Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

October, 1998

Election of officers at October 1st Meeting

Lehighton Canal Walk

by Ami, KD3TI

On Sunday, October 11th, the Lehighton Canal Association will sponsor a walk along the canal between Jim Thorpe and Bowmanstown. I don't have enough volunteers from the Lehighton area, so I'm asking for help from members of DLARC. The walk will begin in Weissport, near the intersection of Rt. 248 and Rt. 209 at 7:30 AM. I need operators there by 7:15 in order to get everyone in place by the start. It is expected there will be people on the canal path until 5:00 PM or so. Ham radio operators will provide safety communications, and also drive golf carts to allow people who can't walk to enjoy the canal. If you can provide even a couple hours of time. I need your help!! Volunteers may contact me on **147.255 rpt.- tone 131.8,** on the **146.700 repeater tone 151.4,** by **e-mail- kd3ti@ptd.net** or by phone, **(717)-386-3513.** Thanks to everyone in advance!

de Ami, KD3TI

Emmaus Halloween Parade: Call for radio operators

de Bob/KE3AW

October again... and on **Saturday, October 17** the traditional Emmaus Halloween Parade will be marching. We are in preparing for DLARC's assistance in it, as requested by the Emmaus Parade Committee.



We'll soon know the final number of operators as the parade organizers put the finishing touches on the plans, but it will be about 18. The majority of amateur radio operators will ride between divisions in the parade and assist parade security keep track of the parade progress and safety.

Interested in a fun time with a valuable purpose?

Contact me by radio, e-mail (ke3aw@juno.com) or telephone.

Hamfest a big success

by Carl, AA3IX

It started off around 4AM. The crew started to awake or depending on distance were already driving. We arrived at the location , some had coffee and those who did not wish they had. Most of the supplies for the breakfast were delivered the night before. The kitchen crew started in with the food cooking.

The parking crew took up their positions, and the communications crew started communicating. Our first tailgaters arrived at 5:40 AM and we were on our way to another great hamfest. If you did not attend the event, you missed one of the nicest days that a hamfest could ever ask for. I managed to talk with many of the sellers and they were pleased with the location and setup. A big hit of the day was the breakfast selection.

We had eggs,homefries, sausage, rolls and coffee. If this was too much to eat then a doughnut and coffee might have done the job. I think that the food was a great idea and most of the people that I spoke to shared the same opinion.

continued on page 7

Question pool changes put on hold

ARRL Bulletin 69

Citing "almost certain and imminent restructuring of licensing," the Question Pool Committee--the group that formulates the questions that show up on Amateur Radio examinations--has put further changes to the question pool on hold until restructuring issues are settled.

ARRL/VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the decision includes postponing the Advanced class question pool update, scheduled for revision and release this year for implementation next July 1.

The Committee says restructuring could cause anything from making a few rules questions unusable to "total deletion of one or more question pools or even combination of two or more of the present question pools into a differently configured question pool."

The decision to put further revisions to the question pool on hold had majority support of the National Conference of VECs. The QPC will postpone its current question pool review schedule "until the direction of such restructuring is more certain," QPC Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, said in a statement.

Adams said the QPC would announce when it's decided to resume alterations to the question pools. "The action required by that decision could range from a simple resumption of rewriting of the question pools much in the same manner as we have in the past to issuing any necessary supplements containing the changes to each of the question pools in use to combining certain pools in whatever manner may be dictated by the Commission," he said..

New vanity address for paper filers

ARRL Bulletin 68

Effective September 14, there's a new address at Mellon Bank for vanity call sign paper application filers who submit Form 610V and FCC Fee Remittance Form 159 with the vanity fee via the US Postal Service.

The new address is FCC Wireless Bureau Applications, POB 358130, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5130.

Electronic Form 610V Vanity Call Sign filers will continue to send Form 159 with the vanity fee to FCC Amateur Vanity, POB 358994, Pittsburgh PA 15251-5994.

A reminder: The vanity call sign filing fee drops from **50 dollar(s)** to **13 dollar(s)** applications filed on or after September 14, 1998.

The FCC in Gettysburg reports it has processed vanity applications received through August 14.

1998 Picnic in Review

de Joshm N3NVA

Greetings! I hope that everyone has had a great summer! I also hope that you all who came out to the picnic had a blast!! There were about 55 people there, and there was great food, music, and fun! I apologize for this "review" being a month late, but it's been a hectic 2 months!

Anyway, I'd like to thank all the people who came out, especially all the people who helped me "coordinate" (if you will) this project over time and 350 miles; without them, this would REALLY have flopped! (P.S.: Tnx to the people who asked me to do this in the first place: I really felt honored in a way and enjoyed doing this.....!) Since this is so late, don't ask me to remember the particulars, like, who are the horseshoe champions or things like that! My memory is already over-driven as it is! But again, thanx and see you out there next year!!

de Josh, N3VJA

Remember the big one!

PA QSO party October 10 and 11th lets get that Number One trophy back again.

Just the Minutes

by John, WX3TAZ, secretary

The September meeting of the DLARC was held in Kiva Hall at the Northampton Community College. President Joe Chuk, W3JD, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. There were 50 members and guests present. August meeting minutes were approved as written in the newsletter with Clarence, W3PYF, making the motion and Amy, KD3TI, seconding.



