



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** - W3CDY (chballard@compuserve.com)

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Treasurer: **Paul Ryan** - N0KIA (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

Board of Governors

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Rick Pearce - KC3EXO (rickp.127@gmail.com)

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LVARC Repeaters

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)
147.735/147.135 (DCS 315)
147.420 (Club Simplex Freq.)

LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30p (ET)
on the 94 repeater.

Many club announcements will be heard there.

ALL are welcome to check in!

The April LVARC meeting will be on **Tuesday April 2**, 2019 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield at **7:30p.**

The scheduled program is a Skype presentation with Dr. Edison Fong. His topic is, "*Tri Band Antenna Design.*"



The April 2019 LVARC test session has been moved to **Friday April 26** because of the Good Friday break (April 19). The school where we test, is closed on Good Friday.

The LVARC holds its monthly meetings on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of the month at the **Tri-Clover** Fire Company in Orefield, Pennsylvania.

This is **YOUR** newsletter. Send your submission to the VOX to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

You can send text and/or graphics.



LVARC TEST SESSIONS

The LVARC holds monthly test sessions on the third Friday of every month. The test is held at Hanover Elementary School at 3890 Jacksonville Road in Bethlehem, PA at 6:30p. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call Mark at 610-428-4475.

2019 June 22 - 23



**Its not too early to think
about Field Day 2019!**

Mark your calendar!

If you are a new ham and do not know what Field Day is, keep reading.

Field Day is different for each ham but generally, Field Day is both an **emergency exercise** as well as a **contest**.

Because it is in part an emergency exercise, individuals and clubs set up tents and other shelters and operate all modes on almost all amateur bands powered by generators. The contest part includes seeing how many contacts can be made in a 24 hour period.

The LVARC participates in Field Day each year. The club not only takes radio equipment but also food and fun. The June issue of the VOX will have more information on Field Day and what the LVARC's plans are for participation including times, location and what you can do to help.

2019 ARES Event Schedule

(Mark your calendar as volunteers are needed)

April 28 (Sunday) — St. Luke's/Lehigh Valley Road Runner's Half Marathon

June 1 (Saturday) — Hanover Township Spring 5K

September 8 (Sunday) — VIA Marathon

October 5 (Saturday) — Women's 5K Classic

November 3 (Sunday) — Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk

November 3 (Sunday) — Penn State "Thon" 5K in Hanover Township



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LVARC Net 7:30p	2 LVARC Meeting 7:30p	3	4	5	6
7	8 LVARC Net 7:30p	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 LVARC Net 7:30p	16 LVARC Activity Night	17	18	19	20
21 EASTER Deadline to register for test session	22 LVARC Net 7:30p	23	24	25	26 LVARC Test Session 6:30p	27
28 Half Marathon 	29 LVARC Net 7:30p	30	APRIL 2019			

Upcoming 2019 LVARC Programs

April 2 - A Skype presentation with Dr. Edison Fong as he discusses, "*Tri Band Antenna design*".

May 7 - **Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's)** Dr. Regina Monaco (N2RNA) will present a discussion on GMO's. She will provide an overview of what they are, how they are created and the pros and cons of their use.

June 4 - Preparation for Field Day 2019. FD is June 22-23.

The LVARC testing program first started in April 2003, sixteen years ago this month!



The First ARES Event of 2019 Is This Month!

The *Lehigh Valley Road Runner's Half Marathon* will be held on **Sunday April 28. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** Volunteer your communication skills by contacting Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

About 15 operators will be needed. Be one of them!

Volunteer your communication skills for a few hours on a sunny Spring Sunday morning!



“I want to volunteer for LVARC ARES events but I don’t know what I am supposed to do.”

“What will I need to know and do if I volunteer for an ARES event?”

The LVARC provides communication support for several community events throughout the year. Volunteers are positioned around the course of the event. Their job is to provide communications between their position and the net control station. The net control operator has access to the event coordinator(s) and emergency medical services (EMS).

Your job will be to pass ANY/ALL traffic between your station to/from the Net Control Station. That could be anything from, “My station needs more drink cups,” to reporting a medical emergency. You are NOT there to assist water stop personnel hand out drinks, unless you want to. You are NOT there to direct vehicular traffic and you are NOT there to provide medical services, unless you are appropriately trained. **You ARE there to provide communications to/from your station to net control.**

You will need equipment that will keep you on the air for about 4 hours. A charged HT and spare batteries along with a folding chair etc. is all the equipment you should need to participate in an ARES event.

