



# The VOX



The Official *On-Line* Newsletter of the

*Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club* - W3OI / KB3SYV  
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA

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## 2020 Officers

President: **Myles Bodisch** - KB3ZMA (KB3ZMA@gmail.com)

Vice President: **Jeff Bauer** - WA3PNY (BAUERJV@MAC.COM)

Secretary: **Phillip Bigg** - KB3HMK (philbert17@ptd.net)

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

## 2020 Board of Governors

**John Bartos** - AB3LZ (e03145jab@gmail.com)

**Mark Miller** - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.com)

**Steve Olock** - KS3RO (solock@gmail.com)

**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.**

- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* 147.735/147.135 (DCS 315)</li><li>Automatic Mode Select. Analog</li><li>* FM or YSF, Yaesu System Fusion),</li></ul> |
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The **December** LVARC “**Virtual Meeting**” will be held on **Tuesday December 1, 2020** using **ZOOM** at **7:30p** (local time).

The scheduled program: “**Packet Radio**” - Regina (N2RNA)

**Plan to attend this “Virtual Meeting”**

The LVARC holds it's monthly meetings on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of every month On Line using **ZOOM** at **7:30p** Eastern time until further notice.

### **LVARC TEST SESSIONS**

The LVARC has had to change its test session schedule due to Covid. Test sessions will be scheduled when 8-10 applicants are on the waiting list.

Contact Mark Miller (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) for details.

### **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

If you have questions, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com)

### **December 2020 LVARC Program**

**December 1** - “**Packet Radio**” - Regina (N2RNA)

**Note:** — Programs or topics are subject to change.





During the Christmas buying season, Visa cards alone are used an average of 5,340 times every minute in the U.S.



*Track  
Santa  
Clause*



Track Santa's world trip on Christmas Eve with your children or grandchildren. Go to: <https://www.noradsanta.org>.



***"Our city's vast and complex communications system, is indebted to the many trained amateur radio volunteers, who are efficient and dependable and lend a much needed hand in times of crisis or disaster. They are an invaluable part of our city's communication network..." — The Hon. Rudolph Giuliani***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>December</div>		1 <div>LVARC Meeting 7:30p via ZOOM</div>	2	3 <div>D-Star Net 7:00p</div>	4	5
6	7 <div>LVARC Net 7:30p AK3M</div>	8	9	10 <div>D-Star Net 7:00p</div>	11	12
				<div>Hanukkah</div>		
13	14 <div>LVARC Net 7:30p KC3AFU</div>	15 <div>LVARC Activity Night via ZOOM 7:30p</div>	16	17 <div>D-Star Net 7:00p</div>	18	19
<div>Hanukkah</div>						
20	21 <div>LVARC Net 7:30p KB3UZE</div>	22	23	24 <div>D-Star Net 7:00p Christmas Eve</div>	25 <div> Christmas Day</div>	26
27	28 <div>LVARC Net 7:30p N3XG</div>	29	30	31 <div>D-Star Net 7:00p New Year's Eve</div>	<div>2020</div>	

## 2021 Dues are Now Being Accepted

**2021 dues are now due** and can be paid:

- (1) via U.S. mail or
- (2) online from the W3OI website via Pay Pal.



Individual: **\$20.00**  
Family: **\$25.00**  
Student: **\$15.00**



U.S. mail checks to:

**Paul Ryan**  
**(N0KIA)**  
**5814 Lindbergh St,**  
**Orefield, PA, 18069**



**Will Rudolph be able to use his  
red nose this year?**



**Yes! I am running just 4 watts, although I suppose I  
do have an above average antenna system.**



## 2021 LVARC Officer and Board Candidate Nominees

Below is the list of LVARC members running for the 2021 Board. Officers are unopposed.

**Vote for 5 Board members.**

### Officers

**President:** Myles Bodish (KB3ZMA) - Unopposed

**Treasurer:** Paul Ryan (N0KIA) - Unopposed

**V.P.** Jeff Bauer (WA3PNY) - Unopposed

**Secretary:** Phil Bigg (KB3HMK) - Unopposed

**VOTE**

### Board of Governors (Vote for 5)

Matthew Kriebel (KB3UZE)

Tom Gyory (WW3TRG)

John Bartos (AB3LZ)

Dan Longo (KC3HWD)

Chuck Ballard (W3CDY)

Steve Olock (KS3RO)

Rod Wolfe (N3XG)

Rick Pearce (KC3EXO)

Mark Miller (AK3M)

**\*Five will be elected for the board\***

*Voting will take place electronically.*

*See your email from Paul on voting.*



*The act of snapping one's fingers is called a "flip."*

## 2020 ARES & VE Reports

### (A 2020 Review)

#### 2020 ARES Report

Due to COVID 19, **NO** ARES events were held in 2020. The LVARC ARES program provided no communications support for community events this year.

