Delaware - Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

W3OK Corral NEWSLETTER

December 1999

Club meeting Thursday December 2nd

1999 PA QSO Party

by Ray, W3TDF

According to the scores reported to **Barry,N3NVA,** and posted on the **DLARC Web Page,** we grossed almost 1.5 Million points. Whether that will be enough to recapture the State Trophy remains to be seen.



If we do make it we can all appreciate the efforts of **Bill,K3ANS** and his crew for the multi-multi score of **507K**, fully 1/3 of out total. Without it we wouldn't stand a chance, BUT, without all of the rest of our scores we wouldn't make it either with just the 507K as mentioned. All scores are important.

There were 30 or less club participants, which is less than half what we had when we made the spectacular score of 2.6 Mil and won the trophy for the first time way back in 1989. That 2.6+ score still stands as the record, and no other club has even come close to it. I enjoyed my trip to Warren Co. for the Party and the icing on the cake was the absolutely gorgeous fall foliage in Western PA, that Greta and I observed on the way home. Next year will probably be JUNIATA.

de Ray, W3TDF

Check Story on Christmas City station on Page 9 of this issue...Very important

DLARC Meeting December 2

The December meeting of the club will be held in **Room 191** at the Northampton County Community College. Let's make it a big turn out this time.

Amateur restructuring details possible by year's end

Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring--known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98-143)--for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long-awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the RO draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so.

During a recent a visit to top FCC officials in Washington, League officials pressed again for early action on the license restructuring rulemaking. They were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along.

There is no information on what the anticipated Report Order will contain.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. Once the FCC approves the Report Order, a Public Notice will be issued, and the actual R&O will be released probably within a few days.

via ARRL

Just the Minutes

by Jim, N3DFF, Secretary

The November 1999 meeting of the Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday the 4th in Kiva Hall with 47 people in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Don Reamer, KA3JWE.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved with a revision to the call of Cliff, formerly W4WN. The minutes reported his call as W3WN, Cliff has since received a new third district call, W3ZL. The motion to accept was made by WB3DNA and seconded by WD8SCX.

The Treasurer's report from Dick, KA3MOU, was approved on motion to accept by Dennis, KB3DFW and seconded by Clarence, W3PYF.

Barry, N3NVA reported that the repeaters are all working. He does not have any of the new voters in place, he is waiting to receive some of the hardware.

Barry has also asked the Board to invite a representative from the ARCC to attend a Board meeting to try to bring the various repeater changes to close. Don, KA3JWE will ask a representative to attend.

The new wiring for the Milk House was scheduled to be done on this past Monday. Barry was not able to visit prior to the meeting to verify it was finished. We should be able to hold the Christmas City Special Event station in the Milk House if the wiring is complete. The other changes such as shelves and desks are not needed to run the event, there are temporary desks available.

Chris, NU3L reported that the classes have 4 or 5 students. The classes should end in two weeks. He noted that the class shows enthusiasm for using CW.

The VE sessions are still in the Greystone building for now. There is no news or movement on acquiring a room that is handicapped accessible.

Al, WO4H reported no new members for this meeting and he doesn't have any applications in the pipeline.

We had three visitors to this meeting, Doug, N2RDF; Bob, N3SNZ; and Cliff, W3ZL.

Two awards were presented during the meeting, first a **Life Time Membership award to Charlie Adams, K3HKZ for his generous donation of repeater equipment, expertise, and time to the club.** The second to **Jim, N3DFF** for coordination of Field Day, 1999.

The next event for the club will be the Christmas City Special Event station. The dates are December 18 and 19 from 09:00 AM to 09:00 PM each day. The chairman is John, WD8SCX.

Old Business:

The PA QSO Party scores for DLARC currently stand at 1.46 million. Ray, W3TDF expects the final score to be between 1.5 and 2.0 million. Barry, N3NVA commended Bill, K3ANS for his outstanding effort and contributing his score to the club. Helping Bill out at his station were N3VJA, KC3WX, and DL1IAO (a friend of Bill's visiting from Germany). Ray, W3TDF was also commended for his efforts in compiling and checking the scores for DLARC and for sending them to the Nittany club.

