



DELARA



Delaware Amateur Radio Association Newsletter

November 2010

Volume 29, Number 11

DELARA Meetings

- 3rd Wednesday of every month
- Tri-Twp. Fire Dept.
- 7:30 PM

DELARA On the Air

- Monday evening net
- 145.17 repeater
- 8 PM Call K8ES
- Volunteer for Net Control!

DELARA Officers

- President: Tim Trombley K8TAT
- Vice President: Joe Papworth K8MP
- Sec/Treas: Ken Bird W8SMK

In This Issue

- Officer Nominations?

The Calendar

- Nov 17 DELARA
- Dec 9 ARES

This Month's Meeting:



Our members are very diverse and expert in many different areas. It makes you proud to be associated with the club. Our November meeting will feature Dave, WB2CWJ, and his project – volunteering to restore the last production B-17 Bomber, Champaign Lady, right in our own backyard at Urbana, Ohio. Even today with the stratosphere filled with jumbo jet commercial air busses, the sound of one of these B-17's flying overhead will stop you in your tracks and bring people out of their houses to see. And of nearly 13,000 produced now only 14 are still airworthy. One more is coming:



DELARA - - Number 5 in Class, Number 1 in Ohio 4A

Here it is! Fresh off the ARRL.net website- DELARA scored 5th overall out of 155 entries in class 4A. We were first in the Ohio Section in that class! Congrats to Field Marshall Larry, N9AUG, and to all who participated in this fun event! Here are the top ten box scores:

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	K4BFT	17,140	4A	5,506	2	K4PMW	AL	39	Huntsville ARC
2	K7UM	15,154	4A	4,739	2	KE7VHF	UT	37	Utah DX Assn
3	W6ARA	13,570	4A	4,114	2	W6OTX	SCV	108	Palo Alto ARA
4	NG5A	11,874	4A	2,980	2	AD5NR	NTX	47	Boars RC
5	K8ES	11,610	4A	3,439	2	W8JK	OH	48	Delaware ARA
6	N2OB	11,122	4A	3,288	2	N2CW	SNJ	25	Old Barney ARC
7	K4XY	10,358	4A	3,075	2	K4HTA	VA	127	Vienna Wireless Society
8	K6AA	8,872	4A	2,782	2	W6ADC	LAX	32	United Radio Amateur Club
9	K5MDX	8,636	4A	2,423	2	N5OS	MS	119	Jackson Cty ARA & Magnolia DX Assn
10	N2SF	8,626	4A	2,454	2	KD2SQ	ENY	35	Westchester Em Comm Assn



Howdy from Joe's Place...

"Don't blink, you'll miss it"

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will just about be here and Christmas will be right around the corner. Where did the year go?

Or should I say where did the **years** go? Next month, Linda and I will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary. It doesn't seem possible that forty years could pass in what seems like the blink of an eye. If we didn't have calendars to track the years, I would not believe it has been that long.

Just how long is forty years, really? Well, forty years before Linda and I were married The Great Depression had just begun. To many in my generation, that period seems like ancient history. Forty years before that our great-grand parents were starting to enjoy the "Gay '90's". Go back another forty years and The Civil War was ten years *in the future*. Forty years before that James Madison, one of the signers of the U.S. Constitution, was our country's fourth President. So far that's a mere five "blinks." Blink again and it's 1770. That's six years before the signing of The Declaration of Independence and nineteen years before George Washington took office as our first President.

I think you see where I'm going with this. What seems so long ago isn't really that long ago. I wish I had thought about these things when I was learning history in school.

Perhaps I would not have asked Mr. Hansinger, my eleventh grade American history teacher, why I need to know this stuff and how knowing it is going to help me in the future.

The good news is that I finally did learn to appreciate history and the people who made it. That's right. *People* make history. That's you and I. And we don't have to do something super noteworthy for our lives to make a difference.

Our actions today will have an impact on the lives of our yet unborn great-grand children and their descendants.

Remember "Show-and-tell-time" when you were in elementary school? What fun it was to bring in that new toy or gadget and tell the class about it. Why not keep doing that? You're never too old to teach and show something to someone else. Our DELARA meeting programs are like show-and-tell time all over again. I not only learn something about the topic, I learn something about the person presenting it.

