



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 October meeting will be held on
October 4, 2004 at the Red Cross Building at 7:30.

Program: **Old Radio Restoration**

Presenter: Frank (W3FTU)



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



THIS MONTH IN HAM RADIO

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 2004						Oceania DX SSB Contest CA QSO Party SET
Oceania DX SSB Contest CA QSO Party SET	ARES RACES Net 7:30	LVARC Meeting Red Cross 7:30	432 MHz Fall Sprint	SARL 80 meter QSO Party		PA QSO PARTY Oceania DX CW Contest
PA QSO PARTY Oceania DX CW Contest	ARES RACES Net 7:30		YLRL Anniv. Party SSB	YLRL Anniv. Party SSB	TECH Class #1 VE Test Session moved to the 17th	Emmaus Halloween Parade TECH Class #2
TECH Class #3 LVARC VE Test Session for ALL	ARES RACES Net 7:30 Emmaus Halloween Parade Rain Date					W/VE Islands QSO Party
W/VE Islands QSO Party	ARES RACES Net 7:30					Worldwide DX Contest SSB
Worldwide DX Contest SSB						

LVARC Meeting - Tuesday October 5, 2004
7:30 pm at the Red Cross Building

LVARC VE Test Session - Sunday October 17, 2004

**Minutes of the September 3, 2004 Meeting**

de Rod (N3XG), - Secretary - LVARC

**Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 7, 2004

President Miller called the meeting to order at 1939 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 19 members in attendance. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: President Miller, Vice President Snyder, Treasurer Ryan, Secretary Wolfe, Board Member Gable, Board Member Larry Miller.

There were no corrections or additions to the August minutes as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Paul NOKIA reported that the balance at the end of August was \$792.29. There were no questions or comments on the report.

Committee Reports:

Repeater

Rod N3XG reported that the FM channel element for the 135 repeater has been received and will be installed sometime in the next two weeks. There has been no action taken by Skywarn to link the 135 repeater to the National Weather Service in Mt. Holly, New Jersey. The NWS is waiting on official notification from the club that we have approved the link.

Program

Phil KB3HMK will present a program on Geo-Cache tonight and Phil reports that next month we will hear from Frank W3FTU, and he will present on the topic of Old Radio Restoration. Phil also reported that he is working on next year's calendar and expects to have basic electronic theory sessions mixed in throughout the year.

Volunteer Examiners

Due to vacation conflict there was no VE session in August. Mark AK3M announced that the September VE session is Friday the 17th. Mark also noted that the October session would not be a Friday night, but instead would match up with the Technician Class test on Sunday October 17th, in the afternoon.

Field Day

Lou N3OL had nothing to report at this time.

Web Site

Paul NOKIA cautioned members not to renew their memberships early on the website. At this time the pay pal is set to charge new members for a year and one half so that they are in good standing for this year and next year.

Education

Rod N3XG announced that the next Technician Class would be held at Mack South Fire Station Training Area the weekend of October 15, 16, and 17. Rod asked anyone in the club that would like to assist, in either the capacity of lead or assistant instructor, they should contact him.

(Minutes - continued on page 6)



(Minutes - continued from page 5)

OLD Business

1. President Miller reminded the membership that nominations for the Pres Schuler award are being accepted. Please contact President Miller for your nomination.
2. President Miller reminded the membership of the upcoming EmComm conference in Selinsgrove PA on October 23. Rod N3XG is planning to attend and offered a seat to anyone that did not wish to make the drive alone.
3. Nominations for the Y-2005 club officers will be held during the November meeting. Please do not forget to review the nomination and election procedures in the club By-Laws. There was an amendment made to those procedures this year.
4. President Miller will provide Tom KB3IYB with the web site that proves our non-profit status with the State of PA, and a photo of the document that recognizes the organization. We should look forward to a hot dog sale fund-raiser in the spring of 2005.
5. Lou N3OL reports that the cable detail is complete and he has delivered a total of 300 foot of RG-8x, cut into three one hundred foot sections with end connectors installed. The cable and end connectors were purchased through Davis RF in Carlisle, Mass.

