

WIRELESS HILL BEACON

Delaware Valley Radio Association



OFFICERS

President
M. Juza, KC2TGM
Vice President
S. Costanzo, KC2VDL
Secretary
L. Weight, KC2MTO
Treasurer
R. Kubinski, KC2PQC

DIRECTORS

Membership
L. Weight, KC2MTO
Radio Station
M. Juza, KC2TGM
Repeater Operations
L. Price, N2KPC
M. Juza, KC2TGM (asst.)
Physical Plant
H. Gold, AB2VG
D. Norcross, K2DRN (asst.)
Public Information
T. Reeg, K2TFR
Training & Examinations
D. Wright, AA2F
Publications
A. Flinsch, AB2RC
Programs
G. Wilson, K2GW
Immediate Past President
R. Schroeder, N2HK (SK)
Web Service
M. Juza, KC2TGM
Hamfests
Open

Meeting – June 10th 2015

The regular monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, June 10th, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, on Upper Ferry Road at Wilburtha Road in West Trenton. The site is easy to reach from I-95 or NJ-29. Talk-in is available on the 146.67 (PL 131.8) and 442.65 repeaters. The directors meeting takes place 1 hour earlier at 6:30 PM.

This month's meeting topic – hints & tips for field day and field day planning

DVRA Nets

2-meter & 70-cm nets on the club repeaters 146.670 pl 131.8, 442.650 pl 131.8

2-Meter Nets:

The Pepper Net 10:00 PM Daily

Mercer Co. Emergency Net 7:30 PM Tuesdays KB2EGI, coordinator.

Training & Upgrade Classes


Don Wright, AA2F, periodically holds Technician and General classes.

Classes are held at various locations. Call Don at 609-737-1723 to register.

Exam Schedule

January 17, March 21, May 9, July 18, September 12 and November 14. All are at 12:15 at the Hopewell (Township) Branch of the Mercer County Library at 245 Pennington-Titusville Road, midway between Route 31 and the Hopewell Valley Central High School. Please bring \$15, cash or a check made out to ARRL-VEC, and a photo identification - driver license, passport, etc. Contact Don/AA2F aa2f@arrl.net or 609-737-1723 for details.

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Fame and Fortune Await

Want to become rich & famous – write an article for the DVRA Beacon. Fame among local hams almost guaranteed – fortune is up to you (and your luck in Powerball). Deadline for submission is one week before the monthly meeting (that would make the deadline the first Wednesday of the month). For details contact Alex / AB2RC – ab2rc@ab2rc.net

Website

Our website has been updated, and looks better than ever. Take a look at it <http://www.w2zq.com>

Logbook of The World

On May 24, 2015, Mike AB2IO reported the latest QSLs for W2ZQ logbook of the world were:

W2ZQ records as of May 24, 2015

UT1IR	2007-11-25 02:28:08	80M	CW	3.50350	UKRAINE
HB0/HB9AON	2007-10-28 02:43:33	40M	SSB	7.02840	LIECHTENSTEIN
EA5YU	2007-11-25 04:01:28	80M	CW	3.56560	SPAIN
EA1CQ	2009-03-07 02:36:44	80M	SSB	3.69160	SPAIN

5517 matches out of 16557 QSLs submitted, so 33.3% matched to date.

DELAWARE VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION MINUTES

At 1945 hours, May 13, 2015, President Mark Juza KC2TGM opened the combined regular/director's meeting of the DVRA (based on requests from members, the regular and director's meeting are now held as one meeting) held at Our Lady of Good Council Church, West Trenton, Ewing, NJ.

MINUTES: Minutes are sent to the members via email. The April 2015 minutes were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Ron Kubinski KC2PQC said the account balance is \$5922. Expense areas were: no expenses for the month. IRS Form 990 submitted to IRS and approved. Amazon "Smile" is up and running. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

By-Laws: The changes to the By-Laws were voted on: Motion to Pass and be effective immediately: Lloyd Price, Second: Don Wright. Vote: Passed. The changes to the By-Laws will be posted on line. Thanks to Don Wright for leading this effort.

