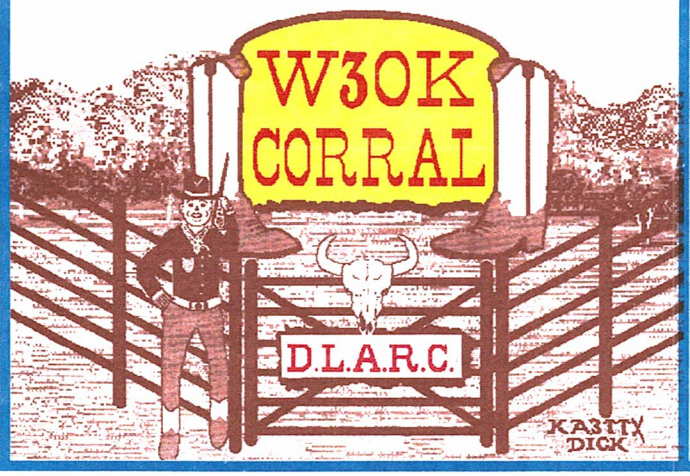
DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W3OK

October 1996



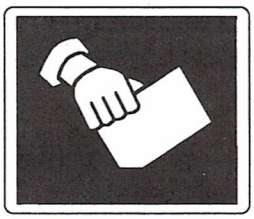
SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

ARRL Affiliated Club

Election of officers at October meeting

Election of officers

The October meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club will be election time. We are triying to beat the upcoming November elections nationwide.



As presented by the nominating committee and from the floor, the following will be on the ballot:

President: Tom Frobase, N3LLL
Vice President- Joe Chuk, W3JD
Secretary-, John Holmes, N3IGA
Treasurer, Dich Dech, KA3MOU

For the Executive Committee, 5 to be elected:

Robin Moseley, WA3T
Barry Vogt, N3NVA
Chris Hornaman, NU3L
Don Reamer, KA3JWE
Ray Bilger, W3TDF
Gary Hudson, N3PNT
Don Curtis, W3LR
Dan Ruth, KA3AQV

It is your club, come out and vote.

Remember!! PAQSO Party on October 12 and 13. Be there to help our club

Connecting to the Internet
with AA3JU

OK all you guys that think that really great data communication means an 8088 hooked up to a 1200 baud TNC and your 2 meter radio. The Oct. 3rd meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club should prove to be EYE OPENING.



Our featured speaker will be me AA3JU. I will discuss how to get onto the internet and what to do when you get there.

This will not be a one hour advertisement for a particular internet service but rather a general over view of getting started. Also to be discussed will be what is out there for the ham and for people in general. I have been in the data telecommunications game for a number of years and what I will present will surely be usefull and probably save you some money!

Hope to see all of you there

de George AA3JU

DLARC Meeting Thursday
October 3rd 7:30PM
NCC.. Room number not available at press time, listen on nets Sunday or Wednesday or call on 146.70 on meeting night.

1996 Picnic review

de Jeff, N3QZT

This year we had just about picture perfect weather for the annual club picnic. The weather plus great food and lots of club members and their families made for a wonderful day. The event was attended by about 75 people. We had a variety of diffrent foods to choose from including hamburgers and hotdogs, corn on the cob, potato and macaroni salad, many diffrent cheese and vegtable trays, and of course plenty of delicious deserts. It was a warm day that passed quickly as some spent time catching up on the year gone by with freinds, while others enjoyed a game of chess.

I don't want to forget about **W3TDF** and **N3IGA** defending there horse shoe chanpionship title against some pretty good compitition.

I want to thank all the hams (and family members) who helped make this years picnic a special one.

de Jeff N3QZT

Technical Specialist

by John, N3IGA

This is a continuation of the various appointsments available to ARRL members.

For a section team to be effective in one of the most important arenas in Amateur Radio, technology, there must be a group of qualified, competent **Technical Specialists (TS).** "Advancemnet of the radio art" is a profound obligation we incur under the rules of the FCC. TSs help meet this obligation.

Appointment by the SM, Technical Coordinator **(TC)** under delegated authority from the **SM,** the **TS** supports the **TC** in two main areas of responsibility: Radio Frequency Interference, and Technical Information. TSs can specialize in certain specific technical areas, or can be generalists. TSs must hold a Novice or higherr class license and ARRL membership required.

The specific job duties of the TSs are:

A. Serve as a technical advisor to local hams and clubs.Correspond by telephone and letter on tech topics. Refer correspondence to other sources if specific topic is outside TSs knowledge.

B. Serve as advisor in radio frequency interference issues. RFI drive a wedge in neighbor and city relations. It will be the TS with a cool head who will resolve problems.

C. Speak at local clubs on popular tech topics.

D. Represent ARRL at technical symposiums in industry, serve on CATV advisory communittees; advise municipal governments on technical matters.

E. Work with other ARRL officials and appointees when called upon for technical advice, especially in emergency communications situations where technical prowess can mean the difference in getting a communications system up and running.

F. Handle other miscellaneous technically-related tasks assigned by the Technical Coordinator

Next month is the last of the appointments that can help a club become a Special Service Club. It is called Local Government Liaison.

de John, N3IGA ACC/EPA

Contest Calendar

by Barry, KU3X contest editor

Oct 5-6	California QSO Party
	VK/ZL SSB Contest
Oct 6	RSGB 21/28 Mhz SSB Contest
Oct 9-10	YLRL CW Anniversary Party
Oct 12	Asia Pacific Sprint
Oct 12-13	**Pennsylvania QSO Party**
	VK/ZL CW Contest
Oct 19-20	Jamboree on the Air
	QRP ARCI CW QSO Party
	Worked All Germany Contest
Oct 20	RSGB 21/28 Mhz CW Contest
Oct 20-21	Illinois QSO Party
Oct 23-25	YLRL SSB Anniversary Party
Oct 26-27	CQ WW DX SSB Contest
	ARRL International EME Competition
Nov 2-4	ARRL CW Sweepstakes

Exchanges:

Illinois and PA QSO Party = RS(T) + QTH
YLRL Anniversary Party = QSO Number, RS(T), and QTH
CQ WW DX Contest = RS + Zone

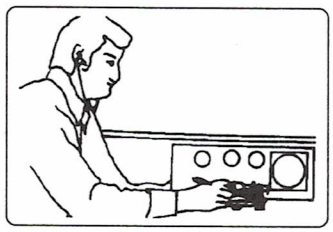
de Barry, KU3X

Ameritron/MFJ AL 80B

A review by Barry, KU3X

I had the opportunity to test the Ameritron AL 80B amplifier supplied by MFJ and here are the results.

