

E-VOX

The official **On-Line**
newsletter of the

**Lehigh Valley Amateur
Radio Club - W3OI**

**Allentown, Pennsylvania
USA**



Officers

President: Mark S. Miller - WA3KIF (wa3kif@rcn.com or WA3KIF@arrl.net)

Vice President: Jeff Kelly - N3MFT (kellyj@ptd.net)

Secretary/Treasurer: Paul Ryan - NOKIA (nokia@arrl.net)

Board of Governors

Chris Kelly - N3RPV (ckelly@ckelly.tv)

Barry Mitchneck - KB3FMI (barrym@ptd.net)

Larry Miller - K3LAR (milla@enter.net)

Ed Romig - KD3NH

Carl Seier - AA3IX (cseier@enter.net)

E-VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (WA3KIF) (wa3kif@rcn.com) or WA3KIF@arrl.net)

Webmaster- Paul Ryan NOKIA) (nokia@arrl.net)

Repeater

146.340/146.940 (PL 71.9)

147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)

RACES NET

Every Monday at 7:30 (Local Time)

All are welcome !



<http://www.w3oi.org>



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The April 2, 2002 business meeting will be held at the Red Cross Building at 7:30.



LVARC / RACES NET

Don't forget to check into the Monday Night
LVARC/RACES Net on 146.94 (PL 71.9) with an
alternate frequency of 147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)
The Net begins at 7:30 pm local time.

**Many club announcements will be
heard there !**



Monday Night RACES/ARES Check In Summary 2002

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>
January	83
February	73



Discussed at the March, 2002 Meeting *Not the minutes Just a Review*

The March, 2002 meeting of the LVARC was held at the Red Cross building. The meeting began at 7:35 pm. The following were discussed at the meeting:

1. There were 19 members present.
2. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. 50/50 tickets were sold
4. Every member received a second free for a drawing at the end of the meeting.
5. There was one correction to the minutes published in the newsletter. The balance was incorrectly reported.
6. Paul (NOKIA) reported the balance as of February 28, 2002 was 1174.22.
7. Paul also reported that the phone bill for the auto patch will increase \$1.50 per month due to the phone company.
8. Jeff (N3MFT) reported that the "94 repeater" is not voting. There is a failure in the audio module. Hopefully, the voter will be back up in late March.
9. Members agreed to a Fox Hunt which will be held on Friday April 26 at 6:00 pm. Additional details to be announced.
10. Members approved the donation to the Boy Scout Camp, of \$75.00 to Camp Serranova for the 2002 Field Day site (June 22-23).
11. Barry (KB3FMI) needs volunteers to help with the revisions of the LVARC Constitution.
12. Members were reminded of Chris' (N3SIG) presentation on Wednesday March 20 at the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center at 6:30 pm.
13. Carl is still working on sending the QSL cards .
14. Congratulations to Phil Bigg for receiving his call (KB3HMK).
15. A "Members Area" on the club's web site was discussed and Mark said he would take pictures of members for this area, to the next meeting.
16. Jeff (N3MFT) distributed a Lehigh County RACES roster for final inspection by members.
17. April's meeting will include a talk about NTS by Greg (KB3CKD).
18. The members agreed to pizza prior to April's meeting. Those wishing to eat pizza can meet at 6:30 with the business meeting to follow at 7:30 pm.
19. Jeff (N3MFT) reminded that there will be a weather drill on Thursday March 21 from 8:30 am until about 12:00 pm.
20. The 50/50 drawing was won by Bruce (KB3FIH) for the amount of \$9.00.
21. The free tickets was for the golf-type shirt donated by Carl Colasanti. Chris (N3RPV) won this donated shirt.
21. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$
Balance as of 01/02 \$1,174.22





