



# The VOX

The Official *On-Line*  
Newsletter of the



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



## Officers

*President:* John Bartos - AB3LZ (e03145jab@gmail.com)  
*Vice President:* Chuck Ballard - WB6CDY (chballard@compuserve.com)  
*Secretary:* Mike Mandell - KC3BLF (mikemandell@hotmail.com)  
*Treasurer:* Brian Snyder - KB3QHA (brian@teamsnyder.net)



## Board of Governors

Rod Wolfe (N3XG) (n3xg.radio@gmail.com)  
Gary Decker - W3GRD (SCOUTIH79@YAHOO.COM)  
Robin Gable - KB3GZV (cardinalcreek4852@gmail.com)  
Scott Leichssenring - KB3YOT (scott\_leichssenring@hotmail.com)  
Paul Ryan - N0KIA (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)  
sVOX 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 (DCS - 315)  
Club Simplex Freq. - 147.420









## LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)  
146.940 (PL 71.9)

**Check-Ins welcome!**

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

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## LVARC TEST SESSIONS

The LVARC test sessions are held the third Friday of every month (except June and July). **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** no later than the Sunday before the test session.

Test sessions are held at the Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem, PA (3890 Jacksonville Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017) beginning at 6:30 pm. To REGISTER, contact Mark (AK3M) at 610-865-9183.

Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark (AK3M) at  
AK3M@rcn.com  
Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.





The December, 2015 LVARC meeting will be held on  
**December 1**, 2015 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 (DCS 315)  
The Net begins at 7:30 pm local time (ET).

*Many club announcements  
will be heard there !*

### Monday Night RACES/ARES Check-In Summary - 2015

<u>Month</u>		<u>Number of Check-In's</u>		<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January		132		4
February		128		4
March		153		5
April		132		4
May		94		3 (Memorial Day)
June		124		5
July		119		4
August		144		5
September		138		3 (Labor Day)
October		140		4

### Lots Happening at the December LVARC Activity Meeting!

(December 15, 2015)

1. Presentation of the 2015 Pres Schuler Award
2. Drawing for those who have incentive tickets
3. Annual holiday party

*Plan to attend!*



## Minutes of the November, 2015 LVARC Meeting de - Mike (KC3BLF)



### Opening:

The regular meeting of the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30PM on November 3 by President Bartos. There were a total of 21 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 2 guests.

Guests: Jason Benson, Roger ?

The following Board Members were present at the meeting: John Bartos, Chuck Ballard Mike Mandell, Paul Ryan, Rod Wolfe, Gary Decker, Scott Leichssenring

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Moved: Scott, KB3YOT

Second: Walt, KE3SP

Carried

### Treasurer's Report (Brian-KB3QHA)

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Motion to approve: Rod, N3XG

Second: Chuck, WB6CDY

Motion carried

### Committee Reports

#### Repeater:

Repeater use has been steady. No complaints about any of the operation.

#### Program:

Paul will talk about inexpensive radios that are new on the market. We have no presentation scheduled yet for December.

#### Volunteer Examiners:

At the October 16, 2015 test session, three tested and three passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to: Brian Warden - Technician, John Hilderbrand (KC3FPD) - General, John Borchers (KC3ASE) - Extra VE's in attendance included: Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP) and Don (NOVGA). The next test session will be Friday November 20, 2015. At this date, four are already scheduled to test at that session.

#### ARES:

The 2015 Women's 5K Classic was held on Saturday October 17, 2015. Fourteen LVARC members provided communications support for this event.

On Sunday November 1, 2015, the Hanover Township held a Fall 5K. Mike (KC3BLF) coordinated this event. Five LVARC members participated. The club also supported a Cub Scout event in Hellertown to demonstrate ham radio for about 150 Cub Scouts. There was some discussion on the club ARES manual that is posted on the web site.

#### Communications:

Tonight's meeting was canceled, but there will be one prior to the hands-on night.