New Business:

Carl, AA3IX will again chair the HamFest for next year. He has asked for someone to be an assistant, Carl will be away on the day of the HamFest and needs someone to run it. Anyone interested should get in contact with either Carl or **Don, KA3JWE.**

Norm, K3NZ, commented that the Fire Company at first wanted to charge extra for the use of the kitchen during the HamFest, but finally decided against it. If this had happened, the HamFest would not have generated as much income as it did. Norm printed tickets for the Schnecksville Fire House's raffle and added "courtesy of DLARC".

Mark, K3MP was thanked for running the kitchen for the HamFest. The kitchen provided $211.89 of the income from the HamFest.

Don, KA3JWE asked for a show of hands of those that want to continue to have programs following the business meeting. The majority voted to continue. He then asked for a volunteer to coordinate the programs as he feels this is not a function of the Board. The Board has provided the program for the past two years. **Rich, KB3DEC** has volunteered for this position. Anyone with suggestions for programs or a desire to put on a program should call Rich.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Barry, N3NVA and seconded by Mark, K3MP. The business meeting ended at 08:10 PM.

The program this evening was presented by **Keith Sproul, WU2Z**. Keith's visit was sponsored by **John, WX3C**. You may remember Keith from his previous presentation on APRS. He is now writing APRN, Automatic Picture Relay Network,for use with VHF SSTV equipment such as the Kenwood VC-H1, a portable SSTV station, to allow the units to transmit a picture to a server for storage and later retrieval. Several members of the club see a large potential for this application for the Ham community and for commercial applications. Keith suggested a significant use would be for Emergency Management services to be able to show real time pictures from a disaster scene.

For more information on **APRN** see Keith's web page at **aprn.rutgers.edu.**

de Jim, N3DFF.

DLARC Help in Halloween Parage

by Bob KE3AW



DLARC provided radio communication at the Emmaus Halloween Parade again this year, on Saturday evening, October 16. Even with very mild temperatures bringing out exceptionally large crowds of onlookers, the parade audience along the 2.5 mile route was very orderly. Perhaps this was due, in part, to the obvious presence of the numerous amateur radio operators interspersed in the parade. We were ready to report and thereby prevent any small problems from growing, and kept parade officials apprised of the parade's progress and needs along the route.

The following amateur radio operators helped in this year's parade: shadowing the Parade Marshall, **Bob/N3QQ;** in the parade, **Glenn/N3ULW & Jill/N3ZSR**, **Mark/WA3KIF**, **Ray/W3TDF** (with his funny looking tie) and XYL, **Bill/N2DH & Thalia KB3CSR, Jeff/N3QZT, Paul/N3UGH, Mitch/WA1LLD** and XYL, **Rich/KB3DEC** and YL, **Dick/KA3MOU** and XYL, **Malcolm/N3XRL** and friends, **Dave/N3YET** and XYL, **Joe/KE3DZ,** XYL and children, **John/WX3C**, and **Bob/KE3AW** and XYL.

On standby were: **Dennis/KB3DFW, David/KB3DJX, Dan/W3ZF, and Jim/KN3DZY.**

Monitoring our operation from home, just in case additional assistance would have been needed, were **Bruce/KA3ONZ** and **Barry/N3NVA** (who also told us when to smile and wave to the camera as he viewed the live telecasting!). Service Electric Cable TV covered the event, and recognized DLARC efforts a number of times during the parade.

After the parade we enjoyed our traditional "Meeting B" at Perkin's Restaurant.

On behalf of DLARC we also acknowledged the monetary contribution made to the club by the Emmaus Halloween Committee, an indication of their appreciation of our service.

A big thanks to all operators who offered their time and communication expertise and had a fun time doing it. We look forward to next year's parade with the same enthusiasm.

de Bob, KE3AW

County Emergency Drill

On Saturday, 09 Oct., Northampton County staged a disaster drill at the electrical generating station in Northampton Boro. State, County and local Emergency Management agencies use these drills to evaluate and train emergency responders to handle large-scale emergencies, like a commercial plane crash or an industrial accident. Because ham radio is an essential part of the response to a major disaster, DLARC was also invited to participate.

