



# The **E-VOX**

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



## **L**ehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub - **W3OI**



**Allentown, Pennsylvania** (Lehigh County) - **USA**

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### Officers

*President:* **Rod Wolfe, Jr. - N3XG** (rjwolfe@rcn.com)

*Vice President:* **Craig Traverson - N3TSY** (cjtraverson@yahoo.com)

*Secretary:* **Phillip Bigg - KB3HMK** (philbert@enter.net)

*Treasurer:* **Paul Ryan - N0KIA** (n0kia@arrrl.net)

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### Board of Governors

**Robin Gable - KB3GZV** (kb3gzw@arrrl.net)

**Mark S. Miller - AK3M** (AK3M@rcn.com)

**Willie Robertson - AB3BS** (WILLIETR@BELLATLANTIC.NET)

**Larry Snyder - KN3L** (KN3L@arrrl.net)

**Frank Unger - W3FTU** (funger@ptd.net)

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**E-VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (AK3M)** (AK3M@rcn.com) or (AK3M@arrrl.net)

**Webmaster- Paul Ryan (N0KIA)** (n0kia@arrrl.net)



### Repeaters

**146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)**

**147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)**

**Club Simplex Freq. - 147.420**

### 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>**





## October 2006 Contents



Meeting Information .....		page 3
L.C. RACES Net Information .....		page 3
Minutes of the September, 2006 Meeting .....		pages 4-5
This Month In Ham Radio .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	page 6
LVARC Activities .....	<b>IMPORTANT</b>	page 7
<b>IS 700 Deadline</b> .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	<b>page 8</b>
LVARC VE Report / Odd's 'n Ends .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	page 9
Marconi In New Jersey .....		pages 10-11
False Radio Calls Not Limited to Amateur Radio .....		page 12
"Backwards Sunspots" .....	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	page 13
Weather Predictions from the Farmer's Almanac .....		page 14
No ..... s for the Pres Schuler Award .....		page 15



**Happy  
Halloween**



Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark (AK3M)  
at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com)

Your submissions can be text or graphics.



The October LVARC meeting will be held on October 3, 2006  
at the Red Cross Building At 7:30 pm.

Program: TBA  
 Presenter: TBA



## **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 - 2006**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Mondays</u>
January	167	5
February	132	4
March	149	4
April	149	4
May	123	4
June	109	4
July	120	4
August	102	4



**Minutes of the September 5, 2006 LVARC Meeting**

Submitted by Phil (KB3HMK) - LVARC Secretary

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

The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1934 Hrs, (EST / EDST).

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

There were a total of 17 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 1 guest. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod (N3XG), Craig (N3TSY), Phil (KB3HMK), Paul (N0KIA), Mark (AK3M), Robin (KB3GZV).

Corrections Additions to the minutes: None noted

Approved by: Craig – N3TSY  
Second by: Carl – AA3IX  
Carried (Y/N) Y

**Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)**

Starting Balance: \$2,232.94

Ending Balance: \$2,227.00

Repeater Fund: \$1,833.84

Approved by: Walt – KE3SP  
Second by: Carl – AA3IX  
Carried: (Y/N) Y

**Committee Reports:**

**Repeater:** The 147.735 repeater's voter stopped working. Should be back soon. The interference from Northampton County Control seems to have stopped. No problems were reported.

**Program:** Phil reports tonight's program will be Paul (N0KIA). He will be doing a program on different gadgets that have helped hams in doing there hobby. Phil reports that he doesn't have any programs for October and November. Rod has a possible program for both months. More info to follow.



**Volunteer Examiners:** The club had 2 people test. One was for tech and passed. The other was an advanced to extra that did not pass. The program is going well. People are coming from all over to test. Next test date will September 15.

**Field Day:** No report

Web Site: No report

**Education:** No report

**OLD Business:** Rod wants to remind the club to bring there old ink cartridges. Nominations for the Pres Schuyler Award are now being taken. Please let any board member know. Nominations for club officers will be done at the October meeting. So get an idea of who you want to be on the board for next year. A member can be nominated for more than one position. They can only run for one position. Any member who wishes to stay active in RACES / ARES must have the NIMS IS-700 by the end of September. If there are enough members interested, the club might be able to get a class together. There might also be a class held at Northampton Community College. The Thursday night net will resume the 1st Thursday in October on the 147.135 repeater.

**New Business:** Rod will like to another hoagie sale. Delivery date will be Wednesday, November 8. The orders must be in Friday November 3. More info to follow. Bob, the ARES / RACES District 2 manager would like to do a net on a Saturday, once a month. The drill that was scheduled for October 14 in Lehigh County has been canceled. It will possibly reschedule in March. On September 30, there will be a RACES class in Harrisburg. Contact Jeff (N3MFT) for more info. Mark (AK3M) had an inquiry about another tech class. Rod says he wants to have another one. More info to follow.