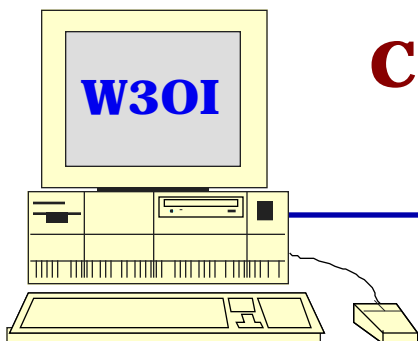
This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 2002	ARES RACES Net 7:30	LVARC Meeting Red Cross 7:30				MARAC County Hunters SSB
	1	2	3	4	5	SP DX Contest
Daylight Savings Time Begins	ARES RACES Net 7:30		YLRL DX to NA YL Contest - CW 4/10-4/12			JIDX HF CW Contest
7	8	9	10	11	12	QRP ARCI QSO Party
QRP ARCI QSO Party	ARES RACES Net 7:30		YLRL DX to NA YL Contest - SSB 4/10-4/12			Holyland DX Contest
14	15	16	17	18	19	GACW DX Contest
	ARES RACES Net 7:30				LVARC Meeting Fox Hunt 6:30	Helvetia Contest
21	22	23	24	25	26	Florida QSO Party
Florida QSO Party	ARES RACES Net 7:30		Turn that clock <u>BACK</u> on April 7			
28	29	30				

**April 2 meeting will be at the Red Cross
Building at 7:30**

**May 7, meeting will be at the Red Cross
Building at 7:30 - FOX HUNT (Details TBA)**

June 22-23 - FIELD DAY (Details TBA)



Check That BAUD Rate

Your modem says 56k, right? You

naturally assume that you are transferring data at that speed ... or are you? Thanks to Robin (KB3GZV) , you can check your connect speed right from the net. Go to the following URL to test your modem speed.

<http://www.ba-hss.com/speedtest/test500.asp>

Grey Line Map

The grey line is a band around the Earth that separates daylight from darkness. Propagation along the grey line is very efficient. One major reason for this is that the D layer, which absorbs HF signals, disappears rapidly on the sunset side of the grey line, and it has not yet built upon the sunrise side. See the placement of the Grey Kibe at:

<http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/greyline.html>

TNX to Jeff (N3MFT) for this site





News from the ARRL



PRESIDENT BUSH ADDRESSES FLORIDA ARES NET



President George W. Bush spoke January 31 via Amateur Radio to members of the Northern Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Service Net (NFAN). The president was in Florida to spotlight five volunteer groups for their value to the new Office of Homeland Security--among them the Volusia County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

"I want to thank all the volunteers who help make sure that Florida is prepared for any kind of emergency," the president said in part, after checking in around 9:15 AM to a regular session of the 75-meter ARES net. "I want to thank you all for helping your communities be prepared."

Northern Florida ARRL Section Manager Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP, said Bush spoke from a portable station set up at a Daytona Beach-area fire station. At the request of ARES Volusia County Emergency Coordinator Joette Barnett, KG4HPN, John Schmidt, AF4PU, and Clifford Fraser, KE4HIY, arranged to have the station ready as a demonstration of Amateur Radio's role in emergency preparedness and in the hope that Bush would be willing to address the 75-meter net. Hearing the president check into the net was a pleasant surprise, Hubbard said.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was "extremely gratified" that President Bush recognized the valuable service Amateur Radio operators provide in times of emergencies. "I know that all hams in the United States stand ready to do their part in America's Homeland Security Program," Haynie commented. Haynie has said that defining Amateur Radio's role in homeland security would top his list of initiatives for his second term.

Hubbard said a copy of proposed expanded Amateur Radio antenna (PRB-1) legislation was given to the President and to the president's brother, Florida Gov Jeb Bush, for possible introduction in next year's Florida legislative session. "We Amateur Radio operators will volunteer however we're needed, and maybe it will be seen that we can greatly help the nation if we have the antennas we need," Hubbard commented. The proposed bill would seek to extend Florida's PRB-1 law to include private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions.

Bush's stop in Florida was part of a swing through the southeastern US, which also included stops in North Carolina and Georgia. The Daytona Beach event marked a rare appearance on ham radio by a sitting president. Former President Gerald Ford spoke via a ham radio satellite hookup in 1986.

**From The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 5
February 1, 2002**



AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT OLYMPICS

Following months of planning and coordination, Amateur Radio is supporting the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, which got under way in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 8. Ham radio volunteers are assisting with security and remain available to provide back-up communication.

