Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

September, 1998

Meterology and what it means

DLARC meeting September 3rd

The Study of the Atmosphere:

El-Nino. Green House Effect. Global Warming. Hurricance. Tornadoes. ETC

The speaker at the September meeting of the club will be **Charlie Giannetta, WA3RSQ,** who retired from the Weather Bureau at the ABE airport after 35 years of service with the weather bureau. The meeting will be at the Northampton Community College beginning at 7:30 pm. in Kiva Hall.

Charlie, after retiring, held the position of adjunct Proffessor at Moravian College and after 5 years he retired from there and is now teaching at Northampton Community College.

HAMFEST 1998

Saturday September 12th

Schecksville Fire Department, Schnecksville.

This is it. All you need. Saturday, Sept 12 with start time at 7:00 AM, indoor and outdoor. Weather no problem. Set up time for vendors begins at 6:00AM. Admission only $4.00. Tailgaters $6.00, Indoor tables $10.00. Vendors prices include 1 admission.

NOVICE-TECH CLASSES

begin September 14

de Bob, KE3AW

Beginning **Monday, September 14,** and for the following nine Mondays, free **DLARC** Novice-Tech classes will be offered at the Greystone Building at Gracedale. As in the past, classes will begin at 7pm and run for two hours each Monday.

Chris/NU3L and **George/N3SQD** will be the instructors for this series.

Anyone interested in working toward an entry-level radio license is invited to join us in these classes. Please talk up amateur radio at home, at work, or wherever in your travels you find someone who might be interested in earning a ham radio license. Have interested people call me at (610) 432-8286 with their name, address, and telephone number and any questions they might have. A packet of information will be sent to them prior to the first class.

As in the past, any licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to attend any or all the classes, as well.



MS 150-98 Bike Tour

by Jeff, N3QZT

This year the annual **PA Dutch 150 mile bike tour,** which is sponsored by the **Multiple Sclerosis Society,** was held on the weekend of July 25 and 26. This year once again the tour started in Morgantown PA and traveled to Kutztown University, where the bike riders spent the night before returning to Morgantown the next day.

The first challenge most of the Hams who helped out had to overcome was the early start time and the distant starting site. With this out of the way the event proceeded along with out problem until about 2:00pm. Within a ten minute period three separate incidents occurred, all needing medical assistance from one of the four ambulances on the course. This is when amateur radio got to show its stuff. The information was passed to net control that in turn passed that information to the hams riding with the ambulance's allowing them to respond to the scene. All the incidents did require transport to a local hospital so medical authorities could check out the cyclist's. The rest of the day passed without incident. The hams who came to the Kutztown finish line were able to join the bike riders for the evening meal which was served in the campus dining hall. After that rooms were available in the student dorms for those who spent the night. The next day everything went good except for one incident involving a house fire which caused some traffic problems for the riders.

This event provided some real time practice for 25 hams; it gave us the opportunity put to use some of the communication skills that would also be needed in a large disaster.

The following is a list of the hams that lent there time and skills: **KD3TI, KE3AW, KA1RAH, N3UGH, N2DH, KB3CSR, W3TDF, WA1LLD, KA3JWE, N3ULW, N3ZSR, KA3MOU, N3RVH, W3ZF, N3XR, N3QZR, N3TFG, N3LVA, N3OLH, KB2EVB, N3JMJ, WC8R, N3IXY, KB3CVU, N2BSC,W3JD, N3QZT.** Also I don't want to forget the wives and friends the helped too.

Thanks to all who helped make this a great event....

de Jeff N3QZT

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

Balance 6/30/98 **$2,973.05**

INCOME		
Donation Income Fifty-Fifty	28.00	
Dues Arrl Misc	58.00	
INCOME Novice Book Sold	5.00	
TOTAL INCOME		**91.00**
EXPENSES		
Field Day Don Reamer Food	17.37	
Memory Of Jim Hartman, Marvin Krover	50.00	
Newsletters July and August	280.00	
Postage Bulk Fee & Flyers	300.00	
Refund Cleon Swartzenbruber	2.00	
Renewal ARRL	37.00	
Telephone	35.48	
TOTAL EXPENSES		**721.85**
Balance 7/31/98		**$2,342.20**

Total Membership 361 as of 8/6/98

One silent key Marvin Kromer N3BDL

de Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

No Sarex but Walter is back

While the Space Amateur Radio EXperiment (SAREX) payload won't be aboard the shuttle flight that carries US Sen and astronaut John Glenn into space this fall, renowned former TV newsman Walter Cronkite, **KB2GSD**, will be back in the anchor chair for the historic flight.

Cronkite, who's 81 and retired from his long-held anchor position at CBS in 1981, will report on Glenn's return to space for CNN. Cronkite, who anchored Glenn's original 1962 space mission, will be joined at the anchor desk for the October 29 launch and November 7 landing by CNN's John Holliman. Cronkite also will contribute to coverage of Glenn's nine-day mission aboard the space shuttle Discovery.

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

via the ARRL letter

Why you should join ARRL

submitted by Dick, KA3MOU

QST is simply the source for news and information on any topic that's part of, or relates to, Amateur Radio. Here's some of what you'll find every month:

Informative and hard-hitting Product Reviews of the newest radios and accessories from hand-held and mobile FM radios, to home-station transceivers, antennas and even short-wave radios. Advertisements. You'll find everything from full-color foldouts introducing new radios to a large classified ad section. Each month's Coming Conventions and Hamfest Calendar columns show you who's getting together every month at hamfests, conventions and swapmeets in your area. The Public Service column keeps you up to date on the public service efforts hams are providing around the country and shows you how you can join in this satisfying aspect of our hobby. FM/RPT column. You'll find lively discussions of FM and repeater "current events." The New Ham Companion section is filled with features and how-to information just for beginning hams. There's no jargon-filled "tech talk"--just straightforward, easy-to-understand articles designed to get you on the air doing the things you like best. Whether you're interested in contesting, DXing, or radios, accessories and antennas you can build at home, QST covers them all: New trends and the latest technology, fiction, humor, news, club activities, rules and regulations, special events, packet radio, and much more.

Technical Information Service (TIS)

The Technical Information Service (tis@arrl.org) has been around for a long time, but, thanks to the addition of new staff, it has an all new face! Questions on topics ranging from A (antennas) to Z (Zener diodes), and just about anything in between, are answered by expert ARRL Technical Coordinators and Technical Specialists in the field and at ARRL Headquarters. Our Headquarters technical staff will help you over the phone, refer you to a volunteer ARRL Technical Specialist in your area, or send you the needed information from a growing collection of information packages. For really difficult questions, one of our Laboratory Engineers will research our technical library and send you an answer by postal or electronic mail.

Ham Radio Equipment Insurance

As a League Member, you can take advantage of the ARRL All-Risk Equipment Insurance program at a substantial savings over other plans.

Outgoing QSL Service

Let us be your mail carrier and handle your overseas QSLing chores. The savings you accumulate through this service alone can pay your membership dues many times over.

ARRL Field Organization

Be part of a League tradition and join a select group of ARRL Volunteers serving your fellow Radio Amateurs and the public.

