meeting location, the Greystone Building, Bob Stanhope, KB3YS, ARRL, Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager, a registered instructor for this program, will register and teach any members who may want to take the course in the Skywarn system. Skywarn is a cooperative effort of Amateur Radio Operators and the NOAA Weather Bureau.

Those who attend and take the course, will become certified and will then be able to operate with the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton NOAA Weather Station in case of a weather emergency, as spotters of severe weather, such as hail and tornados.

Come join this class, which will teach spotting for identifying and reporting severe local storms as well as training in observation of thunderstorms and lightning. This will help make our club, a bigger part of the community's safety in case of a weather calamity.

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SAREX MAY FLY EARLY SEPTEMBER

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KEEP IN TOUCH, SAREX MAY FLY EARLY THIS MONTH..STAY TUNED TO 146.70.

SEPTEMBER 6th MEETING
THE PAQSO PARTY

Ray Bilger W3TDF, PAQSO Party Chairman, will talk on PA-QSO Party. He will discuss highlights of going portable with all the trials and tribulations. Pending receipt he expects to have a short video of another clubs portable operation and one of the mobiles from that club.

THEN - Time permitting,

A short talk followed by a question and answer session, on antennas for the newly upgraded general wanting to get going on the low bands! This could be interesting for all hams who haven't read or have been unable to understand the handbook, on simple antennas.

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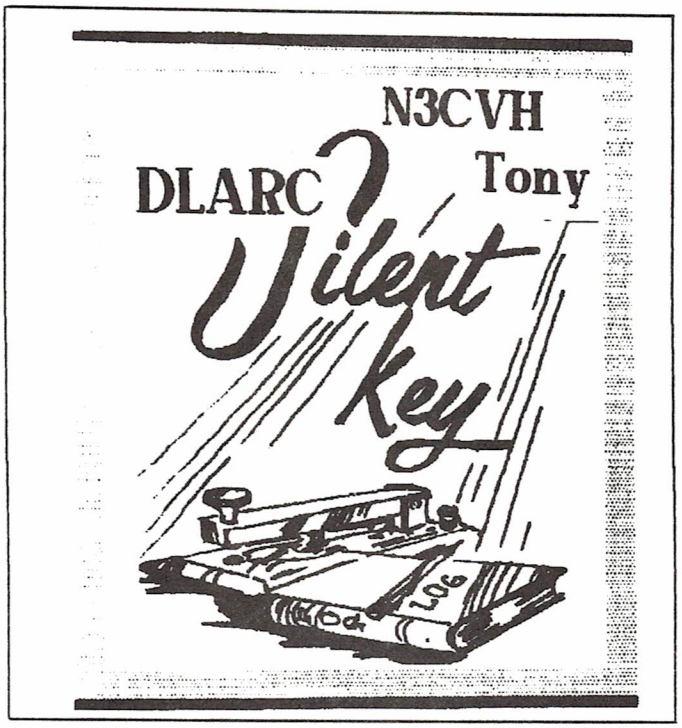
NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS THIS MEETING

The nominating committee for the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, will at this meeting present the membership with their recommendations. They include the following:

President, Ray Bilger. W3TDF
Vice Pres, (1 to be elected)
Bill VanHorn, K3CP
Vern Burden, N5IEP
Secretary, David Blankenship
Treasurer, Roy Buss
Board of Directors, 5 to be elected)
Bob Kratz, KU3K
Bill Werner, W3FYK
Daryl George, K3EX
Blair Bates, K3YD
Bud Fritz, WA3BOM
Bill Goodman, K3ANS

Elections will be held at the October meeting, but, nominations will only be opened at this meeting September 6th. The committee consisted of WA3BOM, W3APE, and W3XM. Come and help nominate your future officers.



ANTHONY L. LAZZARA
1927-1990
by Clarence, W3PYF

Tony, N3CVH became a Silent Key on Friday, July 27th. A member of the Board of Directors of our club, he was always ready to help, in spite of many physical difficulties.

Whether it be Field Day, when he was right in there pitching with the erection of the antennas or helping out a young or old novice, he was a real Elmer to many.