The very first thing we wanted to do is change the amplifier from 115 volt operation to 220 volts. After



changing the plug we had to open the cabinet to not only move two jumper wires but to also install the supplied 3-500 tube. Never open the unit with the amplifier plugged into the power source and also make sure that the plate voltage meter reads zero volts. Once the amp is opened, you have to cut two wires on the power supply board and replace two other wires. This is not a major job but you do have to watch what you are doing. The amp was now ready for 220 volt operation. While we had the amp open, we did the simple modification to let the amp operate on 10 meters. This is a simple task. All one has to do is to cut a wire. The construction of the amp is similar to the earlier models (AL 80 and AL 80A), Very neat and clean layout. The tube is cooled by a reasonably quite boxer fan that not only cools the tube but moves air over the power supply components.

Hooking up the amp is very easy and all of the connectors are marked on the back of the unit. One extra jack is also on the back of the unit. This jack provides you with 12 volts at 200 ma. This is useful for powering an external watt meter that needs power to operate or illuminate

Tuning the amp is straight forward, load for max out just like most other grounded grid amps. You will need about 60 to 80 watts of drive to operate this amplifier under normal conditions. The provided booklet says that this is made to provide you with 1000 watts plus output power in the SSB operating mode. Eimac does not want you to run a 3-500 tube with more than 150 ma. on the grid. Actually, they would rather you look for a grid current of no more than about 120 ma. MFJ says to go as high as 200 ma. I don't recommend you run this amp at its rated output of 1000 plus watts. The tube life will be cut short and the difference between 800 and 1000 watts is so slight that nobody on the receiving end will ever tell the difference. First of all, to operate this tube at it maximum rated output power you must cool the tube in a entirely different manner which usually uses a full glass chimney and a pressurized chamber. Nothing near the way this amp cools its tube. You will find that if you shoot for 800 watts output on most of the bands, you will get years of dependable operating hours out of this amplifier.

Performance: When loading this amp or any other amp for the first time, try to load it on 40 meters. Bands like 10 and 15 meters can be very hard to load if you never owned an amplifier before. The load and tune controls have 6:1 vernier drives which make tuning easier. The metering on this amplifier is MFJ'ized which is a real joke! We used two external watt meters that were reading about the same. One was a Drake W4 and the other was a Daiwa that reads PEP or RMS. First of all, the metering on the amp has too much information on them. The numbers are very small and are very hard to read. You better have good eyes to read these meters. We loaded the amp up to full output with the use of the on board meters. On 80 meters (CW), the amplifier showed 1400 watts out with about 150 ma. of grid current. But the Daiwa meter showed only 800 watts. On 20 meters, the amp's meters showed 1300 watts out and the Daiwa meter showed 850 watts output power. The worst output of the amp was on 10 meters. The amplifier's meter showed 1000 watts output and the Daiwa meter showed 700 watts output power. The exciter that we used was the Icom IC 775/DSP. Now the big question, "Why the difference in watt meter readings?" Here is the only conclusion that we came up with. We put the Daiwa meter in the RMS and then the PEP mode and tried the same test. Both times the readings were the same while keydown CW/DC, 850 watts output on 20 meters. So if the amplifier's meters were real PEP meters, the readings should not show 1300 watts out DC keydown when the outboard meters showed only 850 watts in either mode. I am guessing that MFJ just turned the internal adjustments to read high so when you operate the amp in the SSB mode you will see a higher reading and fake a PEP watt meter movement. Like I said before, "this amplifier was MFJ'ized." There is no way to figure out what the CW power output power really is with the use of the meters that are on board. Power supply voltage no load is 3100 volts and full load is about 2700 volts. The amp uses electronic biasing for the tube which a very good feature for extending tube life and cooling the tube. This is a very good feature and not too many commercial amps use this. Lots of home brewers have used this feature for years.

RFI comments: When we loaded the amplifier on 40 meters, we had sever TVI on channel 3 with the use of an outside roof mounted TV antenna. To solve the problem we tried a few ideas and they are as follows: Install a high power low pass filter on the amplifier's output. Check all of our grounds on our equipment. Retune the amplifier to make sure we didn't goof! Add a highpass TVI filter to the TV's antenna system and disconnect other TV's that were on the same antenna. We even reduced the output power of the amp to about 500 watts and return the amp. We still had TVI. We were at our wits end. We then replaced the amplifier with a Command Tech. amplifier, model HF 1250. We loaded that amp to an output power of 1200 watts. The TV was clean. No matter what we did with that amplifier, we could not generate any TVI while on 40 meters and watching channel 3. Another nice feature of this amplifier is the fact that you can adjust the tuned inputs for matching the amplifier to your radio

continued on page 4

Ameritron/MFJ AL 80B

(continued from page 3

without taking the amplifier apart and risking electrocution. There are small access holes in the back of the unit. Although, 24 and 28 Mhz share the same tuned inputs as well as 18 and 14 Mhz also share their own tuned inputs. That means that one of the two shared bands will suffer in performance and will have a slight mismatch to the radio. This is not the only amplifier that does this but it is not a good idea. The tank circuit of this amplifier uses a standard Pi network for 10 through 40 meters. For 80/75 and 160 meters, the amplifier uses a Pi/L circuit. Pi/L offers a broader tuning range on those two bands.

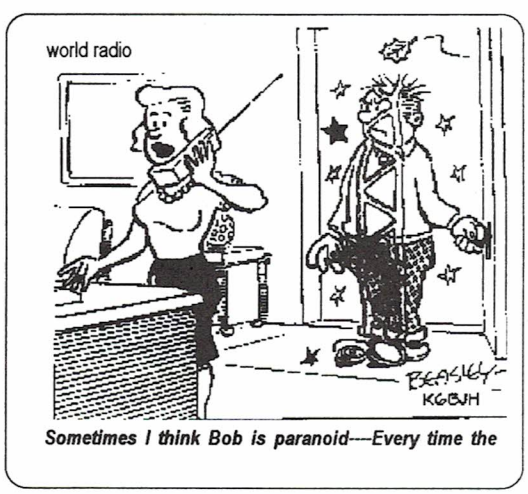
Conclusions: The AL 80B is a nice compact desktop amplifier that is reasonably priced at $1195 and sells for about $1050 at most ham radio stores. The tube is instant on so no warm-up time is needed. Just flip the switch and you are ready to go in seconds, assuming the amplifier was loaded to the operating frequency.

Personal comments: Don't run the amplifier at its advertised 1000 watts plus output. Keep an eye on the grid current and keep it below 150 ma. Use an outboard power meter so you don't get frustrated trying to figure out there meter scheme. If you don't hookup the ALC line from your radio to the amplifier, make sure that you keep an eye on the power output from your radio. Some of today's radios will put out 200 watts without a problem. If you run this amp with 200 watts input, you will make Three Mile Island look like a doggie roast! If operated properly, as I mentioned, I don't see any reason why this amplifier and tube shouldn't last 10 to 15 years without any problems.