New Business

1. President Miller announced the Emmaus Halloween Parade would be held on Saturday, October 16, with a rain date of Monday, October 18.
2. President Miller received email from Goody K3NG, inquiring as to the organization of a Lehigh Valley BPL technical team. President Miller forwarded this email to the entire club membership with instructions to contact Goody if they would be interested in that type of activity.
3. President Miller reports that the annual SET drill will be held October 2 and 3. This is usually coordinated through Jeff N3MFT, and we should expect to get further details from Jeff.
4. PA QSO party is October 9 and 10, President Miller asked for a show of hands to see if any club members were interested in gathering as a "mini field day" and entering. As there was not much interest in gathering for this event, members are encouraged to contact either Paul N0KIA or Rod N3XG if they are interested in helping out or operating with either operator.
5. DLARC is having their annual Hamfest on Saturday, September 18.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting closed at 2222 hrs, EDT.

Motion by: Walt KE3SP

Second by: Robin KB3GZV

All were in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted de N3XG, Secretary

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance as of August 30, 2004 - \$792.29	



October Monday Night RACES/ARES Net Control Operators



October 4	NOKIA	Paul
October 11	N3MFT	Jeff
October 18	AK3M	Mark
October 25	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 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

We are all familiar with PT Barnum of circus fame. Do you know for what BOTH the initials in his name stand? (answer on page 10)



LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday October 4--- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Tuesday October 5--- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 PM (Red Cross Bldg.)

Monday October 11 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Friday October 15 -- NO VE Test Session - MOVED TO 10/17

Friday October 15 --- 1st Tech Class

Saturday October 16 --- 2nd Tech Class - Emmaus Halloween Parade

Sunday October 17 --- 3rd Tech Class and VE TEST SESSION FOR ALL

Monday October 18 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Monday October 25 --- 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

October - * Frank (W3FTU) on old radio restoration

November - * Lou (N3OL) on home-brewed radio receivers

*** Nominations for officers for 2005**

*** Nominations for the Pres Schuler Award**

December - * Operation Ho-Ho

*** Election of officers for 2005**

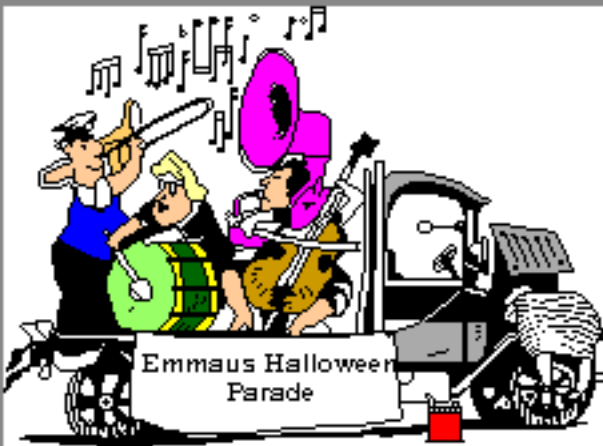
*** Presentation of the Pres Schuler Award**

*** Annual Holiday party**

If you never commit, you
will never be wrong! -- AK3M



Who says
Halloween
cats
have to be
scary?



Emmaus Halloween Parade Scheduled

The Emmaus Halloween Parade will be held on Saturday October 16, 2004 with a rain date of Monday October 18. For more information or to volunteer your communications expertise, contact Bob Green (KE3AW) --- bobgre@fast.net

TRAFFIC TIP



A YIELD sign is **red** by on purpose.
It means **STOP**, if necessary!





We are all familiar with PT Barnum of circus fame. Do you know for what BOTH the initials (PT) in his name stand? (see page 7)



Phineas **T**aylor Barnum

P.S. His ultimate affiliation with the circus did not begin until 1870, when he was 60 years old!

