

# The VOX



The Official Newsletter of the

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W30I / KB3SYV Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA

# **2023 Officers**

President: **Rod Wolfe - N3XG** (n3xg.radio@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)

## **2023 Board of Governors**

Myles Bodisch - KB3ZMA (KB3ZMA@gmail.com)
Matthew Kriebel - KB3UZE (kriebz@gmail.com)

Scott Leichssenring - KB3YOT - (scott\_leichssenring@hotmail.com)

Mark Miller - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.com)

Rick Pearce - KC3EXO - (rickp.127@gmail.com)

VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (AK3M) ---- (AK3M@rcn.com)

Net manager - Rod Wolfe (N3XG) - (n3xg.radio@gmail.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 **August** LVARC **m**eeting will be held on **Tuesday August 1**, 2023 using **ZOOM AND In-Person** at **7:30p**.

The program: "CERT"

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.** 

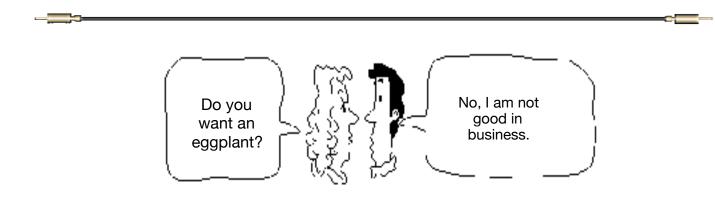
Contact Mark Miller (AK3M) at <a href="mailto:AK3M@rcn.com">AK3M@rcn.com</a> for details.

# REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

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

# **Up Coming 2023 LVARC Programs**

August 1 - "CERT"



# Do you remember ... **Outdoor theater speakers?**

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

**READER SUBMISSION** 

de Larry (NR3R)



#### **LVARC Nets**

- 1. Monday Night LVARC/ARRS/RACES/ACS Net 7:30p 146.94 MHz
- 2. Monday Night USB Simplex Net 8:15p 144.250 MHz
- 3. Wednesday Night D-Star Net 7:00p The Net starts out on the W3PLG B DSTAR Repeater frequency 447.7125 MHz.
- 4. Thursday Night 2m Simplex Net 8:00p 147.420 MHz



#### **LVARC 2023 Test Session Dates**

2023

August 18 October 20 December 15

## A new GENERAL test has been in effect since July 1

If you are testing for **GENERAL** after June 30, 2023, be sure you are studying the new/current material.

# **This Month In Ham Radio**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug	gust	LVARC Meeting 7:30p	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	4	N. American QSO Party CW
N. American QSO Party CW	LVARC Net 7:30p  N3XG  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	8	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	11	12
13	LVARC Net 7:30p  KB3YOT  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	LVARC "Hands On Night"	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	LVARC Test Session 6:00p	N. American QSO Party SSB
N. American QSO Party SSB	LVARC Net 7:30p  KB3UZE  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	22	D-Sar Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	25	26
27	LVARC Net 7:30p  N3XG  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	29	D-Sar Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	2023	

# **2023 LVARC EVENTS**

**August 1 - LVARC meeting** 

**August 18 - LVARC test session** 

**September 5 - LVARC meeting** 

October 3 - LVARC meeting

October 7 - Women's 5K Classic

**November 5 - LVARC meeting** 

**November 12 - Delaware/Lehigh Marathon** 

**December 5 - LVARC meeting** 

**December 15 - LVARC test session** 

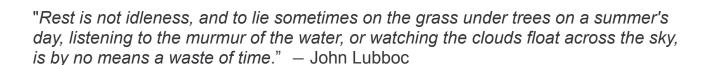
Listen to the Monday Night Net, attend LVARC meetings and read the VOX for specific dates and times.



If going on vacation this Summer, don't forget to take your HT. You can listen to marine and lifeguard traffic, local public service and local repeaters.







# **August LVARC Test Session Change**

The August 18 test session, usually held at Hanover Elementary School, will now be held in the LVARC meeting room. The school that we usually use is undergoing renovations starting early this Summer and it will still not be available in August.

The August 18, 2023 LVARC test session will be held at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield, PA at **4801 Kernsville Rd, Orefield, PA 1806**.

Only the location has changed. The test session will begin at 6:00p as usual. Doors will be open at 5:45p.

