Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2003

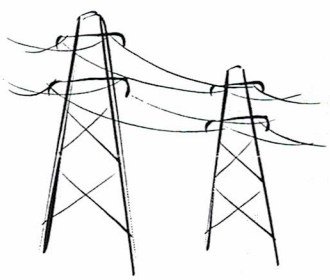
Meeting October 2nd at IU20

October Meeting

by Joel, N3GXY

BPL (Broadband over Power Lines)

October's program will feature Ed Hare, W1RFI, the ARRL Lab Manager speaking on the subject of BPL - Broadband over Power Lines. As the ARRL Lab Manager, Mr. Hare is responsible for overseeing the Leagues efforts in dealing with RFI issues. In this position, Mr. Hare's responsibilities include helping individual hams resolve RFI problems, to work with the IEEE C.63 EMC standards, to working with industry groups on RFI related issues and advising government agencies on the impact of RFI.



His current work has been spearheading the Leagues efforts in dealing with the emerging BPL issue and the creation of the ARRL Amateur Radio Interference Assessment (ARIA) Project. The ARIA project is the ARRL's effort to monitor "legalized interference" to the amateur bands caused by Part 15 devices. The ARIA project is on the frontlines of the ARRL's efforts in dealing with BPL. ARIA volunteers will be in the field to measure and assess the interference caused by BPL and that information will be used to formulate the Leagues response to the BPL issue.

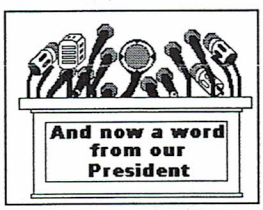
I hope you will take the time to come to the October meeting and hear this talk on a very important issue for all amateur radio operators.

de Joel, N3GXY

The Prez Sez

by Jeff, N3QZT

The time has come to the end of my term as President of our radio club. It has been a great two year and for the greater part I have enjoyed the time. I have learned a lot and I do hope that the club has gotten some benefits.



One thing that I would like to ask is that you get more involved in the club; I know that everyone is very busy and has many other things that take much time. But (boy that word covers a lot) we have all made a commitment to be in the club and to its continuing betterment. One way to accomplish this is to be more involved in club activities. A big one that is here right now is "BPL". It will take all of our efforts to fight this and preserve our hobby. So get more involved and let your thoughts and voice be known don't leave it up to someone else!

Enough on that soap box. I want to thank the entire executive board for all there hard work and dedication. They have given many hours to keeping

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

the Delaware – Lehigh Amateur Radio club functioning smoothly.

This year all of the officers are running unopposed and only six people are running for five E-Board positions. It is still very important to vote and show your support for the people that are giving there time and commitment, they need your input and support.

That's all I have to say except that once again I would like to tell you that it has been and honor and a privilege to serve as this club's President.

Thanks…
de Jeff, N3QZT

VE Test Results – September 2003

by Thalia, KB3CSR

Therre was one applicant for code test
Congratulations to:

Eric T Bott, N3TW - upgraded to General by passing the code. Eric is a member of the Carbon Club.

73
Bill N2DH

VE's in attendance:
W3JD
NC3P
N2DH
Thank you!

Halloween Parade in Emmaus

by Bob, KE3AW

It is nearing Halloween again, and that means the Emmaus Halloween Parade is right around the corner. For many years DLARC has been a helpful force in the parade operations by providing a communication network throughout the long parade route of this parade. Again this year we will respond to their request for radio communication.



DLARC members with 2 meter capabilities and vehicles will ride in the in the parade, provide reports to net control and the parade marshal, and, in general, help to ensure a safe event. This is a valuable public service we render to Emmaus, the marchers and the spectators at the parade, and as amateur radio operators we find the event enjoyable as well.

The time of this year's activities is 6:30 until about 9:00 pm, Saturday, October 18 (Rain Date is set for Monday, October 20). Immediately after the parade, all participating ham operators are invited to enjoy a snack, a dessert, or full dinner if you choose at a local restaurant ~ it's Dutch treat. This also has become a fun and friendly annual tradition!

If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact me in person, via 146.700, or email KE3AW@arrl.net.

