



The **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** (n3xg.radio@gmail.com)
Vice President: **Brian Klock - KW3K** (KW3K@kw3k.com)
Secretary: **John Bartos - AB3LZ** (jab.2@rcn.com)
Treasurer: **Brian Snyder - KB3QHA** (brian@teamsnyder.net)



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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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LVARC TEST SESSIONS



Testing is held the **3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm.** at the **HANOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on **Jacksonville Road** in **Bethlehem, PA.** **REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.** *The deadline to register is the Sunday before the test session.*

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 February, 2014 LVARC meeting will be held on
February 4, 2014 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

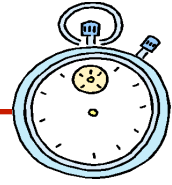
<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January	108	4
February	105	4
March	133	4
April	132	5
May	87	3
June	108	4
July	140	4
August	128	4
September	117	4
October	122	4
November	131	4
December	164	5



IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT -- Due to a conflict in scheduling, we will not
have access to the school for the January 17 test session. As
a result, **the January 2014 test session is
canceled.** The next test session will be February 21, 2014.

Minutes of the January, 2014 LVARC Meeting de - John (AB3LZ)



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 24 members in attendance, and the club was joined by guests. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod – N3XG, Brian – KW3K, John – AB3LZ, Brian – KB3QHA, Paul – N0KIA, Robin – KB3GZV, Scott –KB3YOT and Myles – KB3ZMA

Guests:

Donald Jacobs – N3HVL, Mike Mandell – KC3BLF, George Weiss – KB3WTQ and Phil and Melany White

Corrections additions to the minutes:

It was noted that the Club Radio Shack Committee report was included at the end of the VE Committee report and not included as a separate item in the meeting minutes.

Approved by: Chuck – WB6CDY

Second by: Scott – KB3YOT

Carried (Yes)

Treasurer's Report (Brian – KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$4251.52

Ending Balance: \$4448.24

Bryan reported the he has not received the IRS acceptance of the Clubs tax exempt application request as of this date.

Approved by: Robin – KB3GZV

Second by: Myles – KB3ZMA

Carried: (Yes)

Committee Reports:

Club Radio Shack: Rod (N3XG) spoke to Chief Johnson of the Tri Clover FD and they are starting a project to remodel their bar. The old bar area will changed into a Day Room. Chief Johnson indicated that they would be willing to talk to the club about our space needs for a radio shack when they begin to plan the remodel.

Options for the club radio shack will be discussed at the club board meeting this month.

Program: Paul (N0KIA) will be presenting a presentation on the HT programing software CHIRP with a focus on the Baufong UV-5R.

The January hands on meeting will be programing HT's using CHIRP. Rod (N3XG) will also bring his service monitor to the meeting and members are invited to bring their radios to verify that they meet their published specifications.

The February hands on night will be at the Old Country buffet. Phil (KB3HMK) has reserved a room for the night of February 18 at 1830 hrs. for the clubs annual winter dinner.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

A program is needed for the February club meeting. Rod (N3XG) requested suggestions and/or volunteers.

Volunteer Examiners: During the 2013 calendar year, the LVARC VE team held 10 test sessions, tested 24 people and earned \$168.00 for the LVARC.

Since its start in 2003, the LVARC VE team has held 113 test sessions, tested a total of 317 people and earned a total of \$2,041.00. These numbers do not reflect the new members acquired from having the test sessions.

In 2013, we also experienced the need to move and find a new test session location. We moved from the Red Cross building to the Hanover Elementary School in May, 2013 and held the first session there in October, 2013.

Due to a conflict in the school schedule, there will be NO test session in January.

Old Business:

Myles (KB3ZMA) is coordinating club participation in the January VHF contest. The group will be going on the air using the club call sign (W3OI).

The equipment donation from Eastern PA EMS has been delayed. Two Way Radio has offered to render all the equipment inoperable on public service frequencies. The Schuylkill Radio Club will be included in the radio give away. Rod (N3XG) recommended that the equipment be divided via a lottery. The Eastern PA EMS is considering Rod suggestion.

New Business:

Rod (N3XG) requested a motion to donate \$100 to the Tri Clover FD for use of their facilities.

A motion to donate \$100 to Tri Clover FD was made by: Chuck – WB6CDY.

Second by: Charlie – AB3RP

Carried: (Yes)

Rod (N3XG) requested a motion to reserve space at the Upper Macungie Park for the annual club summer picnic during the end of July. A motion to make a reservation at the Upper Macungie Park was made by: Scott – KB3YOT

Second by: Dave – W3AMC

Carried: (Yes)

Good of the Order:

Paul reminded the members of the 50-50 drawing rules.

