



# 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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## Officers

President: **John Bartos** - AB3LZ (e03145jab@gmail.com)  
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Secretary: **Phillip Bigg** - KB3HMK (philbert17@ptd.net)  
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**Rick Pearce** - KC3EXO (rickp.127@gmail.com)  
**Rod Wolfe** - N3XG (n3xg.radio@gmail.com)

**VOX Editor** - Mark S. Miller (AK3M) ---- (AK3M@rcn.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.)  
445.025 W3OI D-Star "B" module  
147.165 W3OI D-Star "C" module

## LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

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

* 147.735/147.135 (DCS 315) Automatic Mode Select. Analog * FM or YSF, Yaesu System Fusion),
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**Many club announcements will be heard there.**  
**ALL are welcome to check in!**

The **June LVARC meeting** will be on Tuesday June 4, 2019 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield at 7:30p local time.

The scheduled program includes, “Preparation for Field Day”

*Plan to attend!*

The LVARC holds it's monthly meetings on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield, Pennsylvania at 7:30p local time.

**FIELD DAY** this month! Attend the June 4 meeting to learn more.

**ANSWER** to the quiz from May's VOX.

“HI” in CW (.... ..) means (#2):

1. Go to HIGH power
2. “Laughing, funny, joking or kidding.”
3. Related to the operator's altitude
4. Send at a HIGHER speed



### **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](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) or call 610-428-4475.**

There will be **NO** test sessions at the school in June, July and August. Testing at Hanover Elementary will resume in September.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>JUNE</b>						1 <b>Hanover Township 5K</b> 
2	3 <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b>	4 <b>LVARC Meeting 7:30p</b>	5	6	7	8
9	10 <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b>	11	12	13	14	15
16 <i>Father's Day</i>	17 <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b>	18	19	20	21	22 <b>Testing 2-4p</b> 2019 June 22 - 23 <b>AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY</b> 
23 2019 June 22 - 23 <b>AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY</b> 	24 <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b>	25	26	27	28	29 <b>Red Cross Drill</b>
30	<b>2019</b>					

**It's A Date!** The LVARC annual picnic will be held on July 20, 2019.

**Mark your calendar!**



There will be **Walk-In testing at the LVARC Field Day site (Saturday June 22) from 2:00p to 4:00p.** If you want to test, you will need to take a **COPY** of your license, **\$15.00 EXACT CASH** and **PROOF** of ID. There will **NO** test session at Hanover Elementary School in June, July and August.

## 2019 ARES Event Schedule

*(Mark your calendar as volunteers are needed)*

**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 Twnsp.**



*(Contact Mark (AK3M) to volunteer) - [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com)*

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### Upcoming 2019 LVARC Programs

**June 4** - Preparation and planning for Field Day 2019.

**June 22 - 23** - Field Day

**July 2** - Quartzfest (Al Wiemann - W3CE)

**August 6** - Ionizing Radiation (Check Ballard (W3CDY) & John  
Bartos (AB3LZ))

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### 2019 LVARC Test Session Dates



**June 22 - LVARC Field Day Site ONLY (2p - 4p).**

Sept. 20 - Hanover Elementary

Oct. 18 - Hanover Elementary

Nov. 15 - Hanover Elementary

Dec. 20 - Oct. 18 - Hanover Elementary

There will be **NO** test session at Hanover  
Elementary School in June. July or August.



The second ARES event of 2019 will be the **Hanover Township Spring 5K** and will be held on **Saturday June 1, 2019**. The start time is 0900. About 10 operators will be needed.

This is a nice event as it runs through the residential neighborhoods of Hanover Township (Northampton County). Stations are usually released about 1030-1100.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** If you would like to use your skills and equipment to help with this event, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).

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### **Directions to the 2019 LVARC Field Day Site**

1. From Route 22, take Rte. 309 North
2. Turn **RIGHT** onto Huckleberry Road
3. Turn **RIGHT** onto Brickyard Road
4. Drive to end of Brickyard Rd.



