



The *E-VOX*

The Official *On-Line*
Newsletter of the



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI / KB3SYV
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 (philbert17@verizon.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)
Brian Klock - KW3K (brian@stcp.com)
Frank Unger - W3FTU (funger@ptd.net)

E-VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (AK3M)
AK3M@rcn.com

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



LVARC Repeaters

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)
147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)
447.775 (PL 71.9)
Club Simplex Freq. - 147.420

LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)
146.940 (PL 71.9)

D-Star





W3OI Dstar repeaters are now on 147.165
(plus offset of 600 Khz) and 445.025 (minus
offset of 5 Mhz).

Join us for a Mid-Atlantic regional net the
second and fourth Tuesdays of each month on
the 147.165 port

To register for the Gateway or need information
on setting up the radio, please visit
<http://www.epaares.org/dstar/>

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

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Happy Holiday



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

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The December, 2009 LVARC meeting will be held
on December 1, 2009 at the Tri-Clover Fire Co. at 7:30 pm.

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 - 2009

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Number of Check-In's</u> | <u>Number of Nets</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| January | 150 | 4 |
| February | 161 | 4 |
| March | 173 | 5 |
| April | 146 | 4 |
| May | 99 | 3 |
| June | 165 | 4 |
| July | 136 | 4 |
| August | 148 | 5 |
| September | 100 | 3 |
| October | 103 | 4 |



REMEMBER:

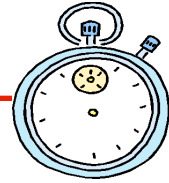
Registration for the monthly test session, must be
made NO LATER THAN THE
SUNDAY BEFORE THE TEST!



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

Minutes of the November, 2009 LVARC Meeting

Submitted by Phil (KB3HMK)



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1931 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 23 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), Robin (KB3GZV) and Brian (KW3K).

Corrections Additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion by: Bruce – KA3TIU

Second by: Dave – W3AMC

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report: (Paul - N0KIA)

Starting Balance: \$2779.07

Ending Balance: \$2812.13

Approved by: Craig – N3TSY

Second by: Brian – KW3K

Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: The clock has been changed on the 147.135 repeater. If you hear of any problems on the repeaters, let a club officer know.

Program: Phil reports that tonight's program is Brian (KW3K). He will be doing a presentation on "Sustainable and Renewable Energy." Next month will be the annual "Cookie Cruncher," for the holiday season. Please bring your favorite food or dessert for everyone to enjoy. As always, if you would like to do a program or know of a program you would like see, please let Phil (KB3HMK) know.

Volunteer Examiners: A second special test session was held on October 10, 2009 at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Kutztown. This session was held at the request of LVARC member, Brent Ruggles (KB3QER) and advertised in the EVOX, at meetings and on the net. Eight people tested and seven earned their Technician license. Congratulations to Craig Delong, Michael Redd, David Kezell, Louise Richardson, Tom Lamont, Benjamin Fountain and Noel Ormston. Three VE teams showed up with pens in hand and eager to help. A big TNX to VE's, Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP), Frank (W3FTU), Don (W3DLH), Brian (KW3K), Bob (WB3W), John (WF3K), Rod (N3XG) and John (N3SQV) who answered the call for VE assistance.

Their calls were received on October 20, 2009

Craig Delong – KB3TNQ
Michael Redd – KB3TNO
David Kezell – KB3TNR
Louise Richardson – KB3TNS

Tom Lamont – KB3TNV
Benjamin Fountain – KB3TNU
Noel Ormston – KB3TNP

At the October 16, 2009 test session, one tested and passed. Congratulations to: Eugene Alexandrin who earned his Technician license. He earned his call KB3TNW on October 20, 2009.

Old Business: Rod thanked everyone who came out to help with the Women's 5k Run. Despite the rain and cold weather, everyone had a good time. Rod read a letter from a local Church of Latter Day Saints. The letter thanked the club for doing a special test session to get members licensed as hams.

New Business: Rod asked for a motion to reopen nominations for the 2010 club officers. Craig (N3TSY) made the motion and it was seconded by Brian (KW3K). Rod then announced three times asking for nominations for the following positions:

President – none
Vice President – none
Treasurer – none
Recording secretary – none
Board of Governors – none

Rod then asked for motion to close the nominations. Bruce (KA3TIU) made the motion and it was seconded by Charlie (W3QXI).