Joe made the announcement that the speaker for the night would not be able to make it due to a sickness in the family. Since there was no speaker, Joe said that the business meeting would be the meeting since there was a lot to go over.

Dick, KA3MOU, gave the Treasurer's Report. The Beginning Balance as of July 31 was $2,342.20. Income for the month was $133.50. Expenses for the month were $452.69. Ending Balance, as of August 31, is $2,023.01. Motion to accept the report was made by Len, N2BSC, with Thomas, N3YRP, seconding.

Barry, N3NVA, gave a real good Repeater Report. He explained the moving of the repeaters to Wind Gap. Barry explained what the progress is so far. There is still some work needed to be done. Barry has been in contact with the other repeaters owners that are on the same frequency to see if there are any problems. The antenna will be lowered a little to eliminated any problems with the Oakland Repeater. Barry plans on changing the antenna wire to hard line. Please be patient with Barry. There is a lot of work that he wants to do yet, but it will take time to get it all done. If you notice any problems, please let Barry know so that he can get on it as soon as possible.

Bob, KE3AW, announced that the Novice-Tech Classes will be starting on September 14. He also made the announcements about the Emmaus Halloween Parade and the Christmas City Special Event. Bob announced the date of the for the Emmaus Parade on Saturday, October 17th.. Listen to the Sunday and Wednesday Nets for any updates. Bob will also have something in the newsletter.

Amy, KD3TI, asked for some help from club members for October 11. The event is being held by the Canal Committee who does all the upkeeping on the Canal Tow Path in the Lehighton area. It is to show the people what has been done future plans and the beauty of nature. Hams will be needed to provide communications for the event since nothing else can work. Not even Cell-phones will work. The events starts at 7:30am until around 5pm. If you are interested, please contact Amy.

The DLARC would like to welcome the following new (reinstated) member: **Ralph Buratti, K3AGK.**

Ray, W3TDF, unofficially, will be chairing the club effort in the PA QSO Party this year. He said that this will be his last year doing this. The dates are October 10th and 11th.

Joe, W3JD, announced that **Mark, K3MP**, is no longer able to be the VE Coordinator. **John, WX3C,** has volunteered to be the temporary VE Coordinator. If you are interested in being the VE Coordinator, please contact one of the club officers or John Greenage, WX3C.

Nominations were made tonight. Bill, N3CP, the Nominating Committee Chairman, was not here. Chuck, KD3SQ, read who the nominations were so far. He asked for each office if there were any new nominations. There were no other nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There were new nominations for the Board of Director. The motion to close the nominations was made and seconded. The only voting that will be done will be for the Board of Directors. **The results so far are: President-Joe Chuk, W3JD; Vice President-Don Reamer, KA3JWE; Secretary-Amy Zimmerman, KD3TI, and Treasurer-Dick Dech, KA3MOU. The slate for the Board of Directors is: Barry, N3NVA; Dan Ruth, W3ZF; Al Krensavage, WO4H; Glenn Brodt, N3ULW; Gary Hudson, W2AZZ; Bob Green, KE3AW; John Greenage,WX3C; Jim Hogarth, N3DFF and Norm Daniel, N3GXW.** Come to the meeting next month and vote.

Joe, W3JD, announced that there will be absentee ballots available. He is working on it and will have all the details in the newsletter along with a ballot. Joe also said that in the past the number of votes was always shown, but in the last few years it was forgotten. Next month's election will show the number of votes for each person. The results will also be printed in the newsletter.

de John Holmes, WX3TAZ

Meteorology

by Charles A Giannetta, WA3RSQ
Meteorologist Emeritus
Professor

Pressure

1. Standard sea level pressures are given in various units at a temperature of 59 degs.

2. 29.92 inches of mercury.

3. 1013.2 millibars.

4. 14.7 lbs. per square inch. Standard Heights Above Sea Level Weather maps are drawn and analyzed for various heights above sea level.

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1. 1,000 MB = Surface
2. 850 MB = 5,000 ft.
3. 700 MB = 10,000 ft.
4 500M=18,00Ft
5. 400 MB = 23,000 ft.
6. 300 MB = 30.000 ft.
7. 200 MB = 40.000 ft.

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1. At 18,000 feet, 500 MB. half the atmosphere is below.

2. The human body functions best with the amount of oxygen supplied under normal pressure, about 1,000 millibars.

3. The total pressure is 200 millibars of oxygen pressure. About 800 millibars of Nitrogen.

4. Insufficient supply of Oxygen results in irreparable damage to the brain.

5. Flights above 15,000 feet, and prolonged flights above 10,000 feet, should not be made without oxygen

6. A properly regulated supply of Oxygen is such that the Oxygen pressure will amount to 200 millibars.

7. This is accomplished by displacing part or all of the Nitrogen normally in the air with the Oxygen.

8. At about 18,000 feet when the total pressure is 500 Millibars, the proper mixture would be 200 millibars of Oxygen, 300 millibars of nitrogen.

9. At 200 millibars, 40,000 feet, pure Oxygen

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1. A BAROMETER is used to measure air pressure.