Club Station: John, AB3LZ got an estimate from the electrician for modification of the club station. He hopes to have details and a proposal prior to the next meeting.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

**Old Business:**

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

John asked for someone to volunteer to organize the Christmas party. This is December 15. Rod volunteered to take charge of this.

Nominations for club officers were opened.

John Bartos was the only nominee for President

Chuck Ballard was the only nominee for VP

Brian Snyder was the only nominee for Treasurer

Mike Mandell was the only nominee for Secretary

Board of Governors nominees: Rod Wolfe, Gary Decker, Scott L. , Paul Ryan, Don Hoppes declined his earlier nomination, Mark Miller

Motion to close: Chuck, WB6CDY

Second: Rick, KC3EXO

Carried

John, AB3LZ has received 3 nominations for the Pres Schuler award.

**New Business:**

Rod, N3XG moved we declare as elected all unopposed seats and have the secretary cast the ballot.

Seconded: Paul, N0KIA

Carried

Matthew asked about the net control training which is coming up.

Scott asked we set aside money for mice for the laptops.

Chuck, WB6CDY moved we set aside up to \$75 for 5 mice.

Carried.

**Good of the Order:**

John, AB3LZ mentioned there are still tons of latex gloves in the basement. The club is happy to take donations which are tax deductible now that we are a 501c3. John also mentioned the Christmas party prize drawing and asked for donations for the drawing. Paul, N0KIA asked members to confirm the participation tickets they think they are entitled to.

Andy, KC3EKA reported 10 meters was active last weekend.

Mike, KC3BLF mentioned the upcoming MARS exercise and free meal deals for Veteran's Day.

John, AB3LZ mentioned the Fusion radios which will be given to those who buy a radio.

Don, N0VGA again offered to laminate any cards members may have tonight.

**Sick Report:****New Member Applicants:**

John Hilderbrand, KC3FPD

John Borchers, Jr. No Call

Motion to accept: Scott L

Second: Ken B.

Carried

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at

Moved: Scott, KB3YOT

Seconded: Rod, N3XG

Carried

Minutes submitted by: Mike, KC3BLF

## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
December 2015		1 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	2 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	3 QRP ARCI Topband sprint	4 ARRL 160-m contest	5 AWA Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO party	
		6 SARL Digital contest  CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	7 ARES RACES Net 7:30  Mark AK3M	8 ARS Spartan Sprint	9 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	10 AWA Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO party  ARRL 10-m contest	
		13 Deadline to schedule test	14 ARES RACES Net 7:30  Paul NOKIA	15 LVARC activity night  LVARC Holiday Party	16 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	17 NAQCC CW Sprint	18 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm  Hanover Elem. Sch.
		20 ARRL Rookie Roundup CW contest	21 ARES RACES Net 7:30  Rod N3XG	22 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	23 Christmas Eve	24 Christmas Day	25 DARC Christmas contest  World Wide Iron Ham contest
		27 ARES RACES Net 7:30  Robin KB3GZV	28 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	29 New Year's Eve	Happy Holidays!		

**LVARC meeting - Tuesday December 1 (7:30 pm) - Tri - Clover FC**

**LVARC test session - December 18 - Hanover Elem. (6:30 pm)**

## LVARC Activities/Events

**Mark your Calendar** PRINT, CLIP and POST



**Tuesday December 1 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)**  
**Monday December 7 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**  
**Sunday December 13 ---Deadline to schedule for test session**  
**Monday December 14 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**  
**Tuesday December 15 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 pm - Tri Clover FC)**  
**Friday December 18 --- Test Session at Hanover Elem. School**  
**Monday December 21 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**  
**Monday December 28 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

**2015**

### LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)



At the October 16, 2015 test session,  
three tested and three passed.