Members sick or in the hospital: Jim (KA3UQP) is back home and doing well. Bruce (KA3ONZ) is still at Westminster Village. As far as the club knows, he is doing fine.

New members/Guests: No new members. 1 guest – Tim (KD3JP)

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2007 hrs, EST.

**\$\$\$ W3OI Finances**

**\$\$\$**

**Balance ending August, 2006 - \$ 2,227.00**





## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 UBA 6m Contest Last Day to get IS 700 Cert.	2 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Paul-NOKIA	3 LVARC Meeting Red Cross 7:30	4	5 SARL 80m QSO Party LVARC Thursday Night Net 7:30 pm	6	7 Oceania SSB DX Contest CA QSO Party
8 Oceania SSB DX Contest CA QSO Party	9 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Jeff-N3MFT	10	11	12 LVARC Thursday Night Net 7:30 pm	13	14 Women's 5K Classic PA QSO Party
15 PA QSO Party Deadline to schedule test	16 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Anthony KB3MUX	17	18	19 LVARC Thursday Night Net 7:30 pm	20 LVARC Test Session 7:00 pm	21 Worked All Germany Contest Emmaus Halloween Parade
22 Worked All Germany Contest	23 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Larry-KN3L	24	25	26 LVARC Thursday Night Net 7:30 pm	27	28 CQ World-Wide SSB DX Contest
29 CQ World-Wide SSB DX Contest	30 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Jim-KA3UQP	31	October 2006			

LVARC Meeting - Tuesday October 3 - 7:30 - Red Cross Bldg.

Test Session - Friday October 20 - 7:00 pm - Red Cross Bldg.



## LVARC Activities/Events

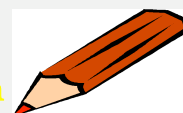
Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



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

REMEMBER: The LVARC offers amateur radio testing. If you want to obtain your entry level license or if you wish to upgrade, the LVARC can help.



Test sessions are given the last day of each month.  
**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!** Registration must be made no later than the Sunday before the Friday test session.  
 Tuesday October 1, 2006 -- Last Day to Get IS 700 Certification  
 Monday October 2 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
 Tuesday October 3 --- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 pm (Red Cross Bldg.)  
 Monday October 9 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
 Sunday October 15 -- Deadline to Schedule Test Session  
 Friday October 20 --- LVARC Test Session (REGISTRATION NECESSARY)

**REMEMBER: Registration for the monthly VE test session, must be made NO LATER THAN THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE TEST!**

**Contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) or call 610-865-9183**

### In My Opinion ....

When calling a station on VHF/UHF, it is not necessary to use phonetics. In fact, it is considered insulting to the station being called. It suggests that he does not know his own call and phonetics are needed to remind him.

"In My Opinion" or "It Seems to Me ..." is a new feature. Editorials permit the editor to speak his mind but this feature allows the reader to publish his opinions. Please send your "In My Opinion" submissions to Mark (AK3M).



## IMPORTANT LVARC ACTIVITY

**The county-wide Disaster Drill has been postponed until March, 2007. Details to be announced.**

The Women's 5K Classic will be held on Saturday October 14, 2006. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.**  
Contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.

## Up-Coming LVARC Activities

### October

Women's 5K Classic  
Emmaus Halloween Parade  
PA QSO Party

### November

Nominations for Officers  
Pres Schuler Award Nominations

### December

Elections of Officers for 2007  
Operation Ho Ho  
Annual Holiday Party



## IMPORTANT

**THE DEADLINE IS HERE!** If you intend to remain a L.C. RACES participant, **you MUST have completed AT LEAST IS 700.** Also, *EcOMM Level 1 (EC 001)* is

***strongly recommended !!*** IS 700 can be taken on-line at:

**<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>.**

The certificate can be earned while you sit in your chair from home!!

**There will be NO exceptions. After October 1, only those who have IS 700 certification will be allowed to participate in RACES activities.**

If you have any questions, contact Jeff (N3MFT) at: [kellyj@ptd.net](mailto:kellyj@ptd.net)





## August 18, 2006 VE Report --- de Mark (AK3M)

At the August 18, 2006 LVARC Test Session, two tested and one passed.

**Congratulations** to Alfred (AI) Sasso who passed his Technician test.

A big TNX to VE's **Walt (KE3SP)**, **Rod (N3XG)** and LVARC's newest VE, **Jeff Fehr (KX3Q)**.

## Odd's 'n Ends

On Wednesday following the August 18, 2006 test session, Al Sasso received his call. Congratulations to **AI** who now sports his new call, **KB3NYF**.