We started early, arriving at the site and County 911 center a little after 8:00 AM. Nick Tylenda, Northampton County Emergency Management Coordinator, gave us our instructions. Hams were assigned to several vital locations, and accompanying key officials. Our messages were to be assigned one of 3 priority levels- Green for disaster-related traffic, Yellow for 911 center messages to the disaster area and a code Red, to be used to indicate real, not simulated emergency traffic.

This exercise involved a fire and explosion in one of the buildings with heavy smoke and missing and trapped workers. Hams were involved in keeping track of emergency equipment on scene, relaying requests for more assistance and helping track the search and rescue phase of the emergency. County EMA also added the challenge of severe thunderstorms and several tornadoes causing heavy damage throughout other parts of Northampton County.

A special thanks to all those who helped out, and those who answered the call that was put out for extra help: **W3JD, N3QZT, KA3ONZ, KB3DEC, N2DH, N2MWQ, N3QZR, KB3CSS, W3PYF, KB3DNA, W3EUD, N3MAV, N3NVA, N3FSR, KN3DZY, N3MFS, W3PYF and KD3TI.**

Drills like this are important to the DLARC and the individuals who participate. Hams that help out with drills and public service activities get a chance to sharpen their communication skills and learn more about how their equipment works. They are also excellent opportunities for us to demonstrate how effective amateur radio can be in a real emergency. I strongly encourage everyone to participate in at least one of these drills or public service events every year. We're always looking for more volunteers!

de Amy, KD3TI

Hams have a unique chance to be healthier than nonhams. Here's why.

Supplied by Bill, W2DH

Psychiatrists now believe that to be healthy mentally and physically we need to be "connected" emotionally with other people, concepts, and places in our lives. We have a tendency to do business through e-mail, letters, and other "non-connected" means of communication.

Interpersonal relationships at work tend to be "glancing," or quick, shallow connections with very little personal meaning. Connection is sharing thoughts and feelings on a personal level, and building deep relationships and a sense of belonging. Hams are in a unique position to be some of the most connected people in the world. We have the ARRL and local clubs to belong to. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other community service activities, hamfests, breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and many other opportunities also can help to build lasting interpersonal connections. Amateur Radio community service is a great way to build quality connections and a sense of accomplishment at helping people as well.

Hams involved in ARES and RACES groups will have similar interests to yours, and many lasting friendships can be made. A sense of personal satisfaction that comes from helping others strengthens connections as well. Clubs offer a variety of ways to build connections.

Board membership, technical help with repeaters and other equipment, helping at hamfests, writing the club's news letter, or serving as the membership officer, are ways to build connections with other club members with similar interests. DX contacts also offer a good way to learn more about other people as well as to build connections. Low-band late night DX is less hectic than the "5/9 QRZ" 20-meter daytime activity. Many DX stations are willing to share information on their homeland. They are eager to learn about the US from a real citizen rather than the processed news service information. I've spent from 20 minutes to an hour on 40 meters chatting with DX stations at three and four o'clock in the morning. A round table discussion of five or more hams often develops. I've gained some insight into how other people view us, and a more rounded world perspective. Daytime DX on the WARC bands can be more casual if you're lucky enough to be among the first contacts. Many stations will spend a few minutes talking about their QTH or country before the pile-up builds. Schedules can often be made for more extended conversations. Stalling a pile-up to chat is inconsiderate and frustrating for those waiting and for the DX station.

But the next time when you hear a foreign station calling CQ when the band is quiet, spend a minute getting aquatinted. You'll be an ambassador of international good will, and may build lasting friendships that will help you become healthier.

