



# 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)

## Board of Governors

**Myles Bodisch - KB3ZMA** (MYLES@HOLENCIKROOFING.COM)  
**Gary Decker - W3GRD** (SCOUTIH79@YAHOO.COM)  
**Robin Gable -** (kb3gzv@arri.net)  
**Scott Leichssenring - KB3YOT** (scott.leichssenring@verizon.net)  
**Paul Ryan - N0KIA** (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

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

**Webmaster- Paul Ryan (N0KIA)** ----- (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

### 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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Daylight Savings begins this month.  
**March 9**, turn clocks **AHEAD 1 hour**.

## 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 March, 2014 LVARC meeting will be held on  
March 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 - 2014

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January	131	4



### Actress and Inventor

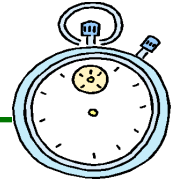
Silver Screen superstar **Hedy Lamarr** (born Hedwig Kiesler Markey) with the help of composer George Antheil, invented a secret communication system in an effort to help the allies defeat the Germans in World War II. The invention, patented in 1941, manipulated radio frequencies between transmission and reception to develop an unbreakable code so that top-secret messages could not be intercepted. The technology called **spread spectrum**, now takes on many forms. However, all the spread spectrum that we use today directly or indirectly, flows from the invention created by Hedy Lamarr. Hedy Lamarr was truly a movie star and an inventor.



<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blamar.htm>

## Minutes of the February, 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 13 members in attendance, and there were no guests present. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod (N3XG), John (AB3LZ), Brian (KB3QHA), Robin (KB3GZV), Scott (KB3YOT), and Paul (N0KIA).

**Corrections Additions to the minutes:** There were no corrections to the January meeting minutes.

Approved by: Dave (W3AMC)

Second by: Scott (KB3YOT)

Carried (Y/N): Yes

**Treasurer's Report:** (Brian – KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$ 4,448.24

Ending Balance: \$ 4,474.17

Approved by: Scott (KB3YOT)

Second by: Walt (KE3SP)

Carried: (Y/N): Yes

### **Committee Reports:**

**Repeater:** No news. Rod noted that there has been some AC hum on the 147.135 machine. Rod has filters to install. The hum is off and on. No issues with the 146.94 machine. There has been random keying on that machine.

**Club Radio Station:** There was a board meeting in January and the board decided not to make any moves on the station until they hear from Chief Johnson of the Tri Clover FC. Rod received Charlie's (AB3RP) resignation from the position of committee chairman. Rod has elected to not reinstate the committee (as allowed per Club By-Laws) until the board decides on a direction. Rod will then reinstate the committee to proceed with planning activities.

**Program:** John (AB3LZ) will make a presentation on the digital weak signal protocol JT65 and JT9 at tonight's meeting. The February hands-on-night is the annual Beast Feast at the Old County buffet in Whitehall on February 18 at 1830 hours. Next month presentation will be on do-it-yourself antenna by Scott (KB3YOT). The schedule for presentation has been filled for the full year. A list of presentations will be available at the next months meeting.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

**Volunteer Examiners:** There was no exam in January. There will be an exam in February.

**Old Business:** Rod reported on the successful effort to participate in the VHF contest. Everyone had a good time. It was a successful event.

The Eastern EMS equipment donation is back on. Rod will be looking for help in stripping down the equipment and loading things into a trailer. The club will be deprogramming the equipment ourselves. We will not be sharing the equipment with any other clubs.

The club picnic will on July 19 at the Upper Macungie Park upper pavilion. The rental is \$150 and Rod will give them a security deposit check for \$100. The check will be returned if there is no damage to the pavilion.

**New Business:** Road Runners Half Marathon: Mark (AK3M) is starting to look for volunteers for the Road Runners/St. Luke's half marathon Sunday April 27. Please email Mark if you are interested.

Stephen Compos (KC3BVO) submitted an application for club membership.

Scott (KB3YOT) made a motion to accept his application.

Walt (KE3SP) seconded the motion.