Caution: They only use about 2000 volts in an electric chair in our jails. This amplifier has over 3000 volts in its power supply. Don't stick your hands in it with plate voltage applied. Your chances of survival are not that good if you don't know what you are doing.

Thanks to John P. Dunker, NJ9C for the use of his station, amplifier and assistance.

de Barry Kery, KU3X



Sometimes I think Bob is paranoid---Every time the

And They're at the Gate

by Marv, KC6NBQ

Three men stood at the gates of Heaven waiting for St. Peter to come and open it for them. A few moments later St. Peter appeared. He asked the first man to tell him a little bit about himself. So the first man told him that he had been a very prominent heart surgeon and, had saved hundreds of lives over the course of his career. St. Peter was very impressed and opened the gates for him to enter.

St. Peter then went up to the second man and asked him to tell a little bit about himself. The second man said he too was in the medical field. He explained that he had been a medical researcher. He said he had played a part in the development of many different medicines that helped thousands of AIDS patients. This also impressed St. Peter so he opened the gates and asked the man to come in to Heaven.

The third man walked right up to St. Peter, shook his hand and said what a coincidence -- he also was in the medical field. He was the President/CEO of a major HMO. His company helped millions of people, every day, with their medical needs. Impressed once again, St. Peter opened the gates but tapped the man on the shoulder as he walked through and said, **"You're welcome to come in – but you can only stay for three days!"**

de Marv, KC6NBQ

For sale by WU3M

Kenwood TS-940s $1,350 Two 450hz IRC CW filters.

DVP by K1EA $200 with Kenwood cables

Ameritron RCS-4 $100 4 Position wireless remote coax switch.

MFJ 1270B TNC2 $80 MFJ Keyer/Bencher combo $100

Ham4 rotator and control box $250 good condition rotator turned only a small tribander

250 feet of heavy duty rotator cable $50 200 feet of 9913 with silver teflon connecters $100

Rohn 25G 60 feet of it for $180 two GA25GD guy wire assembly's like new $90 TB4 thrust bearing $60 I'll throw in a 2 foot top section with flat top, and more than 200feet of rotor cable for free!!! if you buy everything for $2350

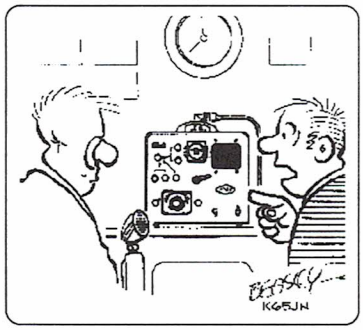
please call me at 610-759-9655 and leave a message

de Beorn WU3M

QRP, try it you'll like it

by Roy, W3ZIF

Being involved with two meter packet for the past 5-6 years, I enjoy browsing the various BBSs to see what is for sale, what is wanted, various opinions on various issues, etc. However, there is one item that I pay particular interest in is Estate sales. I am interested to see what kind of equipment this particular Silent Key owned and what they are asking for it.



In July of 1993 I noted such a sale and it was put on packet by an old friend of mine, Fred, W3UCA from Reading, PA. Fred and I worked each other numerous times on two meter AM back in the days of the old **Gonset Communicator.** I think every ham that was ever on two meters owned one of these rigs at one time or another.

Fred was trying to sell some equipment owned by his friend, Lee, W3VUF who had recently become a Silent Key. Lee's XYL wanted to dispose of this equipment as soon as possible. Two items on this list that I was interested in was an Autek QF-1A audio filter and the other was an MFJ-9020 QRP transceiver for 20 meter CW only. So I contacted Fred and bought these items. Also on this list was a Collins 75A4 receiver in mint condition that sold for $100. I could have kicked myself for not buying it but with a Hammarlund HQ-140-X and a Hallicrafters SX-101 receiver in the shack plus a Kenwood TS-520S, I really did not need another receiver but it certainly was worth the investment.

I fired up the 9020 into my Mosley TA-33 Jr. tri-band beam which is up about 30 feet and I had a great time with it. Numerous stations could not believe I was running only five watts. Then I got the brainstorm to try and use this unit portable when we go on vacation up in the Poconos every summer so I built a 20 meter dipole for it. I also needed a 12 volt battery to operate it so I started checking the various hobby stores and found one in Bath, PA that had a 12 volt, 7 amp. hr. lead calcium battery. This is a popular type used by R/C flyers who use electric motors in their planes so I have been told. So one Saturday morning after a QCWA breakfast / meeting at the Barnhouse Restaurant I drove up to Bath and purchased one. I bought it in January of 1995, charging it up before using it. Then in October of 1995 I charged it again and haven't charged it since. As of this writing, the battery voltage is still 12.5 volts. However, this rig is not one that is used on a daily basis. In fact, there were times when weeks went by without it being turned on. Nevertheless, the battery definitely seems to hold its charge quite well.

In looking over my log sheet for this rig, 8 of the 23 states and 11 of the 14 DX stations I worked with it were on this battery. Several stations could not believe I was not operating on 120 VAC.

I have found that operating QRP is a very challenging and at times a frustrating mode of communications but in the long run, it is a lot of fun and it gives you a feeling of accomplishment. There seems to be quite a few stations running QRP these days and as a result, many of the old timers I have worked seem to be getting a new challenge out of ham radio once again.

Try it. You may like it.

de Roy, W3ZIF

What's in a name?

Late one night, a burglar broke into a house that he thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room but suddenly he froze in his tracks when he heard a loud voice say: ***"Jesus is watching you!"***

Silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward again.

"Jesus is watching you," the voice boomed again.

The burglar stopped dead again. He was frightened. Frantically, he looked all around. In a dark corner, he spotted a bird cage and in the cage was a parrot.

He asked the parrot"Was that you who said **Jesus is watching me?"**

"Yes", said the parrot.

The burglar breathed a sigh of relief, then he asked the parrot: "What's your name?"

"Clarence," said the bird.

"That's a dumb name for a parrot," sneered the burglar. "What idiot named you **Clarence?"**

The parrot said, "The same idiot who named the **Rottweiller Jesus."** *submitted by* ***Val,W3EFL***

Contest advisory committee studying Novice/ Tech event.