#### 2020 VE Report

Because of COVID 19, the LVARC was unable to use Hanover Elementary School as a test site since March, 2020. The LVARC held 5 total test sessions in 2020. Hanover Elementary was used for the January and February test sessions and the club meeting site at the TCFC was used for the June, September and November test sessions.

The following dates and number tested for 2020 are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number tested</u>	<u>Site</u>
January 17 _____	6 _____	Hanover Elementary
February 21 _____	4 _____	Hanover Elementary
June 26 _____	12 _____	TCFC
September 18 _____	15 _____	TCFC
November 13 _____	8 _____	TCFC

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**Total tested in 2020 — 45** (In 2018, **21** were tested and in 2019, **12** were tested)

**Nine** different LVARC VEs helped out in 2020. They include **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Mike** (KC3BLF), **Carl** (AA3IX), **Larry** (NR3R), **Doug** (N3WGH), **Rod** (N3XG), **Don** (N0VGA) and **John** (AB3LZ). Also, TNX to **Don** (N3HVL) for arranging the TCFC room when requested and **Paul** (N0KIA) who both were available for opening and closing the building.



*Ham radio gear and accessories  
make great holiday gifts!*

**(See Santa about your Ham radio gift list)**



***Don't forget to keep your address current with the FCC.***  
*If your current address is not what is on the FCC website, it should be updated.*



## **The LVARC Welcomes Two New Members**

At the November 3 meeting, LVARC members approved the applications for membership for:

**Mark Watson** (KA3TGJ)  
and  
**Tim Singles** (KC3QBI)

***Welcome them to the club and the hobby  
when you hear them on the air!***



**Do you know this famous ham?**

(See page 9)



*If you get something ham radio related  
for Christmas, share it with the LVARC.  
Send a picture and caption about your  
gift to AK3M for inclusion in the VOX.*





### **Yaesu FT-450D 100 Watt HF/50 MHz Transceiver with built in Antenna Tuner**

- \* Original owner, bought new at HRO - December 2014 for a use as a secondary radio.
- \* Very good condition including the box.
- \* Non - smoking household.
- \* Try before buy, willing to meet you at a designated location in Macungie to examine and power up the radio.
- \* As is \$375.00 firm - cash or paypal.
- \* Contact: Doug McNair at [dgmcnair@amalgamated.org](mailto:dgmcnair@amalgamated.org)
- \* Phone: 610.965.4011



### **Famous Ham** (See page 8)

This is **Joe Walsh (WB6ACU)**

Joe was a member of three successful rock bands: James Gang, Eagles, and Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band. To see a short video of Joe's shack and equipment, go to: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe\\_Walsh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_Walsh) .



# "The Night Before Christmas," Ham Radio-style

*(Read Clement C. Moore's original to the kids. Read the following for yourself)*

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the town,  
The snowstorm was raging, the phone lines were down;  
The wind it did howl, the tree limbs did crack,  
I hope that St. Nick isn't forced to turn back.  
The wife making cookies, the kids making noise,  
While away in the shack, by my rig I was poised.  
The finals were glowing, the mike gain was set,  
I was chasing DX to see what I could get.  
The bands were all empty, the frequencies clear,  
Except one lone station that sounded quite near.  
He was calling CQ and my interest did pique,  
When he ended transmission with the words,  
"Old St. Nick".  
I answered back quickly, I used great dispatch,  
If this were St. Nicholas, good God, what a catch!  
We exchanged information, it was really quite graphic,  
Then he came back and said,  
"I've emergency traffic!"  
His reindeer were tired, his elves in a grump,  
If he didn't land soon, then his sleigh he would dump.  
I thought very carefully, I thought very hard,  
Then I gave him directions to my snow covered yard.  
As he flew past my window, his hair like a mane,  
He reined in his chargers and called them by name:  
"Whoa, Anode! Whoa, Cathode! Whoa, Zener! Whoa, Diode!  
Stop, Heater! Stop, Grid leak! Stop, Bias! Stop, Triode!  
You're flying too low! you're flying too fast!  
Look out, you dumb reindeer, his antenna mast!"  
So into the backyard the reindeer did drop,  
St. Nick, the elves, and the sleigh went kerplop!  
Then at the back door, I heard this loud knocking,  
"Open up in there, or I won't fill your stocking!"  
As I turned off the light and was leaving the shack,  
Into the house Saint Nicholas came from the back--  
His two-meter rig held to his hip with a strap,  
"Hams do it in the shack" on the front of his cap.