Side-note to the kids:

We were allowed to bring in just about anything we wanted to show off. Even something like a new pocket knife was allowed. See how things can change in just one "blink"?

Well, that's it for this month. I hope you and yours have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. Most of you will be with family and/or friends. Make it an occasion they'll remember.

And try not to blink...

20 / 10 Years Ago in DELARA

November, 1990: [File unreadable] so in November of 1989: The 1989 Field Day showed DELARA finishing 13th of 532 Class 2A entries. The new Ohio Headphone Law (can't cover both ears) was printed.

November, 2000: DELARA finished third in North America in class 4A, first in Ohio. Mrs. Prez took over Bob Brown's column to explain why she finally allowed a tower in "her garden." Ben, N8TPV, had a nice summary of his trip to Prague.

For Sale / Trade

Stepping up to QRO? I have a good condition Heath 2040 antenna tuner that I would like to trade for a 100-watt auto tuner primarily for an Icom 706. The Heath tuner is a tank well capable of legal limit. This one is good but not collector quality. I bought it then found a matching tuner for my FT-102, so haven't used it. - Stan, N8BHL

Operating events

- **ARRL Sweepstakes CW**
2100z 11/6 - 0300z 11/8
- **Kentucky QSO Party**
1400z 11/13 - 0200z 11/14
- **CQ-WE Contests**
Varies 11/13 - 11/15
- **ARRL Sweepstakes SSB**
2100z 11/20 - 0300z 11/22
- **CQ WW CW**
0000z 11/27 - 2400z 11/28
- **ARRL 160 Meter Contest**
2200z 12/3 - 1600z 12/5
- **ARRL 10 Meter Contest**
0000z 12/11 - 2400z 12/12

Contribute!

We need your articles, comments and ads!

Newsletter@k8es.org

Contact Us

clubinfo@k8es.org

elmer@k8es.org

<http://www.k8es.org>



Good evening to all. I hope you all enjoy this edition of the DELARA news.

November is now here and we will all be filling up on turkey and enjoying the company of friends and family in just a couple of weeks.

For the first order of business this month at the DELARA meeting we need to vote in some new officers and give the ones that have been in office for the past 2 years a break. So stand up and throw your nomination in! It only takes about an hour or 2 of your time a month, "wink, wink ..."

Here are the members that hold the current offices:

President: Tim Trombley - K8TAT
Vice-President: Joe Papworth - K8MP
Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bird - W8SMK

Elections will be held at the meeting this month. If you would like to nominate any members or yourself for an office, stand up and be heard! Please be prepared to do so before we vote.

Next up, I have sent confirmation to the folks at the Tri-Township Fire Department to reserve the meeting room for next year. That way we'll have a place to have our meetings again for next year. We also give a donation to the Fire Department each year. We have done things from a simple cash donation to even donating a new marker board and supplies. Please think about what we could do this year. This will be another item of business/discussion for the meeting.

Also as the year comes to a close, it is time to talk about the DELARA website renewal. That's right, it has been a year since we last renewed our service with our current hosting provider. We will decide if we would like to stay with the same provider or change providers. We will discuss this at the meeting this month so we do not have any downtime in our service.

Next on the table for this month is the annual Holiday Party. W8CQT, Jim and wife Carol have volunteered again this year to host the holiday party on Jan 8, 2011. For the new members that are reading this, this is a FAMILY event where members are welcome to bring along their spouse/significant other and children to share in a nice meal with the group and enjoy each other's company. It is quite common for the kids to play games together and there is always plenty of food to go around.

Well, that is about all I have for you this month. I hope to see all of you at the meeting.

73, Tim - K8TAT

QRZ DX? The DX Code ...and other mutterings

This year's CQWW SSB contest was for many a heavily competitive event. For me, it was a chance to make some new countries and have fun. I was able to manage 100 countries in one weekend. I was also *very* confused. When I switched on the rig, I heard a booming signal something like "Four Bravo One Delta!" Oh, man. Let's see, I remember 4X4 is Israel, so this oughta be some real gem over in the Middle East. I type the Callsign into my trusty N1MM screen, and the location might come up, "Canada." Huh?? At some point the worldwide ham community has completely lost control. I must not be on the air enough to keep up- but do any of you find this terribly confusing? Why does everybody have to sound like some rare DX? And what happened to the concept of knowing a country by the prefix? I thought W-K-N-and A were good ol' USA but I swear I worked something like an AM3XX and he turned out to be in Europe or UK somewhere. What the?? It may make for colorful QSL cards, but as far as I'm concerned it makes for very confusing operation.

