

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

146.34 / 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>



August 2008 Contents

Meeting Information	INFORMATIONAL	page 3
L.C. RACES Net Information	INFORMATIONAL	page 3
Minutes of the July, 2008 Meeting		pages 4-5
This Month In Ham Radio	INFORMATIONAL	page 6
LVARC Activities		page 7
VE Report		page 8
“My Two Cents” (editorial)	EDITORIAL	page 9
For Sale and More		page 10
Help Needed	INFORMATIONAL	page 11
Field Day 2008		pages 12-13
Trip to Antarctica		page 14



Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com
Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The August, 2008 LVARC meeting will be held on August 5, 2008 at the Tri-Clover Fire Co. 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 - 2008

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Nets</u>
January	145	4
February	198	5
March	197	5
April	140	4
May	100	3
June	170	5



top news

Here is a link to the piece that WFMZ did about field day. I think it certainly does a good job of showing that we do important service to the community.
<http://wfmz.com/view/?id=289971> ----- de Brian (KW3K)



Minutes of the July 1, 2008 LVARC Meeting

Submitted by Rod (N3XG)



President Wolfe called the normally slated July 2008 meeting of the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club to order on July 1, 2008 at 19:32 EDT. In the absence of the recording secretary, minutes are taken by Robin Gable.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence in honor of silent keys.

There were no additions or corrections to the June 2008 Minutes as printed in the EVOX, and they stood as printed.

Treasurer Ryan reported that we started the month of June with \$3,759.55 and ended it with \$1,816.89. The large purchase was the new repeater to replace the machine that is currently on 135. Bruce KA3YIU made a motion to accept the report and Walt KE3SP provided a second to the motion. All those were in favor and the motion passed.

Committees

Repeater- The new repeater has been received and is on display at the meeting for all to see. Brian KW3K donated a rack mount shelf for the new repeater. The Dstar stack is operating well thanks to the donation of a computer from Bruce KB3FIH. The computer is used to operate the Gateway, and connects us to the rest of the world.

Program – Tonight’s program is called “Promoting Ham Radio”, and will be presented by Brian KW3K.

VE – There was a walk-in VE session held before the start of field day. The VE team tested three, one earned a new technician license, and there were two upgrades.

Old Business

1. President Wolfe reports that Field Day 2008 was a great success and gave tremendous thanks to all those members that helped in the planning, set up, and operation at the field day site. President Wolfe presented Dorian Gable, Hadrian Gable, and Brian Klock with a token of appreciation for their participation, enthusiasm and leadership abilities.



New Business

1. Paul N0KIA is ready to apply for 501C3 status for the club. In order to do that, a few changes in wording must occur in the By-laws and the Constitution. Most specifically in our purpose, as we must specifically state our purpose to show that we are within the definition of a 501c3 organization. There was much discussion on the need for the tax-exempt status, and on the proper wording of proposed changes. A By-Law committee has been formed. Paul is the chairman, and the committee members are: Don W3DLH, John WF3K, and Brian KW3K. They will correspond and report back at the next scheduled meeting.
2. Brian KW3K recommends business cards and / or QSL cards for handing out and promoting the club. President Wolfe requested a sample of the business cards to be shown at next meeting before taking any other action on the item.
3. Bruce KB3FIH requested that the club purchase one tower from Brian at the cost of \$400 dollars. The tower is a military surplus (new) carbon fiber mast system that can be deployed by as little as one person and will enable antennas and antenna systems to be erected as high as 48 feet. The towers were in use during field day to everyone's enjoyment. Bruce KA3TIU made a motion to purchase the tower. Charlie W3QXI made a second to the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor.
4. President Wolfe read that we have received an application from Mark KB2JHV. Bruce KB3FIH made a motion to accept the application, and Bruce KA3TIU made a second to the motion. All were in favor of accepting Mark as an associate member.



President Wolfe mentioned for the good of the order that there is a possibility of working with a local fire company during a fundraiser. We would assist them in selling a raffle tickets and make a share of the profit.

Being there no other business, Walt KE3SP made a motion to close, and Brian KB3QHA provided a second to the motion. All were in favor, the meeting closed at 2015 EDT.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance ending June, 2008 - \$ 1,816.89	



This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>August</h1>					1	2 10-10 Int. SSB Contest <u>Natl. Lighthouse Contest</u>
3 10-10 Int. SSB Contest <u>Natl. Lighthouse Contest</u>	4 ARES RACES Net 7:30	5 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	6 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	7	8	9 Maryland-DC QSO Party
10 Maryland-DC QSO Party	11 ARES RACES Net 7:30	12	13 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	14	15 LVARC Test Session 7:00 pm	16 <u>Russian Dist. Award Contest</u> N. Amer. QSO Party
17 Deadline to schedule test	18 ARES RACES Net 7:30	19	20 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	21	22	23 <u>Hawaii QSO Party</u> Ohio QSO Party
24 <u>Hawaii QSO Party</u> Ohio QSO Party	25 ARES RACES Net 7:30	26	27 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	28	29	30 YO DX HF Contest
31 YO DX HF Contest	<h1>2008</h1> 					

LVARC Meeting - Tuesday August 5 - 7:30 - Tri-Clover Fire Co.

