



The VOX



The Official *On-Line* Newsletter of the

Lehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub - W3OI / KB3SYV
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA



Officers

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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 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 at 7:30 pm.

To register for the Gateway or need information
on setting up the radio, please visit
<https://24.229.28.14/Dstar.do>

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

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IMPORTANT -- de Mark (AK3M)

CHANGE IN TESTING PROGRAM! The LVARC will **NOT** hold a regular test session in June and July, 2013. There **will be testing at the FD site**. Testing will resume the **3rd Friday in September at 6:30 pm**. The **NEW LOCATION** will be **HANOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on **Jacksonville Road** in **Bethlehem, PA**.

3890 Jacksonville Road --- Bethlehem, 18017-9307



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

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The September, 2013 LVARC meeting will be held on September 3, 2013 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company at 7:30



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 - 2013

Month

Number of Check-In's

Number of Nets/Mondays

January
February
March
April
May
June
July



108
105
133
132
87
108

140



4
4
4
5
3
4

4

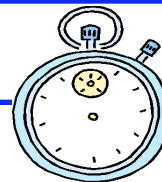
The first letter of every continent's name is the same as the last: AmericaA, AntarcticaA, EuropE, AsiaA, AustraliaA, AfricaA.

You take time to check into the RACES/ARES Net on Monday, why not go one step beyond and volunteer for a community service event? The VIA/LVHN Marathon is coming and operators are needed (see page 11) -- ed.



Minutes of the August, 2013 LVARC Meeting

de - Phil (KB3HMK)



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1930 Hrs, (EST).

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

There were a total of 22 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 1 guest. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod - N3XG, Brian - KW3K, Phil - KB3HMK, Brian - KB3QHA, Paul - NOKIA, Robin - KB3GZV, Chuck - WB6CDY and Gary - N3GRD.

Guests: Dennis Shaffer - KB3WLV

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Approved by: Chuck - WB6CDY

Second by: Scott - KB3YOT

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report: (Brian - KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$4,228.39

Ending Balance: \$4,149.83

Approved by: John - AB3LZ

Second by: Chuck - WB6CDY

Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: The following members are on the repeater committee: Rod, Paul, Matt, Chuck and Robin. The 146.94 and 147.135 repeaters are now capable of being placed in limited access mode. The club members in attendance were given the procedures and keys to access the repeaters if they ever need to access a muted repeater. Both the 94 and 135 repeaters are closed from 12 AM to 6 AM. Rod passed out copies of the repeater rules and guidelines manual.

Program: Chuck (WB6CDY) will be doing the program tonight. It will be on ARES / RACES / ACS and CERT and preparing for an emergency. Hands on night will be on August 20. September's program will be John (AB3LZ) and it will be on Power Grids.

Volunteer Examiners: Next test session will be September 20. There will be a special test session on September 7 in Kutztown. If there are any VE's available, Mark could use the help.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

Old Business: The annual picnic was held on July 27. There was an excellent turnout and the food was good.

The VIA marathon is September 8. Mark needs operators for the event. Contact him if you're available.

The annual Emergency Preparedness day is September 21. It will be held at St. Luke's West in South Whitehall Twp. More info to follow.

Rex is working on the tax exemption forms for the club. He still needs more info. Rex is estimating another two months. More info to follow.

New Business: Ed Wagner (W3HER) is donating his equipment to the club. This includes radios, antennas, tuners power supplies and other various items. The club has accepted the donation. There are two possibilities for the equipment. One is doing a station at the Tri-Clover Fire Company or purchasing a trailer and turning it into a mobile station. Rod needs a lead person to take down the tower and transport it. Myles (KB3ZMA) volunteered to do it. If you would like to help, please contact Myles at myles@holencikroofing.com. He will determine a date to take the tower down.

The club received a thank you card from the family of Henry Mohr.

Good of the Order: The club received a QSL card from Mark Pysik (K0LOR) for PSK contact on Field Day.

Skywarn training will be available online. You can go to the National Weather Service - Mount Holly website for more info. If you take the course online, please let Brian (KW3K) know.

The DLARC (W3OK) club will start tech classes soon. Check there website for more info.

