



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 (DCS - 315)
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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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 June, 2015 LVARC meeting will be held on
June 2, 2015 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company at **7:30 pm.**

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

Month

January
 February
 March
 April



Number of Check-In's

132
 128
 153
 132



Number of Nets/Mondays

4
 4
 5
 4



There will be **NO test session at Hanover Elementary School** this June (2015). There **WILL** be **Walk-In testing at the LVARC Field Day site** (see page 10 for directions). **Testing will be available on Saturday June 27 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.** If you plan to upgrade, you will need to take a **COPY** of your ham license to the test session.



The General class (Element 3) Pool was effective July 1, 2011 and is valid until **June 30, 2015**. You have until the end of **June 2015** to take the General test using the current question pool and study guides.

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



Opening:

The regular meeting of the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:32PM on May 5 by President Bartos. There were a total of 15 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 2 guests.

Guests: Rick Pearce, Ken Kurtz

The following Board Members were present at the meeting: John Bartos, Brian Snyder, Mike Mandell, Paul Ryan, Gary Decker, and Rod Wolfe

Approval of Minutes:

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

Moved: Rod, N3XG

Second: Don, N0VGA

Treasurer's Report: (Brian-KB3QHA)

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Motion to approve: Karl, AA3IX

Second: Myles, KB3ZMA

Motion carried

Committee Reports:

Repeater: John brought in the new Fusion repeater. The plan is to replace the 135 repeater with this one. The 94 repeater job order to adjust the volume is in, per Chris Kelly as reported by Rod, N3XG. No news on the inoperable phone line going to the 135 repeater.

Program: Tonight is Cross Band operation by Rod, N3XG. Next month is Field Day. Rod reported we are OK for the brickyard site and probably also the County command center. Field Day is June 27 and 28th.

Volunteer Examiners: April 17 exam 3 tested and 3 passed. Next test session is Friday May 15, and also walk in testing at Field Day.

ARES: April 26 we had 15 members turn out for the St. Luke's half marathon. Next event is May 28, "Girls on the Run," (Rod mentioned he has not been contacted by them yet, so this may be questionable).

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

Communications: Chuck asked Paul and Mark for information regarding website and VOX.

Club Station: John, AB3LZ has been unsuccessful in contacting the Chief regarding getting access to the station to clean out the room we were given.

Old Business:

We finally received our copy of our 501c3 letter from the IRS.
We are looking for a picnic coordinator for July 25.

New Business:

John brought up the suggestion of the Lehigh County Emergency Manager that from time to time we come up to the EOC and use the radio equipment to make sure everything is working.

Good of the Order:

DLARC is having a special guest speaker this Thursday about old time radio. John, AB3LZ has a contact with Israel and has found a lot of activity on JT9 on 20 meters. Myles said 40 meters has been pretty good late at night. Matt, KB3UZE reported on a trip to the computer and radio museum over near Bellmawr, NJ. He will send pictures to Mark for the VOX

Sick Report:

Karl, K3ATX is home recuperating. Ike, N3IK is a past member and passed away recently.

New Member Applicants:

Stanley Mockus, non-ham associate, Ken Kurtz, KC3EJZ, and Rick Pearce, KC3EXO
Motion to accept: Walt, KE3SP
Second: Gary, W3GRD
Carried

Adjournment:



Meeting was adjourned at 8:17PM
Moved: Myles, KB3ZMA
Seconded: Hadrian, KB3VDB
Carried
Minutes submitted by: Mike, KC3BLF



The LVARC program on June 2 will include planning for Field Day 2015. Plan to attend and learn how you can help the LVARC's FD preparations!