The ARRL Contest Advisory Committee is seriously considering the creation of a contest for Novice, Technician and Technician Plus class operators, tentatively dubbed **Sprint NT**. "Some of the basic rules have been hammered out within the committee, and we are in the process of seeking membership input to fine tune them," a CAC report notes. In general, the CAC is looking at these basic guidelines, subject to change:

* Time period would run from 7 AM Saturday to 1 AM Sunday EST.
* All Novice, Technician and Technician Plus frequencies may be used.
* Separate Novice and Technician winners would be determined.
* CW QSOs would count 6 points each; SSB/FM QSOs would count 2 points each.
* Multipliers would consist of ARRL sections plus one DX contact per band.
* Multipliers would count only once per band, regardless of mode.
* QSOs would count once for each band/mode. * Only Novice, Technician and Technician Plus ops would be allowed to call CQ.
* Rules would include provision for an "Elmer" to help but not actually make QSOs.

Pending final approval from the ARRL Board of Directors, the contest could come into being as early as next summer. The CAC welcomes comments via e-mail to cac@arrl.org..

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update September 6, 1996

And They're at the Gate!

Three men stood at the gates of Heaven waiting for St. Peter to come and open it for them. A few moments later St. Peter appeared. He asked the first man to tell him a little bit about himself. So the first man told him that he had been a very prominent heart surgeon and, had saved hundreds of lives over the course of his career. St. Peter was very impressed and opened the gates for him to enter.

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de Marv, KC6NBQ

The Prez sez

by Tom, N3LLL

It is hard to believe the summer has past, it seems just yesterday I was still complaining about winter. In just a few days we will be celebrating the **50th anniversary** of the club. I would like to thank **Van/K3CP** for all his hard work to arrange this event. I would also like to thank **Jim Chiddix** for taking time out of his busy schedule to come to the Lehigh Valley to celebrate with us.



The clubs lending library continues to grow, several new books were added after the Hamfest, our Vice President **Joe / W3JD** is in charge. The club has also added several items to the loaner equipment program including a watt meter and a 40 meter QRP rig. If you have interest in QRP come and get it. **Dan / KA3AQV** is coordinating the new equipment. A list of the elements of the library as well as the loaner equipment should be available in next months newsletter.

The 1996 PA QSO party, to be held on **October 12 and 13.** I hope you are all ready to **com**pete and win again. The club will be sponsoring a special events station at the Bushkill Elementary school which will have bonus point status.

I would like to thank **Barry / N3NVA** for his effort in getting the clubs repeaters up to speed. The variety of messages has been a welcome change. Keep it up Barry.

de Tom, N3LLL



N3GOC

Nick Falcone became a Silent Key on September 7th

Nick was one of the more active members of our club for many years before his illness which began about 2 years ago. He participated in many of our public service programs, including the bridge watch for the Derriere in the Delaware.

Nick, leaves a wife Genevieve, to whom he would have been married 50 years on September 28th. In addition he leaves a son Mark, and three grandchildren.

He was a holder of a purple heart awarded to him a sergeant in the European theater.

.Rest in peace Nick from all of us in DLARC.

September 6th, VE session

by Martin, N3RCA

At this session, 7 candidates took a total of 15 elements. There were 2 upgrades and 4 new ones:

Timothy J Wilson, KA3ZQN to GENERAL
Arnold F Traupman, KB3BPP to TECH+
Eric L King, TECH
Paul M Fox, TECH
Michael W Jacobs
TECH
Andrew P Pavalonis, GENERAL
Congratulations to all!

The VE's at this session were Bill, **K3ANS;** Frank, **KE3RR**; Walter, **KE3SP**; and Martin, **N3RCA**

The next test session will be held on October 8th

. de Martin, N3RCA

For Sale (Computers)

Surplus business computers, ideal for dedicated packet use or simple contest or logging programs. (Will run K3CP's PA logger and K8CC's A/A, not useable with K1EA's after version 7.XX)

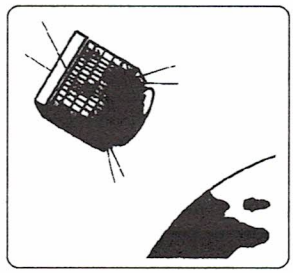
HP 286 Vetras with 640k of Ram, 20mg hard drive, 2 werial ports, 1 parrellel port, and 1 5.25 hi density disk drive. with monocrome monitor $60, with CGA monitor asking $75. **Call John Barker 434-0798 9am to 9PM daily.**

For Sale

Complete amateur radio station!
1 Galaxay V transciever, external power supply and VFO
2. Radio Shack Shortwave receiver.
3. 2 meter Hygain 2 meter FM transciever.
4. Cantenna, (dummy load)
5. Microphone and Head phones.
6. 24 hour clock
7. VSWR meter
8 Vertical (Hygain) antenna, 80, 40, 20, 15, & 10 meters.
Entire Station....asking $175.00
Call Norm Rohde KA3LAU 258-7008.

Unamsat-B in orbit

UNAMSAT-B, the first Mexican Amateur Radio satellite, has been launched into orbit from Plesetsk, Russia. The successful launch on September 5, 1996, follows years of postponements and disappointments, including the destruction of UNAMSAT-1. The satellite was built at the Autonomous University of Mexico under the tutelage of David Liberman, XE1TU.



UNAMSAT-B functions as a 1200-baud store-and-forward packet file server similar to OSCARs 16 and 19.

Uplinks: 145.815, 145.835, 145.855 and 145.875 MHz; downlink: 437.206 MHz.

In addition to its packet capability, UNAMSAT carries a meteor experiment. The satellite will transmit pulses on 40.997 MHz to detect the presence of meteors entering Earth's atmosphere. By analyzing the data files, which will be made available on the server, hams can get a glimpse of meteor activity over various parts of the globe at specific times.

Reports indicate the satellite is sending strong signals back to Earth. AMSAT says a first look at telemetry from UNAMSAT indicates all is working well aboard the satellite.

Congratulations to the UNAMSAT team at the National Autonomous University of Mexico! For more information, see their Web page at http://serpiente.dgsca.unam.mx/unamsat/unameng.htm.

The ARRL Letter, No. 9 September 13, 1996

1996 PA QSO Party rules

THE 39th Annual PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY Sponsored by the Nittany Amateur Radio Club of State College, Pa.

OPERATING PERIODS - 1600Z October 12 to 0500Z October 13 and 1300Z October 13 to 2200Z October 13, 1996.

FREQUENCIES SSB: 1850, 3980, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28310 CW: 40 KHz up from the bottom and 1810 KHz. Try 160 meters at 0300Z Sunday. **NOVICE/TECH CW:** 10 KHz up from the bottom end of the subband.

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

SPECIAL HI BAND ACTIVITY PERIODS Saturday & Sunday: 10m - 1800z; 15m - 1900z; 20m - 2000z SSB on the hour, CW on the half hour!! (Great way to increase your multipliers!!)

