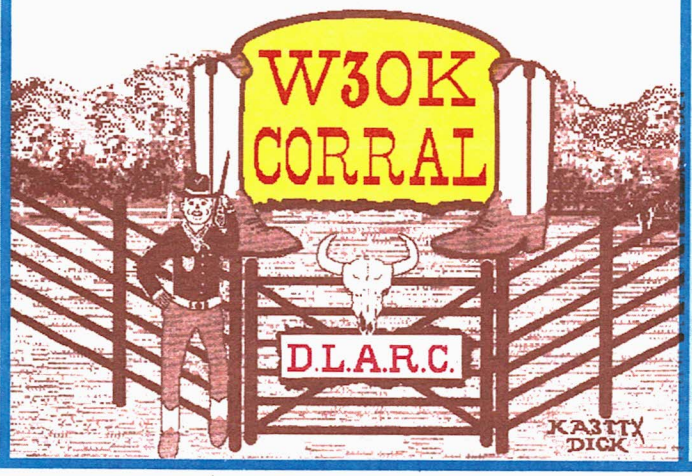
DELAWARE-LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W3OK

December 1996



SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB
ARRL

ARRL Affiliated Club

Bethlehem-Nazareth Christmas City operation

DLARC-XMAS City special event

December 14 and 15th.

de Ray-W3TDF, '96 Chairman

The annual Special Event operation from Club station in the Greystone building at Gracedale will again run from 9AM to 9PM EST both days. The schedule of operators will be in 2 hour segments. You may sign up for 2 consecutive slots if you want, or you can have slots on both Saturday and Sunday. We usually have openings right up to the first day of the operation, then folks call at the last minute. Please, make it easier for me and call early. Leave a message on the machine if I'm out shoveling, or something!

The operation will be strictly SSB on any and all HF bands, the frequencies, etc., having been sent to all the magazines.

With any kind of luck at all, we will be using the call 'WX3MAS'.If by chance it doesn't get issued in time we will use the default call 'W3OK'.

de Ray, W3TDF

Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club meeting on Thursday

Dec. 5th Kiva Hall N.C.C. 7:30 PM

Program to be announced

Talk in on 146.70 of needed.

PA QSO party scores to date

by Ray, W3TDF

As of Nov.11 we have 37 scores reported for a total of **2.35 Million points** for our **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** aggregate. There were at least 25 other known participants, for which I spent several hours with the 30 logs that I have, concluding that there is at least 90K more points for 16 of them. If all 25 of those logs get submitted we should accrue very close to 2.5Mil. That's a little short of the State record, that we set back in 1990, of 2.66 Mil. Anyway, 2.5 Mil is a very respectful aggregate, that we all should be very proud of. I will go out on the proverbial 'limb', and state that **'WE DID IT AGAIN'.**



The W3OK-Bonus operation did very well, considering the problems that were experienced. It seems that old 'MURPHY' struck in the form of computer noise trashing reception. Neverthless they did quite well considering the lack of contesting experience of some of the newer members. It was a learnin training operation, much as is Field Day.

Those newer contesters, having gotten bitten, will be contributing in the ensuing years. I just hope that Nittany is not upset since we didn't do anywhere near what their bonus station did last year. I have no idea which club will have the bonus operation next year, but my guess is that Penn Wireless will have it in the near future.

Until next year, thanks to all who participated, de Ray,W3TDF.

Ham Radio Averts Tragedy on Lake Huron

by Gene WA0SXX

What started as an ordinary day of fishing, turned into a scenario of events that could have ended tragically had it not been for ham radio. A friend, Don, and I left Oscoda, Michigan at 6:00 AM to fish on Lake Huron. We attempted to contact a fishing friend on the marine radio at 8:30 but the response was that I was very weak and unreadable. We checked and rechecked the radio, narrowing the problem to the antenna. I had brought along my HT; I assured Don that, if needed, shore contact could be made through the local repeater

. We continued fishing, with an overcast sky and visibility ranging from one to six miles on occasion, with fog. We were alerted that adverse weather would be moving into the area between 2:30 PM and 4:00 PM with strong thunderstorms, high winds and increasing seas. Although in a large enough boat to not worry, we took the warning seriously, stowed our fishing gear and headed for shore. Twenty minutes into the run, when the main engine failed, the auxiliary engine was started. We continued with decreasing visibility, increasing wind and seas. Almost an hour later, with progress being less than one mile, it was time to summon help. We first tried the local marine channels for assistance, then the Coast Guard on Channel 16. No response, due to the antenna problem. The HT was used to request assistance on the local repeater, and immediately our call was answered by K68RWG and N8JWH. We gave our position, nature of distress and this information was immediately relayed to Coast Guard Station Tawas. It was also relayed local office. There were numerous calls between K68RWG and myself, relay of information to and from the Coast Guard

Fortunately I had a fully charged battery on the HT when we left shore. When we realized that it was our only life line, power conservation was practiced as much as possible. What could have ended in tragedy, was averted by Amateur Radio. Thanks to K68RWG, N8JWH, Radio Station WCLS (100.7 MHz) who supports Amateur Radio by allowing the local repeater antenna to be on their tower, and the Coast Guard, for all their unselfish assistance .**-Gene Saner, WA0SXX**

reprinted from ARRL Section Leader November 1996 edition.

