



The E-VOX



The Official *On-Line*
Newsletter of the

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI / KB3SYV
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA

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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).

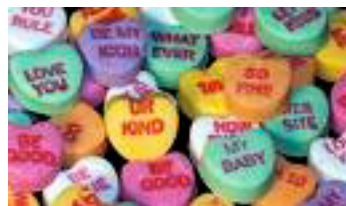
Join us for a Mid-Atlantic regional net the
second and fourth Tuesdays of each month on
the 147.165 port

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

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The February, 2010 LVARC meeting will be held on February 2, 2010 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
November	147	5
December	99	4



REMEMBER:

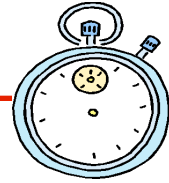
Registration for the monthly test session, must be made **NO LATER THAN THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE TEST!**



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

Minutes of the January, 2010 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 20 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 5 guests. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod (N3XG), Phil (KB3HMK), Paul (N0KIA), Robin (KB3GZV), Dorian (KB3GZW) and Walt (KE3SP).

Corrections Additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion by: Bruce – KA3TIU
Second by: Brent – KB3QER
Carried (Y/N) Y

Guests: George – N3SQD
Craig – KB3SBI
Roland – son of KB3SBI
Louis – son of KB3SBI
George – formerly NA3N

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

Starting Balance: \$2961.29
Ending Balance: \$2833.62
Approved by: Carl – AA3IX
Second by: Walt – KE3SP
Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: One of the Monday night nets in December had to be moved to the 147.135 due to low audio issues. Jeff was contacted and it was fixed. Everything else seems fine.

Program: Phil reports that tonight is Dave (K3GMT) and his topic will "Software Defined Flex Radio – Flex 3000. As of now, he doesn't have a program for February. He will let the club know what it is when he finds out. As always, he's looking for programs. If you have an idea or would like to do one, please let him know.

Volunteer Examiners: At the December 18, 2009, test session, 5 tested and 5 passed. **Congratulations to:**

Emil "Jay" Kolick - Technician
Matthew Dvorshak -- Technician
George Hebel -- General
Arthur Fleisher -- General
Jihn Barbaz (KB3EOJ) -- General

Ve's in attendance included Walt (KE3SP), Rod (N3XG), and Mark (AK3M).

Jay Kolick received his call (KB3TUR) and Matt Dvorshak (KB3TUS) on December 23, 2009.

There will be a special test session on January 30, 2010 at 4:00 pm to be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Whitehall.

Old Business: Rod reported on the raffle the club participated in. The final figures weren't in, but the club made \$277.50. North Caty Fire Co. is looking into doing a lottery calendar. They are also trying to get another non profit group in to help with the sales. Rod will let the club know when he has more info. The annual dinner meeting will be at the Old Country Buffet in Whitehall. It will be on February 23 at 6 P.M.. This does not replace the monthly meeting. Phil suggests you get there a little early due to a possible line at the door.

New Business: Paul reports that Carl Schmoyer (N3KED) was a former member and wants to renew his membership. It was left up to the general body to decide. It was decided that he could renew his membership due to him being a previous member. So no vote was necessary.

Sick Report: Bruce (KA3TIU) was in the hospital over the weekend and is out and fine. Rod asked about Ike. No one was sure of his status.


The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 1947 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Walt – KE3SP
Second by: Brian – KB3QHA
In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance ending December, 2009 - \$2,833.62	

This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 ARES RACES Net 7:30	2 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	3	4	5	6
7	8 ARES RACES Net 7:30	9	10	11	12	13
14  Deadline to schedule test	15 ARES RACES Net 7:30	16	17	18	19 LVARC Test Session 7:00 pm	20
21	22 ARES RACES Net 7:30	23  Mid-winter dinner Old Country Buffet 6:00 pm	24	25	26	27
28	February 2010					

LVARC Meeting - Tuesday February 2 - 7:30 - Tri-Clover Fire Co.

Test Session - Friday February 19 - 7:00 pm - Rd Cross Building

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday February 1 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday February 2 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday February 8 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Sunday February 14 -- Deadline to Schedule test session for this month
Monday February 15 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday February 19 -- LVARC Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)
Monday February 22 --- 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 December 18, 2009, test session, 5 tested and 5 passed.