EXCHANGES - Sequential **SERIAL NUMBER** plus **COUNTY** or **ARRL** or Radio Assoc. Canada (RAC) section. Stations on county lines will give out ONE serial number per contact but all counties may be counted as multipliers. Work stations once per band and once per mode. Work mobiles again as they change counties. Work "Rovers" in new QTHs.

SCORING QSO POINTS - CW QSOs on 160 and 80 - 2 points; Other CW QSOs - 1.5 points SSB/FM QSOs - 1 point

MULTIPLIERS Pennsylvania Stations: ARRL sections (include new NNY) + RAC sections + PA Counties + 1 for DX. (151 total) Out-of-State Stations: Pennsylvania Counties (67 total)

FINAL SCORE - Total Points X Total Multipliers

QRP BONUS MULTIPLIER - Multiply your final score by 2 if less than 5 watts output.

NOVICE/TECH BONUS MULTIPLIER - Multiply your final score by 3 if a novice or tech.

PA MOBILE BONUS POINTS - If mobile, add 500 points for each county operated from (10 QSOs Minimum).

PA ROVERS BONUS POINTS - Add 500 points for every location operated from (25 QSOs Minimum).

NEW "ROVER" DIVISION: This a trial - if it works, fine, if not "can it" for next year. Intended for those who can not go mobile but would love to travel to a rare QTH, throw up an antenna in a state park or farmers field and work the multitudes from there, then move on to a new location. Go to as many places as you have time for BUT - no mobiles (must use "portable" antenna), you must travel more than 5 miles between stops, and you must make 25 QSOs from each location for the bonus. Submit summary for each QTH as well as an aggregate summary. Stations should identify by using /R on CW and by adding "ROVER" on SSB.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION : Each year, a different Pennsylvania Club will set up and operate a special event station as part of the contest. This year the club station of the **Delaware Lehigh ARC, W3OK,** will be the designated special events station. **W3OK** will be active on all bands. Add 200 points for EACH QSO to your final score after all other bonuses have been taken.

ENTRY DIVISIONS: Single op medium power (150W), Single op QRO, QRP (5W), Multi-single, Multi-multi, Portable (single op or multi-single only), Novice/Technician, Mobile, Rover. NOTE: QRP is intended for those who are truly using QRP equipment!

AWARDS: PLAQUES to top scores in ALL ENTRY DIVISIONS plus single op OUT-OF-STATE plaque for winner in Eastern, Central, and Western Time zones, single op EPA, single op WPA, plus others as warranted. PLAQUE to top CANADIAN entry. Certificates to county and section winners. Trophies and gavel to winning big and local club. (Plaque in "Rover" division if enough entries)

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. **COMPUTER LOGS MUST INCLUDE A COMPLETED SUMMARY SHEET!!!** 100 points will be deducted for each dupe found.

SEND LOGS by November 15, 1996 to: Douglas Maddox, W3HDH, RD #1, Box 760, Petersburg, PA 16669

A DONATION of $1.00 with your entry to help defray the costs of mailing, printing, etc. would be greatly appreciated. PLEASE NO SASE - they only get lost!!.

QSO PARTY COMPUTER LOGGING PROGRAMS - There are a number of PA QSO Party logging programs available. Contact their authors directly for info: K3CP (c/o DLARC, KA3MOU, 120 McIlhaney Ave, Bath, Pa. 18014); KM3D (Box 392, Richland, Pa. 17087); and LTA Industries,(Box 77,New Bedford, PA 16140). There are others but I don't have their address!

INFORMATION PACKET including log and check sheets is available. #10 SASE to the above address or a request may be sent via packet to :

K3CM @ W3YA.#CEN.PA.USA.NOAM or E-mail to *"dougHDH@AOL.COM"*. Persons who have participated in the party in 1993 or later will automatically receive these materials.

Remember!!! DLARC has been the winner in the Party 6 of the last 7 years, let's make it 8

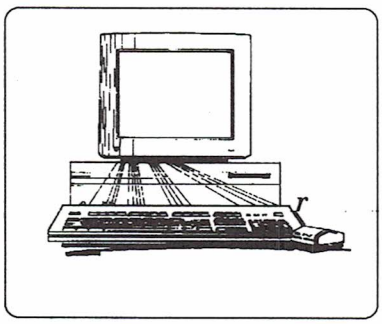
Make your own home page on the Internet

<HTML><HEAD><TITLE>Oct96NSL.HTML</TITLE></HEAD> <BODY><FONT SIZE=5>Digital Communication</FONT>

**by Joel, K9TBD, October 1996
**

<H2>HTML</H2><!-- H commands are headers size 1 to 6-->

<P>HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language. It is a language used for making integrated documents for use on the World Wide Web. It



specifies the look and sound of multimedia information. It is quite simple - similar to a word processor which has special characters to show where things should be bold or underlined or italics. It also includes information to include pictures and sounds into your document.

<P> <!-- this symbol says - make a new paragraph--> This article is written as plain text but the special extra information in angle brackets tells a hypertext reader how to render the information. You will notice some intuitive tags surrounding the standard typed text. For instance the word "tags" was surrounded by <i> (literally<tt> - left angle bracket, i , right angle bracket</tt>) to start the region of italics and ended with </i>. Since the angle brackets are special characters to HTML, I had to use a special notation for them so that they would show up in an HTML viewer of this document.

<P> A number of our club members have created their own web pages on the internet. Some are also available through the TCP/IP stations here on the RF links. Actually they are not at all difficult to create.

<P> Technically, it is much like using a word processor, but you have to expand your mind a little and think about the end-user visual image. Fortunately there are good collections of HTML editors. The one I used to create this article is called <B>Aardvark</B> which is considered one of the best. It runs under windows and has most of the appearances of a standard windows (some spell it <I>Win<B>doze</B>) word processor. Notice that I italicized that entire word and bolded the "doze" part.

<P> Enough of the technical aspects of HTML. With a good editor of any sort, plain text editor is just fine, you too can create simple documents rapidly in this mark up language. I recommend that you type your text without regard for format, get the flow of information first, then go back with your mouse and make it pretty. I recommend this for any information preparation - content first - add the glitz later.

<P> You may also add references to your favorite pictures - which will show up on the readers screen. Better yet, add some of your favorite Web Sites as "Hot links" -- these are the web addresses of that information. If your HTML reader has a hot link and you click on it, you are there ! It could be a recipe from the food channel online service or it could be the W3OK web page as supported by Joe, W3JD. That address is presented as: Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club . A sample of a "hot link" to my son's (Chris) web page is

 Christopher Elston Production Assistant.