Treasurer's Report

by Dick, KA3MOU

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

Balance 7/31/03	**$5,549.04**
INCOME	
Donation Income 50 – 50	$18.00
Interest Checking 8/15	4.94
June Field Day Refund	8.60
TOTAL INCOME	$31.54
EXPENSES	
Postage	$60.00
Telephone	21.05
TOTAL EXPENSES	$81.05
Balance 8/31/03	**$5,499.53**

de, Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

"Did you here about the wedding of the two towers?



The wedding was bad but the reception was great."

73 de Barry n3nva

Just the Minutes

by Jill, N3ZSR



President Jeff Keller, N3QZT called the September 4th club meeting to order at 7:30 PM, with 46 members and 1 guest present.

The August minutes were approved with a motion from Bob, N3SNZ with a second from Ray, W3TDF. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report for August was approved with a motion from Mark, K3MP with a second from Barry, KU3X. Motion passed.

Barry, N3NVA reported that the Fleetwood Site was down due to Service Electric doing work. The other sites are up.

VE session scheduled for September 5th at IU20 had no one registered.

Classes start September 8th. Bob, KE3AW reported that he had 15 to 18 inquiries and thinks about 8 to 10 will start. Class wi9ll be held at the 911 center for 8 weeks from 7 to 9 p.m.

Sue, KB3IDW, Ham fest Chairperson said that she still needs a lot of help. The ham fest is on September 20th. She has various door prizes and is buying an HT for the Grand Prize.

Bob, N3SNZ chairperson for Christmas City this year said that CQ has been notified. He is looking for people to help. The event will be December 13 and 14th.

Club Picnic will be September 28th starting at noon. The new location is at Louise Moore Park. Contact Dennis, KR3U or Pat, KB3IDQ and let them you that you are coming and what you would like to bring.

The milk house now has the digital and logging computers linked together.

Jeff welcomed the Carlos Velazquez, KB3JQT as a guest to the meeting.

We need a Newsletter Editor. Clarence has retired, and Bryan, AA3WM is doing it in the interim.

The nominations committee, consisting of: Frank, KB3IDX / Bob, N3SNZ / and George, N3SQD announced the following slate of people running for officers this year:

Bryan, AA3WM – President
Bill, N2DH – Vice President
Charles, KB3DEA – Secretary
Dick, KA3MOU – Treasure
Joe, W3JD – Board
Barry, N3NVA – Board
Al, W3CE – Board
Bob, N3QZR – Board
Dave, N3EYT – Board
Tom, KB3IUE – Board

After a motion from Chris, NU3L with a second from Blair, K3YD the nominations were closed.

The following applied for membership and will be voted in at the October meeting:
Carlos Velazquez Jr, KB3JQT.

Up Coming events:
September 20 – D.L.A.R.C Hamfest
September 28 – D.L.A.R.C. picnic at Louise Moore Park **(NOTE NEW DATE and LOCATION)**.

The program for the evening was by Don, KA3JWE – Foxhunting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM on a motion from Van, K3CP with a second from Barry, KU3X.

de Jill, N3ZSR, Secretary



Jeff, N3QZT presents Clarence, W3PYF, with a recognition award

Training Course

by Dick, KA3MOU

The following Information is from Mr. Nick Tylenda, Emergency Management Coordinator for Northampton County, about CERT Training.

Course: Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

Objective: To offer training to develop Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT's) to assist Emergency Services in responding to the needs of our communities in the event of a major disaster.

The CERT program is designed to get Northampton County residents and Amateur Radio Operators working together with Emergency Services Personnel in the event of a major disaster. All participants will be trained in basic survival skills. The training will enable residents and Amateur Radio Operators to be:

- Better prepared in self-sufficiency following a disaster.
- Able to provide emergency assistance to their families and immediate neighbors.
- Able to work as a team in their neighborhood in the event of a major disaster.

The CERT training consists of five (5) four-hour classes. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion. There is no cost for this training.

Course Overview:
The CERT training consists of 20 hours of instruction over a five week period. Classes are taught by emergency responders, including firefighters, emergency medical and law enforcement personnel from the community. The course includes:

Disaster Preparedness
Introduction to disasters specific to the community and the impact of disaster on the infrastructure.