Now the other problem with working DX: Rude operators. Plop a radio on a wave-battered reef somewhere, and the rest of the Amateur Radio world proves how rude and ruthless it can be. We've been whining about poor pileup-manship for years. But here comes someone who is actually trying to do something about it! Randy Johnson, W6SJ, wrote an article in the February edition of QST (<http://www.dx-code.org/op-ed.pdf>) lamenting the operating practices of hams as we all step on each other to make the rare dx contact. After some encouragement and quite a bit of positive feedback, he's launched a website <http://www.dx-code.org> containing a "DX Code" of operating ethics. The site reflects the organization of a committee of high profile people, dedicated DX operators and DXpeditioners. **I propose that DELARA add itself as a club to those endorsing the polite, efficient operating practices Randy describes in this code.** For further insight read the book "Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur" by ON4UN (worked him in the contest!) - Stan, N8BHL, ed

DX Code of Conduct

- I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.
- I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.
- I will not trust the cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
- I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.
- I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.
- I will always send my full call sign.
- I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.
- I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.
- I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.
- I will not transmit when the DX station calls other geographic areas than mine.
- When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.
- I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.
- I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.

Speaking of good DX- back slaps to Larry, N8AUG, who reported his first "Clean Sweep" of all 80 zones in last weekend's ARRL CW Sweepstakes! N9AUG-86,720; K8MP-91,950; KV8Q- 145,280, our "Old Hand Contester" got another "Sweep" with low power and wire antennas; N2OPW-43,428 missed a sweep by 3. Nice work, guys! The scores attest the Delaware Amateur Radio Association is alive and well for ARRL contesting.



ARES Happenings

Don KB8SIA

This is a late column to the editor so I can congratulate the DELARA group for placing FIFTH in the Field Day 4A division - a task well done considering the weather problems that were exhibited that day in June. A hearty **"THANK YOU "** to those who contributed to its success.

Another congratulatory expression goes to Stan, N8BHL, for receiving the Ohio Section First Place Award in the Amateur Radio Newsletter Contest. So Congratulations Stan for a great newsletter. We all commend you on the great effort you put forth with the editing and the publication of the letter.

Equipment items for the "ham" section of the EOC are on schedule. Sources indicate the work order will be forth coming this next week. That certainly is great news. We have to thank Stan, N8BHL, for again carrying the ball to the batter(Brian, KD8OAD). I have to mention two members of Stan's back up support team of Gary, K8EHB, and Joe, K8MP, who helped in contributing to the success of the project.

Another attempt is starting December 2, 2010, to revive the monthly ARES Net on 145.170 repeater. Our thanks to Laura, KA8IWB, and John, W8RXX, for the use of their 145.290 repeater last year and this. Up first on 12 - 2 will be Craig, W8CR. Joe, K8MP, our Net Manager is looking for additional Net Controllers for the coming year. Other details will be found in Joe's column I'm sure. If not, you can, contact him and get the information required.

As a windup for this column don't forget the next and last ARES meeting for the year 2010 will take place at the **American Red Cross facility on December 9, 2010**, same time of 7:30PM. Again I ask you to bring along some ideas for the coming year. ARES will be under new management in 2011.

Another First in Class: DELARA News Takes Top Honors



As Editor of "The DELARA News," I was privileged to represent our team of writers at the recent Ohio Section Conference October 16, where the "DELARA News" was judged number 1 in club newsletters for the Ohio ARRL Section.

I would like again to thank our writers, whose wit, imagination and expertise go together every month to create this newsletter and who keep it lively. Our writers took us screaming down a luge course, shivering across a wintry Wisconsin for an imaginary contest and into a sexy little Camo-colored arm-eating trailer. The challenge is to keep up the good work- not for the awards, but so our members have something to look forward to every month!



Stan, N8BHL and Ohio SM Frank Piper, KI8GW

We are ALWAYS ready for YOUR article or comment- about a favorite radio, a favorite operating mode, a project you're doing, or anything that interests you! If you're interested, then we'll be interested so write away!

- Stan, N8BHL ed