**1900 Brickyard Rd. Allentown, PA**

*Please remember that the railroad tracks are active and unguarded. STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.*

**The first ARRL Field Day was held in 1933. 86 years ago this year!**

**What IS Field Day?** This question is for both new and old hams. Some see Field Day as a **contest** where points are scored for making contacts. Others see it as **an emergency exercise/drill** as non-commercial power and portable antennas are used. No matter how you view Field Day, it is a wonderful way to spend a weekend with fellow hams and a terrific hobby!

**Attend the June 4th meeting to find out more about the LVARC's 2019 Field Day plans.**



If you plan to attend Field Day, you may want to take your creature comforts like a folding chair, sunglasses, appropriate weather gear, etc. Although there will be food at FD, you may want to take snacks for yourself and others. If you plan to stay overnight, you may want to take whatever gear you may need like a flashlight, sleeping bag, change of clothes etc.

### **Field Day Volunteers Are Needed**

People are needed to help set up (Saturday June 22) and/or tear down at Field Day (Sunday June 23).

***Volunteer to help at the June 4 meeting.***



The plan, as of this newsletter, is to have the LVARC **Communications trailer** finished and ready to debut at Field Day 2019!

Be one of the first to operate from the trailer.

***Come out and see the LVARC's newest addition!***

***TV gives everyone an image, but radio gives birth to a million images in a million brains. -- Peggy Noonan***



## Straight Key Century Club



There seems to be a CW theme in the past few issues of the VOX. Here is another one. Larry (NR3R) has become a member of the **Straight Key Century Club (SKCC)**.

This club promotes CW on the ham bands at any speed **using a straight key only**.

To find out more about this organization, go to: <https://skccgroup.com>. You can also view a video at: <https://youtu.be/2s1Qe5vOfpg>.

*What a great way to expand your ham radio experience!*

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## 2019 Field Day Supplies

For Field Day 2019 supplies, go to: <https://www.arrl.org/shop/Field-Day/>. Here you can order shirts, mugs, caps, pins and more.



## Amateur Radio in Space Pioneer Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, SK

<http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-in-space-pioneer-astronaut-owen-garriott-w5lfl-sk>



## Frequency Counter **AND** Power Meter

An inexpensive hand held frequency counter at Amazon for under \$40.00 (\$38.25). This unit (**GY561**) boasts the ability to determine a transmitter's frequency **AND** output power. The frequency range is 1MHz to 240MHz.



Confirm the frequency and power output (with cable connected for power) of your HT, mobile radio or any other nearby VHF/UHF/HF transmitter.

A great addition to your radio shack or to keep in your, "Go Bag."

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### Estate Sale Still Has Items Left

Hello, Fellow Amateur Radio Enthusiasts,

I'm trying to help a "Silent Key" family in eliminating the burden of selling some old amateur radio equipment. For those that love vintage stuff, Hallicrafters and Heathkit this may be for you. Pictures on request: All work (according to his daughter) the Hallicrafters is missing a small knob.

\*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.

Contact

Larry Miller  
nr3r@ptd.net





**Do you have a  
fire extinguisher  
in your shack?**

Do you have one in your car? The one in your car could not only help you but you could also help another vehicle.

A fire extinguisher is cheap fire prevention insurance and can be purchased at all hardware stores.

An **ABC** version will handle **(A)** wood and trash. **(B)** liquids and **(C)** electrical fires.



**Available at CafePress - \$14.99**

There are other Ham Radio related items at CafePress.

Visit: [https://  
www.amazon.com/gp/  
product/B00MOQ3GV8?  
ref=em\\_1p\\_1\\_im&ref=pe  
\\_4670220\\_407070820](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00MOQ3GV8?ref=em_1p_1_im&ref=pe_4670220_407070820)



At the April 26, 2019 test session, one tested and one passed at the April 26, 2019 test session.

**CONGRATULATIONS to Steven Lantosh!** Steven earned his Technician license at that session.

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

**A**lthough there will be no regular third Friday of the month test session at the school in June, July and August, there will be **Walk-In testing at the LVARC Field Day site** on Saturday (June 22) from 2:00p to 4:00p.



**T**his is YOUR newsletter. Send your submission(s) to Mark (AK3M). The VOX is meant to be informative and entertaining.

