

# The *E-VOX*

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



## *Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI*



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

### 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@arrl.net)

### Board of Governors

Robin Gable - KB3GZV (kb3gzw@arrl.net)  
Mark S. Miller - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.com)  
Larry Snyder - KN3L (KN3L@ARRL.NET)  
Walt Snyder - KE3SP (SBWALLY@AOL.COM)  
Frank Unger - W3FTU (funger@ptd.net)

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

**Webmaster- Paul Ryan (N0KIA) (n0kia@arrl.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)



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



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Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark (AK3M)  
at **AK3M@rcn.com**

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The April, 2008 LVARC meeting will be held on April 1, 2008 at the Tri-Clover Fire Co. at 7:30 pm.

Program - "Ham Radio Show & Tell"



## 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 - 2008

Month

January  
February



Number of  
Check-In's

145  
135



Number of  
Nets

4  
4

**Lehigh County EMA Site**  
(RACES Application Link is On This Site)



<http://www.lehighcounty.org/ema/em.cfm>



## Minutes of the March 4 , 2008 LVARC Meeting

Submitted by Phil (KB3HMK) -- Recording Secretary



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1932 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 21 members in attendance, and the club was joined by no guests. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod (N3XG), Craig (N3TSY), Phil (KB3HMK), Paul (N0KIA), Mark (AK3M), Frank (W3FTU), Robin (KB3GZV) and Walt (KE3SP).

### **Corrections Additions to the minutes:** None noted

Motion by: Bruce – KA3TIU

Second by: Walt – KE3SP

Carried (Y/N) Y

### **Treasurer's Report** (Paul – N0KIA)

Starting Balance: \$3,834.90

Ending Balance: \$3,816.84

Approved by: Craig – N3TSY

Second by: Al – KB3JPP

Carried: (Y/N) Y

### **Committee Reports:**

**Repeater:** No abnormal problems reported

**Program:** Phil reports that tonight's program is John (KB3PJO). He will be doing a topic called "BPL – The Other Side." Next month will be Paul (N0KIA) and he will be doing a "Show & Tell" night. More information to follow. Phil says that we are good till June with programs. As always, if you would like to do a program or have an idea, please contact Phil (KB3HMK) any way possible. Phil also reports that the club had its annual dinner get together. Everyone who attended had a good time.

**Volunteer Examiners:** Mark reports that 3 tested for February. Larsen Kerschner (KB3QLG), Robert Eustice, Sr. (KB3QLF) and Terry Kern (KB3QKS) got there technician license. Congratulations to all three.

**R.A.C.E.S. & Public Events:** A temporary committee has been formed to create a guideline for events or call ups. The guide will define accepting, deploying and organizing events or call ups. More information to follow.

**Old Business:** The Cherryhill hamfest is April 5. The club will have a table to sell items. If you would like to donate any ham related items, please see Frank (W3FTU). The money that is raised will go to the club. The Lehigh Valley Half Marathon is April 27. Mark (AK3M) is looking for volunteers. If you're available, please contact him. There will be a weather spotter class on March 12. The class is filled. Check the previous newsletters for information to see if there are more seats available. There will be a non deployed weather drill the following day. Listen to the 146.94 repeater that day. The club will be having another hoagie sale. The date is May 13, 2008.



The second reading of the by-laws change was read tonight. It is as follows:

*Current version:*

## ARTICLE I – Membership

### Section 1. – Qualifications

C. To be an active member one must hold an amateur license and is a current member.

D. To be an associate member, it is not necessary to hold an amateur license.

*Proposed change:*

C. To be an associate member, one must be current of dues and have been voted into the club by majority vote at time of membership application. Associate members need not hold an amateur license.

D. To be an active member, one must be current of dues and have been voted into the active membership by majority vote after attending no less than two club meetings within any 12-month period after acceptance as an associate member. Active members must hold a valid amateur license issued by the FCC.

A motion will be asked under new business. Rod received a quote for a new repeater. This will replace the existing 147.135 repeater. The repeater will suit the clubs needs.

**New Business:** Rod asked for a motion to accept the new by-laws change. The motion was made by Bruce (KA3TIU) and seconded by Dave (W3AMC). There was discussion on the motion. After lengthy debate, Rod asked for a show of hands on the vote. There were 18 in favor and 2 against. The motion passed. The new change will start April 1, 2008. Rod asked for a motion to purchase a new repeater to replace the 147.135 repeater. The motion was made by Craig (N3TSY) and seconded Charlie (KB3FDM). There was discussion on the motion. The motion passed. There will be Intercounty simulated drill on March 12. There is also a possibility of going on thru March 19.