Editor's note: *Romie Miller, KG0ER, of Aurora, Colorado, is a frequent contributor to The ARRLWeb Extra. First licensed in 1989, he enjoys working DX and has 135 countries confirmed from his mobile setup. He also visits the County Hunters Net when he's on the road. His other hobbies include working repeaters (HF and VHF/UHF), and cowboy action shooting. He's currently working on a book about juvenile drug abuse prevention plus a novel.*

He may be contacted at kg0er2@mhomail.com. He invites visits to his Web site, the Parents' Drug Abuse Resource Guide, and the Castle Rock Repeater Group club Web site.

November VE results

by Stephanie KB3DNA

The November VE testing session was held on Friday, November 5th at the Greystone Building.

4 of 10 elements administered were passed, with **JAMES LOEFFLER** earning his Tech Plus license.

Our Novice/Tech classes are paying off, with James earning his license, and 1 other student passing an element as well. Thanks to this month's VE's:

Danny, W3ZF (lead)

Bill, NC3P

Cary, K2YIY

The next session is currently scheduled for Friday, December 3rd at 8 p.m. We will still be at the Greystone building for that session, but we may be moving in January. Keep your eye on the club's web page, as well as the ARRL web page for further details.

Any VE's wishing to volunteer for the December session should contact me in advance at **stephc64@juno.com**.

de Stephanie, KB3DNA

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

Balance		**$4,517.17**
INCOME		
Donation Income Fifty Fifty 11/4/99	26.00	
Dues Arrl	54.00	
Gift Received Emmaus Halloween Parade	100.00	
Income Novice Books Sold	48.00	

TOTAL INCOME	**228.00**	
EXPENSES		
Hamfest Raffle Tickets	40.00	
Newsletters for November	100.00	
Postage	116.53	
Telephone	38.91	

TOTAL EXPENSES	**295.44**	
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES		**-67.44**
Balance 10/31/99		**$4,449.73**

Total Membership 319 as of 11/4/99
de Dick, KA3MOU, Treasurer

Dues coming up!

by Dick, KA3MOU, treasurer

If your DUES are not paid by FEBRUARY 4, 2000 membership will be terminated. Reinstatement to membership by the MARCH meeting will be accepted without penalty.

Thereafter, Reinstatement application shall be the same as for a new member.

Dues Reminder for 2000 Dues are due check youre mailing label. If the label is EXP. 12/31/99 your dues are PAST DUE. Here is the dues amount and how to pay your 1999 dues.

Membership

18-65 years of age Jan.- Dec. $17.00
July- Dec. $8.50

Under 18 years, 65 years or Retired (no age limit).
Jan. - Dec. $12.00
July - Dec. $6.00

Additional family Member, each $3.00
Associate Membership $ $7.00

If paying your dues at a meeting. Use an envelope with your call on the outside of the envelope. If paying dues by check make the check out to DLARC. If you mail your dues, mail the dues to:

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

Any questions about dues you can call Dick / KA3MOU at 610 837-1585.

de Dick Treasurer of DLARC W3OK

Here is a list of E-Mail address up date for November.

DLARC E-Mail Address Update:
Mike K3NWM mrmiked@enter.net
Glenn K3MGP rockyflo@webtv.net
Bill W3FYK w3fyk@juno.com

You can go to the **DLARC** home page and get the complete e-mail list. The Clubs home page address is on the back of the newsletter. If you change your e-mail address send the new e-mail address to

Dick/KA3MOU ka3mou@enter.net

Looking for:

Rick (N3XR) is looking for a Hustler resonator for **40 meters.** I you have one contact him, Rick @ his home QTH. It is our directory

NASA issues ISS launch update

via The Hudson Loop

NASA now confirms that the space shuttle that will carry the initial amateur radio gear into space for the International Space Station will launch no earlier than February 10. The flight will be aboard shuttle Atlantis, on mission STS-101, and will carry only the ham transceivers, not any external amateur radio antenna setup.