DON'T FORGET

The LVARC VE program. If you know someone who 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)



YOUR ARTICLE HERE

In order to continue the newsletter, submissions from you are necessary. Send any material to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com. Pictures and text are acceptable.



National Lighthouse Day

de Mark (AK3M)

After the LVARC fishing trip and while on vacation on Long Beach Island in August, 2004, Larry (NR3R), Rob (KB3LCW) and I had the opportunity to work and visit the "Old Barney" Lighthouse ARS which was participating in the National Lighthouse Day special event. The OBARC (Old Barney Amateur Radio Club) operated from the park at the base of Barnegat Lighthouse in Barnegat Light, NJ. They operated VHF and HF (40 and 20 meters).

We introduced ourselves as visiting hams and were welcomed as if we were old friends. The club has a portable tower which is transported on a small modified boat trailer. This site is not their Field Day site but the tower and beam accompany them on their club and RACES activities. For VHF, the club erected a vertical. Since we had no HF gear on vacation, we worked the station from the fishing boat using HT's. Below are pictures of their set up.





Are You An ARRL Member?



The ARRL is the national organization which represents our hobby. Your membership helps fund ham radio activities. Membership in the ARRL includes your subscription to QST, the monthly ARRL publication. If you are a member, have you checked your expiration date?

Keep Your E-Mail Current

de Mark (AK3M)

In order to continue to receive e-mail regarding the LVARC, please be sure that your e-mail address is current. ***I delete any returned email from my address book.***

If you have changed your e-mail address or if you have not received e-mail from me (Mark - AK3M) and you are currently a member of the LVARC, please contact me at AK3M@rcn.com.



CQ at the NJ Shore

de Mark (AK3M)

The **C**ystal **Q**ueen is a river - type boat which sails daily between Beach Haven, NJ and Atlantic City. The photo was taken by Larry (NR3R) and submitted to QST for possible publication.





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.



“The only good is knowledge and the only evil is ignorance”

--- Socrates (Greek philosopher in Athens (469 BC - 399 BC))



LVARC Fall Technician Classes Planned

LVARC instructor, Rod (N3XG) has planned another weekend of Technician classes. **The classes will be held the weekend of October 15, 16, and 17, 2004.**

The classes begin Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday morning. There will be a break for lunch on Sunday, then Sunday afternoon (approx. 12:00 pm), the VE Team will administer the Technician Exam. The first class in Spring, 2004 showed was 100% successful where all three students passed and received their Technician class license! **The cost per student is \$40.00. The fee includes the textbook "Now Your Talking", 5th edition. The cost without the textbook is \$20.00. Both options include the license exam fee for Sunday afternoon. Deadline for registration is October 1.**

The classes will be held at the Allentown Fire Department Classroom at the Mack South Station in Allentown.

We wish to thank Rod (N3XG) for securing the classroom and testing site. TNX also to Bruce Bobo (KB3FIH) for offering room at the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center. Finally, thanks to acting Chief Kiskeravage for his participation in obtaining this site.

Anyone interested in attending the classes should contact Rod Wolfe, Jr. at rjwolfe@rcn.com or call him at 610-266-3355.

The test session Sunday is for ALL (upgrades) and not just the participants of the Technician class. Registration for testing is essential.

To schedule for the Sunday October 17, 2004 LVARC test session, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call him at 610-865-9183.

This test session date change is for October ONLY. November's test session will return to the third Friday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross building.



RESCUE RADIO RULES: FCC CLARIFIES EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS - submitted by Jeff (N3MFT) - LC EC



THE FCC has issued what amounts to a white paper to clarify the rules hams must follow when providing communications during an emergency.

WITH the hurricane season upon us and wildfires and other severe weather hitting various parts of the nation, the Federal Communications Commission believes now is the time for a clarification on Emergency Communications Declarations.

WHAT is an Emergency Communications Declaration or ECD?

WHEN a natural disaster or accident interrupts or disrupts normal communications systems in a particular area, the FCC - at the request of emergency management officials or an amateur radio operator acting on behalf of emergency officials - issues an **Emergency Communications Declaration**.

