

# The VOX



The Official On-Line Newsletter of the

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

### **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)

### **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),

Many club announcements will be heard there

The July LVARC "Virtual Meeting" will be on <u>Tuesday</u> July 7, 2020 using **ZOOM** at 7:30p (local time).

The scheduled program, "Satellite Communications" - Jeff (WA3PNY)

Plan to attend this "Virtual Meeting"

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

## **LVARC TEST SESSIONS**

As of Friday June 26, 2020, PA's, "Stay at Home," orders are canceled. Gatherings or 250 or less are allowed. The LVARC offers limited testing. Contact Mark (AK3M) for more information.

## **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

If you have questions, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com

## **July 2020 LVARC Program**

July 7 - Satellite Communications - de Jeff (WA3PNY)

**Note:** — Programs or topics are subject to change. Listen to the Monday Night Net for any changes.



You think staying home and getting a DYI haircut is tough on **you**? Think of how he feels!



## **2020 ARES Events (Not yet CANCELED or CHANGED)**





October 3 (Saturday) — Women's 5K Classic - On site time: 0800

November 1 (Sunday) —- Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk -- On site time: 0800 . Rod will have that information

The LVARC radio shack is **NOT** yet open on the third Tuesday of the month in order to follow CDC/PA recommendations to protect LVARC members. This in effect until further notice.

## **Proposed 2020 LVARC Programs**

July	Jeff Bauer (WA3PNY)	Satellite Communication	
August	Myles Bodisch (KB3ZMA)	SDR	
September	Robert James (AB3RC)	Radio Pioneers	
October	Paul Ryan (NOKIA)	Baofeng Family	$\neg$
November	Mike Mandel (KC3BLF)	DRATS	
December	Regina Monaco (N2RNA)	Packet Radio	

In order to safeguard LVARC members, the July 7, 2020 LVARC meeting will be held as a "Virtual Meeting." This will be accomplished using ZOOM. Download ZOOM for your OS. You can use video and/or audio.

Listen to the Monday Night Net for further details.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	July 2020		1	2	3	July 4
5	LVARC Net 7:30p 146.940 WW3TRG Tom	LVARC Meeting 7:30p via ZOOM	8	D-Star Net 7:00p	10	11
12	LVARC Net 7:30p 146.940 AK3M Mark	14	15	D-Star Net 7:00p	17	18
19	LVARC Net 7:30p 146.940 KC3AFU Jim	LVARC Activity Night via ZOOM 7:30p	22	D-Star Net 7:00p	24	25
26	LVARC Net 7:30p Matthew KB3UZE	28	29	D-Star Net 7:00p	31	

## A Note About Remaining 2020 ARES Events

de - Mark (AK3M)

There are still <u>TWO</u> ARES events not yet cancelled (see p 3).

As we don't know, at this time, what is to come, LVARC ARES members may still be solicited to help provide communications support for these remaining events.

Please keep this in mind and be ready to volunteer.

Listen for details during a meeting, in the VOX and/or on the Monday Night Net.



## **Silent Key**

Robert (Bob) Mendelson, (**W20KO**) of Allentown became a silent Key on June 1, 2020 at the age of 94. Bob enjoyed checking

into the Monday Night Net with an HT from Country Meadows in Allentown.

My chair is sitting empty,
My call's no longer heard,
My radio rests quietly,
From it comes no words.
On my shack door is a message,
That reads "From Me to Thee.
My Frequency's much higher now,
I've become a Silent Key.

## REMEMBER

A new Extra class question pool went into effect on July 1, 2020.

When studying for the Extra test, be sure you are studying the new material.





## **ARES REPORT**

The following ARES events have NOT yet been changed or canceled.

September 13 (Sunday) — VIA Marathon - NOW CANCELED

October 3 (Saturday) — Women's 5K Classic

November 1 (Sunday) — Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk









## **VE REPORT**

The first LVARC test sessions since the "Stay At Home" order was lifted, was held on Friday June 26, 2020. In order to accommodate the

number testing, two sessions were held. To make sure these sessions went smoothly, two VE teams were used. Safety procedures were in place TNX to Rod (N3XG).

## This Actress Become a Ham Radio Legend - de Mark (AK3M)

Outside of her small role in "It's a Good Life, "Lenore Kingston could be spotted in episodes of Leave It to Beaver, My Three Sons, The Beverly Hillbillies and Petticoat Junction. Her biggest claim to fame might be in the world of amateur radio. The ham



radio operator went by the call sign **W6NAZ**. During wartime, she helped soldiers communicate with family back home. She continued to aide with emergency communications in her later years, becoming vice president of Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters.