The good news is that the ARISS team reports a suitable commercial external antenna on the service module will be made available so that the crew can start using the ISS ham setup immediately on 2-meters. It is important to note the arrival and installation of the external ham antenna modules is still a high NASA/ARISS priority

The flight transporting the VHF and UHF handheld transceivers and associated antennas and accessories to the ISS had been scheduled to launch in December of this year. NASA imposed a shuttle launch hiatus to perform electrical inspections of the entire shuttle fleet, however, disrupting the launch schedule. The inspections came in the wake of problems during the July launch of the shuttle Columbia, when astronauts and ground controllers struggled with power failures in computers controlling two of the orbiter's three main engines.

NASA and Russian space agency officials also have agreed to delay the Launch of the Zvezda service module that will house the amateur gear.

Visit **http://garc.gsfc.nasa.gov/~ariss/ariss.html** for more information on the ARISS project. --

AMSAT News Service/This Week in Amateur Radio

HF Amateur Bands Just Became Shared With High Speed Data Services

Supplied by Jim, KB3BYU

by Ed Mitchell, KF7VY

http://hamradio-online.com

Ham Radio Online was the first to document the interference problems with the new "Home Phone Networking" technology. Home Phone Networking, also known as HomePNA (from the industry group that is developing standards Home Phone Networking Association), modulates computer data signals over existing home telephone wiring. Using existing HomePNA technology, you can create a 1 Mbps computer network inside your home using your existing telephone wiring. The 1 Mbps technology works by modulating data signals at 5.5 to 9.5 Mhz - and is literally transmitting an HF radio signal, using the phone wires as a transmission line. Those of us who have experimented with HomePNA technology have found that it is capable of generating significant HF radio interference, and is also highly susceptible to nearby, low power Amateur radio transmissions.

In an only a few months time, the HomePNA technology has exploded onto the home networking scene. Market researchers believe that HomePNA will rapidly reach 50 to 70% marketshare. Depending upon the demographics of where you live, you may soon find yourself competing with a home phone line network for access to 40 meters.

During the summer, the HomePNA announced they had agreed on a preliminary draft of a new 10 Mbps home phone line network technology. Diamond Multimedia has jumped the gun in advance of the final specification, and is now shipping the 10 Mbps technology. Because details of the 10 Mbps technology are not yet public, we do not know which HF frequencies are used by the new technology. Indications are that the new 10 Mbps systems are based on VDSL. There are plans to eventually increase the HomePNA network technology to speeds of 30 Mbps or faster by using the entire HF radio spectrum up to 30 Mhz.

VDSL is another of the **"DSL"** technologies that telephone companies are using to deliver high speed data services over existing copper phone lines. You may already have heard of **"ADSL",** which is the type of DSL presently being deployed by phone companies for fast Internet service. VDSL can provide up to 52 Mbps transmission speeds, and operates by modulating its signals over the entire HF radio spectrum.

The VDSL proponents are well aware that VDSL generates significant amounts of HF radio interference, and that it is also susceptible to outside RF interference. The basic VDSL technology puts a signal onto unshielded copper phone lines running down your street, at a level of -60 dBm/Hz. Because they are aware that this level will cause interference to HF Amateur radio operation (an open admission that VDSL destroys HF radio), they have placed in the specification for VDSL, the option for service providers to add 20 db of attenuation in the HF Amateur band allocations. This places the signal level, within the Amateur bands at -80 dBm/Hz. However, they are knowingly planning to do nothing about the rest of the HF spectrum, causing severe noise problems for short-wave listeners. If widely deployed, VDSL will mark the end of shortwave broadcasting and listening here in the U.S.

If, and it's a big IF, a service provider elects to implement the optional -80 dBm/Hz signaling in the Amateur bands, this, in theory, reduces the noise to a level where it will almost fade into the noise level at 35 feet from a phone line carrying the VDSL signal. In theory. The tests that were conducted used a perfectly balanced short phone line segment (see research papers at the VDSL forum at http://www.vdsl.org) and matching baluns on the 20 meter dipole used for the tests. In real life, once the VDSL signal leaves the pole and traverse into your house, the quality of the wire installation is a random unknown. Based on experience with HomePNA 1.0 phone line networks, and their problems on real-life residential in-home phone wiring, it is highly likely that VDSL signaling will emit far more noise than laboratory tests suggest.

