



# The **VOX**



The Official *On-Line*  
Newsletter of the

**L**ehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub - W3OI / KB3SYV  
*Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA*



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

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**JANUARY**

**2016**

## 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>

# CONTENTS FOR JANUARY 2016

Meeting Information .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	..... page 3
L.C. RACES Net Information .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	..... page 3
Minutes of the December 2015 Meeting .....		..... pages 4-5
This Month In Ham Radio .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	..... page 6
LVARC VE Report .....	  	..... page 7
Net control operators .....		..... page 8
2016 dues are due .....		..... page 9
Tips for starting 2016 in ham radio .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	..... page 10
QST turns 100 .....	 	..... page 11
"In My Opinion" .....	<b>EDITOR SUBMISSION</b>	..... page 12
Farmer's Almanac WX prediction .....	<b>INFORMATIONAL</b>	..... page 13
LVARC mugs .....		..... page 14
Pull tabs wanted / EMP .....	 	..... page 15

## ★ 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 January, 2016 LVARC meeting will be held on  
**January 5, 2016** 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
November	179	5



**Winter Tip** ---- Save your old car battery.  
It may not be able to start your car anymore  
but it is still is a good 12 volt source for your  
hand held/mobile radios. Harbor Freight has  
a battery float charger/tender for \$8.99 that  
will keep the battery charged, just what you  
need to maintain it for when the power fails.



**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

## Minutes of the December, 2015 LVARC Meeting de - John (AB3LZ)



The meeting was called to order by President Bartos 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 19 members in attendance, and the club was joined by guests. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod – N3XG, John – AB3LZ, Paul – N0KIA, Scott – KB3YOT and Chuck – WB6CDY.

**Guests:** Michael Osowski – KC3GBG

**Corrections additions to the November minutes as printed in the VOX:** A supplemental business meeting was conducted on November 17, 2015. At this meeting Chuck (WB6CDY) made a motion to spend up to \$150 for 20 club logo mugs. The motion was second by Rod (N3XG). The motion was approved.

Motion to Approve by: Chuck (WB6CDY)  
Second by: Scott (KB3YOT)  
Carried Yes

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

Starting Balance: \$4,668.81  
Ending Balance: \$4,858.21

Motion to Approve by: Chuck (WB6CDY)  
Second by: Dave (W3AMC)  
Carried: Yes

**Committee Reports:**

**Repeater:** Rod reported that there were no issues with the club repeaters.

**Club Station:** We have received an estimate from the electrician used by the fire company for wiring the room for the proposed club station. The estimate has come in at \$920. We have requested a donation from the Iron Pigs for an amount of \$1000 to cover this expense. The request was submitted 2 weeks ago. It takes approximately 3 weeks to approve the request.

**Program:** Tonight's program will be EMP (Electro Magnetic Pulse) by Chuck (WB6CDY). Next month's program will be Sizing Up Digital Modes by Rod (N3XG).

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

**Volunteer Examiners:** At the November 20, 2015 test session, seven tested and seven passed.

Bryan Clarke (KA3RVN) – General  
Brian Afflerbach (KC3GBI) – Technician  
Richard Afflerbach Jr. (KC3GBH) – Technician  
Ryan Campbell (KC3GBJ) – Technician  
Russ George (N3UBT) – General  
Lester Morrow (W3LES) – General  
Michael Osowski (KC3GBG) -Technician

The next test session will be held on Friday December 18, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Hanover elementary School in Bethlehem. Registration is necessary and the deadline to register is the Sunday before the test (December 13). To register, contact Mark (AK3M).

**Communications Committee:** There were no updates.

**Old Business:**

The annual club Christmas party will be held on December 15, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Tri-Clover fire hall. Bring your favorite Christmas cookie, desert or appetizer. Family member are welcome to attend. The club participation raffle will be held at the party.

Rod (N3XG) will be holding a training session for Net Control officers on Friday November 4, 2015 at 7 PM at the Tri-Clover fire company. Anyone interested in becoming a Net Controller is asked to attend. Existing Net Controllers are also asked to attend. If they can not they should contact Rod (N3XG) so that he can provide them with the material that will be presented at the meeting.