I hope this helps a little but before you decide NOT to volunteer because you don't know what to do, contact me (Mark - AK3M) and ask any questions you have.



NEW GENERAL EXAMS COMING

The **new General class question pool will take effect on July 1, 2019** for all Element 3 General class license written exams.

If you plan on taking the General exam **on** or **after** July 1, 2019, be sure you will be studying the right material.



Due to a revised work schedule, Don Hoppes (NOVGA) has had to stand down from his position on the LVARC Board of Governors. He was replaced by Rod Wolfe (N3XG) who will be on the board for the remainder of Don's term.

TNX for your time on the board Don and TNX Rod for filling in.

2018 ARES Review - de Mark (AK3M)

At Mike's (KC3BLF) request, I did a review of 2018 ARES participants. I use the term participants and not members because there really is no criteria for membership in ARES as there is for RACES.



This review showed that *25 different* LVARC members participated in six ARES events in 2018. Many participated in more than one event. Using 83 as an LVARC membership total (from Paul), that figures as **30.12% of LVARC members participated in ARES events in 2018!**



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club NEWS and INFORMATION



For updated club information, event calendar, current and back issues of the VOX and more, visit the LVARC website.



<http://www.w3oi.org/#/home>

The LVARC club station will be open for use on an, "As needed," basis. If you want to use the club station, contact John (AB3LZ) at e03145jab@gmail.com.

Monday evenings are not good as the fire company holds drills on Monday evenings. All other days including weekends are good.



Lehigh and Northampton Counties Hold Joint Simplex Drill - de Mike (KC3BLF)



On Saturday morning, March 9th, LVARC supported Lehigh County (and some parts of Northampton) in a joint Lehigh-Northampton County simplex radio drill. Simplex radio is emergency communication at its most basic form...direct radio to radio without any kind of infrastructure required (power, repeater, internet...nothing). In this drill we primarily used FM voice. There was a packet station available for digital messages in Bethlehem for those who wanted to try that. The goal of this exercise was to test our ability to communicate directly to an EOC from an anticipated shelter location in both counties. I am happy to say that Lehigh County was very well covered. We had operators cover NW Lehigh High School in New Tripoli (which worked great to Lehigh EOC), Northern Lehigh HS, Dieruff High School, Saucon Valley High School (Northampton), most of the major hospitals in Lehigh (and we covered St. Luke's Anderson in Northampton) and various other potential sites including the club station at Tri-Clover FD. Some operated from home, which was fine. You never know where an incident may originate, and it might be in your neighborhood.

Thanks to those who came out to participate. I understand another drill like this is planned for Fall. We may have our own simplex frequency this time in Lehigh County, which should make things a little easier. We may try another mode (possibly Dstar digital simplex) on a secondary frequency.

Emergency communications and our ability to provide something of this nature...a backup communications mode requiring no outside support of any kind, is a hallmark of amateur radio and a major (perhaps THE major) justification for our frequency allocation from the FCC.

Are You A Railroad Enthusiast?

You can listen to railroads and their operations on your scanner or HT. Here are the railroad frequencies for Lehigh, Berks and Carbon Counties.

Norfolk Southern

160.800 - NS Road ch 1
161.070 - NS Road ch 2
160.860 - NS Road ch 3
160.980 - NS Road ch 4



Reading and Northern

161.310 - RBMN ch 1
160.770 - RBMN ch 2
160.470 - RBMN ch 3
160.800 - RBMN ch 4

These two are the most active railroads. There are several others, but these will have the most traffic. - *de Chris (KC3MLI)*

2019 LVARC Test Session Dates



April 26 - Hanover Elementary

Sept. 20 - Hanover Elementary

May 17 - Hanover Elementary

Oct. 18 - Hanover Elementary

June 22 - LVARC Field Day Site
2-4p ONLY

Nov. 15 - Oct. 18 - Hanover Elementary

Dec. 20 - Oct. 18 - Hanover Elementary

Registration ON or BEFORE the Sunday before the test is necessary when testing at the school. To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call **610-428-4475**.

Operating Tip: "Q" signals are not used on VHF/UHF.



If you are interested in being "SkyWarn," trained and certified, go to

<https://www.weather.gov/phi/classes> to find a training session near you. TNX to Phil (KB3HMK) for this information.