### CONGRATULATIONS to:

**Brian Warden - Technician**  
**John Hilderbrand (KC3FPD) - General**  
**John Borchers (KC3ASE) - Extra**

**VE's in attendance included:**  
**Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP) and Don (N0VGA)**

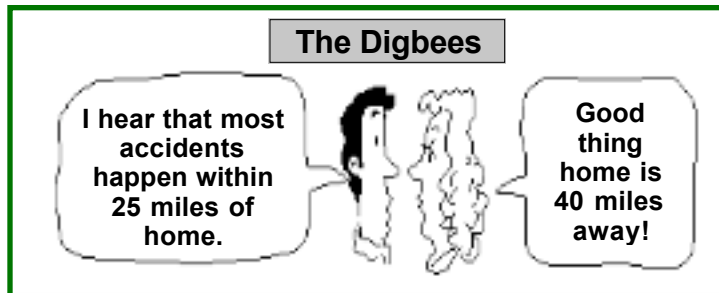
**LVARC 2015 Test Session Dates** --- Test sessions are held at the Hanover Elementary School (3890 Jacksonville Road ) in Bethlehem, Pa., the **3rd Friday of the month at 6:30 pm. REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.** To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).

**November --- Nov. 20**  
**December --- Dec. 18**



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!**





*Happy  
Holidays*



## **The VOX Gets Nice Review! - de Mark (AK3M)**

After W.T. Jones' visit to the LVARC in October, I added his email address to the VOX's distribution list. After his receiving the November, 2015 issue of the VOX, he sent the following:

*Hey Mark!*

*Excellent Newsletter. Loved it. Well laid out and colorful! Great job.*

*I would like to post this on the N3LLR Ham Radio Forum. Many of the clubs in EPA have granted me permission to do that with their newsletters.*

*I think it provides prospective members with a good way to see what the club is doing.*

*Let me know!  
73,*

*W.T. Jones  
WN3LIF  
Section Emergency Coordinator  
ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section  
Emergency Coordinator  
Luzerne County, Pennsylvania  
<http://www.w3luz.org>*



We are very flattered and allow the link from your site to the W3OI's site where the VOX is housed. Our circulation just increased. **TNX W.T.!!!**



**WANTED:** The Monday Night ARES/RACES/LVARC Net is looking for net control operators. There have been some changes in the net control roster and a few new operators will be needed beginning 2016. If you are interested, contact Rod (N3XG).



**REMEMBER:** If you move, you must change your address with:

1. The FCC
2. The ARRL (if you are a member)
3. The LVARC

Also, **REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR LICENSE BEFORE IT EXPIRES!**



## December at the LVARC



The regular December 2015 business meeting will be on Tuesday December 1, 2015. If there are no changes to the nominations, formal elections will not be held.

The 2015 Annual Holiday Party will be held on the 3rd Tuesday December 15 at 7:30. This event is also reserved for eating, conversation and eating! Please take something to be shared with the group. It can be hot or cold and don't forget to take plates, forks, spoons, napkins etc.

Also, on that evening, the Pres Schuler award will be presented and the incentive ticket drawings will be held.

## Silent Key



**John M. Gilbert**, 38, of Alburtis, died Tuesday, October 6, 2015 in his home. He was the husband of Christine L. (Frederick) Gilbert. Born in Allentown, April 19, 1977, John was the son of Jeffrey G. and Carol L. (Beam) Gilbert of Whitehall. He was employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse working for Genesis Healthcare in Quakertown. **He was an amateur radio enthusiast with call sign N3SQV.**

## QST Magazines Need a Home

I am cleaning out my home office and I have 47 issues of QST magazine ranging from 2001 through 2010.

They are free to anyone who is interested. Drop me a note and we can arrange for pickup.

Email Jim at: [jamesmahoney@juno.com](mailto:jamesmahoney@juno.com)

73

Jim Mahoney --- KB3BYU



**READER SUBMISSION**

submitted by Larry ( NR3R)

## *The Night Before Christmas*, Ham Radio Style

So you think you know Clement S. Moore's famous Christmas poem about the night before Christmas? Well, check out this on which has been modified for hams! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c\\_9REVC4dtc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_9REVC4dtc)

## Another Successful Women's 5K Classic!

de Mark (AK3M)



On Saturday October 17, 2015, the weather was very cool but the sun was out as **fourteen** members of the LVARC made their way to the largest breast cancer fundraising event on the East coast. The LVARC has provided communications support for this event for about twelve or more years. The event coordinators have come to rely on this support and our operators have stepped up and volunteered as they always have. TNX and kudos to them. Without operators volunteering their time and expertise, amateur radio participation would not be possible and we could not offer our service to local events.