"The amateurs involved have assisted numerous local and federal agencies to develop a unique system that covers the entire Wasatch Front Area, providing communications to reach numerous Olympic venues 24 hours a day," said Utah ARRL Section Manager Mel Parkes, AC7CP. "Amateur Radio will be there should any of the primary frequencies fail or become unavailable."

According to Parkes, Utah Section Emergency Coordinator John Mabey, W7CWX, and Brent Thomas, AC7H, from the State of Utah Comprehensive Management Office began working on this effort over a year ago. A special public safety organization--Utah Olympic Public Safety Command (UOPSC)--was created by the various local and national public safety organizations that provide the security necessary for the international event. Mabey, along with Davis County EC Hall Blankenship, KC7RAF; Kirk Boman, KD0J; Ed Cole, KB7EC; and Mike Youngs, KK7VZ, headed up the Amateur Radio effort to provide emergency backup communication for the Olympic Security Command.

"UOPSC has now involved more than 200 Amateur Radio volunteers in Utah to support this critical security effort," Parkes said. In addition Amateur Radio volunteers are staffing a number of Olympic Security Command centers assisting local and national public safety organizations.

Nevada SEC Paul Cavnar, NN7B, says hams in his state remain on standby in case they're needed to help with communications. Cavnar said hams in Nevada, Idaho and Northern California also are prepared to assist in the unlikely event of a mass evacuation of the Winter Olympics site.

"The hard work and dedication by all these Amateur Radio operators will certainly contribute to a very successful and safe Winter Olympic Games," Parkes said.

From The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 07 February 15, 2002

SALT LAKE 2002





Who Packed Your Parachute? de Jeff (N3MFT)

Charles Plumb was a US Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent six years in a Communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!"

"How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb. "I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb said, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said, 'Good morning, how are you?' or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor."

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory -- he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason.

As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognize people who pack your parachute.

I am sending you this as my way of thanking you for your part in packing my parachute!!! And I hope you will send it on to those who have helped pack yours!

Sometimes, we wonder why friends keep forwarding jokes to us without writing a word, maybe this could explain:

When you are very busy, but still want to keep in touch, guess what you do -- you forward jokes. And to let you know that you are still remembered, you are still important, you are still loved, you are still cared for, guess what you get? A forwarded joke!

So my friend, next time if you get a joke, don't think you've been sent just another forwarded joke, but that you've been thought of today and your friend on the other end of your computer wanted to send you a smile.



Just for Laughs



Weather Drill

A weather drill is scheduled for Thursday March 21, 2001. This drill should begin in the morning and end about noon.

Listen to the Monday Night Net for details !!!!



Lehigh County RACES



**The following are active Lehigh County RACES members as of
January, 2002**

<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>
KA3RBH	Bigg	William
KB3FIH	Bobo	Bruce
W3TEB	Buchin	Harry
KB3ANO	Burstein	Denise
N3HKX	Check	Dennis
N3KEC	Check	Bart
WD0SEL	Clayton	Franklin
KA3MOU	Dech	Dick
KA3YGF	Ennis	Guy
N3GGO	Faux	Brian
N3RVH	Fehr	Jeff
AI3D	Geissenhainer	Erik
WX3ROB	Hill	Rob
WX3W	Holmes	John
KA3ZAT	Homan	Dan
KA3ONZ	Hull	Bruce
N3QZT	Keller	Jeff
KA3UQP	Kelly	Jim
N3MFT	Kelly	Jeff
N3RPV	Kelly	Chris
KB3CKD	Kovacs	Greg
N3VUO	LaMonte	Charles
N3XRL	McClay	Malcolm
WA3KIF	Miller	Mark
K3LAR	Miller	Larry
KB3FMI	Mitchneck	Barry



RACES Membership (cont. from page 11)