FCC stops renewal reminders

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update 10/25/98

,As of October 22 the **FCC** has ceased issuing Form 610R license expiration notices--reminders to hams that their tickets are going to expire within the next 90 days and that they must request renewal. The last notices sent by **FCC** covered into February 1997, although the specific date was not available. A Form 610R for renewal must be returned by mail only to the **FCC**. An **FCC** Public Notice is expected within a few days.

The demise of the Form 610R means that hams--whose licenses are issued for ten-year periods--must take the initiative to remember the renewal date of their tickets and file a Form 610. An FCC spokesman in Gettysburg says the Commission hopes to have a Form 610 available soon on the World Wide Web to permit on-line renewals.

To clarify an item in The ARRL Letter Electronic Update 10/25/96

In the story slugged **FCC STOPS RENEWAL REMINDERS**, please note that the **W5YI VEC** in Dallas, Texas, has begun mailing renewal reminders and FCC forms to hams whose licenses are about to expire. If you receive a Form 610R directly from the FCC, you should return it only to the FCC. If you receive a renewal notice from the W5YI Group Inc. and if you wish to have the W5YI VEC handle your renewal for a fee, follow the directions and return the renewal form to the W5YI VEC, not to the FCC.

If your license will expire within 90 days, you may renew your license at no cost by completing an FCC Form 610 and returning it to

FCC,
1270 Fairfield Rd,
Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245.

Quotes:

- Remembering is a dream that comes in waves. *Helga Sandburg-*

No food tastes as good as the food you eat when you're cheating on a diet. *Al Batt-*

People in phone booths rarely have short conversations. *Philip Lazarus-*

To be a champ you have to believe in yourself when nobody else will. *Sugar Ray Robinson-*

It is a dammed poor mind indeed that can't think of at least two ways of spelling any word. *Andrew Jackson-*

Emmaus Halloween Parade -

No Scary Task for DLARC Operators

by Mark, WA3KIF

When **Bob Green, KE3AW** asked me to back him up as the coordinator of the **Emmaus Halloween Parade** as he would be away on the rain date should there be one, I of course agreed. I did this because I was sure that there would be no rain date and the parade would go off as scheduled and I would be remembered as the "Good Guy" who volunteered to help but didn't need to in the end. Well, if you can remember back to that rainy Friday of October 19, 1996, you will understand why there was a rain date of the following Monday.



Bob did an excellent job of preparing me for the parade. He delivered the magnetic signs and he supplied the list of operators who volunteered to provide the communications support of which the borough of Emmaus has come to expect. What I didn't realize was that there could, and would be, several snags which would make the job a little harder that anticipated. I have participated in this event for several years but never realized what a good job the coordinators do and we as operators never appreciate.

For those who do not know of what we are speaking or for what the participant's are responsible, let me briefly explain. The Emmaus Halloween parade uses amateur radio operators as communicators who are scattered throughout the parade. They are to watch for unlawful vendors soliciting the crowd, spectators causing problems with both parade participants and/or other spectators, supply information as to parade progress and reporting any medical emergencies.

I would like to state here that AS IN ANY EVENT where amateur radio operators are participating, they are never to act in any capacity other than communications. In other words, we do not do traffic control, provide personal medical attention (unless they are trained) etc. Our profession is providing communications and our talents are best used contacting to those professionals who can handle medical emergencies or control traffic, etc.

The parade structure consists of five divisions with a **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** member acting as the division leader with two additional operators in each division. That is a total of three operators per division. This requires us to have at least a total of fifteen operators for this event.



I am happy to say that the **DLARC** members, as always, supported their club's events. In fact, we had to turn away three operators as we had the roster filled. I say this cautiously, as being involved with emergency communications, my philosophy is "never turn away a volunteer" but several members would have had to endure a minor hardship in order to participate. As we were covered, they were released from duty. My thanks to them as I do not wish discourage any volunteer.

