



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** (jab.2@rcn.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@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

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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Happy 2015!



LVARC TEST SESSIONS

The LVARC test sessions are held the third Friday of every month. **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.

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

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The January, 2015 LVARC meeting will be held on **January 6, 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 (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
February	128	4
March	162	5
April	121	4
May	96	3 (Memorial Day)
June	157	5
July	134	4
August	120	4
September	169	5
October	134	4
November	136	4



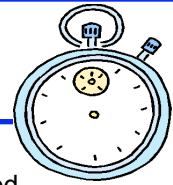
Your 2015 VOX submission(s) here!

Send your VOX submissions to Mark AK3M



"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." --- Edith Lovejoy Pierce

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



President Wolfe called the meeting to order 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 23 members in attendance. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod ñ N3XG, John ñ AB3LZ, Brian-KW3K, Brian ñ KB3QHA, Paul - N0KIA, Robin - KB3GZV, Scott-KB3YOT, Myles - KB3ZMA and Gary W3GRD.

Guests: There were no guests present.

Corrections additions to the minutes: There were no corrections or additions to the May meeting minutes as printed in the VOX. Call for motion to approve the minutes as printed in the VOX. Motion to approve by: Don (N0VGA) Second by: Scott (KB3YOT) Carried: Yes

Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance: \$4,442.39

Ending Balance: \$4,950.40

Motion to approve by: Scott (KB3YOT)

Second by: Carl (AA3IX)

Carried: Yes

Committee Reports:

Repeater: The D-Star repeater was not functioning. Rod (N3XG) found the power supply off and he reenergized the power supply and the repeater is now working. There are no other issues with the other repeaters.

Club Station: Robin (KB3GZV) has been named chairman of the Club Station Committee. Robin needs 2 to 3 additional committee members. Anyone interested, please contact Robin.

Program: Tonight are elections and there is no formal program. The club Christmas party will be on December 16. Please contact Teresa Gable if you will be attending the party. Teresa needs a head count and she needs to what food you will be bringing. Teresa's email is (cardinalcreek4852@gmail.com)

Volunteer Examiners: At the November 21, 2014 LVARC test session, Eight tested and eight passed. CONGRATULATIONS to: Mike Mandell (KC3BLF) - Extra, Jim Sagazio (KC3AFU) - General, Anthony Polsinelli - Technician, Gared Koch - Technician, Paige Trumbauer - Technician, Jonathan Kline - Technician, William Weik - Technician, Steve Ludwig - Technician VE's included Mark (AK3M), Don (N0VGA) and Frank (W3FTU)

The December test session will be held on Friday December 19, 2014.† Two are scheduled to test.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mike (KC3BLF) who earned his VE certification!

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

ARES Report: There were no ARES activities in the past month.

Tax Exemption: No news from the IRS on the tax exemption submittal.

Old Business: The club received a check for \$150 from the Delaware Lehigh Canal Heritage Society for our support of their half marathon. Rod (N3XG) will write a thank you note.

New Business: Rod (N3XG) is working on a presentation schedule for next year. If anyone has a subject that they would like to see as a presentation, please contact Rod. The goal is to have the schedule finalized at the Christmas party.

Election of Officers: Myles (KB3ZMA) volunteered to be the Judge of Election. Walt (KE3SP) and Don (N0VGA) volunteered to be Tellers. The election was held and the new Officers and Board of Governors are:

Officers:

President: John Bartos (AB3LZ)
Vice President: Chuck Ballard (WB6CDY)
Treasurer: Brian Snyder (KB3QHA)
Secretary: Mike Mandell (KC3BLF)

Board of Governors:

Rodney Wolfe (N3XG)
Gary Decker (W3GRD)
Robin Gable (KB3GZV)
Paul Ryan (N0KIA)
Scott Leichssenring (KB3YOT)

Myles (KB3ZMA) will be organizing several contest efforts this year. The first is the January VHF contest on January 24. People who are interested should contact Myles.

Good of the Order

Robin (KB3GZV) thanks Rod (N3XG) for his service as club President. Rod was given a round of applause from the club.

Sick Report: There were no reports of sick members.



Motion to close the meeting presented by: Brian (KW3K)
Second by: Dave (W3AMC)
In favor: Motion passed.
The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 8:14 hrs. (EST.)

