

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)
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Secretary: Phillip Bigg - KB3HMK (philbert17@verizon.net)
Treasurer: Brian Snyder - KB3QHA (brian@teamsnyder.net)

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David Hinkel - N3GRH - sharedwithyou@hotmail.com
Brian Klock - KW3K (brian@stcp.com)
Mark S. Miller - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.com)
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(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



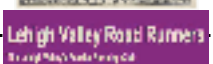



W3OI Dstar repeaters are now on W3OI at
147.165, W3EPE at 445.225 and W3OK at
145.110

Join us for a Mid-Atlantic regional net Tuesdays
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 Valentine's Day



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

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The February, 2011 LVARC meeting will be held on **February 1, 2011** 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 - 2010

<u>Month</u>		<u>Number of Check-In's</u>		<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January		137		4
February		125		4
March		146		5
April		121		4
May		108		4
June		129		4
July		94		3
August		88		5
September		87		3
October		112		4
November		130		5
December		103		4



REMEMBER:

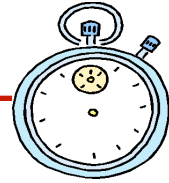
Registration for the monthly test session, must be made NO LATER THAN THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE TEST!



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

Minutes of the January, 2011 LVARC Meeting

de - Phil (KB3HMK)



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1933 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 27 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), Brian (KB3QHA), Paul (NOKIA), Robin (KB3GZV), and Dave (N3GRH).

Corrections Additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion by: Charlie - W3QXI

Second by: Dave - W3AMC

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report: (Brian - KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$3,715.30

Ending Balance: \$4,128.71

Approved by: Carl - AA3IX

Second by: Craig - N3TSY

Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Rod heard back from the ARCC. They did not send us a renewal application because they know were on the air and operational. He will get them the correct PL for the 147.135 repeater.

Program: Phil reports that tonight's program will be Rod (N3XG) and Bob (WB3W). They will be doing a presentation on the D-STAR system. Next month Rod will be the presenter. He will be doing a program on wire antennas. March's program will be on MBEMS. We will be taking a tour of the Lehigh County EMA office on March 8 at 7:30 P.M.. More info to follow.

Volunteer Examiners: One tested at the December 17, 2010 test session. No new license was earned. There are two scheduled for the January 21, 2011 test session. **There will be a special test session at the LDS church in Kutztown on January 22, 2011 at 4:00 pm. This is an open session. Registration is NOT necessary and all are welcome to test.**

Old Business: The bank accounts were changed due to a new treasurer. The club now has an e-mail address. Please do not use this to send e-mails. It is lvarc.w3oi@gmail.com The PayPal account has been updated also.

There will be a special VE test session and training. The training dates are January 21 from 6-9 and January 22 from 10-4. The test session will follow at 4:00 pm. Contact Brent (KB3QER).

ARES Report

1. Operation Ho Ho, 2010 was a big success!
2. Lehigh Valley Road Runner's 1/2 Marathon will be May 1, 2011. Volunteer operators are needed. Contact Mark (AK3M@rcn.com)

New Business: Rod would like to make a \$100 to the Tri-Clover Fire Company for the use of the building. The motion was made by Carl (AA3IX) and seconded by Dave (W3AMC). The motion passed.

Good of Order: There will be NIMS training at the Carbon County EMA. More info to follow in the newsletter (see page 15). You can also contact Charlie (N3WXO) for info also.

There are 2009 QST magazines in the back for the taking.

There is a box of misc. items for the taking.

Rod presented Dorian (KB3GZV) with an ARRL keychain for his service being on the board. Walt (KE3SP) was not present but will also be given a keychain for his service on the board.

The NPARC 2011 FM VHF / UHF Simplex Sprint will be on February 13. You can go to www.nparc.org for more info.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 1957 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Craig - N3TSY



Second by: Dave - W3AMC

In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance ending December, 2010 - \$4.128.71	

This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2011		1 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	2 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	3	4	5 Vermont QSO Party 10-10 Int. Winter SSB Contest 10-10 Int. EPC WW DX Contest
6 Vermont QSO Party 10-10 Int. Winter SSB Contest 10-10 Int. EPC WW DX Contest	7 ARES RACES Net 7:30	8	9 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	10	11	12 Dutch PACC Contest
13 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 ARRL Inter. CW DX Contest
20 ARRL Inter. CW DX Contest	21 ARES RACES Net 7:30	22	23 Mid Winter dinner at the Old Country Buffet 6:00	24	25 CQ 160m SSB Contest	26 CQ 160m SSB Contest REF SSB Contest
27 CQ 160m SSB Contest REF SSB Contest	28 ARES RACES Net 7:30	February 				