Carried: (Y/N): Yes

**Good of the Order:** Rod thanked everyone in the club and Ham community for reminding him to renew his license.

Paul (N0KIA) made a motion to spend money to renew our membership in ARCC. The ARCC renewal fee is \$25. This is the council that coordinates repeaters and maintains a repeater database. Scott (KB3YOT) seconded the motion.

Carried: (Y/N): Yes

**Sick Report:** It was reported that no members were reported sick.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2004 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Scott (KB3YOT)


Second by: Dave (W3AMC)

In favor: Carried: Yes

Respectfully Submitted de AB3LZ, Secretary.

<b>\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$</b>	
<b>Balance ending January 2013 - \$4,474.17</b>	

# This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March</b>						1 ARRL Inter. DX Contest SSB
2 ARRL Inter. DX Contest SSB	3 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Mark - AK3M	4 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	5 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	6	7	8 Idaho QSO Party  DST begins at 2:00 am
9 Idaho QSO Party  Wisconsin QSO Party	10 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Jeff - N3MFT	11	12 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	13	14	15 Russian DX Contest
16 Deadline to schedule test	17 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Brian - KW3K	18 LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover	19 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	20 Spring arrives! 	21 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm	22
23	24 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Paul - N0KIA	25	26 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	27	28	29 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
30	31 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Bruce KB3FIH	<b>2014</b>				

**LVARC meeting - Tuesday March 4 - 7:30 - Tri - Clover FC**

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

## LVARC Activities/Events

### Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday March 3 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Tuesday March 4 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)  
Monday March 10 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Sunday March 16 --- Deadline to schedule for test session  
Monday March 17 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Tuesday March 18 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)  
Friday March 21 --- VE Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)  
Monday March 24 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Monday March 31 --- 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)

The January, 2014 test session was canceled due to scheduling problems with the school holiday.

LVARC  
VE  
Program



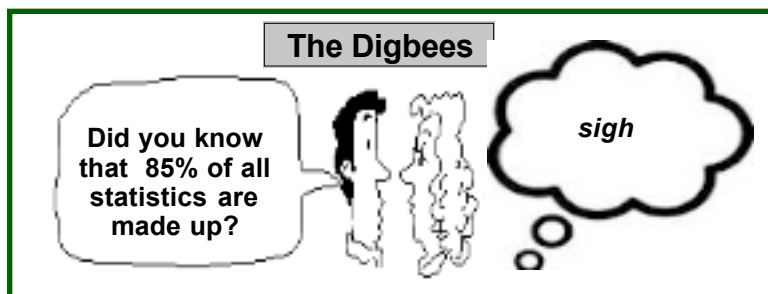
**REMEMBER:** The LVARC offers amateur radio testing. If you want to obtain your entry level license or if you wish to upgrade, the LVARC can help.

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](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) or call 610-865-9183.



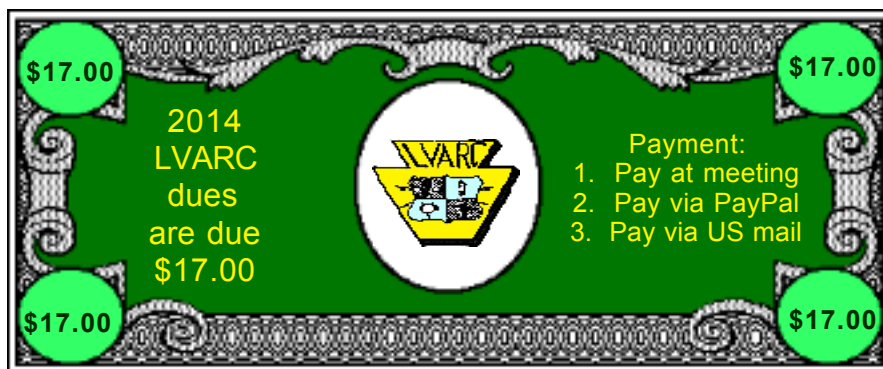
Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in this newsletter? Send it to Mark (AK3M). You can submit VOX material in any form. Send it via email ([AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com)) or US mail (5508 Hale Ave - Bethlehem, PA 18017). You can send pictures, diagrams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





Phil saw his shadow. Six more weeks of winter!