<P> This article is intended to show a simple example of HTML and be an incentive to get you over the first hurdles. Notice in typing your text, spaces both horizontal and vertical are ignored by the programs that read a file, so if you want spacing you must specify it explicitly such as the P commands for paragraphs.

<P> There are numerous references on the Web to get all of the HTML commands (tags) as well as numerous books. I used the built in help and sample files from the <B>Aardvark</B> Professional HTML Editor and the book called <I>HTML Quick Reference</I> by Robert Mullen and published by QUE.

<P> To get a copy of this article to see how your HTML viewer renders it, download OCT96NSL.HTM from the HTML directory on K9TBD. Digital Regards, Joel [- - . . . / . . . - -]

</BODY> </HTML>.

A printout of this when viewed by my browser in Netscape came up with the following shown on the next page. *de W3PYF, Clarence*

Digital Communication

by Joel, K9TBD, October 1996

HTML

HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language. It is a language used for making integrated documents for use on the World Wide Web. It specifies the look and sound of multimedia information. It is quite simple - similar to a word processor which has special characters to show where things should be bold or underlined or italics. It also includes information to include pictures and sounds into your document.

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Minutes of General Meeting

September 5, 1996

by Bob, N3OLH, Secretary

The September meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:35 P.M. in Kiva hall at the Northampton Area Community College on Thursday September 5, 1996 by Tom Frobase, N3LLL the Club President. Approximately 70 members and guests were present.

John, WD8SCX, moved to approve the minutes of the August General Meeting as published in the September issue of the W3OK Corral. The motion was seconded by Blair, K3YD, and approved by the membership.

The Treasurers report was presented by the Club Treasurer, Dick, KA3MOU.The report showed a cash balance of $6,540.22. Chris, NU3L, made a motion to accept the Report. The motion was seconded by Rick, AI3D, and approved by the membership. Dick also presented preliminary results from the 1996 Hamfest indicating a net profit of $1,284.07. (Receipts of $3,703.00 less expenses of $2,418.93).

Barry, N3NVA, reported that the 440 repeater is up and running and that he expects to have it linked to the 70 machine in about two weeks.

Van K3CP reported that the 50th Anniversary Banquet is shaping up and that nearly 80 tickets of the maximum of 100 have been sold.

Chris reported that the new series of Novice-Tech classes will begin on September 16 at Gracedale.

Tom said that the Club librarian Joe, W3JD will have the lending library at each meeting so that members can check out the books the want. He also informed the group that Dan, KA3AQV, will be the custodian for the Club's loaner equipment.

Tom acknowledged the good work that Jeff, N3QZT, did in running this year's Club picnic. A round of thanks was given to Jeff.

Ray, W3TDF, awarded plaques to the high Club scorers in the 1995 PA QSO Party.

Bob, WF3H, said that T-shirts are available to all of those Club members who participated in this year's MS 150 Bike Tour. See Bob if you didn't get yours.

Nominations for 1996-1997 Club officers and directors were presented by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee K3YD

Officers:

President - Tom Frobase, N3LLL

Vice President - Joe Chuk, W3JD

Secretary - John Holmes, N3IGA

Treasurer - Dick Dech, KA3MOU

Directors:

Robin Moseley - WA3T

Barry Vogt - N3NVA

Chris Hornaman, NU3L

Don Reamer - KA3JWE

Ray Bilger - W3TDF

Gary Hudson - N3PNT

Don Curtis - W3LR

In addition, **Dan Ruth, KA3AQV** was placed in nomination from the floor.

Josh, N3VJA made a motion to close the nominations. It was seconded by Clarence W3PYF and passed by the membership.

Accordingly, the members present at the October meeting will vote for 5 of those members proposed for Directors.

Applications for Club membership were received from **Ted Steckel, N3XVM** and **Michael Hartman, N3XYU.**

Joe W3JD motioned that the be accepted into membership. It was seconded by Chris, NU3L and they were approved by the membership. Tom welcomed them into membership and recognized those guests present.

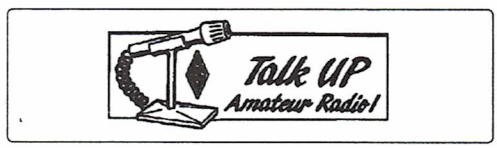
Bob, KU3K, announced that the Lehigh Wheelmen would be needing communications assistance for the event on September 22. If you can help please contact him.

Chris, NU3L, announced that in order to get the vanity call WX3MAS a new Club had to be formed. It has been established as the Christmas City Amateur Radio Club.

George, AA3JU, introduced the evening speaker and announced that the subject at the October meeting would be about Internet Access.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

de Bob, N3OLH, Secretary



Big Ears hears

Basic Contesting

author wants to be anonymous

This is a transcript of a secretly recorded conversation held at "Meeting B" after the September 5th DLARC meeting between **N3YNH** (*Young New Ham*) and **W30ATH** (*Old As The Hills*).

N3YNH: The speaker tonight, N3RS, sure seemed knows a lot about radio contesting.

W30ATH: Yep, he's one of the best.

N3YNH: Yea, but there are still a lot of thing I don't understand, like why do we do it?

W30ATH: Lots of reasons. To try out a new radio or antenna quickly, to see if we can interface a PC with a radio and make them work together, to work new states or countries for awards, and `cause it can be a lot of fun. Our club, DLARC, competes against other clubs in the state for the top club score, too, so it's important for every club member to get on and make some contacts on HF or VHF.

N3YNH: But just what do ^1 do in a contest, and what kind of station do I need? Sig talked about big towers & beams and high power. I just have a Kenwood 440, a couple of dipoles, an HT and a ground plane.

W30ATH: Well, that's two questions. To begin, tune up and down the bands you can work and listen for something like th is:

CQ PA CONTEST, THIS IS W3YQ, W3 Yankee Quebec.

I would answer-

W3YQ, this is Whiskey 3 Oscar Alpha Tango Hotel I always use give my full call using phonetics. He

-replies-

W30ATH this is W3YQ, number two -one -nine, Forest.

then I'll say

Roger, this is W30ATH; number zero- eight- nine, Northampton

-then he'll say something like

Roger. QRZ Test from W3YQ

which means he's ready for another contact

N3YNH: That's all there is to a contest contact? It was so brief, ... and efficient sounding, kind of like an air traffic controller. And what do those thing you said mean?

W30ATH: The exchange is number of contacts each of us has had since the beginning of the contest, a serial number; and the PA county where each of us is located. PA stations can also work out of state stations, they send an ARRL section like Northern New Jersey, or Western New York.