Deployments of VDSL

Phone companies are anxious to finalize and deploy VDSL since it would enable them to compete equally with cable TV systems. I won't go through all the technical details, but it would enable them to deliver digital video signals to the home. Currently, cable TV systems are making rapid plans to add phone service to their cable TV systems. So you can see, phone companies have significant incentives to get VDSL working soon. In some locations across the U.S., local telephone companies are now selling and providing VDSL services.

Watch for the "DSL" technologies to be pushed aggressively over the next few years. The phone companies' futures are riding on their ability to make these technologies work.

HF Radio Just Became a Shared Band

Home phone line networking and VDSL technology are significantly different than other forms of HF noise. This is not pulse type power line noise that can be eliminated with a noise blanker. The interference is caused by the simple fact that these new technologies are true HF radio transmitters and receivers. In effect, the Amateur allocations (and all of HF) have just become a shared allocation. HF Amateur radio will now share its HF bands with your neighbor's high speed internet access and home computer network. Amateur transmissions will also pose a challenge as they will have the potential for disrupting these HF-based signaling systems.

This is a critical issue to which most Amateurs have not given any thought. Perhaps it won't matter. As noted in a previous column, the Amateur service just became a VHF/UHF centric radio service anyway, and HF radio operation amongst U.S. Amateurs is declining.

But its important for all of you to realize what is going on here - HF radio won't be the same ever again. The noise level at HF will increase dramatically. If you are lucky, aybe your neighbors won't use these new technologies for a few years yet. But when the FCC is faced with the choice of preserving narrow segments of HF for Amateur telegraphic operations, versus providing high speed Internet services to homes, their decision will be easy. Don't look for salvation in regulations.

Some of us are frustrated by all this, and I don't mean by the new technologies that will pollute HF. Our frustration is from the apparent lack of interest by the Amateur community. As a result, HF radio use by any suburban or urban dweller really is dying..



Start the new millennium right

Classes for General Class License Begin in January

de Bob KE3AW

Our Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club series of 6 Monday night classes to help licensed amateur radio operators pass the **General Class license** test will begin on **January 10, 2000 at 7:00 pm** at the Greystone Building, Gracedale.



There is no cost to participants and participants need not be DLARC members. We will be using ARRL publications. Participants are expected to supply their own study guides. The only other requirement is that you bring your interest and enthusiasm toward reaching the General Ticket, the license that will permit you use greatly increased HF band privileges!

Interested hams should call **(610) 432-8286** or e-mail me **ke3aw@juno.com** prior to the start of classes so that we have an idea of the number who will be attending..

de Bob, KE3AW

Missippi Ham awaits court decision in RFI case

A Mississippi ham arrested for interfering with his neighbors' telephones is awaiting a decision on his request to throw out the complaint on the grounds that the state court has no jurisdiction in the matter. ARRL member Bennie Stewart, KJ6TY, of Meridian, was arrested and charged September 10 after a neighbor filed a complaint with the Lauderdale County Justice Court.

Stewart, a ham for 12 years, appeared in court October 26. He says his attorney, Felecia Perkins, filed a request to dismiss the complaint, brought under a Mississippi law that makes it illegal to "intentionally obstruct, injure, break or destroy, or in any manner interrupt any telegraph or telephone line or communication thereon between any two points." Stewart maintains that only the FCC has jurisdiction, and his station is operating properly.

The ARRL has provided legal defense assistance to Stewart's attorney. The case has been continued while the court mulls its decision. If convicted, Stewart faces a fine of up to $500, six months in jail, or both.

"It should have never gotten to this point in the first place," Stewart said, adding that he's tried to work with his neighbors regarding telephone interference ever since the first complaints arose three or four years ago. "I put myself on a schedule," he said, explaining that he operates on 40, 20, and 10 meters only on weekday mornings. He says he never operates on weekends, only runs 100 W, and no longer owns a linear amplifier.

"The problem is not here," he says of his station.

A retired professional photographer, the 60-year-old Stewart is confined to a wheelchair. He described his arrest--which he says took place in front of his three-year-old granddaughter--as "humiliating."