More than 3,000 women walked or ran the 3.2 mile course to raise money for breast cancer research and treatment, many of them, survivors of the disease themselves.

LVARC operators met as a group at 0800 and dispersed a short time later to their assigned positions. Missi, the event coordinator had a golf cart at our disposal and Larry (NR3R), was able to take operators to remote sites. A directed net was opened at 0845 with a pink sea of women participants either running or walking more than three miles for a great cause! Our operators were on scene providing, "**Eyes On The Course**," ready to provide communication assistance. The net closed at 1131.

Net control was parked with the EMS vehicles for immediate medical communication from our operators. There was one medical emergency handled by Kenny (KC3BLE) for a spectator who fell. EMS was dispatched and all went well.

I wish to thank the following LVARC operators who took time out of their busy Saturday to offer their time and communication expertise for this event. **Mark** (AK3M), **Larry** (NR3R), **Phil** (KB3HMK), **Don** (W3DLH), **Don** (N0VGA), **Andy** (KC3EKA), **John** (KB3PJO), **John** (KB3VNS), **Alan** (KB3TYE), **Stephen** (W3TNT), **Bob** (WB3JSZ), **Kenny** (KC3BLE), and **Igor** (KC3ASC), **Dave** (W3AMC) joined the group from home as a standby operator should land line communications be necessary.

LVARC operators are encouraged to take and submit pictures of their events for inclusion in the LVARC's newsletter, the VOX. On the following pages, are the pictures for the Women's 5K Classic, 2015.





Women's  
5K  
Classic  
2015



**Event start/finish**

Photos above, courtesy of Larry (NR3R)

**Net Control**



Photos above, courtesy of Bob (WB3JSZ)



Photos above, courtesy of Don (N0VGA)

## Cub Scouts Discover Amateur Radio

Thanks to John (AB3LZ) and Paul (N0KIA), Cub Scouts from Hellertown were treated to a demonstration of amateur radio! On Saturday October 17, 2015, LVARC members showcased both VHF and HF modes of ham radio to a cub scout den. One scout worked net control on VHF who was at the Parkway prior to the Women's 5K Classic.



***Great job John and Paul !!!***



Photos, courtesy of John (AB3LZ)

## Nominations for the *Pres Schuler Award*



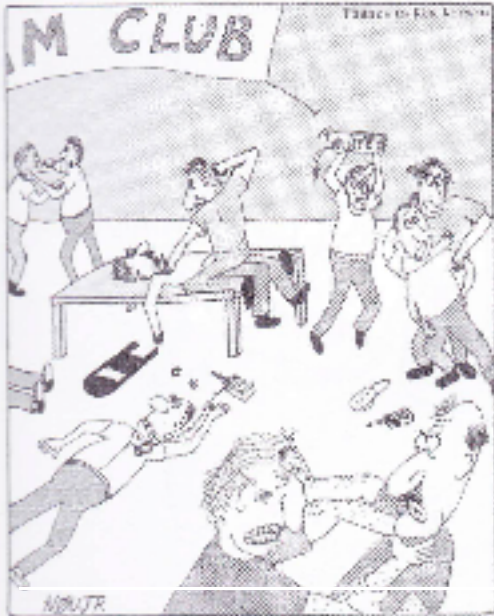
**Nominations for the *Pres Schuler Award* are now being accepted.**

This award is given annually to an LVARC member who has demonstrated, “**Excellence In Ham Radio,**” and, “**Service to the LVARC for the 2015 year.**” Send your nomination to John (AB3LZ) at [e03145jab@gmail.com](mailto:e03145jab@gmail.com) **BEFORE November 27.**



**READER SUBMISSION**

de Rod (N3XG)



Violence erupts at the ham club meeting over whether to order green jackets with white lettering or white jackets with green lettering.