This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <div>ARES RACES Net 7:30</div> Paul N0KIA	2 <div>LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30</div>	3 <div>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</div>	4 NRAU 10m Activity Contest	5	6 10-10 Int. PSK contest Wake Up QRP sprint
7	8 <div>ARES RACES Net 7:30</div> Mark AK3M	9	10 <div>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</div>	11	12	13 Asia Pacific sprint Portugal Day contest ARRL VHF contest
14	15 <div>ARES RACES Net 7:30</div> Rod N3XG	16 <div>LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover</div>	17 <div>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</div>	18 RSGB 80m Club champ.	19 <div>LVARC Test Session 8:30 pm</div> No testing at Hanover Elem.	20 All Asian DX CW contest AGCW VHF/UHF contest
21 Father's Day Kid's Day contest	22 <div>ARES RACES Net 7:30</div> Matthew KB3UZE	23	24 <div>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</div>	25	26	27  FIELD DAY
28  FIELD DAY	29 <div>ARES RACES Net 7:30</div> Robin KB3GZV	30	<h1 style="font-size: 2em;">June 2015</h1>			

LVARC meeting - Tuesday June 2 (7:30 pm) - Tri - Clover FC

LVARC test session - Saturday June 27 (2-4 pm) - LVARC Field Day site

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday June 1 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday June 2 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday June 8 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Monday June 15 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday June 16 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 pm - Tri Clover FC)
Monday June 22 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Saturday June 27 --- Field Day (Walk-In testing (2:00 - 4:00 pm))
Sunday June 28 --- Field Day
Monday June 29 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

2015

LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)



The April 17, 2015 test session was postponed until the following Friday (April 24, 2015) due to a conflict with the school's schedule. **At the April 24, 2015 test session, Three tested and three passed.**

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Chris Costabile - Technician
Richard Pearce - Technician
Jack Loughran (KB3WSC) - Extra

VE's in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Don (N0VGA), Walt (KE3SP) and Mike (KC3BLF)

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.



April --- April 17

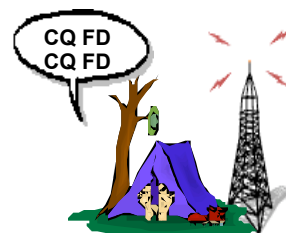
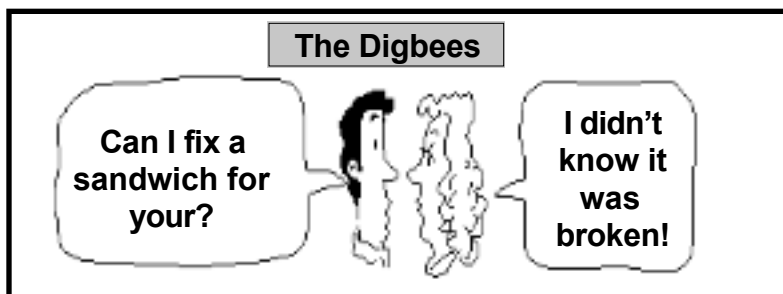
July --- **NO TEST SESSION THIS MONTH.**

May --- May 15

August --- TBA

June --- Testing at LVARC Field Day site **ONLY**

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!**



Field Day 27 & 28



LVARC/ARES 2015 Events



- May 28** --- Girls On the Run 5K
- June 6** --- First Strides/Hanover Township 5K
- June 27 & 28** --- Field Day
- July 25** --- LVARC Picnic
- September 13** --- VIA Marathon
- September 27** --- Harvest 5K
- October 17** --- Women's 5K Classic
- November 1** --- D&L Rail Trail Half Marathon

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!
Mark your calendar and
volunteer to help!

Watch the VOX and listen to the Monday Night Net for details.

There will be Walk-In license testing at the LVARC Field Day site on Saturday June 27, 2015 for 2 hours (2-4 pm).

Fee: \$15.00 EXACT CASH. If upgrading, you need to take a COPY of your current AMATEUR license and a photo ID.

Please be sure the LVARC's 2 meter **SIMPLEX frequency is programmed in your HT's and mobile radios.**

It may be used during an ARES event.

That frequency is **147.420 MHz (NO offset and NO PL).**



The current *General question pool* will expire on June 30, 2015.



2015 Field Day logo

The ARRL has a new logo for Field Day 2015.



The LVARC's 147.135 repeater now requires Digital Coded Squelch. The frequency is 315.



ARRL Field Day 2015 Field Day Packet Online

The complete 2015 ARRL Field Day packet is now online. There are no rule changes for 2015. See the 2015 FD packet at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-field-day-2015-field-day-packet-now-online>



LVARC Picnic is on July 25, 2015.