# **CERT Program**

The August 2023 program following the August 1 business meeting will be on CERT. What the heck is that, you ask? CERT is an acronym for Community Emergency Response Team. The CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where they live. CERT trains volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as: Fire safety. Light search and rescue.





https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/welcome-to-cert? language=en\_US





# **Don't Forget to:**

- 1. keep you license current
- 2. keep you address, call, etc. updated with the LVARC, FCC and ARRL.

# Full Sheet of 50 (fifty) Historic 1964 US Amateur Radio Postage Stamps

**Originally issued on December 15, 1964** these Postage Stamps were specifically commissioned to honor the nation's 250,000 Amateur Radio Operators, and can still be currently tendered. The release fell on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Radio Relay League, (ARRL) and was first made available for purchase in Anchorage, Alaska where amateur radio operators played an important role in the aftermath of The Great Alaskan Earthquake on March 27th of that year.

The purple vertical stamp was designed by Emil J. Willett of Hartford, Connecticut. His stylized graphic combines a radio broadcast sine wave with a partial radio dial, and had an initial printing of 250 million.

Nearly 60 years later, this issue is still cherished by amateur radio operators and collectors around the world.

Brand new and never hinged with full gum adhesive, this Scott # 1260, 5¢ Amateur Radio Sheet is in **absolutely perfect** Collector condition.

Makes a memorable Birthday gift or to thank your Elmer for helping you get your first ticket.

Absolutely suitable for framing!

**\$29** +1. for USPS First Class shipping to any 50US.

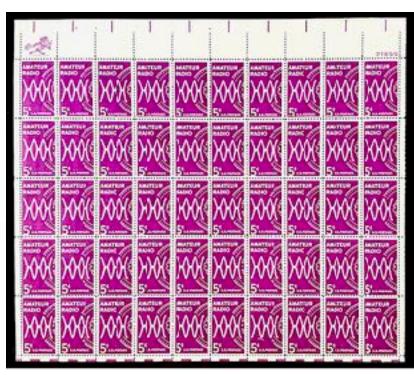
NO INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING; sorry.

Ships same or next business day of payment.

Personal check, cash, USPS M.O., Zelle ok.

I accept PayPal "Friends & Family" method, only.

Write to Pete / NL7XM at: TwelveVDC@aol.com

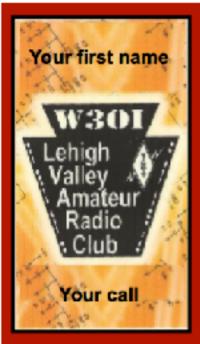


#### READER SUBMISSION





TNX to Mike (KC3UCX) for managing the ticket sales at every meeting!



# LVARC ID Badge

If you need a new or replacement LVARC ID badge, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

#### I will:

- print your card on card stock and send via U.S. mail to you or
- 2. make your card and save it as a pdf, email it to you and you can print it yourself.

I do not have a laminator but you can get it laminated at Staples or somewhere similar.

If you want it U.S. mailed to you, please include your call, name and an address where you want it to be sent.

You can also decide how you want it displayed. Many attache it to a lanyard which is available from Staples, the ARRL or other sources. You may want to put it in a card holder, also available at Staples.

From the book Whisper by Mark Batterson

Did you know that citizens of different countries actually hear differently? INTERESING! It's called a basic-frequency band.

The French ear, for example, hears best between 1,000 and 2,000 hertz.

The British bandwidth is much larger, between 2,000 and 12,000 hertz.

The American ear hears between 750 and 3,000 hertz.

In a very real sense, there is a French ear, and British ear, and an American ear.\*

\*From Alfred A. Tomatis, The Conscious Ear: My Life of Transformation Through Listening (Barrytown, NY:Station Hill, 1991),

READER SUBMISSION

de Scotty's XYL, Sue

Monday Night Net Control operators are being sought. If you are interested in becoming a Net Control Operator, contact Rod (N3XG) at n3xq.radio@gmail.com.