Tony, spent most of World War II in the China Burma India Theater and as a result had many physical problems.

To his wife Lisa, his partner in everything, from his 26 trips to Europe to his plans for their future, we wish her well.

Most of us will remember him with our club 50-50 drawings, which he started and his enthusiasm in everything that was a club activity. Tony, we don't know where you are now, but I bet you are giving those angels up there a difficult time if they don't buy some 50-50 tickets from you to benefit the DLARC. 73 Tony, we miss you

His feelings and those of his family, for the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club were well shown, as all pall bearers at the funeral were members of our organization.

R I P

EASTON HOSPITAL RUN

Members of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio club again did their thing in supplying communications for activities in the Lehigh Valley. With KB3RI, Bob in the lead, members furnished the safety communications during the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Easton Hospital, which included a Cardiac Walk of 1 mile and a 5 mile Run on Sunday August 9th. Alex, N3CZC, instead of just watching the walkers, walked the mile with the walkers.

W3PYF, Clarence rode the lead vehicle in the run, and the others were spread out throughout the 5 mile stretch.

Participating in addition to Bob, were:

Amy KD3TI
Alex N3CZC
Gregg KB2ANG
Carl KA3TEQ
Dave WD5BRP
Don K6QDT
Clarence W3PYF

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A VISIT TO MARCONI MUSEUM IN NOVA SCOTIA
by John K3GQJ

On my recent vacation to Nova Scotia, I visited the Marconi Museum. At Table Head., Cape Breton. Marconi's first transmission in 1901 consisted of the letter "s" sent from Newfoundland. The following year he set up his station at Table Head. The antenna structure was made up of 4-200 foot towers. The antenna was made up of some 300 wires stretched between these towers and fed at the center. The transmitter was a spark-gap type and a replica is there at the museum. The receiver was a simple detector which is also there. The transmitter was powered by a steam driven generator.

By 1908, regular commercial wireless service was provided by Marconi's company. The station was also in contact with ships at sea including the stricken Titanic in 1912. An operating amateur station is also at the site. Called the "Voice of the Atlantic Seaboard". VA1VAS. de John, K3GQJ

AMTOR - "Dear, Go find the Crickets in the Basement"
"Dear, I know where they are!"
by Joel, K9TBD

Chirp, Chirp, Chirp - That's what AMTOR sounds like! About every 1/2 second your station sends three characters and the linked station responds -YEA or NAY. This is in mode A (ARQ standing for automation request). Mode B (called FEC for Forward Error Correction) sounds like normal RTTY in that the transmitting station sends continuously. Mode B stands for Broadcast. One station transmits and many listen. Mode A is an intimate link between only two stations. One station is the "Master - sender" and the other is the "Slave -receiver". To change "Master-/Slave" - the "Master" sends the unique characters +? and the two stations change rolls.

The way that AMTOR works is that a special code (similar to Baudot) was invented to help with error detection (no correction) in that each character of the code (Moore code) has exactly seven (7) bits. Of these seven bits, exactly four (4) are on and three (3) are off. If the receiving station does not get this ratio of 4/3 on each character after the three (3) character burst - it sends a request for repeat (in mode A). The sending station will resend that three character group until a) an ACK or b) retry counter is exceeded. In the case that the counter is exceeded - an attempt for re-phasing and relinking is started. This is similar to packet but on a 3 character basis as opposed to a 128 character basis (normally). Refer to my 1988 W3OK newsletter for details.

Enough theory! Recently I acquired a modern radio - 440S - which has frequency stability which is required (not as hot as the Drake twins by a long shot though). I could now run a digital station for long duration on HF without having to twiddle the knobs. Here is how to conduct your first AMTOR and many more contacts.

First: You have to set your SELCAL - it is composed of 4 letters only (new standard is 7 letters but no ham is using it). I have a 1x3 call - my SELCAL is KTBD. Easy 'nuf. If you have a 1x2 or 2x1 double the first letter - for example: AC3M would become AACM.