Test Session - Friday August 15 - 7:00 pm - Red Cross Bldg.



LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday August 4 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday August 5 -- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 pm (Tri-Clover Fire Co.)
Sunday August 10 -- Deadline to Schedule Test Session for this month
Monday August 11 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday August 15-- LVARC Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)
Monday August 18 --- LC RACES/ ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Monday August 25 --- 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.

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

IMPORTANT

There are new questions for the Extra Class test. These questions are effective as of July 1, 2008. If you plan to take the Extra test, be sure you are studying from the new question pool.

IMPORTANT



LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)

No one was scheduled to test at the June 20, 2008 test session.

Three tested on Field Day (June 28) at the Walk-In test session.

LVARC
VE
Program



CONGRATULATIONS to:
Larsen Kerschner (KB3QLG) - **General**
Don Horst (W3DLH) - **Extra**
Bradley Erdman - **Technician**

A HUGE TNX to VE's in attendance (in my absence):
Frank (W3FTU), **Walt** (KE3SP), and **John**, (WF3K).



California Hands-Free Law to Go into Effect July 1, 2008. Ham Radio Not Affected Says Counsel
(June 18, 2008)

A new California hands-free cellular telephone law goes into effect July 1, 2008. (from the ARRL website)

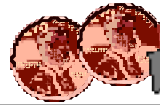
Don't forget to take your HT on your vacation this year. Most HT's have extended receive capabilities. You can listen to the marine frequencies while at the beach or on a cruise in addition to lifeguard communications and the local police and fire.



No, it's not a game show, but if you are an attorney and want to work in Washington, DC, you might just be the next **Riley Hollingsworth** and deal with legal and policy matters pertaining to enforcement issues, with an emphasis on the Amateur Radio Service. Hollingsworth, who was the first to hold the Amateur Radio Spectrum Enforcement position -- serving for close to 10 years -- **is retiring July 3.**
----- (from an email from Eric Geissenhainer (AI3D))



“My Two Cents” ... de Mark (AK3M)



EDITORIAL

Your Field Day, 2008 Comments Here !

Emergency exercise, contest, both. New Ham or old ham. However you viewed Field Day, we can all agree that it is the biggest event in any ham's year and the activities usually include the word "*FUN.*"

By the time this newsletter is posted, Field Day, 2008 will be over until next year (2009).

I would like to hear your impressions of your Field Day, 2008 experiences. Pictures are encouraged too.

Please send me your Field Day experiences and thoughts and I will include them in the next issue of the E-VOX.

--- (Mark -AK3M ----- AK3M@rcn.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!**

Devoted to Amateur Radio Mug (from the ARRL)

-- Ceramic Mug (11 oz), white with full color graphic, imprinted with the words "Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio". Opposite side is an image of W1AW.

#0122 -- \$10.00





Upcoming LVARC Events

September

* LVH - VIA Marathon
(September 7)

* Community Preparedness Day
(September 27)

October

* SET
(October 4-5)

Trivia - de Mark (AK3M)

My son will be traveling to China this Summer [2008]. It was that trip which prompted this question:

How long is the Great Wall of China?

- a) 50 miles
- b) 200 miles
- c) 2,500 miles
- d) 4,000 miles

(answer on page 11)



HELP NEEDED

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED for the LV Marathon to be held on Sunday September 7, 2008 !

This is a tremendous event and *MANY* operators are needed! The distance is **26 miles** and will go from Allentown to Easton.

If you can help, contact Mark (AK3M).
Do not wait until the week to volunteer.

Check your calendar, commit and volunteer NOW!



Logitech Premium Headset.

Only used a couple of times.
Asking \$35.

Contact **Phil** (KB3HMK)
(philbert@enter.net)

Summer Vacation Safety Tip

Don't announce your vacation travel plans on the air (VHF/UHF). Many people have scanners and you do not want anyone to know when your house will be unoccupied.

"Human beings have an inalienable right to invent themselves."

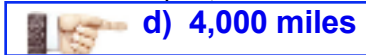
-- Germaine Greer



Trivia - Answer

How long is the Great Wall of China?

- a) 50 miles
- b) 200 miles
- c) 2,500 miles
- d) 4,000 miles



If this newsletter appears skimpy and lacking in material, YOU can help. Please send your newsletter submission(s) to Mark (AK3M). This is **YOUR** newsletter. Let's hear from **YOU!**

The original file containing the August, 2008 newsletter became corrupt and the newsletter had to be completely rewritten. If you submitted something to be included in this issue and it did not appear in this issue, please accept my apology and submit again. --- Mark (AK3M)



Help Needed - de Mark (AK3M)



The Lehigh Valley Hospital and Via of the Lehigh Valley are again holding their Marathon on **September 7, 2008**. **Numerous** operators will be needed as this is a 26 mile course. **Don't wait until the day before the event to volunteer your communications expertise!**

Mark your calendar and if you can find a few hours to help, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com. **Your help is ESSENTIAL!**



VHF/UHF Operating Tip -- Phonetics and "Q" signals are **NEVER** used on VHF/UHF unless absolutely necessary for clarification. "Q" signals are used on CW **ONLY**.