Stewart says he expects the court to rule on the case very soon. ***via ARRL letter***

FCC logs Vanity Headway

There's additional progress to report on the vanity call sign front. The FCC reported November 5 that it had processed vanity call sign applications received through September 7.

"Slowly but surely," says the ULS Task Force.

It appears from FCC records that 1528 vanity applications were filed between August 16--the first day of Universal Licensing System Amateur Service deployment--and October 29. The FCC granted 524 vanity call signs since it resumed vanity processing in mid-September.

The FCC also says it's eyeing possible improvements to the Universal Licensing System. The ULS Task Force says it agrees that Microsoft Internet Explorer must be fully supported by the ULS, and the system will be modified to support it in early 2000. Right now, the ULS supports only the latest versions of Netscape.

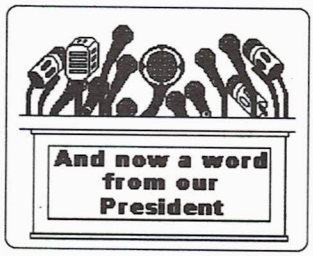
The FCC has given the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau authority to make ULS electronic filing available via the Internet provided "security concerns can be overcome." While no formal determination has been made to go with Internet or Web access instead of a dial-up connection, the WTB reportedly is taking steps to make online filing available and could do so as early as the first quarter of next year.

The ULS Task Force also says it's looking into more beta testing of ULS software prior to public release.--FCC ***via ARRL Letter***

The Prez Sez

by Don, KA3JWE, President

After reading my own column last month I realized that after editing and moving some text around, I forgot to put back in the paragraph welcoming our new **Vice President Amy Zimmerman, KD3TI.** (Sorry about that.) I am glad that she decided to accept the nomination and I know that she will be an integral part of the team.



HEY! DID YOU SEE WHAT WAS ON TELEVISION ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH?

If you can answer that question then **SHAME ON YOU!** What were you doing watching TV when you should have been at the **D.L.A.R.C.** meeting. Not only did you miss out on participation in **YOUR** club, but you also missed a really neat program on a brand new system (still in development but soon to be available) for sending pictures via ham radio. Despite what some people say, amateur radio is still pushing the limits of technology. It's still nice to be able to say: "That was pioneered by amateur radio operators".

Speaking of the programs that we have after the conclusion of each regular meeting, **Rich, KB3DEC**, has volunteered his services to coordinate them. If you have any ideas for program topics or if you know of a speaker that you could ask to put on a presentation for the club, please contact Rich. The more that you, the membership, does to help out, the easier Rich's job will be. Thanks again, Rich.

Don't forget the **Christmas City Special Event Station** operation. This year it is being organized by **John,WD8SCX**. It's always a lot of fun, so contact John for time slot availability and details.

Have a great holiday season!

de Don,KA3JWE

New Club Chairman for programs

Having volunteered for the position as events coordinator, perhaps it would be good to formulate something to print in the newsletter, perhaps stating that I could use any and all ideas relating to the topic.

*b277W Perhaps the best way would be to send information to my email address? If not, maybe also on two meters, but probably the email is better. Never having done anything like this before, I can use all the help I can get. If sending ideas for after business meetings, you can use this email address: **Richthere@aol.com**

Thanks, KB3DEC Rich

CQ Magazine to absorb CQ VHF

via The Hudson Loop

CQ Publisher Richard Ross, K2MGA, has announced that CQ VHF magazine will be merged into an expanded CQ magazine. The merger takes effect with the January issue.

Factors in the decision included the fact that survey results show a majority of CQ VHF readers are also active on HF; the inclusion of one or more VHF/UHF bands in many new HF radios; and the forthcoming FCC restructuring decision that is widely expected to make broad HF privileges more easily accessible to current Technician and Tech-Plus Class hams.

The reader survey, conducted in the August, 1999 issue of CQ VHF, revealed that 62% of CQ VHF readers have at least some HF operating privileges, and that of that group, more than twothirds (69%) are active on both HF and VHF. In addition, 46% said HF operating is an important part of their operating.