The parade began precisely at 7:30 pm. with all **DLARC** members ready to go on simplex frequency 146.52 with signs attached. I wish to express my sincere thanks **to Paul, N3UGH, Ray, W3TDF, Bruce, KA3TIU, Dan, KA3AQV, Dick, KA3MOU** and his "ride-along" operator **Gary, N3PNT, Joe, KE3DZ, John, N2MWQ, Mitch, N3UGS, KA2ZQI, Charlie, N3UVO, Russ, N3UBT, Rick, AI3D and Howard KB3ZX** with son **Dan, N3XKG** as an additional back up operator in a really neat VW bug for transportation. I also had a ride along companion, Marty (not licensed - yet) was an asset to me informing me of our division's progress in relation to the parade bands. **Bob, KU3K**, acted as the parade control operator and was in constant contact with the parade marshall and all stations.

Following the parade there was a "wrap up" at Perkins in Dorneyville led by **Bruce, KA3TIU.**

I add this to demonstrate how well the group gets along. We are a membership of friends as well as amateur radio operators !!

Thanks for making my job easier. I commend all participants and hope that others will volunteer not only for the Emmaus Halloween parade but any other event where amateur radio helps our community. Bob, we missed you !

de Mark, WA3KIF.

Dear Diary

***Aug. 12** Moved to our new home in Ohio, the area here is beautiful. Can hardly wait to see those first bright white snowflakes in our yard. I love it here.

* **Oct. 14** Ohio is the most beautiful place on earth, the leaves are turning all different colors and shades of red and orange. We went for a ride and saw some deer, they are so graceful and it looks as if they enjoy this paradise more than we do. We love it here. *



Nov. 11 This cold weather has given me more time to write, deer season will start soon - I cant imagine anyone wanting to kill such a gorgeous creature. Hope it snows soon.

* **Dec. 2** It snowed last night, we woke up to find everthing in a blanket of white. It looks like a postcard outside our window, we went outside and cleaned off the steps and shoveled out the drive. We had a snowball fight and I won, then the snowplow came by and we had to clean out the driveway again. What a beautiful place here in Ohio.

* **Dec. 12** More snow last night, I love it - the snowplow did his trick on the driveway again. It is beautiful here.

* **Dec. 19** More snow last night, we couldn't get out of the drive cause the snowplow did his trick after we broke our shovel.

* **Dec. 22** More snow came last night, we had to drive 18 miles to buy a new snow shovel. I'm getting blisters from the new shovel already, I think the snowplow hides around the corner and waits till we get our driveway done.

* **Dec. 25** Merry Christmas HA-HA - more snow last night. We broke another shovel, I wish it was on the snowplow truck. Why don't they use more salt to melt this icy stuff?

* **Dec. 27** More snow came in the night, our car got stuck in the driveway again and we left it there. The weatherman says to expect another 10" tonight, do you know how many shovels full of snow 10" is?

* **Dec. 28** The weatherman was wrong, we got 28 inches of that crap last night, at this rate it won't melt in time for summer.the jerk who drives the snowplow got stuck up the road and came to the door asking to borrow my shovel, after I told him I broke six shovels already cleaning out the mess he pushes in my driveway, I broke our last shovel over his empty head.

* **Jan. 4** Finally made it out of the house today, had to go to the store for supplys and more shovels. On the way back some stupid deer ran in front of the car and I hit it. Our auto insurance just went up, I wish the hunters had killed all those beasts last November.

* **March 4** Took the car in the shop and they called to say the whole bottom is rusted out from that road salt, this crap is too much.

* **May 19** House sold and we transferred to Georgia, I can't imagine why anyone in their right mind would ever live in that forsaken place in Ohio.

via packet from N8VPM —.

Marconi museum to open in New Hampshire

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update 10/25/96

Bedford, New Hampshire, will be the site of the US National Marconi Museum, to be run by The Guglielmo Marconi Foundation USA. Ray Minichiello, AA1KG--the founding chairman of the organization and a retired professional engineer--says the group hopes to open the museum early next year in Bedford's former police station.

One of the exhibits the museum hopes to have is an exact replica of the wireless room aboard the RMS Titanic, which sank after striking an iceberg on its maiden voyage in 1912. Minichiello hopes one day to have the actual Marconi transmitter used by the Titanic's radio operator, Jack Phillips--if it's ever recovered from the bottom of the North Atlantic. The shipboard radio led directly to the rescue of 700 passengers, and p 12 Minichie said having the actual Marconi radio would serve as a real tribute to the man who's credited with developing the first practical wireless system.

Other Marconi museums are in Bologna and Genoa, Italy. Sites in Canada and on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, also take note of Marconi's legacy. For more information, call 603-472-9746 or write the museum at 18 North Amherst Rd, Bedford, NH 03110.

ARRL Atlantic Division News

DIRECTOR Kay Craigie WT3P

VICE DIRECTOR Bernie Fuller N3EFN

Hamfest crowd down in 1996

Why and what next?

Even Dayton admitted lower attendance this year, so it's no shock that many Atlantic Division hamfests also report smaller gates. Is this just another manifestation of the overall "soft" Amateur Radio industry, or is there something else? And is there anything we can do about it?