To volunteer for the Women's 5K Classic (Oct. 14), contact Mark (AK3M) at **AK3M@rcn.com** or call 610-865-9183.

To volunteer for the Emmaus Halloween Parade, contact Bob Green (KE3AW) at **bobgre@fast.net**

The October 1, 2006 deadline is near. **Get that IS 700 certification now!**

***In order to maintain the E-VOX, your submissions are needed! Send them to Mark (AK3M).***



## Long-Silent SuitSat-1 Keeps Going and Going

(from the ARRL web site - August 24, 2006)

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 24, 2006 -- When SuitSat-1 -- the satellite built in a surplus Russian *Orlan* spacesuit -- was launched during a spacewalk from the International Space Station last February 3, those familiar with orbital mechanics predicted it would stay in orbit for 120 days at

best. Today, some 202 days (nearly seven months) later -- largely forgotten and its ham radio voice long since silent -- SuitSat-1 has defied the odds and remains in orbit some 164 miles above Earth. A project of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, SuitSat-1, identifying as RS0RS, transmitted its voice greetings on 2 meters plus an SSTV picture thousands of times. Although its signal was far weaker than it was supposed to be for reasons never determined with any certainty, SuitSat-1 remained operational for more than two weeks.

## Marconi in New Jersey de Mark (AK3M)

While on vacation in New Jersey this past August (2006), Larry (NR3R) and I, quite by accident, stumbled across **The Twin Lights of Navesink, NJ**. After deciding to investigate this historic site, we entered the museum. Imagine our surprise when we discovered an entire exhibit devoted to Marconi! The New York Herald newspaper had hired Marconi to report on the America's Cup yacht races, which were being held off the tip of Sandy Hook (NJ). He did this using CW at 50 wpm! This demonstration worked so well that Marconi expanded his operations, making Twin Lights the nation's first wireless telegraph station capable of sending and receiving messages on a regular commercial basis.

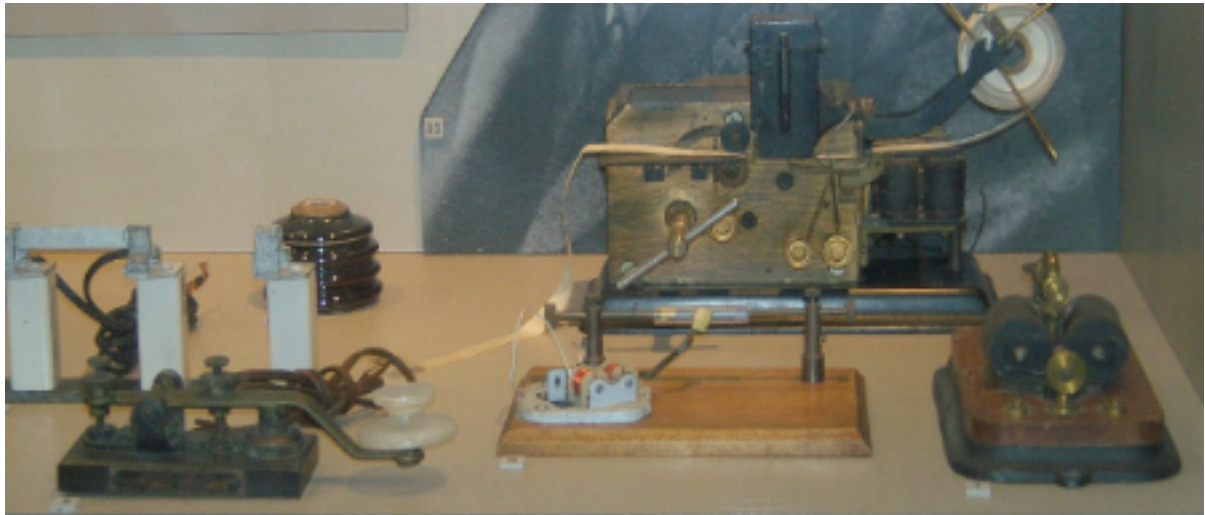


The North Tower of the "Twin Lights" (right)



Marconi's spark generator (above)





Marconi's  
transmitter  
(above)



Marconi and his  
telegraph key  
(above)



Marconi's antenna  
(above  
and right)







## False Radio Calls Not Limited to Amateur Radio

(The following article was received from Larry (NR3R))

*We all are aware of and hear about false emergency calls and radio abuse in general but usually relate it to amateur radio as that is our main interest. The following article however, shows us that radio abuse can be heard on all bands.*

As tropical storm Alberto was bearing down on Florida in June [2006], an already busy Coast Guard wasted two days and \$347,000 searching for a boat in distress --- only to find nothing. The call was a hoax and the caller, a Boynton Beach [FL] man was arrested and is facing federal charges, big fines and up to 10 years in jail.