Mathew's (KB3UZE) wife's grandfather, a former club member, turned 83. His name is Carl Gingrich (K3NNY). Carl is no longer active due to a heart pace maker. Rod (N3XG) suggested that Mathew bring Carl to the February dinner so that he can reconnect with the club. Mathew will invite Carl.

Sick Report:

Paul (N0KIA) reported that Kenney (KC3BLE) was sick and unable to make the meeting.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2005hrs, (EST.)

Motion by: Chuck (WB6CDY)

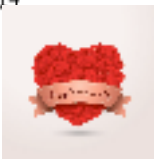

Second by: Myles (KB3ZMA)

In favor: Yes

Respectfully Submitted de AB3LZ, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$	
Balance ending December 2013 - \$4,448.24	

This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2>February 2014</h2>						1 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB
2	3 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Rod N3XG	4 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	5 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	6	7	8 Dutch PACC Contest
9	10 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Matthew KB3UZE	11	12 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	13	14  Valentine's Day	15
16 Deadline to schedule test	17 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Robin KB3GZV	18 Mid Winter Dinner Old Country Buffet 6:30 pm	19 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	20	21 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm	22 CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB
23	24 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Dorian KB3GZW	25	26 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	27	28 	

LVARC meeting - Tuesday February 4 - 7:30 - Tri - Clover FC

Test session - February 21 - Hanover Elementary School - 6:30 pm.

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday February 3 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday February 4 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday February 10 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Sunday February 16 --- Deadline to schedule for test session
Monday February 17 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday February 18 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Friday February 21 --- VE Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)
Monday February 24 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

2014

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 20, 2013 test session, 5 tested and 5 passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:
Joseph Rogan - Technician
Mike Mandell (KC3BLF) - General
Myles Bodish (KB3ZMA) - Extra
Brian Stankovich - Technician
Stephen Compos - Technician



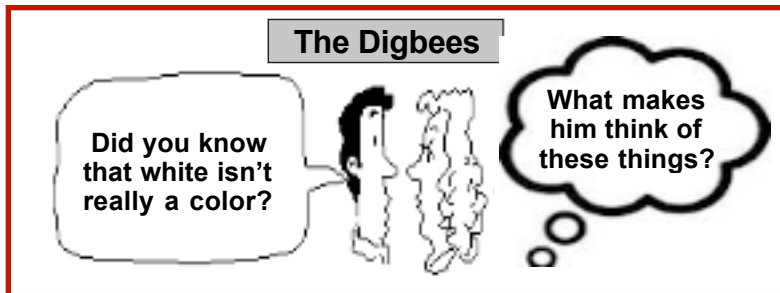
VE's in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Frank (W3FTU) and Walt (KE3SP)

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



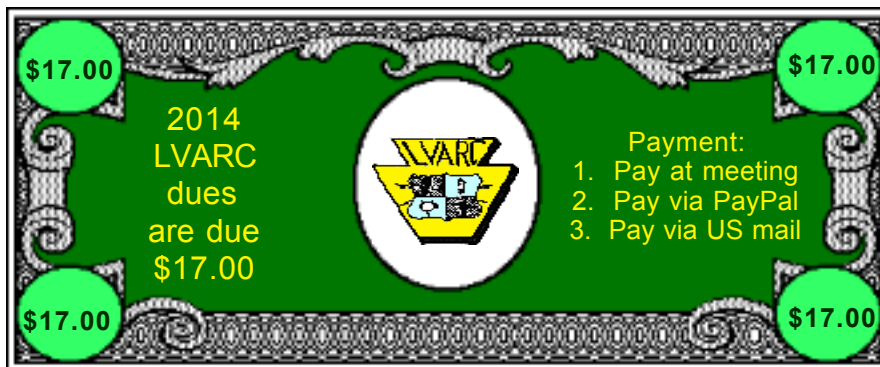
Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in this newsletter? Send it to Mark (AK3M). You can submit VOX material in any form. Send it via email (AK3M@rcn.com) or US mail (5508 Hale Ave - Bethlehem, PA 18017). You can send pictures, diagrams or text. **The newsletter needs YOUR material to continue!**



St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus



LVARC dues for 2014 are now being accepted. Dues can be paid to Brian (KB3QHA) (1) at a meeting, (2) via PayPal or (3) send to Brian via US mail. Dues have *NOT* increased in many years. **Dues are \$17.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a household.**



If you opt to pay Brian via US mail, send to:

**Brian Snyder
PO Box 3134
Easton, PA 18043**

2014 LVARC Events

Below, are *tentative* LVARC ARES events. Specific dates will be announced.

Mark your calendar and volunteer to help/attend!!!