## 2019 St. Luke's Half Marathon A Big Success! - de AK3M

The St. Luke's Half Marathon was held on Sunday April 28, 2019. This event was the first LVARC ARES event of 2019. Twenty LVARC members turned out to provide communications support for this 13+ mile event!

The day began as very cool and overcast, later to change to rain finally ending about an hour before the end of the run. About 1,300 runners participated in this run.

There were three firsts for this event. First, Chris (N3RPV) was aboard the, "Sag Wagon," for easy deployment for those runners who could not finish but were not candidates for EMS service. Second, Allentown Police and EMS services asked for **OUR** operating frequency so they could monitor amateur radio communications. As it turned out, I even went to their command vehicle and operated Net Control from there! And last, Mike (KC3BLF) instituted APRS technology. This event, as all the events, transforms and revises needs with every event.

A directed net was initiated at 0802 and closed at 1124. There is a time limit on services as the closed streets, reopen after three hours. There were three EMS related incidents which were handled effectively and quickly because of our operators. EMS command was informed and these cases were resolved in minutes.

A big TNX to, **Larry** (NR3R), **Dan** (KC3HWD), **Bob** (WB3JSZ), **Mike** (KC3BLF), **Nick** (KC3EKC), **Andy** (AK3KA), **Tom** (KB3YWK), **Jim** (KC3FBK), **Paul** (N0KIA), **Fred** (WW3BOW), **Randy** (N3ET), **Paul** (KA3MTY), **Kenny** (KC3BLE), **Sue** (AC3DR), **Phil** (KB3HMK), **Roy** (W0ROY), **Barb** (KK6RUA), **Steve** (KS3RO) and **Chris** (N3RPV).

Without volunteer operators, this and other ARES events could not happen. On the following pages, are pictures of the event submitted by LVARC operators from their positions.



NCS  
courtesy  
Mark  
(AK3M)





Photos courtesy of  
Fred (WW3BOW)





Photos  
courtesy of  
Steve  
(KS3RO)



**Photos courtesy of Paul (N0KIA)**



**Photos courtesy of Mike (KC3BLF)**





Photos courtesy  
of Dan (KC3HWD)





## D-Star Reflector News

de Dave (KC3BFO)

**READR SUBMISSION**

LVARC Members,

Over the past few months there have been several important changes to D-Star Reflector 020. <http://ref020.dstargateway.org>

One of the positive changes affecting us here in the Lehigh Valley is that we have arranged the reflectors "B" module to be assigned to primary use for Eastern PA operators.

Reflector 020 A (20 Alpha) will continue to serve NJ /NY and all wide area linking. The Monday night D-Star Net will continue on 20 Alpha at its usual time of 8 pm.

The reflector, basically a computer that ties repeaters together, is open to all properly licensed operators.

Currently the only repeater linked to the reflector is the W3OI "C" (2 Meter) repeater. We have hopes of having both W3OK and AA3E come aboard in the future.

The reason for quasi dedicating 20 Bravo is that at peak usage times, 20 Alpha gets very robust, NJ/NY local traffic and makes it tougher on PA users to get in.

Also New - Reflector 20 Alpha is now connected, full time, to the Windows and Android "Peanut application".

Simply select XRF020C from the drop down box in the Peanut application.

We could have a link to 20 Bravo if we find there is sufficient use of the reflector to warrant the implementation.



## When All Else Fails

de Gary (W3GRD)

READR SUBMISSION

From my friend Walt Skavinsky:

Had a wonderful hike on the AT Sunday. Unfortunately one our party had a medical emergency and we needed help to get him the remaining two miles to the trail head. The initial call to emergency services went out via cell phone but location finding and status messages were sent via Amateur Radio. Luckily one of the emergency services workers had an amateur license. We gave status updates to him while EMS hiked to our location. Our exact position was known because my radio beacons via the Amateur Radio APRS system which allows for my exact location to be know and show on a map available from the Internet.

The dauphin county emergency services EMS and firefigths were outstanding and despite rain and 48 degree weather they carried on!!

My friend was hospitalized and all is now well!