RADIO STATION: No change.

SHACK CONTEST: Lisa Jakubek KC3AHY submitted a drawing for the shack layout. President Mark asked that any and all contenders for the \$50 prize should step forward. All contenders should realize that the prize may be split if aspects from several submissions are combined in the final accepted layout. (Note: President Mark is donating the \$50 prize.)

Vice President: VP Steve Costanzo KC2VDL said that the members can provide radio communications support for: June 14, Tour de Cure; and July 18-19,

triathlon. Contact Steve to volunteer for these activities. Remember the July 18-19 triathlon is “all hands on deck” for club members as the club benefits \$25 for each member/spouse who works this activity.

ACTIVITIES: Director needed.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: No report as Ed Drannbauer W3TEC is travelling.

PUBLICATIONS: No report.

SHACK: Co-Directors Hy Gold AB2VG and Lloyd Price K2KPC: Lloyd said Mike Moreken AB2IO, Alex Costanzo KD2VDM and Steve Costanzo KC2VDL worked on the lawn tractor at the shack doing miracles to get it running.

REPEATER OPERATIONS: Rory Shaffer NJ3U said the club has two new Yaesu Fusion analog/digital repeaters which can be set to operate on either 440 or 2M. The new 440 repeater has been running in a test situation at Rory’s house. The 2M has been running at the shack for over two months. Frank Palacek built an ARCOM interface box for the 2M and Rory is anticipating adding it to the 2M repeater in the next several weeks.

TRAINING & EXAMINATIONS: Director Don Wright AA2F reported that in the last testing session that 5 of 7 taking tests passed. The next testing session is July 18. Don, with the support of his unofficial “VE team”, has been leading this activity for eons. Thanks Don for all of the classes you have taught and exams you have led! Thanks VE team members!

WEB SITE: Web site Director Bob Cardone KD2EIM said that the 2M System Fusion repeater is attracting attention on the web site.

SCOUTING: 4/25 at Camp Ockanickon: Scout Official Gary Wilson N2GW successfully led this event with the assistance of several club members on three activities: NOAA weather radio; HF rig; Fox Hunting. This is one of about four Scout/Cub Scout activities the club supports through the year (e.g.: Jan: Radio Merit Badge; April: Camp Ockanickon: radio information/activities in support of the Radio Merit Badge; fall: “Emergency Preparedness Cubarama”; fall: “JOTA-Jamboree on the Air”.)

HAMFEST: Frank Palecek KC2TKD said that planning meetings will be kicked off shortly for this year’s hamfest. He needs assistance from all members! The date is September 12. There was discussion about raffling an HF radio such as a FT-991 and/or System Fusion HT or mobile radio.

FIELD DAY: Lloyd Price K2KPC is the FD committee head. He needs volunteers for a committee to plan this activity. The club will setup at Mercer County Park and also at the shack. Rory Shaffer will take the lead getting the permit for Mercer County Park. Gary Wilson has a Honda Generator the club can use at the park.

PICNIC: Tim Reeg applied for (with Ron Kulbinski's help with the insurance certificate) and successfully acquired the permit for the use of the Ewing park for the August 12th meeting.

PROGRAMS: Gary Wilson: We need speakers/programs.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Lisa, Mike Fedorco and Mike: This activity is still pending.

BIRD HOUSES on the shack property: Lloyd has setup Blue Bird and Purple Martin houses; more varieties pending.

"KIDS DAY": Lisa is leading this Field Day activity on June 21 at the shack.

The meeting ended at approximately 1943 hours.

Submitted by: Lance E. Weight KC2MTO, Secretary, DVRA

STRAYS

My rechargeable batteries are revolting.