Calling CQ: To call CQ - go into mode B (each box is different - look in the manual) and just type your CQ message - quit often after your call - type your SELCAL for example:

CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ DE K9TBD K9TBD K9TBD (KTBD)

Remember to switch your transmitter to receive mode: (my PK232 uses CTRL-D) and await a request to connect via mode A. If no CRICKETS, call CQ again - just like any other mode.

Responding to a CQ: Just go into ARQ (mode A) with the callers SELCAL - in this example (again PK232) ARQ KTBD and the CRICKETS start - but, you gotta be exactly on QRG - I mean within about 10 Hz! The tone shift is 200 Hz for commercial SITOR and many AMTOR stations use this instead of the familiar 170 Hz RTTY shift in tones.

Turn around: when done with your thought - just type +? and then the other station is MASTER and can send to you. This is like AR KN in Morse or >>> in packet or PSE K K K in Baudot.

Down Link: To end the QSO quite often one station will say - "You do the honors" which means, send your last message and disconnect the link. Again each box is different. On the PK232 I can type CTRL-D or go to command mode with CTRL-C and type R for Receive mode.

Tuning Hints: AMTOR requires a fast ACG setting as well as a fast TR relay (or solid state TR). You only need 50 watts to work the world. The duty cycle in mode A is 50%. The duty cycle in mode B is 100% like RTTY. If you do not have an FSK mode on your receiver - use lower SSB and move your passband for best signal. Set your filters as with RTTY - I use 2.4 kHz but narrow it down in adverse conditions. Commercial stations abound - they call it SITOR -but you can print the WX or NEWS. Look around the 3,6,8,12 MHz commercial frequencies. I have found MIAMI weather prints well on 12.886.5 mHz.

Scenario: My brother (WA9FIO) and I have been keeping unattended schedules from Wisconsin to Pennsylvania on AMTOR. This morning (before he was awake) I made a link to his radio, left a message - leaving the date/-time/prop report; when I got home tonight there was a message on my screen from him (after he woke up) in response. Think of that! A two-meter like intercom - but between Wisconsin and Pennsylvania! This was direct - no delays - live - and if you set EAS (Echo As Sent) on, you know how the link is working because every character set that you send is echoed to your screen as the other station receives it, when it receives it!

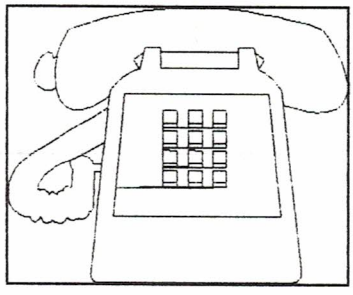
Happy Chirping, de Joel K9TBD

BUSINESS CALLS ON REPEATER

tnx to Philmont ARC

In FCC regulation 97.114, business communication is identified as "transmission or communication the purpose of which is to facilitate the regular business or commercial affairs of any party." Under NO circumstances will any calls which MAY BE CONSTRUED as business calls be allowed to occur.

The FCC has a very harsh stance on this issue. If incongruous use proliferates, they threaten to eliminate it for all. It is extremely important that stations think carefully before making calls. If it can be construed in any way by others, don't make it. Do not put he control stations or other members of the club in the uncomfortable position of having to terminate the patch. In the event of questionable operation, either members or control operators should act first and ask questions later...It is important however that you identify if you disconnect a patch..



(from the BLURB)

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WHO'S RUNNING THE PAQSO PARTY?

Charles McMullen, K3CM, and Ron Gibson, N3BMV, have agreed to head up the PA QSO Party this year. They will be taking over for Jim Trennephohl, K3SO, who had to leave the area because duty called. Jim served for one year after long-time chairman, Doug Maddox, W3HDH, who left the area to work in Missouri.

The PA QSO party will be held on the weekend of October 13-14.

Our club, the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio club will again sponsor the Mobile award for the amateur with the highest Mobile total.

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WATCH THOSE ALKALINE BATTERIES

by Randy, N3ET

Reportedly some alkaline batteries are now being manufactured with the case connected to the outer shell of the cell. The printed coatings act as an insulator, at least until it wears through due to friction with the battery holder.