**Good of Order:** Rod asked for someone to take the net for next Monday. Dorian said he would cover it. Reading is looking for operators to help with a parade they will be having. Contact Rod for more information. There were two new appointments for Eastern Pa A.R.E.S. Bob (WB3W) is now the Section Emergency Coordinator for Eastern Pa. Paul (N0KIA) is now the District 2 Coordinator. Congratulations to both. Rod noted that John (KB3PJO) became an amateur radio operator from a dare from Ed Hare.

**New Members: Brent Ruggles (KB3QER) and Brian Snyder (KB3QHA)**

Motion by: Bruce – KA3TIU

Second by: Craig – N3TSY

Carried (Y/N) Y

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2022 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Mark – AK3M

Second by: Craig – N3TSY

In favor: Y


Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

**\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$**  
**Balance ending February, 2008 - \$ 3,816.84**





## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>April 2008</b>		1 <b>LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30</b>	2 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	3	4	5 SP DX Contest  QCWA Spring QSO Party
6 SP DX Contest  QCWA Spring QSO Party	7 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b>	8	9 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	10	11	12 Radio Martitime Day  GA QSO Party
13 Radio Martitime Day Deadline to schedule test	14 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b>	15	16 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	17	18 <b>LVARC Test Session 7:00 pm</b>	19 Holyland DX Contest  ES Open HF Champ.
20	21 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b>	22	23 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	24	25	26  FL QSO Party
27 FL QSO Party  LVRR 1/2 Marathon	28 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b>	29	30 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	<b>Volunteers needed this month!</b> 		

**LVARC Meeting - Tuesday April 1 - 7:30 - Tri-Clover Fire Co.**

**Test Session - Friday April 18 - 7:00 pm - Red Cross Bldg.**



## LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Tuesday April 1 -- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 pm (Tri-Clover Fire Co.)  
Monday April 7 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Sunday April 13 -- Deadline to Schedule Test Session for this month  
Monday April 14 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Friday April 18 --- LVARC Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)  
Monday April 21 --- LC RACES/ ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
**Sunday April 27 --- LVRR 1/2 Marathon**  
Monday April 28 --- LC RACES/ ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

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 3rd Friday of each month.

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!!** Registration must be made no later than the Sunday before the Friday test session.



To schedule a test or for more information, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.

Frank will again be selling LVARC items at the Cherryville hamfest this Spring. Please contact Frank (W3FTU) if you have something to donate. Please, **no computer equipment.**

**NOW AVAILABLE** - Six years of the newsletter (2002-2007) on a CD in .pdf format. Contact Mark (AK3M) if interested in getting your FREE copy.



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

Contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183





## LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)

Two tested at the February 15, 2008 test session. **CONGRATULATIONS** to:

**Robert Eustice --- Technician**  
**Larsen Kerschner - Technician**  
(N3IK's son)



VE's in attendance were **Rod** (N3XG), **Walt** (KE3SP) and **John** (KB3QBV).

Also, **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Terry Kern** who tested at a special test session. Terry, a former ham, earned his Technician license.

VE's in attendance were **Rod** (N3XG), **Larry** (KN3L) and **Frank** (W3FTU).

**IMPORTANT -- Due to the Easter holiday, the March test session will be held on Friday March 14, 2008.**

### Even the ARRL Bows to the WX!

ARRL HQ Closed Due to Weather (Feb 13, 2008) -- A storm bearing snow, ice and heavy rain has caused a loss of power, telephone service and Internet connection to ARRL HQ in Newington, CT. Consequently, HQ will be closed for the remainder of the day, Wednesday, February 13.

**The LVARC VE Team Welcomes New VE!** John Frank (KB3QBV) recently received his VE certification and participated in the February 15, 2008 test session. *Welcome John!*



**QST and World Radio Now in High School Library**

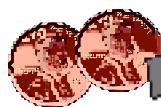
**WorldRadio**

**Freedom High School** in Bethlehem is one of the schools I service. The librarian at the school welcomed my offer to donate my copies of QST and World Radio after I am finished with them. --- de Mark (AK3M)





## “My Two Cents” ... de Mark (AK3M)



**Spring!** A wonderful time of year! The weather becomes more tolerable and hams begin to think of those long awaited outdoor antenna projects, Field Day is not far off and once again, public service events creep into the Spring, Summer and Fall calendars.

Oh, oh, there goes Mark again with his pitch for volunteers for radio communication support for community service activities. You are correct but don't stop reading yet. In the course of one year, the LVARC provides communications support for **only four** events (excluding Operation Ho Ho). Those include, (1) the LVRR 1/2 marathon [April], (2) St. Joseph The Worker 5K [May], (3) the LV Marathon [September] and (4) the Women's 5K for Breast Cancer [October].

We should be proud that these organizations recognize our capabilities and our ability to help. We should be pleased that they are satisfied with our services. We should feel honored that we are needed year after year. Let's face it, we DO have an unusual hobby with unique skills and we offer our services all at one great price ---FREE!!!!

