

The **E-VOX**

The Official **On-Line** Newsletter of the



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI



Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA

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Repeaters

146.340/146.940 (PL 71.9)

147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)

RACES NET

Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)

All are welcome !



W3OI Home Page: <http://www.w3oi.org>



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The November meeting will be held on
November 2, 2004 at the Red Cross Building at 7:30.

Program: **Home-Brewed Radio Receivers**

Presenter: Lou Poli (N3OL)



LVARC / RACES NET

Don't forget to check into the Monday Night
LC/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 (ET).

Many club announcements
will be heard there !

Monday Night RACES/ARES Check In Summary - 2004

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Mondays</u>
January	86	4
February	100	4
March	134	5
April	71	3
May	128	5
June	97	4
July	69	3
August	121	5
September	65	3*

* Labor Day Holiday



THIS MONTH IN HAM RADIO

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Happy Thanksgiving	ARES RACES Net 7:30 KB3GZV KB3GZW	LVARC Meeting Red Cross 7:30 NOMINATIONS for OFFICERS				ARRL Nov. Sweepstakes CW Ukrainian DX Contest IPARC SSB Contest
ARRL Nov. Sweepstakes CW Ukrainian DX Contest IPARC SSB Contest	ARES RACES Net 7:30 NOKIA			 Veteran's Day		JIDX Phone Contest SARL Field Day
JIDX Phone Contest SARL Field Day	ARES RACES Net 7:30 N3MFT				LVARC VE Test Session 7:00 pm	ARRL Nov. Sweepstakes Phone
ARRL Nov. Sweepstakes Phone	ARES RACES Net 7:30 AK3M			 TNXgiving Day		CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW
CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW	ARES RACES Net 7:30 KA3UQP		November 2004 			

LVARC Meeting -Tuesday November 2, 2004
7:30 pm at the Red Cross Building

LVARC VE Test Session - Friday October 19, 2004



Minutes of the October 5, 2004 Meeting de Rod (N3XG), - Secretary - LVARC



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes

Date: October 5, 2004

President Miller called the meeting to order at 1935 Hrs, EDST.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, then a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

There were a total of 14 members and 2 guests in attendance. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: President Miller, Vice-President Snyder, Treasurer Ryan, Secretary Wolfe, and Board Member Gable.

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes as published in the EVOX, the September minutes stand approved as published.

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA) Paul reported that the balance at the end of September was \$545.87.

Committee Reports:

Repeater

Club members have noticed a broadcast music station mixing with the 94 machine. Jeff N3MFT will be email about this problem.

Program

Phil KB3HMK reported that Frank W3FTU will present tonight's program, and he will discuss old radio restoration. Next month, Lou N3OL, will present one of two topics. Phil will update the club as November draws closer.

Volunteer Examiners

The VE session for October has been moved from Friday night to Sunday afternoon on October 17th. This change is for the month of October only, and has been made to accommodate the Technician Class. Upgrades and those wishing to pursue a license are still welcome, but pre-registration is necessary.

Field Day

Lou N3OL reports that he is inquiring into the possible use of the Astronomy site on top of South Mountain. This was in response to an email he received from Rodney N3XG.

Web Site

Paul N0KIA reports that that membership database has been updated, and the pay pal option is now accepting dues for next year.

Education

Rodney N3XG reports that the Fall Technician class will be held the weekend of October 15, 16, and 17 at Allentown Fire Department's Mack South Station.

(Minutes - continued on page 6)



(Minutes - continued from page 5)

OLD Business

1. President Miller reminded the club that the Emmaus Halloween Parade would be on Saturday, October 16.
2. President Miller reminded everyone that nominations for the Pres Schuler award would close at the November meeting.
3. There is an EMCOM seminar in Selinsgrove, PA on Saturday October 23rd. N3XG will be attending, if anyone would like to car pool, or just needs a ride, they may contact him.
4. Nominations for club officers for 2005 will be held next month at the club meeting.
5. Rodney N3XG inquired as to the status of the NOAA link with 135 for Sky Warn use. There is no movement on the project, and Mark N3ULR reports that he has had trouble contacting John WX3W.
6. President Miller relayed Tom KB3IYB's request for help from the club members to find a good place for the spring hot dog sale. Tom is asking for assistance for a good location that would work well for that type of fundraiser. If anyone knows of a store, event, or business location that may work, and has some contact with that store or event, please contact Tom with your ideas.