**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.** **March is the last month to pay your 2014 LVARC dues.**



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

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

## 2014 LVARC & ARES Events

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

***Mark your calendar and volunteer to help!!!***

**April 27 --- LVRR/St. Luke's 1/2 Marathon**

**June --- Hanover Township Spring 5K  
"Girl's On The Run," 5K**

**June 28-29 --- Field Day**

**July 19 --- LVARC picnic**

**September 7 --- LVHN / VIA Marathon**

**October 18 --- Women's 5K Classic**

**November 8 --- Hanover Township Fall 5K**

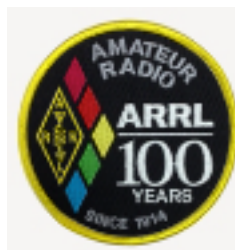




## 100 Years of the ARRL Patch

\$5.00 from the ARRL store

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Centennial-Merchandise/>



### LVARC test sessions on the ARRL Website -- de Mark (AK3M)

Every year, I must renew our test session information if it is to appear on the ARRL website. Having just done that, this is what appears there. You can see this at :

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

**Bethlehem PA 18017-2157**

EXAM SESSION

02/21/2014

**Sponsor:** Lehigh Valley ARC

**Date:** Feb 21 2014 (date will automatically correct each month of a session)

**Time:** 6:30 PM (No walk-ins)

**Contact:** Mark S. Miller

(610) 865-9183

**Email:** [ak3m@rcn.com](mailto:ak3m@rcn.com)

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** Hanover Elementary School

3890 Jacksonville Rd

MUST pre-register by Sunday  
before exam.

Bethlehem PA 18017-2157



## Bad Winter? You Bet!

Did you monitor amateur VHF communications for vehicles in distress? Did you use the extended receive capabilities of your VHF radio to monitor public service communications?

After 8 inches of snow, bitter cold  
January 22, 2014



*If you're going through hell, keep going. --- Winston Churchill*

## 2014 LVARC / L.C. RACES Review --- de Mark (AK3M)

After updating the NIMS/ICS database I maintain, for 2014, I see there are 24 LVARC members who have taken at least the **TWO** basic **ICS** courses (ICS 100 & ICS 700) necessary to be registered with L.C. RACES. The LVARC currently has a membership of 84 (2/8/14). **That means 28% of our members are eligible for RACES registration. Remember, you cannot be registered with L.C. RACES without BOTH of those certifications.** Should Lehigh County EMA need our support, one *cannot* participate without being registered. ICS courses are NOT required for an ARES event. Perhaps those who have not yet taken **ICS 100 AND ICS 700** will consider getting those certifications. **If you have taken at least BOTH ICS courses and want to be sure you are on the list and updated properly, email me at (AK3M@rcn.com).**

To take the on-line ICS courses, go to: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.aspx>

## Cuba Provides its Hams a Slice of 60 Meters (ARRL - Jan. 28, 2014)

Cuba's Ministry of Communications is reported to have made available to its radio amateurs a 12 kHz segment of 60 meter spectrum, as opposed to a channelized plan as the US and other countries have done. Access is not immediate. Hams in Cuba must obtain approval and a license modification. Access to 5418 to 5430 kHz will be on a secondary basis, with emphasis on its use during emergencies.



## PIC Wanted

I received the following email regarding the **resignation of K3QNT** as the EPA PIC  
de Mark -(AK3M) --- January 28, 2014

*It is with regret that I report to the section that our Public Information Coordinator (PIC) for Eastern Pennsylvania, Lloyd B. Roach, K3QNT, has resigned his PIC post in view of his move to Western PA. **We will need a new section PIC.*** You can check the requirements and duties at the League's web site. Requirements include professional public relations and journalism experience, or similar education and background in dealing with the media. **Anyone interested?** Send me your CV or resume and let's talk. Good public relations is more important to us now than ever. Your section needs you.