If you want to feel proud, pleased and honored, volunteer to help with one (or more) of these events. Remember, we (the LVARC members) **agreed to seek** and help local organizations. Let's honor that commitment. After committing, comes the solicitation of volunteers. Don't let the event coordinator(s) down and don't make them wait until days before the event to volunteer. Plans must be made and that cannot happen unless the number of available operators is known.

If you are a new ham and new to community service events or even if you are an experienced operator, feel free to ask for information and do not hesitate to volunteer! Most of these events require only 3 to 4 hours of your time.

Ham radio allows for experimentation, operation of various modes, teaching, testing, mentoring, DXing and more. Let's get comfortable with adding *public service* to that list!

Read the newsletter and listen for announcements at a meeting on on the Monday Night Net for details of upcoming events and how to volunteer. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Bob (WB3JSZ) has managed the LV marathon, Craig (N3TSY) coordinates the 5K held by St. Joseph The Worker and I usually coordinate the others. If you want to volunteer, help coordinate, organize or have an idea for a new event, contact me (Mark -AK3M).

**On April 27, is the 1/2 Marathon administered by the Lehigh Valley Road Runners group. We have provided them with communications support for several years. We need about 8 - 10 operators in addition to two Net Control stations. If you wish to help, please let me know.**



## Upcoming LVARC Events

### March

\* SkyWarn Training  
(March 12) - See p. 8

\* WX Drill (March 13)

### April

\* LV 1/2 Marathon (April 27)

### May

\* Hoagie Sale (May 13)

### June

\* Field Day (June 28-29)

## Odds 'n Ends

### VE Forms Available

de Mark (AK3M)

I have created the 5 major VE forms on disk in pdf with **notes included**. If you want to review the forms used at a test session, contact Mark (AK3M)

**WALK-IN TESTING** will once again, be available on Field Day from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon ONLY**. Testing will be done at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield, PA.

*Be sure to take a **copy** of your license if you plan to test.*

**In what year did the U.S. government begin licensing hams? (Answer: p. 11)**

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| (a) 1912 | (c) 1915 |
| (b) 1910 | (d) 1905 |



Congratulations to **Terry Kern** who received his call on February 20, 2008. The LVARC welcomes **KB3QKS**!

As of February 22, 2008, **Robert Eustice** is now **KB3QLF** and **Larsen Kerschner** is **KB3QLG**.



**ARRL  
VEC**

**New ARRL Volunteer  
Examiner Manual  
Now Online  
(Feb 15, 2008)**

**Go to the following URL to download a pdf version of ed. 9.**

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/02/15/101/?nc=1>

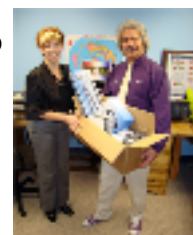


## Memories (cont.)



On the heels of Allentown memories (in an earlier issue), do you remember these 50's TV characters/shows? (de **NR3R**)? (More in the May issue)

Thanks to the generosity of **Bob Heil**, K9EID, of **Heil Sound Ltd**, the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW and the Laird Campbell Memorial Headquarters Operators Club station W1HQ have some spiffy new audio gear.



## Trivia Quiz Answer (see page 10)

**In what year did the U.S. government begin licensing hams?**



(a) **1912**  
(b) 1910

(c) 1915  
(d) 1905

from QRZ



A new **Extra class** (Element 4) pool will be released December, 2007 and will **become effective July 1, 2008**. The current **Amateur Extra pool** will be valid until **June 30, 2008**.

**For Sale -- MA5B** (Cushcraft mini beam) in excellent condition. All parts and full instructions for \$150.00. Call Ike (N3IK) at 610-366-9897 or email him at: n3ik2000@yahoo.com.



Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in the newsletter? Send it to Mark (AK3M). You can submit VOX material in any form. Send it via email (AK3M@rcn.com) or US mail (5508 Hale Ave - Bethlehem, PA 18017). You can send pictures, diagrams or text. **The newsletter needs YOUR material to continue!**



## Trivia

Super Bowl 42 (the most recent SuperBowl - NE vs. NY - 2/3/08) was the second most watched show on TV. What is the first most watched?



- (a) The final episode of American Idol (2007)
- (b) Presidential election coverage (2004)
- (c) The final episode of Dallas
- (d) The final episode of MASH

(Answer p.14)

## VE Forms Available

de Mark (AK3M)

I have created the 5 major VE forms on disk in pdf with **notes included**. If you want to review the forms used at a test session, contact Mark (AK3M)



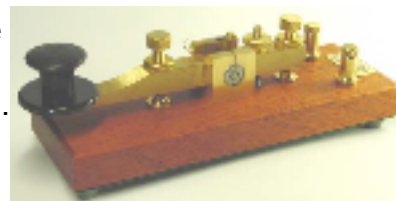
## CW Classes To Be Offered

If you are interested in learning code please send an email to Ike (n3ik@yahoo.com). In your email, state days of week and time you are available.