Now you asked about your station. A 100-watt transceiver and dipoles is plenty for a contest like the PA QSO party. You'll mostly be working stations in nearby states and around PA on 40 and 75. If you can get on 20, or 15 and 10 if they are open, you can work stations all around the county and even DX. You may not work a lot of stations on the higher bands, but many will be new multipliers which help build your score.

N3YNH: Multipliers?

W30ATH: Oh, yes. A contest score is based on the number of contest contacts, say 144, multiplied by the number of PA Counties + ARRL sections, say 50, for a score of 7200 points.

N3YNH: But some of the operators who won county awards had scores over 200,000!

W30ATH: Right. And they were very experienced operators with great stations. But remember two things all of them started out with modest stations and smaller scores, and DLARC's winning score depended on lots of activity from many stations. Plus, when you work another DLARC club member his points and your points both increase the club total

N3YNH: Hey, that's right. Now, how about some hints to increase my score?

W30ATH: Well, here are some of my ideas... On 20, 15 and 10,you'll have to call CQ. You won't hear many PA stations, and most out of state stations will be listening for a PA stations, not calling CQ.

Work 20 & 40 on Saturday afternoon, and Sunday morning and afternoon. Go to 75, & 160 if you have an antenna, on Saturday evening, and probably 75 late Sunday. Try 2M. FM simplex, especially after the Sunday AM net, for local contacts.

Call CQ on 40 on Sunday afternoon and evening; you'll work stations who only answer CQ's.

Develop an "Iron Backside." Stay in front of the radio and keep making contacts even if you're making 10 QSO's per hour; after ^10 hours that's 100 QSO's.

Try a little CW. You can work many of the same stations a 2nd time on each band, and CW contacts are worth 1.5 points, and 2 points on 80 & 16O

N3YNH: But I just passed my General and I can only copy 13 or 14 WPM.

W30ATH: No problem! There are some real speed merchants out there running 35 WPM but many guys like you, too. Try listening high in the CW band; on 40 from 7.060 to 7.100, on 80 try 3.560 up to 3.635. Or, call CQ at the speed you can copy; a smart op will slow down to your speed. Remember he **WANTS** to work you and have his call in your log. Something which helped me build my CW speed listen to one of the " speed merchants" and copy one more letter or number every time he sent it. After I knew his whole exchange, I'd call and work him. Oh, one **VERY** important thing...

Just then the jukebox fired up belting out some Country & Western ballad about a trucker's wife who left him for a goat farmer and the rest the conversation was lost.

Faithfully transcribed by your reporter,

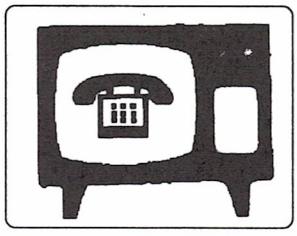
de ***Big Ears.***

New media systems

A Digital Dispute

by Joe Chuk, W3JD

High Definition Television (HDTV) is now a reality.



A "Grand Alliance" of electronics manufacturers has completed its work of designing a digital standard for the first change in television transmission technology since the approval of the NTSC system in 1941. Now all that's left is the formality of FCC approval. Or is it?

After the process had dragged on for years eyond the original target date for finalizing the HDTV standard, there was some measure of relief when the results of the experimenters' work were announced earlier this year. Many felt that a quick FCC approval was a foregone conclusion, and the FCC itself has already issued experimental licenses to three stations to begin broadcasting in the Grand Alliance standard (WRAL in RaleighDurham, NC; and WRC and WETA, both in Washington, DC). But there's still no FCC approval of the standard.

Not only is there opposition to the standard from the computer, cable, and motion picture industries, but the FCC commissioners themselves can't seem to agree whether they should bestow their blessing on the new HDTV system

Throughout its development. HDTV technology was viewed by broadcasters and equipment manufacturers as their own. Now, however, a broad spectrum of players from other industries are objecting that, in the new order of telecommunications technology, the Grand Alliance system is too specialized to broadcasting. Among those opposed to adopting the standard are Microsoft, Apple, Compaq, the Directors' Guild of America, the American Society of Cinematographers, the National Cable Television Association, the Consumer Federation of America, and the Media Access Project. The computer-related organizations have formed an alliance called CICATS (Computer Industry Coalition on Advanced Television Service) to engage in the debate.

Among the features of the Grand Alliance standard that CICATS opposes are interlace scanning, nonsquare pixel spacing, and a 60 Hz. transmission rate. The group feels that any advanced television standard should use progressive scanning (now used in computer monitors) for better text and graphics, and a square pixel spacing for interoperability with computers. It also advocates a picture display rate of 72 Hz. which would allow for a simpler conversion for computer applications. CICATS feels that the Grand Alliance technology is obsolete, and that the barriers against computer compatibility will require expensive computerbased conversions.

Cost to consumers is another issue of concern. Consumers could pay up to $91 billion over the next seven years for HDTV receiving equipment. Such equipment has to be capable of decoding four resolution levels and 18 video formats. CICATS has proposed to the FCC a single base-line format that can decode all digital broadcast signals. Consumer equipment would consist of low-cost receivers and set-top converter boxes.

Those who defend the Grand Alliance standard claim that the computer industry's proposed alternatives remain untested. Moreover, of the 18 video formats in the Grand Alliance system, 14 are progressive, meeting at least one concern of CICATS. Another consideration is the fear that any delay in adopting the standard would cause the United States to lose ground in international trade against the European DVB digital interlaced standard definition format. The Grand Alliance standard would offer both interlace and progressive options in a European market that is focusing on an interlaced system.

FCC Chairman Reed Hundt has serious doubts about establishing a standard that will divide the broadcasting and computer industries. He also feels it unwise to adopt rules freezing the current state of technology. However, one need only look at AM stereo to appreciate the results of the failure of the FCC to establish a technical standard. Three FCC commissioners disagree with Hundt and are in favor of turning the Grand Alliance standard into government policy.

While the discussions about the approval of an HDTV standard continue, there is also the issue of how broadcasters will gain access to the spectrum to be used for HDTV transmissions. Although this is largely a political question that is nowhere close to an answer, the FCC has issued a list of channel assignments for all television stations in the country. Next month's column will take a look at where in the spectrum the stations in our area are likely to end up.

de Joe, W3JD.

What is the Radio Association of Erie?

de Ray,W3TDF

I was invited to attend a Banquet and PA-QSO Party Symposium following the RAE Hamfest on Sept. 7. I went and enjoyed the festivities very much. Unfortunately, due to Hurricane FRAN, the tailgating was practically nil. The RAE had 4 ICOM door prizes, (707, W-31A, 2000H and T-22A), and another T-22A for a mobile check-in incentive. I only hope they broke even. It appeared there were no more than 500 attendees.