April --- 1/2 Marathon

June --- Hanover Township Spring 5K
"Girl's On The Run" 5K
Field Day

July --- LVARC Picnic

September 7 --- LVHN / VIA Marathon

October --- Women's 5K Classic

November 8 --- Hanover Township Fall 5K





READER SUBMISSION

- de Myles (KB3ZMA)



The LVARC will be participating in the January **ARRL VHF contest, Saturday January 18, 2014**. If you are interested in participating or, would like more information **contact Myles (KB3ZMA)** at Myles@holencikroofing.com or 484-221-4085.



2013 Annual VE Report - de Mark (AK3M)

During the 2013 calendar year, the LVARC VE team held **10 test sessions, tested 24 people** and **earned \$168.00** for the LVARC.



Since its start in 2003, the LVARC VE team has **held 113 test sessions, tested a total of 317** people and **earned a total of \$2,041.00**. These numbers do not reflect new LVARC members acquired from having the test sessions.

In 2013, we also experienced the need to move and find a **new test session location**. We moved from the Red Cross building to Hanover Elementary School in May, 2013 and held the first session there in October, 2013.



2013 Annual ARES Report - de Mark (AK3M)

During the 2013 calendar year, the LVARC provided communication support for **seven community events**. In 2013, the LVARC ARES program also **accepted the responsibility of coordinating and organizing two additional 5K events** in Hanover Township, Northampton County.



"The most serious charge which can be brought against New England is not Puritanism but February." --- Joseph Wood Krutch



READER SUBMISSION

- de Pete (NL7XM)

PRIVATE RADIO STATION
3XW, 3ZO & 3OI
Parkesburg, Pa. 10/18 1925

DEAR Sir: At 10/18 P. M. N A A time,

Your station heard } CW
calling } }
working } } 10/18

Your signals were } and
fading. }
Modulation } Poor
Fair
Good

Articulation RAC

Atmospherics, QRM, QEN

Audibility P-7 when
using step radio
frequency amplifier and
step audio frequency amplifier.

Notes: [Handwritten notes]

With best regards,
HORACE A. BEALE, JR.
By [Signature]
MEMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
A. R. R. L.



A QSL from a member of a board of the ARRL ... circa 1925.

Horace Beale, Jr. was a prolific op during this period, and was on the ARRL Board of Directors. 3OI was his personal Callsign, with 3XW & 3ZO being Experimental and Portable Callsigns, simultaneously issued to Beale. (It was common practice at the time to hold multiple tickets for different types of apparatus or locations.) This particular card confirms a "Fine Business," "R•7" CW contact from his Parkesburg, PA residence with 1AKZ, A. Hurnanen in Gardner, Mass. on Oct. 18, 1925, over 88 years ago! (The "W" prefix for US Amateurs would not be employed for another three years.)

Although this spectacular specimen has a small water stain, a superimposed diagram depicting his very elaborate, enormous Sterba Curtain antenna system appears on it, perpendicularly under the report. It must have been very effective, because Beale's signal was legendary.

Beale was not the 1st to hold 3OI, but he would have it from 1922 until 1926, eventually only using 3XW.



"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." - Edith Sitwell



ARES vs. RACES



What's the difference? We have covered this before in previous issues of the VOX but because of the many new hams around, I thought I would run it again.

ARES stands for **A**mateur **R**adio **E**mergency **S**ervices (pronounced "air -eez"). ARES is **administered by a club or organization**. ARES members do not need any special certification to operate. ARES activities include community events such as marathons, bike races, parades, Walk-A-Thons etc.

RACES stands for **R**adio **A**mateur **C**ivil **E**mergency **S**ervices (pronounced "race eez"). RACES is **administered by the county EMA**. In the case of the LVARC, Lehigh County. RACES members **MUST** have completed training to be on the RACES/county's list to operate. One must have completed at least **ICS 100 AND ICS 700** to be qualified for RACES. RACES operators can only be activated at the direction of the county. To become a member of Lehigh County RACES, send a scanned **COPY** of your ICS course(s) to me (**AK3M@rcn.com**). You must also **contact Bruce (KB3FIH)**, the new L.C. RACES coordinator, telling him that you have successfully completed the courses and wish to be on the LC RACES roster. If you have already sent me a scanned copy of your ICS/EMCOMM courses, you need not send again. Bruce can be contacted at **Bruce.Bobo@lvhn.org**. On page 12, is the most recent list of LVARC ICS/EMCOMM members I have. If there are any changes, please let me know. I have shared this list with Bruce so he has the same list as is presented here.



Net Reminder --- If you are not called on the Monday Night Net, it means you have not checked in for a month. To be put back on the list, you simply need to check in and you will be added to the roster again.