# **June Net Report**

### **Monday Night ARES / ACS Net:**

June 5 - 49

June 12 - 27

June 19 - 42

June 26 - 43

Total check-in's (4 weeks): 161

### **Monday Night 2M SSB Net:**

June 5 - 5

June 12 - 5

June 19 - 6

June 26 - Canceled due to t-storms

Total check-in's (4 weeks): 16

## **Thursday Night 2M FM Simplex Net:**

June 1 - 8

June 8 - 12

June 15 - 11

June 22 - 6

June 29 - 10

Total Check-in's (5 weeks): 47

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney N3XG

**READER SUBMISSION** 

# What's Happening In the LVARC!

**CERT program - Aug 1** 

**Test session - Aug 18** 

New/replace ID badge

LVARC meeting - Aug 1

Ham radio stamps

**LVARC Nets** 

LVARC meeting - Sept. 5

Women's 5k - Oct. 7

**New Net Ops needed** 

Full marathon - Nov. 12

**Vacation tip** 

**New GENERAL test** 

# Mark Your Calendar for the Upcoming 2023 ARES Events!

# October 7 (Saturday)

Women's 5K Classic

### **November 12 (Sunday)**

Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Marathon Run/Walk



To volunteer for the Women's 5K Classic, contact Mark (AK3M) at <a href="mailto:AK3M@rcn.com">AK3M@rcn.com</a>. To volunteer for the D&L RaceFest, contact Rod (N3XG) at <a href="mailto:n3xg.radio@gmail.com">n3xg.radio@gmail.com</a>.



A new General test went into effect on July 1, 2023. If studying for General, be sure you are studying the **CURRENT** material.





# **New LVARC Members**

At the July 11 2023, meeting, the following amateurs were voted in as LVARC members.



The LVARC welcomes Steven D. Joseph (K3SJ), Nikolas Tsamutalis (KB3WTO) and Sean Campbell (KC3LMZ).

#### Welcome to the club!





# Monday Night LVARC Net Control Operators

The LVARC is looking for additional Monday Night Net Control Operators. If you are interested in becoming a Net Control Operator for the net, contact Rod (N3XG) at n3xg.radio@gmail.com.

**Kudos** to the current Monday Night Net Control Operators. They include.

Rod (N3XG), Mark (AK3M), Jim (KC3AFU), Matthew (KB3UZE), Tom (WW3TRG), Chris (N3RPV), Scott (KB3YOT) and Dan (KC3HWD).





"When all else fails, take a vacation." - Betty Williams



### French Cable Station

**READER SUBMISSION** 

de Scotty (W3SGT)

I was at Cape Cod last week and visited the **French Cable Station Museum in Orleans, Cape Cod.** The first telegraph cables connected in 1800's.













# Have something to share with the members?

Send your VOX submission(s) to Mark (AK3M) at **AK3M@rcn.com**. You can send text and or graphics.

#### **Wouxun KG-Q10H Review**

Here is the new radio: the Wouxun KG-Q10H, quad band FM radio which offers 6M, 2 M, 1.25 M, and 70 cm.

#### **Summary:**

This is a really nice radio.
I'm glad I got one. They are currently
"sold-out." As you can see mine is green.
I like that color. It has many capabilities that
I will probably not use, but they are there if
something bizarre happens (GPS, radio ID,
radio dialing/ring, etc) all these only work
between two Wouxun A10H radios.
With all the quirky "features," it works
fine for my day to day use. I'm glad it
has a FCC ID, and I will be looking at the purity
myself in the near future.

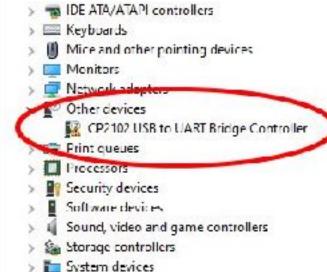


Josh at HRCC did a good review at <a href="https://youtu.be/ZiP8BV9qqaQ?">https://youtu.be/ZiP8BV9qqaQ?</a><a href="https://youtu.be/ZiP8BV9qqaq?">h

#### What you get for \$219:

- 1. Radio
- 2. A 2M/70cm antenna
- 3. A 1.25M/6M antenna
- 4. Wall Wart Power Supply
- 5. Desktop Charger/stand
- 6. Wrist Strap
- 7. 3000 mAH battery
- 8. Belt Clip
- 9. Actual English Manual (121 pages)

Please note that the programming cable is not included, optional (\$15.99). Although Josh says no driver was needed, I had to follow the guide below for my Windows 10 machine.



I used the Wouxun programming software available at the <u>Buytwowayradios.com</u> site. The software loaded and installed fine. Chirp software is being written according to Josh.

So, what are my observations?

First - out of the box I inserted the battery, and no power. Strangely Josh had the same problem. I re-inserted the battery and it worked. I found that if I gripped the radio too strongly the battery lost contact. I don't know why this happened, but it seemed to stop after the battery was inserted several times. It's fine now.