Disaster Fire Suppression
Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards and basic fire suppression.

Disaster Medical Operations
Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions and principals of triage.

Light Search & Rescue Operations
Techniques for sizing up and searching, lifting, cribbing and removing victims; rescue safety.

Disaster Psychology and Team Organization
The post-disaster emotional environment will be discussed.
CERT organization, decision making and documentation.

Terrorism
A brief overview of terrorism weapons. Identifying targets in an area and discuss time/distance/shielding.

Role of CERTS In An Emergency
CERTS have been used to:
Search for lost or kidnapped children
Staff Emergency Operations Centers and monitor events
Emergency Operations Center security; driving, information, assisting disabled visitors and minor first aid
Manage "spontaneous/convergent" volunteers
Assist Red Cross and other relief organization on mass care

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

TITLE: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

WHEN: Wednesday, October 22, 29
November 5, 12
Tuesday, November 18

TIME: 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

WHERE:
Lehigh Valley Chapter of The American Red Cross
2200 Avenue "A"
Bethlehem PA 18017-2157

COST: None

TO REGISTER: Participants must be at least 18 years of age. Registration for this course is limited to thirty (30) students. Please contact Dick Dech, KA3MOU no later than October 16, 2003, for registration.

73, Dick, KA3MOU

News via the ARRL

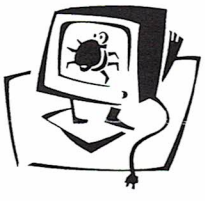
Reprinted with permission from the September 10, 2003 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

Submitted by Blair Bates, K3YD

Elecraft has announced a new ultra-portable CW transceiver kit, the KX1. About the size of a stack of QSL cards and weighing only 9 ounces, the KX1 covers 20- and 40-meters (30-meters is an option) with 4 watts of output and full-QSK . An internal ATU (that's right, internal) and built-in memory keyer are standard. The receiver is a single-conversion superhet with variable passband crystal filter and RIT. A rechargeable battery pack is also built in. It doesn't sound like there's a whole lot of room left in that enclosure. This is just right to throw in the car, briefcase, or backpack for portable hamming. The full details are available at http://www.elecraft.com.

Updated Sweepstakes, 10-Meter, and 160-Meter contest rules are now available on the ARRL Web site. One notable change is that the NWT Section is being renamed "Northern Territories" and the abbreviation will be "NT" - this includes Yukon, NWT, and Nunavut.

According to the US Naval Historical Center the first computer bug was logged on September 9, 1945 at 15:45: "Moth found trapped between points at Relay # 70, Panel F, of the Mark II Aiken Relay Calculator while it was being tested at Harvard University, 9 September 1945. The operators affixed the moth to the computer log, with the entry: "First actual case of bug being found". They put out the word that they had "debugged" the machine, thus introducing the term "debugging a computer program". More about this Ur-bug can be found at http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/images/h96000/h96566kc.htm. (Thanks, Tree N6TR)



If you have ever seen one of those great frequency allocation charts and wonder how to get your own, they're available for free at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/osmhome/allochrt.html. The charts cover 3 kHz to 300 GHz and there is a text file with the same information and instructions for ordering the full-sized version.

For those thinking about building or adapting a tower for use as a low-band vertical, you should take a look at W8JI's Web page - http://www.w8ji.com. Tom discusses the difference between shunt-feeding a grounded tower versus series-feeding a tower with an insulated base. There appear to be significant advantages in voltage reduction and bandwidth increases for the series feed and it's not as big a mechanical challenge as you might think. Rich KL7RA reports that it's straightforward to insulate a Rohn 25 tower by using a BPH 25G hinged base. Remove the attaching bolts and rotate the triangle plate to clear the hinges. You'll have to machine some insulating shoulder washers from Teflon and Rich also uses a sheet of Teflon under the plate. Rich reports that the series-fed tower is much less fussy than the gamma-matched, shunt-fed version and has better bandwidth. (Thanks, Tom W8JI and Rich KL7RA)

If you have greasy, oily metal parts to clean, Jerry K3BZ reports "I use an automotive brake degreaser product called "Brakleen" followed by a wash in rubbing alcohol and a short (15 minute) drying period. If I then get finger oils on an otherwise clean piece, another wipe with oil-free rubbing alcohol suffices. For large jobs, heavy grease, etc, Brakleen can be expensive so I soak it in ordinary kerosene, then brush the grease off. After the kerosene has it pretty clean, I finish up with the Brakleen." Never use gasoline - kerosene is much less flammable - and rubber gloves will save your skin.