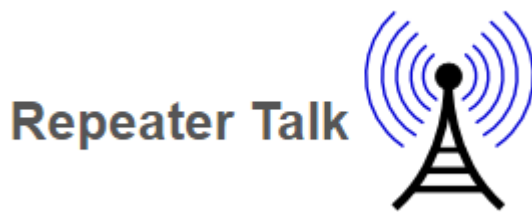
Please send any of your own strays to ab2rc@ab2rc.net

Fundraising

The DVRA is now participating in the AmazonSmile program; all purchases made thru AmazonSmile will result in 0.5% of your purchase being donated to the DVRA. Go to smile.amazon.com or the W2ZQ website for details.

New Member

The club officers would like to present the following new member for consideration: Michael DiMario, K2MJD of Doylestown, PA.



This month's Repeater Talk article will focus on the migration from traditional repeater use towards the possibilities, benefits and implications of these new machines.

Let's start with a discussion on Tones.

Initial (traditional) repeater operations evolved over time to include more and more features intended to allow the users and operators to set up machines closer to each other and more "private" or controlled access. In the earliest days machines could experience overlaps due to hearing other users from near or sometimes far because only the squelch gate was available to prevent the machine from repeating any signal on the input frequency. Over time the use of tones of various types and frequency became the norm to help a local machine repeat only signals from their locale or users. Still though some of the equipment didn't have this capability and the use of tone boards where needed.

Thankfully we have grown past those limitations and even though there are "tone less" radios still serving well in non repeater use – most, rather all modern radios come equipped with full tone support.

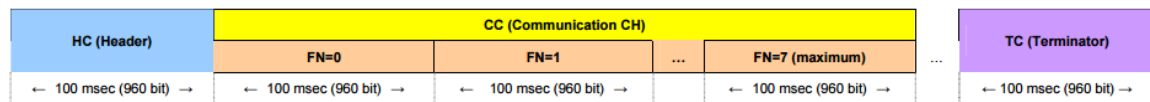
The most well known would be "PL" this name was coined by a well known manufacturer to represent their feature known as "Privacy Line". Simply put if the radio receiver didn't detect a certain tone it wasn't going to be heard or in the case of a repeater it wouldn't be repeated on the output frequency. This allowed more users to carry a radio that was ready to hear calls without hearing those that they weren't interested in or intended for repeating.

Tone can be used on the input and/or output frequencies, they can be the same or different tones and more so recently it can be a digital signal that controls the function of hearing and or repeating. These options are driven by the club and its equipments capability. (The W2ZQ 2 meter repeater uses 131.8 as our tone)

Incidentally the reason some traditional analog radios may not hear the initial word spoken could be the "fast trigger" of the operator that speaks as soon as they key the mic – which may prevent the repeating radios circuits from switching over to transmit – OR – it could be a slow decoding circuit in the receiving radios PL decoder.

So the traditional “PL” tone scheme has served the community well and will do so going forward for analog machines. What about the newer digital protocols such as our Yaesu System Fusion machines coming on line ?

This leads the conversation to that of new digital radios and the mix of analog decoding of PL tones with the modern digital formats such as C4FM. Since the digital technique involves the conversion of analog voice to a digital signal, the protocols have defined segments of their patterns reserved. In the case of C4FM for three main parts – the Header, the Communication and the Terminator. (Note how the duration is aligned with the bit rate and tied to the bandwidth used.)



Within the header and the terminator segment is the following data structure that your message / signal is encoded into during transmission and later decoded on the receiver’s side. See the segments numbered 0-6 and 7 they serve to address the legacy “PL” like controls.

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
FI	CS	CM	BN	BT	FN	FT	reserved	MR	VoIP	DT	SQL	SC (Squelch code)																			

Figure 4-9 FICH Actual Data Structure

The digital segment 7 is used to indicate if squelch is enabled or not – and if so then the segments 0-6 are used to express the squelch code 0 – 126 being used.

So what does that mean for the users and optimizing the needs and features of Squelch control in the new world ? Well for one, the best way to avoid redundancy and the possibility of that annoying delay in decoding your PL tone is to use a Digital Continuous Squelch (DCS) which is expected and embedded into the stream of digitally encoded C4FM signal. I would encourage you to check out your radios manual (gasp !) to see how and what it can do.