The sack that he carried made his aged brow furrow,  
And he handed me a card that read,  
"QSL Via Bureau".  
His clothes were all sooty, from his shoes to his vest;  
I felt like a novice taking his test.  
His fingers were calloused and from what I could tell,  
This came from a straight key that I'll bet he used well.  
I offered him coffee, I offered him smokes,  
I tried easing the tension by telling ham jokes.  
Then he nodded his head and raised up his thumb,  
He smiled like an Elmer, did I ever feel dumb.  
He grabbed up his sack and went straight for the tree,  
And placed in it a large present for me.  
When he finished his work, he stood up, took a bow,  
Then out the back door to his team he did plow.  
But I heard him exclaim as he flew o'er the land,  
"Beware the FCC, friend, we were both out of band!"



Want to see this  
beside your name?



READER SUBMISSION

Send your VOX submission to Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).



### November 2020 VE Report

At the November 13, 2020 test session, 8 tested and 7 passed.

**Congratulations** to **Jonathan Graham** (General), **Travis Brennan** (Extra), **Alex Artau** (Tech), **Erin Banta** (Tech), **Larry Banta** (Tech), **Lukas Medvecky** (Tech) and **Jason Medina** (Tech).

VEs in attendance included **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Larry** (NR3R), **Don** (NOVGA) and **Doug** (N3WGH).

The next test session is to be announced.

## Christmas Trivia:

**Question:** The movie *Miracle on 34th Street* is based on a real-life department store. What is it?

**Answer:** Macy's



## HANUKKAH TRIVIA

**Question:** The word Hanukkah means?

**Answer:** Dedication



## Welcome New Hams!

Those who tested at the Friday November 13, 2020 LVARC test session, received their calls on Tuesday November 24, just in time for Thanksgiving.

## CONGRATULATIONS to:

Jason Medina ( <b>KC3QOU</b> ) - T	Lukas Medvecky ( <b>KC3QOY</b> ) - T
Erin Banta ( <b>KC3QOV</b> ) - T	Jonathan Graham ( <b>KC3QOZ</b> ) - G
Larry Banta ( <b>KC3QOW</b> ) - T	Travis Brennan ( <b>AC3GS</b> ) - E
Alexander Artau ( <b>KC3QOX</b> ) - T	

***Welcome them to the hobby when you hear them on the air.***



## AcuRite Jumbo Rain Gauge Review

I came across this rain gauge by AcuRite at WalMart. The cost is only \$10. I feel this is the best rain gauge I've come across. Below is a description of it. The picture below is how I have it mounted on a tripod.

**AcuRite jumbo rain gauge** lets you easily and consistently measure rainwater from approximately sixty feet away. The rain gauge features a removable funnel to make clearing debris simple. The easy to install rain gauge includes a mounting bracket for a hassle-free set-up. Limited one-year warranty.

- Easy Installation - Mounting Bracket Included
- High Visibility - Reads up to Sixty Feet Away with a Floating Indicator
- Easy to Mount - Hangs on Any Fence or Deck
- Removable Funnel - Make Cleaning Debris Simple



READER SUBMISSION

de Phil (KB3HMK)



# Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes

Date: November 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Bodisch at 1932 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 15 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 3 guests.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

President – Myles Bodisch	Present
Vice President – Jeff Bauer	Present
Treasurer - Paul Ryan	Present
Secretary - Phil Bigg	Present
Board Members: John Bartos	Present
Mark Miller	Present
Rick Pearce	Present
Steve Olock	Present
Rod Wolfe	Absent

**Guests:** Phillip Gaffney, Tim Singles and Mark Watson

**Corrections additions to the minutes:** None noted

Motion to accept made by: John – AB3LZ

Seconded by: Chuck – W3CDY

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

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

The report was presented

Motion to accept made by: Rick – KC3EXO

Seconded by: Chuck – W3CDY

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

**Committee Reports:**

Repeater: No issues to report. Contact Rod (N3XG) or a board member for any issues.

**Program:** Tonight's program will Be Mike (KC3BLF). He will be doing a presentation on "Using Digital Modes for EmComm"

**Volunteer Examiners:** There will be a test session at the Tri-Clover Fire Company on Friday November 13 at 6:00p. At this date (11/2/20), thirteen people are scheduled to test at that session.

**ARES / RACES:** Nothing to report.

**Club Station / Trailer:** Myles, Steve, Rick and John have a plan to get the trailer finished. Some of the cable was run for power. John showed some pictures of the work done. The chairs that were donated for the trailer will need to be replaced soon. There are some that are wearing out. John will look into new ones.

**Communications:** No issues at this time

Old Business: Myles is still accepting nominations for the Pres Schuler award. Please give a brief summary why the member should be nominated for the award. You can contact Myles at kb3zma@gmail.com.

The presentation schedule for next year is half full. Anyone who wants to do a presentation or has a suggestion, let Myles know.