ESSENTIALLY, the order defines special conditions and special rules to be followed by amateur radio stations providing service during the communications emergency in that particular area.

THE FCC says occasionally, it receives requests for Emergency Communications Declarations before a hurricane or tropical storm hits. The FCC says such requests generally arrive anywhere from 24 to 72 hours in advance of weather predictions citing potential damage to a particular area.

BUT under Section 97.401(a), emergency communications before an event **CAN** be established to meet essential needs of a community or to help prepare relief activities. The commission acknowledges preparations to meet a disaster may overload or damage normal communications systems so it allows amateur stations to make emergency transmissions at any time prior to or even during a disaster.

(continued on page 16)



(continued from page 15)

IN essence, the FCC says there's no need for an ECD because the actual event disrupting communications has not occurred.

SO, the FCC says such declarations WILL NOT be issued until AFTER the disaster disrupts normal communications in a geographic area subject to FCC regulation.



SPEAKING of emergencies, it doesn't necessarily have to be a weather-related incident, as we found on September 11, 2001. It can also be a transportation accident such as a railroad incident or a fire or explosion.

WHATEVER the emergency, once communications are disrupted, the FCC says there are only two sources from which it will accept an application for an ECD. The first is an emergency management official responsible for communications in the affected area. The second is an amateur radio operator acting at the request of an emergency management official.

THE FCC says **such applications must contain very specific information** such as:

- **The date the event has taken place.**
- **The nature of the disaster.**
- **A description of the communications system disrupted and a contact person who can verify the damage.**
- **The geographic area affected - city, county, state or region. Listing of the VHF/UHF, MF or HF frequencies to be used during the emergency.**
- **An estimated time the disruption of normal communications is expected to last.**

THE FCC says an Emergency Communications Declaration will contain an expiration date. However, the commission says that date can be extended at the request of the emergency official or authorized party making the original request.

THE FCC's Communications and Crisis Management Center is the place where Emergency Communications Declaration requests are sent. You can reach them by phone at 202-418-1122, that's 202-418-1122. FAX requests are handled at 202-418-2813, 202-418-2813. Or, you can make the filing by e-mail to [comm\(hyphen\)ctr@fcc.gov](mailto:comm(hyphen)ctr@fcc.gov).

(ARNewsline) --- From the Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1410 - August 20, 2004



HAM RADIO "ONLY RELIABLE COMMUNICATION" AT HURRICANE CHARLEY GROUND ZERO

Once again, Amateur Radio has proven its value in an emergency. With conventional telecommunication systems unreliable and power still out after the Category 4 Hurricane Charley blasted across the Florida Peninsula August 13, Amateur Radio has proven to be a communication mainstay.

"The only reliable communication we have here is Amateur Radio," ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, told ARRL earlier this week. He was one of the three dozen ARES volunteers at the Charlotte County command post. "We're out in the field trying to handle so many different things that it's almost overwhelming," he said five days into the activation.



By week's end, the need for additional ARES volunteers in the Hurricane Charley relief and recovery effort had stabilized. Communications and Warning Officer John Fleming, WD4FFX, of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) told ARRL that ham radio volunteers already on duty in the five most severely affected counties were holding their own in maintaining necessary emergency communication. But he advised Amateur Radio volunteers to remain at the ready, just in case, and recommended that ARES teams, clubs and individuals work through their ARES Section Emergency Coordinator.

The FDEM says Hurricane Charley caused two dozen deaths and nearly 4000 injuries, and almost a quarter-million residents were still without power at week's end. Other reports indicate that as many as 10,000 homes were badly damaged or destroyed.

The most severely stricken communities are in largely rural areas of western and central Florida made up of smaller towns. Among other storm relief duties, hams have been part of an effort to check on residents and determine what they need and to "make sure everyone's okay," Armbrust said.