Operating Awards

The League sponsors the most popular operating awards. You can increase your operating proficiency while you find out about the history and culture of places you've only dreamed of visiting.

And More!

Your ARRL Membership helps fund the following services. You may use one or two of these services during the course of your membership, or you might take advantage of them all. As an ARRL member, you insure their existence and continuation:

Representation of your Amateur Radio interests in Washington, DC A Regulatory Information Department that provides information on FCC and regulatory questions; problems with antenna, tower and zoning restrictions; and reciprocal licensing procedures Volunteer Counsel Program Volunteer Examiner Coordinator program Amateur Radio Emergency Service Registered Amateur Radio Instructor program W1AW code practice, bulletins and code proficiency sessions ARRL-sponsored contests Preferred subscription rates for The ARRL Letter; QEX, the ARRL Forum for Communications Experimenters; and the National Contest Journal (NCJ) **Join ARRL Today!**

Plus The Club Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club benefits from your membership. Get your application from Dick / KA3MOU Treasurer of DLARC.

de Dick, KA3MOU.

Membership in ARRL is not just a magazine subscription.

League proposes simplified Amateur license structure

via ARRL Letter

The ARRL has proposed a simplified Amateur Radio license structure featuring four license classes and reduced Morse code requirements for full HF access. In approving the plan July 18, the ARRL Board of Directors said the hobby no longer needed six license classes. In their discussions, Board members emphasized that the objective was to rationalize and simplify the amateur licensing structure without reducing the requirements for any class of license.

Among its recommendations, the plan would eliminate the current **Novice and Tech Plus** class licenses and merge those operating privileges into a new license class equivalent to the current General ticket. The plan would replace the present named license classes with Class **A, B, C, and D** tickets, revise written examination requirements and content, and set 12 WPM as the highest Morse code test requirement. Most of the spectrum freed up by the elimination of the current Novice CW bands would be "reformed" into expanded HF phone segments. Some would remain available for digital and CW, however.

Announcement of the Board's plan generated a tumult of opinions pro and con within the Amateur Radio community. Comments received at League Headquarters have ranged from angry opposition to enthusiastic support, but by the end of the week in which the plan was announced, most Board members reported receiving somewhat more comments in favor than opposed.

The League has forwarded details of the plan in a letter to the FCC but will not petition for a rulemaking as it awaits public release of the Commission's own ham radio restructuring plans (see related story below). In its letter, the ARRL asked the FCC to "consider this restructuring plan as a means of modernizing and simplifying amateur radio licensing, and a means of making Amateur Radio available to more people."

Before the July meeting, the ARRL Board had twice voted down motions to consider changing the licensing structure. This time, the impending FCC rulemaking provided the impetus for the Board to issue its own plan, in time to stimulate debate on the topic and possibly serve as a counterpoint to the anticipated FCC proposals.

ARRL Board approval of the plan followed extensive discussion and debate during its recent three-day meeting. "The debate was, at times, contentious, and the result was not unanimous," said ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD. The vote to approve the plan was 9 to 6. Most of those in the minority were not opposed to simplifying the licensing structure, however, and there was sentiment for even fewer license classes.

"Some Board members preferred greater simplification; others were uncomfortable with some of the changes being proposed," Stafford observed. "However, every Board member, without exception, left the meeting knowing that each of his or her colleagues did what they believe is best for the future of Amateur Radio."

In developing its plan, the Board tied proposed reductions in Morse code requirements to corresponding increases in written examination standards. On the other hand, Board members were adamant that simplifying the structure should not come at the expense of privileges amateurs already have earned. This was the rationale to recommend granting the new entry-level Class C HF license to present Novice and Technician Plus licensees, who already have earned entry-level HF operating privileges.

Charts depicting the proposed operating privileges and licensing structure and the text of the League's letter to the FCC are available on the ARRL Web site at http://www.arrl.org. Members may comment on the ARRL plan via the Web or via e-mail to restrux@arrl.org.

Here are the highlights of the ARRL Board's restructuring plan:

*** The Class D** license, equivalent to the current Technician class, would be the entry level ticket to Amateur Radio. Operating privileges and the written examination would remain at the same level at Technician, but the exam would be more consistent with Class D operating privileges.

*** The Class C** would supplant the Novice as the entry level to HF. Under the League plan, all **General, Tech Plus, and Novice** licensees would become **Class C** licensees. The Class C ticket would convey current General privileges, but would offer bigger HF phone bands. **Class C** licensees would have access to another 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and another 25 kHz on 40 meters.

Continued on page 5

continued from page 5

To upgrade from **Class D** to **Class C,** an amateur would pass a written examination on the operational and technical qualifications required for HF operation plus a **5 WPM Morse code test.**

* All amateurs now licensed as **Advanced** would become **Class B**. The **Class B** would convey the privileges of the present Advanced license, but with additional phone privileges. The **Class B** ticket would offer an additional 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and another 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from **Class C** to **Class B**, an amateur must pass a more advanced written examination--similar in difficulty to the present Element 4A--and a 12 WPM Morse code exam.

* All amateurs presently licensed as Amateur **Extra Class** would become **Class A.** The Class A ticket would convey the full privileges of the present Amateur Extra Class but, once again, with expanded phone subbands. Class A licensees would get an additional 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and another 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class B to Class A, an amateur would be required to pass the most difficult written examination in the sequence. The Advanced written test is considered the most difficult in the current exam sequence. Consistent with the practice in many other countries, no Morse code examination beyond 12 words per minute would be required for a Class A ticket. Adoption of the simplification plan culminated some 30 months of work by the Board and embraced input from thousands of ARRL members, nonmembers, and prospective hams. The Board debated a wide variety of options including more and fewer license classes, higher and lower qualification levels, and different privileges..

The ARRL Letter

The other shoe hams await FCC's "streamlining plan"

Nearly lost in the maelstrom of discussion over the ARRL Board's plan to restructure Amateur Radio licensing is the fact that the FCC soon plans to make its own "streamlining" proposals public. Release of the FCC proposals could come within the next few weeks.

At a national meeting of **Volunteer Examiner Coordinators July 9, FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau chief D'wana Terry** hinted at what hams can expect from the FCC. "Some things will probably be concrete proposals; other things will be discussion topics," she told the gathering. But Terry said none of the FCC's proposals should be considered "carved in stone," and she urged hams to comment constructively. "We want to do things that make sense," she said.

Terry said the changes could include action on outstanding petitions for rulemaking "to the extent that they fit into the biennial review" of Part 97. "We are trying to clear out our backlog," she said.

She encouraged hams to not just complain but to tell the Commission what will work and offer solid suggestions. "What we try to do is give it our best shot," she said. "We don't always get it right."

Terry said the FCC's proposals on changes to Part 97 would be out "sometime this year--I can't say when."

VECs said they had been hoping for more of a "heads up" on the FCC's plans for Part 97. ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, suggested to Terry that the FCC offer a longer-than-normal period for amateurs to comment. Also at the session, W5YI-VEC Fred Maia, W5YI, expressed concerns that something must be done to reverse the downward trends in licensing and upgrading.

FCC officials also discussed progress to implement the Universal Licensing System (ULS). The ULS, which would move the application process into the electronic arena, is expected to come on-line by next spring.