**READER SUBMISSION** 



On Friday June 26, 2020, Governor Wolf of PA declared the LV a **GREEN** Area! That means the, "Stay at

Home," order is relaxed. A gathering of a maximum of 250 is now allowed!

Following these regulations, the first LVARC test sessions since the COVID-19 kept all at home, were held on Friday June 26 sat the Tri-Clover Fire Company. In order to maintain a six foot separation and a minimum of 25 persons, two, "Back to Back," test sessions were held. The LVARC meeting room at the fire company, was used as access to BASD schools is still prohibited.

A BIG TNX to **Don** Jacobs (N3HVL) for securing the room for the test session. Don is both an LVARC member and member/officer of the fire company.

A total of 12 people tested during the two sessions. They all have been waiting patiently for this test session to happen. VE's in attendance included **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Mike** (KC3BLF), **Doug** (N3WGH), **Rod** (N3XG), **Don** (N0VGA), **Larry** (NR3R).

## **Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes**

Date: June 2, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Bodisch at 1931 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 30 members in attendance, and the club was joined by no guests.

Present

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 Present Rick Pearce Steve Olock Present

Rod Wolfe

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion to accept made by: Chuck - W3CDY

Seconded by: John - AB3LZ

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

### <u>Treasurer's Report</u> (Paul - N0KIA)

The report was presented

Motion to accept made by: Chuck - W3CDY

Seconded by: Tom - KB3YWK

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

### **Committee Reports:**

Repeater: No report

**Program**: Tonight's program will be on Field Day. This year will be different due to the pandemic. Paul will cover everything tonight.

**Volunteer Examiners:** The LVARC test sessions are still suspended until the, "Stay At Home," order is canceled. Currently (May 26) there are 19 people on the list waiting to test. The breakdown is: Technician – 14, General – 2, Extra - 3

## ARES / RACES: June 6 (Saturday) — Hanover Township Spring 5K — CANCLED

**September 13 (Sunday)** — VIA Marathon

October 3 (Saturday) —- Women's 5K Classic

November 1 (Sunday) — Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk

There MAY be changes in these events. Listen to the Monday Night Net, read the VOX or check your email for any changes.

<u>Club Station / Trailer:</u> Not much to report from last time. Myles would like to have the antennas checked out. Make sure there ok.

**Communications:** No report

Constitution and By-Laws: Jeff went over the recommended changes to the constitution and by-laws. Documents will be e-mailed to the members and then the first reading will be the July meeting. Let Myles know if you have any questions or concerns. Chuck asked if we need to have an attorney look at both the constitution and by-laws and also send a copy to the state. Mike (KC3BLF) said yes.

<u>Old Business:</u> As of now, there will be no meetings at the firehouse. They will let us know when we can resume meeting there.

The check for the Fire Company was sent out for this year. There's no word on last year's check.

**New Business:** The board had a meeting last week. One of the items discussed license testing. Once things return somewhat normal, Mark will look into resuming testing.

The board talked about the Zoom meetings. The consensus is that it's a good way for members who can't make the meeting attend. A member could bad eyesight and not want to travel to the meeting. It was decide to keep it for this year and look into it for next year when the subscription is to its end.

The board had a discussion about the VE testing funds. Currently, the funds are kept in a separate account included with the other clubs accounts. Mark (AK3M) is in charge of the VE testing. If Mark needed to use the funds, he would have to contact on of the three board members authorized to access the bank accounts. Mark does not have access to the VE funds. It was discussed having Mark open a separate account so he has access to it. The question was raised about given a person who tested and passed free membership. Discussion followed.

Mike Helme as voted in as a new member. He will be an associate member until he receives his license.

<u>Good of the Order:</u> Carl (AA3IX) asked about a membership card. He asked if a template could be made and available online for members to fill in and print out. It will be looked into.

Paul (N0KIA) is doing an order for the Ed Fong antennas. Let him know if you're interested in purchasing one.

Mike (KC3BLF) reported that members from W3OI participated in an American Red Cross exercise. This included operators from both Western and Eastern Pennsylvania.

The members used D-Rats and FLMessage to send the messages to Mike. Mike and then Mike sent them to WT Jones (WN3LIF) who is the EPA section coordinator for the ARRL.

Myles would like to do a work party sometime soon. Mainly the antennas on the roof.

<u>Sick Report:</u> Bob Mendelson (W2OKO) passed away on June 1. Our condolences to his family.

### New member applicants:

Name: Mike Helme Callsign: N/A

New Members motion to accept made by: Steve - K2OPA

Seconded by: Carl – AA3IX

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

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2030 hrs. (EST.)

Motion to accept made by: John – AB3LZ

Seconded by: Chuck – W3CDY Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.







There are still 2 ARES events NOT yet canceled or changed. Your help will be needed to provide communications support for those events. It is easier to cancel than not to be prepared.