Amateur Radio operators have been handling emergency traffic and assisting the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in setting up HF communication to the state emergency operations center in the capital of Tallahassee. ARES also has provided communication for search-and-rescue teams and supported American Red Cross and The Salvation Army humanitarian relief efforts.

In addition, ARES operators handled outgoing health-and-welfare traffic from storm victims now taking refuge in shelters, provided or supplemented public safety communication and even took on some dispatching duties. Amateur Radio volunteers also deployed to hospitals, some of which have experienced spotty communication. Several VHF and UHF repeaters have been buzzing with emergency traffic all week.

Armbrust emphasized that Hurricane Charley cut a broad swath across Florida, and the devastation was widespread. "This looks like a war zone," he remarked. Hot, humid weather has aggravated the relief effort, especially for emergency medical service personnel who not only are dealing with storm-related health issues but with those resulting from the heat.

(continued on page 18)



(continued from page 17)

ARES teams from Florida Miami-Dade, Martin, St Lucie, Broward, Okeechobee and Palm Beach counties deployed to relieve or assist the amateur operators on duty in the affected communities.

In Sarasota County, Ron Wetjen, WD4AHZ, has been working at the county EOC and assigning volunteers to assist in neighboring Charlotte County, where Armbrust has been holding down the fort.

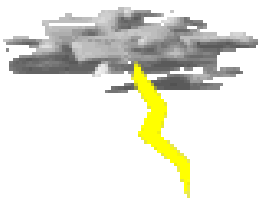
"We've had offers of help from guys in Montana, Ohio, and New York!"

Wetjen said August 19. "We have a couple from Tennessee here now, with two more on the way for the weekend."

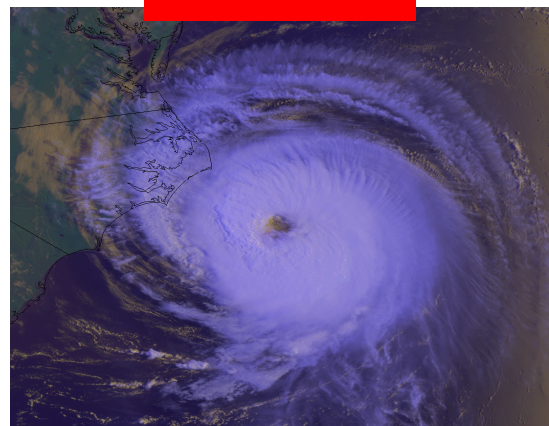
The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) on 14.265 MHz spent nearly five days in continuous operation. It's also used Amateur Radio for its logistical communications. The Salvation Army has been providing meals, household necessities and other assistance to residents displaced by the storm and has been relying on its own Amateur Radio resources. SATERN also has taken on responsibility for health-and-welfare inquiries, both via Amateur Radio and through its Web site <<http://www.saturn.net>>.

In advance of the storm, SKYWARN teams were active the Hurricane Watch Net and WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center cooperated to gather ground-level weather data and damage reports.

"It seems as if the Amateur Radio world is listening and waiting to help when an event such as this occurs," observed SATERN National Director Pat McPherson, WW9E, "and it's edifying to realize the positive impact of their dedication to the task of helping others."



Source:
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 23, No. 33
August 20, 2004





Inaugural ARRL EPA Section EmComm Conference

Date: Saturday – October 23, 2004

Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Location: PA Career Link Building
713 Bridge Street, Selinsgrove, PA 17870

**The Conference is open to all Amateur Radio Operators
interested in Amateur Radio Emergency
Communications.**

Speakers at the Conference will be:

- Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO – CQ Public Service Editor and ARRL EPA Asst. SM
- Anthony Camillocci, KA3BPN – PEMA Eastern Region Director
- John Rymell, N3PF – Lycoming County Emergency Coordinator
- Nicholas Meacher, N3WWE – Adams County Emergency Coordinator
- Bob Reynolds, WB3DYE – WNEP-TV CH16, Senior Correspondent
- Chris Snyder, NG3F – Snyder County Emergency Coordinator/RACES Officer

Multiple Emergency Communication Vehicles are currently scheduled to be on hand for all
to view, including:

National Red Cross Disaster Communications Plan
N3XJX's personal Communications Van
Harrisburg Area REACT Team Communications Van
Luzerne County Communications Vehicle
Lancaster County Communications Van

Registration Fee: \$5.00 if received on or before Oct 17th, or \$7.50 after.