The VECs re-elected Conference Chairman Win Guin, W2GLJ.

The ARRL Letter

For Sale

Icom 761 HF tranceiver w/scanning Microphone, Bencher Paddle with wire Antenna with 50 feet of Coax.....**$1050.00**

2 meter Radio Shack HT with slim antenna and 2 Mobile Antennas 5/8 and 1/4 wave.....**$200.00**

440 Mhz Radio Shack HT with 5/8 wave slim antenna.....**$ 180.00**

Call Larry N3ZVG

610 868-8522

How Hams Can Help with Highway Emergencies

by Bruce, N6TFS

supplied by Bruce, KA3ONZ

Daily, around our country, hams encounter highway emergencies on their travels. It could be as simple as a motorist stranded on a center divider or as deadly as a multi-car traffic accident. These are all emergencies and are worthy of dialing 911. By the way, at least in Southern California, there are no emergency call boxes on freeway center dividers like there are on the right shoulders. And all too often these motorists attempt to run across traffic lanes to seek help. The highway patrol considers these calls a priority, just as a traffic accident is. you don't have to ask for a control operator on a repeater to find help. Any interested ham, on any frequency, that is near any telephone (even pay phones, autopatches and cell phones are fine) can help. I know hams, including myself, that take emergency calls from other mobile hams, and forward it via an autopatch, while driving. Being a good communicator is the important thing here, not how it gets through. If you are on a surface street and near a pay phone, often that is quicker than even using Ham Radio. Just dial 911, a free call. Here are the basic steps, from both perspectives, in handling a typical call:

HAM #1: sees a highway emergency

HAM #1: takes note of details: location, injuries, description, etc.

HAM #1: grabs radio, calls for help, looking for someone near a phone: then transmits: "I have an accident to report, could someone near a telephone assist me? **<your call sign>**

HAM #2: near a phone responds: "Yes, go ahead with your emergency traffic" - (getting pencil and paper ready, and having the phone near the radio is a real plus)

HAM #1: slowly describes: location, vehicles, injuries, etc.

HAM #2: reads back all of the info to **HAM #1**, checking for errors

HAM #1: confirms accuracy or provides needed corrections

HAM #2: asks **HAM #1** to stay on frequency, in case more info is needed

HAM #2: dials 911, asks for needed agency (police, highway patrol, etc.)

HAM #2: reaches needed agency, explains that this is via Ham Radio and then reads the info to the dispatcher.

HAM #2: calls back **HAM #1** on radio and confirms delivery of message **HAM #1**: thanks HAM #2 for being available to assist

That's all there is, it's not rocket science. But it can save lives. And if you are the mobile ham, don't be afraid to call for help several times. And just use plain English when asking for help, you don't need to use any special codes or ham-speak. The responding ham near the phone may even need your coaching, not a problem, walk them through it. Hams don't have to be members of any special emergency groups to assist on either end of this type of emergency. Our FCC license and Part 97 of the rules expects us to assist the public with emergencies - we don't have to be knighted by the Queen first. The repeater that I am active on, in the Los Angeles area, handled about 5000 calls last year. While the W6FNO repeater, 146.820-, specializes in this type of communications - IT CAN BE DONE ON ANY REPEATER - AND SHOULD BE. A few repeaters around the country are using the LiTZ (long tone zero) system. This is a paging technique that requires one to hold down the "0" key on their radio for 3 seconds to alert a monitoring station. A useful system if you happen to live in an area where people don't play with the DTMF tones. Not practical on an open repeater in Los Angeles. But the technique I have described in this bulletin can be used on any frequency. That is why we all should leave a good pause between our transmissions - so that emergencies get through. Hurracanes and floods don't happen everyday, but highway emergencies do. And handling this kind of radio traffic is great training for larger emergencies and disasters. Many of you will find that it will increase your confidence on the radio, it did for me. If this has provoked any questions or if I have left out something in the small space of this bulletin, drop me a line.

de Bruce, N6TFS

editors note: With our affilliation with Northampton County, this of course would not be necessary, but if yu are in some strang area thses are good facts.

Meteorology

by Charles S. Giannetta, WA3RSQ

Atmospheric Optics

Atmospheric Optics is the study of the optical characteristics of the atmosphere which includes the study of refraction, reflection, defraction, scattering and polarization of light produced by the atmosphere.

One of these is the appearance of the sun some 2 minutes before it actually rises. Similarly, after setting, the sun appears to linger on the horizon. This phenomenon is caused by refraction. The sun's light is gradually bent as it enters the outer air and passes through the dense air below. What we see is a mirror-like image of the sun prior to its actual rising and setting, thus, giving us a few more minutes of sunlight.

The orange and red colors of the rising and setting sun are caused by an increase in length of the path the rays must travel before light reaches our eyes. The shorter (blue tones) become scattered by the lower atmosphere's thick impure-filled depths, and only red tones remain. As the sun rises higher in the sky, its light passes through less denser air so it loses its redder tones. The effect is the same for the moon. As the moon is low on the horizon, the light must pass through the same atmosphere, which cuts off shorter waves of light given a reddish color.

One of the strongest of optical illusion is that the rising moon and sun are larger then when they are higher in the sky. The illusion is so that it is difficult to accept the fact that every kind of measurement shows them to be just as large when they are high in the sky.

It is a psychological phenomenon, based on the appearance of the sun or moon by the apparent measures or distance with respect to the horizon and clouds.

Twilight is another phenomenon which is a period of incomplete darkness following sunset (evening twilight) or preceding sunrise (morning twilight).

Shortly after the sun sinks below the horizon, its rays of light are reflected from the gas molecules and impurities of the atmosphere to produce afterglow. It is produced by scattering of fine particles of dust suspended in the upper atmosphere. The limit of twilight is the height at which the density of the air is sufficient to cause a perceptible amount of scattered sunlight. The height is about 40 miles above the Earth.

editors note:

This is the second of a series by Charlie, a new member of our club. Charlie was for many years the head of the Weather Bureau at the ABE Airport and now teaches at Northampton Community College. After retiring in 1992 from the weather bureau he became adjunct professor at Moravian College.

Kiwanis Clubs of Easton and Phillipsburg

Derriere in the Delaware 1998

A letter received by W3PYF

What a super and very successful **DID** this year. The weather was superior, the river very refreshing, the floaters most cooperative, and the volunteers just plain **OUTSTANDING!!!**

You and your radio team, the members of the **Delaware Lehigh Amatuer Radio Club** were much appreciated. The hours in the sun, the constant watching, and the communication back and forth kept all of us informed, and most importantly, safe.

Please convey the **Kiwanis Club's** appreciation and thanks for your radio club's most supportive efforts. And a big thanks from me personally for all your help in making the day a safe and successful event.