Thanks to the emergency services and Amateur radio ... ***when all else fails!***

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## ARES Vests - de Mark (AK3M)

ARES season is here and if you plan to volunteer your time for one or more events, you may have heard that you have to wear a vest. Please be advised that there is **NO specific dress necessary**. All you need is your LVARC ID but a reflective vest **IS** helpful for two reasons. First, it helps event participants identify you as a source for help. Second, many vests have pockets which help you stow and carry your radio and gear.



If you plan to get a vest, there are several sources depending on how much you want to spend and what options you choose. You can get an inexpensive reflective vest from Harbor Freight (<https://www.harborfreight.com/reflective-safety-vest-large-94701.html>), you can get one from the ARRL store (<https://www.arrl.org/shop/ARES-Deployment-Vest-Mesh>) or you can perform an internet search using, “reflective vest,” (or similar), as search text. Many operators seem to prefer yellow but that is a personal choice. Orange can also be used.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Steven Lantosh** who received his call on May 2, 2019. Steven tested at the April 26, 2019 test session and earned his Technician license. Welcome **KC3NKL** when you hear him on the air! *Enjoy the hobby Steven!*

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## **RED CROSS DRILL**

In June and July, the Red Cross will be having a, "Pre Shelter Training" exercise. The LVARC has been invited to participate. The scenario includes, "***DIRECT IMPACT- CAT 4 Hurricane hits the Lehigh Valley causing flooding, power outages and major damage from downed trees.***"



The dates and times (all local) of this drill will be:

**Saturday - June 29, 2019 at 8:30a - 1200p**

**Monday evening - July 22, 2019 at 6:00p - 10:00p**

**Tuesday morning - July 23, 2019 at 8:30a - 12:30p**

For more information about this event, contact Mike (KC3BLF) at [mikemandell@hotmail.com](mailto:mikemandell@hotmail.com) or talk to Mike on the Monday Night Net.

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**L**assie's trainer was named **Ruddell Bird "Rudd" Weatherwax**, (yes, that is his real name)!



**W**hat do **Barbara Eden, Hall & Oats, Tony Bennett, Winston Churchill, Bob Hope, Billy Joel, Doris Day, Henry Winkler, Ozzie & Harriett Nelson, John Ratzenberger, Yo-Yo Ma, Jonathan Frakes, JFK, Bill Clinton, Seth Meyers, Amelia Earhart** (and more celebrities) have in common?

*Look for the answer in the July issue of the VOX.*

## The LVARC Event Summary

June 1 - Hanover Township Spring 5K

June 3 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

June 4 - LVARC meeting at 7:30p at the Tri-Clover F.C.

June 10 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

June 17 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

*\*June 18 - LVARC radio shack open*

June 22 - Field Day and Walk In testing from 2:00p - 4:00p

June 23 - Field Day

June 24 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

June 29 - Red Cross drill (8:30a - 12:30p)

July 1 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

July 2 - LVARC meeting at 7:30p at the Tri-Clover F.C.

July 8 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

July 15 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

*\*July 16 - LVARC radio shack open*

July 22 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

July 22 - Red Cross drill (6:00p - 10:00p)

July 23 - Red Cross drill (8:30a - 12:30p)

July 29 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940



August 5 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

August 6 - LVARC meeting at 7:30p at the Tri-Clover F.C.

August 12 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

August 19 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

*\*August 20 - LVARC radio shack open*

August 26 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

September 2 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

September 3 - LVARC meeting at 7:30p at the Tri-Clover F.C.

September 8 - VIA Marathon

September 9 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

September 16 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

*\*September 17 - LVARC radio shack open*

September 20 - Test session at Hanover Elementary (6:30p)

September 23 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

September 30 - Monday Night LVARC Net - 7:30p 146.940

*\* The LVARC radio shack is open on the third Tuesday of the month **ONLY AFTER CONTACTING JOHN (AB3LZ) at [e03145jab@gmail.com](mailto:e03145jab@gmail.com)**.*

# Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes

Date: May 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ballard 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 24 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 1 guest.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

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

**Guests:** Paul Derr – W3ROH

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion to accept made by: Rick – KC3EXO

Seconded by: Carl – AA3IX

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

## **Treasurer's Report** (Paul - N0KIA)

The report was presented

Motion to accept made by: Dan – KC3HWD

Seconded by: Walt – KE3SP

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

Paul filed a 990N for the clubs 2018 income taxes.