Check your alkaline batteries before using them in metal flashlights or metal battery holders.

In HT's, be sure that the negative spring terminal does not extend to the outer case where it will eventually rub through and short out.

Additionally, remember not to mix battery types such as alkaline, carbon-zinc, or NiCads. NiCads in particular can supply high amounts of current through a series discharged cell, causing damage or explosion.

de Randy, N3ET

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RESULTS AUGUST VE TESTING

by John W3GQJ, VE Coordinator

Results of Aug 3 VE session were as follows:

14 Candidates took 17 elements and there were 11 up-grades as follows:

Robert L Piester N3ICC to advanced.
Alex Ostapenko N3CZC to advanced.
Robert J Puharic KA3VQI to advanced.
William R Petrey KA3WSC to technician
Jonathon W Matson KA3WRU to technician
Thomas C Pizzi KB2JUQ to extra.
Eddie Rivera KA3OLO to technician
Danny G Steinberg N2LAL to general
Harmon M Purviance IV KA3WSB to technician
William P Kelley Jr KA3UKL to technician
Robert G Haak N3QBD to general

The VE team consisted of the following members of the Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club:

W3APE-Ed, W2CCE-Bob, W3TDF-Ray, K3GQJ-John and apprentice KD3TI-Amy. The next session will be on **Sept. 7 At 7:00 P.M**. Team 1 will serve at this session.

73 de John, K3GQJ

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WILL YOU PLEASE HELP

There are times when a control operator on our repeater, 146.70 wants to perform control functions on the air.

Give him or her a chance to complete it without punching buttons or calling in on top unless it is an emergency. It can make the operation of W3OK repeater a bit easier.

SUPERHETERODYNES
(part 3)

By Van, K3CP

Continuing their discussion on radio receivers, Elmer reminded Ima Lidd that their last talk concluded with the IF (intermediate amplifier) operation. He thought it would be a good idea to review the makeup of the signal as it leaves the IF amplifier.

Elmer asked Ima Lidd, "Ima, do you know the nature of the received signal after it has passed through the RF amplifier, the first detector and the IF amplifier?"

"Yes, I think so. It is a radio frequency signal of a magnitude of up to several hundred microvolts or so. It has a frequency of 455 Khz. and it contains some form of audio. It contains music or voice modulation or Continuous Wave (CW)."

"That's very good", replied Elmer. "You are coming along just fine. Let me briefly retrace the process and explain how we got this far. The signal is amplified in the RF stage and here is where the image is rejected. The signal is now mixed (heterodyned) with the local oscillator and converted to the IF frequency which we will assume to be 455 Khz. It still contains any modulation that was present when it was transmitted.

"It's here in the IF stages that the AGC (Automatic Gain Control) voltage is developed. A portion of the signal voltage is rectified and amplified and fed back to the RF and IF stages in a way that reduces the gain of those stages. A strong signal will produce a greater voltage than a weak one and therefore will reduce the gain more than a weak one so that the output level tends to remain constant. In addition this reduction of a strong signal helps to minimize distortion caused by overloading the receiver. This AGC voltage is also used to drive the receiver's S meter. There is a lot of variation between receivers in the calibration of S meters. It is usually accepted that the difference between S units is 6 db and that an S 9 signal is in the range of 50 to 100 micro volts depending on the manufacturer."

"What change would be seen on the S meter if a station doubled its power"? asked Ima.

"Well," said Elmer, "a doubling of power would produce a 3 db increase in signal strength."

"Wait a minute," Ima said, "Does that mean that if I went from 100 watts to 200 the S meter at the other ham's receiver would only show one half of an S unit increase?"

"That's right and if you went from 100 watts to 1 KW, the increase would be 10 db or less than 2 S units."

"OK that makes sense when you stop and think about it." said Ima. "Let me ask a question that I've wondered about for a long time. What is the difference between intermediate frequency and radio frequency?"

"Good question, Ima," replied Elmer. "They are both RF, but IF is generally a fixed frequency and exists in the IF amplifier stages. Also, you will remember that they are both AC.