Lach Peeke

Derriere in the Delaware

We would like to thank the **DLARC** Club Members who helped with **Derriere in the Delaware**. Thanks to **Jeff N3MFT** for the use of his repeater. Thanks to **Chuck KD3SQ** and his son, **Clarence W3PYF, Al WO4H, Dick KA3MOU, John WX3TAZ, Thomas N3YRP, Chris N3QIM, N3NET Bob and his wife Jeanine, Glenn N3ULW, Jill N3ZSR, Norm N3GXW, Bob KE3AW, Jeff N3QZT, Brad KA1RAH, Joe W3JD, Amy KD3TI and Hal N3LVA.**

Four hundred tubers went a tube ride down the river on a nice sunny Sunday day. Thanks to all for being the eyes and ears for the Derriere in the Delaware.

de Dick KA3MOU

Lehigh River Run

by Ami, KD3TI, coordinator

This year's Lehigh River Relay Run was held on July 19th. It started early, but that didn't discourage the dependable crew from the DLARC. In the pre-race meetings, the Red Cross Coordinator and I decided to try staggering the start times of the radio operators a little bit. It helped reduce the time we spent waiting for something to happen, but still provided the essential communications that allowed the Red Cross to make the event a success. Providing communications were:

Joe, W3JD, Bob, WF3H, Charlie, N3WXO, Norm, N3GXW, Jeff, N3QZT, Glenn, N3ULW and his wife Jill, N3ZSR, Brad, KA1RAH, Hal, N3LVA and Bob, KE3AW.

We used the **N3LWY** repeater, which gave good coverage of the route and all the operators conducted themselves in a supremely professional manner. I had the opportunity, this year, to place operators with the critical supply truck and I escorted the race coordinator. I did not use headphones, and the **Red Cross Coordinator** heard every word that went over the air. By the time we closed up the event, she told me she was amazed at the efficiency of our operation and was eager to have us back for next year.

Thanks go out to you all from **Lauren**, the Red Cross Coordinator and myself for a job well done.

de Amy, KD3TI

Beam info wanted

Ray, WA3CLD, would like anyone who is familiar with the Swan TB-3HA triband beam to contact him. His phone is : 610 838-8895

Email is WA3CLD@juno.com

Letter to the editor

There are statements made in the **DX column** of the August issue of the **DLARC OK Corral** which I feel are either insulting or completely inaccurate. I will list my opinions more or less in the order which the statements appeared in that column.

1. Why would you list one or more DX clubs which are so selective that the beginner could not possibly join?

2. I have only encountered one member of the FRC who would use the expression "--stoop to the level of novices or techs --". EVERY other member of that organization has always given the impression that they will go out of their way to stimulate the interest of beginners in the hobby in general or in DXing.

3. There are five frequencies listed which are primarily used by operators with similar interests as the editor of this column. One wonders why he chooses to remain on our repeater with the discussions which to him are so dull and boring.

4. The ultimate appliance operator characterizes other operators on our repeater as appliance operators. His expertise lies in his ability to pack up his malfunctioning equipment and sending it somewhere to be repaired.

5. If he is truly as concerned about ham radio as he professes, he must first face the image he sees in the mirror every morning and remove all negative attitudes from that image. Then after that he must make a continuing effort 24hrs a day, 7 days a week to make ONLY positive statements.

6. He states that the QCWA complains that new operators are not taking advantage of the learning opportunities afforded by that clubs collective experience in ham radio. He follows this with a detailed description of the field day effort by the QCWA which was separate from that of the DLARC. The reason given was that too much emphasis was to be given to training operators and not enough attention was being paid to getting high scores. As far as I know, field day is NOT a contest, it is an exercise in setting up and operating under simulated emergency conditions. I wonder what kind of an example he and the other members of the QCWA think they set for the newer members of our hobby?

In order that Clarence doesn't have to add a disclaimer to this letter, it contains only MY opinions and you may feel free to agree or disagree as you see fit!!!



Letter to the Editor:

I usually don't take the time to write a Letter to the Editor on an article in the **W3OK Corral** because they are usually all good articles. The August issue has an article "DX Clubs and Advice" that should be discussed.

First off, I'm getting tired of the **DX Editor, Bill, K3ANS**, using the article to sound off his displeasure with Amateur Radio and the DLARC members. He should base his articles on DXing and Contesting.

Most Hams can't afford to put up an antenna farm the way Bill did. Most new hams can't even afford HF gear right away, let along big antennas.

His attitude toward the No-Codes is the same as the **Section Manager, Al, W3TI,** showed at the Club President's meeting that **Joe, W3JD,** and I went to. The Club representatives that were there really jumped on W3TI. He **(W3TI)** changed his tune quickly.

HF is not Ham Radio. I'm not on HF as much as I used to be because of the trash that is on the bands. There are Hams with CB mentality on the HF bands also.

As far as technical achievement not being pushed to the limits, what about APRS? APRS has increased a lot since it was started. National Weather Service has adopted APRS as an "official" technology for the NWS SKYWARN Severe WX Spotter program. APRS is basically used on 2-meters. There was a lot of No-Codes hams that are helping with the SKYWARN program. There was a lot of them that passed information to NWS during the tornado that hit Lyons in Berks Co. If it wasn't for public service communications, we could have lost our 2-meter frequencies to the LEO's.

Bill's comment about the DLARC Field Day activity really shows where Bill's head is stuck. I was always told, and we say it in the Novice-Tech Classes, that Field Day is a training exercise for emergency setup. It prepares you in how to set up antennas (don't have to be yagis) and operate in case of an emergency. It was NEVER a contest as far as I know. It may be for those on an ego trip.

So Bill, before you start putting people down, you best take a good look at yourself. I have heard you, and so have others, make a contact with a DX station in a pile up. After getting a signal report and the station signs and starts calling CQ, you asked for a signal report off the back of your beam. That's real good practice, when others, with lesser equipment, are trying their best to make a contact with that station. You should also try talking to people and not at them. You also belittle the No-Codes. I feel that if that is as far as they want to go for right now, fine. Let them enjoy the hobby their way. No wonder some don't want to upgrade. You make a good example not to. So just write about DXing and Contesting which you know about and leave the put downs out of the articles

de John, WX3TAZ.

Letter to the Editor

I have just read my **August W3OK Corral**. As has become the norm, it was interesting and fun reading...until **page 10**. As one of the club members who regularly attends club meetings and listens to the repeaters, I have heard the deranged ranting of **K3ANS** for several years now. With this article, he has absolutely gone too far. I am sick and tired of hearing (and now reading) his tirades against "Today's hams". He is, quite clearly, a fan of dx and contest activities, this is fine. However, to say that this is the only "True ham radio" is sickening and absurd

One of the great things about amateur radio is the many, many forms of activity we can participate in. There is ragchewing, satellite, a couple forms of television, moonbounce, public service and, oh, yes, that dx stuff. There is room for everyone and every taste in our wonderful hobby. There is no room for someone as closed-minded as this fellow.