If you've ever wondered about how the Butternut HF-2V actually works, there is a good article at http://www.iol.ie/~bravo/80&40mVertic.htm. It also discusses modifying the HF2V and using it on 160-meters. (Thanks, John EI7BA)

Another great transmission line loss and attenuation calculator is available on the Web at http://www.ocarc.ca/coax.htm. (Thanks, Dwight N2FMC)

If you're thinking about traveling with your rig and are wondering about suitable travel cases, the Pelican series of cases is top-notch. The Pelican 1650 works great for most transceivers and has room for accessories. Getting the right foam insert is also important (N5KO and N6AW use Bob's Foam Factory in California) for cushioning the gear. Ken K2KW has written a dissertation on this and other travel topics at http://pages.prodigy.net/k2kw/qthlist/dxresources.htm. (Thanks, Dave KM3T)



From the September 10, 2003 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

Did You Know ...



Did you know that, starting with the September 2003 issue, archive copies of the W3OK Corral Newsletter will be available in PDF format? Check it out at:
http://www.dlarc.org/News Letters/news_letters.htm

Did you know that if you are going to buy something for DLARC, that you should get permission from the DLARC Board ***before*** you buy it? By doing so, you do not risk the possibility of not getting reimbursed if the DLARC Board does not approve the purchase.

Did you know that the DLARC Board is looking for someone to coordinate rides to and from the meeting for those members that are not able to drive themselves? If interested in helping out in this area, contact a DLARC Board member.

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate in the DLARC, RACES, and ARES nets
146.70 and 444.90 W3OK/RPT (pl 151.4) with an alternate of W3PYF/RPT 145.11
W3OK trustee Chris Hornaman, NU3L
The Nets are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

The W3OK CORRAL is published monthly and is the Official Publication
of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

== 2002-2003 ==

CLUB OFFICERS

President – Jeff Keller, N3QZT (n3qzt@ptd.net) 610-928-3897
Vice President – S. Bryan Williams, AA3WM (sbw1@enter.net) 610-258-9470
Secretary – Jill Brodt, N3ZSR (n3zsr@fast.net) 610-588-6977
Treasurer – Dick Dech, KA3MOU (ka3mou@enter.net) 610-837-1585

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Joe Chuk, W3JD (chuk@kutztown.edu) 610-799-0337
Barry Vogt, N3NVA (n3nva@enter.net) 610-863-7294
Don Reamer, KA3JWE (donster@enter.net) 610-252-3063
Glenn Brodt, N3ULW (n3ulw@enter.net) 610-588-6977
Dave Blankenship, N3EYT (n3eyt@aol.com) 610-974-8749
Bob Yankovich, N3QZR (n3qzr@yahoo.com) 610-866-9162

NEWS STAFF

Editor – S. Bryan Williams, AA3WM (sbw1@enter.net) 610-258-9470
Circulation – Richard Dech, KA3MOU & YL Maryann 610-837-1585
Mailing List – Richard Dech, KA3MOU (ka3mou@enter.net) 610-837-1585

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 IU20 Building in Palmer Township
TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to this newsletter
should be addressed to sbw1@enter.net or S. Bryan Williams, AA3WM Editor
1706 Pheasant Court, Easton, PA 18040

visit our web page

http://www.dlarc.org

18052+7204

DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

MEMBERSHIP EXP 12-31-03
ROBERT A GREEN KE3AW
346 CREST DRIVE
WHITEHALL PA 18052-7204

The W3OK CORRAL
Greystone Building, Gracedale Complex
RR 8
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064-9278

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Lehigh Valley, PA
PERMIT No. 138