Congratulations to:

Emil "Jay" Kolick - Technician
Matthew Dvorshak -- Technician
George Hebel -- General
Arthur Fleisher -- General
Jihn Barbaz (KB3EOJ) -- General



Ve's in attendance included **Walt** (KE3SP), **Rod** (N3XG), 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.

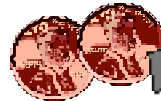
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!! Registration must be made no later than the Sunday before the Friday test session.



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!**

“My Two Cents” ... de Mark (AK3M)



EDITORIAL

Saturday December 5, 2009 saw the arrival of the first significant snowfall in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding area. I know this because I was returning from my son's house just outside of Wilmington, Delaware (not too far from HRO) and traveling the PA Turnpike (East) as well as the NE Extension about 4:30 pm, at probably the worst time during the bad weather. The sun had set so it was dark and the snow was falling as a wet snow which means it accumulated on grassy areas, the road surface and my windshield and made visibility very difficult.

As I was driving, I was happy to be in my 4-wheel drive SUV and was glad I had taken winter supplies and communication gear. Let's begin with the winter supplies. In the back of our Ford Escape, I have a bag which contains, basic tools, a snow brush/scrapper/, reflective road triangles, a flashlight, a blanket, a 12-V "jump start" battery and a roll of paper towels.

As for the communication equipment, I had my VX7-R with 2 sets of charged batteries, my cell phone and, yes, I took my hand held CB. The purpose of the CB was a last resort in case I needed to contact a truck or monitor their communications regarding road conditions. In addition, I have the appropriate cables for all communication gear to operate from the 12-V DC supply of the car or the jump start battery. I could stay on the air for days if necessary. I used the extended receive feature on my VX7R to listen to Hi-Spire, the PA Turnpike Commission's frequency (159.045) regarding road conditions. I had filled the gas tank before departing. This assured me that I would have heat and the maximum weight in my car for the drive awaiting me. The entire trip home took almost an hour longer than usual due to the road conditions and it was great to pull into my driveway and finally sit in my comfortable chair in my shack.

What does this have to do with radio communications? Well, I was glad to be able to hear about the van which had skid off the road at mile marker 40 Northbound on the turnpike. I was approaching that area and because of the advanced warning, I was not surprised or panicky when I saw the state police car with the bright flashing lights when I arrived at that site. I was happy to hear that the Quakertown interchange had ordered salt trucks deployed. In general, I was happy to know what awaited me as I traveled home. This would not have been possible without the proper communications equipment.

I do belong to AAA but how would I contact them if I needed them? How could I contact my family and let them know I was all right but would be arriving late? I was reminded of the traffic closure of route 78 a few years ago when people were stranded in their cars for several days and was happy to know that I had the proper winter driving equipment if I needed it as well as the means to monitor and communicate with the appropriate agencies and stations which could help me and let me know what was happening outside the warm cockpit of my Escape.

We are hams. Radio communications are important to us!

Don't forget that those communications do not need to be limited to amateur radio. Don't leave that radio home when you travel, especially this time of year when bad weather can happen anytime and sometime, without much warning.





Mid Winter Dinner



The "Mid Winter" dinner will be held at the **Old Country Buffet** on **Tuesday February 23, 2010**. Plan to meet LVARC members for dinner at **6:00 pm**. This is a terrific event and always packed with hams. Please note that this event does NOT replace the regular February business meeting which will be held at the Tr-Clover FC on February 2, 2010.

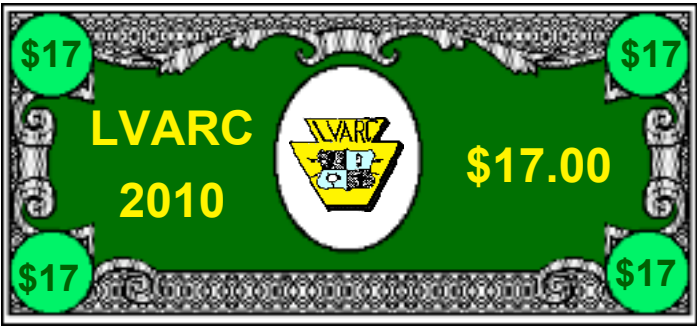


REMEMBER

to send a SCAN or COPY of your NIMS certificate(s) to Mark (AK3M).



Trivia ... The first toilet being flushed in a motion picture was in the movie "Psycho."