**Ham radio  
Christmas  
ornament**

[http://www.cafepress.com/+xmas\\_ham\\_ovall\\_ornament,329756485?utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_term=329756485&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_campaign=sem-cpc-product-ads&utm\\_content=search-pla](http://www.cafepress.com/+xmas_ham_ovall_ornament,329756485?utm_medium=cpc&utm_term=329756485&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=sem-cpc-product-ads&utm_content=search-pla)

**New VOX Editor Wanted** - de Mark (AK3M)

I am looking to turn the creation of the newsletter to a new editor. If you are interested in taking over development of the VOX, please contact me (AK3M@rcn.com).

**READER SUBMISSION**

- de Larry (NR3R)

**HARDENED POWER SYSTEMS**

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

**JuiceBrick with LiFePO4 Technology**

<https://youtu.be/mtPnaloE8XE>



## Christmas and Ham Radio



<http://w7dta.org/a-hams-night-before-xmas/>

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### **The LVARC ARES Program Makes the Monthly SEC EPA News**

The following is from W.T. Jones (WN3LIF) SEC EPA and appears in the monthly newsletter he develops.

*"The October 2015 SEC Monthly Update is out! Rather than send that monster I am just sending the link to it."*

[http://w3luz.org/SEC\\_Monthly\\_Updates/2015-10-25-SEC\\_Monthly\\_Update.html](http://w3luz.org/SEC_Monthly_Updates/2015-10-25-SEC_Monthly_Update.html)

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**Words ARE Important** ..... Is a hot cup of coffee, the same as a cup of hot coffee? Is the CUP hot or the COFFEE hot?

**READER SUBMISSION**

de Mark (AK3M)



**YEAH!**

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### **The Lehigh Valley Welcomes A New**

**Ham!** Brian Warden, who tested at the October 16, 2015 LVARC test session, received his call, **KC3FTC** on Monday October 26, 2015. *Welcome to the hobby Brian!*



**READER SUBMISSION**

de Rod (N3XG)

**ATTENTION**

If you are interested in becoming a net control operator for the Monday Night Net or any ARES/RACES/ACS net, you must complete the pdf form found on the LVARC's website and return to Rod (N3XG).

[http://www.w3oi.org/images/PEMA\\_ACS\\_Member\\_Application.pdf](http://www.w3oi.org/images/PEMA_ACS_Member_Application.pdf)

**2016 Dues Now  
Being Accepted!**



**Its not to early to pay your 2016**

**dues.** Dues have not changed in many years. **Dues for 2016 remain at \$17.00 or \$20.00 for a family membership.** To start or maintain your membership in the LVARC, send your 2016 dues to **Brian Snyder, PO Box 3134, Easton, PA 18043.**

## *Track Santa on Christmas Eve*

If you have children, grandchildren or know any child who would love to track Santa on Christmas Eve, this is the website for you. Track Santa's worldwide trip from NORAD's website this Christmas Eve.



<http://www.noradsanta.org/>

The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on December 25th was in 336AD, during the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (he was the first Christian Roman Emperor). A few years later, Pope Julius I officially declared that the birth of Jesus would be celebrated on the 25th December.

## Hanover Township Fall 5K (Northampton County) - de Mark (AK3M)

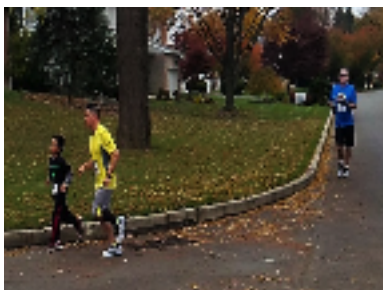
Hanover Township, in conjunction with Penn State's, "Thon," fundraiser, held a 5K on Sunday November 1, 2015. Communication support was requested with little warning; about 5 days. The LVARC members stepped up and five operators answered the call. A directed net was initiated at 0850 and ended at 1000. There were about 90 runners participating in this event. **A big TNX to Mike (KC3BLF) for coordinating this event!**



TNX to the following operators for volunteering on their Sunday morning: **Mike** (KC3BLF), **Mark** (AK3M), **Andy** (KC3EKA), **Nick** (KC3EKC) and **Don** (N0VGA).