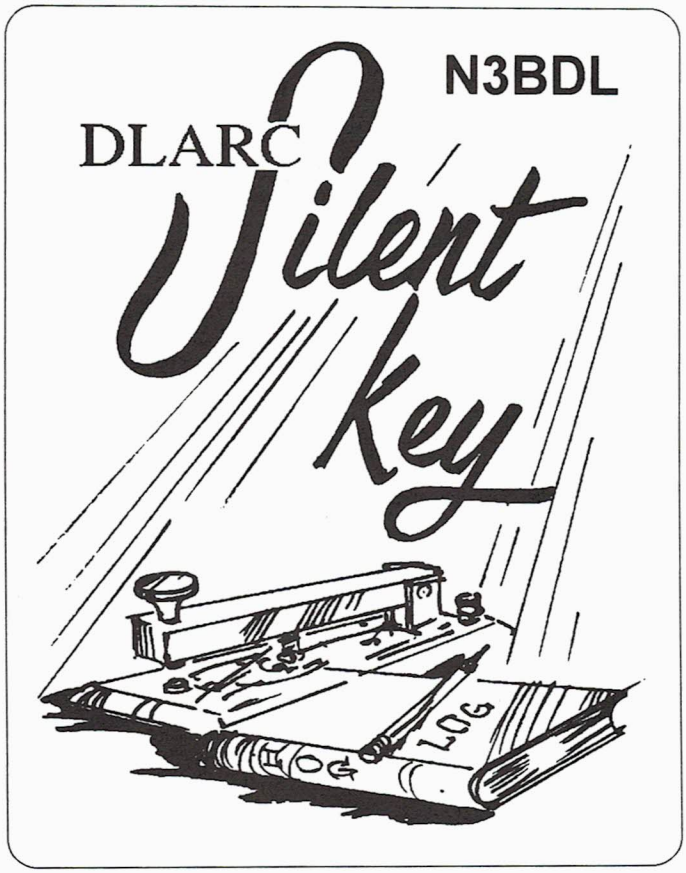
I have observed and heard several "accomplished contesters" in action and they do not impress me in the least. In their misguided belief that "scores are everything", they disregard all the rules of common courtesy and pay no heed to the Amateur Spirit which is supposed to bind all members of this hobby. I truly wonder what they think they are accomplishing?

He claims, first, that "we don't stoop to the level of techs and novices" but then goes on to claim that "we eagerly offer to be elmers". When these "contesters" claim to be eager to teach new hams, what they really mean is, they need strong backs 'cause they're too feeble to do their own work anymore and, oh, if we're real good, we can sit and adore their million dollar stations for a spell

As far as losing frequencies goes, dx and contesting gain us nothing. It will take arguments from outside the ham community to defend against the current and future threats to our bands. Will these people understand "dx and contesting"? **NO!** What will they understand? "Hams spotted the tornado and provided the warning that allowed you to evacuate. Hams sent the message that your family members in the hurricane area were safe. Ham radio reported the auto accident so that ambulances could save your loved one's lives." Any of us real hams can provide a dozen more, similar examples. I strongly suggest that if **K3ANS** can not tolerate activities other than dx and contesting, he leave active, special service clubs alone and go ahead and devote his energy to his precious contest clubs. We mustn't waste the time of someone so wise and important.

de Amy, KD3TI

(P.S.- an ADVANCED class amateur)



Marvin H. "Pappy" Kromer, N3BDL 83, of Melfa, Va., formerly of Wachapreague, Va. died Tuesday, July 21, in Shore Memorial Hospital, Nassawadox, Va. He was the husband of the late Mary (Wargo) Kromer.

He was an engineer for Bethlehem Steel Corp. until retiring. Born in Emmaus, he was a son of the late Levi and Ida (George) Kromer. Survivors: Sons, **Richard C. W3XR** of Melfa and Marvin H. Jr. in Pennsylvania; sisters, Doris K. Roebach of Emmaus and Mildred K. Hammer of Syracuse, N.Y

Follows a list of home pages on the internet that are run by members of our club. This of course in addition to our club home page.

N3NVA	**http://www.enter.net/~n3nva/**
KA3JWE	**http://www.enter.net/~donster**
WX3TAZ	**http://www.users.fast.net/~jholmes**
W3ZF	**http://www.zdial.com/~heathkit**
WA3CSQ	**http://www.enter.net/~wxdata/**

de Barry N3NVA

Estate Sale of John Marazi, W3BAL

Transceiver, ICOM IC-751A w CW filter. **$850**
AL-80B Amitrol. **$800**
Kenwood 2mter HT TH215A with SMC-30 MIC, charger & 2 battery packs. **$150**
12 volt Micranta power supply. **$45**
Kenwood automatic antenna tuner AT-250. **$125**
Heathkit 1000 watt Dummy Load, HN-31.**$25**
Astron RS-35M 12 volt power supply.
Mirage B108 10amp power supply
2 meter 10-80 amplifier. **$50.00**
Dentron antenna bridge. **$50**
Larsen 5/8 mag mount 2meters. **$50**
Tri-Bander, 4 element, model unknown, possibly TH 215A or ATB 34 (you remove) **$125**
HyGain Ham iv rotor. **$150**
Antenna Switch Alpha-Delta 4, surge protected.**$60**
Dentron peak reading watt meter 50-150MHZ (goes with 2 meter amplifier) **$50**
Heathkit field strength meter
HD-1426 Amperex 3-500Z tube.
Weller soldering station W-TCP-L
Kenwood Transceiver 430s, AM filter, MIC 43S, FM Module FM 430, intermediate filter Speaker, SP-430, Headphone HS-5. **$565**
Heathkit VTVM, model
V-7 Tower, 60 foot free standing (you remove)
Most Equipment includes manuals but no boxes.
The asking prices have been suggested by the family who will accept OBO.
The estate sale coordinator is **Bill Murphy, W0RSJ,** a DLARC member. You may inspect the equipment at his house by contacting him at **610-252-3956** after 6:00 p.m. weekdays or weekends. The tower, rotor and Tri-Bander are located at **W3BAL's** former residence. **Call Bill @252-3596.**

de Al, WO4H

Letter to the editor

I totally agree with other Amateurs i have spoken to, **Bill Goodman, K3ANS** only will do and say items that will benefit himself, just listen for yourself when he is on the, "The CB radio, channel . 70." I am not interested in talking to other countries, granted I do have privileges on low bands, and if I wish, I could easily use these frequencies. I believe that Mr. Goodman should keep his own opinion to himself where it belongs.

de Paul, KA3MTY

FCC's "Streamlining" proposal due out soon

The **ARRL** has learned that the **FCC** very likely will release its anxiously awaited "streamlined" Part 97 Amateur Service proposals sometime during the week of August 10. The document, part of the Commission's 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review, was adopted July 29, but it's undergoing some last-minute tweaking prior to public release. Editorial fine tuning like this following FCC adoption of a document is part of the normal process and not considered unusual.

Details of the FCC's license restructuring or Morse code testing proposals still are not available. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) will carry WT Docket No. 98-143. It's expected that the FCC will use the NPRM to respond to some outstanding amateur rules-related petitions, including RM-9196, which proposed changes in the administration of CW tests to handicapped individuals. The ARRL will release details of the NPRM via a W1AW bulletin and on the ARRLWeb (http://www.arrl.org) as soon as the information is available. It's expected that the FCC will post the complete set of proposals on its Web site, http://www.fcc.gov.

Word is that the FCC will provide an extended period--something longer than the typical 30 days--for the amateur community to voice its comments on the proposals, and additional time also will be provided for reply comments. The ARRL released its own Amateur Radio licensing restructuring plan last month.

The ARRL Letter

DLARC Board of Directors Policy New Applications for Membership

The Board of Directors shall establish annually a membership committee consisting of two members and one officer whose term will be for one year serving concurrent with the term of regularly elected Board members. Committee members shall serve at the will of the Board. Members may serve no more than two successive terms.

