

The VOX



The Official On-Line Newsletter of the

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

2021 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)

2021 Board of Governors

John Bartos - AB3LZ (e03145jab@gmail.com)

Matthew Kriebel - KB3UZE (kriebz@gmail.com)

Mark Miller - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.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 March LVARC "Virtual Meeting" will be held on <u>Tuesday March 2</u>, 2021 using **ZOOM** at <u>7:30p</u> (local time).

The scheduled program: "COVID Vaccines" - de Rod (N3XG)

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 at7:30p 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 for details.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

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

UpComing 2021 LVARC Programs

March 2 - "COVID VACCINES" - de Rod (N3XG)

April 6 - Matthew (KB3UZE) - Topic TBA

May - 4 "Packet Radio" - Regina (N2RNA)

June 8 - 2021 Field Day

Note: — Programs or topics are subject to change.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	LVARC Net 7:30p KB3UZE	LVARC Meeting 7:30p via ZOOM	3	D-Star Net 7:00p	5	International DX Phone contest
International DX Phone contest	LVARC Net 7:30p	9	10	D-Star Net 7:00p	12	Turn clocks AHEAD one hour at 2:00a
14	LVARC Net 7:30p	LVARC Hands On Night via ZOOM	17	D-Star Net 7:00p	19	20 First day of Spring
21	LVARC Net 7:30p	23	24	D-Star Net 7:00p	26	27
28	LVARC Net 7:30p	30	31		Marc 2021	

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2021 DUES PAST DUE

2021 dues were due February 28 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 5814 Lindbergh St, Orefield, PA, 18069



On page 6 of the February, 2021 VOX, there was a notice about paying dues by March 2021. It read, "After March, 2021, your membership will be removed from the rolls. After March, if you have not renewed your membership, you will



have no voting rights and your membership will have to be voted by the membership as if you were a new member."

That is incorrect and <u>should read</u>, "If you have not renewed your membership by March 1st, you will have no voting rights in the club until you pay your dues."

Also, on page 11, Doug's call printed incorrectly. It **should read N3WGH** and **NOT** N3WHG.

ARES CONNECT is Officially A Silent Key



Hello Mike,

This is the official announcement from the ARRL concerning ARES Connect.

"Concerned by the low adoption rate of ARES Connect reporting software two years after its introduction by the League, ARRL's Director of Emergency Management Paul Gilbert (KE5ZW) instituted a review of the application that included, among other analyses, a survey of Section Managers and Section Emergency Coordinators around the country. At the same time, recent discussions between ARRL and the ARES Connect software vendor have made it clear that the League's evolving needs for an EmComm / Public Service reporting package are not aligned with the vendor's future plans for the product from which ARES Connect is derived. Following a review of all available information, members of the Emergency Management Committee, CEO Minster (NA2AA), and President Roderick (K5UR) concurred with DEM Gilbert's decision to discontinue the use of ARES Connect and seek development of a software reporting package more tailored to the needs of ARES."

"All ARRL Sections that have been using ARES Connect should plan to transition to the ARES Form 4 reporting form until a replacement system is identified. ARRL HQ will continue to support ARES Connect through June 30, 2021."

Questions related to the decommissioning and transition can be directed to the Director of Emergency Management Paul Gilbert at 860-594-0333 or ke5zw@arrl.org. "

73, Ken

Ken Bailey, K1FUG Emergency Preparedness Assistant

ARRL - The national association for Amateur Radio®

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READER SUBMISSION

Submitted by Mike (KC3BLF)

I have two items for sale. The info is below. I also attached two photos of the items. If interested, please contact me. If calling my cellphone, please leave a message.

Thanks — Phil (KB3HMK)

The Loaded Gear HD-500 Pro Watertight Hard Case. Good condition.

"NO PULL AND PLUCK FOAM". Foam in Lid and Base. Asking \$100.