New member applicants: Dennis Shaffer - KB3WLV
New Members Motion to Accept by: Scott - KB3YOT
Second by: John - AB3LZ
Carried (Y/N) Y

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2030 hrs, (EST.)
Motion by: Chuck - WB6CDY
Second by: Rex - KC1WE
In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance ending July, 2013 - \$4,149.83	

This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2  No Net	3 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30 Skyscraper Day	4 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	5 Be Late for Something Day	6	7 LDS test session Kutztown 4:00 pm 
8 Grandparent's Day VIA/LVHN Marathon 	9 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Brian KW3K	10 Sewing Machine Day	11 911 Remembrance Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	12	13 Blame Someone Else Day	14 National Cream-Filled Donut Day
15 Deadline to schedule test	16 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Paul N0KIA	17 LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover	18 National Cheeseburger Day Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	19	20 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm	21 Emergency Preparedness Day (see p. 11)
22	23 Checkers Day ARES RACES Net 7:30 Bruce KB3FIH	24	25 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	26	27 Crush a Can Day	28 Ask a Stupid Question Day
29	30 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Mark AK3M	<div> <h2>September 2013</h2> <p>(Classical Music month)</p> </div>				

LVARC meeting - Tuesday September 3 - 7:30 - Tri - Clover FC

VE test session - September 20 - Hanover Elementary School - 6:30 pm.

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday September 2 --- **NO LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

Tuesday September 3 --- **LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)**

Sunday September 8 --- VIA/LVHN Marathon

Monday September 9 --- **LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

Sunday September 15 --- **Deadline for scheduling for the test session**

Monday September 16 --- **LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

Tuesday September 17 --- **LVARC Activity Night (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)**

Friday September 20 --- **VE test session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)**

Monday September 23 --- **LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

Monday September 30 --- **LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

2013

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)

**There was no test session
scheduled for August,
2013.**



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, 2013.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!! 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!**

2013 LVARC Events

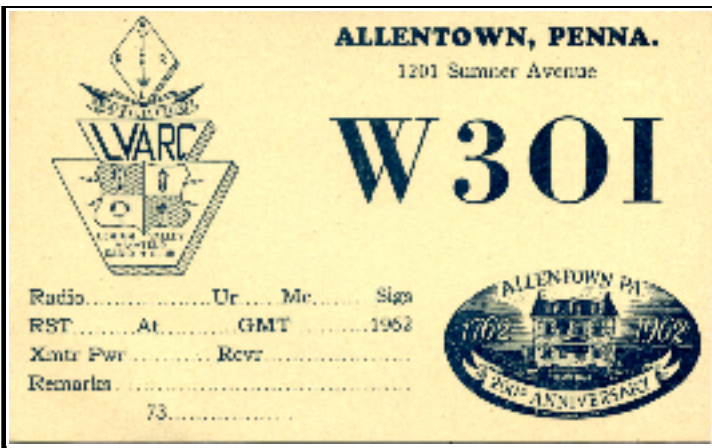
September 7 --- LDS test session

September 8 --- LVHN / VIA Marathon
(Volunteers needed)

October 12 --- Women's 5K Classic
(Volunteers needed)



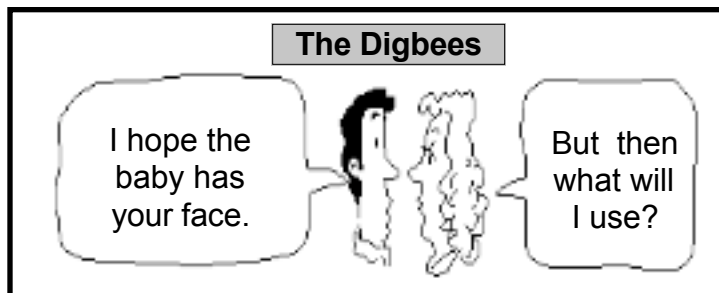
Canada has proposed creating a new MF Amateur Radio band at 472-479 kHz. The 7 kilohertz sliver of spectrum would be available to hams on a secondary basis. (See ARRL home page for details)



READER SUBMISSION

"The Good 'Ole Days"

W3OI QSL courtesy Dave Hinkle (N3GRH)



READER SUBMISSION - de Mark (AK3M)

Read QST on your iPhone. Go to the Apple store and download the QST app for free!



Fake fire extinguishers are hitting the open market

The following URL was included in a boating magazine I receive. If you keep a fire extinguisher in your shack/house, you may want to see this. I do not think it is specific to marine extinguishers.



<http://www.wfla.com/story/21865311/fake-fire-extinguishers-are-hitting-the-open-market>

The Answer Man



Question: How important is SWR really? What is a good SWR report and how far off from that value is still OK?