The June 11 call said a 33 foot boat was taking on water and there were nine people on board including four children. The Coast Guard sent two aircraft, 2 helicopters and two vessels to search 1,000 square miles from Boynton Beach to St. Lucie inlet. When nothing came up, officials became suspicious.

Since all calls are recorded, it was re-played on local television and a viewer recognized the voice and called authorities. The 45-year old suspect is unemployed and does not own a powerboat. In addition to a \$250,000 fine, he could be ordered to repay the Coast Guard the cost of the search.

The Coast Guard gets 100-200 phony calls each year which not only waste time and money but could divert rescue crews from a real emergency. **The U.S. Attorney's Office decided to throw the book at the suspect in this case as a warning to others that hoax calls are no joke.**



Homeland  
Security

United States Coast Guard

Seaside Station



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Frank (W3FTU) and XYL Jamie who became first time grandparents on Wednesday August 23, 2006 !!!!! **Nicholas James** weighed in at 8 lbs., 1 oz. **No word on Nick's call yet** but he does have his **own web site!** See: <http://www2.thatsmybaby.net/BabySites/baby.php?id=122-21094>





## **"BACKWARD SUNSPOTS" MAY HERALD START OF SOLAR CYCLE 24**

(submitted by Rod (N3XG))

The recent appearance on the sun of two so-called "backward sunspots" may mean solar Cycle 23 is drawing to a close and Cycle 24 now is under way or soon will be. At least that's the thinking of some scientists.



"We've been waiting for this," said Solar Physicist David Hathaway of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, after the first backward spot showed up. "A backward sunspot is a sign that the next solar cycle is beginning."

The term "backward" refers to the sunspots' magnetic polarity. One such sunspot appeared briefly July 31, then disappeared, but its significance was that its magnetic polarity was just the opposite of current Cycle 23 spots. Another more robust backward spot, Sunspot 905, appeared in late August -- although it subsequently began to dissipate -- and some sungazers are saying Cycle 24 already has begun. ARRL propagation guru Tad Cook, K7RA, this week called it "the second sunspot of the new Solar Cycle 24."

"Eventually there will be more of the new reversed sunspots than old ones from Cycle 23, and that occurrence is one way to mark the beginning of the next sunspot cycle," he said. Radio conditions will not improve any time soon but over a period of several years of the course of the 11-year cycle, perhaps peaking around 2010.

### **Old Radio Site and "CQ Serenade" Song**

--- from an email from Charlie (W3DEA)

Brad (W3JXQ) found this. Hopefully your system plays mp3's. Let the page load the Antique radio page and listen.

**<http://www.freewebs.com/wa6dij/index.htm>**

***Download the "CQ Serenade" song in an mp3 format at:***

**[http://w3oi.dyndns.org/w3oi/music/CQ\\_Serenade.mp3](http://w3oi.dyndns.org/w3oi/music/CQ_Serenade.mp3)**

## FARMERS' ALMANAC

**Note:** If you have not yet given Jeff (N3MFT) a **hard copy of your NIMS certificate(s)**, do so now. Copy your certificate(s) and US mail it/them to Jeff at:

**Jeffery J Kelly**  
**410 N Marshall St**  
**Allentown, PA. 18104**

Remember, you can still check into the Monday Nights RACES net but without IS 700 you **cannot** participate in RACES activities !



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## Nominations for the Pres Schuler Award Now Being Accepted

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States. 1  
it, then t



develop. 20th-23rd. Dangerous thunderstorms, accom  
downpours and possible damaging winds for the Nor  
Fair in New England, then unsettled. 28th-30th. Fair.

The Pres Schuler award is given to a member of the LVARC for excellence in  
service to the club. He/she is nominated by you, the members. Pres Schuler  
1st-3rd. Squalls in New England. The LVARC came to head this Mid-Atlantic ex-  
4th-7th. Clear and unseasonably chilly. 8th-11th. Unsettled, with rain.  
12th-15th. Pleasant. 16th-19th. Stormy. 20th-23rd. Fair and windy.  
24th-27th. Scattered showers, then fair. 28th-31st. Stormy, some wet  
Email Red (N3XG) or any board member with your nomination for this award which  
now possible in New England, 2006 meeting.

The Thursday Night LVARC net will begin again on the first  
Thursday in October (October 5, 2006). The net will meet on  
the 147.135 repeater at 7:30. Please join the fun !!!



## The LVARC to Hold 2nd Hoagie Sale

The LVARC will hold its second hoagie sale in November.  
The proceeds will bolster our repeater and general fund.  
Details will be heard at the October meeting.

Remember to send your newsletter submissions  
to Mark (AK3M) at: [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).