My intention had been to start a class in January, However, I was laid up for most of January. Now that I am back on my feet - we will go forward with the class starting in March. We will begin classes the third week of March. Exact day still to be determined.

If you know of others who are interested please pass my email address along to them.

73 de Ike  
N3IK



**LV 1/2 Marathon** will be held on Sunday April 27, 2008. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.** Contact Mark (AK3M) to help.



Dinner at the Old Country Buffet was a big success! Members of the LVARC all met for dinner in our own private room. The food was plentiful as was the conversation. TNX to Phil (KB3HMK) for the arrangements. See the pictures on page 13.





## Dinner at the Old Country Buffet - February 27, 2008



Photos  
Courtesy of  
Larrie (W2UL)





## Trivia Answer (see p. 12)

SuperBowl 42 (the most recent SuperBowl - NE vs. NY - 2/3/08) was the second most watched show on TV. What is the first most watched?



**M\*A\*S\*H**

(d) The final episode of MASH

## Marine Communications, In Brief

Did you know that marine VHF communications are allowed from **boat to boat only**, with the exception of a boat's communication with the USCG (land station) or bridge (draw bridge) control operator? (Source: USCG Aux. Radio Officers).



That means it is **NOT** permitted to use marine VHF communications from a land station to a boat and visa versa. You cannot talk to a friend while he is on his boat and you are on land (in a house, parking lot, picnic area etc.).

By the way, current VHF radio communications will be fading out as a new digital system will be introduced along the East and Northwest coasts and the Gulf of Mexico/Florida's West coast area.

The **new system**, called **Rescue 21**, will be the nation's primary maritime emergency system for the more than 78 million boaters and 13 million vessels that navigate coastal and intercoastal waters.



The system will greatly improve the Coast Guard's ability to detect mayday calls from boaters, pinpoint the location of the source of the call, and coordinate rescue operations throughout the 95,000 mile U.S. coastline and interior waterways.



**LehighValley Iron  
Pigs Opening Day  
is April 11, 2008 !**





## Cherryville Hamfest

(Directions on page 16)



- **Totally Indoors! Rain or Shine!**
- Great Food!
- Come and Sell Your:
  - New and Used Radio Equipment
  - Computer Equipment
  - Parts and Accessories
  - Wire and Cable
  - Electronics of all kinds
- **Kick the year off right with the Cherryville Hamfest!**
- No objectionable material permitted.
- See table layout on back of this page.
- All Tables (pre-registration) \$15.00 each. After March 10<sup>th</sup> all Tables \$20.00 each.
- Electric: \$5.00 extra.
- One Admission Provided Per Table.
- After March 10<sup>th</sup> tables are first come, first served.
- Vendor setup time at 6:00 AM sharp.
- Pre-paid vendors will receive confirmation via their provided e-mail address or phone number and may pick up tickets and table assignments at check-in.
- Easy to get to, one mile south of Interstate 78 on Route 31.
- Talk-in: 147.375 Repeater PL 151.4

Download Pre-Registration form at [www.qsl.net/w2cra](http://www.qsl.net/w2cra)

For More Information, call (908) 391-7655

Vendor Pre-Registration & Payment are payable to:

Cherryville Repeater Association II, Post Office Box 308, Quakertown, New Jersey 08868





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## Directions to North Hunterdon High School (Cherryville Hamfest)

**1445 State Route 31 (South)  
Annandale, NJ 08801**

### **From Route 78 West or Route 22 West**

- Route 78 West or Route 22 West to Exit 17  
(Route 31 North - Clinton, Flemington, Washington)
- From the exit you will be on Route 31 North.
- Proceed .7 of a mile to exit for Route 31 South (Clinton, Flemington).
- Bear right on exit
- Go over bridge to traffic light.
- Make a left at the traffic light and proceed to Route 31 South (Flemington)
- Make a right to Route 31 South.
- Proceed to second traffic light
- Make a right to Regional Road.
- Make the first right past the tennis courts into the school driveway

### **From Route 78 East**

- Route 78 East to Exit 17 (Route 31 South - Flemington, Trenton)
- Proceed to the second traffic light.
- Make a right to Regional Road.
- Make the first right past the tennis courts into the school driveway

### **From Route 287 South or the Garden State Parkway South**

- Route 287 South or the Garden State Parkway South to Route 78 West.
- Follow directions for Route 78 West as above.

### **From Route 287 North or the Garden State Parkway North**

- Route 287 North or the Garden State Parkway North to 287 North to Route 78 West.
- Follow directions for Route 78 West as above.



## **This Just In**

### **Future LVARC programs:**



1. **May** - "What You Should Have In Your Emergency Go Kit" - Brian (KW3K)
2. **June** - Field Day Preparation - Paul (N0KIA)