"In ham receivers the IFs can vary from 455 Khz. to 8 or 9 Mhz. or so. The lower IF lends itself to higher gain and more effective filtering while the higher ones are better for image rejection. Many modern receivers use two or three different IFs." Elmer went on to explain that the signal now enters the second detector which determines whether the radio will receive AM, SSB, CW or FM according to the following table:-

1. AM - Simple diode
2. CW - Diode plus BFO (Beat Frequency Oscillator)
3. SSB - Product detector
4. FM - Discriminator or ratio detector

Elmer continued, "After detection and filtering the signal is now audio frequency (AF), which by the way is also AC. Next the audio amplifier amplifies it and then it goes to the speaker coil where the current causes the speaker cone to vibrate at the audio frequency and produce the sound we hear.

"I don't expect that you understood everything we talked about, but I hope you have learned something. It is important that you do some studying on your own and discuss the theory of operation with other hams. We have covered the operation of the most important stages of a modern day super heterodyne receiver."

Ima Lidd said, "You're right, Elmer, "I didn't understand all of what you said, but I surely know more than I did before. I appreciate these sessions and thank you for them."

de Van, K3CP

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**** ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ****
**** All PA QSO Partiers Out There! ****
**** 10/13 12noon-1AM, 10/14 9AM-6PM ****
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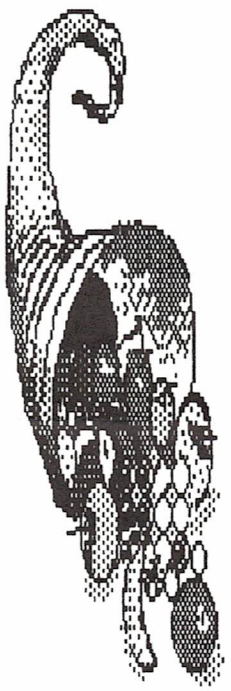
by Alex, N3CZC

Several Novice/Technicians have expressed an interest in activating W3OK for the 1990 PA QSO Party since they may not have HF capability by then. Unlike 1988, W3OK was not activated at all last year. In the interest of encouraging our newly licensed club members to become involved, and to maintain some semblance of order at the station, Ray (W3TDF) will have two sign-up sheets at the next DLARC meeting (9/6).



The first sign-up sheet will be for anyone who would like to operate W3OK during the contest (all license classes). See the above header for available hours. In addition to the desired hours, I would like you to indicate whether you're checked out to operate the station by yourself or not. If you're not, I will arrange to either get you checked out prior to the contest, or have someone there to assist you during your operating.

The second sign-up sheet will be for those experienced club members who would be willing to donate an hour or two during the contest to sit by those who are not checked out to operate the station by themselves. The first sign-up sheet above will determine whether we need you or not.

These sign-up sheets will also be available at the October meeting (10/4). After the initial sign-up, Alex (N3CZC), who cannot make the September or October meetings, will coordinate the schedule via landline or on the air. Thank you for your interest and support, and let's get those new KA- and N- prefix club members involved!

de Alex, N3CZC

REMEMBER, JOIN OR RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP, WITH ROY, KA3MNY...

DLARC INFORMATION LINE
Remember! for club information call

820-9110

VE'S NEEDED!

John, K3GQJ who head the DLARC VE testing team advises that he needs additional VE's for our monthly testing sessions.

No experience is needed and there is no cost, the only prerequisite is that the VE holds an Extra License. The ARRL provides all the materials, manuals etc.

If you are available, please contact John, K3GQJ or Robin WA3T for more information. You may call the telephone number for the Club BBS shown above and after listening to the messages, leave a request on the answering machine.

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FOR SALE

Gap Challenger DX-VI VERTICAL ANTENNA
Covers 80,40,20,15,12,10,6,2 meters.
Like new - only used for comparison tests. Includes cap units for both 3.8 And 3.6 Mhz. $200.00-You save $43.00. Includes 3 ft. Drop-in ground mount.

Call Tony WB2P (609) 268-3020.