To Register contact Roger Dietz, N3CVQ – Snyder County Asst. EC
via

email: rdietz@ptd.net

Go to www.svemcomm.org and click on the link to get the Registration Form

Sponsored by: Susquehanna Valley EmComm
(Northumberland County ARES and Snyder County ARES/RACES)



Inaugural ARRL EPA Section EmComm Conference**Pre-Registration Form****Saturday October 23, 2004****PA Career Link Building****713 Bridge Street, Selinsgrove, PA 17870**

NAME: _____ **CALL:** _____
STREET: _____
CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____

***** Registration Fee: \$5.00 if fee is received on or before October 17 - \$7.00 after *****

Check or M.O. Only - Do not send cash

Affiliation: (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> ARES	<input type="checkbox"/> RACES	<input type="checkbox"/> SKYWARN
<input type="checkbox"/> AMATEUR RADIO CLUB		<input type="checkbox"/> NONE
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____		

Appointments Held (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> SM	<input type="checkbox"/> ASM	<input type="checkbox"/> SEC	<input type="checkbox"/> STM
<input type="checkbox"/> TC	<input type="checkbox"/> DOC	<input type="checkbox"/> DEC	<input type="checkbox"/> EC
<input type="checkbox"/> RO	<input type="checkbox"/> DRO		
OTHER _____			

Mail Registration and Fee to:

Roger Dietz, N3CVQ - Snyder County AEC Admin/Logistics
RD#2 Box 310
Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA 17853
rdietz@ptd.net



Did You Know that FEMA has a website designed for children?

It features *Herman* the spokes crab!



Go to: <http://www.fema.gov/kids/index.htm>



BPL Email - de <ark (AK3M)

(I received the follwing e-mail and said I would print in the E-VOX)

Greetings

I'm Anthony Good ("Goody") K3NG, President of the Carbon Amateur Radio Club, your "neighbors to the north." I've been active in the ongoing BPL issue, having written articles for CQ VHF and Broadband Reports, and I also help run the BPLandHamRadio Reflector on Yahoogroups.

The reason I'm writing is there does not appear to be an organized Lehigh Valley/Southeastern PA BPL Team. Several areas that have active BPL sites in operation have BPL teams that take measurements and work in an organized and well-thought out manner. I'm curious if members in your clubs have expressed an interest in forming a local team. I'm thinking a cross-organization team of several talented folks could significantly change the direction of BPL in the area, especially considering PPL's early adoption and promotion of it.

Do you know of any local teams and/or would you be interested in organizing one?

Thanks and 73
Goody - K3NG

Feel free to respond to Goody.



RACES / ARES What's the Difference?



(For new hams or just a review) - de Mark (AK3M)

Do you know the difference between RACES and ARES? **ARES** stands for **Amateur Radio Emergency Services** and is sanctioned by the ARRL. Parades, walks etc. are operated under ARES.

RACES means **Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services** and is under the control of the county. RACES is only activated at the request of the office of the Lehigh County Emergency Management. The LC EMA may activate RACES in the event of a local emergency.

One need not be a member of the LVARC to be a member of RACES and a membership in one organization (RACES/ARES) is not an automatic membership in both. To join LC RACES, contact Lehigh County Emergency Coordinator Jeff Kelly (N3MFT) or complete the RACES form which can be downloaded from the club's web site.

Lehigh County RACES



Are You A Member? ... Are You **Sure**?