I'll see you on the radio. 73

Bob Famiglio, K3RF  
EPA SM

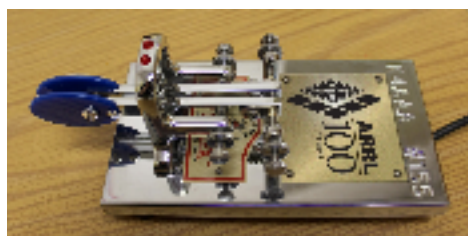




L.V. Roadrunner's and St. Luke's team  
up for the first ARES event of 2014!



L.V. Roadrunner's and St. Luke's Hospital will hold their **1/2 marathon** on **Sunday April 27**, 2014. The LVARC ARES operators have provided the communications for this event for many years! **About fifteen operators are needed!** If you can help, contact **Mark (AK3M)** at **AK3M@rcn.com**, call 610-865-9183 or on Monday Net.



### ARRL Centennial Key \$249.95

Vibroplex has partnered with ARRL to produce this commemorative key to help mark the occasion of ARRL's Centennial Year.



Orders placed by March 31 will ship by May 31, 2014.

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Centennial-Key/>



### Six and Four \$24.95

The Complete Guide to 50 and 70 MHz Amateur Radio

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Six-and-Four/>



## Is MY participation in an ARES event really that important? How will it help me? - de Mark (AK3M)



As I was recently discussing emergency communications with a new ham, it occurred to me that there is not too much difference between RACES and ARES communications.

Although RACES requires certifications (minimum of ICS 100 and ICS 700) and the communication *content* may differ, our role as auxiliary (and in many cases, primary) communicators doesn't really change. **In both events**, at the discretion of either the Net Control operator or the event coordinator, operators are deployed and assigned a position from which to operate. Operators follow the rules of a *directed net*. Traffic is handled using NTS protocol (routine, priority and emergency), and we are in direct contact with and take direction from event coordinators. FCC regulations permit a RACES drill and training for one hour a week but ARES events can be scheduled anytime.

**Is MY support in an ARES event really that important? Absolutely!** Without you, we could not fulfill the coordinator's communication request. **How will it help me?** In addition to serving your community, participating in an ARES event is great communication *practice* and *training* for a RACES event or any emergency communications situation.

**What are my responsibilities and duties as an operator participating in an ARES or RACES event.** Before volunteering for any event, ARES or RACES, it is important that the volunteer operator know what he must do to perform appropriately during that event.

It has always been **my** understanding and training that **first, we are communications personnel. We send and receive information via amateur radio.** We do not operate outside our band space, meaning we do not operate on public service frequencies. We may be able to monitor fire, police and EMS, but we are not permitted to operate there, unless in a life or death situation (part 97). In all my years as a ham, I have never heard that happen.

We also do not direct vehicular traffic unless you happen to be a certified fire/police officer. We do not attend to medical emergencies, unless you are trained in first aid, are an EMT or paramedic. We also do not pass event traffic content that is not authorized by event officials.

The "human factor," however, cannot be ignored. As a person who is volunteering to help, you have an empathetic nature and that emotion will carry over to a runner, biker, etc., who may be in trouble. Because you are that kind of person, you will not be able to resist assisting someone who is in distress. If you can help without neglecting your primary reason for being there, by all means, do so. You will need to be the judge when a situation like that arises. You are better being a communicator in an emergency. Report any emergencies to Net Control.

Now that I have listed what we do **not** do, let me again state **what we DO**. Our primary job during an ARES or RACES activity is, to **send and receive information via amateur radio.** That may sound like a simple job and not important enough for your attention, but you must remember that **in most cases, we are the only means of communication during that event!** We are there because event coordinators (ARES and/or RACES) asked for our help and are counting on us to get information passed, in a timely and accurate manner.

I hope this information has been helpful and accurate and that it will encourage more LVARC members to volunteer for an ARES event when asked. It does not matter if you are new to ARES or not, **your help for ARES events is needed.** Remember, you are trained for this type of activity and have the equipment that no one else has. That is why you are needed! **You AND the served organization will benefit from your participation!**