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FCC ISSUES NOTICE ON TESTING DISABLED

from the ARRL Letter

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Morse code testing of persons with disabilities. At an open meeting, the commissioners announced the proposed amendment " to accommodate those persons who, because of severe handicaps, have extraordinary difficulty in passing the higher speed Morse code telegraphy examinations for amateur operator licenses".

The July 18 letter from the FCC to VECs to "please expand the special procedures the VEs make to accomodate handicapped individuals." The commission asks as well that VEs exempt from the 13 and 20 wpm examinations persons holding a current, or within the grace period of a valid license who, because of severe handicaps cannot pass these examinations.

PAQSO PARTY RULES

Ron, N3BMV and Chuck, K3CM are hard at work preparing for the 1990 edition of the PA QSO Party. We hope to be posting bulletins from to time to time to keep everyone informed of noteworthy items concerning the party. As a first step in this direction, here are the rules for the 1990 PA QSO PARTY:

RULES FOR THE 1990 PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY

OPERATING PERIODS: 1600Z October 13 to 0500Z October 14 and 1300Z October 14 to 2200Z October 14 ENTRY CLASSES FOR PA STATIONS:

1. SINGLE OPERATOR - no assistance
2. MOBILE - fully mobile, multi - multi OK
3. MULTI OP - SINGLE TRANSMITTER
4. MULTI OP - MULTI TRANSMITTER
5. QRP - single operator only - 5 watts output maximum
6. NOVICE/TECH - must identify with /N or /T - (Note: Novice frequencies only !!!!)

LOGS AND DUPE SHEETS: Logs must be submitted on an official form or reasonable facsimile. Forms are available from NARC. Entries with 100 or more QSOs MUST have dupe sheets. Computer logs and dupe sheets OK. Illegible or late logs will be used as check logs only. 100 points will be deducted for each dupe found.

CONTACTS: PA stations work everyone; others work PA stations. Stations may worked once per mode on each band. Mobiles may be reworked as they change counties.

IDENTIFICATION: ALL stations that are out of their normal call sign district must identify with a /4 or /7 or /3 as appropriate so that other stations can tell where they are without asking. For example - K8HVT/3 EXCHANGES: Sequential serial number plus county or ARRL or CRRL section. Stations on county lines will give out ONE serial number per contact but all counties may be counted as multipliers.

MODES: CW and Phone (SSB or FM). CW in CW subbands only. No repeater QSOs.

FREQUENCIES: SSB: 1850, 3980, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28580 CW: 40 KHz up from the bottom and 1810 KHz. Try 160 meters at 0300 Saturday.

NOVICE/TECH: 10 KHz up form the bottom end of the subband. Remember SSB on 10 meters.

MOBILE WINDOW: 5 KHz below listed frequencies. PLEASE KEEP THIS CLEAR FOR WEAK MOBILES.

QSO POINTS: CW QSOs on 160/80 - 2 points; Other CW QSOs - 1.5 points Phone QSOs - 1 point

Multipliers: Pennsylvania Stations: ARRL sections (don't forget EPA and WPA) + CRRL sections + PA Counties + 1 for DX (150 total - remember 5 new CRRL sections).

Out-of-State Stations: Pennsylvania Counties (67 total)

FINAL SCORE: Total Points X Total Multipliers

MOBILE BONUS: Add 500 points to your final score for each county from which you made at least 10 QSOs.

QRP BONUS: Multiply your final score by 2.

NOVICE/TECH BONUS: Multiply your final score by 3.

AWARDS: A minimum of 20 QSOs is required to be eligible for any award.

CLUB TROPHY: The PA QSO Party Traveling Club Trophy will be presented to the club whose members amass the largest aggregate score. Members must live within 175 miles of the club's center, must be in good standing with the club, and MUST be active in club affairs. An officer of the club must submit a list of members meeting the above criteria.

MEDIUM/SMALL CLUB GAVEL: A specially engraved gavel will be presented to the top scoring club whose membership does not exceed 75 members. (Note Change) Members must meet the same criteria as above.