Committee Reports:

**Repeater:** No known issues

**Program:** Tonight will be a skype presentation by Bob Heil (K9EID). Next month the Myles will be discussing the details for Field Day.

**Volunteer Examiners:** At the April. 26, 2019 test session, one tested and one passed. Congratulations to Steven Lantosh who earned his Technician license. Steven received his call on May 2, 2019. CONGRATULATIONS to KC3NKL. VE's in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP) and Mike (KC3BLF). The next test session will be at the school on **THURSDAY** May 23.

There will be no test sessions at the school in June, July and August. There WILL be a Walk-In test session at the LVARC Field Day site on Saturday June 22 from 2:00p to 4:00p (local time). Testing at Hanover Elementary School will resume the third Friday of the month in September on Friday September 20, 2019.

**ARES / RACES:** The first ARES event of the 2019 year was held on Sunday April 28, 2019. The St. Luke's Half Marathon was a big success. Twenty LVARC operators turned out to provide communications support for this event. The next ARES event will be the Hanover Township (Northampton County) Spring 5K. About ten operators are needed for that event. Additional ARES events are listed in the VOX.

**Club Station:** Nothing new for the club station. The club is wants to get the trailer up and running. More info to follow.

**Communications:** No report

**Old Business:** One of the computers that was donated by Carl (AA3IX) and St. Luke's will be auctioned off tonight.

The picnic is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Upper Macungie Park. Don will send out a survey to the members. More info to follow.

If you ordered an Ed Fong antenna, they are here. See Chuck to pay for them.

**New Business:** The club would like to create a committee to oversee the computers that were donated. Paul will head the committee. Contact Paul if interested. He will also have a hands on night on May 21 at 730 PM.

Tri-Clover Fire Co. will be holding a First Responder Day in June the week after Field Day. The fire company asked the club to participate in the event. It's during the week from 9 to 3. More info to follow. There will be a simulated disaster drill on June 29 and July 22-23. More info to follow.

The club would like to look into getting club shirts. Paul had some for display. The members expressed an interest in polo shirts. Dan (KC3HWD) volunteered to get more info on the shirts.

Tom (WW3TRG) said the Boy Scouts will be doing a radio merit badge on June 8. He will demonstrate amateur radio to the scouts. If you're listening to the



repeaters that and hear the scouts, it would be great to respond back to them. The event is from 9-12 and it will be at 2718 Blue Mountain Dr.

**Good of the Order:** There will be a hamfest on July 13 in Phoenixville. More info will be in the upcoming newsletter.

Chuck asked for a volunteer to bring refreshments for next month's meeting. Bill (KA3RBH) volunteered after the meeting.

Don Jacobs (N3HVL) renewed his club dues.

There was discussion on the Penn Link Group (Phase 3) that is supposed to be able to link all digital modes together. There will be a write up in the newsletter.

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2003 hrs. (EST.)

Motion to accept made by: Don – N0VGA

Seconded by: Dave – W3AMC

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

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary

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## The ARRL ARES Initiating New Volunteer Reporting Format



The ARRL is beginning to initiate a new ARES event reporting system called **ARES CONNECT**. Volunteers who participate in ARES events will eventually have to set up an account and register using the new format. More on this as it evolves.



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### 2019 LVARC Field Day In Review

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

1. LVARC Field Day is June 22-23
2. Walk-In testing is on June 22 from 2:00p - 4:00p (Fee is \$15.00 EXACT CASH).
3. Address to the FD site is: **1900 Brickyard Rd. Allentown, PA**
4. Set up time is 10:00a (local)
5. Set up and tear down help is needed
6. Take a folding chair
7. Field Day is *Rain Or Shine*
8. Take food to eat and share
9. **COME AND HELP SET UP, OPERATE, EAT AND ENJOY!**