Mark your calendar!

More information in future editions of the VOX, meetings and on the Monday Night Net(s).



Send your 2015 Field Day pictures to Mark (AK3M for inclusion in the newsletter.



WHAT is Field Day? - de Mark (AK3M)



Field **D**ay is perhaps the biggest event in an amateur radio operator's year but what exactly **IS** Field Day? Well, some say it is an **emergency preparedness event**, as operators are encouraged to operate under emergency conditions where generators, coolers, portable antennas and grills are used. Others say it is a **contest**, as operators and clubs are encouraged to log their contacts and submit their scores to the ARRL, hopeful for recognition. Field Day is also an event that **challenges** and **sharpens** the operator's **skills** during often difficult HF operation (phone and CW). I personally think Field Day is **ALL** of these as well as a great time to be outdoors on a Summer weekend with friends while participating in the the best event of the year! However you decide to describe Field Day, don't forget to enjoy the outdoors, weather and companionship of the event!

WHEN is Field Day?

Field Day 2015 will be June 27 thru June 28, 2015.

WHERE is the LVARC Field Day Site?

Directions to the Field Day site from Allentown

- (1) From route 22, take Rte. 309 North to Huckleberry Rd.
- (2) Right on Huckleberry Rd to Brickyard Rd.
- (3) Drive to the end of Brickyard Rd.

Please remember that the railroad tracks are active and unguarded, so Stop, Look, and Listen.



**The first ARRL Field Day was held in 1933
(82 years ago)!**



The LVARC's 147.135 repeater now requires DCS 315

"The difference between involvement and commitment is like ham and eggs. The chicken is involved; the pig is committed". -- Martina Navratilova



June LVARC/ARES Events



May 28 - "Girls On the Run" 5K

June 6 --- First Strides / Hanover Township 5K

June 27 - 28 --- Field Day



Mark your calendar and volunteer to help! To volunteer for the "Girls On The Run" 5K, contact Rod (N3XG) and to help with Field Day, contact John (AB3LZ).



The LVARC will again participate in **Field Day, 2015** on **June 27-28**, 2015. The location will be at, "The Brickyard," as in the past. **See page 10 for directions.**



Walk-In license testing will be available at the LVARC Field Day site on **Saturday June 27** from **2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.**



2015 Field Day Accessories

(from the ARRL store)



T-shirts
(red or gray)
\$14.95



Cap
\$10.00



Mug
\$10.00



Pin
\$6.00



Patch
\$5.00

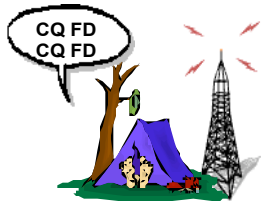


LogBook
\$7.95

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Field-Day-Supplies-2015/>



"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil and you're a thousand miles from the corn field." --- Dwight D. Eisenhower



Field Day 2015

June 27-28



Suggested Field Day Gear

(Use this checklist as a guide. Check items (✓) as they are prepared/packed.)

Amateur Radio

- _____ HF radio
- _____ AC Outlet strip(s)
- _____ spare fuses
- _____ power supply
- _____ key (telegraph)
- _____ headphones
- _____ antenna(s)
- _____ appropriate RF connectors
- _____ tools
- _____ HT
- _____ spare batteries
- _____ AC extension cord(s)
- _____ antenna tuner

General Supplies

- _____ flashlight/lantern
- _____ paper (pads)/logs
- _____ clock/watch
- _____ pencils/pens
- _____ AC desk lamp for night operation
- _____ First aid kit

Personal Gear

- _____ folding chair
- _____ sleeping bag
- _____ pillow
- _____ sunglasses
- _____ appropriate clothing
- _____ snacks
- _____ books/magazines
- _____ personal toilet items
- _____ cell phone
- _____ eating utensils/cup
- _____ tent
- _____ duct tape
- _____ bug spray

Field
Day
2015

Note: The above items are suggested items only. They are not required but depending on your length of stay, they may make you more comfortable.