We will continue to explore the benefits of digital HAM radio in coming issues of Repeater Talk – taking on more and more of the technical side and breaking it down for easy understanding.

Stay tuned to this feature column RepeaterTalk for the latest on our DVRA/W2ZQ System Fusion repeater upgrade.

73 NJ3U Rory

**BYLAWS OF THE
DELAWARE VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Note: Proposed eliminations are shown with a line through them. Items in **bold print** are points for discussion. Comments of the Bylaws revision committee follow the suggested changes.

ARTICLE I

SECTION I: Basic disclosure for the requirements for membership is set forth in the Corporation Charter and Constitution. Additional requirements for and categories of membership may be set forth in the Bylaws, as provided in the Charter.

SECTION II: Application for membership in the Delaware Valley Radio Association, Inc., hereinafter called the DVRA, Corporation or Association, shall be made in writing to the Board of Directors on a form prescribed by them. The application shall be accompanied by **an initiation fee** and the first year's dues, with certain exceptions as per *Article I, Section ~~VIII~~*. *(change to Section VI)* The board of directors shall review the application, report their recommendation ~~in the newsletter~~ and solicit comments from the membership. The board shall then act upon the application.

Comments: We no longer have an initiation fee. Directors' recommendations have not been in the Newsletter for some time. The change will make the By Laws equal the current practice.

SECTION III: Any member's membership may be rescinded by the board of directors if, after review to which the said member is invited, the conduct of the member is found gravely detrimental to the stated purposes of the DVRA, or his actions are found to constitute a breach of contract with this Corporation. The results of any such action by the board of directors will be announced to the membership in the newsletter.

SECTION IV: Full membership and voting privileges shall be granted only to those possessing a valid amateur radio operator's license issued by the Federal Communications Commission. Those without a valid license may be conferred associate membership having no voting privilege. ~~The board of directors may confer honorary memberships at its discretion.~~

Comments: This has never been done and if desired it would not require a Bylaw to enable it, merely action by the board of directors.

~~**SECTION V:** A paid-up life membership in the DVRA shall be available to any member upon payment of a fee twenty-five times the annual dues rate. Said life membership is non-transferable.~~

~~Comment: It was voted to eliminate this practice several years ago but this section was never voted out of the Bylaws. One difficulty is that with time, a member drops out or moves away, yet we still have to carry the life member on the rolls, send newsletters and notices, etc. At one time we had life members who paid \$250 for life membership and moved out of state and had no e-mail. We soon spent more than their \$250 on postage and printing when prices of everything went up.~~

SECTION V: Provided that a member is without sight or otherwise disabled or is unable to provide for his own welfare or is confronted with a hardship, the board of directors may waive membership dues on a yearly basis. Members of the immediate family living at the same address qualify for a reduced rate and questionable situations can be decided by the board of directors. Eligibility for the special family rate shall cease upon the resignation, termination or death of the original member. ~~A special rate shall be provided for retired members and students. (Sentence deleted 1-13-10)~~

SECTION VI: The director of membership of the Association shall notify members not less than thirty days in advance of the expiration of their membership. Members whose dues are more than sixty days in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned their membership without further action. Such information shall be published in the newsletter.

SECTION VII: From time to time the board of directors shall review and make recommendations, subject to the approval of the membership at a regular meeting, for revised **initiation fees and** dues rates for all membership categories. Notice of such revisions shall be published in the newsletter at least 30 days before the meeting.

Comments: We stopped collecting initiation fees some time ago.

ARTICLE II

SECTION I: Regular monthly meetings of the DVRA shall be held. The day, time and location shall be selected by the board of directors and announced in advance in the newsletter. Monthly meetings of the directors shall be set by the president. Special meetings of the Association or directors may be called by the president at any time.

SECTION II: A quorum of at least one-fifth (1/5) of the total voting membership present in person or proxy is necessary to enact any legislation, with the exceptions provided in the corporate charter.