2010 Dues are Due

2010 Dues are due and once again, there is NO increase from previous years!

The dues for 2010 remain at \$17.00 for an individual and \$3 additional for each family member. You can send your dues to Paul (NOKIA) via US mail, pay him at a meeting or pay from teh club's web site via PayPal (Go to: <http://www.w3oi.org/paypal/membdues.htm>)

The state with the longest coastline in the continental US is:
(a) Michigan (b) Florida (c) California (d) N. Carolina
(from page 15 of the January, 2010 EVOX)



VHF/UHF Operational Procedures vs. HF Operational Procedures

(From the May 2004 Newsletter)

VHF/UHF	HF
Do NOT call CQ	Calling CQ acceptable
Phonetics are NOT used	Phonetics frequently necessary
Your signal is "fluttering" or "You're not making the machine."	R (readability x S (strength) signal preferred (RST for CW)
Can "Time Out" the repeater	No repeater to time out
"Q" signals are NOT used	"Q" signals acceptable
Log NOT mandatory	Log required

Eight years of the LVARC's newsletter (VOX) are now available on CD (2002-2009).

All files are in a pdf format and appeared as they did when posted on the club's website. The CD is free although you can replace it. All issues from 2002 through 2009 are included on this CD. Find your favorite article, read minutes of past meetings etc. ---- For a copy, contact Mark (AK3M).



This Just In Off The News Wire

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York Scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion, that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the New Yorkers, in the weeks that followed, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story in the LA Times read: California archaeologists, finding traces of 200 year old copper wire, and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-telecommunications network a hundred years earlier than the New Yorkers.

One week later, The Lebanon Daily News reported the following: After digging as deep as 30 feet in his pasture near Myerstown, PA, Mike Johnson, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Mike has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Lebanon County had already gone wireless. ----- de N3XG

That is the funniest thing I ever heard !



Good News Bad News



The good news is that although very slowly, the days are getting longer!

The bad news is that we still must experience the volatility of February's weather.

Net Control Ops Needed

If you are interested in becoming a NCS for the Monday Night ARES/RACES/LVARC Net, contact Jeff (N3MFT) or Mark (AK3M).

Do long noses run in your family?



Only in cold weather

CONGRATULATIONS to Jay Kolick (KB3TUR) and Matt Dvorshak (KB3TUS). They tested at the December 18, 2009 test session and received their calls on December 23, 2009. *A nice Christmas present!*



**HF
to
Go!**

Built by
Larry
(NR3R)

Complete HF station in a marine dry box. The station includes a Yaesu 817, a power supply, VHF 35-watt amp, keyer, mini antenna tuner, thru-box antenna connections, a compartment in the lid for accessories and more. *A perfect RACES HF station [ed]!*

LVARC 2009 VE Program Review --- de Mark (AK3M)

When preparing the 2009 annual VE report for the board meeting, I saw that during the 2009 calendar year, there was **only one month when no one was scheduled to test**. The results of the LVARC VE program for 2009 is as follows: The number tested is in parentheses ().

January (3)
February (1)
March (2)
April (2)

May (4)
June (4)
July (6)
August (0)

September (1)
October (9)
November (3)
December (6)

The total people tested for 2009 was 41. The total earned during 2009 for the LVARC is \$392.00. **A big TNX to all VE's who participate in this program !**

Not an Emergency Radio Service?

By David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Chief Executive Officer
January 01, 2010



INFORMATIONAL

The FCC raised a few eyebrows by including the following sentence in its Public Notice DA 09-2259 (see page 72, this issue): "While the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service, the amateur service is not an emergency radio service [emphasis added]."

If you are as surprised as I was, read the whole story at: [ed]

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2010/01/01/11218/?nc=1>



White House Names Ham as New Cybersecurity Coordinator

--- from the ARRL web site:

On Tuesday, December 22, President Barack Obama named Howard A. Schmidt, W7HAS, as the new White House Cybersecurity Coordinator.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/23/11264/?nc=1>

LVARC 2010 ARES activities to mark on your calendar

(Specific dates to be announced when available)



May ---- Lehigh Valley Road Runner's 1/2 marathon

May ---- St. Joseph the Worker's 5K

June --- Field Day

September --- LVH/VIA marathon

October --- Women's 5K Classic



Question Pool Schedule

Technician --- July 1, 2006 is valid until June 30, 2010