See page 6 for a list of these events and their present dates. **To volunteer for any or all, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com**.



## **Silent Key**

James Groover, (**W3NTT**) of Allentown became a silent Key on June 10, 2020 at the age of 62. Jim was an LVARC member and a retired Navy veteran.

Jim was from Slatington. He was employed as an EMT at Lehighton Ambulance for many years before retiring.

My chair is sitting empty,
My call's no longer heard,
My radio rests quietly,
From it comes no words.
On my shack door is a message,
That reads "From Me to Thee.
My Frequency's much higher now,
I've become a Silent Key.

There is a new repeater in the area on a club call KC3PMB. The new club is PA PUBLIC SAFETY AMATUER RADIO 444.475+5 179.9. That is the freq pair for now for testing until completely coordinated and will change.

The repeater is located in Palmerton Pa currently in the testing phase until coverage approves. Right now it covers, lower carbon and upper Northampton and Monroe counties.

The repeater is for public safety hams to chat with on the rides to work and such, but also anyone is welcome as well. Please feel free to pass on the information to everyone. Its starting now from the ground up, but more to come!

if any of you have any background in public safety. As myself am a EMT and a dispatcher. I would like to formally start a members list for the first go round. No payment needed, or donation. All I would need is basically your call and email address. A website will go up here in the coming weeks as well. Once I get a sufficient list of members we will for sure have nets.

Aaron Groover (K3ALG - aaron@medcom-pa.org





# External DC Power Station de Phil (KB3HMK)

Phil shows his portable power station which he uses to run his computer and DSTAR radio (see upper left of the photo). It is a Jackery 240.

### **Description**

- Lithium power station: 240Wh battery capacity charges and recharges devices.
- o Portable, compact and lightweight. At only 6.6 lbs. it travels well.
- Provides reliable power for mainstream electronics, small appliances and more. Made for outdoor recreation, camping, and emergency preparedness.
- Multiple powering options including two USB ports, AC outlet, and 12V car output. Optional 60W solar panel provides sustainable power resource anywhere.
- Recharges three ways: AC wall outlet, 12V car outlet or via the optional 60W SolarSaga solar panel.
- Info LCD display screen provides charge and discharge status and reports power use.
- 2-Year Jackery Warranty.

For more information, see Jackery at www.jackery.com





History states that **red**, white and **blue** were chosen as the colors to represent **valor** (red), **liberty and purity** (white), and **justice and loyalty** (blue).

## **HAPPY 244th BIRTHDAY USA!**



## **Silent Key**

It is with great sadness that I must report the passing of **Walt Jones**, **WN3LIF**. Walt passed on Monday, June 22nd, at Scranton Regional Hospital.

Walt served on the ARRL Field Staff as our Section Emergency Coordinator. He built ARES in East Pennsylvania into the outstanding organization it is today. Walt WAS the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in the Eastern Pennsylvania Section.

My chair is sitting empty,
My call's no longer heard,
My radio rests quietly,
From it comes no words.
On my shack door is a message,
That reads "From Me to Thee.
My Frequency's much higher now,
I've become a Silent Key.

**Summer Travel Tips** - If you plan to travel this Summer, you may not want to advertise that on the net or casual conversation. There are [eople who scan public service and ham frequencies. It is easy to look up your call and find someone's address.

You may also want to disconnect your antennas before you go. Pop up thunderstorms during the Summer, are not uncommon. Those storms may contain lightening.

You HT can be lots of fun on vacation. You can monitor public service, lifeguards and marine frequencies not to mention that you can listen to commercial radio on the beach.

## **WANTED**

I am looking for a used TNC and/or SignaLink. Contact Regina (N2RNA) at rocket@earthlight.com.







## 10 Takeaways from this VOX

1. The FIRST LVARC test session since the "Stay At Home" order was lifted, was held on Friday June 26 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company.



- 2. **The July LVARC meeting will be held via ZOOM on** Tuesday July 7 at 7:30p.
- 3. The By-Law and Constitution committee deserves *Kudos* for all their hard work!
- \*Volunteers for the remaining 2020 ARES events (page 3) MAY still be needed and are now being accepted. Contact Mark (AK3M) at <u>AK3M@rcn.com</u>.
- 5. TV actress is a famous ham.
- 6. The Tri-Clover Fire Company once again demonstrates its support for the the LVARC. TNX to Don (N3HVL) and the team for allowing use of the meeting room for test sessions on June 26.!!!
- 7. Three Silent Keys.
- 8. Reader submission for 12v power station review.
- 9. New repeater in the area.
- 10. 2020 VIA Marathon is now, "Virtual." **NO communications support** will be needed this year.