PLAQUES: Plaques will be awarded to the top SINGLE OPERATOR in the following categories: EPA, WPA, QRP, Out-of-State, Canada, PA Novice/Tech, Out-of-State Novice/Tech (if enough entries received), Central Time Zone, Western U.S.A., Nittany Amateur Radio Club. Plaques will also be awarded in these classes: Mobile, Portable single transmitter station.

CERTIFICATES: Winner in each county, section, and DX country. Club awards to the winner in each club if 3 or more members enter.

SEND LOGS by November 15, 1990 to: PA QSO PARTY. Nittany Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 614
State College, PA 16804-0614

PLEASE enclose 1 dollar with your entry to help defray the costs of mailing, printing, etc. *** PLEASE NO SASEs. ***

QUESTIONS concerning these rules or the PA QSO Party in general should be sent to the above address or via packet to K3CM @ W3YA. REQUESTS for the PA QSO Party information packet which includes the rules, an entry form, and sample log and dupe sheets should be sent to the above address and include an SASE. Persons who have participated in the party since 1985 will automatically receive these materials.

JUST THE MINUTES

by David, N3EYT

The August 2nd meeting of the DLARC was called to order by Clarence, W3PYF, at 7:35p.m. A total of 79 members and guests attended the meeting held in the greystone building at the Gracedale complex.

a. Clarence asked for volunteers to take a inventory of all club assets. This will include recording all serial numbers on equipment so the club may be able to insure our equipment through the ARRL insurance program.

b. A nominating committee is needed to draft a slate of candidates for the November election of club officers and board members. Bill, K3ANS, will call club members to select nominating committee members.

c. The annual club raffle is coming up. The drawing will again be after the holiday season, but tickets should be made available by the November club meeting.

d. The club bought a new repeater controller and we are now back on the air on 146.70 MHz. The repeater will no longer read back the auto-dial numbers over the air. This is a security precaution. The club will buy a 450 MHz repeater for $150 to initially be used as a stand-alone repeater. A future link to two meters is being considered.

e. The PA QSO Party is just around the corner. New rules have just appeared on local packet bulletin boards. f. The DLARC would like to welcome the following new members into the club: N3IBW, Winfield; KB4FWV, Jane; and Earl Toland.

g. Bill, K3ANS reported on the club picnic to be held on Sunday, August 19th in Hackett park. Good food, music, and an auction. Don't miss it.

h. The club will order 100 patches of the club logo to be sold to members for $3.00 each. Also, 50 patches designating the DLARC as champions of the PA QSO Party for 1989 will be made available.

i. The club planned to provide communications for the August 5th race in Easton. At lease five club members volunteered to help.

j. The Lehigh Wheelmen Century Ride is coming up in September and we will again provide for the communication needs. Are you ready to help out?

k. Watches with the club logo on the face of the watch are available for $26 each.

BLIND HAM HONORED AT WHITE HOUSE

from ARRL Letter

A 21 year old Extra Class ham who has been totally blind since age 9 has received the Recordings for the Blind 1990 Scholastic Achievement award. Scott Charles LaBarre, KT0U, of Woodbury, Minnesota, a recent graduate of St. John's University, in Collegeville, Minnesota, received a check for $3,000 from the General Electric Company for "extraordinary scholarship, intellect, enterprise, and service to others."

LaBarre, who plans to enter law school this fall, earned his Novice license at age 13 and his Extra by 14, through the Golden Valley, Minnesota Based HandiHam System.

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VAL SEZ

by Val, W3EFL

HUGGING

Hugging is healthy: It helps the body's immune system, it keeps you healthier, it cures depression, it reduces stress, it induces sleep, it's invigorating, it's rejuvenating, it has no unpleasant side effects, and hugging is nothing lest than a miracle drug.



Hugging is all natural: it is organic, naturally sweet, no pesticides, no preservative, no artificial ingredients, and 110% wholesome.

Hugging is practically perfect: there are no movable parts, no batteries to wear out, no periodic check-ups, low energy consumption, high energy yield, inflation proof, non-fattening, no monthly payments, no insurance requirements, theft-proof, non-taxable, non-polluting and of course, fully returnable.

de Val, W3EFL

yANKEE dOODLING

ELECTION TIME AGAIN

Every Fall DLARC holds an election to select the club's officers and directors for the next year. Here's how the election process works.