Responsibilities of the committee will be to:

Review new Applications for Membership and report findings to the general membership. Conduct an orientation for new members detailing the club's activities, opportunities for participation, and responsibilities concerning autopatch privileges.

Henceforth, new applicants will require the sponsorship of two members.

New applicants shall attend two club meetings, not necessarily consecutive, before being proposed for membership.

To permit open discussion, prospective applicants may not be present during the nominating committee's report and subsequent discussion and vote by the membership. However, prospective applicants must be present at the meeting during which their applications are voted upon by the General Membership.

Requests for exceptions to these attendance requirements may be presented to the membership committee. They may be waived where, in the determination of the membership committee, there is a hardship due to a physical, geographic, occupational or educational related encumbrance.

Other extenuating circumstances will be considered.

The Prez Sez

by Joe, W3JD, president



I'm pleased to announce that **Bill Fahs, N3CP**, has agreed to serve as chair of the Nominations committee for 1998. Although I gave Bill the names we discussed at the board meeting as possible committee members, he understands that the choices are his to make.

Barry, N3NVA, has graciously offered to help maintain the club web page and is in the process of updating specific sections of it. Navigating through the page will send users from the **KU** server to the Enter.net server for certain sections.

Just the minutes

The August meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club . was held in room 190 of Northampton County Community College. In the absence of the President, the Vice President, Don, KA3JWE, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. There were 48 members in attendance. A motion to accept the minutes of the July meeting, as published in the August newsletter, was made by W3TDF and second by W2AZZ. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.



KA3MOU presented the Treasurer's report for the previous month. N3NVA made a motion to accept, with KD3TI seconding. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Novice-Tech classes will begin September 14th.

AA3IX, Hamfest Chairman, gave a report on the plans and progress of the Hamfest. The Hamfest date is Saturday, September 12th.

Reports on last month's public service events were made by W3PYF, KD3TI and N3QZT. All of the events went well and a "Thank You" went out to all that helped out.

The D.L.A.R.C. picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 16th. However, N3VJA was not present to give a progress report.

The club received cards from the family of W3JYA and from the American Cancer Society for the clubs donation in memory of Jim.

There was one application for membership this month made by **Gregory Dottor, KB3CPF**. A motion to accept Greg into the club was made by N2BSC with AA3IX seconding. The vote was unanimous and we welcome Greg.

NC3P has accepted the position of Nominating Committee Chairman. Committee members include **W3APE, KD3SQ** and **KE3SP**. Those members wishing to run for office or nominate someone for a post should contact one of the members of the committee.

W3PYF noted that the D.L.A.R.C. has been an ARRL affiliated club for fifty years.

Under old business, a discussion of the proposal to have the club operate a Lottery Calendar as a means for generating revenue was initiated. The need for a license and the accompanying fee was added to the bottom line for the break-even point. A poll of members present indicated that the Lottery Calendar would not be a viable project for the membership to pursue.

Under new business, a lively discussion about the Wednesday and Sunday A.R.E.S., R.A.C.E.S., and D.L.A.R.C. nets was concluded with WA6VSE and KD3TI agreeing to get together and prepare a demo/training session for one of the nets in the future.

A motion to adjourn at 8:30pm was made by AA3IX with K3NZ seconding.

for the secretary, Don, KA3JWE

9th Annual Easton Hospital 5K Run

by John, WX3TAZ

Sunday morning started out to be cloudy, but by the time the Run started it was partly cloudy and warm with a slight breeze.

I want to thank the following for their help and the fine job done to make this a safe event: **Clarence-W3PYF, Jeff-N3QZT, Hal-N3LVA, Cary-K2YIY, Mike-N3ZSP, Bob-KE3AW, Thomas-N3YRP, Brad-KA1RAH,** and **Amy-KD3TI**, who did a great job in the ambulance.

Again I want to thank all volunteers who helped to make this public service event successful for everybody involved. I know that Easton Hospital is very grateful that we have members willing to help out on a weekend. Hope to see you all again next year.

de John, WX3TAZ

For Sale

Timewave DSP-9 digital audio filter. New condition. **$90** shipped to your door.

Barry, KU3X. Phone 610-691-8888. Please DO NOT call after 9 PM.

The art of QSLing DX

by Bill, K3ANS, DX editor

Now you have worked many DX stations, including many countries, CQ zones, Russian oblasts (counties), German DOK's (counties), etc. Do you need proof? Do you want to collect "paper". Chasing DX awards is an extension of DXing. Cover your walls and ceilings with QSLs from all over the world. This reminds me of post card collecting, since so many QSLs are beautiful. They are often very personal expressions prepared with pride and creative artwork and photographs. These hams are proudly showing off their stations, their communities, their scenery, their club logos, their flags, their family, their equipment, and their antennas. Some of the pictures could be in Penthouse magazine! Have you seen the QSL from K4NBN? It is a nude picture of his wife, Magnolia Blossom, who weighs 643 pounds! He runs Del's Nudist Colony in Razorville, Florida.

How do you get these QSLs? The most effective and expensive method is to send your QSL to the other ham via first class or air mail. Include a self addressed envelope along with foreign money or air mail postage from the other ham's country. You can buy foreign postage from various sources. William Plum of Flemington, NJ is a local vendor of foreign postage, appearing at many hamfests. Bill used to be a vendor at our DLARC hamfest when it was in Easton. I hope he has been invited back to the Schnecksville hamfest. He also publishes a useful guide on obtaining foreign QSLs.

To avoid theft, a common problem in foreign post offices, use a plain envelope with no indication of ham radio. Hide the postage or any money you include inside the return envelope. Try scenting the envelope with perfume. Use a pink envelope. That will throw off the potential thief. Another method is to use a very official looking business envelope which would not contain money or postage.

Another method is to substitute an International Reply Coupon (IRC) for the foreign postage. The IRC may be purchased at major post offices around the world. Smaller post offices do not carry them, nor do they necessarily honor or understand them. If you receive an IRC you are supposed to be able to exchange it for one unit of postage to pay for surface (ground) or air mail. Thus, if you send your QSL with an IRC to the DX station, he should be able to exchange it for his local (foreign) postage to reply to you, at no additional cost. Not every country accepts IRCs, so check with your post office. Many hams never cash in the IRCs. Instead they have become an internation currency among hams. When you send an IRC to the DX station, he saves it to mail to another DX station when he is seeking a QSL. They are actively sold and resold among hams at face or discount value. You may ask an American ham who serves as a QSL manager for DX stations to sell you his surplus IRC's.

Both of the above methods are too expensive for most hams when they begin to collect hundreds or thousands of DX QSLs. For example, I recently printed 22,000 DX QSO labels to stick on my QSLs. If I sent everyone via airmail with self addressed envelopes and return postage, how much do you think it would cost? Probably at least $22,000! Obviously, I cannot afford that. So, I use alternative sources. My two favorite methods are via the ARRL outgoing DX QSL Bureau and via the WF5E DX QSL Service.

