



The VOX



The Official Newsletter of the
Lehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub - W3OI / KB3SYV
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA

2022 Officers

President: **Myles Bodisch** - KB3ZMA (KB3ZMA@gmail.com)
Vice President: **Jeff Bauer** - WA3PNY (BAUERJV@MAC.COM)
Secretary: **Steve Olock** - KS3RO (solock@gmail.com)
Treasurer: **Paul Ryan** - N0KIA (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

2022 Board of Governors

Phil Bigg - KB3HMK (PHILBERT17@ptd.net)
Matthew Kriebel - KB3UZE (kriebz@gmail.com)
Dan Longo - KB3HWD (longodg@yahoo.com)
Mark Miller - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.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.**

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">* 147.735/147.135 (DCS 315)
Automatic Mode Select. Analog* FM or YSF, Yaesu System Fusion), |
|--|

Many club announcements will be heard there.

The **February** LVARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday February 1, 2022** using **ZOOM AND In-Person** at **7:30p.**

The scheduled program: **TBD**

Plan to attend this Meeting

The LVARC holds it's monthly meeting the **FIRST TUESDAY** of every month **BOTH In Person AND using ZOOM** at 7:30p Eastern time. Meetings are held at the Tri-Clover Fire Co. in Orefield, PA.

LVARC TEST SESSIONS

The LVARC test sessions are held the **THIRD FRIDAY** of **EVERY OTHER MONTH.**

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 2022 LVARC Programs

February 1 - TBA

Note: — Programs or topics are subject to change.



This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2022		1 LVARC Meeting 7:30p	2 D-Star Net 7:00p  Groundhog Day	3	4	5
6	7 LVARC Net 7:30p KC3AFU	8	9 D-Star Net 7:00p	10	11	12
13  Superbowl 56	14  LVARC Net 7:30p KB3YOT	15 LVARC Activity Night 7:30p	16 D-Star Net 7:00p	17	18	19  International DX CW contest
20  International DX CW contest	21 LVARC Net 7:30p KB3UZE	22	23 D-Star Net 7:00p	24	25	26
27	28 LVARC Net 7:30p N3XG	February				

Don't forget — Back issues of the VOX (starting from 2002) are available on the LVARC web site. To read back issues of the VOX, go to: <https://www.w3oi.org/#/newsletter>.



ARRL Test Information Update

New Technician Question Pool to take effect July 1, 2022.



2021 Christmas Radio

READER SUBMISSION

de Tom (WW3TRG)

Tom (WW3TRG) received a Christmas present from his XYL in 2021 that he would like to share.

I received a nice QRP HF radio for under \$200 from my wife Maureen. It has a built in mic, speaker, and battery. Perfect for portable operations like SOTA and POTA. It does SSB and CW and goes well with a small EFHW antenna like the one my friend Matt N3VAN gave me for a retirement gift. Made some contacts from home with it. Can't wait to try it out in the field.



What Ever Happened To ...? candy cigarettes

READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

Send your "What Ever Happened To...", to Mark (AK3M) for inclusion in a future issue of the VOX).



LVARC Test Session

The LVARC will hold a license test session on **Friday March 18, 2022** at Hanover Elementary School at 6:00p.



REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY. To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

QST?

If you are an ARRL member, you receive the ARRL's monthly magazine, QST.



Q: What does QST mean?

A: QST means, "***General call preceding a message addressed to all amateurs and ARRL members.***"

*Remember that "Q" signals are used on **CW** **ONLY** and **NOT** phone communications.*

Remember: LVARC test sessions are again being held at Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem.

**PLEASE NOTE: LVARC test sessions are now held at
Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem.**

2021-2022 Test Session Dates

March 18 2022
May 20 2022

August 19 2022
October 21 2022

Keep your fingers crossed!

The LVARC has not participated in an ARES event for two years. Let's hope 2022 will be different.

Below is a list of the events which the LVARC has provided communications support in the past.