Experienced hamfest chairmen don't see a simple causes for the attendance lag, such as sunspot scarcity or job insecurity in the high-tech industries employing many hams. Instead, they see a number of interacting factors.

* Commercial dealers can't afford to go to many hamfests any more, hence fewer bargains on new rigs. * Proliferation of computer shows has drawn away many computer hobbyists who used to patronize hamfests for computer gear bargains.

* Family life has changed. When both parents work full-time, or when divorced parents see their children only on weekends, they may attend fewer hamfests or none at all.

* There are many more hamfests now than there used to be, competing for hams' time and hobby dollars.

* Publicity costs more, so sponsors may be doing less in order to control costs.

* Hamfest ticket prices have risen over the years. Have hamfests become too expensive?

It has been obvious for several years that most hamfests have become into morning activities. Most have dwindled by noon or 1 PM. Buyers will give half a day to hamfesting but have other things to do in the afternoon.

What can sponsors do to keep the buyers on site? Delaying door prize drawings doesn't seem to work. Tasty food at reasonable prices may help. If the lunch counter only sells stuff that costs like sirloin but tastes like carpet scraps, buyers will leave the hamfest for lunch and won't come back.

What can hamfest sponsors do to improve the gate? First, realize it's a trend affecting hamfests nationwide, not just a fluke or something purely local.

* Publicize aggressively, well in advance. Create a publicity plan and follow it.

* Analyze your publicity flyer. Can someone who never heard of your hamfest before easily see the "what, when, and where"?

* Do market research, by analyzing ticket stub data. Where do your buyers come from? Should you increase publicity to certain areas? Who are your buyers? Are enough club members coming? How about new hams? How about non-hams? Who do you WANT to attract?

* When and where are other area hamfests scheduled? ARRL HQ and your Director can help you on this. * Don't compete for buyers if you don't have to.

* Avoid conflicts with major religious holidays and local religious customs. Would attendance improve if the hamfest were on Saturday instead of Sunday?

* Attend comparable hamfests in your area and observe what they are doing. What works? What doesn't?

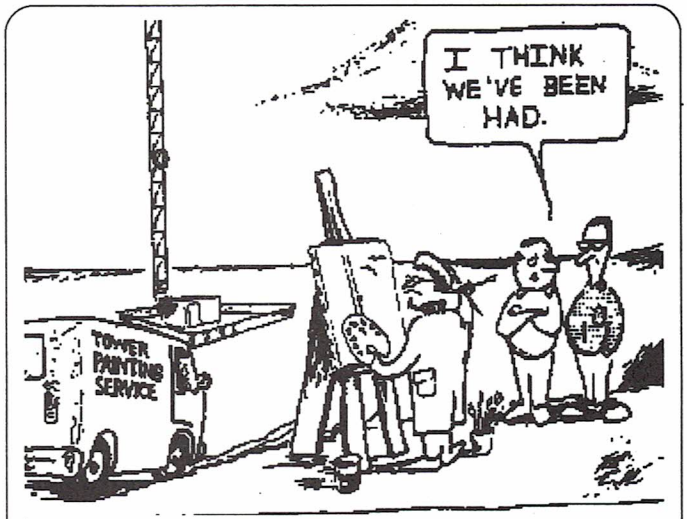
* Apply for ARRL approval as soon as your date and location are set. Benefits of ARRL approval include better publicity in QST and inclusion in the League's Internet hamfest lists. Free publicity! * Recruit interesting vendors. Contact them early in the season, so they won't have already decided to go somewhere else.

* Price tickets competitively. Find out what comparable area hamfests are charging, and don't over-charge. Can you afford to lower prices a little and still make an acceptable profit?

* Arrange good food service. Nobody goes to a hamfest for the cuisine, but good value at the lunch counter supports your event's overall attractiveness.

* Be different, and say so. What is there about your hamfest that makes it not just the same-old? A transmitter hunt? Special-interest forums? A QLF contest? QSL card checking for awards? Free refills on coffee? Someone to check the deviation on HT's? Specialty food items at the lunch counter? Whatever makes your hamfest different ...publicize it!

Hamfest sponsors can't do anything about the overall economy, sagging sunspots, changes in family life, or computer shows. But there are ways to help ourselves. Operating a successful club hamfest today may require a lot of intelligent planning. What strategies are working for your club?



from the Nov '94 Oh--Ky- In ARC 'Qfiver -Susie Scott, N8CGM editor and ARNS 1/96

Little LEO's battles continue.

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update 11/1/96

Following the initial furor, the "Little LEOs" threat to 2 meters and 70 cm has slipped from the headlines, but efforts continue to thwart the inclusion of their commercial activities in our popular VHF and UHF bands.