Respectfully Submitted by: AB3LZ, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$
Balance ending November, 2014 - \$4,950.40



This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day 2015 	2	3 AGCW Happy New Year Contest EUCW 160m Contest
4	5 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Mark AK3M	6 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	7 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	8	9	10 North American QSO Party CW
11 DARC 10m Contest NRAU Baltic Contest SSB Deadline to schedule test	12 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Brian KW3K	13	14 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	15	16 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm Hanover Elem. Sch. 6:30 pm	17 LZ Open Contest Hungarian DX Contest N. American QSO Party SSB
18	19 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Paul NOKIA	20 LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover	21 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	22	23	24 ARRL January VHF Contest
25	26 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Mark AK3M	27	28 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	29	30	31 UBA DX Contest SSB

LVARC meeting - Tuesday January 6 (7:30 pm) - Tri - Clover FC

Test session --- Friday January 16 (6:30 pm) Hanover School

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday January 5 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday January 6 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday January 12 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday January 16 --- Test Session (6:30 pm)
Monday January 19 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday January 20 --- LVARC Activity Night - 7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday January 26 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

2015

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 November 21, 2014 LVARC test session, Eight tested and eight passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:
Mike Mandell (KC3BLF) - Extra
Jim Sagazio (KC3AFU) - General
Anthony Polsinelli - Technician
Gared Koch - Technician
Paige Trumbauer - Technician
Jonathan Kline - Technician
William Weik - Technician
Steve Ludwig - Technician



VE's included Mark (AK3M), Don (N0VGA) and Frank (W3FTU)

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.** Contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

December --- December 19

January --- January 16

February --- February 20

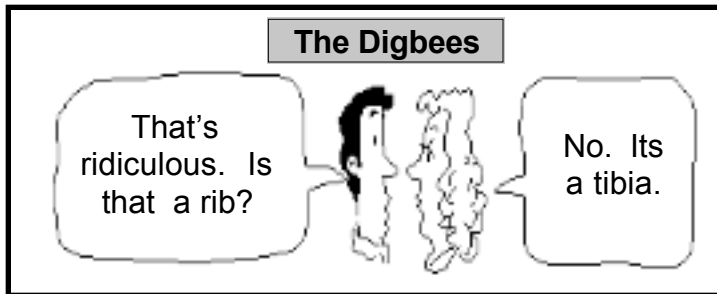
March --- March 20

April --- **NO TEST SESSION**

May --- May 15



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!**



Don't forget to
date your
checks 2015!

SKYWARN COORDINATOR WANTED



Brian (KW3K), the current Skywarn coordinator for Lehigh and Northampton counties would like to vacate his position. He is searching for a replacement. If you have SkyWarn certification and would like to be the SkyWarn coordinator for Lehigh and Northampton counties, contact Brian (KW3K) at KW3K@kw3k.com. **SkyWarn certification can be earned on line at:**

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23



Don't forget, if you took a SkyWarn course or already have SkyWarn certification, please send the information to me (Mark - AK3M). I am keeping a list. A SkyWarn on line course can be found at:

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23

As of November, five LVARC members are currently SkyWarn trained.



NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS ---

Do your 2015 resolutions include the LVARC? Maybe you will vow to attend more meetings, take part in an ARES event(s), help set up/operate at Field Day, present a program at an LVARC meeting or submit an article(s) for the newsletter.



The LVARC Welcomes Officers and Board Members for 2015

Officers

President: John Bartos (AB3LZ)
Vice President: Chuck Ballard (WB6CDY)
Secretary: Mike Mandell (KC3BLF)
Treasurer: Brian Snyder (KB3QHA)

Board of Governors

1. Rod Wolfe (N3XG)
2. Gary Decker (W3GRD)
3. Robin Gable (KB3GZV)
4. Paul Ryan (N0KIA)
5. Scott Leichssenring (KB3YOT)

2015 LVARC Dues Are Now Due

LVARC dues for 2015 are now being accepted. Dues have not changed in many years. 2015 dues are **\$17.00 for an individual** or **\$20.00** for a household/family. Dues can be paid to Brian (KB3QHA) (1) at a meeting, (2) via PayPal or (3) via U.S. mail. If paying by mail, send to:



Brian Snyder
P.O. Box 3134
Easton, PA 18043



In case you ever wondered ... *Yes, ham radio is part of DHS!*

Department of Homeland Security Formally Makes Amateur Radio Part of Emergency Communications Community.

A section of the *Department of Homeland Security* (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441, *formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community*. Congress approved the measure and President George W. Bush signed the bill into law October 4, 2006. The bill became [Public Law 109-295](#).



Brain Teaser Answer - de Frank (W3FTU)

From December 2014 VOX:

A man asks the clerk in a store the following questions:

Customer: How much is one?

The clerk responds 89 cents.

Customer: How much for 12?

Clerk answers, \$1.78.

Customer: What's the price for one hundred forty four?

Clerk: The price would be \$2.67.

What kind of store is the customer visiting and what is he buying?

A hardware store. The numbers refer to numerals.... ie., house address is 144. That is three numerals, at \$0.89 for one.