CQ VHF editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, who was recently named editor of the parent CQ magazine says that, "The line between HF and VHF has been forever blurred, if not erased. Clearly, the time for a separate VHF magazine is past. VHF has become firmly established in the mainstream of ham radio."

Starting with the January, 2000 issue, CQ will be expanded by 32 pages to accommodate increased VHF coverage, including features and some columns from CQ VHF. Current subscribers to CQ VHF will have their subscriptions transferred to CQ, while those who subscribe to both magazines will have their CQ subscription terms extended by the number of issues remaining on their CQ VHF subscriptions.

– CQ Communications/This Week in Amateur Radio via the Hudson Loop

Murphy's Laws.....

supplied by Jeff, KB3EVB

*As soon as you delete a worthless file, you'll need it.

*Installing a new program will always screw up at least one old one.



*The computer will work perfectly at the repair shop.

*The first place to look for a lost file is the last place you would expect to find it.

*Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

*Important letters that contain no errors will develop errors on the way to the printer.

*Regardless of the program, you won't have enough hard disk space to install it.

*The easier it is to get into a program, the harder it will be to get out.

*Every machine will eventually fall apart.

*In a computer manual, any simple idea will be worded in the most complicated way.

*If you hit two keys on the keyboard simultaneously, the one that you don't want will appear on the screen.

*The probability of anything going wrong is in inverse proportion to its desirability.

*No matter how long you shop for an item, after you've bought it, it will be on sale cheaper the next day.

*The computer only crashes when printing a document you haven't saved.

*If you make a copy of your system configuration nine out of ten times, the tenth time is the only time you'll need it.

*The more pounds the package weighs, the harder it will be to find the installation instructions.

*The need for space on a disk will always exceed the available space by ten percent.

*The likelihood of a hard disk crash is in direct proportion to the value of the material that hasn't been backed up. *There are only two kinds of computer users: Those whose hard disks have crashed, and those whose hard disks haven't crashed - yet.

*Before you do something, you have to do something else first.

*Anything can be made to work if you fiddle with it. If you fiddle with something long enough, you'll break it.

*If at first you don't succeed, try again. Then quit. No use being a fool about it.

*You can't win them all, but you sure can lose them all.

*Don't let any mechanical device know that you're in a hurry.

*If it's worth doing, it's worth hiring someone who knows how to do it.

*The one piece of data you're absolutely sure is correct, isn't.

*Never put off till tomorrow what you can avoid altogether.

*The writer will find the typos after the letter is mailed.

Christmas City Special event station

by Bob, KE3AW

On Saturday and Sunday **(December 18 and 19, 1999)** DLARC will operate the annual **CHRISTMAS CITY SPECIAL EVENT STATION.**

Our Christmas City Amateur Radio Club (all DLARC MEMBERS ARE CCARC MEMBERS) will operate **WX3MAS** from **9 am - 9 PM (local times) on Saturday and Sunday** to wish stations contacting us a Merry Christmas from the Christmas Cities of Nazareth and Bethlehem



This is also an event in which ANY and ALL DLARC MEMBERS are eligible to operate on HF, no matter what license class is held. We plan to have Control Operators available to allow all members to operate legally.

John/WD8SCX is developing a roster, so that everyone who wants to can operate (or log) for an extended period of time (i.e., an hour or two). Call John/WD8SCX at (610) 262-3785, contact him on the repeater, or see him at the December DLARC meeting to be added with a specific time(s) you want to operate. Otherwise, you are invited to "just stop by" and have some coffee, and goodies, etc., anytime, and offer to relieve the op or logger for a few minutes. Happy Holidays!

de Bob, KE3AW

Listen for N3QQ, Bob Kratz daily on Radio Station WEST in Easton, 1400 on your dial for a great fun show, weekdays from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

A lot of fun and good humor from Bob & Company.

All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to
Participate to the DLARC, RACES & ARES nets on
146.70 and 443.90 W3OK/RPT (pl 151.4) 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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==1999-2000==

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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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