2. An ALTIMETER is used to measure heights in feet above the ground. ***de Charlie, WA3RSQ***

Engineers Against Managers

submitted by Dave, WD5BRP

A guy flying in a hot air balloon suddenly realizes he is lost. He reduces height and spots a man down below. He lowers the balloon further and shouts,



"Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?" The man below says, "Yes, you're in a hot air balloon, hovering 30 feet above this field." "You must work in Engineering." says the balloonist. "I do," replies the man, "How did you know?" "Well," says the balloonist, "everything you have told me is technically correct, but it's of absolutely no use to anyone!"

The man below says, "You must be a manager!" "I am," replies the balloonist, "but how did you know?" "Well," says the man, "you don't know where you are, or where you're going, but you expect me to be able to help. And, you're in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now somehow it's my fault!"

For Sale

486DX50 system . It is in a **Gateway** desktop cabinet. 8 meg of RAM 420 meg of hard drive space (Two 212 drives - not compressed) Color monitor (**Gateway**) Serial mouse Win 95 keyboard Two floppies (1.44 meg and 1.2 meg) Two serial ports and one parallel port. (Have extra parallel card not installed if you want it, included) Operating system = Windows 95. Win 3.1 still installed if you would rather have that. Lots of software.Price is: **$300**

If interested, call me at **610-691-8888.** Please DO NOT call me after 9PM. Yes, 9:10 PM is after 9 PM **de Barry, KU3X**

Don't forget,

Election of officers and the October Meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club. Elect those who will lead our club for the next year.

Toasters!

Supplied by Bob, KE3AW

If IBM made toasters

They would want one big toaster where people bring bread to be submitted for overnight toasting. IBM would claim a worldwide market for five, maybe six toasters.

If Microsoft made toasters...

Every time you bought a loaf of bread, you would have to buy a toaster. You wouldn't have to take the toaster, but you'd still have to pay for it anyway. Toaster'95 would weigh 15,000 pounds (hence requiring a reinforced steel countertop), draw enough electricity to power a small city, take up 95% of the space in your kitchen, would claim to be the first toaster that let's you control how light or dark you want your toast to be, and would secretly interrogate your other appliances to find out who made them. Everyone would hate Microsoft toasters, but nonetheless would buy them since most of the good bread only works with their toasters.

If Apple made toasters...

It would do everything the Microsoft toaster does, but 5 years earlier.

If Fisher Price made toasters...

"Baby's First Toaster" would have a hand-crank that you turn to toast the bread that pops up like a Jack-in-the-box.

If The Rand Corporation made toasters...

It would be a large, perfectly smooth and seamless black cube. Every morning there would be a piece of toast on top of it. Their service department would have an unlisted phone number, and the blueprints for the box would be highly classified government documents. The X-Files would have an episode about it.

If the NSA made toasters...

Your toaster would have a secret trap door that only the NSA could
 access in case they needed to get at your toast for reasons of
 national security.

Does DEC still make toasters?...

They made good toasters in the '70s, didn't they?

If Hewlett-Packard made toasters...

They would market the Reverse Polish Toaster, which takes in toast and gives you regular bread.

If Sony made toasters...

Their Personal Toasting Device, which would be barely larger than the single piece of bread it is meant to toast, can be conveniently attached to your belt.

If the Franklin Mint made toasters...

Every month, you would receive another lovely hand-crafted piece of your authentic hand-crafted Civil War pewter toaster.

If Cray made toasters...

They would cost $16 million but would be faster than any other<BR single-slice toaster in the world.

If Thinking Machines made toasters...

You would be able to toast 64,000 thousand pieces of bread at the same time.

If Timex made toasters...

They would be cheap and small quartz-crystal wrist toasters that take a licking and keep on toasting.

If Radio Shack made toasters...

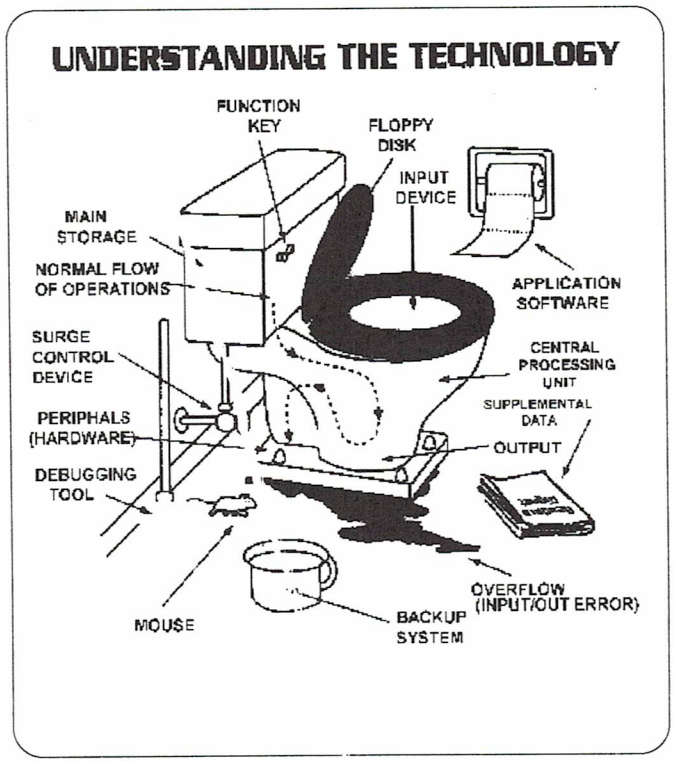
The staff would sell you a toaster, but not know anything about it. Or you could buy all the parts to build your own toaster.