LVARC ICS/EMCOMM Certifications (revised December 15, 2013)

First Name	Last Name	Call	NIMS 100	NIMS 200	NIMS 300	NIMS 400	NIMS 700	NIMS 800	Em Comm Level 1	Em Comm Level 2	Em Comm Level 3
Paul	Albrecht	KB3MOD					1				
Chuck	Ballard	WB6CDY	1				1				
Anthony	Benner	KB3MUX	1	1			1	1			
Phil	Bigg	KB3HMK					1				
Bruce	Bobo	KB3FIH					1		1		
David	Bokan	K3DLB	1								
Chrostoph	Brady	KO3D	1	1			1				
Tom	Braun	K3ARI	1				1	1	ICS 702	ICS 706	ICS 802
Fran	Carey	KB3HZB	1	1			1				
Dick	Dech	KA3MOU					1		1		
Brian	Klock	KW3K	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
John	Krumenacker	KB3PJO	1	1				1	1	1	IS - 836
Scott	Leichssenring	KB3YOT	1				1				
Larry	Miller	NR3R	1	1			1	1			
Mark	Miller	AK3M	1	1			1	1	1	1	
Barry	Mitchneck	KB3FMI					1				
Rex	Mott	KC1WE	1				1				
Chris	Post	WZ3Q	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Benjamin	Ramig	KB3CTX	1	1			1	1	1		
Paul	Ryan	N0KIA					1		1	1	1
Al	Sasso	KB3NYF					1				
Jack	Seeger	KC9DQV	1				1				
Carl	Seier	AA3IX	1				1				
Larry	Snyder	KN3L	1	1			1	1	1		
Carl	Stevenson	WK3C					1				
Craig	Traverson	N3T8Y					1				
Frank	Unger	W3FTU	1				1		1		
Bob	Wiseman	WB3W	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1 EC-016
Rodney	Wolfe	N3XG	1	1			1	1	1	1	1



100 Years of the ARRL and a Year Long Event!

ARRL Centennial

ARRL Centennial QSO Party

A Year-Long On-The-Air Operating Event!

- Accumulate Points
- Win Awards
- Contact New Stations
- Make New Friends!

▶ **Begins January 1, 2014**

<http://www.arrl.org/home>

New store in town!



READER SUBMISSION

de Mark (AK3M)

GRAND OPENING!

Batteries + Bulbs

ALLENTOWN

3021 Lehigh Street

(next to Brass Rail)

484-221-8946

This flyer was in my newspaper on December 21, 2103.

I have not yet visited the store so I cannot offer a review.

Perhaps one of our VOX readers will supply that review.

<http://www.batteriesplus.com/>

Walt (KE3SP) introduces us to his new holiday/"wildlife hat!" *"No Walt, the hat CANNOT register for the test!"*



New DHS AuxCom Manual

READER SUBMISSION

de Jeff (N3MFT)

This manual is free as a pdf download. It is filled with charts, forms, lists and other great information!

<http://www.n5fdl.com/davids-blog/2013/12/15/download-this-2013-auxcom-field-operations-guide.html>

Auxiliary Communications Field Operations Guide (AUXFOG)

US Department of Homeland Security
Office of Emergency Communications
Version 1.0



Homeland Security

November 2013

CONGRATULATIONS to those who tested at the December 20, 2013 test session. They received their calls on December 27, 2013. Please welcome new hams:



Brian Stankovich - KC3BVM
Joseph Rogan - KC3BVN
Stephen Compos - KC3BVO



HAM RADIO CHRISTMAS? de Mark (AK3M)

I hope Santa brought you a piece of ham equipment or even a new radio!?!?! If you would like to share your ham Christmas present with the LVARC members, send me a picture(s), description, etc. and I will add to the next edition to the newsletter!



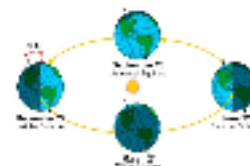
READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yb1b5UBBhk8&feature=youtube_gdata_player



Believe it Or Not! The days are getting longer!



New VE In Town! CONGRATULATIONS to Scott (KB3YOT). Scott received his VE credentials the late part of December, 2013.



What is this?

No, this is **not** a brain teaser. It is a real question. Does anyone know what this tool is? It has a diagonal wire cutters or pliers type handle but makes a “V” cut, presumably on metal. It does not seem to be a “nibbling” tool as its jaws aren't long enough and prevent continuous cutting, rather allow only one cut. Frank (W3FTU) got this tool in a box of old radios he acquired but that doesn't mean it is an electrical tool. It could have been placed in a box many years ago by accident. There seems to be no reference to it on the internet. If you know what it is, email Frank at funger@ptd.net.



Mid-Winter Dinner -- Thanks to Phil (KB3HMK), the LVARC will once again have its annual *Mid-Winter dinner* on **Tuesday February 18, 2014**. We will meet at the **Old Country Buffet** at **6:30 pm**.



LVARC Picnic???? Yes, its cold outside now and the LVARC picnic seems very far away but in order to get the same pavilion as previous years, we need to reserve it now. The 2014 LVARC picnic will be held late in July, 2014. A specific date will announced when available.