ARTICLE III

SECTION I: The elected officers of the DVRA shall be the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. These shall constitute the Executive Committee.

SECTION II: The elected officers shall be chosen from the current roster of members in good standing. A nominating committee shall be appointed each October by the president. The nominating committee shall submit its recommendations to the members at the November meeting. Other nominations may be made at this meeting by the voting membership from the floor. A majority vote at the December meeting shall be taken to elect the officers. An officer's term shall commence at the January meeting. The office of President shall be limited to no more than two consecutive terms.

SECTION III: The Executive Committee, the immediate past president and the following officers appointed by the Executive Committee shall constitute the Board of Directors:

Director of Radio Station

Director of Web Services

Director of Repeater Operations

Director of Special Events

Co-Directors of Physical Plant

Director of Hamfests

Director of Club Publications

Program Director

Director of Training & Examinations

Public Information Officer

Director of Membership

The appointed officers shall be nominated by the President each January and presented for approval to the remainder of the Executive Committee.

SECTION IV: The Executive Committee may appoint a member(s) or committee from the general membership, including the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, to assist in non-administrative duties or special club functions. Examples of such positions are ARRL club liaison, by-laws committee, etc. Any such appointment is not to be construed as part of the executive committee or board of directors, voting privileges in board matters are not permitted.

SECTION V: The executive committee shall appoint a member to have signatory power for club accounts in the absence or inability of the treasurer to perform his duties.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION I: The President shall preside at all meetings of the DVRA. He shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. He shall be an *ex officio* member of all boards and committees except the nominating committee and the audit committee. He shall be the spokesman for the Association and shall assume the legal responsibilities nominal to the corporate office.

SECTION II: The Vice-President shall assume the office and duties of the president in the president's absence, and perform other duties delegated to him by the president. He shall co-work with and help coordinate the other directors in expediting Association matters.

SECTION III: The Secretary shall record, make available and store minutes of all meetings, prepare and mail legal notices, sign, file and safeguard documents as may be required. He shall make available the attendance log at each monthly meeting.

SECTION IV: The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all monies in the corporation's bank accounts, issue checks and disbursements as directed by the Board of Directors, prepare and maintain current books of account, and execute and file documents as required by law. All duties may be assumed by an assistant treasurer in the absence of the treasurer, including signatory power.

SECTION V: The Director of Radio Station shall oversee all DVRA club station communication activities, promote emergency preparedness and good operating procedure among Association members. He shall coordinate an equipment preventive maintenance program and repairs of all non-repeater related equipment with the directors of physical plant and others as each may delegate. He shall ensure that all members receive instruction in correct operation of Association equipment, as may be necessary.

SECTION VI: The Director of Repeater Operations shall maintain and coordinate repair for all repeater systems. He shall ensure that members receive instruction in correct operation of the repeater systems. He will be responsible for submitting/updating all repeater registrations to be filed with the presiding frequency coordinating group.

SECTION VII: The Co-Directors of Physical Plant shall be custodians of property and shall oversee and direct the physical plant and grounds of the DVRA. They shall maintain a current file of Association property: their location, acquisition cost and condition. They shall ensure that necessary repairs and facility maintenance are effected and will co-work with the director of radio station and director of repeater operations.

SECTION VIII: The Public Information Officer shall act as liaison with the media and general public, and coordinate publicity for the Association.

SECTION IX: The Immediate Past President shall make available his advice and experience in guiding the board of directors.

SECTION X: The Program Director shall plan and provide for speakers or entertainers for regular meetings.

SECTION XI: The Director of Training and Examinations shall provide the necessary classes and training to enable those interested in amateur radio to become licensed operators or to upgrade to a higher class license. The director shall also be responsible for making available regularly scheduled examinations for those wishing to upgrade, as provided by the Volunteer Examiners program of the American Radio Relay League.

SECTION XII: The Director of Membership shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate roster of the club members, distribution of name tags and shall provide the treasurer and director of club publications with information needed regarding expiration of memberships. A current roster shall be made available periodically to the membership. He will also provide information about the organization and distribute orientation materials to each new member.