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes

Date: March 5, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Bartos at 1935 Hrs. (EST).

The meeting was adjourned at 1938 to do the skype presentation. Chuck (W3CDY) made the motion and seconded by Tom (WW3TRG). Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

The meeting was called to order at 2010 after the skype presentation. Andy (AK3KA) and seconded by Rick (KC3EXO). Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

There were a total of 26 members in attendance, and the club was joined by no guests.

The following officers and Board Members were present at the meeting:

President - John Bartos	Present
Vice President - Chuck Ballard	Present
Treasurer - Paul Ryan	Present
Secretary - Phil Bigg	Present
Board Members: Myles Bodisch	Present
Mark Miller	Present
Rick Pearce	Present
Matt Kriebel	Present
Don Hoppes	Absent

Guests: No guests

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion to accept made by: Chuck – W3CDY

Seconded by: Myles – KB3ZMA

Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

The report was presented
Motion to accept made by: Walt (KE3SP)
Seconded by: Rick (KC3EXO)
Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: It was reported that there sounded like a humming noise on of the voters.

Program: Tonight's program is Bob Heil from Heil Sound. Next month will be Ed Fong from Ed's Antennas. Regina (N2RNA) will be in May

Volunteer Examiners: There was no one who wanted to test in February 2019. The next test session will be held on Friday March 15. There are two scheduled to test on that date.

ARES / RACES: The first ARES event of 2019 will be the Lehigh Valley Road Runner's Half Marathon on Sunday April 28, 2019. Volunteers are needed. About 15 operators are needed. Contact Mark (AK3M) to volunteer.

Club Station: In the past the club station has been open on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Due to low participation, we will open as needed. Contact John if interested in using the station.

The rest of the work needed for the trailer will be done when it gets warmer. At the board meeting, it was discussed about using the remaining balance in the Bruce Bobo fund to complete the trailer.

Communications: No complaints with the website. Paul is still tweaking things as needed.

Old Business: The is still planning on doing a field trip to the Makers movement facility when the weather is better and there is more daylight. Maybe in April. John will call Jared (N3GMP).

New Business: Club picnic will be July 20 with July 27 as a back up
The club made a donation to the Tri-Clover Fire Company for use of the facility.

Don (N0VGA) has resigned his position on the board. This is due to a work schedule change. The board appointed Rod (N3XG) to take his place for the remainder of the year.

Carl (AA3IX) donated 7 laptops from his job. The club will keep 4, two for the club station and two for the trailer. The club will decide what to do with the remaining laptops with Carl's approval.

There was a question about D-Star for the club. Any questions, please refer to Rod (N3XG).

This Saturday there will be a simplex net for Northampton and Lehigh Counties.

Good of the Order: Due to Don (N0VGA) working nights, Kenny (KB3BLE) is looking for transportation to and from the meeting. He lives in center city Allentown. If available to help, please contact Kenny. John suggested doing a signup sheet.

The dinner get together was held in February, everyone had a good time. It was suggested that the club try a new place to go. This will be looked into for next time.

The club received a QSL card from Croatia. This is from Field Day last year. There was discussion on how to send out QSL cards.

New member applicants:

Name: William M. Bigg Jr.

Callsign: KA3RBH

New Members motion to accept made by: Chuck (W3CDY)

Seconded by: Joe (KC3DKU)

Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2050 hrs. (EST.)

Motion to accept made by: Chuck (W3CDY)

Seconded by: Andy (AK3KA)

Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

FOR SALE

Fellow Amateur Radio Enthusiasts, I'm trying to help a "Silent Key's" family with eliminating the burden of selling some old amateur radio equipment. For those who love vintage stuff, (Hallicrafters and Heathkit), this may be for you. According to his daughter, the Hallicrafters is missing a small knob.

Contact Larry Miller (NR3R) at nr3r@ptd.net

***Hallicrafter SX110 about \$200**

***Heathkit HW-100 about \$150 and the power supply to go with it \$175 so \$325 for both.**

***Knight P2 meter \$15**

***Knight G30 meter (with the 4 coils) \$50**

***Johnson Low pass filter \$20**

***Eico Signal generator model 324 \$50**

***Sencore Handy 36 model RC144 \$50**

***The other item looks like part of a cannibalized radio with a transformer and power supply on it. \$10 for parts.**