Little LEO allocations for the mobile-satellite service below 1 GHz include uplink and downlink frequencies on both sides of 2 meters. Proponents of the technology claim these existing allocations are inadequate. At a May meeting of Informal Working Group 2A (IWG-2A)--where the needs of the low-earth-orbiting satellite industry were addressed in preparation for the 1997 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-97)--the Little LEOs sought, over League objections, to include 144-148 MHz and 420-450 MHz on their list of "candidate bands," proposing to share the spectrum with hams. That prompted a call to action by ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, who urged a letter-writing campaign that yielded thousands of responses opposing the inclusion of 2 meters and 70 cm.

While the Little LEO proponents have not backed off, neither have they submitted any technical documentation to show that sharing with the wide variety of amateur uses could actually work. As a participant in IWG-2A, the ARRL submitted a 42-page technical rationale in late September that details why the League believes sharing to be unworkable. So far, the Little LEO industry had not responded with a technical basis in favor of sharing, and with the IWG-2A final report due November 15, the clock is running out to include any sharing studies involving amateur bands. Unless an attempt were made to short-circuit the process--a possibility that cannot be completely ruled out in the present Washington climate--a US proposal for sharing could not be made in the absence of such a study. Also, under the procedures announced for WRC-97, any US proposal must first be subjected to an FCC notice and public comment process and must be accepted by the US Department of State and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

If other countries are working on such sharing studies, these were expected to surface at a meeting of International Telecommunication Union ITU-R Working Party 8D October 29 to November 8 in Geneva, Switzerland. ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, and ARRL International Affairs Vice President Larry Price, W4RA, are attending the session, Paul as a member of the US delegation and Larry representing the International Amateur Radio Union. The US provided no input to the 8D meeting to suggest possible sharing between Little LEOs and amateurs. The output of Working Party 8D goes to the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) in May 1997, and the CPM report will provide the technical basis for WRC-97 decisions. Without a technical basis in the record, Sumner said, WRC-97 would be "hard-pressed" to agree to a shared allocation but added, "The Little LEOs still might look for a way to get their camel's nose into our tent."

Technobabble

by Dean Matthews, AD4OD

The purpose of ^"Q" signals is to convey commonly used thoughts concisely on CW. So why do so many using voice modes say "QSL" ^(3 syllables) to answer in the affirmative, when they could say, "yes" (1 syllable)?

Here are some other audio anomalies I have heard recently:

***I am mo- blin'** (About which I am mo -sick!)

* ***I am destinated***. (Would a high-fiber diet help?)

* ***Could I get a radio check?*** (No, your check is in the mail)

* ***Let's switch channels, to...*** (Your chicken-band is showing)

And flnally, those things in your back yard holding up your antennas aren't pine trees, they're organic towers."

from the Gwinnett Amateur Radio ^Society, GARS-News- AD4OD, Editor, and January 1996 ARNS

For Sale

HF antenna tuner

Nye Viking MB IV, 3KW rated. I'm asking $200 or trade for good working 2 meter HT with DTMF pad. E-mail or phone at 610-381-2802. **Joe, KF4AX** mrfixit@prolog.net

ARRL files to let advanced class VEs administer General Exams

The ARRL Letter Electronic Update November 1, 1996

The ARRL has asked the FCC to change its rules to permit Advanced class volunteer examiners (VEs) to administer the General class license examination. Under current rules, Advanced class VEs can administer Novice, Technician and Technician Plus examinations.

When implementing the original 1983 legislation creating the VE program, the FCC interpreted it to mean that an eligible VE must have passed the next higher telegraphy and written elements, if they exist, to administer tests for a particular license class. In 1985, the FCC denied a petition filed by Gordon Girton, W6NLG,requesting that Advanced Class hams be allowed to administer, among other thing, exam element 1(B), the 13-wpm code test. (A reconsideration petition reversed the ruling, but the FCC did not change the rules because the reconsideration petition did not address the rules change, only the statutory interpretation.) The League did not support Girton's proposal at the time because it was more concerned about the integrity (and perceived integrity) of the then-new VE program. It also appeared that there were enough Amateur Extra VEs to provide exam opportunities--something that's no longer the case in all geographical areas.

The League's filing says that allowing Advanced class VEs to administer General class examination elements will help to create "additional opportunities for operator license class upgrading" by current Technician and Technician Plus licensees and would "take additional pressure off" Extra class VEs. The League estimates more than 15,500 additional elements could be administered each year if Advanced class VEs could administer exams up to the General class level.

The ARRL/VEC--the largest VEC--has nearly 24,000 accredited VEs--18, 500 Extra class and 4700 Advanced class operators.