K3MP	Petruno	Mark
N3SIG	Post	Chris
KD3NH	Romig	Ed
N0KIA	Ryan	Paul
AA3IX	Seier	Carl
KB3FGL	Smith	Bryan
KE3SP	Snyder	Walt
N3ULR	Staller	Mark
WA6VSE	Stevenson	Carl
KA3WSL	Toland	Earl
KP3N	Torres	Urbano
KB3HFZ	Wolfe, Jr.	Rodney
AA3WM	Williams S.	Bryan

MYTHS and FACTS about RACES Membership

1. I need to live in Lehigh County to belong to LC RACES ---- **FALSE**
2. I do not want to belong to RACES because I may not want to "go out" on dangerous assignments --- **FALSE** (you are a **volunteer** and can refuse any assignment).
3. I must belong to the LVARC in order to join LC RACES ---**FALSE** (although many LVARC members ARE also members of LC RACES, membership in the club is not necessary).
4. RACES costs too much to join --- **FALSE** (There is **NO FEE** to join RACES).
5. I don't even know what RACES stands for --- **RACES stands for *Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services*** .
6. RACES and ARES are the same thing ---- **FALSE** (RACES is run or "administered" by the County. ARES is sanctioned by the ARRL).
7. I need a lot of expensive equipment to belong to RACES --- **FALSE** (In most cases, an HT is appropriate for a RACES event).
8. I cannot always check into the Monday Night Net and as a result, I will lose my RACES membership - **FALSE** (Although checking into the *Monday Night Net* will keep you informed of both RACES and LVARC activities, you need not check into the net to retain membership in RACES).
9. LC RACES needs me as a member --- **TRUE** (To join LC RACES< contact Jeff Kelly (N3MFT))



ARRL / ARES VESTS

FYI

The following was received as an email from both Jeff (N3MFT), Steve Ewald (WV1X) and ARRL Field Organization/ Public Service Team and Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, ARRL Marketing Coordinator. It sounds like this is just a survey and these items are not yet ready for sale. Also, please keep in mind, that as these vests/jackets/windbreakers are being initiated by the ARRL, the items will **probably** have ARES logos and NOT RACES (this has not been announced yet).

To: ARRL Section Managers, Section Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators

From: Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Field Organization/ Public Service Team and Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, ARRL Marketing Coordinator

Subject: ARES Vests and Jackets

At the 2002 Annual Board of Director's Meeting, ARRL staff were tasked to research the possibility of developing a distinctive garment for use by Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers, similar to those used by Red Cross volunteers.

Please take a few moments to complete this questionnaire. Your responses and comments will help determine how much interest there is in developing ARES apparel.

Q1) Please tell us how many volunteers you represent if your responses to the following questions represent the preferences of your group or club:



Q2) If you had the opportunity, would you (or your ARES members) be interested in purchasing:

Vest with the ARES logo. YES/NO

Windbreaker (jacket) with the ARES logo. YES/NO

I am not interested in buying either option. []



Our preliminary investigations for vests and windbreakers indicate some of the following options and price ranges.

VESTS

Option A: Full zip, all fleece, nylon with microfleece lining (a high quality option), embroidered or screen printed. Retail \$40-50.

Option B: Reflective style vest, like the type you see police or runners wearing (a basic quality option). "Bib" style. Retail \$15

WINDBREAKERS (jackets)

Option C: Basic unlined windbreaker (a basic quality option). Retail \$30-\$40.

Option D: Kasha lined full zip windbreaker (a high quality option). Retail \$40-\$50.

Q3) Indicate which options (A, B, C or D) you would be most interested in buying. Answer "none" if you are not interested in any of the options. If you like more than one option, please list them in the order of preference:

Do you have additional comments or suggestions that may be helpful to our marketing research?

Please respond by March 5, 2002, to sewald@arri.org.

Thank you for your help! 73.