Are you a LC RACES member? Are you sure? Just because you check into the Monday Night RACES/ARES Net does NOT mean that you are registered with Lehigh County Emergency Management. If you do not have a RACES card issued by the county, you are not registered. YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED RACES MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN RACES ACTIVITIES. To be a registered member of Lehigh County RACES, contact Jeff (N3MFT) or download a RACES membership form found on the club's web site (<http://www.w3oi.org>). Complete the form and mail to Jeff.

RF “Sniffer”



For many weeks, Frank (W3FTU) has been troubleshooting ignition noise when using his Icom 706 in his mobile (Blazer). He has been experiencing a 20 over ignition noise when the vehicle is running, canceling most signals. He has added a separate ground, changed his distributor wires, distributor, alternator and has added torroids on all ignition wires. The GM website suggested the interference may come from the fuel pump. After “sniffing around,” this was not the case.

In order to track down the exact source, Frank created a hand-held “RF Sniffer.” It consists of a coil of #14 solid wire made into 5 -3” coils and attached to a stick. The coils connect to a 10-foot piece of coax cable with a PL259 on the end. The cable plugs into the antenna connection of the radio while placing the coil at different parts of the engine and frame. The RF noise will be heard on the radio when close to the source. **Crude, yes effective, DEFINITELY!**



The “Sniffer”
(left)



W3FTU “sniffing” under the
hood and under the car
(left and above)



2004 Simulated Emergency Test Scheduled for October

October 2 - 3

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Field Organization Leaders including Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, Section Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Many other Section Leaders like the Section Manager and the Section Traffic Manager may have a hand in planning the exercises and/or reviewing the results. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other public-service oriented groups can be involved.

The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. Although the main SET weekend this year is October 2-3, local and section-wide exercises may be held throughout the fall season.

Purpose of SET

1. To find out the strengths and weaknesses of ARES, NTS, RACES and other groups in providing emergency communications.
2. To provide a public demonstration--to served agencies such as the American Red Cross, the emergency management agency and through the news media--of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.
3. To help radio amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated-emergency conditions.

Visit the ARRL web site for additional information:
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html>



**FOR
SALE**

**Mosley TA33
With
Ham-M Rotor
\$250.00**

**Contact Harry Buchin (W3TEB)
w3teb@enter.net**

**A big TNX to
Phil (KB3HMK) for a
great presentation on
geocaching !**

This hobby uses GPS
technology along with
internet interaction. Phil
has already started
thinking of a "hunt" for
LVARC members.



**TNX to Paul (NOKIA) for picking up
six pizzas which were enjoyed by
all at the September 7, 2004
meeting!**

**The LVARC *Decree of
Incorporation* was on display
at the September 7, 2004
meeting. Paul will retain this
document.**





BACK TO THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD FOR LIEUTENANT POST!!

de Mark (AK3M)

Below, is a copy of an email I received from Chris (N3SIG) in September

Most of you over the past year or so have asked me about Antarctica at one time or another and if I was ever going to go back.. I most times laughed it off and said "we'll see" well it looks like that time is near..

Long story short, I originally turned down a position earlier this year as a Lieutenant with the Antarctic Fire Department hoping things would lighten up at the County. As most of you know I am no longer working in the EMA office.. I can only assume that the financial restraints of county government and this being an election year led to my position being dissolved.

Today I was offered a position and excepted it as a Lieutenant with the Antarctic Fire Department deploying to Antarctica some time towards the end of October or early November. This is another contract position where I will return to the US some time in March 2005.

Some things that made me steer towards another Antarctic adventure include this years 50th anniversary of Scott Base and the visitation of Ed Hillary and the 25th anniversary of the airline crash on Mt. Erebus.. Maybe this is the historic part of me but I cant seem to let it pass by especially when this is the 2nd time they asked me to come back.. I guess I am doing something right!

So I know many of you have shared the adventure with me, To make things easier you can subscribe to my email list by visiting: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/antarcticadventure/>

Over the next few weeks I will post more as I work through my physical Qualification process and future deployment.

Stay Tuned!

Chris