If K-Tel sold toasters...

They would not be available in stores, and you would get a free set of Ginsu knives.

If the PQ made toasters...

They wouldn't want to be on the same counter-top as the rest of the appliances..



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

Balance 7/31/98	**$2242.20**
INCOME	
Donation Income Fifty - Fifty	28.50
Dues Arrl Misc	105.00
TOTAL INCOME	**133.50**
EXPENSES	
Guest Meal	20.10
Hamfest Postage	7.63
Newsletters September	180.00
Postage Bulk Fee,& Newsletters Mailed to Norm	15.00
Renewal ARRL	95.00
Telephone	34.96
TOTAL EXPENSES	**452.69**
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	-319.19
Balance as of 8/31/98	**$2023.01**

Total Membership 362 as of 9/3/98

de, Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

VE test session September 4

A test session was held on September 4th, with the following results: A total of 13 elements were administered to 8 candidates. Eleven elements were passed.

Name	License Earned
Daniel Block	**Technician**
Frederick Hersh	**Technician**
Jonathan Mordosky (N3ZUI)	**Extra**
Chris Snyder	**Technician**
Jose Talavera	**Technician**

VEs in attendance were Bob, KE3AW; Bill, NS3J; Joe, W3JD; Glade, WA3MVQ; Tony, KE3RP; and Cary, K2YIY.

Jill Brodt, N3ZSR, also helped with the session. Jill has begun to serve as the club's VE testing contact person, and will be establishing the VE assignments and organizing the test sessions. She will also be working on putting together a liaison team of Extra Class VEs to share the tasks of receiving test materials from the ARRL, overseeing the test sessions, and dispatching test session packets. If you are a VE, but have not been active with the club's test sessions, or if you want to become a VE, contact Jill at **588-6977 or at<gbrodt@epix.net>.**

Until the liaison team is organized, **John, WX3C**, will be serving as the temporary team liaison, replacing **Mark, K3MP**, who had to withdraw fromthat club role because of other responsibilities. Mark's work as VE liaison over the past two years has been greatly appreciated.

de Joe, W3JD

Contest time!

by Bill, K3ANS, DX editor

October has one of the best contests for DLARC members. DLARC has often dominated the PA QSO Party. I hope details about this contest will be printed elsewhere in the W3OK Corral. It starts October 10 at 12 noon and continues to 1 AM EDST October 11. Then it starts up again 8 hours later at 9 AM and continues until 6 PM on Oct. 11. You should get some rest over night. You may work every station on all bands, both CW and SSB, and get separate QSOs. Most of the HF action starts on 40 meters and then moves up to 20 during Saturday aftenoon. In the evening the hot time is on 80 and 75 meters, finishing up on 160 meters. Sunday morning activity tends to start on 75 and 80, then slowly move up through the bands to 40, 20, and 10 meters. I rarely make many QSOs on 15 meters. Listen for weak mobile stations going to each county. They usually operate mostly CW. You may get separate QSOs from them for each county

For VHF you can make many QSOs on 2 meters simplex and a few QSOs on the other UHF bands. Some of the techs like to go mobile giving out separate QSOs on 2 meters simplex each time they switch counties.

The score is calculated by multiplying each CW QSO by 2 points if on 160 and 80 meters, or 1.5 points on other bands. Yes, you may work CW on UHF too. Each phone (SSB or FM) QSO is worth 1 point. Then multiply your total QSO points per band by your total number of PA counties worked (67), plus the total number of ARRL and CARL sections worked, plus 1 multiplier for all the DX stations worked. You also get some bonus points. Separate categories are reported for single op high power, single op low power, novice and technicians, mobile, and multiple operator stations. Be sure to submit your log and state that you a member of **DLARC**. Our Club wants to win back the trophy for maximum club scores. Don't forget to count EPA and WPA sections when logging PA counties. They will improve your multiplier counts. Read the details in the **PA QSO Party** brochure.

continued on page 7

continued from page 6

Nittany Amateur Radio Club, the sponsor, also has an informative Internet site.

Although you get only 1 multiplier for all the DX stations worked, try working (running) DX stations as fast as possible. They all count in the total, and often seek Northampton and Lehigh County stations, as well other counties, for the Worked All USA Counties and Worked All PA Counties awards. So expect to receive and answer many QSLs. I have been lucky and skilled enough to often dominate the single op category making 1500 QSOs during this contest and working almost all of the multipliers. However, I have much fierce and ruthless but friendly competition, so we finish in a tight race.

I succeed by calling CQ. That is much faster and more productive than merely searching and pouncing. If you are shy or not yet skilled, then work each station heard by tuning up and down each band (searching and pouncing). After you get more comfortable, then call CQ on a clear frequency. Be persistent and be LOUD. Beware that many stations will call you off frequency, so keep your finger on the RIT.