New Business

1. President Miller announced that Operation HoHo is right on schedule and will be held on Sunday, December 12. President Miller described the event for those that were unfamiliar with it, and asked for volunteers.
2. Phil KB3HMK mentioned that for the good of the order, club members should be advised that the two Caches that he provided the club with last month are no longer valid. Unfortunately, someone in the area has been stealing Geo Cache sites. Phil hopes to have both areas back in service soon.

New members/Guests

The club welcomed Mike Boylan as a guest. A co-worker accompanied Mike; hopefully both will pursue the hobby of amateur radio.

A motion to close was made by Walt KE3SP, and Malcolm N3XRL provided a second to the motion. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 2000 hrs, EDST.

Respectfully Submitted de N3XG, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance as of September 30, 2004 - \$545.87	



November Monday Night RACES/ARES Net Control Operators



November 1	KB3GZV/KB3GZW Robin/Dorian	
November 8	N0KIA	Paul
November 15	N3MFT	Jeff
November 22	AK3M	Mark
November 29	KA3UQP	Jim



IMPORTANT VE INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER, 2004

Due to the Tech Classes scheduled for October 15-17, the October VE test session will be held in the afternoon of Sunday October 17, 2004 at the: Allentown Fire Department Classroom at the Mack South Fire Station.

(See page 14 for more information)

THIS CHANGE IS FOR OCTOBER ONLY!

Contact Mark (AK3M) for details and/or registration.

AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183



Operation Ho Ho Scheduled

(see page 10 for details)



**LVARC Activities/Events****Mark your Calendar****PRINT, CLIP and POST****Monday November 1--- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)****Tuesday November 2 --- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 PM (Red Cross Bldg.)****Monday November 8 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)****Monday November 15 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)****Friday November 19 --- VE Test Session (7:00 pm Red Cross)****Monday November 22 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)****Thursday November 25 --- Thanksgiving Day****Monday November 29 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

There will be additions and deletions to the above dates. Listen to the Monday Night Net, the newsletter and announcements at meetings for changes.

LVARC 2004 Program Schedule**de Phil (KB3HMK) - LVARC Program Chairman****November - * Lou (N3OL) on home-brewed radio receivers***** Nominations of officers for 2005***** Nominations for the Pres Schuler Award****December - * Operation Ho-Ho***** Election of officers for 2005***** Presentation of the Pres Schuler Award***** Annual Holiday party****ARTICLES
WANTED****de Mark (AK3M)**

If you have reviewed a new piece of equipment, discovered something new (equipment, web site etc.), want to sell ham radio related items or just want to share some technical information, send it to me at AK3M@rcn.com and I will include it in the newsletter.





??? QST ???

We all know that QST is the publication of the American Radio Relay League. For what does QST stand? (see below)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| (1) 'Quick, Stop Transmitting' | (3) "Attention all amateurs" |
| (2) "Quiet Silent Transmission"
(describes reading) | (4) "IMPORTANT" |


DON'T FORGET

The LVARC VE program. If you know someone would like to become a ham or if you want to upgrade your license, the LVARC can help!

Contact Mark (AK3M) for details
(610-865-9183 or AK3M@rcn.com)



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- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
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| (2) "Quiet Silent Transmission"
(describes reading) | | (4) "IMPORTANT" |



<http://www.dxzone.com/>

Nice web site for all kinds of ham radio related material. Includes references to FRS, SWL, antennas, tests, antique radios and more.