Monday Night ARES/RACES/LVARC Net to Keep Tone Enabled

The **Monday Night ARES/RACES/LVARC Net** which meets on the "94" machine every Monday night at 7:30 pm **will remain in the tone (71.9) mode.**

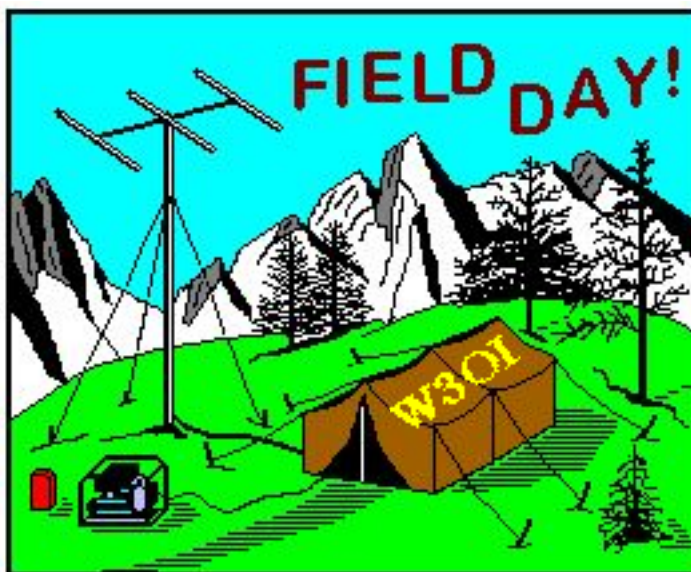
Due to recent e-mails from other 146.94 repeater regarding interference during not only drills and nets but also actual events, it was decided that our net should keep the tone on during our net.

Should an actual emergency arise, we would have to operate with the tone ON as would the other repeaters in order to avoid interference.

We apologize for any inconvenience to anyone without tone capability and want them to know that this decision is not meant to exclude anyone from checking into the net.

Jeff (N3MFT) may be of help to anyone who does not have tone capability.

Please note that the PL for the 146.94 repeater is 71.9 and the PL for the 147.135 repeater is 167.9.



At the March, 2002 meeting, members approved the new Field Day site for Field Day, 2002 !!!

Field Day will be June 22 - 23, 2002. The new Field Day site will be **Camp Serranova near Vera Cruz, PA** (about 6 miles West of Emmaus). The site offers us **lots of trees for stringing antennas**, a separate **"bunk room"** for sleeping, a **full kitchen**, **plenty of tables** for operating and eating, **shelter** in case of foul weather **and more!** This is a Boy Scout camp and is beautiful !! We have reserved the site for the weekend of Field day, beginning Friday June 21. That means that members can go to the site ahead of the Field Day activities (Friday) for an old fashioned "camp out !" **TNX to K3LAR for finding this site!** Below are pictures of the camp.



Camp
Serranova





Field Day Site, 2002 Pictures (continued from page 16)



< ---Kitchen

“Bunk” Room --->



<--- Main Building
(with great porch for operating)



Quote Quiz

Who said,

**"It is not clear that intelligence has
any long-term survival value."**

For answer, turn page up-side down.

Stephen Hawking

top news

LVARC Constitution Needs Revision

Barry (KB3FMI) has kindly volunteered to head a committee to revise the LVARC Constitution. Committee members would be able to serve from home as revisions could be made and submitted via e-mail.

This is a very important committee and endeavor and the revisions are few.

If you would like to serve on this committee, contact Barry Mitchneck (KB3FMI) at:

bmitchneck@fast.net.

Barry's plan is to have these revisions complete and have member's approval by June, 2002.

Please consider volunteering for this committee !!!!!



LVARC/ W3OI “Golf-Type” Club Shirts Available

Carl Colasanti (KB3GAX) has made available for sale, LVARC “golf-type” shirts. Last year, Carl introduced yellow “T-Shirts” just in time for Field Day, 2001.

Carl has a new shirt, one with a collar and 3-buttons in the front. Carl kindly donated a sample which was given away at the March, 2002 meeting via a drawing.



The shirt is a beautiful gray shirt with a blue collar and W3OI in blue with Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club in darker blue below the W3OI.

Shirts are now available (just In time for Field Day !)

Contact any club officer for order information or contact Carl at Colasanti Printing-101 W Susquehanna St. Allentown, PA Phone: (610)791-9060 .