At the November meeting a \$75 expenditure was approved to purchase 5 USB mice for the club computers. Matt (N3MYM) provided 10 USB mice at no charge to the club. A big thanks to Matt.

**New Business:**

New member applicants are: Mike Osowski (KC3GBH) and Donald Pond (KB3YGT)

Motion to Accept New Members by: Chuck (WB6CDY)  
Second by: Don (N0VGA)  
Carried: Yes

**Good of the Order:**

Club logo mugs were purchased for award and appreciation gifts. There are a limited number of excess mugs that members can purchase for \$10. This is on a first come first serve basis. Members interested in purchasing a mug, please contact John (AB3LZ) via email.

**Sick Report:** It was reported that Igor (KC3ASC) was in the hospital.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed 20:04 hrs. (EST)  
Motion by: Chuck (WB6CDY)  
Second by: Scott (KB3YOT)  
In favor: Yes

Respectfully Submitted de AB3LZ, President

## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 2016</b>					1 AGCW VHF/UHF contest  AGCW Happy New Year contest	2 PODXS 070 PSK Fest  Original QRP contest  EUCW 160m contest
3	4 ARES RACES Net 7:30	5 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	6 UKEICC 80m contest  Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	7	8	9 Old New Year contest  N. Am. CWV QSO party
10 Deadline to schedule test	11 ARES RACES Net 7:30	12	13 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	14	15 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm Hanover Elem. Sch.	16 Hungarian DX contest  N. Am. SSB QSO party
17	18 ARES RACES Net 7:30	19 LVARC activity night	20 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	21	22	23 YL-ISSB QSO party  WAB 1.8 MHz phone
24 QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint	25 ARES RACES Net 7:30	26	27 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	28	29	30 UBA DX SSB contest ARRL VHF contest
31	<b>Happy 2016</b>					

**LVARC meeting - Tuesday January 5 (7:30 pm) - Tri - Clover FC**

**LVARC test session - January 15 - Hanover Elem. (6:30 pm)**

## LVARC Activities/Events

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



Monday January 4 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Tuesday January 5 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)  
Sunday January 10 --- Deadline to schedule for test session  
Monday January 11 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Friday January 15 --- Test Session at Hanover Elem. School  
Monday January 18 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)  
Tuesday January 19 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 pm - Tri Clover FC)  
Monday January 25 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

2016

### LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)



At the November 20, 2015 test session,  
seven tested and seven passed.

### CONGRATULATIONS to:

Bryan Clarke (KA3RNV) - General  
Brian Afflerbach - Technician  
Richard Afflerbach Jr. - Technician  
Ryan Campbell - Technician  
Russ George (N3UBT) - General  
Lester Morrow (W3LES) - General  
Michael Osowski - Technician

VE's in attendance included:

Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP) and Don (N0VGA)

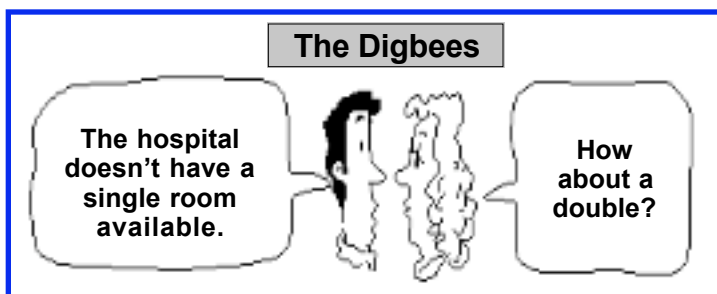
**LVARC 2016 Test Session Dates** --- Test sessions are held at the Hanover Elementary School (3890 Jacksonville Road ) in Bethlehem, Pa., the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30 pm. **REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.** To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).

December (2015) --- Dec. 18	March --- March. 18
January --- Jan. 15	April --- April 15
February --- Feb. 19	May --- May 20



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!**





**WANTED:** The Monday Night ARES/RACES/ACS/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).



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
2605 Interstate Drive  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110



**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)



*"You will never win if you never begin."* – By Robert H. Schuller



## 2016 Dues Now Being Accepted!

**2016 dues are due!** 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**, pay at a meeting or via PayPal.



**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!



## The LVARC Acquires 10 USB Mice

**TNX to Matthew (N3MYM)**, the LVARC now has 10 new USB mice! These mice will be used with the club's laptops at Field Day etc.