Loaded Gear HD-500 Key Features

- Edge-to-edge crushproof case design
- Watertight protective case seal
- Pressure equalization case valve
- Egg crate foam padding
- Reinforced wheel rollers
- Extendable Travel Handle
- Two padlock mounting points
- HD-500 Hard Case Dimensions:
 (length x width x height in inches)
- Outer Size: 20.9inch x 8.9inch x 14inch
- Inner Size: 20.04inch x 6.88inch x 11.47inch
- Weight: 10.19



UV-82 VHF/UHF Dual PTT HT

Listed Below is Everything Included. Asking \$80

- . нт
- · Base Charger X2
- Earpiece
- Dual PTT Speaker Mic
- · AAA Battery Pack
- Cigarette Lighter Power Cord (For Base Charger)

Contact:

Phil (KB3HMK)
Cell - 610-390-7565
philbert17@ptd.net



WANTED

Program topics and presenters for 2021.

Contact Myles (KB3ZMA) at KB3ZMA@gmail.com

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much but the reception was excellent!



READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)



January 2021 VE Report

At the January 22, 2021 test session, 12 tested and 11 passed. VE's in attendance were **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Larry** (NR3R), **Rod** (N3XG), **Don** (N0VGA) and **Doug** (N3WGH).

The next test session is scheduled for Friday February 19, 2021. At this writing, five are scheduled for that test session. Contact Mark (AK3M) at **AK3M@rcn.com** to register.







If you travel and need to find repeaters along your trip, download the **RepeaterBook** app to your smartphone. It is available for for both iOS and Android.

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 was Ground Hog Day and in case you missed it, that was the second of the Lehigh Valley's epic snow storm of 2021 where the airport reported a total of 28.3 inches. Despite the snowstorm, Punxsutawney Phil did come out of his den as



scheduled but the bad news is that he predicted six more weeks of WINTER.





MACUNGIE	28.3"
WHITEHALL	28.0"
LV INTERNATIONA	L27.3"
NEW TRIPOLI	19.5"
GERMANSVILLE	18.7"

Were you prepared? Did you monitor?

As you all know, a major snowstorm hit the Lehigh Valley arriving Sunday afternoon

(January 31) and finally left the area on Tuesday (Feb 2) morning. Many schools and businesses were closed as travel was near impossible.

Were you prepared for this storm? Other than having enough food and water, were your HT's charged in case of a power outage? Did you monitor the W3OI and local repeaters? Did you listen to public service frequencies? Did you tell Tom (WW3TRG) your snow totals?



The LVARC Welcomes 3 New Members!

At the February 2, 2021 meeting, the following applicants were voted as new members. The LVARC welcomes: James Uttard (KB3WGE), Jeff Bade and Russell Easley (KC3RDF).



LVARC ZOOM <u>AND</u> Person-to-Person Meetings Planned



At the first quarter 2021 BOG meeting, it was decided that LVARC person-to-person meetings will be pushed back and resume *tentatively* in July, 2021. This will allow more time for people to receive COVID vaccines. When person-to-person meetings resume, the ZOOM meetings will also be held.





New Hams In the Lehigh Valley Area

Those who tested at the January 22, 2021 LVARC test session received their calls on February 3, 2021.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Russell Easley - KC3RDF (Technician)
Amy Jo Herring - KC3RDG (Technician)
Steven Ferrel - KC3RDH (Technician)
John Busher - KC3RDI (Technician)
Stacy Twist - KC3RDJ (Technician)
William Tagye - KC3RDK (Technician)
Tyler Dockery - KC3RDL (Technician)
John Twist - KC3RDM (Technician)

John Herring - KC3RDN (General)



Andrew Krebs (KC3PPI) upgraded to Extra Alex Artau (KC3QOX) upgraded to General

Enjoy the hobby!

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes

Date: February 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Bodisch at 1930 Hrs. (EST).

The meeting opened with a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

The meeting held via Zoom.

There were a total of 25 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 Present Rick Pearce Matt Kriebel Present Rod Wolfe Absent

<u>Guests</u>: Kenneth Kristiansen, Russ Easley (KC3RDF) and Octavio Arizala (KM6TOB)

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Motion to accept made by: Dan – KC3HWD

Seconded by: Scott – KB3YOT

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

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

The report was presented

Motion to accept made by: Rick – KC3EXO

Seconded by: Carl – AA3IX

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

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Some minor issues with the squelch tail. It will be taken care of. The club is looking into putting IP switches on the 94 and 135 repeaters. This is in case we need to shut down the repeaters properly.