The fall fundraiser has begun. We are selling tickets in conjunction with North Catasauqua Fire Company. The club gets a percentage of the tickets we sell. The tickets are \$5 a piece and the prizes are 1st - \$1000, 2nd - \$250 & 3rd - \$100. See Rod for tickets. The annual dinner get together will be Tuesday February 23 at 6:30 P.M. It will be at the Old Country Buffet in Whitehall. More info to follow.

The question was raised about Operation Ho-Ho. At this time Rod did not have any info on the event. When there is info, the club will let the members know.

Sick Report: Mark (AK3M) is out with a foot injury. He is home and doing fine.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 1956 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Brian – KB3QHA
Second by: Brian – KW3K
In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------|---|
| \$\$\$ | W3OI Finances | \$\$\$ |  |
| Balance ending October, 2009 - \$2.812.13 | | | |

This Month In Ham Radio

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| December  | | 1  LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30 | 2 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 3  | 4  ARRL 160m contest | 5 Wake Up! QRP sprint |
| 6 ARRL 160m CW Contest | 7 ARES RACES Net 7:30 | 8  | 9 Straight key/bug sprint Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 10 | 11  Hanukkah begins (Lasts 8 days) | 12 ARRL 10m Contest Intl. Naval contest |
| 13 ARRL 10m Contest Deadline to schedule test | 14 ARES RACES Net 7:30  | 15 | 16 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 17  | 18 LVARC Test Session 7:00 pm | 19 Lighthouse Xmas Lights QSO 12/19 - 1/3  |
| 20 | 21  ARES RACES Net 7:30 | 22 | 23 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 24  Christmas Eve | 25  Christmas Day | 26  DARC Xmas contest RAC Winter contest |
| 27  RAC Winter Contest | 28 ARES RACES Net 7:30 | 29 | 30  Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 2009  | | |

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

Test Session - Friday December 18 - 7:00 pm - Rd Cross Building

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Tuesday December 1 -- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 pm - TriClover
Monday December 7 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Sunday December 15 -- Deadline to Schedule Test Session for this month
Monday December 14 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday December 18 -- LVARC Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)
Monday December 21 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday December 25 --- Christmas Day
Monday December 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.

LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)

At the October 16, 2009, test session,
one tested and passed.

Congratulations to:

Eugene Alexandrin who earned his
Technician license.

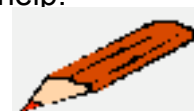


Ve's in attendance included Walt (KE3SP, Frank (W3FTU) and Mark (AK3M)

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.

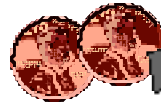
Test sessions are given the 3rd Friday of each month.

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



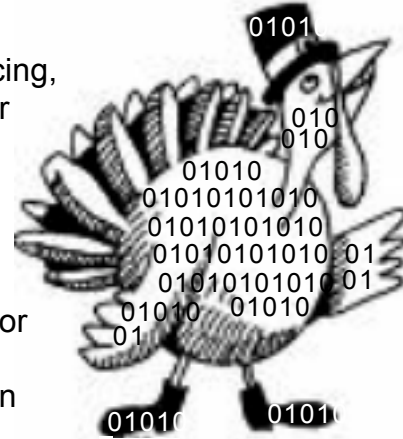
To schedule a test or for more information, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.

Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in this 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!**



Analog or Digital?

The digital world is quickly replacing, or at least enhancing, the analog world. This is evident not only in the amateur radio community, but the commercial world as well. Our computers are digital, our TV's are digital and we listen to digital music on our MP3 players, but, **were humans meant to be digital?**



When man looks at an object, does he see 0's and 1's or does he see an “analog” object? Look at the turkey. Is it made of digital code or do we simply see a turkey in an analog format?

When we speak, do 0's and 1's come out of our mouths? When we listen to our MP3 players, do we hear 0's and 1's?



Man's world is an analog one
or is it?

Now that hopefully, I have made a case for an **analog** world, I will present the digital side. When we do see a turkey, we may see it as an analog object but **what does our brain see?** How does our brain interpret the visual analog turkey message? How does our brain store that image so we can recognize it again at a later time? Could it be stored digitally? We do know that memories are stored in our brain chemically but not much more beyond that. What form is that chemical? Could it be stored using those 0's and 1's? When we hear that digital music, our auditory system hears analog signals but what does our brain hear? How do we know that we are listening to Sinatra or a State of the Union address? Our brain interprets that analog signal as one or the other. How does it do that?

Nature made man analog man made his world digital.

(The editor ALWAYS welcomes rebuttals and confirming or contrary information regarding “My Two Cents” editorials).



“The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.” --- Burton Hillis

"Hamcycle"

READER SUBMISSION



Paul (NOKIA), has created a "Hamcycle," and has sent a few pictures for us to review.