The ARRL outgoing QSL Bureau is available to only members. You sort and bundle your DX QSLs in DXCC country prefix alphabetical order. For example, if you are sending QSLs to Russia, you group the EW, RA, RV, RW, UA, UV, and UW prefix QSLs together. If you have indicated that the QSL is to go to a QSL manager, not to the actual DX station you worked, then put that QSL with the country of the manager. You send the bundle to the ARRL along with $4.00 per pound (about 150 QSLs) and the mailing label from a recent QST showing your name, call, and current membership expiration date. The ARRL Bureau workers then sort your outgoing QSLs into different bins for each country.

Later your QSLs and many other members' QSLs are bundled and shipped to the foreign countries' incoming QSL bureaus, which are usually the foreign amateur radio organizations, equivalent to the ARRL. Smaller countries with few hams often do not have active incoming QSL bureaus. But these bureaus do handle the bulk of my DX QSOs, which come primarily from DX contesting. I often work hundreds or thousands of stations in Japan, Italy, Germany, France, Great Britain, Spain, etc. each year. Since I send a QSL to every DX station I work on on each band and mode, most of them are going to countries with high populations of active hams. So ARRL outgoing bureau handle them economically. This method is slow. Some replies take many years, especially if the foreign bureau is lethargic, corrupt, disorganized, or disbanded as happened in the CIS countries after USSR dissolved. For QSLing consider price, quality, and speed. Pick two. The ARRL bureau is inexpensive, pretty reliable, and slow. Direct QSLing is expensive, more reliable, and quick.

Send some self addressed stamped envelopes, or in my case cartons, to your incoming DX QSL Bureau, which is NOT the ARRL. They are different in each call area. In the 4th call area several incoming bureaus handle the QSLs, since the volume is so great. They are separated so K4's, W4's, WA4's, KA4's, etc. use different incoming QSL bureaus. In the third call area the incoming QSL bureau is the PA DX Association, P. O. Box 100, York Haven, PA 17370-0100. The manager is well known DXer, WA3HUP. I often see her and the Association set up in booths at hamfests, including York and Timonium (Baltimore). In the 2nd call area the incoming DX QSL bureau is the North Jersey DX Association. Last month I wrote about the NJDXA. I hope she comes to the DLARC hamfest. ***continued page 14***

DX QSL's

by Bill, K3ANS

continued from page 13

Some DX hams refuse to reply to QSLs received via the bureau system. I resent this because it adds additional cost. However, I understand their logic. They need money to pay for their QSLs and postage, so they insist on direct mail with self addressed envelopes and one or two "greenstamps". Greenstamps are also known as US dollar bills. Usually these hams are in rare countries so they are in control. If you want to confirm that country, especially on a difficult band, you must play or pay the game. Grit your teeth and send the bucks.

F6FNU is an active DX QSL manager in France for many hams in rare French colonies and former colonies. He insists on one QSO per QSL, two dollars per QSL, and one QSL per envelope. His practices cause much anger among the US hams desiring his QSLs, but we have no choice. Many other QSL managers are just as rigorous as F6FNU. Many QSL managers are a delight. If you are lucky, the DX station uses a good US QSL manager. Two very active, local QSL managers are W3HC and W3HNK in PA. They each represent dozens of DX stations and give quick inexpensive service, content with only US return postage plus any donation.

Several DX and specialized QSLing publications and CDs list the QSL managers for DX stations. CQ Magazine and World Radio Magazine monthly list QSL managers. So do the DX bulletins I mentioned in prior months' columns.

WF5E, Les Bannon, offers an attractive alternative solution to obtaining DX QSLs. I rely on Les extensively. He charges $1.00 for 5 DX QSLs. He does not care how many QSOs are on each QSLs, so I often list 12+ QSOs on one DX QSL. He represents several thousand US DXers such as me. We send our QSLs to him, sorted by DX station, not by QSL manager. He then bundles them with other ham clients and sends all the QSLs directly to the DX stations or their managers along with self addressed boxes or envelopes AND First Class or Air Mail postage back to him. WF5E distributes his replies to each of us via our incoming DX QSL bureaus, in my case the PA DX Association. Les is very effective in obtaining QSLs from stubborn sources, although a few DX stations refuse to honor WF5E's service and still insist on direct mail from us with air mail postage. WF5E costs $1.00 per 5 DX QSLs, which is still better than paying about $2.00 for only 1 DX QSO or QSL. I use WF5E for all my rare DX QSLs when I think they will not accept the bureau QSLs. I reluctantly use direct mail for the obstinant. WF5E's address is 3400 Bedford, Midland, TX 79703. Les does not accept QSLs for QSOs over one year old.

I gladly send my QSLs direct with return postage and a contribution to the DXpeditions to rare countries. Some of those DXpeditions cost tens of thousands of dollars. Some cost over a hundred thousand dollars! The recent Heard Island DXpedition cost around $300,000, including $100,000 stolen by an unscrupulous charter ship captain. So they need and deserve the money. Sometime I shall tell you about the QSL managers who accept your greenstamps but still refuse to reply. Ask any DXer about FR5DX on Reunion Island. Many DX stations refuse to QSL. They merely discard your QSL and could care less if you want theirs. Of course some US stations refuse to reply to DX QSLs too. So QSLing is an art loaded with optimism, disappointment, and frustration. What do you do when your needed country has only one ham who refuses to QSL? See you in the lower 25 (while it lasts).

Bill, K3ANS >>.

World Amateur Radio Day set for September 19

"Communicating Worldwide for Three Quarters of a Century" is the theme of this year's **World Amateur Radio Day, set for September 19.**

The event marks the first two-way transoceanic Amateur Radio contact between French station 8AB and American stations 1XAM and 1MO on November 27, 1923.

The historic contacts ushered in the era of worldwide shortwave communication.

IARU Region One broadcast a special program on shortwave that traces the early history of shortwave communication and the contributions hams have made to the development of radio science and the understanding of HF propagation.

The program will air to North America on September 19 at 2100 UTC on 15205 kHz.

For more information, contact Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, e-mail hans@intekom.co.za.

The ARRL Letter

The chief of Army MARS reported on 7 August 1998

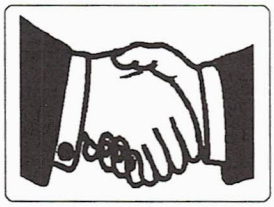
"The question was asked about a rumored change in FCC rules concerning the modification of radio equipment for MARS frequencies. Although our office has yet to receive a formal written response, a verbal response from FCC indicates that there are no changes in FCC rules pertaining to MARS. A verbal response from one vender, Yaesu, indicates that they will no longer provide modification instructions concerning MARS and CAP use, even with proof of membership. One member will provide our office a copy of a letter he receiver from Yaesu on this subject." This could be important to DLARC members who plan/anticipate operation outside of amateur band frequencies, or even those who tend to hold equipment for long periods of time (There is talk of some shifting of certain bands, notably 40 meters, 220 MHz). I would tend to view this item as a word of caution, not as absolutely definitive information.

de Blair, K3YD/AAT3AJ

One Of Life's Unexpected Pleasures

by Elliot W3GWQ

Let me start at the beginning of this heartwarming story. I have become disabled, so far, to the extent that I have lost power in my legs and can't go up and down stairs or walk unaided. My radio shack is in the basement, and all of the goodies are close by--plus my Heathkit SB-102, and because of the above, unusable and unattainable to me.