If you want to log by computer, many good programs are available, including the fine ones by DLARC's own **K3CP** and **KA3JWE**. I use K8CC's PA QSO program because it is very similar to the programs I use for almost all other contests. I do not have to revise my station configuration, connections, and cabling and I am used to the key strokes and commands. It easily exports the contest log into my regular computer logging program. I am not sure I will be in this year's contest, but I hope so. I have many antenna repairs and shack projects in progress which may interfere. Fortunately this year Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur do not conflict, as they did last year.

de Bill, K3ANS

Hamfest Success

continued from Page 1

I would like to thank all the people who helped make the hamfest a success. I will list the people who were in charge of the separate committees. I do not mean to let anyone out, but due to space this will work out easier.

Security-WX3C JOHN,
Kitchen-K3MP-Mark,
Cleanup-W3ZF-Dan,
Communications-N3NVA-Barry,

N3QZT-Jeff who delivered the rolls and butter, and also was sent on a mission to buy additional supplies at the grocery store.

There was not a parking person, I called many people to help with this, and I received a lot of help. Thanks to our president **Joe W3JD,** he was asked at the last minute to sell the ARRL table for our section manager, **W3TI**, and did a great job. A special thanks to the chickens of **Bob-N3QZR,** they worked hard to produce 5 dozen of special brown eggs for our event. I received a lot of praise for the hamfest, but I only organized the different groups. The thanks are for the many volunteers who made the event the success it was

The early results are that we made a profit. The actual amount will be in the next news letter. Let me say again thank-you, thank-you, thank-you to all the people helped It would not have been the Success that it was without you. HAMFEST 98 is in the books

de Carl, AA3IX

W2AZZ

I, **Gary Hudson**, am running for a position in the Executive Committee for the second year in a row. Last year was my first year on the committee and I found it to be a very enjoyable experience because of my heavy interest and involvement in Amateur Radio.

My father, formerly W2AZZ had been involved with Amateur Radio since 1923. My two brothers and I were raised with Amateur Radio as a part of our everyday lives. I received my license at the age of fourteen, and have maintained it for more then thirty years.

Not only have I had my license, but I have been a very active member of the Amateur Radio clubs that I have been a member of. I built three of the PJARC repeaters and was responsible for maintenance for fifteen years. I have been involved with repeater coordination. I was heavily involved in ATV, RTTY, and CW, and am currently involved with emergency management. As you can see, Amateur Radio plays a very important role in my life. I not only enjoy being an operator, but also being active in the club. I hope you will reelect me, **Gary Hudson,** as a member of the Executive Committee. Thank you.

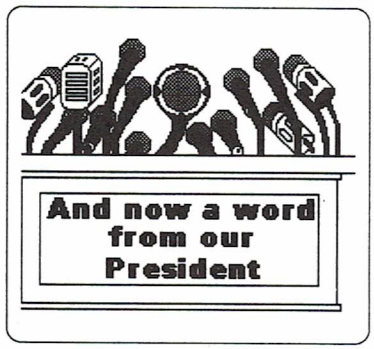
de Gary, W2AZZ

The Prez Sez

Discussion, Not Dissension

By Joe Chuk, W3JD, President

Much has happened with the DLARC since my last full-length column two months ago. Since I was on vacation while the newsletter was being prepared last month, I didn't get the chance to share my thoughts about the controversial comments in this publication's August DX column. We've also had our annual picnic, our club hamfest, several public service events, the start of new novice/tech classes, and nominations for our election of officers and directors.



First, some thoughts on expressing thoughts. When "DX Clubs and Advice" was first submitted to the editor for publication, I was asked to make a decision about whether, in light of the criticisms of the DLARC it contained, it should be in the club's own newsletter. Since the writer is a regular columnist, and I happen to be a strong proponent of freedom of speech, I said that it should be printed. Those who disagree would have the opportunity to air their views and to point out any errors of fact.

Several club members did, in fact, provide opposing points of view with their letters in the September newsletter. The strong expression of opinion in the August column produced an equally strong flurry of reactions. Unfortunately, the baiting language in the column (such as, "I know I hurt feelings..." and "...stoop to the level of novices and techs") yielded personal attacks in the responses ("ultimate appliance operator"; "deranged ranting"). I won't make the judgment about whether either the initial comments or the responses were justified, but I do know that the divisiveness created by such exchanges can only hurt the club. Opinions can be expressed without belittling those who don't share those opinions. When it comes to supposed statements of fact, however, it's important that errors be pointed out. Bear with me as I comment on what I feel are individual factual errors in the August column:

1. "DLARC has regressed.. .to a passive, lethargic repeater club catering to 'hams' whose sole stations are 'shacks on the belt' (HTs)." Two problems here: The obviously disparaging intent in placing "hams" in parentheses implies that operators who limit their activity to FM repeater use are somehow not real hams. The very existence of a class of renewable license for which there is no code requirement and which allows VHF and higher operation makes the holders of that license hams by definition. Secondly, an honest examination of both the meeting programs over the past year and the variety of club activities reveals how inaccurate the description of the DLARC as a "passive, lethargic repeater club" is.