This is a great device for ARES events. The picture to the right shows Paul's Hamcycle at the LV/VIA Marathon.



Special

LVARC
VE
Program



A Second Special Test Session

was held on October 10, 2009 at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Kutztown. This session was held at the request of LVARC member, Brent Ruggles (KB3QER) and advertised in the EVOX at meetings and on the net.

Eight people tested and seven earned their Technician license. Congratulations to Craig Delong, Michael Redd, David Kezell, Louise Richardson, Tom LaMont, Benjamin Fountain and Noel Ormston.

Three VE teams showed up with pens in hand and eager to help. A big TNX to VE's, **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Frank** (W3FTU), **Don** (W3DLH), **Brian** (KW3K), **Bob** (WB3W), **John** (WF3K), **Rod** (N3XG) and **John** (N3SQV) who answered the call for VE assistance!

CONGRATULATIONS to those who tested at the Saturday October 10, 2009 test session. They all earned their Technician licenses at that test session and were issued the following calls on October 20, 2009 .


Michael Redd ---- KB3TNO
Noel Ormston ----- KB3TNP
Craig Delong ----- KB3TNQ
David Kezell ----- KB3TNR
Louise Richardson ----- KB3TNS
Benjamin Fountain ----- KB3TNU
Tom LaMont ----- KB3TNV




MYTHS and FACTS About RACES Membership

1. I need to live in Lehigh County to belong to LC RACES ---- **FALSE**
2. I do not want to belong to RACES because I may not want to "go out" on dangerous assignments --- **FALSE** (you are a **volunteer** and can refuse any assignment).
3. I must belong to the LVARC in order to join LC RACES ---**FALSE** Although many LVARC members ARE also members of LC RACES, membership in the club is not necessary.
4. RACES costs too much to join --- **FALSE** (There is **NO FEE** to join RACES).
5. I don't even know what RACES stands for --- **RACES stands for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services** .
6. RACES and ARES are the same thing --- **FALSE** (RACES is run or "administered" by the County. ARES is sanctioned by the ARRL).
7. I need a lot of expensive equipment to belong to RACES --- **FALSE** (In most cases, an HT is appropriate for a RACES event).
8. I cannot always check into the Monday Night Net and as a result, I will lose my RACES membership - **FALSE** (Although checking into the *Monday Night Net* will keep you informed of both RACES and LVARC activities, you need not check into the net to retain membership in RACES).
9. LC RACES needs me as a member --- **TRUE** (To join LC RACES, contact Jeff Kelly (N3MFT))



\$135,450 Raised to Benefit Children & Adults with Disabilities - LVH/VIA Marathon !



Upcoming LVARC 2009 Events



December 1 --- Election of 2010 Officers
 December 1 --- Presentation of the Pres Schuler Award
 December 1 --- LVARC Annual Holiday Party
 December --- Operation Ho Ho (TBA)

“Operation Ho Ho” This Month !

(de Mark - AK3M)



“Operation Ho Ho” is held in the month of December each year. At the time of this writing, no date has yet been scheduled.

I do not actively recruit for this event because the hospital allows no more than 8 people to participate.

For those of you new to the club or this event, I will explain this event. LVARC hams visit the children’s unit at the Lehigh Valley Hospital and allow the children to talk to Santa via amateur radio. Those who have participated in past years know how rewarding this event is, for both the children and the visiting hams! A big TNX to the LVARC for their continuing annual support of this event!

If you are interested in information about this event or would like to volunteer, please contact me (Mark - AK3M). Unfortunately, I can only accept the first 4 people to volunteer as again, the hospital permits only 8 - 10 persons to be in the children’s unit at one time and the LVARC event planners take 4 spaces.

CONGRATULATIONS to Eugene Alexandrin who tested on October 16, 2009. He received his call of **KB3TNW** on October 20, 2009.

Track Santa’s Trip on Christmas Eve!

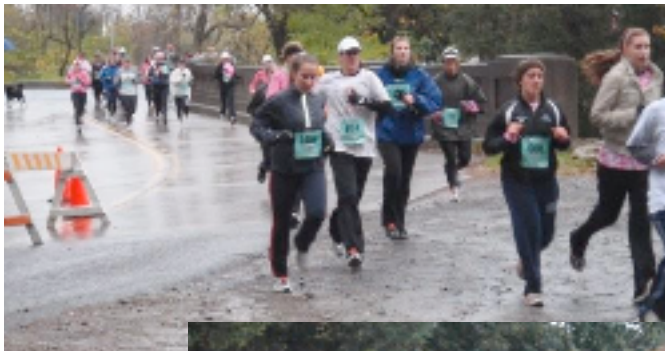
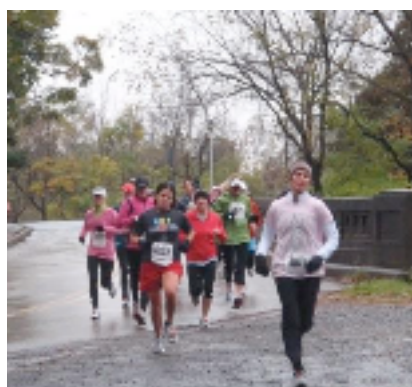
<http://www.noradsanta.org/>