READER SUBMISSION

READER SUBMISSION

Favorite Ham Radio web sites --- de Larry (NR3R)

"If you are an avid YouTube searcher, as I am, you may find these interesting. These are just 3 of my favorite ham radio interest sites: search them"...

1. [Radio Ham Guy](#) 2. [Dave Tadlock](#) and 3. [K7AGE](#)



tech FOR LESS de Chuck (WB6CDY)

READER SUBMISSION

I have shopped with this site over the years and have had good results. They offer new, open-box and refurbished electronics at decent prices.

They are offering a 10% discount to friends and family.

<http://www.techforless.com/cgi-bin/tech4less/login/friends?rcode=878ac08e-690b-11e4-add5-00237da73906>



Twelve Years of the VOX --- I have compiled twelve years of the VOX into pdf files. If you want a CD of the VOX from 2002 to 2014, contact me (Mark - AK3M).



REMEMBER to keep your personal contact information current. If you have a new *address, phone number, call or email address*, send it to Paul (N0KIA) so he can update the LVARC membership database. (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW HAMS!

Those who tested at the November 21, 2014 test session, received their new calls on December 2, 2014. **CONGRATULATIONS** to:

Steve Ludwig --- KC3DYM
William Weik --- KC3DYN
Jonathan Kline --- KC3DYO
Paige Trumbauer --- KC3DYP
Gared Koch --- KC3DYQ
Anthony Polsinelli --- KC3DYR



Welcome them to the hobby if you hear them on the air!

2014-2015 WX Predictions (from the Farmer's Almanac)

- **Snowfall will be above normal in most of the Northeast**, although below normal in much of New England.
- Florida will have above-normal rainfall, while most of the southeastern and central states will have below-normal precipitation.
- We expect above-normal snowfall from eastern Arizona into the Big Bend of Texas and above-normal rainfall from parts of inland Washington into the northwest corner of Montana and just north of California's Bay region.
- Other areas in the western third of the country, including most of California, should have below-normal precipitation.



"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties." --- Helen Keller

Extra Class Test Study Materials Available

CONGRATULATIONS to Mike (KC3BLF) who passed his Extra test at the LVARC test session on November 21, 2014!

Mike purchased study materials to prepare for his Extra test and would now like to make them available as a loan to LVARC members who want to upgrade to Extra.

Available, is the **Gordon West book, audio CD package and the ARRL Extra Q&A book** (unused) *available for loan*. If you are interested, contact Mike at mikemandell@hotmail.com.

Remember, the current Extra exam pool is valid until June 30, 2016.



The following is the question pool schedule from the ARRL.

Technician class (Element 2) Pool is effective July 1, 2014 and is valid until June 30, 2018.

General class (Element 3) Pool is effective July 1, 2011 and is valid until June 30, 2015.

Extra class (Element 4) Pool is effective July 1, 2012 and is valid until June 30, 2016.

Monday Night Net Control OP's Wanted

If you are interested in being a Net Control Operator for the Monday LVARC/ARES/RACES/ACS Net, contact Mark (AK3M) (AK3M@rcn.com).

Lots of LVARC activities will be happening in 2015! Mark your calendar and volunteer to participate and help! Watch the 2015 issues of the VOX as ARES events are announced. New to ARES, no problem. You are welcome to help!



"You can get excited about the future. The past won't mind." --- Hillary DePiano

January VHF Contest

de Myles (KB3ZMA)



READER SUBMISSION

The LVARC will participating in the ARRL January VHF contest. We will be operating on Saturday January 24th. We will meet in the morning, the contest kicks off at 2:00pm EST and operate until approximately 8pm. Contact Myles KB3ZMA at myles@holencik.com no later than Jan 1 2015 if you are interested in participating.

Objective: For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

For more information, see the ARRL website at: <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>



Ham Radio In Music -- de Larry (NR3R)

READER SUBMISSION

Go to YouTube and listen to **CQ Serenade**. CQ Serenade was composed sometime between 1965 and 1970 by Maurice Durieux. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOqe0oouN2s>)



No More RF Connectors at Radio Shack? - de Mark (AK3M)

READER SUBMISSION



I needed a few RF connectors (PL-259) to use with a coax switch and went to the Radio Shack on rte. 191. They had none and did not expect to get any more delivered to their store! I asked if any other stores in my area had any and was told that all the stores have the same inventory. I ended up buying some from Amazon. Radio Shack did have some BNC, a few 259 chassis mount connectors but no male 259 connectors, nor did they expect any in future shipments. What a shame. It looks like the end of an era. If you have a similar *or* a different experience, let me know. This may only be MY experience and not others or other other stores.