June — Hanover Township Spring 5K

September — VIA Marathon

October — St. Luke's/Lehigh Valley Road Runner's Half Marathon

October — Women's 5K Classic

November — Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk.



Listen to the Monday Night Net and read the VOX for specific dates and details. Be prepared to volunteer if asked!

2022 LVARC Dues are Now Due

2022 LVARC dues are now due.

\$20.00 - Individual membership

\$25.00 - Family membership

\$15.00 - Student membership

\$500.00 - Special club program donation

If paying by US mail, send to:

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



***“A flower cannot blossom
without sunshine, and man
cannot live without love.”***

– Max Muller



Much of our severe Winter weather comes in February!

When Winter weather hits the Lehigh Valley, don't forget to monitor the local repeaters as well as public service frequencies.

*Keep your HT charged
when bad WX is expected.*



Want to get SSTV from the ISS?

READER SUBMISSION

Go to:

de Larry (NR3R)

[How to receive SSTV images from the ISS - YouTube](#)



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club



Visit the LVARC (W3OI) website for information about club activities, club news, membership and more. Go to: <https://www.w3oi.org/#/home>.

CHECK YOUR EMAIL - LISTEN TO THE NET

Check your email and listen to the Monday Night Net for any changes in the LVARC meeting schedule.

There **MAY** be a change to the LVARC meeting format and the only way you will know is to check your email and/or listen to the Monday Night Net.

The VOX and website may not be up to date if the LVARC meeting changes from in-person and ZOOM to ZOOM only.

Prepare Your Cars for Winter

Learn a lesson from the winter storm that left hundreds stranded on I95 in Virginia for 23+ hours on January 3, 2022.



You do not need to be traveling far or be on an interstate highway to get involved in an impassable traffic jam. That can happen locally too.

Keep the following in your car(s). An inexpensive gym type bag makes an excellent way to pack these items in your trunk.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. ice scraper/snow brush | 11. flashlight with spare batteries |
| 2. shovel | 12. rope or chain |
| 3. gloves and Winter clothing | 13. jumper cables/jump start battery |
| 4. blanket(s) | 14. small tool kit / multi tool / pocket knife |
| 5. emergency flares/reflectors | 15. sun glasses |
| 6. rock salt, sand or kitty litter | 16. cell phone charger |
| 7. first aid kit | 17. water and nonperishable food (bars) |
| 8. extra windshield washer fluid | 18. HT |
| 9. games for the kids | 19. HT charger |
| 10. toiletries (a boat store is a good place for these) | 20. CB HT for truck contact? |

* Start your trip with a **FULL tank of gas**. Try to maintain a full tank as you travel even if that means periodically exiting the roadway to fill up.

** **Clean the snow from your roof** to avoid snow falling on cars behind you.

*** Get any **extra medications** to keep in your car.

**** **Don't forget the pets**. Pack food, water and a blanket for them too.

Be prepared! Plan ahead! Be self reliant!

Results of the January 21, 2022 Test Session



At the January 21, 2022 test session, 5 tested and 5 passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Frank Kranyecz** (KC3TDR) and **Charles Elliott** (KC3TDQ) who upgraded to General, **Joseph Cardamone** (KC3SUT) who upgraded to Extra and **Andre Arquer** and **John Gilda** who earned their Technician class license. *VEs in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP) and Don (NOVGA).* The next test session will be on March 18, 2022.



Silent Key



Harry Buchin, 99, of West Palm Beach, Florida formerly of Macungie, died Tuesday, January 4, 2022. He was the husband of the late Margaret H. (Wendlant) and Rachel I. (Gehman) Buchin. Born in Emmaus, PA he was a son of the late Anthony and Tessie (Bandura) Buchen. He was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church 2623 Brookside Road Macungie, PA. Harry was employed at Mack Trucks from 1941 until 1950, with time in between to serve with the United States Army during WWII. There after he opened Buchin Hardware in Macungie, he retired in 2004. He specialized in small appliance repair and photography.