LVARC to Host Pizza Party

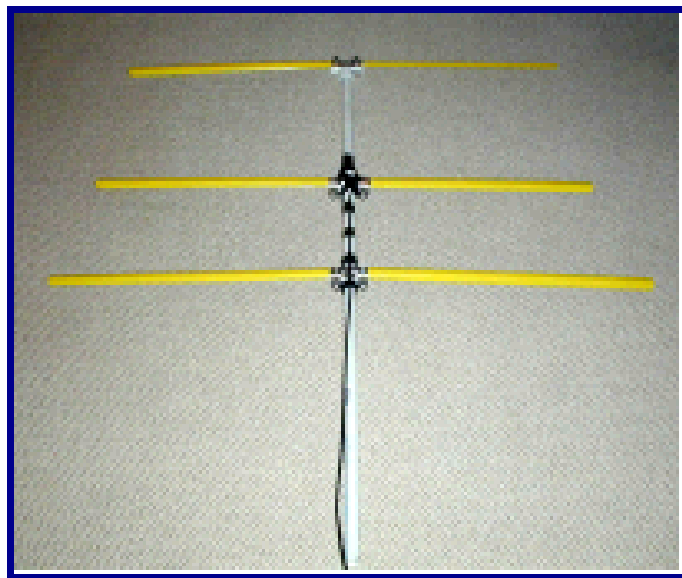


Prior to the business meeting on April 2, 2002, the LVARC will host a “Members Pizza Party.” The “party” will begin at 6:30 with the regular business meeting to follow at 7:30



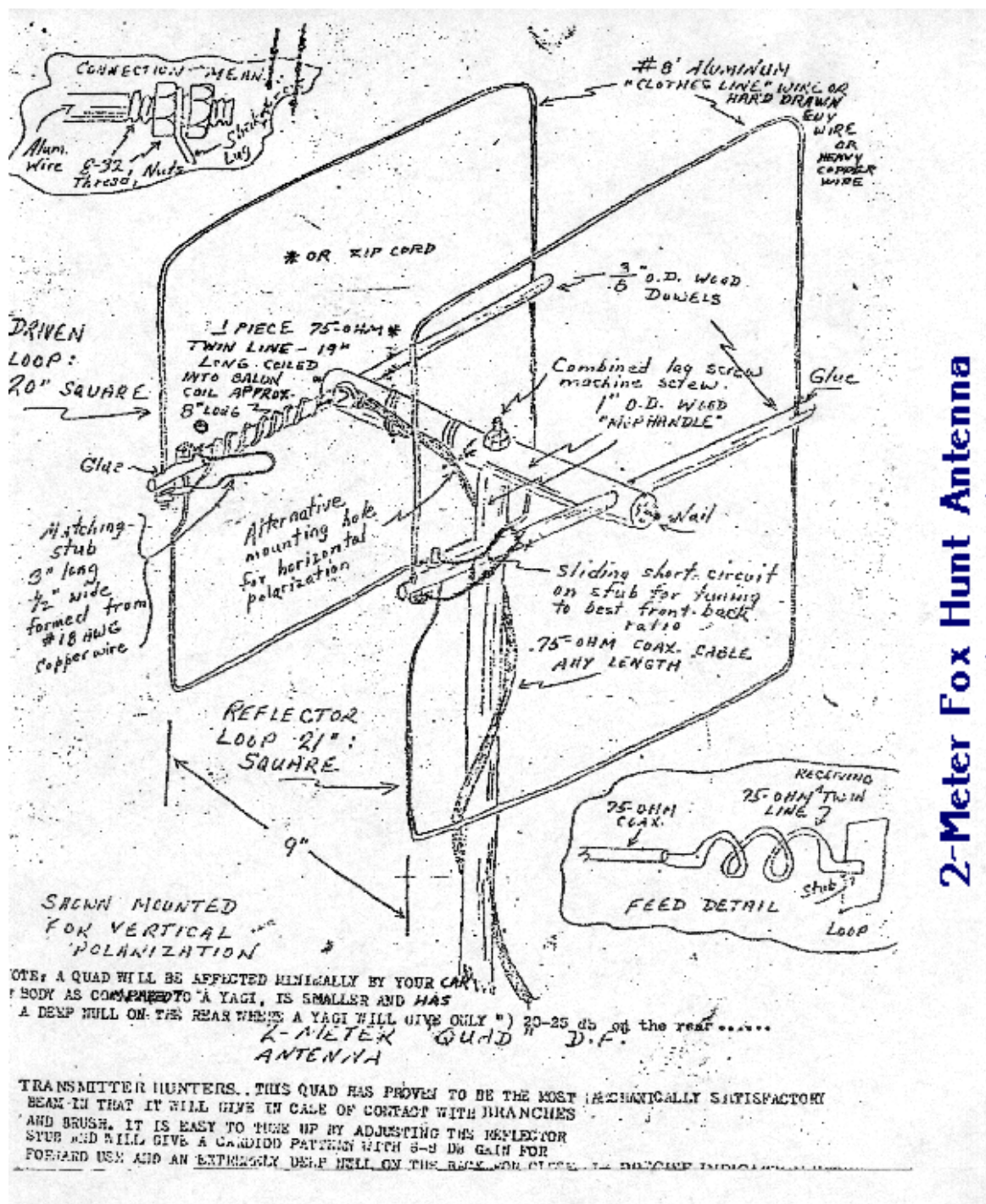
LVARC to Hold First Fox Hunt of the 2002 Year !!!!