***TNX Matt!!!!***



The symbol on the "pound" key (#) is called an **octothorpe**.

*It's illegal in Alabama to wear a fake mustache that causes laughter in church.*





## Helpful tips for Ham Radio and the LVARC in the new year!

a.k.a. *“How you can help the LVARC and how the LVARC can help you in 2016!”*

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January is a great time to start something new and perhaps discontinue some old practices. Following are some tips for starting 2016 off right with the LVARC and yourself at the same time. *Remember that participation in LVARC activities earns incentive tickets for drawings in December 2016.*

1. Send an article(s) for inclusion in the newsletter, the VOX.
2. Participate in an ARES event(s), even if you have never participated in one before.
3. Upgrade your license with the LVARC VE team.
4. Attend more LVARC meetings.
5. Take at **least** the ICS 100 and ICS 700 courses.
6. Attend Field Day in June.
7. Present a program at a meeting.
8. Check into the Monday Night net.

What will you do in 2016?

EDITOR SUBMISSION

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### Did you get Radio Equipment for a Present?



If you got or expect to get radio equipment for the holidays and want to share it with LVARC readers, send me a picture and description of your gift and I will include it in the VOX. -- de Mark (AK3M)

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*“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.” – By Sally Ber*

**HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY QST**



(from the ARRL)



## QST Celebrates 100 Years!

The first issue of QST was printed 100 years ago (right). The best **ten cents** you ever spent in 1915! Of course, Back in 1915, two years after income tax came on the scene, you were doing about average if you were making \$687 a year,

## The LVARC newsletter continues to expand its circulation!

**TNX again to W.T. Jones (WK3LIF), the VOX has gone "viral!"** I received the following from W.T.

### Lehigh Valley ARC November 2015 VOX Newsletter

Enclosure: 11 Club Reminders due to W.T. Jones, 10/17/2015.

Go to First Unread



W.T. Jones  
Moderator  
Post Number  
Times Posted

#### The LVARC VOX for November 2015

Message List

November 2015 VOX post

From: W.T. Jones

To: W.T. Jones

Subject: November 2015 VOX post

Date: 11/17/2015

Time: 11:17 AM

Size: 1.1 MB

Views: 4

Mark,

I was just checking on things on N3LLR's Ham Radio Forum.

<http://www.bfdinforums.net>

I though you'd appreciate this.

Bill posted the following about the LVARC Newsletter: ***"I like this newsletter. Good use of color and the 'live' url links.."***

--

73,

W.T. Jones

WN3LIF

Section Emergency Coordinator

ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section

Emergency Coordinator

**READER SUBMISSION**

**de W.T. Jones (WN3LIF)**

If you ever tried unsuccessfully to check into the Monday Night Net, it means you are not “**Communications Quality**,” enough for the net control station to hear you. The net is more than reading a list of names. It is for checking your equipment, passing information, and practicing for an ARES/RACES event. If you are not “communications quality,” you would be of little or no use in an event of an actual emergency. Check your antenna, adjust your power and/or change your position and try again at the end of the net or on another Monday night.



**READER SUBMISSION**

de Mark (AK3M)



## The LVARC Activity Night Brings Back Memories

**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

In the late 60's, when I became interested in ham radio and eventually a licensed ham with a *real* call (WN3KIF), the LVARC held their business meetings on the first Friday of the month instead of the current first Tuesday. That may be different now, but they also met on the third Friday of the month. This was not a business meeting and less formal than our current *Activity Night* as there was no real agenda or program planned. It did however, give local hams a chance to operate the club's equipment, read QST in a comfortable chair, brag about their new radio or antenna they built or bought, or even the number of new stations they worked.



Although the day may have changed and the topics updated, the reason for meeting more than once a month has not. Hams are social creatures and constantly seeking contact with those of similar interests.

TNX to all those who plan and present programs at the **LVARC's Activity Night, every third Tuesday of the month**. Attend one and learn something new, exchange information about a new radio you have or simply meet with old or new friends for a few hours.