Survivors: Brothers; John Buchen and Joseph Buchen of Zionsville, many nieces and nephews. He was preceeded in death by infant daughters and his son Richard. Siblings: Katharine Schwartz, Helen Buchen and Mary Rumfield

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Good Shepherd Home Raker Center, Macungie VFW Post 9264, Macungie Historical Society or the church.

*I went to elementary school with Harry's son Richard (deceased) and connected with Harry (**W3TEB**) when I became a ham -1968. Harry was one of the early members of the LVARC. He had an offset printer in his hardware store and used it to print the VOX for many years.*

Harry was always willing to help which was evident if you ever visited his store in Macungie. His services included fixing almost anything that customers took to him.

*Harry (**W3TEB**) and XYL Margo (**N3RDI**) checked into the Monday Night Net regularly. — (ed).*

New LVARC Members

The LVARC welcomes the following members.

Jeffrey Hawley (**KD3AR**)
Carlos R. Velazquez (**KE3RC**)



Get More From Your HT!

READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

A helpful hint for your amateur VHF/UHF hand held radio.

Here is a simple way to get better performance both transmit and receive from your hand held VHF/UHF radio. UHF only HT use 6.5 inches.

An antenna has two sides. Positive and ground. The positive side would be the "rubber duck" antenna attached to the radio and than your hand and body acts as the other side of the antenna called the negative side.

You can create a high-performance antenna for your modest HT by attaching a matched length of wire (counterpoise), often called a "Tiger Tail" to the negative, or ground, side.

Simply attach a length of wire about 18-19 inches long (gauge is not critical, thinner wire is easier to work with). You can attach it with a ring terminal placed on your radio on the antenna stud or to a screw on the rear of the radio, as long as the screw makes contact with the body of the radio. (plastic body may not work). Now you have the other side of the antenna.

This counterpoise wire makes the other side of the antenna. It is now a complete antenna system. Both sides, Rubber Duck antenna, positive and the 19 inch wire as the ground.

Pictures on next page show both connected to the antenna stud and the radio body screw. You do not need both.

As a side note: It is also best to eliminate the original antenna and replace it with a longer one. Comet and Diamond make great antennas.

(pix cont. on page 12)



Groundhog Day 2022

Groundhog Day will be on Wednesday February 2, 2022 but what IS Groundhog Day?



Groundhog Day, in the United States and Canada, day (February 2) on which the emergence of the groundhog (woodchuck) from its burrow is said to foretell the weather for the following six weeks.

The rumor is that *if the groundhog (**Punxsutawney Phil**) sees his shadow while emerging from his burrow, there will be six more weeks of Winter.*



Want to Learn CW?

If you have a desire to learn the Morse code, I have several CDs for just that purpose. Contact me (Mark - AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

You will need to supply about 8 CD's.



ARRL 2022 International DX Contest

The ARRL International DX contest for CW will be held on the weekend of February 19-20. The sideband version will be held the weekend of March 5-6, 2022.



Severe WX

When severe WX hit the Lehigh Valley on January 16-17, 2022, did you listen to local repeaters and/or PEMA's HF frequency?



W3OI Amateur Radio Club January 2022 Meeting Minutes

Full Remote via Zoom

Zoom Session only, No Local content

The Meeting was called to order by MB @ 1932

Point of order: MB covered full zoom meeting procedures

ATTENDEES

There were a total of 20 members in attendance (as per the email method).