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

Test Session - Friday February 18 - 7:00 pm - Red Cross Building

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Tuesday February 1 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday February 7 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Sunday February 13 --- Deadline to schedule for license exam
Monday February 14 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday February 18 --- LVARC Test Session (Registration required)
Monday February 20 --- LC RACES/ ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Monday February 27 --- 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)

**One tested at the December
17, 2010 test session.
No new license was earned.**



VE's in attendance were, **Mark (AK3M)**, **Walt (KE3SP)** and **Bill (WA3T)**

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!**



It Happened to Me! On Monday December 27, 2010, we all experienced the first Winter storm of the season. In Bethlehem (Northampton County), it wasn't the snow accumulation but the wind that caused me problems. I lost power for about four hours but was able to monitor VHF amateur, police and EMS traffic because of back up DC power. One of these included a battery from Cabela's which you can read about on page 10. The outage occurred early in the morning. I was happy to know that I had battery back up for radios, cell phone and DC lights if needed. We keep talking about back up power but **do you really have something to power your equipment in an emergency?** I was glad to be tested and happy that I passed!

Thanks to Gary (W3GRD) who responded to the January, “My Two Cents,” which invited readers to tell how amateur radio effected their life. Below, is his submission.

READER SUBMISSION

I was always fascinated by radio going back to the heyday of CB radios in the mid 70's. But after indulging in it for awhile became discouraged with it for the lack distance you could effectively communicate and the foul language and clowns that could be heard on the bands. I always kept a CB around especially for trips in which you could monitor for traffic conditions and to communicate between other vehicles in you're group.

Before getting my Ham ticket, I indulged in free banding on SSB and found some local groups that were nice to talk to. But just like CB, the jammers would move in and disrupt you, making communicating unpleasant. I then bought a scanner and would listen to the Ham frequencies and thought that I would give this a try. Well after almost two years now, I can honestly say I do enjoy the hobby and have never looked back. Most operators are pleasant to speak with and I enjoy talking to people all over the US and the world.

The only thing that I can say negatively is there are still those jammers that appear mostly on 75/80 meters, and I for the life of me, don't understand why someone would go to the expense of buying equipment and erect antennas only to spend there time harassing others. One of the first nets I jumped in on was with Fred and the Marconi net. The jammer gets on and harasses everyone. This has been going on for 2 years and the jammer is still out there. Not sure why this nutcase can't been found. Anyway, my only other complaint would be operators who tune up on the frequency they want to transmit on. This is incredibly annoying, especially when wearing headphones. Not sure, but I think, maybe they think they will not get lowest possible SWR if they don't tune up on that frequency.

**The "Mid Winter" dinner will be at the
Old Country Buffet on February 23, 2011
at 6:00 pm. Mark your calendar!**

2011 Dues are Due!

Your 2011 LVARC dues are due! 2011 dues are **\$17.00** for an individual and **\$20.00** for a family membership. Send your dues via US mail to Brian (KB3QHA) at:

**Brian W Snyder
PO BOX 3134
Easton, PA 18043**

OR

Pay Brian at a meeting.

Airport Alert Codes

Alert 1: Airport (Possible Crash)

Alert 2: Airport (Probable Crash)

Alert 3: Airport (Crash/Aircraft Incident)

ALERT 1: A plane in the air has minor electrical/mechanical problems. Units standby at fire station.

ALERT 2: A plane in the air has major electrical/mechanical problems. Units standby at runway.

ALERT 3: A plane has crashed at or near the airport.

ALERT 4: Hijacking, bomb threats or hazmat problems

How many POB (**P**ersons **O**n **B**oard)

Level 1) 1-2 Souls

Level 2) 3-10

Level 3) 11-25

Level 4) 26-50

Level 5) 51+



If you remember the 1950's, and want to revisit that decade, go to:

<http://oldfortyfives.com/TakeMeBackToTheFifties.htm>



Question Pool Scheduled Revision

The next element to be revised is the **General** class (Element 3), released December, 2010 and will become effective July 1, 2011.



QST Quiz ----- How many copies of QST are printed each month?