Operation Ho Ho Scheduled for Sunday December 12, 2004

de "Santa" (AK3M)

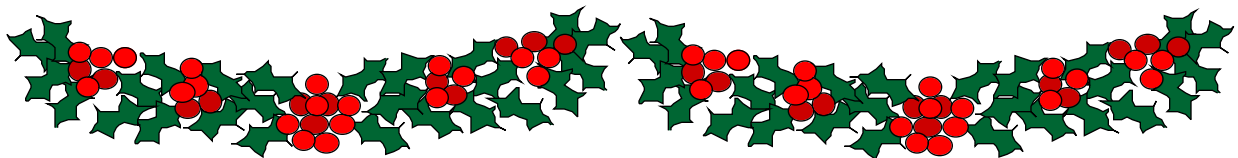


Operation Ho Ho, 2004 will mark its 4th year this December! LVARC members or "elves," visit the children's unit at the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center on Cedar Crest Boulevard. Armed with 2-meter gear, gifts and the holiday spirit, they prepare to meet the children and have them speak to "Santa!" The "elves" visit the children in their rooms and then call Santa on simplex who is anxiously waiting to speak to them. The children chat with Santa telling him about their families, school and, of course, what they want for Christmas! After their talk with Santa, the children receive a gift.

The event has been very well received with positive comments from the hospital staff and especially the parents!

A big thanks to Dawn Miller of the Pediatrics Child Life Office of the LVHC for arranging our visit!

The elves receive more than they give! Experience the joy of the holiday season and volunteer your communications expertise! **If you wish to volunteer for Operation Ho Ho, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.**

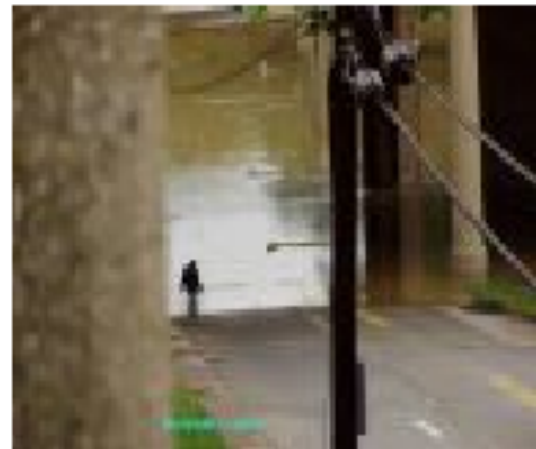


Ivan Unleashes His Fury On The Lehigh Valley

Although the Lehigh Valley did not take the full force of hurricane Ivan, we did feel his last gasp! Late Friday night, September, 17 and during the following day (Saturday September, 18), the area experienced torrential rains. Estimates range from 3 to more than 5 inches of rain fell causing local rivers and streams to swell and overrun their banks. Local police and fire companies were kept very busy!

Below, are some pictures of rain- soaked Bethlehem **courtesy of Tom Mory (KB3DEB)**. Additional pictures can be seen on his web site at:

<http://moryville.com/Photos/thumbnails.php?album=2>



UDQ-PLUS Universal Charger for Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, and Li-ION ! From *Batteries America* *de Mark (AK3M)*

While searching for a replacement battery for my VX5R, I saw this device from Batteries America. I am not endorsing this device, I just wanted to alert all to its existence. **Looks like it does it all.**



THE FEATURES:

- (1) Charges / analyzes a wide voltage range - from 1.2v to 14.4v (1 to 12 cells) for Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd) and Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH). Also charges / analyzes Lithium Ion from 3.6v to 14.4v (1 to 4 cells).
- (2) Adjustable contacts enable a wide variety of battery packs to be charged with the unit.
- (3) In addition to battery packs, the UDQ-PLUS can be utilized to charge / condition 1 to 12 individual cells of Ni-Cd or Ni-MH chemistry (AA, AAA, C, D sizes, etc). Battery cells are placed into battery trays (sold separately), which are plugged into the side port of the UDQ-PLUS.
- (4) Intelligent Charging system is microprocessor-controlled. Uses Negative Delta V, Zero Delta V, and Delta Temperature detection methods for peak charging cut-off.
- (5) The Digital LCD display indicates Charging current in, Charging Time, Pack Voltage, Charging/Full/Done, error detect, etc.
- (6) Also displays the Voltage, Capacity, and Time during the selectable Discharge process.
- (7) Includes Magnetic Thermal Protector (attaches to battery). If battery gets too warm during charging, the Thermal Protector will reduce the charging current, and prevent battery overheating.
- (8) Includes an AC adapter for operation from 80V- 240VAC outlet, AND a DC power cord for mobile operation (plugs into 13.8VDC or 24VDC sockets).
- (9) Includes Adapter Plug w/ Alligator Clips for custom applications. The Adapter Connector plugs into the side port of UDQ-PLUS, enabling virtually all other battery assemblies to be accessed by the Charging/Conditioning capabilities!