NOMINATIONS

At the August meeting, the President appoints a nominating committee of three people. They can be any members except current officers or directors. The nominating committee has to make sure that there is AT LEAST one nominee for every position. They can nominate any member--including themselves. [One exception--a DLARC President can serve only 2 consecutive terms] They can nominate 2, 3, or more members for a position. The committee gives its report at the September meeting--that's the one coming up in a few days. Their job is to make sure that every position, even the tough jobs, will be filled by someone willing to do the job. Does that mean that 3 people have control of the club? NO WAY!

Do you want to be a club officer? Simple-just have two friends nominate you at the September meeting, or call the nominating committee and ask them to include you as a nominee for the job you want. Know someone in the club who would be a great leader? Then you nominate him or her. A suggestion though, ask him/her before the nomination. Some people just don't have the time to serve and it could be embarrassing to have to turn down the nomination in public.

WHAT DO OFFICERS/DIRECTORS DO?

Well, the President runs the meetings and makes sure that the other officers do their jobs. The Vice-President helps the president and runs the meeting if the president isn't there. The secretary keeps records of club meetings (minutes) and takes care of club correspondence and receives membership applications. The Treasurer pays the bills and keeps records of our money. Besides these officers there are five Directors at large. One is the most recent ex-president, the other four can be any full members. They handle special projects for the President (for example, Bill, K3ANS, is in charge of programs) and try to represent all of the different interests of the members in club decisions.

The officers and directors have about 10 or 12 meetings each year, besides the regular club meetings. These are business meetings where they pay bills and make decisions about things like insurance. Some of these meetings are held on club meeting night for a half hour before the club meeting. Others might be held on another evening and last 2 or 3 hours. These long meetings help keep the regular club meetings short and interesting.

If you're asked to serve--think about it. If you haven't been asked--volunteer. Oh, and don't forget to vote at the October meeting.

BENTONITE & Grounding!

I read an interesting article recently about something called (Sodium) Bentonite.

Bentonite is a clay composed of several chemical salts. It's ion rich and swells to about 13 times its dry volume when mixed with water. If you have poor soil, lots of shale for example, this may help you. The bentonite increases the effective diameter of the rod and maximizes contact with the surrounding soil. You need a 4"-6" diameter hole for the rod (post hole digger time), a rod and some Bentonite in powdered or granular form. Pack the bentonite around the rod, and then water it. Where to find bentonite? I know only one source--Pottstown Roller Mills under the name of VOL CLAY. You may know others.

Thanks 7.21 REPEATER NEWSLETTER & CompuServe

TRANSMISSION LINE SAFETY

One of our club's active DX chasers barely avoided a disaster the other evening in the form of a shack fire. He uses ladder-line twinlead to feed his 80 meter dipole and it's fed through the wall of his house. He had been moving and re-organizing some other feedlines and either broke a feeder or rubbed through the insulation. Anyway, the feeder arc-ed or shorted to something, and the resulting heat started a fire in the wall. No serious damage to the house thanks to quick use of a garden hose, but several feedlines were burned.

Take a minute to check your feedlines and grounds where they go into your radio shack from outside. Is there any wear of insulation? Are you using good techniques for feed-through (see ARRL Antenna Book and Handbook)? Are you using the right size wire for the power you're running? (You don't run a KW into RG-58!) If you have any splices, check these for conductivity and insulation Better to check now instead of after the fire next winter!

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THE DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

NEWS

RD #4
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NAZARETH, PA
18064

Robert A. Green
346 Crest Drive
Whitehall Pa. 18052

LEHIGH VALLEY PA
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AUG 31
1990
18001



All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to participate in the DLARC, ARES, EMA 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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1990

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Vice President - Ray Bilger.....W3TDF..346-7313
Secretary - David Blankenship....N3EYT..974-8299
Treasurer - Roy Buss.....KA3MNY.759-2674

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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.
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Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter should be addressed to
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