The LVARC will hold its first Fox Hunt on **Friday April 26, 2002 at 6:30**. Listen to the Monday Night RACES/ARES Net and/or the April 2, 2002 meeting for details. If you would like to participate and do not have an antenna for "hunting," two models are offered below and on the following page.



In one afternoon and one trip to Home Depot and Radio Shack, K3LAR and I made a "tape measure" two-meter antenna for the up-coming Fox Hunt. The entire cost was eleven dollars and most of it was assembled in my, kitchen.

There are many sites on the internet devoted
to Amateur Radio Fox Hunting !!!





This just In !!!!!!!

from the ARRL

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

Date: 7 Mar 2002 17:50:47 -0000

From: "ARRL Web site" <memberlist@www.arrl.org>

To: wa3kif@rcn.com

Subject: Atlantic Division Awards for 2002

CC: Subscribed ARRL Members: ;

Annually the Atlantic Division recognizes those Amateurs who have gone the extra mile for their fellow hams and the Amateur Radio Service in general.

This recognition takes the form of special recognition at the banquet of the Atlantic Division Convention in Rochester, NY (this year the convention will be held May 31, June 1 & 2).

Who would you recommend as the Atlantic Division Amateur of the Year?

Who has made significant contributions to Amateur Radio science and deserves recognition for Technical Achievement?

I invite you to check the Atlantic Division website for full details on the awards program. The site is:

www.atldiv.org

Bernie Fuller, N3EFN
Director, Atlantic Division



2002 Limerick Drill

The 2002 Limerick drill was held on February 21, 2002. It was an abbreviated drill. The following are pictures of the drill (pictures courtesy of Chris Kelly (N3RPV)).



**Chris (N3RPV)
&
Ed (KD3NH)**



**Bruce's
(KB3FIH)
"Comm Van"**



Ed (KD3NH)



NIGHT OWL NET TO RESTART

de Chris Kelly (N3RPV)



Hello Everyone,

Remember a time not so long ago when you could end your day with friendly conversation with your fellow amateur radio operators?

It was 11:30, it was KD3NH and it was the night owl net. A friendly mixture of hams young and old that would discuss what happened that day, that week, or 10 years ago and shared stories and experiences. I know I personally miss the net, and I know a lot of others do, but we need to prove it.

I have been talking with Ed, KD3NH about restarting the net on a trial basis, possibly on a Friday night when less people have to be up early the next day. If I can prove to him that enough people are interested then he will start the net back up. So spread the word around to LV hams and find out who would want to join in the fun and email me back so I can show Ed (since we can't get him on a computer yet).

So if you would like to see the Night owl net happen again, and know others that would, email me and let me know. Also throw in what night you think would be best, and what else could help make it what the net used to be. I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you and enjoy your week.

73, Chris
N3RPV