Notes

Silent Key

Kerschner, Ira H. Ira H. "Ike" Kerschner, 77, of Orefield, died Monday, April 20, 2015 at his home. He was the husband of Patrice A. (Sinkbile) Kerschner to whom he was married for the last 19 years. Born in Allentown, April 9, 1938, Ike was the son of the late Henry B. and Rebecca H. (Peterson) Kerschner.



He was employed as a technician in the Electronic Technology Industry for many years before retiring. Ike was an avid radio ham with call letters **N3IK**.

Survivors: In addition to his wife, Patrice; children, Larsen P. Kerschner at home, Joseph H. Kerschner of Coplay, SSGT Joshua K. Kerschner of Vandenburg AFB, CA, Katelynn R. Kerschner at home, Belle Dickey of Bath, Jeffrey Kerschner of ME; stepson, Jason A. Mauger of Allentown; ten grandchildren; five great grandchildren.

Services: A private graveside service will be held at Jordan Lutheran Church Cemetery, Orefield. No calling hours. The Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc. in Schnecksville is in charge of arrangements. Online expressions of sympathy may be recorded at www.heintzelmancares.com. Contributions: None.



RACES vs. ARES

READER SUBMISSION

de Mark (AK3M)



Not this again?!?!? I was recently contacted by a new ham who asked if the LVARC was or would be called out for the fire at Blue Mountain in Lehigh County as the LC EMA mobile unit was being used. He then asked if this is something in which ARES is involved. That prompted me to add this to the newsletter again, mostly for new hams, realizing that there still is confusion about the difference.

Rule of thumb: **RACES is county managed** and **ARES is club managed**. The 5K's, half marathons and marathons, etc., are used for community events and managed by the LVARC. Lehigh County does NOT get involved with those events. Lehigh County events are handled by the county EMA. LVARC communications for county events only happen when the county requests our help. L.C. will only use RACES when something major happens. RACES would be used to provide secondary communications when normal county comms are inundated. **Remember, you need at least ICS 100 AND ICS 700 to participate if Lehigh County EMA calls us out for county communications support**

To get ICS 100 and other NIIMS/ICS courses, go to:

<http://training.fema.gov/is/nims.aspx>

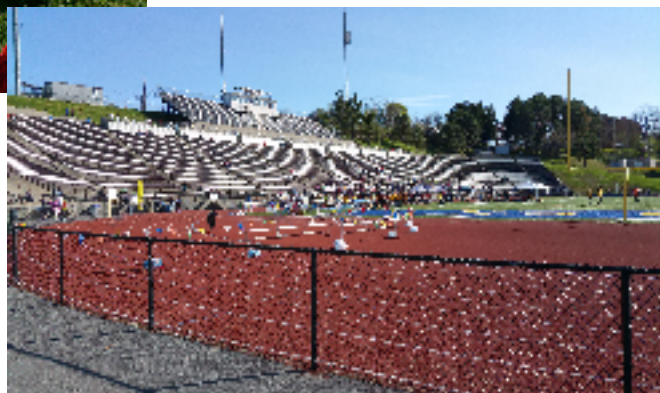
Early on Sunday April 26, **fifteen LVARC hams** turned out to provide communications support for the St. Luke's Half Marathon. This was the first ARES event of 2015, with many more to be held this season (see page 8). The weather was sunny but cool with a mild breeze. The St. Luke's Half Marathon is an event the LVARC has helped with communications for many years. Dr. Mike Martinez offered another successful year as participant injuries were light. About 2,245 people participated in this event.



A directed net was opened at 0750 and remained open until 1115. Amateur radio communications were responsible for assisting eight people who required medical and/or transportation attention with one piece of routine traffic initiated by event officials to their auxiliary medical tent regarding supplies storage. Once again, the LVARC ARES team was on time and handled all communications as professionally as amateurs can! I wish to thank the following operators for their time and expertise with event communications. LVARC participants in the Half Marathon included, **Mark (AK3M), Larry (NR3R), Scott (KB3YOS), Judy (KB3YOT), Phil (KB3HMK), Brian (KB3QHA), Gary (W3GRD), Rex (KC1WE), Igor (KC3ASC), Mike (KC3BLF), John (AB3LZ), Don (W3DLH), Kenny (KC3BLE), Bob, WB3JSZ and Don (N0VGA)** with impromptu assistance at the start from **Chris (WZ3Q)**. Without dedicated operators, the LVARC could not support local ARES events. TNX to all ! Below and on pages 15 and 16, are pictures of this event submitted by LVARC operators.