SECTION XIII: The Director of Club Publications shall be responsible for the editing and monthly publishing of the club newsletter.

SECTION XIV: The Director of Web Services shall be responsible for the club webpage and related internet matters.

SECTION XV – The Director of Hamfests shall be responsible for heading up all aspects of the club hamfests.

SECTION XVI – The Director of Special Events shall be responsible for coordinating all special events such as public service activities, Field Day, emergency communications, etc.

~~**SECTION XVII:** Each incumbent or outgoing director shall present to the membership at the January club meeting a brief summary of the past year's events as relates to his position. Each report will be recorded into the meeting minutes.~~

Comment: Good idea, but has never been done .

ARTICLE V

SECTION I: The Board of Directors shall execute routine matters of business administration for the Association, execute legal and financial papers as required by law, and help coordinate and channel the needs and aspirations of the membership to promote efficient operation and growth of the Association. They shall review and act on applications for membership, meet on a regular basis at the discretion of the president, and report abstracts of their transactions at regular monthly meetings.

SECTION II: Each member of the Board shall have one vote when considering matters before the Board.

SECTION III: Any director or elected officer may by written instrument resign his position.

SECTION IV: Any director may by appropriate instrument, upon mutual consent of involved parties, delegate part of his responsibilities (but not his vote) to others, including other directors, for such periods and subject to such conditions as the delegating director shall determine, to ensure optimum implementation and discharge of his duties.

SECTION V: A member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office by vote of the Executive Committee. A member of the Executive Committee may be removed from office upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and approval of the membership.

SECTION VI: In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Directors, a replacement shall be nominated by the president and approved by the remainder of the Executive Committee.

SECTION VII: In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy subject to the approval of the membership.

ARTICLE VI

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall prevail whenever question(s) of parliamentary procedure may arise at any meeting of this Corporation.

ARTICLE VII

This Corporation shall not engage in or exercise powers beyond those authorized in its Certificate of Incorporation, Constitution and Bylaws and other resolutions defining conduct of business, nor beyond those authorized in Title 15 of the N.J.S. and section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and amendments thereto and supplements thereof.

ARTICLE VIII

No person shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee unless he has reached the age of majority, as may be required by state or federal law, to enable him to discharge the legal responsibilities of the office.

ARTICLE IX

In accordance with *Article III, Section IV* of these Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall appoint an audit committee of three members, **who are not officers or directors**, at the end of each fiscal year, which shall be the calendar year. The audit committee shall work with the Treasurer to audit the books of account of this Corporation. This committee shall present a report of their findings to the Board of

Directors which shall be filed with the corporate records and minutes of that meeting.

Comment: Is this prohibition necessary? It may be ideal but it makes it harder to find three willing auditors. Possible require that officers can not serve on the audit committee and no more than one of the auditors can be a director.

ARTICLE X

The Delaware Valley Radio Association, Inc. has maintained active affiliation with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) since 1931 to assist this Association in carrying out its primary aims and objectives as stated in the Certificate of Incorporation. To this end, the DVRA will maintain its affiliation with the American Radio Relay League. An annual club report will be filed by the club's acting ARRL club liaison in accordance with ARRL policy.

ARTICLE XI

SECTION I: Members with voting privileges are permitted to vote by proxy in the manner and subject to the conditions enumerated herein. Proxies in writing directly generated by members entitled to vote, shall be accepted by the secretary of a given meeting. Proxies may be delivered to the Secretary by hand or via mail and may ~~not~~ be delivered electronically. The intent is to permit members to be represented when, for non-frivolous reasons such as illness, commitments to work, church or family, they are unable to personally cast the vote to which they are entitled. This intent is not to be construed as encouragement of absenteeism and/or inactivity, or abuse of this provision to vote by proxy by members who have demonstrated inactivity, to override the wishes of that majority which is active, working and demonstrating concern for and within this Association.

Comment: Are we that dishonest that we have to worry about fake e-mails?