2. "Since DLARC decided to operate a low key training exercise [for Field Day]...8 experienced members switched to W3GS [the local QCWA chapter station], which ran a serious portable effort..." Since, having been licensed for 34 years, I'm one of the "old geezers" who belong to QCWA, I was aware of the QCWA plans (in the making for almost a year) to set up a Field Day station this year. In, fact, I would have liked to spend some time operating that station, but felt that my available time should be devoted to the club for which I currently (and proudly) serve as president. Because I knew beforehand that a number of the traditionally active operators from past DLARC Field Day efforts were going to be at W3GS instead of W3OK, I worked with the organizers of the DLARC event to shape it into something that could be of maximum benefit to those who would be around to take part in it. In the past, the obvious skill of the experienced contest operators served as a deterrent to new hams or those who have never operated a Field Day station. The new guys (and gals) often didn't get the chance or were too intimidated to operate. The "low key training exercise" did exactly what it was intended to do -- provide a new experience for a number of DLARC members. That, of course, is the essence of what the Elmer process is all about. The implication that the W3GS effort was a reaction to a scaled-down DLARC event is simply wrong.

3. "Hams are supposed to...not just provide public service communication..." That's an easy one: The quickest way for the Amateur Radio Service to lose spectrum is for a demonstrable case to be made that hams no longer provide a service. The complexity of radio technology has pretty much excluded most licensed amateurs from being able to advance the radio art, and the handful of those with the formal research-level technical expertise aren't enough to make a difference. But the thousands of hams involved in many more thousands of hours of public service activities will certainly make the case for the value of Amateur operations. Com

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

mercial threats to the 2-meter and 70-centimeter bands will be countered with the demonstration of consistent activity on those bands (most of which is on repeaters), not by HF contest efforts.

To sum up this issue: There is room in Amateur Radio for everyone who meets the qualifications for any one of the license classes. As long as license holders are operating in a legal and courteous manner, it doesn't matter that there are aspects of the hobby that they choose not to participate in. It is the height of arrogance for anyone to claim that his approach to a multi-faceted endeavor is better than someone else's.

This column is already long, so I'll keep my comments on other issues short. We have an election coming up at the October meeting, and now there's no excuse not to vote, even if you can't make it to the meeting. You'll find an absentee ballot form and instructions elsewhere in this newsletter. Try to make the meeting, but if you can't, use that ballot to cast your vote for the Directors who will serve for the next year. This is your chance to help plot the direction of the club by voting for the candidates who you feel will best represent your interests in Board discussions and decisions. Candidate statements can be found in this newsletter.

With the new Officer and Director term will come the implementation of a new process for bringing in club members, as detailed in the September newsletter. The Board devised this process in response to an increasing dissatisfaction among club members with how new member applications were presented without any knowledge of the applicants and, in most cases, without the applicants' being present at the club meeting at which they were voted in. With this new process, which is actually a procedure for fulfilling our club bylaw requirement that a membership vote be taken for each new member, applicants to the club will have the chance to see what the club is all about and club members will be able to learn something about and meet those who want to join.

We have a number of activities coming up, so mark your calendars for each of them and volunteer to take part in those that fit your schedule. Among those events are the PA QSO Party, the Emmaus Halloween Parade, and the Christmas City Special Event Station. Check other parts of this newsletter for details and contact persons.

There's also a need both for additional VEs and for a group of VEs to serve as a liaison team for our club VE sessions. Here's a chance for the Extra Class ticket holders among us to perform a very valuable service to the club. My announcement at the last club meeting on this topic brought little response, so there's still much room for a good example of service to be set by those of us who have earned the highest grade license. Check the notice elsewhere in this issue and get in touch with our new VE contact, **Jill Brodt, N3ZSR**, if you'd like to help.

Finally, a family emergency kept **Charlie Gianetta, WA3RSQ,** from presenting his program on weather at our September meeting, so we look forward to his being with us at a future club meeting. Be sure to come to the October meeting, not only for the annual election, but also for some tips on operating the **PA QSO Party,** and a demonstration of the newly-updated logging program written by **Don, KA3JWE..**

de Joe, W3JD

Ham heard Swissair pilot's last words

via The Hudson Loop

PEGGY'S COVE, Canada, Sept 4 (AFP) - "I'm going down": those were the last words an amateur radio operator captured from Swissair flight 111 that plunged into the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 229 people on board.

Pat Peterson, a security guard in Bedford, Nova Scotia said he regularly listens to pilot communications on his 800 MHz radio and was near Halifax Airport when the plane went down Wednesday.

"The gentleman was pretty frantic," Peterson said, adding that he spoke "in a very flustered voice." The pilot then said he would have to dump some fuel, before adding weakly: "I'm going down." Communication was then cut, Peterson said.

(Editor's Note: The on-line databases could not locate a call sign for a "Peterson" in Nova Scotia. We suspect the man quoted is a radio hobbyist misidentified by AFP as a "ham.")