Quick quip

In the strange world of language skating on thin ice can get you into hot water.

from December '95 Blackstone Valley ARC "The Messinger" Rick K1KYL,editor and the ARNS bulletin 6/96

DUES ARE DUE. CONTACT KA3MOU

Novice/Tech contest coming

From the contest log, word that 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 the League is in the process of seeking membership input to fine tune them.

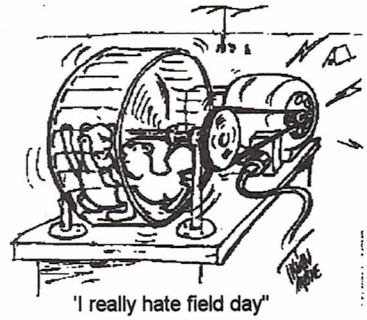
In general, the contest time period would run from 7 AM Saturday to 1 AM Sunday EST. All Novice, Technician and Technician Plus frequencies may be used. Only Novice, Technician and Technician Plus operators would be allowed to call CQ and the rules would include provision for an "Elmer" to help but not actually make QSOs.

Pending final approval from the ARRL Board of Directors, the contest could come into being as early as next summer. Meantime, the Contest Advisory Committee is seeking membership input regarding the proposed new operating event.

Field day 1996

by Bob, KU3X, Field Day Chairman

Ahhh.... It was late June, the weekend called Field Day. As I write,I remember the weather was very similar to this windy but warm November day! I think almost everyone thought that with the rain and thunder storms resulting in a few off-air hours that our score would suffer!! WRONG! Check out the FD story (QST Nov, page 96)



'I really hate field day"

I've compared several scores with the **Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club** (at 8004) and I can tell you that we had the best score of any PA entry and we were 7th in our class (3A).

This was the best scoring year for our club in quite some time! Some other statistics to ponder...We would have been THIRD in the 8 transmitter class (actually we were seventh or above in every class!!!). So, I guess you could say **CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!**

See you next year...lets see...uh, with 15 transmitters 3 will be in the barn, 4 in the kitchen, 4 over in the.....

de Bob KU3K

Ode to the code

by GaryVA2CK

We've all heard the cry "abandon the code!,
it's useless outdated, NOT a mod-er-n mode!"
So I said to myself, "could code's day really be over?
Best left for SKs' fer-til-iz-n' the clover?"

So off went my paddle 'n keyer to a museum,
so those curious of our "past" could drop in an' see um.
I then bought a computer and a box
I was told...would update my station, using all hi-tech modes.

It then was set up, all by my own hand...
the screen it lit up, et voilà Heard Is-land!
I switched to transmit to "talk with this gent"
but my screen read "sorry, can't copy 100%!"

"There's static, interference if you could hear it you'd agree.
if it ain't armchair copy we machines cry c'est la vie!"
It then said "there is as YOU know a way to get through,it's called the code, and what luck for you!"

"You've learned this art, you "stuck it out"
'tis a valuable tool, there isn't a doubt."
You've invested your time, and besides the code you did learn, possession of valuable skills must be..EARNED!"

So I say to you now don't get fooled when some say...
"Codes an' old dinosaur fadin' away!"
It's part of our past, present and future existence...
anti-coders prepare for "beaucoup de resistence"

reprinted from Ham Radio Online,

General Classes to be held

by Chris, NU3L

Classes for the General License will start on **Monday, January 13, 1997** and continue for approximately 6 weeks. Classes will be held in the Graystone Building at Gracedale near Nazareth, PA from 7 to 9 PM.Each session will focus on theory however at class discretion some time may be devoted to code to help people measure their progress in their program of self study.



Students should purchase a copy of the ARRL General Class license manual prior to the first class.

As time permits we may also discuss selected topics for the Advanced License examination. If you want to attend, please advise us by calling the DLARC telephone answering machine at **820-9110.**

de Chris, NU3L
for the Educational Committee

The Prez sez

by Tom, N3LLL

It is hard to believe it is December already, it seems like yesterday I was complaining about last years winter weather. I hope all of you will be sure and participate in the **Christmas City** especial event station this month it is a lot of fun. Hopefully our new license **WX3MAS** will be here.

I would like to thank George AA3JU for his year as program director. As much as I kidded George that he would only provide contest DX programs, his programs were diverse and interesting. While we are without a program director I encourage all of you to come forward with any Ideas you may have for a speaker.



One thought I have had is a mid-winter swap meet or auction, to give all of us hamfest addicts a fix before spring. Please give me your comments.

I hope all of you and your families have a happy holiday season.

Our Program for December will be presented by Joel / K9TBD. Joel will tell us everything we ever want to know about the fourth state, Plasma. It should be an interesting program.