NEW from BATTERIES AMERICA - Package price \$ 89.95

<http://www.batteriesamerica.com/newpage9.htm>



Pres Schuler Award

de Mark (AK3M)

Suggestions for a recipient of the 2004 Pres Schuler award will be accepted **no later than the November, 2004 meeting.**

If you are not familiar with this award, I will explain. LVARC members suggest an LVARC member to receive the annual award. **Members are recommended based on their contribution to the club.**



Nominees will be accepted by me (Mark - AK3M) or any board member (see cover page of newsletter for list of BOG). The award will be **presented at the December, 2004 meeting.** We would like to **keep it as a surprise to the recipient until the presentation.** If you would like to suggest a candidate and do not want him to know, please contact me or any board member privately (phone or email). The recipient will be selected on the number of "votes" which are received as verified by the LVARC Board of Governors.



*"I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving
for my friends, the old and the new."*

--- Ralph Waldo Emerson
US essayist & poet (1803 - 1882)



ARE YOUR ANTENNAS READY FOR WINTER?



Its not too early to think about winter weather and its effect on your antennas. Remember, they are outside in all kinds of weather. Wind, rain and snow can all take their toll on antennas and connections. Check them now while the weather is still good. Here are some suggestions for a winter weather antenna check-up:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| (1) check/replace coax feedlines | (6) caulk holes where antennas enter house |
| (2) check connections and connectors | (7) Install any ground rods while ground is soft. |
| (3) check rotators | (8) grease any moving parts |
| (4) seal any baluns | |
| (5) check dipole support ropes | |

All done? Light the fire, turn on your radios and sit back knowing your antennas are ready for winter weather!



SOFTWARE FOR AMATEUR RADIO

<http://www.ac6v.com/software.htm>

<u>AMIGA Ham Users Group</u>	<u>FTP SITES</u>	<u>PALM/OS</u>
<u>ANTENNAS</u>	<u>GEO CLOCK</u>	<u>PART 97</u>
<u>APRS</u>	<u>GREAT CIRCLE</u>	<u>POTPOURRI</u>
<u>BEACON CLOCK</u>	<u>GRAY LINE</u>	<u>PROPAGATION</u>
<u>BEAM HEADINGS</u>	<u>GRID SQUARES</u>	<u>PSK31</u>
<u>COMMODORE</u>	<u>LINUX</u>	<u>RADIO CONTROL & PROGRAMMING</u>
<u>CW</u>	<u>LOGGING</u>	<u>RECORDER S/W</u>
<u>DIGITAL</u>	<u>MACINTOSH</u>	<u>RTTY</u>
<u>DISTANCE/BEARING</u>	<u>MAIL LIST</u>	<u>SATELLITE</u>
<u>DSP</u>	<u>MOONBOUNCE</u>	<u>SPECTRUM ANALYZERS</u>
<u>DX/CONTEST</u>	<u>MORSE CODE</u>	<u>SSTV</u>
<u>ECHOLINK</u>	<u>OS/2</u>	<u>VOICE KEYS</u>
<u>EXAMS</u>	<u>PACKET</u>	



Thanksgiving

Traditions & History

How Much Do YOU Know About Thanksgiving?

Take the quiz below then read the story to check your answers.