Second - there are two "Area's" which are like A/B on Japanese radios. Strangely, area A (the top area) can select entries from all four bands, whereas Area B (the bottom Area) can only select 2M/70cm channels). That has a confining effect on cross band repeat, since one of the X-bands must be in Area B. I have not found a way to cross band from 1.25M to 6M.

Third- I had no problem with 2M/70cm channels, but 1.25M/6M channels did not work if a CTCSS receive tone was selected. The receive signal doesn't open up the squelch. The transmit CTCSS seems to work ok. So unless there is a need to use a TSQ, just set the receiver to CTCSS off, and it works as expected. Strange. Unless this a design restriction, perhaps this will be solved with future firmware upgrades.

#### The Good:

I had no problem programming the radio using the front panel. It uses the same menu system as Baofeng radios. I have verified proper operation with multiple repeaters on all four bands(see above for CTCSS).

The settings includes a low, mid, high, and ultra high power setting. A 1.25 M repeater was not reachable on High, but responded with Ultra High power setting. I need to check out the power levels.

It has a battery that just seems to last for a long time: 3000 mAH.

#### The Quirky:

I already outlined the difference between 2M/70cm and 1.25M/6M - it's almost like there's two radios in one.

The programming software (and also programming through the front panel) furthers this divide by only allowing entry of 1.25 and 6M frequencies in selected ranges of channel numbers. It seems to also apply to 2 M and 70 cm frequency. So each band has a range of channel numbers assigned. This seems to be a memory model which is fundamental to the design. (1-9 mixed, 10-39 VHF, 40-69 UHF, 70-79 1.25 M, 80-? 6 M). I must have missed that in the manual but it's workable. Perhaps there is a way to set these with the programming software but if you try to put the wrong frequency into the wrong range of channels it rejects it.

The supplied antennas seem to work well, but having two antennas for a quad-band radio is a real pain. I'm looking for an after market quad band antenna. Any suggestions?

As Josh reports, it has air band coverage with AM mode receive only and a receive only coverage for multiple bands which I have not explored. There's a setting to choose AM or FM. It has NOAA weather and FM broadcast receive built-in.

Here are the receive bands: 50-54, 76-108, 108-136 AM, 136-174, 222-225, 320-480, 714-999 MHz

Here are the transmit bands: 50-54, 144-148, 222-225, 420-450 MHz

The case is water splash proof and there is a cover on the Mike/earphone/programming connection which has two screws. You have to remove it to access the connection. That's a pain.

It was obviously designed for US Ham markets, but it offers "Scramble" - in which universe does that work?

It has 2 programmable PPT keys that change mapping with display line format. It's

confusing.



**READER SUBMISSION** 

de Jeff (WA3PNY)

# **Mobile Microphone Mount**

I have attached the photos of my id5100 mic holder from Lido. The website is <a href="www.lidoradio.com">www.lidoradio.com</a>. Rod was the one that told me about the site. It works great with my vehicle. Due to having vertical vents, it's hard to find a mount that will work. The mount hooks to the back of the vent and all you do is tighten it. The website has a large variety of mounts.





**READER SUBMISSION** 

de Phil (KB3HMK)



Remember: Any LVARC VE is welcome to attend an LVARC test session. Check your VE expiration date. Don't let it lapse!

#### W3OI Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting July 2023 07/11/2023

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

The Meeting was called to order by Rodney Wolfe (RW) @ 731PM

Secret Word is vacation and needs to be emailed to <u>KS3RO@ARRL.NET</u> to show attendance for online participants.

Rod covered hybrid zoom meeting procedures, zoom will be an active participant in the meeting

Remotes will raise hand to signify a nay vote otherwise no indication will be considered a yeh vote

Online was interactive with full communications for both local and remotes

#### **ATTENDEES**

There were a total of 21 members in attendance with 3 remote members (as per the email method) and 18 Local Attendees.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

President – Rodney Wolfe N3XG **PRESENT** 

Vice President – Jeff Bauer WA3PNY PRESENT

Treasurer - Paul Ryan N0KIA PRESENT

Secretary - Steve Olock KS3RO **PRESENT** 

#### **Board of Governors:**

**Rick Pearce KC3EXO PRESENT** 

Mark Miller AK3M PRESENT

Matt Kriebel KB3UZE

**Scott Leichssenring KB3YOT REMOTE** 

**Myles Bodisch KB3ZMA PRESENT** 

**Guests: KD3FLY William** 

#### **Proceedings**:

A motion was made to approve the June 2023 Meeting minutes as published in the June 2023 VOX newsletter.