Dues are due



FOR SALE
Complete Packet Station

PK-88 TNC for 2m and 440
Tandy 80286 Desktop Computer
40 meg Hard Drive
640k RAM SVGA Video Card
101-key Keyboard
3-Button LogiTech Mouse
14" SVGA Monitor Power Supply and all cables for TNC
6-channel 2-meter Crystallized Handheld Radio Pre-programmed for the Lehigh Valley
$375.00 O.B.O.

HF Radio

Galaxy V HF Transceiver (10-160m - 300 watts output)
External VFO for Working Split DX or Repeaters
External Power Supply
VOX Board Installed
Microphone
$150.00 O.B.O.
Contact me via Internet E-mail at 'n3lai@radix.net', or my Dad >by phone at 610-258-9689. All the stuff is at his house in Tatamy, so they >can plug things in to see if they work. I'd rather sell the stuff to new >hams or hams without a lot of money, especially the HF setup.

I 'm A New Member,

I see you at the meetings
But you never say, "Hello."
You're ^busy' all the time you're there
With those you already know
I sit amongst the people
And yet I 'm a lonesome one
The new fish are as strange as I.
You old members pass me by.
But, darn it, you guy's asked us in
And you talk of fellowship.
You could just step across the room
But you've never made the trip.
Why can't you nod and say hello
Or stop and shake my hand,
Then go and sit among your friends?
Now that I'd understand.
I'll be at your next meeting,
Perhaps a nicer time to spend.
Think you could introduce yourself?
I want to be a friend.

***reprinted from Key Klix** publication of the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club, Lou Dartanner, N6ZKJ, editor*

Dues are due

18-65 years old	**$17.00 Dues**
Under 18 yrs. or over 65 yrs.	**$12.00 Dues**
Additional family Member, ea	**$ 3.00**
Associate Membership	**$ 7.00**

If paying by check make the check out ot **DLARC**. If paying dues at the club meeting please put your check or cash in a envelope with your call sign on the envelope, thanks.

If mailing your dues mail dues to Club Treasurer

RICHARD A DECH / KA3MOU
120 MCILHANEY AVENUE
BATH PA 18014-1612

73, de Dick/KA3MOU

Contest calendar

by Barry, KU3X, Contest editor

Dec 1	QRP ARCI Holiday Sprint
	Homebrew CW Sprint, CW
Dec 6-8	ARRL 160 Meter Contest (CW)
Dec 7-8	TOPS Activity 3.5-Mhz CW Contest
Dec 7-9	Telephone Pioneer QSO Party
Dec 14-15	TARA RTTY Sprint
	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 16-17	Worldwide Nanal Contest
Dec 21-22	Croatian CW Cantest
Dec 28-29	W1BB Topband Distance Challenge
Dec 29	RAC Canada Winter Contest
Dec 31	ARRL Straight Key Night

Exchanges:

ARRL 160 Meter Contest = RST + ARRL Section
ARRL 10 Meter Contest = RS(T) + State,
DX Send RS(T) + Serial Number starting at 01

de Barry, KU3X



Just the Minutes

by John, N3IGA, Secretary

The November meeting of the DLARC was held in Kiva Hall. President Tom Frobase, N3LLL, called the meeting to order at 7:33pm. There were 70 members and guests present. Dick, KA3MOU, gave the Treasurer's Report with an ending balance, as of October 31, of $4029.43. Ed, W3APE, made the motion to accept the report with Barry, N3NVA, seconding.



October's meeting minutes were accepted as written in the newsletter with Clarence, W3PYF, making the motion and Amy, KD3TI, seconding

Tom, N3LLL, started the meeting telling the members and guests about the pictures that were up front of the club in the 50s and 60s.

Harry, W3TEB, was passing pictures around of the club's banquet. Tom said that we received a card from the Banquet Manager, thanking us and said that they enjoyed having us all.

It was announced that the club placed 7th, in our category, for Field Day. Another great job done to those that participated.

Chris, NU3L, gave a report on the Novice-Tech Class. He made the announcement that General Classes start around January 13. The classes will be held at the Greystone Building.

Tom, N3LLL, announced that Frank Johnston, KE3RR, daughter, Kimberly had died. The club had supplied Kimberly a short wave radio so that she could listen to her father and other hams. Kimberly , who was only 11, died of cancer.

Martin, N3RCA, still needs VEs for test sessions. If you are a VE, please let Martin know so that a schedule may be made up to divide up the work load among the VEs.

The Emmaus Halloween Parade went off with no problems. Everything went real smooth. The parade had been canceled for Saturday because of rain so it was held on the rain date which was Monday.

Ray, W3TDF, gave a little report on the PA QSO Party. As of a few days ago, the score was around 2.3 million. There are about 17 scores not reported. Ray thinks that with the scores from the 17 still missing, the club may come close to our record of 2.62 million. Ray also showed the new PA QSO Party patch and years hash mark patches. The patch says PA QSO Party Winner. Then under that patch will be small patches with the year on them that the club has won it. Ray even had one year patch with 1996 on it.