Program: Tonight will be Myles (KB3ZMA) doing a program on grounding. March will be Rod (N3XG) doing a program on Covid-19. April will be Matt (KB3UZE). His program will be announced later.

Volunteer Examiners: At the January 22, 2021 test session, 12 tested and 11 passed. VE's in attendance were Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP), Larry (NR3R), Rod (N3XG), Don (N0VGA) and Doug (N3WGH).

The next test session is scheduled for Friday February 19, 2021. Five are already scheduled for that test session.

ARES / RACES: Nothing to report

Club Station / Trailer: Not much done to both. Myles went to club station and started the equipment up to make sure it was still working.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Yearly dues are now due. After March 1st, if you have not renewed your membership, you will have no voting rights in the club until you pay your dues. Members who let their membership lapse DO NOT have to be voted back into the club. Just pay your dues and your are back in.

The club was looking at having in person meetings starting in April. Due to the pandemic, we are now looking at having in person meetings in July. We will still use Zoom for the members that are not able to physically make the meetings.

<u>New Business</u>: An internal audit was done for the finances of the club. This is to make sure everything reconciles. Paul went over the details at a recent board meeting. Normally the officers and board members would sign a copy and the secretary would have it on file. Due to having Zoom meetings, the board agreed to verbal approval.

There was some concerns that the New Member Packet had too much information in it. After the board reviewed it, it was determined that it's good. If any new member didn't get a copy, please contact Myles (KB3ZMA) or Mark (AK3M).

The club has a fair amount of funds in the checking account. Myles asked for a committee to look into investing some of the money. Jeff (WA3PNY), John (AB3LZ) and Steve (K2OPA) volunteered to be on the committee with Paul (N0KIA) being an advisor. Originally the club tried to keep as much in the account in case anything happened to the club's equipment. Since we have insurance with the ARRL that covers a majority of the equipment, it was decided to look at

investing some of the funds. They feel that a portion of the finances be invested and the rest remain in the checking account. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Chuck (W3CDY) to invest \$5000 with Vanguard Funds. It was seconded by Rick – KC3EXO. The motion passed. Steve thanked Paul for his help. Jeff also thanked John and Steve for their help. There are some documents and other paperwork needed to continue. Paul had the address changed for the club and requested other documents from the commonwealth.

Good of the Order: Chuck (W3CDY) mentioned that you can enter a contest for a seat on the first commercial space flight. All you need to do is make a donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Sick Report: Nothing to report

New member applicants:

Name: **James Uttard** Callsign: KB3WGE

Motion to accept made by: John – AB3LZ

Seconded by: Steve – KS3RO

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

Name: **Jeff Bade** Callsign: N/A

Motion to accept made by: Dan – KC3HWD

Seconded by: Chuck – W3CDY

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

Name: **Russ Easley** Callsign: KC3RDF

Motion to accept made by: Rick - KC3EXO

Seconded by: John – AB3LZ

Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N)

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2018 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.



The LVARC "Hands On Night," is held via ZOOM at 7:30p on the third Tuesday of the month. Its a great time to share information and to be in the company of the LVARC members. Contact Paul (N0KIA) with your topic suggestion(s).

A great website to see amateur radio events and contests

https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php



The February 19, 2021 test session was postponed and held one week later on February 26 due to severe WX. Results of that test session will be reported in the April edition of the VOX.





10 Highlights from this VOX

- 1. The March LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM on Tuesday March 2 at 7:30p.
- 2. Last month to have paid 2021 LVARC DUES
- 3. ARES CONNECT is now inactive
- 4. Program suggestions and presenters wanted
- Items for sale
- 6. Start of Spring and DST 2021
- 7. Something to make you smile
- 8. January 2021 test session report
- 9. RepeaterBook app for your phone
- 10. Were you prepared for epic snowstorm?