The Banquet was exceptional, even though there were only about 40 in attendance, which included **Doug,W3HDH** (Chairman of PA-QSO Party operations at the Nittany ARC), and **Kay Craigie, WT3P (ARRL Atl Div Director),** and her **Vice-Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN.**

I was honored to be able to address the group after the other dignitaries, who covered most of the items I had on my list to discuss, so I spoke about the problems of finding a location for my **RCP** *(rare county portable)* operations, and the plans and preparations required to single-handedly put it together to a successful conclusion.

Doug brought up several suggestions from other persons and groups relative to the rules for the Party, which were hashed out and dropped from consideration. One thing he did mention was that he personally does not think that QRP operation is truly as such, with a big transceiver with the power turned down. He did state, however, that the committee decided that if you claim QRP, that they will accept that, and hopefully you will be honest about it. After all, you are only cheating yourself if you hedge. He also mentioned another logging programmer who suggested a change in the point structure because he couldn't get his to count 1.5 points on certain CW QSO's!!!! That was an easy one to counter.

I was given a copy of the latest version of the KM3D PA-Party logger. When I got home I tried it out, and can only say that I'm glad I have the **K3CP/WA3T** logging program. The KM3D one is not user friendly. Very complicated!

Kay touched upon the lack of the old EPA-WPA rivalry between Erie and Murgas, and assured, (cajoled), the Erie members that they could easily topple the **DLARC**, if they set their minds to it. She also explained the procedure for obtaining the very nice Pennsylvania-67 award, for working all counties. There is no time limit! You can go back 10 or 15 years, but the QSL cards to be submitted **MUST** show the County. If the enthusiasm shown out there is any indication, we may have a serious rival. While in Erie I had time to ride around Presque Isle, the island in Lake Erie with a causeway leading to it. It was very impressive. Hope to work all of you on **October 12-13** during the 'you-know-what'!

de The Old Geezer.W3TDF.

We all have troubles

We are born naked, wet and hungry, then things get worse.-

Definition: Alimony - - It's like buying a ticket to an amusement park and finding out all the rides are closed.-

We discard bad habits as we get too old and feeble to enjoy them.-

Sign of old age, - - When you feel your corns more often than your oats..-

Sometimes silence is the best way to YELL at the top of your voice.-

A born loser is one who gets a paper cut from a get well card.-

We have yet to discover the opposite of dry wit.-

I just found a doctor I like, he soaks his tongue depressors in brandy.-

I've never done anything to be ashamed of, but hopefully, some day my luck will change.-

Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned.-

The world's largest room is the one for improvement.-

Definition: Doctor's income - - Ill-gotten gains...-

I just bought a sure-footed horse, I know that because he kicked me in the same spot three times..-

Smart people speak from experience, Smarter people, from experience, don't speak...-

Money talks, and when it hears my name, it says, WHO????-

When somebody says, "It's only money", It usually isn't his money..-

supplied by Bob, N2AUD.

FCC fines Arizona man for violations

One of the more egregious cases of malicious interference to Amateur Radio has apparently ended in Arizona, thanks to a determined effort by amateur volunteers and a little intervention from First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and several members of Congress. On August 30, the FCC fined Timothy Harold Hoffman of Phoenix, Arizona, $6000 for willful violations of various Federal laws last spring. But the headaches did not begin then. Lance Halle, KC7FVX, reports Phoenix repeaters have been plagued for approximately four years by "vile, malicious interference" from an individual posing as a ham and expropriating call signs to use on the air. The problems included interference with ham radio nets and phone patches. Halle said the Arizona Repeater Association's local interference committee had tracked down and identified the guilty party two years earlier and notified the FCC, which caught him "singing vulgar lyrics over a swap net" and issued a Notice of Violation, but not fined.



You got a lletter from the FCC....They would like a clearedr explanaiton on why you wantt to operate a remote

As Halle explained, "That stopped him for a couple of months, but he soon was back, worse than ever" and thumbing his nose at the FCC. The committee kept documenting his activities and began keeping the ARRL in the loop. After a year of "no action," the club began a letter-writing campaign to the Congress and the White House. Last month, Halle got a letter from FCC Compliance and Information Bureau Chief Beverly G. Baker that began, "First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has asked me to respond to your inquiry." Halle says he also heard from three members of Congress who also got similar letters from the FCC.

"It seems the system does work, but needs a little help from Congress at times," Halle observed after the FCC issued the $6000 fine to Hoffman. Halle said he hopes future malicious interference cases get more prompt attention as a result of this case.

According to an FCC Further Notice of Apparent Liability, agents from the FCC's Douglas, Arizona, field office using mobile direction-finding equipment last May 14 detected LSB signals on CB channel 36 (27.365 MHz) coming from Hoffman's residence. The transmissions consisted of retransmitted signals from a ham radio repeater on 147.24 MHz, in contravention of federal regulations that prohibit one-way transmissions and transmission of "material to amuse or entertain." The following evening, agents tracked signals on 146.34 MHz, a common 2-meter repeater input frequency, to Hoffman's residence. The operator was using a false Amateur Radio call sign. FCC agents attempted to inspect the radio station, but Hoffman did not allow them to, nor would he confirm or deny the radio operation. However, the FCC says the transmissions stopped after the attempted inspection.

After issuing an Official Notice of Violation to Hoffman in June (which cited five specific violations, including transmitting on ham frequencies without a valid operator or station authorization, and willfully and maliciously interfering with ham radio communications), Hoffman admitted responsibility for the violations. At that point, the FCC notified Hoffman that he faces a $6000 fine.

"The real credit goes to the volunteers of the Amateur Auxiliary, who did the legwork and follow-up to make it happen," said ARRL Field Services Department Manager Rick Palm, K1CE. "They never gave up and are now entitled to bask in the sunshine of this FCC action. Our hats are off to our League volunteers for a job well done in the face of daunting challenges.".

The ARRL Letter September 13, 1996

More ham radio on the silver screen

Ham radio has another movie role on the horizon, in the Warner Bros movie Contact (based on Carl Sagan's 1985 novel of the same name), due out next summer. ARRL HQ staffers have worked with a representative of the movie maker to provide authentic Amateur Radio props. Contact will star Jodie Foster, James Woods and Matthew McConaughey. Foster will play Ellie Arroway, who, as a girl, got her ham ticket along with her father in the late 1960s, then goes on to become a radio astronomer and the first person to decipher a message received on Earth from extraterrestrial intelligent life. Eventually, she's among the team sent into space to explore the message's origin. Robert Zemeckis will direct the film.

The ARRL Letter September 13, 1996

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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DLARC INFORMATION LINE 820-9110

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CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
7:30 PM at Northampton County Community College
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