



# 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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*Treasurer:* Brian Snyder - KB3QHA (brian@teamsnyder.net)

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## 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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**Spring arrives on March 19, 2016!**



## 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 March, 2016 LVARC meeting will be held on  
**March 1, 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 - 2016

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January	129	4



### Silent Key

**Raymond P. Bilger (W3TDF)** , 91, died Thurs. Jan. 7th  
at his home in Coopersburg. His W3TDF activities  
included serving as past president for 10 years of QCWA  
Chapter 17, a member of DLARC and the Radio Club of  
America.



## Minutes of the February, 2016 LVARC Meeting de - Mike (KC3BLF)



LVARC Minutes February 2016

Tri-Clover Fire Company, Orefield, PA  
2/2/2016

### **Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30PM on Feb 2 by President Bartos .

There were a total of 29 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 4 guests.

**Guests:** Doug Baker, Doug's Daughter, Louis Poli, N3OL, Larry a new technician  
The following Board Members were present at the meeting: John Bartos, Chuck Ballard, Brian Snyder, Mike Mandell, Gary Decker, Mark Miller, Rodney Wolfe, Scott Leichssenring

### **Approval of Minutes**

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

Moved: Scott, KB3YOT

Second: Chuck, WB6CDY

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

Treasurer's report was presented.

A donation of \$250 from Brian and Gail Klock was received.

Motion to approve: Carl, AA3IX

Second: Rick, KC3EXO

Motion carried

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Repeater:**

All is well on all machines.

#### **Program:**

IC Manufacturing by Rick, KC3EXO. Hands on night is dinner at 6:30 at Old Country Buffet. Next month is MARS with a guest speaker, and March hands on is DRats.

Volunteer Examiners:

There was no January 2016 test session as no one was scheduled to test. As of this report, no one has yet scheduled to test at the February 19 test session.

#### **ARES:**

There has been no ARES activities for 2016. The first scheduled event should be the St. Luke's/LVRR Half Marathon in April. I have not yet been contacted by the event coordinator about LVARC participation yet. The second event will be the Hanover Township (Northampton) Spring 5K on June 4. Volunteers will be needed for all upcoming events. A tentative list of 2016 ARES events is on page 9 of the March VOX. Specific events and their dates will be listed in the VOX, announced on the Monday Night Net and via emails sent to LVARC members. Rodney, N3XG talked about a regional ARES summit for EPA which will be held in the Lehigh Valley.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

**Communications:**

Chuck, WB6CDY said that club members will receive an email tomorrow asking members to look over the new website, which is w3oi.ham4ham.com temporarily. There will be 2 weeks for member comment, then the website will go live on March 1.

**Club Station:**

The electrical work was completed today, so now there are outlets and overhead lights. John, AB3LZ is organizing a cleaning party to get the room ready for floor painting and shelving installation.

**Old Business:**

The Board decided to continue the incentive drawing for 2016. July 27 is the tentative date for the picnic provided we can reserve the facility.

**New Business:**

We need to approve \$100 to Upper Macungie for the picnic reservation.

Moved: Rodney, N3XG

Second: Chuck, WB6CDY

**Good of the Order:**

Scott, KB3YOT talked about the SainSonic mobile radio he won and his positive experience with it.

Andy, KC3EKA mentioned the next few weekends are QSO parties. John, AB3LZ said he got Reunion Island and some in South Africa.

Matthew, KB3UZE brought up a website that talked about the HackRF software defined radio device

**Sick Report:**

none

**New Member Applicants:**

Richard Afflerbach, KC3GBH

Brian Afflerbach, KC3GBI

Daniel Beadle, KK6VAR

Remy Juskowiak, N3VKK

Motion to accept: Scott, KB3YOT

Second: Tony, KC3AMC

Carried

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at [time].



Moved: Scott, KB3YOT

Seconded: Chuck, WB6CDY

Carried

***Minutes submitted by: Mike, KC3BLF***

## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March</b>		1 <b>LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30</b>	2 <b>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</b>	3	4	5 <b>ARRL Int. DX SSB Contest</b>
6	7 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30  Rod N3XG</b>	8	9 <b>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</b>	10	11	12 <b>OK QSO party  SA 10m contest  Nauryz DX contest</b>
13 <b>DST starts</b>  <b>Deadline to schedule test</b>	14 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30  Mark AK3M</b>	15 <b>LVARC activity night</b>	16 <b>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</b>	17  <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	18 <b>LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm  Hanover Elem. Sch.</b>	19 <b>Russian DX contest  LA QSO party  VA QSO party</b>
20	21 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30  Jim KC3AFU</b>	22	23 <b>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</b>	24	25	26 <b>FOC QSO party  CQ WW WPX SSB contest</b>
27  <b>Easter</b>	28 <b>ARES RACES Net 7:30  Scott KB3YOT</b>	29	30 <b>Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255</b>	31	<b>2016</b>	

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

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

## LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



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

2016

### LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)

LVARC  
VE  
Program



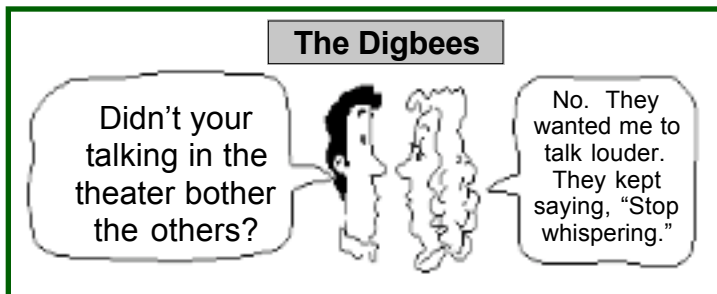
No one was scheduled to test at the  
January 15, 2016 test session.