Answer: SWR can be considered to be the efficiency of your antenna system. You hear people talk about SWR more with HF antennas because most VHF/UHF vertical antennas are quite broad banded – meaning no antenna tuning is required. HF antennas typically require adjustments during installation to optimize SWR on your favorite HF bands. Factors like height above ground and the impact of nearby objects are also more significant to antenna SWR on HF bands.

Low SWR is good but it isn't necessary to achieve a 1.1:1 match with an antenna. Most radios can work with levels as high as 3:1 without being damaged. An SWR of 2.1:1 will be 87% efficient and this is good enough for matching to any radio. The amount of power that is reflected is relatively insignificant and the SWR won't degrade your signal strength. For my home station, I try to keep my SWR to 2.1:1 or less on the frequencies I operate but I have no problem operating almost up to 3:1 on occasion.

On the topic of SWR, it is a good thing to check your SWR periodically to make sure everything is still operating as you expected. (Wire antennas may stretch over time, connections may break, water or moisture damage may occur, as well as numerous other things).



Send your questions to Erik (AI3D) at:

GEISSENE@GMAIL.COM



900 MHz HTs For Sale

The LVARC has several Motorola GTX hand held radios for sale. They are reprogrammed to amateur frequencies in the 900 MHz (33 cm) band. Included, are DC and drop in AC chargers. The price for the package is **\$50.00**. This is a great way to get on 900 MHz for a small cost while helping the LVARC treasury. If interested in purchasing one or more of these HT's, contact **Brian (KW3K)** at KW3K@kw3k.com.



A Special VE Test Session will be held at the Church of Latter Day Saints (LDS) in Kutztown on **Saturday September 7, 2013** at **4:00 pm**. If you are a VE and wish to help, contact Mark (AK3M).

Anyone is welcome to attend this session to test for Technician or upgrade. The test fee is **\$15.00 EXACT CASH!!!!**

NEW

The *Monday Night Net* welcomes **Bruce (KB3FIH)** as a new net control operator!

READER SUBMISSION

de Chuck (WB6CDY)

Field Day Song ???

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fA0Od48j6WA&list=PL36CE2A87471DF6F3>

WANTED

Dual-band radio (2m & 440). If you have an HT or mobile rig for sale, contact Don (N0VGA) at **dbh46@verizon.net**

My favorite poem is the one that starts, "Thirty days hath September ..." because it actually tells you something. --- **Groucho Marx**



Lehigh Valley Health

Network/VIA Marathon this month!



The Lehigh Valley Health Network/VIA Marathon will be held on **Sunday September 8, 2013. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** At least 18 operators will be needed for this event. Our service is much needed and appreciated. Please do not hesitate to volunteer but please do so only if you are sure you can attend. This is a full **26 mile event** and every volunteer is needed! Please support the served agencies by volunteering your time and talent. If you can help, email Mark at **AK3M@rcn.com**.



WANTED: “Does someone in the club have a mag mount antenna that they have laying around and may want to get rid of? It’s for my dual band HT and for my vehicle.”



Contact David at: **gr8dave37@yahoo.com**



READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

New radio in town!

Any Tone Radio



AnyTone Dual Band Transceiver
VHF/UHF AT-5888UV Two Way and
Amateur Radio

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3dHMYfBkEE&feature=youtube_gdata_player



“George is a radio announcer, and when he walks under a bridge... you can’t hear him talk.” ---- Steven Wright

The annual **Emergency Preparedness Day Fair** will be held on **Saturday September 21**. The location is St. Luke's West on Cetronia Road. The fee is **FREE** and all are welcome.



READER SUBMISSION

Something to think about

de Mark (AK3M)

After returning from my annual vacation to the beach and listening to marine communications, I heard many boats with the suffix II (2) or III (3) in their name. For example, "Treasure II," or, "My Dream III." Makes you wonder what happened to the previous boats!



FOR SALE ----- Yaesu FT-100D

Extra power cord . Used very little on transmit, receive mostly.
\$525

Contact Ed Thomas (W3EFT)

edbjthomas@ptd.net



LVARC News

As mentioned at the last General Meeting, the repeater guidelines for LVARC managed repeaters (146.94 and 147.135) are now posted on our web page. Links to the pdf and text-only versions are in the grey box at the top of the table. You may refer repeater users to these links if they ask about our repeaters.



Remember, guests are WELCOME on our repeaters, but ALL users should follow the rules of decorum used in civilized society. Baiting, taunting, hogging and outright belligerent and illegal behavior will not be tolerated, and should be reported to a control operator immediately.

Thanks for your attention and 73 --- Paul (NOKIA)