LVARC Field Day 2008

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club's field day 2008 was a unique and rewarding emergency exercise. Two months prior to the event, simulated Emergency Exercise drill messages were sent out on the local Monday net describing the emerging crisis approaching the valley. Hams were alerted to the local communications requirements and what to plan for. On Monday before the event the field day location was revealed by lat/long coordinates, so those with a map and compass could pinpoint the site. On Wednesday, driving instructions were available on the web site, so now those sans map were in the know.

Friday evening the advanced setup team surveyed the site for equipment placement, and early Saturday morning the comm van arrived with Jeff, N3MFT, at the wheel. By 10 AM many additional hands were at work converting the summit of Huckleberry Ridge into "Sending Station Alpha". Brian, KW3K, and crew had their hands full putting up two 40+' field towers for suspending the sky wires. Rod, N3XG, arrived with the bulk of the operational equipment stuffed in his Honda. Meanwhile Robin, Dorian and Hadrian were spotting equipment, installing additional antennas and setting up the various shelters. Jeff, KB3OCP was busy driving ground stakes, antenna stakes and tent stakes. We couldn't get him to grill steaks though! However, he did give Bruce, KA3TIU, a hand setting up the food pavilion.

Many additional hams were seen lending a hand in the setup. Their callsigns are listed on the sign-in sheet. Everyone worked as if we had a plan and a purpose, but we all know it was typical chaos that we happened to get right by chance. By the time the first major shower rolled through, the site was in "initial operations capable" status. As the rain drops cleared, tent city began to appear on the west side of the antenna farm. When the tents were up and the tools properly stowed, it was time to eat. Lunch was a bean-centric event, with excellent meat dishes to complement. We really should gather the recipes for publication!

As 2 PM approached, all was in readiness for the annual ARRL Emergency Preparedness Exercise and everything looked ship shape and Bristol fashion! Operations commenced on time with all stations manned. I walked through the comm van every few hours and I was impressed by the level of involvement. Rarely did I see a radio without an operator. Even the PSK station was running and snagging contacts.

(continued on page 13)



(continued from page 12)

The 6 meter station showed good activity and the HF rigs were seeing good service. I worked 40 and 80 for a few contacts, but the bulk of the work was done by others. Rod will have a report for us in the near future.

I believe we weathered two or three additional downpours and one whooper of a lightening storm during the late evening hours, but no injuries were sustained. Everyone stayed dry and when not raining, the grill was fired up and more food was available. I believe Robin's wife had a lot to do with the variety of goodies on the table. If you left this year's field day hungry, it was your own fault! Besides eating, we had musical entertainment, an interview by a crew from channel 69, several dignitary visitations, and one "unusual" guest as diversions to radio ops. The socialization aspect of field day is part of its appeal, I'm sure.

Operations continued throughout the day and night into Sunday's morning hours. After breakfast and with a cautionary eye to the skies, we decided to start tear down around noon to avoid the potential for a lightening strike during tower disassembly. Again, hands appeared from everywhere to assist. I'd start one minor task and by the time it was completed, some other crew would have cleared and secured another tower, wiring group, shelter, etc.,. I think previous field days have prepared club members for what to expect and how to proceed. By 1 PM my equipment trailer was packed and the ladders strapped on top. Other than my driving off with the trailer's bogie wheel down, it was a well executed event and everyone can take credit for a job well done.

Looking forward to next year, this is N0KIA.



ZeroFive Antennas -- de Frank (W3FTU) --- ZeroFive Antennas produces heavy duty verticals and flagpole antennas.

Check out their website at <http://www.zerofive-antenna.com>



Please forgive the delay in publishing this issue of the newsletter. I have been on vacation (ed.).



Want to Get Away ??? --- Read On ! (from Chris - WZ3Q)

Here is the deal... I was contacted by someone looking to get me to come back to Antarctica for a position with an expedition contractor as a Radio Operator / Field Medic.. This is a 4 to 5 month deployment to Antarctica.

I am due to my current position working at NCC not available to deploy. So i am offering this, If you are interested. They asked if there was anyone i know in the ham community who would be;

1. Qualified
2. Available for 4-5 months over Christmas this year..

If your are qualified, and interested, send me your CV along with a cover letter and i will pass it to my contact.

You **MUST** be in perfect health, no prescriptions for any medical ailments.. No high blood pressure, no diabetes, no heart conditions, pinnacle of health..

You **MUST** also be available to work 6 days a week, for 4 to 5 months in Antarctica.

You **MUST** be capable of working 12 to 16 hour shifts each day.

You **MUST** be certified as an EMT or higher..

You **MUST** be proficient with HF SSB air to ground and ground to ground communications, IRIDIUM & INMARSAT Satellite , HF and VHF Marine communications, VHF AM Air to Ground

If you your interested i hope to hear from you.. And no there are no exceptions to the above.

This is a very rewarding position.

73's
Chris

chris.post@yahoo.com