Voting for this year will be done digitally. There will be a link to vote. You can vote only once. An e-mail will be sent out with the link to vote. Deadline to vote is the morning of December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Myles asked for a motion to reopen nominations for the 2021 Officers and Board of Governors. A motion was made by Bob (KC3OVG) and seconded by Rick (KC3EXO). The motion passed. Myles then asked for nominations for the following positions.

President – No new nominations

Vice President – No new nominations

Treasurer – No new nominations

Secretary – No new nominations

Board of Governors – Chuck (W3CDY) Accepts

Myles then asked the secretary to make a vote to declare all unopposed nominations elected. The secretary casted the vote. Myles then asked for motion to close nominations for 2021 Officers and Board of Governors. A motion was made by John (AB3LZ) and seconded by Chuck (W3CDY). The motion passed.

**New Business:** There will be no Christmas party this year due to pandemic.

The club will look at renewing our equipment insurance. Will look at what we have insured and to check the list to make sure it's correct. There was discussion about the equipment in the trailer and how that equipment is insured.

Myles will check to see what coverage the towing vehicle has and what else is insured.

Jay Wilson (KC3EJY) helped Fernley Palmer Jr. (WA3CCB) get rid of his ham equipment by selling it at hamfests and other ways. Jay made a \$100 donation to the club from the sales the he made.

Paul suggested we form a committee to look at investing some of the money the club has. Myles suggested doing this at a board meeting. He said if anyone is interested in being on the committee, to contact him.

There were two applications for membership. Both were voted on and accepted. Info below.

**Good of the Order:** There is information on the homepage of the website for getting your Flu Shot.

If you paid your dues for next year, there will be an asterisk next to your name on the website in the list of members.

The Hands on Night videos are listed on the website under club info.

November 16 is the deadline to voice your opinion about the proposed \$50 fee that the FCC wants to charge for amateur radio licenses. Members are encouraged to get on and let them know were not happy about it.

**Sick Report:** Nothing to report

**New member applicants:**

Name: **Mark Watson**

Callsign: **KA3TGJ**

Motion to accept made by: Chuck (W3CDY)

Seconded by: Bob (KC3OVG)

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

Name: **Tim Singles**

Callsign: No **Callsign**

Motion to accept made by: Jeff (WA3PNY)

Seconded by: Chuck (W3CDY)

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

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2034 hrs. (EST.)

Motion to accept made by: Doug (N3WGH)

Seconded by: Chuck (W3CDY)

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

*Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.*

## The LVARC In QST!

Two items in the December 2020 issue of QST are related to the LVARC.



Last month, Larry's (NR3R) 30 WPM CW achievement was posted. On page 83 of the December 2020 issue of QST, is the official *Certificate of Code Proficiency* showing his skill.



On page 74 of the December 2020 issue of QST is the LVARC's 2020 Field Day score submission. It shows that the LVARC had a total score of 2,507 contacts with 13 people submitting.

Lehigh Valley ARC 2,507 13



## The New "Q" Codes

READER SUBMISSION

New Q Codes for Current Times	
QLD	I am locked down.
QUA	I am quarantined.
QPD	I am in the middle of a pandemic.
QTP	I have toilet paper. Want to trade for a new car?
QHG	I need a hug.
QSH	I am sheltering at home.
QHS	I have hand sanitizer. Want to trade for two new cars?
QSD	I am observing social distancing.
QCV!	I hate Coronavirus.
QWE	Wash your Hands
QWH?	Did you Wash your Hands?
QSS	Stay Safe

Submitted  
by  
Frank  
(W3FTU)

TNX to Dave (WG4K)



## Give A Ways and Items for Sale

**Myles is having a *giveaway*  
at the December meeting.**

**Be sure to attend!**



### For sale:

Yaesu FT-840  
MFJ -935 tuner  
Vectronics paddle  
J8 type straight key  
Homebrew tuner  
\$275 sold as a package

Contact Myles KB3ZMA  
[KB3ZMA@gmail.com](mailto:KB3ZMA@gmail.com)



**Yaesu  
FT-840**



**Vectronics paddle  
J8 type straight key**



**Homebrew tuner and MFJ -935 tuner**

**NOTICE:** The K3ALG repeater (448.625) in Palmerton  
is now the **W3NTT** repeater.



## 10 *Takeaways from this VOX*



1. **The December LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM on Tuesday December 1 at 7:30p.**
2. Voting for 2021 BOG members URL
3. **2021 dues now due.**
4. Track Santa on Christmas Eve.
5. Information about LVARC test sessions.
6. 2020 ARES & VE review.
7. New LVARC members.
8. Another successful test session in November.
9. For sale
10. The LVARC in QST



*The officers and board of the Lehigh Valley  
Amateur Radio Club wish all Happy Holidays!*