1. What year did the Pilgrims have their first Thanksgiving Feast?

- (1) 1619
- (2) 1620
- (3) 1621
- (4) 1935

2. What food was probably NOT on the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving menu?

- (1) Potatoes
- (2) Corn
- (3) Fish
- (4) Dried Fruit

3. The Horn of Plenty, or Cornucopia, which symbolizes abundance, originated in what country?

- (1) Holland
- (2) Greece
- (3) America
- (4) Turkey



4. In 1676, a day of thanksgiving was proclaimed to take place during what month?

- (1) May
- (2) June
- (3) October
- (4) November

5. What president didn't like the idea of having a national Thanksgiving Day?

- (1) Washington
- (2) Nixon
- (3) Truman
- (4) Jefferson

6. Who is credited with leading the crusade to establish Thanksgiving Day?

- (1) Sarah Jessica Parker
- (2) Sarah Lee
- (3) Sarah Josepha Hale
- (4) Sarah Ferguson

7. Which president first established the date of Thanksgiving as a national celebration?

- (1) Jefferson
- (2) Adams
- (3) Lincoln
- (4) Wilson

8. Which president moved the date of Thanksgiving twice?

- (1) Lincoln
- (2) T. Roosevelt
- (3) F. D. Roosevelt
- (4) Eisenhower

9. The reason Thanksgiving was moved up a week was...

- (1) To fulfill a political promise
- (2) To ward off evil spirits
- (3) Due to public pressure
- (1) To lengthen the Christmas shopping season

10. Canada celebrates Thanksgiving on... *(The answer is not in the narrative.)*

- (1) 2nd Monday in October
- (2) 2nd Thursday in November
- (3) 3rd Thursday in November
- (4) May 1

(see the story on page 16)



The Thanksgiving Story

The Pilgrims who sailed to this country aboard the *Mayflower* were originally members of the English Separatist Church (a Puritan sect). They had earlier fled their home in England and sailed to Holland (The Netherlands) to escape religious persecution. There, they enjoyed more religious tolerance, but they eventually became disenchanted with the Dutch way of life, thinking it ungodly. Seeking a better life, the Separatists negotiated with a London stock company to finance a pilgrimage to America. Most of those making the trip aboard the *Mayflower* were non-Separatists, but were hired to protect the company's interests. Only about one-third of the original colonists were Separatists.

The Pilgrims set ground at Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620. Their first winter was devastating. At the beginning of the following fall, they had lost 46 of the original 102 who sailed on the *Mayflower*. But the harvest of 1621 was a bountiful one. And the remaining colonists decided to celebrate with a feast -- including 91 Indians who had helped the Pilgrims survive their first year. It is believed that the Pilgrims would not have made it through the year without the help of the natives. The feast was more of a traditional English harvest festival than a true "thanksgiving" observance. It lasted three days.

Governor William Bradford sent "four men fowling" after wild ducks and geese. It is not certain that wild turkey was part of their feast. However, it is certain that they had venison. The term "turkey" was used by the Pilgrims to mean any sort of wild fowl.

Another modern staple at almost every Thanksgiving table is pumpkin pie. But it is unlikely that the first feast included that treat. The supply of flour had been long diminished, so there was no bread or pastries of any kind. However, they did eat boiled pumpkin, and they produced a type of fried bread from their corn crop. There was also no milk, cider, potatoes, or butter. There was no domestic cattle for dairy products, and the newly-discovered potato was still considered by many Europeans to be poisonous. But the feast did include fish, berries, watercress, lobster, dried fruit, clams, venison, and plums.

This "thanksgiving" feast was not repeated the following year. But in 1623, during a severe drought, the pilgrims gathered in a prayer service, praying for rain. When a long, steady rain followed the very next day, Governor Bradford proclaimed another day of Thanksgiving, again inviting their Indian friends. It wasn't until June of 1676 that another Day of Thanksgiving was proclaimed.

On June 20, 1676, the governing council of Charlestown, Massachusetts, held a meeting to determine how best to express thanks for the good fortune that had seen their community securely established. By unanimous vote they instructed Edward Rawson, the clerk, to proclaim June 29 as a day of thanksgiving. It is notable that this thanksgiving celebration probably did not include the Indians, as the celebration was meant partly to be in recognition of the colonists' recent victory over the "heathen natives," (see the proclamation). October of 1777 marked the first time that all 13 colonies joined in a thanksgiving celebration. It also commemorated the patriotic victory over the British at Saratoga. But it was a one-time affair.