A few months ago I called **Bill K3ANS**, for information and suggestions on disposing of my SB-102 and other gear. Bill checked his encyclopedic memory and gave forth with the proclamation that DLARC had the perfect answer to the problem. " Call the area's expert on Heathkit's stuff- the guy whose email address is Heathkit@Juno.com--if that gives you a clue and his name is Dan (W3ZF) Ruth. I'll see him at the meeting soon." Shortly thereafter I get a phone call in the evening, telling me that he was **Dan (W3ZF) Ruth** and he would like to come over and talk to me, about the radio gear and ham radio, after the Board meeting, and despite my "perfect" directions, found my home.

Dan was a great source of enthusiasm about Ham Radio. Please note the capital letters here : Ham Radio --because that is the way that he feels about this great hobby. His dedication to "saving me from the ranks of oblivion" in radio was quite clear. We spent a few hours, that evening, talking about getting my gear out of the house, possibly finding a 10 meter rig for me, that wouldn't be too large and a generally rekindling of my old fascination with ham radio (25 years worth). He is an ambassador, without equal!! He even checked the vertical in the back yard, as a possible antenna.

In a few days, Dan emailed me to say that he may be able to find a good 10 meter rig for me--he checked eBay on the internet and --perhaps. Dan stopped over after the next Board meeting and asked if I would like to have him take my "stuff" and try to sell it at the next club auction nite and/or the upcoming hamfest. I felt that I knew him well enough to have him take all with him. Since I couldn't help him, he ran up and down the basement steps about six times to retrieve things and to be directed to areas that I had placed things for future use. I offered to split the income from the sale with him 50/50. He had a "no" look on his face, and said that he didn't think so-but I said that was the way that I wanted to do things. We let it drop there.

He came to my house on a Saturday morning and spent a good part of the day running wires to the vertical antenna, and then up into the first floor computer room/ham shack and soldered connectors, tuned and checked out the recently acquired HR-2600-that Dan found for me. We made contact on 10 meters, my QTH to his. As he said, A real success story!

Dan had sent all of the sale proceeds to me. I told him again that I wanted to share with him 50/50, because there was no way that I could have taken those articles out of my basement ham shack, because I can't do the steps, and I am very appreciative of his unselfish efforts on my part. I insisted that he share with me, but he was adamant, and would not allow a penny to change hands. In his words-" His good intentions would be "corrupted' with money. I know that was really his intention and to guide me back from "oblivion" in terms of ham radio.

I feel extremely pleased to have met him and to have seen his dedication to doing good and to further the joys of ham radio. As he said, "A real Ham Radio success story". I am sure that with Dan Ruth on call, more fortunate people will be saved from "the oblivion of inactivity" in amateur radio. Thanks very much, Dan. I am grateful.

de Elliot W3GWQ.

FCC Sequential call sign update via ARRL Bulletin

The following is a list of FCC sequentially assigned call signs issued as of August 3, 1998. For more information about the sequential call sign system, see Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206S or contact the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245, e-mail fccitd(at)fcc.gov.District

Group A Extra		Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0HV	KI0NX	++	KC0DYE
1	AA1TY	KE1KE	++	KB1DCI
2	AB2FN	KG2OU	++	KC2DXK
3	AA3RJ	KF3BY	++	KB3CXK
4	AF4LD	KU4TV	++	KF4ZOT
5	AC5QY	KM5RZ	++	KD5EXT
6	AD6GD	KQ6XK	++	KF6SFS
7	AB7YR	KK7PA	++	KD7CKW
8	AB8DB	KI8GM	++	KC8KSH
9	AA9WJ	KG9OD	++	KB9TFG

++All call signs in this group have been issued in this district.

I'm a ham and your're not

by Jim , KB3BYU

I was a college student when "Saturday Night Live" first came on the air. I happened to tune in the premiere episode by accident, and I became an instant fan. Although the show was extremely well written and executed, it was initially unknown to the general public. It was an undiscovered treasure, and I felt I was in on something special that the rest of America didn't know about. After about year on the air, the show became tremendously popular, attracting a legion of new fans. As a founding fan of the show, I was resentful of these newcomers whom I felt did not possess the same appreciation of the show that I had. After all, they were just jumping on the bandwagon and I knew the show was good through personal experience. I don't watch the show anymore because I feel that it has really declined in quality over the years, and should probably have been canceled after the fifth season. However, the show is still on today, 23 years later. Obviously enough people like it enough to keep it on the air, despite what I feel are my more enlightened personal feelings.

I reflected on this as we enter a new war of words on the question of Novices and Technicians Vs other classes of licenses, and some of the older fans are venting their frustrations with us newcomers. In a previous article I took to task the small minority of my fellow Technicians who are demanding to have the full spectrum of operating privileges without paying their dues of learning CW and passing the more difficult examinations. Therefore I feel I have established some credibility as an impartial observer to the debate. As a public service, I will summarize the positions of those on both sides of this issue.

The old timers with higher class licenses feel that Technicians are an unwelcome intrusion in the hobby. To them we are a lazy bunch of guys who managed to memorize enough multiple choice questions to pass an exam, have no plans to ever learn CW, and are just not "real hams" in any sense of the word. They feel that the Techs are overrunning the hobby and will eventually ruin amateur radio, as we currently know it.

The Technicians, on the other hand, think the upper class licensees are clinging to an outdated notion of amateur radio. They stubbornly insist on keeping an anachronistic system of communications like CW as a hurdle to keep people out of the hobby. They are out of touch with the digital age and want to impose unrealistic restrictions on use of the public airwaves to preserve their private sanctuaries. The upper class licensees have no interest in helping newcomers, since they are too busy talking to each other about the good old days.

What's that you say, I'm making unfair generalizations. That's precisely my point. Stereotypes provide a convenient shorthand method of thinking for some people. After all, if you can just lump someone into a category you never have to deal with them as an individual. But words used to describe groups of people must ultimately apply to individuals within that group as well. We are experiencing a communications problem within a hobby created to foster communications and the current situation will not be improved if people insist on using such loaded phrases as "Appliance Operator" to describe Technicians. Perpetuating this atmosphere of divisiveness will hurt us all..

Like it or not, the Technician is becoming the most popular class of license. In our own club 41% of the membership is comprised of Technicians and Novices, and it seems reasonable that they would want the club to reflect their interests as well. If you want hams to progress beyond the Technician level you have to provide an atmosphere that encourages learning and advancement. If Technicians and Novices feel welcome, they will be more likely to increase their knowledge and skills. If they feel they are being treated as a nuisance to others, or "CB operators with ham licenses", they will become discouraged and take themselves, and their dues, elsewhere. I feel personally insulted when I hear the suggestion that our club is "stooping to" admitting hams like me. The true threat to amateur radio doesn't come from the "shack on the belt" hams populating the local repeater, it comes from the "brains in the butt" hams of ALL license classes who attempt to pit us against each other to conform to their own rigid view of amateur radio. The show is on the air, and we have to decide if the old and new fans will coexist.

de Jim, KB3BYU

Email Addresses DLARC

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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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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

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