Net Control
(ASD Stadium)



Photos courtesy
Larry (NR3R)

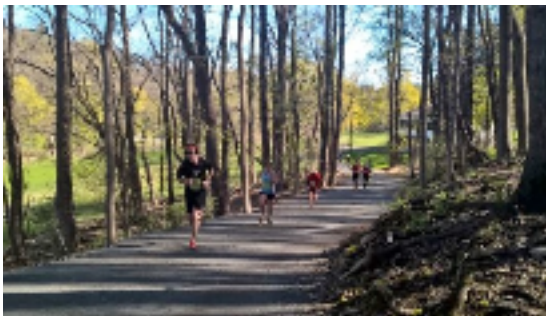
(pictures of the Half Marathon continued. on page 15)

(pictures of the Half Marathon cont. from page 14)



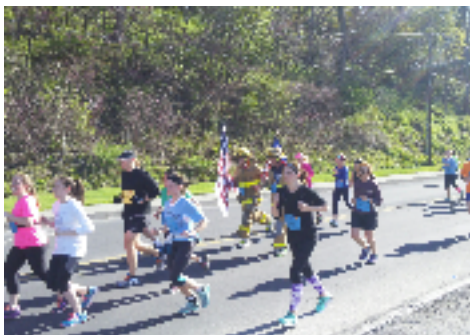
Robin Hood

Photos courtesy John (AB3LZ)



West, past the police academy

Photos courtesy Mike (KC3BLF)



**MLK and
10th street**

Photos courtesy
Brian (KB3QHA)



(pictures of the Half Marathon cont. from page 15)



**West, past the
police academy**



Photos courtesy Mike (KC3BLF)



Robin Hood parking lot
Photos courtesy Don (N0VGA)



Iron Bridge West



Photos courtesy Bob (WB3JSZ)

Those who tested at the April 24, 2015 test session, received their calls on May 1, 2015. **CONGRATULATIONS** to Chris Costabile (KC3EXN) and Richard Pearce (KC3EXO). Welcome them to the hobby when you hear them on the air!



READER SUBMISSION de Mark (AK3M)



FEMA's ICS and SkyWarn Courses



REMEMBER: I keep a list of LVARC members who have taken the Incident Command System (ICS) courses. I have a total of 30 members who have taken these courses BUT only 25 are RACES eligible. That means they have taken only ONE ICS course. My list could be in error but remember that **BOTH** ICS **AND** ICS 700 are the minimum requirements for RACES participation. If you are in doubt about the courses you have taken and that are on my records, email me and I will let you know what is on my list.

READER SUBMISSION de Mark (AK3M)



REMEMBER: I also keep a list of LVARC members who have VE and SkyWarn certifications. I currently have a list of 14 LVARC VE's. If you are not sure you are current on this list, please contact me. The updating of ICS certificates, VE's and SkyWarn is prompted by the report I am preparing for the LVARC, "Communication Committee."

READER SUBMISSION de Mark (AK3M)

A Thank You Note From Dr. Mike

The following belongs to all the LVARC operators who volunteered their time and expertise to the St. Luke's Half Marathon on April 26, 2015. I received a Thank You email from Dr. Mike Martinez. Mike is a physician at St. Luke's hospital and a member of the Lehigh Valley Road Runners, the organization that sponsors and organizes this event.



"Hi Mark.

Your team is an essential part of our medical plan. I am very proud of the coverage that we provide at the Half and could not do it with out your team.

Please communicate my thanks to everyone.

Sincerely,

Mike"



Field Day on Social Media!

(source: The ARRL website)

Follow Field Day on Facebook and Twitter! ARRL has created a **Field Day event on Facebook**, and you can also join the conversation by using the hash tag #ARRLFD. Share your plans, tips and tricks to a successful Field Day!



If you plan to upgrade your license at the Field Day test session site on **Saturday June 27 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**, you must take a COPY of your current ham license.