## The Farmer's Almanac 2015-2016 Winter Prediction



The Farmer's Almanac is a magazine noted for many articles, one of them includes WX predicting. Below, is their prediction for the 2015-2016 Winter season.

***"The Northeast, Ohio Valley, northern Plains, and Pacific Northwest **should brace for a slew of snow.**"***

(I will let you know if they are right in April - ed.).

<http://www.almanac.com/content/2015-2016-winter-weather-forecast-summary>



### Thirteen Years of the VOX

**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

Since I have begun creating the newsletter (2002), I have saved all the issues of the VOX in a **pdf** format and can burn to a disk. If you would like a disk containing the past 13 years of the VOX, contact me.



**READER SUBMISSION**

de Larry (NR3R)

**Neat Inexpensive 2/440 rig --** Great for entry level hams on a budget. Under \$100 at Amazon. Great bug out emergency bag radio. 25 watts can use a small RBC type battery.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyBM3QsuDs0>



*"If you think in terms of a year, plant a seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; if in terms of 100 years, teach the people." --- Confucius*

## LVARC Gets Club Mugs

The LVARC purchased mugs with the club logo proudly displayed in color on the front. The mugs were ordered from VistaPrint who did an excellent job with printing the logo and time of ordering to the time of delivery. As of now, these mugs will be reserved as gifts to non-member presenting guests and/or non-members who support the club. **There are however, a few mugs left for member purchase at \$10.00 per mug.** If interested, email John (AB3LZ) at [e03145jab@gmail.com](mailto:e03145jab@gmail.com). **TNX John (AB3LZ) for researching and ordering these mugs!**



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**CONGRATULATIONS** to those who tested at the November 20 test session. They received their calls on December 1, 2015.

Michael Osowski - **KC3GBG**  
Richard Afflerbach Jr. - **KC3GBH**  
Brian Afflerbach - **KC3GBI**  
Ryan Campbell - **KC3GBJ**



*The Lehigh Valley welcomes four new hams!*

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## HOW TO SURVIVE IN YOUR CAR FOR 48 HOURS

1. **Don't Abandon Your Car**
2. **Flag** (carry a fluorescent flag)
3. **Call for Help** (cell phone or ham radio)
4. **Don't Use Gas All at Once** (keep/start with a full tank)
5. **Go Crazy on the Horn**
6. **Don't Drive with an Empty Car** (carry supplies - food/emergency)
7. **Hydrate**
8. **Insulate**
9. **Avoid Overexertion**

**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

From The Ready Store website.  
To read more, go to:

[newsletter@readystore.com](mailto:newsletter@readystore.com)





## Can Pull Tabs Wanted

(Community service without ARES)

READER SUBMISSION

de Mark (AK3M)

My niece is a junior at Salisbury University in Maryland. She belongs to a service organization called **Girls On Top of The World**. They are collecting the pull tabs from aluminum cans. These tabs will be given to the *Ronald McDonald Foundation*. If you would like to help, collect and save your pull tabs and give to me at any meeting (Mark - AK3M).



<http://salisburyontop.weebly.com/about-us.html>

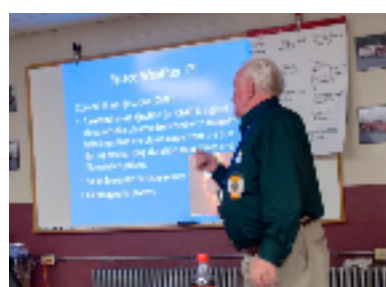


## EMP What? Me Worry?

The December technical presentation was EMP - ElectroMagnetic Pulse. Is it something amateur radio operators should be concerned with? It is much more than lightning protection. Chuck, WB6CDY, covered the basics for the December 1 meeting.

### References

- Electromagnetic Pulse and the Radio Amateur Series in QST August-November 1986  
Part 1 <http://www.arrl.org/Us/info/pdf/88615.pdf>
- Google "National Commission on EMP" April 2008
- National Space Weather Strategy 2015
- MIL-STD-1310H
- NCS TIB 85-10 (Source for QST Article)
- Severe Space Weather Events—Understanding Societal and Economic Impacts  
ISBN 978-0-309-12769-1
- FICTION – "One Second After" William Forstchen



Photos of Chuck (WB6CDY) courtesy of John (AB3LZ)