– forwarded by Diane Ortiz, K2DO
(hamyl@aol.com)



To all members:

by Clarence, W3PYF, editor

By email President Joe Chuk, W3JD asked any one who was a candidate for office to express their feeling for the club and the election to follow: As received they follow:

WX3C

On Thursday evening,September 3rd, I was nominated for director of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club

I have been a ham since 1958. I have been continously active since that time. I have participated in many activities in various clubs. The most recent of which was VEC laison for DLARC testing. My license class is Extra and my call sign is WX3C. My former call was K3GQJ which I held for many years. If elected, I will try to be attentive to the membership needs and goals. Sincerely,

John Greenage, WX3C

WO4H

I am an incumbent Director seeking a second term. I was first licensed in the late 70's as WB3IPM while living in Harrisburg, PA. I retired from the Financial-Insurance Services Division of General Motors after a 33-year career where I gained extensive experience in marketing, motivation, leadership, teamwork, and Human Resources Management. My education includes Penn State, General Motors Institute, and the J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University. My career took me to many geographical areas where I was always active in Amateur Radio and served in numerous capacities including President of the Columbia, SC ARC. I have been a member of DLARC since relocating back to PA in 1989.

I believe that Diversity is the most important issue facing the DLARC! Reconcile Diversity into the strength it can and should be and many of the challenges we face will become minimal. If you agree and would like to have a representative who will focus his primary energies on this challenge then I need your vote. I appreciated your support in the past and I am hopeful I can count on it again.

Al Kresavage, WO4H

KD3TI

Hello to all members of the DLARC from KD3TI. Many of you know me, but many do not. At last month's meeting, I was nominated for club secretary and was pleased to accept. Our current secretary, John, has many, many other activities and asked if I could assume those duties as soon as possible. I am happy to do so, but I am not, in any way trying to discourage anyone else from running for the office. Until nominations are closed, any other interested parties are free to enter the running. Until the elections are done, I will serve as Acting Secretary, and the winner of the election will assume the rightful position as secretary of DLARC. Thanks to all for your support.

Amy Zimmerman, KD3TI

W3ZF

Having now served on the Board for 1 year, it seems to me that most of our club activities center around events that are "VHF FM" related. Although you'll find me participating in these worthwhile causes, I must admit that, as a youngster, what attracted me to radio was NOT my burning desire to participate in parades and outdoor escapades! As a child, I had a Austrian penpal, and the idea of communicating with someone from a "far-off" land was the inebriating exilir that drew me to radio. (Doing it with Morse Code even made it more exotic).

Field Day and the PA QSO Party are truly club activities that offer the type of excitement and involvement that "turn me on". The perception that contesting and DXing are activities that do not benefit our ranks needs to be challenged. I aspire to want to learn the discipline, accuracy, and speed exhibited by some of the better operators as a way to hone my own skills as a radio operator. Let's face it, don't some of us wonder what would REALLY happen if Eastern PA became the target of Mother Nature's worst fury?? What if our repeater(s) became inoperative or compromised? I would feel much better knowing that my messages and H&W (Health and Welfare) traffic were being handled by an operator who did more than just a weekly check-in, the MS-150 or Halloween parade (events that I participate in).

I am uneasy with the complacency of thinking that our reserve of radio amateurs has been prepared for times of genuine widespread critical need. The tenor of the VHF activities we all participate in

continued on page 11

continued from page 10

(however well intentioned, lauded, and appreciated) are lulling us into a sense of preparedness that is not totally adequate!! Our VHF RACES/ARES nets are underutilized when it comes to teaching us needed skills. Although the public is acquainted with our ability to aid local public service agencies in times of need, I still think the public is fascinated with our ability to comb the radio spectrum (especially HF) for distress traffic and engage these situations to the best of our abilities. We ccassionally still make international news.

I would like to see our club evolve its "radio citizenship" by becoming a balanced club. By that, I mean I'd like to see more involvement in things that are HF related. There ARE other public service and charitable things that we can do on HF (MARS, traffic nets, missionary associations). It is unfortunate that our club station is as isolated (and unused) as it is. A well equipped convenient station can serve as a catalyst in promoting club activity (and unity). Maybe the Board can dwell on this issue some more.

Through these rambling thoughts, I hope you have come to know me and my interests better and decide if I'm still a candidate worthy of your support. I took pains to try and articulate my "HF views" without offending anyone (NOT an easy task). I felt negative energy directed at "HF" in the responses appearing in the September newsletter and was saddened by the black-eye it received. I hope I didn't give it another one.

Dan Ruth, W3ZF

N3GXW

I am a fairly new Ham having been license in 1989. I hold a General Class license. I am interested mostly in getting my station in order to be able to play radio when I have sum free time. I enjoy talking with others about there stations which gives me ideas for mine. I help with special events when I can. It seems that there are getting to be more and more of them every year. Besides being a Ham, I enjoy hunting in the fall and winter, I am also a Volunteer Firefighter which takes sum of my time as well as everything-else a home and family does. I have a wonderful wife (Naomi) and two daughters. One who on the 5 of September made me a grandfather for the first time. The other is off at Penn State for her junior year, which is draining the wallet of the extra green stuff needed at Hamfest.