Women's 5K Classic 2009



The 2009 Women's 5K Classic was held on Saturday October 17, 2009. The weather did not cooperate as it was rainy and the air temperature was cold, about 38-40 degrees. More than 5,500 women turned out to participate in a 5-mile run, 5K-run, 5K-walk or a "Walk In The Park." In order to keep in direct touch with Missi, the event coordinator, Allentown EMS services and the golf cart, 5-watt commercial HT's were used. These were supplied by Jeff (N3MFT). There were no medical emergencies and all went smoothly despite the bad weather. Thanks to the following operators for their help in this most worthy ARES event: **Mark** (AK3M), **Jeff** (KB3OCP), **Ryan** (KB3MPX), **Charlie** (N3WXO), **John** (WF3K), **Don** (N0VGA), **Don** (W3DLH), **Paul** (N0KIA), **Jeff** (N3MFT) and **Rod** (N3XG). Below and on page 13 are pictures of the Women's 5K Classic.



Photos courtesy
of Charlie (N3WXO)



Photos courtesy of Mark (AK3M)



The Net Control Station

Slate of LVARC Officers for 2010

- ☒ **President** (unopposed)
Rod Wolfe (N3XG)
- ☒ **V. President** (unopposed)
Craig Traverson (N3TSY)
- ☒ **Treasurer** (unopposed)
Paul Ryan (N0KIA)
- ☒ **Recording Secretary** (unopposed)
Phil Bigg (KB3HMK)



Board of Governors (vote for 5)

- ☐ Brian Klock (KW3K)
- ☐ Robin Gable (KB3GZV)
- ☐ Gary Decker (KB3SFJ)
- ☐ Walt Snyder (KE3SP)
- ☐ Dorian Gable (KB3GZW)
- ☐ Mark Miller (AK3M)



3 Ways to Vote

There are 3 ways you can vote for 2010 LVARC officers:

1. Vote at the December 1, 2009 meeting
2. Vote via email to Phil (KB3HMK) --- philbert17@verizon.net --- This email **MUST** reach Phill **ON or BEFORE** November 30, 2009.
3. Send this completed ballot to Phil (KB3HMK) --- 1713 Cottage Ave. Bethlehem, PA 18018. This ballot **MUST** reach Phill **ON or BEFORE** November 30, 2009.



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club's Annual Holiday Party

The Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club's annual Holiday Party will be held on the night of the December meeting (Tuesday December 1, 2009) following the December business meeting.

The party consists of food, food and more food accompanied by plenty of conversation with LVARC members. **If you plan to attend the meeting and the party, please take something to share with the group.**



Your contribution can be cookies, something to drink, something hot or anything you like.

Remember to include all the necessary accessories like plates, napkins, spoons etc.



2009 Preston R. Schuler Award



Send your nomination / recommendation for the 2009 Pres Schuler award to Rod (N3XG) rjwolfe@rcn.com. Your submission must reach Rod **NO LATER than November 16.** The presentation will be made following the December 1, 2009 meeting.

THE LVARC will again be joining forces with the North Catasauqua Fire Company on a holiday cash raffle.

The tickets are \$5.00 each, the prizes are \$1000, \$250, and \$100, to be drawn on December 14 at 1900 hours at the North Catasauqua Fire Department. The winners need not be present to win.

We will have tickets available as of the November meeting and will begin to collect ticket stubs, unsold tickets and money at the December meeting.

As we earn a percentage of the profit, based on the percentage of tickets that we sell, I'm asking each member of the LVARC to try to sell at least 10 tickets (or more). The more we sell collectively, the more funds are raised for BOTH groups. Last year we made over \$600.00 profit, and this year's goal is \$1,000. We can do it!

Thank you for your dedication!

Rodney Wolfe, N3XG
President, LVARC





*The officers and board of the Lehigh
❄ Valley Amateur Radio Club wish all
Happy Holidays and a prosperous 2010!*