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

President – Myles Bodisch PRESENT

Vice President – Jeff Bauer PRESENT

Treasurer - Paul Ryan Absent

Secretary - Steve Olock PRESENT

Board Members:

Mark AK3M PRESENT

Phil KC3HMK PRESENT

Matt KC3UZE PRESENT

Rod N3XG PRESENT

Dan KC3HWD

AGENDA

Motion to approve the minutes as published in the Vox

Motion:by John AB3LX 2nd by Tom WW3TRG

Motion Passed Y

Guests: None noted

Program: None but presentation work will be covered at BOG meeting coming up

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

Treasurer was not able to attend, there will be a follow up/double report next month

Committee Reports: (Mark AK3M)

ARES and VE Reports for the January 4 2022 Meeting

ARES Report

If all goes well, the LVARC will provide communications support for the following events:

June — Hanover Township Spring 5K

September — VIA Marathon

October — St. Luke's/Lehigh Valley Road Runner's Half Marathon

October — Women's 5K Classic

November — Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk

Specific dates will be announced when available.

VE Report

The next test session will be held at Hanover Elementary School on Friday January 21, 2022. As of this report, 9 are scheduled to test.

Registration is necessary. For more information or to register for a test session, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

Communications: The website is being flakey, and some links aren't working

There has been a discussion regarding hosting the site elsewhere, and having the site redesigned.

Contact Chuck (W3CDY@arrl.net) with any issues.

Please whitelist lvarc.w3oi@gmail.com and paul.ryan@gmail.com and kb3zma@gmail.com if you have rcn or ptd for email address to allow yourself to receive the emails from the club

Repeater: Rod N3XG DStar Machine has been salvaged, of primary concern was the databases, transfer will occur to a new machine and the gateway will go back online in the hopefully near future

Congrats to Mark AK3M to VE hall of fame

Club Station / Trailer: Odds and Ends were done on the trailer, a few items are being addressed for the mast. There is a need to spend some money on organization supplies for the trailer. Something in the range of \$50. The club added 4 new chairs and John AB3LZ will be donating 2 additional chairs.

Motion to Spend no more than \$80 on trailer org equipment

Motioned by Steve K2OPA, 2nd by Joe JC3DKU

Question by Doug N3WGH concerning the actual product and his concern was addressed

Old Business:

1: Discussion about an elmer program, as was successfully done in the past

Maybe a list of talents to be shared with members

2: Dues are Due, please remit to N0KIA at the address is noted on website

(PAUL RYAN, N0KIA 5814 LINDBERGH ST OREFIELD, PA 18069)

New Business: CoAx is secret word mailed to KS3RO@arrl.net

1: Website is in need of addressing now that technical concerns are appearing again

1a Tom WW3TRG has a relationship with someone that could handle the website. A committee will be formed to look into it.

2: No new members this month

3: John (AB3LZ) makes motion to spend \$50 on wireless microphone and mini tripod for zoom meetings

KC3HWD 2nded motion

Motion Passed: Y

Sick Call: None noted, but Covid has started to peak again so be extra vigilant

Good of the Order: Mark AK3M shared an ARRL Extra class to the members

Welcome Dan KC3HWD and Phil KB3HMK to the BOG

Thanks to John AB3LZ, and Rick KC3EXO for past BOG contributions

Discussion regarding the club's QSL card and submission received from a Broomall Ham

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at (EST)2000

Motion to accept made by: Scott KZ4ASR

Seconded by N3WGH Motion passed by voice vote: (Y/N) Y

Respectfully Submitted Steve Olock KS3RO, Secretary

ATTENDANCE Confirmation VIA Secret word to KS3RO@ARRI.NET



Don't forget to keep the LVARC 135 repeater programmed in your radio(s). The information is 147.735/147.135 (DCS 315).

The LVARC simplex frequency is 147.42.

VOX Submissions

*Submit your article and/or graphics
for the VOX to Mark (AK3M) **NO LATER
THAN the end of the month.***



10 Highlights from this VOX

1. The February LVARC meeting will be held using **ZOOM AND In Person** on Tuesday February 1 at 7:30p.
2. **2022 dues are due.**
3. Send your articles, pix., etc. for inclusion in the VOX.
4. Submit your "What Ever Happened To ..."
5. 2022 LVARC test session dates.
6. 2021 Christmas radio.
7. Pack your car for Winter.
8. Silent Key.
9. Check your email.
10. Improve your HT.



Happy Valentine's Day