Photos above, courtesy Mark (AK3M)



Photos above & left  
courtesy Mike (KC3BLF)

Photos above  
courtesy Don (N0VGA)

## The LVARC Welcomes 2016 Officers and Board

At the November 3, 2015 meeting, no additional nominations for office were received. Don Hoppes (N0VGA) declined his nomination and Mark (AK3M) was nominated as his replacement. Since there were no additional nominations, the nominations were closed and the secretary cast a vote for the present slate of officers. **The following are the officers and board for 2016.**

### 2016 LVARC Officers

President: **John Bartos (AB3LZ)**  
V.P. **Chuck Ballard (WB6CDY)**  
Treasurer: **Brian Snyder (KB3QHA)**  
Secretary: **Mike Mandell (KC3BLF)**

### 2016 Board of Governors

**Scott Leichssenring (KB3YOT)**  
**Rod Wolfe (N3XG)**  
**Mark Miller (AK3M)**  
**Gary Decker (W3GRD)**  
**Paul Ryan (N0KIA)**

Look for tips on starting the,  
*"New Year In Ham Radio,"* in the  
January 2016 issue of the VOX.

HELPFUL  
TIPS

## Clement Clarke Moore 1779 ~ 1863

Moore was born on July 15, 1779, in a large mansion, on his parents' Chelsea estate that encompassed the area that is now 18th to 24th Streets between Eighth and Tenth Avenues in Manhattan.

He became a well-known and respected scholar and, typical for an educated person of his period, Moore's publications related to a wide variety of topics such as religion, languages, politics, and poetry.

When he wrote *A Visit from St. Nicholas* in 1822, Moore was a Professor of Oriental and Greek Literature, as well as Divinity and Biblical Learning, at the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Located on land donated by the "Bard of Chelsea" himself.



<http://www.nightbeforechristmas.biz/moore.htm>

## NBEMS

### READER SUBMISSION

de Mike (KC3BLF)

OK, what is this? NBEMS is “Narrow Band Emergency Messaging Service”. If you operate digital modes on HF at all, you probably have used the main tool of NBEMS whether you knew it or not. FLDigi, free ham software that runs on Windows, Mac or Linux is the program generally used for NBEMS. It can use a wide range of digital waveforms into and out of your radio to send text messages, computer files or even pictures. While most think of this as an HF radio activity, it also works very well (actually, even better!) on VHF or UHF. You can use it through a repeater, simplex, connected to a radio with a cable or just using “acoustic coupling” by holding the radio speaker near the computer microphone to receive and holding the radio mic near the computer speaker to transmit.

You can type your own message to send, or send and receive actual ICS 213 (and several other) forms. All this is possible with an HT and nearly any kind of computer (even a cheap Windows tablet—under \$100.00).

If you are looking to hear some activity on NBEMS, here are a couple nets local to us where you can listen and transmit every week:

NJ NBEMS	Sunday	930	7.073	Olivia 8/500	CF 1000
PA NBEMS	Sunday	1100	7.0725	Olivia 8/500	CF 1500

Here is a link with a lot more to listen/participate in digital modes:

[http://w3luz.org/Resources/net\\_information.html](http://w3luz.org/Resources/net_information.html)

Also, did you know Voice of America transmits a picture every week along with their voice broadcast? It's in MSFK mode (part of FLDigi). “The Mighty KBC” and other shortwave broadcasts also do this. They know many of their listeners are hams and can decode the image. In case you are a shortwave listener and wondered what those modem tones were you were hearing.

**Download FLDigi:** <http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html>