As a member of DLARC I have been on the Board of Directors, been the kitchen detail for both the picnic and field day for several years, I was helped my Carl N3GRK on the kitchen details. I have helped at all the Hamfest we have help that is as best as I can remember. Dick KA3MOU has had me fill in at different events for him as the money man.

I hope to serve you again it elected to the Board of Directors.

Norm Daniel, N3GXW

Special thanks to outstanding amateur radio operators

letter to Jeff, N3QZT

On July 25 & 26, 1998, more than 500 cyclists began an adventure of 150 miles in the MS 150 PA Dutch Bike Tour. Their goal was to raise funds to help families living with multiple sclerosis.

Riding from Morgantown, PA, through the beautiful PA Dutch countryside, staying overnight at Kutztown University and riding back on Sunday was a challenge and an exhilarating event.

With 7 rest stops stocked with food and beverage, a tractor trailer full of luggage, more than 250 volunteers, bands, massage therapists, jugglers and clowns, 4 trucks of food and supplies, 8 ambulances, even a fire which impeded traffic for a short time, the event was an incredible logistic feat and a great success.

How did they do it?

They were helped by a group of dedicated team of **Amateur Radio Operators** who provided the essential communication throughout the 200 miles of roads. Headed by coordinator **Jeff Keller**, more than 25 operators staffed the net control **(N3KU)** at Kutztown University, ambulances, shuttle busses and check points.

Our #1 priority is safety to the cyclists while they are on the road. The only way this is possible is through the effective communications that the Ham Radio Operators provide, said **John Scott, Sr. Vice President for the local chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.**

I would like thank those people who took the time out of their busy schedules to help with this event - one person can make a difference. Each and every one of the operators that was out there during this weekend knows how much their support means to those cycling and to those who face a life with this nasty disease.

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Changes or additions please to KA3MOU@enter.net

Annual election to be held at October 1 meeting

Nominations for DLARC officers and directors took place at the club meeting on September 3. The choices of the nominations committee, led by Bill Fahs, **NC3P**, were presented to the membership by committee member Chuck Drake, **KD3SQ**.

Members nominated as officers were Joe Chuk, **W3JD** (president), Don Reamer, **KA3JWE** (vice president), Amy Zimmerman, **KD3TI** (secretary), and Dick Dech, **KA3MOU** (treasurer).

Since the members present approved the nomination of these candidates, and there were no further nominations for the officer positions, the nominees will automatically assume those offices after the election of the directors.

The committee presented five incumbent directors for re-election. They are Glen Brodt, **N3ULW**; Gary Hudson, **W2AZZ**; Al Krensavage, **WO4H**; Danny Ruth, **W3ZF**; and Barry Vogt, **N3NVA**.

Other members nominated from the floor for the director positions were Norm Daniel, **N3GXW**; Bob Green, **KE3AW**; John Greenage, **WX3C**; and Jim Hogarth, **N3DFF**.

The six director candidates receiving the most votes in the October 1 election will fill the director positions for the next year.

Absentee ballot available for DLARC annual election

The Board of Directors recently established a procedure to allow DLARC members who are not able to be present for the annual election of officers and directors to cast their votes as absentees. If you're not able to attend the election personally on Thursday, October 1, 1998, at 7:30 PM, but still want to vote, here are the steps to follow:

1. Cut out the absentee ballot on the right, and place check marks next to **no more than six** names of candidates for the office of Director. (Since there is only one candidate for each of the four officer positions, those positions are automatically filled by virtue of the nomination of the candidates at the club meeting of September 3, 1998.) Do not put your name on the ballot.
2. Fold and tape the ballot, and seal it in an envelope with your name and call (and, optionally, your address) in the return address portion of the envelope.
3. Submit your vote in either of these ways:
   a. Mail the envelope to:

      DLARC Elections
      RR 4 - Greystone Building
      Nazareth, PA 18064-9211

      OR

   b. Give the envelope to a member who will be attending the election, who can then deliver it to **Dick Dech, KA3MOU**, at the club meeting.

To be included in the count on election night, all mailed absentee ballots must be received at the above address by **Wednesday, September 30, 1998**. All hand-delivered absentee ballots must be given to Dick Dech at the meeting site by **7:15 PM** on election night.

Each ballot **must** be in a sealed envelope with the **name and call** of the voting member on the outside. Remember to fold and tape the ballot form to preserve the secret character of the vote. Ballot forms will be removed and separated from their envelopes before they are opened by the election committee members. Ballots with more than six names checked will be disqualified.

Absentee Ballot - 1998 Election DLARC Board of Directors

Vote for **no more than six** candidates:

- ❒ Glen Brodt - N3ULW *
- ❒ Norm Daniel - N3GXW
- ❒ Bob Green - KE3AW
- ❒ John Greenage - WX3C
- ❒ Jim Hogarth - N3DFF
- ❒ Gary Hudson - W2AZZ *
- ❒ Al Krensavage - WO4H *
- ❒ Danny Ruth - W3ZF *
- ❒ Barry Vogt - N3NVA *

* incumbant

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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==1997-1998==

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CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
7:30 PM at Northampton County Community College
TALK IN ON 146.70

Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
should be addressed to(*w3pyf@aol.com*) or Clarence Snyder, W3PYF Editor.
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visit our web page

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