**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).

**February --- Feb. 19**      **April --- April 15**  
**March --- March 18**      **May --- May 20**  
**June --- Testing at Field Day 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](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!**



## **Did You Know?**

Saint Patrick's Day is observed on 17 March, which is said to be the date of his death.



If 2016 LVARC dues are not paid by March, you will have to be voted back into the club as if you were a new member.

## **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 renew 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.



## **READER SUBMISSION**

### **VHF/HF Android OS app**

de Larry (NR3R)

**"Pocket RxTx"** - For Android OS only. Listen to VHF/HF on your phone or tablet, anywhere.



**ARES season is coming soon!** The LVARC provides communications support for many events during the year. Your help is needed. See page 9 for a list of anticipated ARES activities. Mark your calendar now! To volunteer, contact Mark (AK3M).



## 2016 ARES Events

**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

Below, is a list of 2016 ARES events. Specific dates will be published in the VOX and announced on Monday Night Nets. ***Mark your calendar and volunteer your help for one or more of these events.***

- 
- (1) LVRR/St. Lukes 1/2 Marathon - April
  - (2) Hanover Township "Spring 5K" - June 4, 2016
  - (3) VIA / LVHN Marathon - September
  - (4) Harvest 5K - September
  - (5) Women's 5K Classic - October
  - (6) Hanover Township "Fall 5K" - November



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## DST 2016 begins this month

Turn clocks **AHEAD** March 13, 2016



The days are slowly getting longer!

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## Spring is a good time to check your antennas

Although this Winter has not given us too much bad weather, Spring is a good time to check your antennas and feedlines.





## LVARC Annual Mid-Winter Dinner



TNX to Phil (KB3HMK), the LVARC Mid-Winter annual dinner will again be held on **Tuesday February 16**, 2016 at the Old Country Buffet in Whitehall. The start time is **6:30 pm** but it is recommended that all arrive earlier as there is usually a long line to get in. Phil did reserve the private room for us as usual. Take a guest or two. *All are welcome.* Phil is to be commended for arranging this great event each year!



## Record Snowfall Hits the Lehigh Valley!



**A huge Winter snowstorm hit the Lehigh Valley on Saturday January 23, 2016. A total of 31.9 inches was dumped on our area in a 24 hour period!**



The normal seasonal snowfall for the Allentown area is 32.9 inches. This winter storm produced close to that in 24 hours.



Although L.C. RACES/ and/or ARES were not activated during the snowstorm, did you monitor the LVARC repeaters on VHF and PEMA on HF?

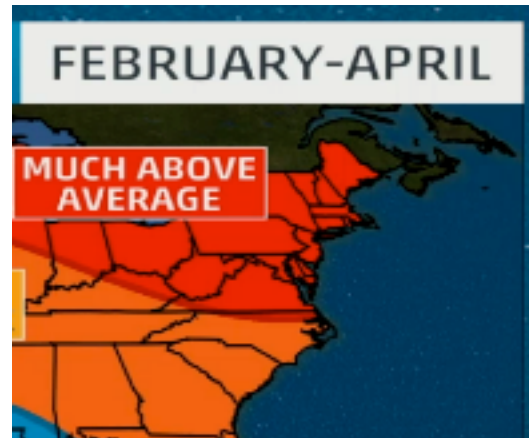


The good news is that Spring arrives on March 19. The bad news is that we must still make it through February although see page 11.



## Good WX News (?)

The Weather channel predicts **ABOVE** and **MUCH ABOVE AVERAGE** temperatures for February - April, 2016! (Let's see what the groundhog says).



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## The Radio Amateur's Code

**EDITOR SUBMISSION**

(source: the ARRL website)

The Radio Amateur is:

**CONSIDERATE**...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL**...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE**...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

**FRIENDLY**...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

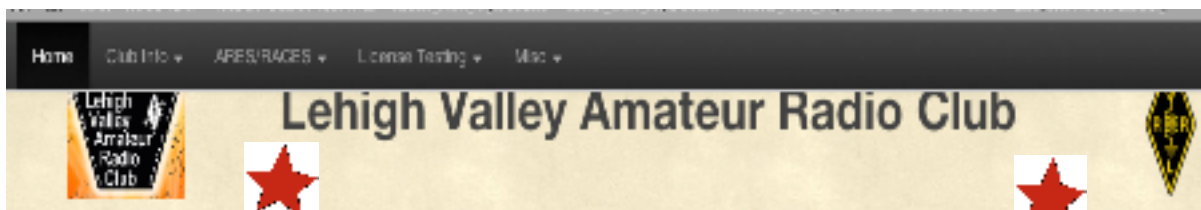
**BALANCED**...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC**...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928 (from the ARRL website).



## LVARC to Launch New Web Site



Members of the LVARC *Communication Committee* have been working tirelessly behind the scenes for the past few months. A new LVARC/W3OI web page has been designed and is now housed at a temporary site.

**Members are asked to visit the new site**, peruse the new design and send any comments to Chuck (WB6CDY). The proposed official launch of the web site is March 1, 2016. That gives members only about two weeks to submit their feedback. Visit and comment soon!



The temporary site is: <http://w3oi.ham4ham.com>

Send feedback to Chuck at: [chballard@compuserve.com](mailto:chballard@compuserve.com).

### Small Antennas for Small Spaces 2nd Edition - from the ARRL

Find the right antenna design to fit your available space. Includes ideas and projects to get you on the air regardless of where you live!

**Special Member Price!**

**Only \$19.95** (regular \$22.95)

Item No. 0512 - \$19.95