Motion to approve was made by Rick KC3EXO and 2nd by Myles KB3ZMA Passed = Y

**Program for tonight:** Field Day FollowUp, led by Rod

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

Irimary income was interest and dues, some expenses noted from field day

Motion to approve Treasurer's report as read was made by John AB3LZ and 2nd'd by Walt KE3SP Motion Passed = Y

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### VE & ARES Reports for the July 11 2023 Meeting

#### **VE Report**

The next test session will be held on Friday August 18, 2023 at 6:00p. This test session will be held in the meeting room of the LVARC at the Tri Clover Fire Company in Orefield. For more information or to register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

#### **ARES Report**

The next ARES event will be **The Women's 5K Classic** held on Saturday October 7. **Volunteers are needed**. To volunteer to provide communications support for this event, contact Mark (AK3M) at **AK3M@rcn.com**.

D&L Raceathon, Now a full, + half +walk +relay scheduled for 2nd sunday in Nov.

Sag wagons are a priority for this event, followed by water stations

**Communications**: nothing noted

WebsiteMatt KB3UZE is responsible for the website and interacting with the board about it.

#### Repeater report: by Rod N3XG

Rod noted a lot of work done by and a huge thanks to John AB3LZ, Jeff WA3PNY and Chris N3RPV to finally get the .135 wires x repeater operational and on the air.

Thanks to Jeff for the loan of a spare repeat to allow our repeater to be sent to Yaesu for a firmware upgrade

Hands on night in the near future to work through yaesu fusion and its operation for wires x

#### **Club Station / Trailer:**

Mast work on the trailer needs to be done A kit will be utilized and we will be rebuilding the aero mast

Work party was held to clean up the tent, and do roof work as a maintenance step and address field day impact

A hollywood block will need to be replaced next visit on the firehouse roof

Tent is currently stored in the trailer, and needs a new home, maybe featuring a new bag instead of a bin as it currently uses.

#### **Old Business:**

Silent Auction Update: Insurance policy has been clarified to cover members, guests and invitees

Don N3HVL, a member, acted as a liaison between the club and Tri Clover and his support was appreciated.

The club is still in need of net operators, please contact Rod if interested in learning the exciting and rewarding career in Monday Net Operator!

Field Day netted 1412 points, a successful event by our standards

Games of Chance, cannot proceed at this time while we address some foundational housekeeping for a permanent address and or location of record

New Business: 6/30 quarterly board meeting was held, details to follow

#### **New members applications**

KC3LMZ Sean Campbell Walnutport General

K3SJ Steven D. Joseph Allentown Extra

Nikolas Tsamutalis, KB3WTO Whitehall General

Motion to accept the new members was made by Doug N3WGH and 2nd by Phil KB3HMK

Passed = Yes

<u>Sick Call:</u> Kenny Bass KC3BLE passed on 3rd July Silent Key net was held on 6/27 and he was buried 6/29

Kenny left the club his equipment. Details to follow.

#### **Good of the Order:**

Hamfest Upcoming:

July 16th sussex NJ <a href="http://www.scarcnj.org/hamfest.html">http://www.scarcnj.org/hamfest.html</a> Gates 7AM

A motion to close the June 2023 meeting was made by aa3ix doug KC3HWD and 2nd by Walt KE3SP

Motion Passed = Y

Meeting adjourned at 809

Respectfully Submitted Steve Olock KS3RO, Secretary

On The Air Nets for W3OL

Club Net Monday 730PM 146.94

Monday 815 2M **SSB** 144.250

Wed 7PM dstar / digital d-rats / 147.7125

Thursday 8PM FM Simplex 147.420 5-8

# 10 Highlights In This VOX

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



- 2. August test session changes.
- 3. Send your articles, pix., etc. for inclusion in the VOX to Mark (AK3M).
- 4. Submit your "What Ever Happened To ..." / "Do you remember?"
- 5. New LVARC members.
- 6. Upcoming ARES events.
- 7. Net control operators wanted.
- 8. 1964 US Amateur Radio Postage Stamps for sale
- 9. LVARC test session August 18.
- 10. CERT program.