(continued on page 17)



(continued from page 16)

George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, although some were opposed to it. There was discord among the colonies, many feeling the hardships of a few Pilgrims did not warrant a national holiday. And later, President Thomas Jefferson scoffed at the idea of having a day of thanksgiving.

It was Sarah Josepha Hale, a magazine editor, whose efforts eventually led to what we recognize as Thanksgiving. Hale wrote many editorials championing her cause in her *Boston Ladies' Magazine*, and later, in *Godey's Lady's Book*. Finally, after a 40-year campaign of writing editorials and letters to governors and presidents, Hale's obsession became a reality when, in 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed the *last* Thursday in November as a national day of Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving was proclaimed by every president after Lincoln. The date was changed a couple of times, most recently by Franklin Roosevelt, who set it up one week to the next-to-last Thursday in order to create a longer Christmas shopping season. Public uproar against this decision caused the president to move Thanksgiving back to its original date two years later. And in 1941, Thanksgiving was finally sanctioned by Congress as a legal holiday, as the *fourth* Thursday in November.

Source: <http://wilstar.com/holidays/thanksgv.htm>



Special Drawing



Present this coupon at the November 2, 2004 meeting to be eligible for a special drawing.

Name _____

Call _____

Ivan Floods to the North Too!

The PPL reservoir, Lake Wallenpaupack was also a victim of Ivan. The following pictures were taken by Larry (NR3R) when he visited his boat at the lake on Sunday September 19, 2004. As you can see, the ramps leading to the docks were under water. The only way to get to the boats was to **swim**. Fortunately, Larry's boat sustained no damage! The level of the lake couldn't be lowered because of the existing high water downstream.



Lake
Wallenpaupack

September
2004





OLD RADIO RESTORATION

Supervised by **Nipper**, Frank (W3FTU) presented a terrific talk on the restoration of old radios. Frank had several old radios which he restored on display. The radios were not limited to AM/FM, he also had an old Hallicrafters on display. These radios were not just for viewing, they all played and sounded beautiful!

One radio even entertained us with a "Shadow" radio show!?!?! Not only were LVARC members treated to a terrific program, but were also eligible for a great door prize. Frank kindly donated an old Admiral to a lucky ticket holder. Willie (AB3BS) was the lucky winner! Below are some pictures of Frank's radios.



Who could forget the old Zenith toolbox?

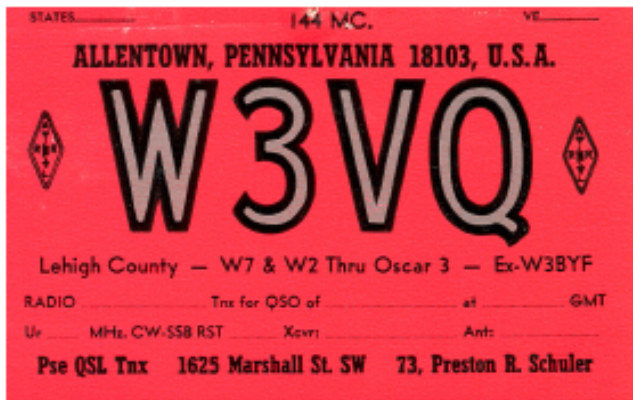


Seized, Unrecovered Items For Sale

A "must see" web site from Phil (KB3HMK). Phil found a web site which sells government seized items for sale, similar to e-bay. You may just find that yacht you have been looking for! Go to: www.stealitback.com. TNX for the tip Phil!

REMEMBER:

- * **Nominations for officers for 2005 at the November 2, 2004 meeting.**
- * **Nominations for the Pres Schuler Award to be taken at the November 2, 2004 meeting.**



The QSL at the left was in an old box found by Hal (WZ3L).
TNX for the memories Hal!



**The officers and Board of Governors wish
all a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!**