SECTION II: The format of proxies may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. However, proxies minimally shall contain: identification of the question(s) upon which vote is being taken; the actual statement of vote "*for*" or "*against*" the question(s); the date(s) for which the ballot shall be valid; name, **signature** and the amateur radio callsign of the member so voting.

Comment: If we accept an e-mail ballot, as in Article XI Section we should not require a hand-written signature.

SECTION III: As herewith stipulated, each voting member is entitled to one vote, Therefore, although the proxy may be transmitted or delivered by another member

to the Secretary of a given meeting, any member's vote (and therefore proxy) cannot be transferred, assigned or otherwise left to the discretion of another voting member.

SECTION IV: The Secretary of the meeting shall be responsible for filing and counting proxies during or before the vote to which the proxies are addressed, and shall include such proxies in corporate minutes.

ARTICLE XII

SECTION I: In accordance with *Article III, Section IV* of these Bylaws, the Executive Committee may appoint, as needed, a committee to amend these Bylaws, Constitution or Certificate of Incorporation of the Delaware Valley Radio Association.

SECTION II: Amendments to the Bylaws shall be filed with each member at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which the proposed alteration is to be voted upon. A quorum of at least one-fifth (1/5) of the total voting membership must be present in person or proxy at this meeting and a two-thirds (2/3) majority shall be required to adopt the amendment.

ARTICLE XIII

Any reference to he, him or his for simplicity in these Bylaws shall be construed to refer equally to she, her or hers.

Bylaws Committee

Don Wright, AA2F

Mike Moreken, AB2IO

Bob Schroeder, N2HX

These Bylaws duly adopted by the membership of the Delaware Valley Radio Association, Inc. on **May 14, 2003, with one sentence later deleted, as indicated, on January 13, 2010.**

Dayton was a Blast this Year

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

A couple of weeks ago, I made my annual pilgrimage to Dayton for the 2015 Hamvention. This year, I had even more fun than in the past, and that's saying a lot.

I started Dayton 2015 on Thursday by attending the QRP-ARCI's Four Days in May (<http://www.qrparci.org/fdim/>) seminar. George Dobbs, G3RJV, gave a very nice talk that not only talked about circuits, but also the people he's met over the years and the places he's been. Paul, M0XPD, gave an interesting talk on crystal filters and using an Arduino to control a QRP rig. The final talk, by Glen, KW5GP, was also about using an Arduino to control a QRP rig. Other talks covered transmission lines and SWR and adventures in PCB making. I learned something in every single one.

That evening, I participated in Vendor's Night. I sold quite a few copies of my CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code and gave out quite a few "I'm a CW Geek" buttons and "Hams Obey Ohm's Law" stickers.

Friday and Saturday were all about the Hamvention. As far as new products go, there were a couple of interesting announcements. Elecraft introduced the K3S, an updated and upgraded K3 HF Transceiver, and FlexRadio introduced the Maestro, a "front end" with knobs, dials, and LCD screen for their software-driven radios. Apparently, hams like knobs and dials after all.

It seemed to me that there were more people at this year's Hamvention. There were certainly more sellers out in the flea market. And deals were to be had. I picked up a Bencher BY-1 for only \$50. I also found a Hallicrafters HA-1 T.O. Keyer (http://www.ai4fr.com/main/page_ham_radio_hallicrafters_ha1.html), which I believe to be the first commercially-available electronic keyer. Produced in the 1960s, it uses tubes to generate dots and dashes.

Dayton usually has a great lineup of forums, but aside from perhaps the TAPR forum, the Antennas forum, and maybe the ATV forum, none of them really called to me. Also, I was really busy talking to people I know, meeting readers, and trying to get the dealers to carry my books, so I didn't get to a single one.

Being the CW geek that I am, I'm hoping to hold a CW forum at next year's Hamvention. I've already contacted the forum people, and while they haven't committed to giving me time, I did get a very positive response. C U THR?

=====

When he's not attending the Dayton Hamvention, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.