Tom, N3LLL, informed everybody present that he received a phone call from George, AA3JU. George has resigned as Program Chairman, because of his work load. If you know anybody who may be interested in becoming the Chairman or have ideas for programs, please contact one of the club officers.

Danny, W3ZF(formerly KA3AQV), is now in charge of loaning out club equipment. If you need to use any of the equipment, please contact Danny.

Joe, W3JD, informed everybody about the lending library the club has. Give Joe a call or see him after a club meeting on what books are available.

Ray, W3TDF, will be the Chairman of the Christmas City Special Event. The dates will be December 14 and 15. The times will be 9 to 9 local time. If you're interested in helping out this fun event contact Ray. Leave a message on W3PYF's BBS or give a Ray a phone call.

Tom gave a little information on the little LEO's. It seem that will probably not loose any of our frequencies like stated before.

Clarence, W3PYF, asked members present if having 2 nets a week is too much. It seems that the attendance for Sunday and Wednesday Nets have fallen off a lot. He said that some people check in once in 3 months and then get upset when their names is taken off the list.

Joe, W3JD, told us that the DLARC Web Page has been updated.

George, AA3JU, introduced the speakers for this evening who are Paul, W3HHC, Clarence, W3PYF, and Van, K3CP. Van, K3CP, made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded.

The speakers gave the members and guests that stayed an interesting view of what it was like before transistors. You heard how they made a lot of their own equipment and antennas. Comparing now to then, it was amazing how communications could be made with the equipment available then. Very interesting and informative.

de John, N3IGA.

New Media systems

Digital Update: PBS Ahead of the Curve

By Joe Chuk, W3JD

A recent column in this space considered the disagreement between broadcasters and the computer industry over the proposed standard for digital television. That disagreement continues, with FCC commissioner Susan Ness joining chairman Reed Hundt in calling for a compromise. Meanwhile, despite the absence of an official digital standard, the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) is moving ahead both to establish a Digital Television Strategic Planning Office and to outfit its broadcast center wit h digital equipment.

In seeking an agreement between the warring factions in the digital dispute, Ness is at odds with FCC commissioners James Quello and Rachelle Chong, who support the Grand Alliance standard as proposed. Unlike Hundt, however, who believes that market forces should determine the direction of the technology rather than the government, Ness would most likely be in favor of an FCC approval of the Grand Alliance standard if no compromise can be reached.

It comes as no surprise the PBS has chosen to move ahead with the new technology, since the network has a history of moving more quickly on technical issues than its commercial counterparts. While the commercial nets were still using terrestrial microwave and coaxial cable relays to link their affiliates, PBS introduced relays using geosynchronous satellites in 1978. PBS was also the first network to used closed captioning and a supplemental audio channel for the blind.

The digital television (DTV) planning office will help affiliates in their efforts to produce DTV-compatible programming and to integrate digital equipment into their stations. It will also act as a liaison between stations and the FCC to facilitate the filing process for a digital license.

Other services that PBS expects to offer through the office are determining the costs for digital equipment, negotiating discounts for products and services for member stations (a common strategy among public broadcasters), and acting a mediator between stations and groups such as the Grand Alliance, the HDTV Model Station (WETA) in Washington, D.C., and the Advanced Television Systems Committee.

The advantage of a central office is that PBS's 346 member stations will have a single source of information on everything related to digital television. Because the level of preparedness among these stations for digital operation covers a broad range, the DTV Strategic Planning Office will be exploring the possibilities of multiple stations sharing facilities and collaborating on digital projects.

Coinciding with its plans to aid the digital transition for its stations, PBS has completed a multimillion dollar digital upgrade at its Broadcast Operations Center in Alexandria, VA. Testing of the new equipment began on October 5, and the facility was opened to the press and the public on October 16. The operations center now has the ability to originate streams of digital programming to member stations. In the coming months, it will begin feeding programs in both high definition and digital composite/component formats. The network is still waiting for digital programming to become available.

Although the Grand Alliance standard has not been officially adopted, all of the new equipment installed by PBS is based on that technology. The attitude at the network is that PBS needs to be ready to put high definition programming on the air as soon as possible. If, for some reason, the Grand Alliance proposal is not accepted, the network is prepared to make whatever changes are necessary to comply with whatever standard emerges to take its place.

de Joe, W3JD

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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==1996-1997==

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All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. are held on the first Thursday of each month
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TALK IN ON 146.70
Any comments or articles contributed to
is newsletter should be addressed to *(csnyder@fast.net}* or Clarence Snyder, W3PYF
Editor..717 Porter Street, Easton, PA 18042-1548

visit our web page

http://www.kutztown.edu/faculty/chuk/dlarc/

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