- (1) 20,000 (3) 150,000
(2) 100,000 (4) 300,000



Answer, page 11
(QST January, 2011 .. page. 128)



VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED



Lehigh Valley Road Runners
The Lehigh Valley's Premier Running Club

Dr. Mike Martinez has already mailed me to let me know that he again wants the LVARC to provide communications support for the Lehigh Valley Road Runner's 2011 Half-marathon. This event will be **Sunday May 1, 2011**. Mark your calendars and volunteer early. About 17 operators will be needed. If you can help, contact Mark (AK3M) at **AK3M@rcn.com**.

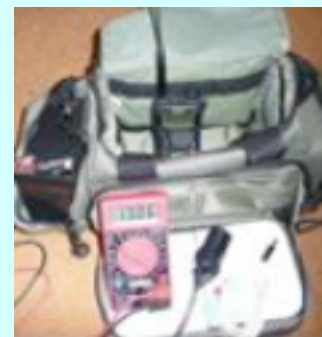


READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

While roaming around Cabela's the other week, I stumbled across this small size 8 Amp Hour rechargeable battery and charger. I purchased one and an extra battery. Using it as a test with my Yaesu FT817 (receive only with the back light on full) it lasted almost exactly 24 hours to the minute. Imagine the time you would get on an HT? I also found a great bag with side pockets that the battery fits in perfectly which leaves the middle part for radios, a small DC lamp, cell phone, wires and any extras you may want to carry with you. It is an ideal "grab-it-and-go bag," that will keep you on the air for a week.

Below are pictures of my set up with the battery, bag and two harnesses I made. One is a female DC plug and the other is a 1.7mm plug which I can put directly into my VX7 or FT817. I also purchased an inexpensive meter at Harbor Freight and put alligator clips on the ends instead of the probes. This way I can monitor the voltage of the battery.



QST Quiz ----- How many copies of QST are printed each month? .

- (1) 20,000 (3) **150,000**
(2) 100,000 (4) 300,000



See, page 10
(QST January, 2011 .. page. 128)



The LVARC will hold its March meeting at the
Lehigh County EMA and 911 center at 640
Hamilton St - 8th Floor, Allentown, Pa.

Amateur Radio ID Badge Lanyard (from the ARRL store)

Stand out in a crowd with this
brightly colored "Amateur Radio"
lanyard, with badge clip. Now
featuring a convenient buckle
breakaway!
Order No. LNYD - \$3.95



<http://www.arrl.org/shop/What-s-New/?page=3>

RACES vs. ARES

Last month, I said I would review
RACES and ARES. Simply, RACES
is administered by the county and
ARES is an ARRL function. You need
to be **registered with the county** to
participate in a RACES activity. The
county also requires that all
participants have **ICS (NIMS)**
certification.

You need no certification to be
engaged in an ARES event. An
example of an ARES event would be a
marathon.



RACES



ARES

Up Coming Events

May --- LVRR 1/2 Marathon
St. Joseph the Worker 5K

June --- Field Day

September --- LVHN/VIA Marathon

October --- Women's 5K Classic





OPERATION HO HO 2010



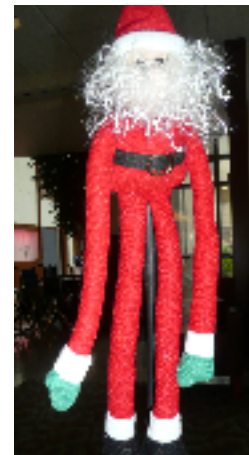
On Sunday December 19, 2010, "Elves," from the LVARC

arrived at the Lehigh Valley Hospital (Cedar Crest) and prepared to visit the rooms of the children in the hospital's children's ward. They were there to let the children talk to Santa via ham radio. This was a record year as there were about 24 children in the unit on that day, although some of them were too young to be verbally expressive but they did hear Santa talk to them. The elves exhausted their supply of "Santa" Tee shirts, and will have to get more from the workshop for next year. The children not only talked to Santa but also heard Rudolph's bells as he too, came to the radio to hear the children.



As Santa, I am in a room away from the children and miss their expressions but the elves were kind enough to describe the activities in the rooms even if I was in utility closet. The reaction from the parents who were in their child's room was very favorable. TNX to Larry (NR3R), Mrs. NR3R, Phil (KB3HMK) and his mother and Mrs. AK3M.

Below, are some pictures of the Ho Ho event. Pictures of the children are forbidden due to confidentiality issues. On page 13, is a "Thank You," letter I received a few days after, "Operation Ho Ho, from the Hospital's vice president.





DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

1247 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Suite 200
Allentown, PA 18103-6347

ph: 610-402-5385
fax: 610-402-9122
email: giftplanning@lvhn.org
LVHN.org/giving

December 20, 2011

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club
c/o Mark Miller
5508 Hale Ave.
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Dear Mr. Miller:

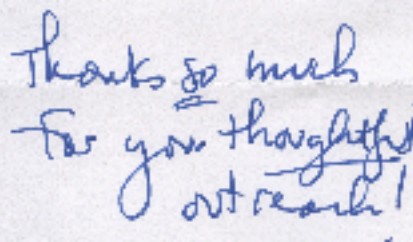
Thank you and the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club for your most generous gift Christmas stockings, t-shirts and a chance to talk with Santa on a two-way radio supporting Pediatrics General Fund.

Our mission, to provide the people of the Lehigh Valley with the highest quality of healthcare through caring professionalism, clinical ingenuity, and innovative community programs, depends greatly upon philanthropy. Your generosity is, therefore, most appreciated.

On behalf of the entire Lehigh Valley Health Network family, please let me extend our sincere appreciation.

Sincerely,

Lise Twiford
Vice President



For gifts over \$250, the IRS requires that Lehigh Valley Health Network inform you that your gift is tax deductible to the extent provided by law and certain guidelines have been provided to the donor by the Hospital in consideration of this gift. Lehigh Valley Health Network protects your personal information and adheres to all regulatory requirements with respect to protecting your privacy. We do not sell, trade, or otherwise share our mailing lists.

Special Test Session

The LVARC will be holding a special test session on **Saturday January 22, 2011 at 4: 00 pm**. The test will be held at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Kutztown. **ANYONE** is welcome to test at this exam session. The following apply to this, and all LVARC test sessions:

- 1) Proof of ID is necessary (a driver's license will do).
- 2) If you are upgrading your license, a **COPY** of your current license is necessary. It must be a **COPY** as it will accompany the paperwork and will **NOT be returned**.
- 3) The test fee is \$15.00 - **EXACT CASH ONLY**. No change is taken to the test sessions. If the tester does NOT pass, he can take another version of the test for an **additional** \$15.00 at the same sitting.
- 4) Testers may take a calculator but it **CANNOT** have any formulas stored in memory. The VE team reserves the right to check.
- 5) Testers must take 2 sharpened pencils with good erasers.
- 6) The test will begin on time. Arrive early to complete application paperwork.

If you are a VE and wish to participate in this exam session, please contact Mark (AK3M - AK3M@rcn.com).

Up-dates Needed - de Mark (AK3M)

IMPORTANT

Help me keep the records straight. The new year is a good time to start. I need your updated information if you:

- 1) are a current **LC RACES** member (you need to have NIMS certifications) - see page 15 for the current list of NIMS graduates.,
- 2) are a registered District 2 current **ARES** volunteer. If not, you can go to: www.epad2.org and register from the left,
- 3) have **changed your email address** and/or did not receive the December, 2010 EVOX via email,
- 4) are a current **VE** and want to participate in exam sessions (include at what level you are authorized to test).

TNX for your help --- Mark

NIMS / ICS TRAINING

COMPLETE THE ENTIRE PROGRAM BY: MARCH 6TH 2011

NIMS-700.A
ICS-100.A
ICS-200.A

ICS-300
ICS-400

READER SUBMISSION

de Charlie (N3WXO)



Here is a unique opportunity to become totally NIMS Compliant by March 6th 2011. Carbon County EMA is offering the entire program:

NIMS-700, ICS-100.A, ICS-200.A, ICS-300 & ICS-400 beginning January 29th and concluding on March 6th. For more information regarding dates and times of the various sessions, please contact Carbon County EMA at:

(570) 325-3097

NIMS-700 - National Incident Management System, January 29th 8:00AM

ICS-100.A - Introduction to the Incident Command System, February 5th 8:00AM

ICS-200.A - Incident Command/Single Resource & Initial Action Incidents, Feb 12 & 13

ICS-300 - Incident Command for Expanding Incidents, Feb 16th, 19th, 23rd, 26th

ICS-400 - Incident Command for Command & General Staff, March 5th & 6th

All Courses will be conducted at the:

**Carbon County Emergency Management Agency
1264 Emergency Lane /// Broad Street
Nesquehoning, PA 18240**

NOTE: It is necessary to **PRE-REGISTER** for these required courses

Carbon County Emergency Management Agency

(570) 325-3097 office, (570) 325-9132 fax, ccema@ptd.net,
cclepc@ptd.net



top news

LVARC VE Program - 2010 Review ----- The LVARC tested **40** people during the 2010 year. **A BIG TNX to all the LVARC VE's who participated!**

